

August 1, 2012  
**Mizuho Corporate Bank, Ltd.**

**Cooperation Agreement Signed  
Between Mizuho Corporate Bank, Ltd. and Banco Santander (México) S.A.**

Mizuho Corporate Bank, Ltd. (“MHCB”) (CEO: Yasuhiro Sato) and Banco Santander (México) S.A. (“Santander Mexico”) entered into a Non Exclusive general business cooperation agreement on July 31, 2012. The cooperation agreement covers a wide range of investment and commercial banking business areas.

This cooperation agreement is aimed at fostering closer cooperation in financial services to assist Japanese companies in Mexico. MHCB and Santander Mexico will together be able to offer a variety of services such as local currency denominated remittances, local currency denominated loans, international remittances and other financing, lease finance, and project finance.

Santander Mexico is the third largest bank in Mexico by total assets. It belongs to Grupo Santander, the largest banking group in Spain. Santander Mexico has expanded its branch network to more than 1,100 branches, which operate independently from the group.

The economy of Mexico is estimated to rank 14th in the world in nominal terms, with GDP estimated by the World Bank to be US\$1.15 trillion (as of July 2012). The economy is developing rapidly and recent administrations have expanded competition in ports, railroads, telecommunications, electricity generation, natural gas distribution and airports, with the aim of upgrading infrastructure. As an export-oriented economy, more than 90% of Mexico’s trade is under free trade agreements (FTAs)\*.

Together with other group companies, both MHCB and Santander Mexico aim to make optimal use of this cooperation agreement to more fully meet the needs of their respective clients in the region.

\* The most influential FTA is the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which came into effect in 1994, and was signed in 1992 by the governments of the United States, Canada and Mexico. Recent members are more than 40 countries, including the European Union, Japan, Israel, and much of Central and South America.