

January 27, 2015  
Mizuho Bank, Ltd.

## **Acquisition of Approval for Mizuho Bank Nederland N.V. to Open a Branch in Vienna**

Mizuho Bank Nederland N.V. (Head Office: Amsterdam), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Mizuho Bank, Ltd. (Nobuhide Hayashi, President and CEO), has acquired approval for the application it made to the financial regulatory authorities in the Netherlands and Austria to open a branch in Vienna. Accordingly, we have commenced specific preparations aimed at opening the branch during the first half of FY2015.

Vienna is the capital city of the Republic of Austria, which is situated on the easternmost edge of Western Europe. It is also a financial and economic center for Central and Eastern Europe in which many multinational corporations locate their regional headquarters for the central and eastern regions of Europe such as Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Hungary.

Central and Eastern Europe is a major economic zone with a total regional population of 130 million and GDP of approximately USD2.4 trillion. Economic growth is continuing in the central and eastern areas of Europe, driven by direct investment from mainly Western European nations. There is a particularly strong concentration of investment from motor vehicle manufacturers from around the world, and progress is being made in strengthening production capacity for not only Central and Eastern European markets but also as a manufacture and export base for global markets. We are projecting further economic growth there going forward in mainly manufacturing industries.

Mizuho Bank has been supporting the business development of our customers operating in Central and Eastern Europe to date by providing banking services through Mizuho Bank Nederland N.V.; cooperating with our alliance partner, Raiffeisen Bank International AG, and making use of our business cooperation agreement with the investment agency of Poland. This fiscal year, we also established new business cooperation agreements with the investment agencies of Hungary, Slovakia, and Austria. By opening the Vienna Branch, Mizuho will provide even stronger support than we have to date for the market entrance and business development of our customers, from a geographically close location, amid ongoing economic growth in the central and eastern regions of Europe.