

July 13, 2015
Mizuho Bank, Ltd.

**Memorandum of Understanding for Business Cooperation with
Agenzia nazionale per l'attrazione degli investimenti e lo sviluppo d'impresa SpA**

On July 10, 2015, Mizuho Bank, Ltd. (Nobuhide Hayashi, President and CEO) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for business cooperation with Agenzia nazionale per l'attrazione degli investimenti e lo sviluppo d'impresa SpA (called *Invitalia* below), the national agency for investment promotion and enterprise development, to attract industry to Italy.

Invitalia operates on behalf of the Italian Government and provides various types of business support to foreign companies interested in investing in Italy, including providing information and assisting with company establishment. Through this MOU, Mizuho and Invitalia will help Japanese companies expand into Italy or strengthen their business there, such as by collaboratively holding seminars and business meetings with local corporations, and introducing local business partners to Japanese companies.

Italy, which has the third largest economy in the Euro zone and the eighth largest in the world, is a major European country, and approximately 280 Japanese companies have business there. The country's leading exports include products from its automotive, machinery, and other heavy industries, as well as its fashion industry with its superior design. In addition, Expo Milano 2015 has been going on in Milan since May 2015, and its main theme is food.

Mizuho, a sponsor of the Japan Pavilion at the Expo, held a business matching forum between Japanese local governments and companies and Italian local companies, in collaboration with Invitalia at the Japan Salone, an event related to the Japan Pavilion. Mizuho also hosted a seminar on food and agriculture. Through the MOU with Invitalia, Mizuho plans to utilize information and support from Invitalia to enhance the support for Mizuho customers who plan to expand into Italy or strengthen their business there. In addition, Mizuho will proactively support the overseas expansion of Japanese companies in the food industry, which is expected to accelerate.