

September 20, 2017

Mizuho Bank, Ltd.

**Mizuho Signs a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with
Romanian Ministry for Business Environment, Commerce and Entrepreneurship**

Mizuho Bank, Ltd. (President & CEO: Koji Fujiwara) and Mizuho Bank Europe N.V. have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for business cooperation with the Romanian Ministry for Business Environment, Commerce and Entrepreneurship (hereinafter “MBE”). Based on this agreement, they will work together in supporting Japanese companies entering the country.

The MBE is a ministry which is responsible for ensuring market-based development and internationalization of the Romanian economy. It also incorporates InvestRomania, a government agency established to attract foreign direct investment, and decides on policies for foreign companies such as preferential tax treatment.

Located west of Black Sea, Romania has established itself as a commercial hub, with the Port of Constanta acting as an eastern gateway to Europe. After joining the European Union (EU) in 2007, it has successfully attracted a number of foreign companies looking for a manufacturing base in the region, thanks to the high education standard, abundance of young workers, and cost competitiveness. At the present, about 100 Japanese companies, mostly in the automobile and electronics industries, have established a base in the country.

Since opening Mizuho Bank Europe N.V. Vienna Branch in Austria in July 2015, Mizuho has been enhancing a range of financial services it offers in the Central and Eastern Europe. It has so far signed an MOU with the investment agencies of Austria, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia for the purpose of strengthening support to the customers in the region.

The latest MOU will enable Mizuho to utilize a wealth of information obtained through the MBE to support customer’s decision-making. While more closely supporting its customers entering or expanding business in Romania, it will contribute to the further development of the Romanian economy.