

## **Home Credit further integrates ESG principles into its business operations**

*Company Board discusses framework and progress on formal basis*

**Prague, February 16:** Since the launch of Home Credit's Group ESG reporting last year, the business has made significant strides to further integrate ESG principles into its operations.

This year, Home Credit celebrates 25 years of business and the milestone is being marked by a further deepening of the adoption of ESG frameworks at the company. Home Credit's ESG approach underscores the importance that the firm has attached to responsible lending as a core principle of its business operations over a quarter of a century. The Home Credit Board of Directors is also actively involved in ESG strategic discussions and will monitor ESG progress on an ongoing basis.

To be able to effectively deliver its ESG commitments, Home Credit has developed a two level ESG strategy: one at country level and one for the Group. The local ESG strategy is designed to allow for a deeper, more sophisticated local approach to ESG activities which complement the longstanding responsible business practices undertaken at Group level. This approach has already been recognised in the form of responsible lending and 'best place to work' awards in multiple markets.

"Fairness to customers, employees and communities have always been part of our DNA. It is who we are," said Jiri Smejck, Chairman of Home Credit Group and added: "ESG principles now give us a tool to show our responsible business practices in a formal, comprehensive way. And I am proud that we can already count a number of milestones on our ESG journey."

A recent example is collaboration with Deutsche Bank on a pioneering ESG loan facility, which will see the company address metrics and key performance indicators with respect to ESG. The company is now working with several other international partners across Asia to further drive similar projects.

"In the last four years the volume of ESG assets has doubled, the regulatory landscape around it has become more formalised and we clearly see that ESG is an established trend," said Mel Carvill, non-executive director at Home Credit and added: "I believe companies that embrace ESG principles are ultimately more stable and profitable, which is why I see the deepening of Home Credit's ESG approach as an exciting development."

"ESG is central to us delivering on our commitment to responsible business practises," said Jean-Pascal Duvieusart, Group CEO and added: "We will be building on our multi-year investment in financial literacy and digital inclusion to empower customers everywhere. I am also proud to see our employees getting involved in multiple ESG initiatives, both internally and externally. Ultimately this is what ESG is all about: bringing all stakeholders together in a common purpose."

**ENDS**