

Cross-Industry Forum on Interest Rate Benchmarks

Terms of Reference

1. Objectives of the Forum

The Forum shall conduct the following, with aims to facilitate smooth transactions referencing Japanese yen interest rate benchmarks in the Japanese markets:

- (a) exchanging opinions on the choice and usage of Japanese yen interest rate benchmarks by market participants and interest rate benchmark users;
- (b) monitoring of market trends and contractual practices related to the choice and usage of Japanese yen interest rate benchmarks and exchanging opinions on specific challenges that may arise; and
- (c) exchanging information on trends in interest rate benchmarks in other jurisdictions and foreign currencies.

2. Framework and Governance

- (1) The members of the Forum shall be drawn from a diverse set of market participants and interest rate benchmark users, including financial institutions, institutional investors, and non-financial corporates.
- (2) The Forum shall have a chair and vice-chair or multiple co-chairs. The chair (including co-chairs; the same shall apply hereinafter) and vice-chair shall be elected from within its members.
- (3) The following shall take part in the Forum as observers:
 - (a) Japanese Bankers Association (JBA) TIBOR Administration (JBATA);
 - (b) International Swaps and Derivatives Association (ISDA);
 - (c) Financial Law Board (FLB);
 - (d) Tokyo Financial Exchange (TFX);
 - (e) Japan Securities Clearing Corporation (JSCC);
 - (f) JBA;

(Tentative translation)

(g) Japan Securities Dealers Association (JSDA);

(h) Financial Services Agency (FSA); and

(i) Bank of Japan (BOJ).

(4) The chair shall, if deemed necessary, invite representatives from relevant parties to the Forum or approve their attendance in the Forum to listen to the deliberations.

(5) The Forum secretariat shall be staffed by the BOJ (Market Infrastructure Division, Financial Markets Department). The secretariat shall undertake administrative issues of the Forum, such as the preparation of meeting agendas and their distribution to the members, management of meetings, and compilation of meeting minutes.

3. Right to Call a Meeting

The chair shall call a meeting of the Forum.

4. Disclosure

The Forum shall be closed to the public. The meeting minutes of the Forum shall be prepared by the secretariat and published subject to approval of its members. The meeting agenda and a list of participants including the members and observers of the Forum shall also be published.

5. Other Issues

The chair shall decide any other issues not specified in these Terms of Reference that are necessary to conduct the Forum.