PRESS RELEASE

**(Name of Organization) endorses global Principles for Responsible Banking**

**20 May 2019, Geneva –** (Name of Organization) has officially endorsed the *UNEP FI Principles for Responsible Banking* – a single framework for a sustainable banking industry developed through an innovative partnership between banks worldwide and United Nations Environment’s Finance Initiative.

The Principles for Responsible Banking set out the banking industry’s role and responsibility in shaping a sustainable future and in aligning the banking sector with the objectives of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement. They also, importantly, enable a bank to embed sustainability across all its business areas, and to identity where it has the potential to make the most impact in its contributions to a sustainable world. They also position a bank to leverage new business opportunities with the emergence of the sustainable development economy. More than 75 banks around the world have already become official Signatories of the Principles.

The Principles for Responsible Banking will be officially launched on 22 September during the United Nations General Assembly in the presence of United Nations Secretary-General and more than 30 bank CEOs. This will be followed by a public launch event on 22September in New York City hosted by the 30 Founding Banks that developed the Principles, [register here](https://www.unepfi.org/events/banking-events/prb-public-launch/).

(Quote from your CEO, example from Julius Baer below)

Bernhard Hodler, Chief Executive Officer Julius Baer said: “We are very proud to be the first Swiss bank to commit to the UNEP FI Principles for Responsible Banking. At Julius Baer, we continuously include sustainability practices into our business, meeting a number of notable milestones in our pursuit of long-term value creation for clients, shareholders, and society as a whole. We see our responsibility as encompassing all aspects of sustainability: economic, social, as well as environmental. With our declaration to the Principles for Responsible Banking, we affirm and express our willingness to assume an active leadership role in sustainable changes.”

(Optional: additional information on why your organization is taking this step and/or other information specific to your organization.)

**Media Contacts**

**(Your organization’s media contact)**

Jennifer Ferguson-Mitchell

Communications and Campaigns Manager, UNEP FI Principles for Responsible Banking

Jennifer.ferguson-mitchell@un.org

**More information about the Principles for Responsible Banking available here:** [**www.unepfi.org/responsiblebanking**](http://www.unepfi.org/responsiblebanking)**.**