

# Allianz, ABP Join Portfolio Decarbonization Coalition, Aligning Portfolios with Low-Carbon Economy

**Paris, 7 December 2015** – Two of the world's biggest institutional investors—Allianz and ABP—today joined the Portfolio Decarbonization Coalition (PDC), a group of investors committed to supporting the fight against climate change.

With Allianz and ABP, the PDC now convenes 25 investors overseeing the gradual decarbonization of a total of USD 600 billion in Assets under Management (AUM), dramatically surpassing the PDC's target of USD 100 billion.

By joining the coalition, the two organizations are sending a strong signal to world governments gathered in Paris to negotiate a new global treaty on climate change.

"The success of the Portfolio Decarbonization Coalition (PDC) is a clear signal that leading investors are recognizing the inherent risk that climate change poses to their portfolios," said Achim Steiner, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and UN Under-Secretary-General. "By aligning their portfolios with the low-carbon economy, they are playing a key role in the climate action the world wants to see."

Portfolio decarbonization means investors systemically integrate carbon information into portfolio design, signalling that climate change, and the corporate response to it, is critical to shareholder value and investor interests going forward.

"Climate change requires fast and collective action and continued commitment for decades to come. Our knowledge of risk, our financial resilience and long-term investment horizons enable us to offer effective support for climate protection while making the most out of longterm opportunities for our clients," said Oliver Bäte, Chief Executive Officer of Allianz SE. "Delaying action will be costly and will damage growth prospects."

Mr. Bäte called on his industry and long-term investors to join in on climate actions and to support clients and governments in their low-carbon transition.

"More and more companies and states will incorporate climate change considerations – they are going to address physical climate risks, they want to reduce emissions and they have to reflect regulatory needs and developments," he said. "We will anticipate these risks and opportunities in our investment and insurance portfolios."

Allianz's climate and decarbonization actions will include the phasing out of coal investments, the use of environmental, social and governance scoring in investment decisions across its portfolio of own investments, and scaling up its investments in renewable energy.

Allianz is one of the leading private investors in renewable energy, with more than EUR 2.5 billion committed and plans to at least double these investments.

"We and all signatories of the PDC need an ambitious and reliable regulatory environment now to live up to our commitment to scaling back our financing of carbon-intensive





businesses, and investing in renewables and low-carbon infrastructure. If this is fulfilled, then climate protection will not fail because of a lack of funding," Mr. Bäte said.

Co-founded by the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI), the fourth National pension fund of Sweden, AP4, Europe's largest asset manager Amundi and CDP, the international not-for-profit organization holding the largest global collection of corporate environmental data, the PDC was launched at UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's Climate Summit in September 2014.

## **ADDITIONAL QUOTES**

**Corien Wortmann-Kool, Chair of the Board of Trustees, ABP:** "By providing our investment managers with carbon budgets alongside the return objectives and risk budgets, we want to achieve the dual objective of good investment returns and continuous reductions in our carbon footprint."

**Paul Dickinson, Executive Chairman CDP**: "We have reached a tipping point in the way investors view the impacts of climate change, which is borne out by the momentum of the PDC. The role of investors will become ever more critical as discussions progress at COP21 towards a binding deal. With growing demand for CDP's raft of investor tools including our latest sector research for investors, we are seeing major investors appreciating the impact of environmental factors on the bottom line. They need reliable environmental data and tools to assess financial risks and opportunities which we must provide."

#### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

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Information about, and quotes from, other members, can be found here.

#### About UNEP FI

The United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) is a unique partnership between UNEP and a global network of over 200 banks, insurers and investors from 51 countries. Created in the wake of the 1992 Earth Summit UNEP FI's mission is to mainstream the integration of sustainability across the finance sector. It provides a neutral space to convene stakeholders and acts as a platform at the intersection between finance, science and policy.

#### About CDP

CDP, formerly Carbon Disclosure Project, is an international, not-for-profit organization providing the only global system for companies and cities to measure, disclose, manage and share vital environmental information. CDP works with market forces, including 822 institutional investors with assets of US\$95 trillion, to motivate companies to disclose their impacts on the environment and natural resources and take action to reduce them. More



than 5,500 companies disclosed environmental information through CDP in 2015. CDP now holds the largest collection globally of primary climate change, water and forest risk commodities information and puts these insights at the heart of strategic business, investment and policy decisions. Please visit www.cdp.net or follow us @CDP to find out more.

### About Allianz

Together with its customers and sales partners, Allianz is one of the strongest financial communities. About 85 million private and corporate customers insured by Allianz rely on its knowledge, global reach, capital strength and solidity to help them make the most of financial opportunities and to avoid and safeguard themselves against risks. In 2014, around 147,000 employees in over 70 countries achieved total revenues of 122.3 billion euros and an operating profit of 10.4 billion euros. Benefits for our customers reached 104.6 billion euros. This business success with insurance, asset management and assistance services is based increasingly on customer demand for crisis-proof financial solutions for an aging society and the challenges of climate change. Transparency and integrity are key components of sustainable corporate governance at Allianz SE.

Cautionary note regarding forward-looking statements

The statements contained herein may include prospects, statements of future expectations and other forward-looking statements that are based on management's current views and assumptions and involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties. Actual results, performance or events may differ materially from those expressed or implied in such forwardlooking statements.

Such deviations may arise due to, without limitation, (i) changes of the general economic conditions and competitive situation, particularly in the Allianz Group's core business and core markets, (ii) performance of financial markets (particularly market volatility, liquidity and credit events), (iii) frequency and severity of insured loss events, including from natural catastrophes, and the development of loss expenses, (iv) mortality and morbidity levels and trends, (v) persistency levels, (vi) particularly in the banking business, the extent of credit defaults, (vii) interest rate levels, (viii) currency exchange rates including the euro/US-dollar exchange rate, (ix) changes in laws and regulations, including tax regulations, (x) the impact of acquisitions, including related integration issues, and reorganization measures, and (xi) general competitive factors, in each case on a local, regional, national and/or global basis. Many of these factors may be more likely to occur, or more pronounced, as a result of terrorist activities and their consequences.

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