

(NEWS RELEASE **)**

November 14, 2019 Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group

SMBC Group Receives "Best IR Award" From the Japan Investor Relations Association

TOKYO, November 14, 2019 --- Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc. (President and Group CEO: Jun Ohta; our corporate group will hereinafter be referred to as "SMBC Group") has been selected for the "Best IR Award" at the IR Award 2019 held by the Japan Investor Relations Association (JIRA).



The IR Award is designed to recognize companies which have been highly accredited in the investment community for their understanding and promotion of IR activities. This year marks the 24th year since the first IR Award was presented. Major reasons for the selection are as follows:

(Excerpted from JIRA's news release):

SMFG top management's regularly-held dialogues with shareholders and investors, as well as the management's visits to investors, are highly regarded by analysts and investors. These opportunities helped deepen the attendees' understanding about SMFG and raise its credibility. Explanation on capital strategy, including return to shareholders, was easy to understand. Meetings to exchange opinions with heads of business divisions and presidents of subsidiaries, and the IR Day, when the head of each business division makes a presentation, were good opportunities for investors to check on directions of business strategies and mindfulness of ROE. The IR department makes efforts to disclose matters of concern by capital markets in an quantitative way.

SMBC Group recognizes that appropriate disclosure of corporate and management information is the foundation of our efforts to realize one of the statements posted in "Our Mission": "We aim to maximize our shareholders' value through the continuous growth of our business." We will aim to continuously enhance disclosure through investor meetings for both institutional and individual investors, conferences, one-on-one meetings, and other activities.

(Reference) For further details, please visit the JIRA's website. <u>https://www.jira.or.jp/english/</u>