

## 【NEWS RELEASE】

December 16, 2019

Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group  
Sumitomo Mitsui Banking CorporationSigning of Agreement of Cooperation with the National Bank  
for Foreign Economic Activity of the Republic of Uzbekistan

TOKYO, December 16, 2019 --- Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group Inc. (SMFG, President and Group CEO: Jun Ohta) signed an Agreement of Cooperation (AoC) with the National Bank For Foreign Economic Activity of the Republic of Uzbekistan (NBU), effective December 16, 2019, during President Shavkat Miromonovich Mirziyoyev's first state visit to Japan.

Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) signed its initial AoC (it was originally referred to as a Memorandum of Understanding) with NBU on February 4, 2011, with the aim of promoting collaborations in trade finance. Business collaborations between the two banks steadily grew in the years that followed, with the AoC undergoing regular review. The scope of collaborations between the banks expanded to include area such as export agency finance to Japanese and non-Japanese corporations.

The purpose of new AoC is to expand the level of collaborations from a bank level to a financial group level while expanding business collaborations to include areas such as debt capital markets and leasing finance. In addition, the two organizations will work together to identify opportunities in which frameworks put in place by international financial institutions can be applied to support the sustainable growth of Uzbekistan.

By further enhancing the NBU-SMBC partnership through the conclusion of the new AoC, SMBC will be able to better support clients to expand trade with Uzbek counterparts and their local business needs.

SMBC will continue enhancing its ability to support clients' various business needs on a global basis.

## &lt;Overview of NBU&gt;

Established	1991
Head Office	Tashkent, Uzbekistan