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This document is not intended to be comprehensive or to provide legal advice.

For more information, speak to your usual Clifford Chance contact or one of the Clifford Chance lawyers named below.

Introduction

The European Central Bank (ECB) has published its preliminary list of "significant" eurozone banks.

Under the EU Regulation establishing the single supervisory mechanism, the ECB will directly supervise "significant" eurozone banks.

- The Regulation requires the significance of institutions to be determined based on:
 - the total value of their assets:
 - the importance for the economy of the country in which they are located or the EU as a whole;
 - the scale of their cross-border activities;
 - whether they have requested or received public financial assistance from the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) or the European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF).
- Other eurozone banks will be indirectly supervised by the ECB through national competent authorities (unless the ECB otherwise decides).
- The ECB will publish, in October 2014, the results of its comprehensive assessment (involving a supervisory risk assessment, asset quality review and stress test) on the significant banks.
- The ECB will commence its supervisory tasks on 4 November 2014 (but can delay this date in certain circumstances).
- Non-eurozone EU member states can opt to participate in the single supervisory mechanism (subject to certain conditions), but none has yet done so (although the Bulgarian Central Bank has indicated that it intends to open talks with the ECB).

The ECB's preliminary list includes 120 separate banks and groups, covering more than 1,200 institutions (over 25% of eurozone banking entities, representing almost 85% of eurozone banking assets).

- The ECB is required to notify its decision to the supervised entity at the highest level of consolidation within the participating Member States (120 institutions see Annex), including at least one eurozone branch of an entity from a non-eurozone EU member state (where the ECB will act as host state supervisor for the branch).
- The ECB has decided also to treat as significant all eurozone entities that are members of the group of a notified supervised entity subject to prudential supervision on a consolidated basis under the Capital Requirements Regulation (1,136 additional institutions).
- Notified supervised entities can make submissions to the ECB on their classification and the ECB must publish its final list by 4 September 2014.

The ECB will immediately be one of the world's leading banking supervisors:

- It will supervise banks with banking assets of almost €30 trillion, including nine globally systemically important banks (G-SIBs) - more than any other international regulator.
- It will also directly supervise several eurozone entities from non-eurozone banking groups.

The ECB's preliminary list of significant banks is available at http://www.ecb.europa.eu/ssm/html/index.en.html

The ECB will directly supervise 120 separate banks and groups, covering more than 1,200 institutions

Eurozone state	Notified entities	Group entities	Total
Austria	8	141	149
Belgium	7	22	29
Cyprus	4	18	22
Estonia	2	0	2
Finland	3	187	190
France	10	360	370
Germany	21	63	84
Greece	4	8	12
Ireland	4	5	9
Italy	14	89	103
Latvia	3	1	4
Luxembourg	5	11	16
Malta	3*	0	3
Netherlands	7	159	166
Portugal	4	10	14
Slovakia	3*	0	3
Slovenia	3	3	6
Spain	15	61	76
Total	120*	1,136	1,258

Source: ECB list. (*the total includes 4 entities from Malta and Slovakia which are also group entities of notified entities from other eurozone states).

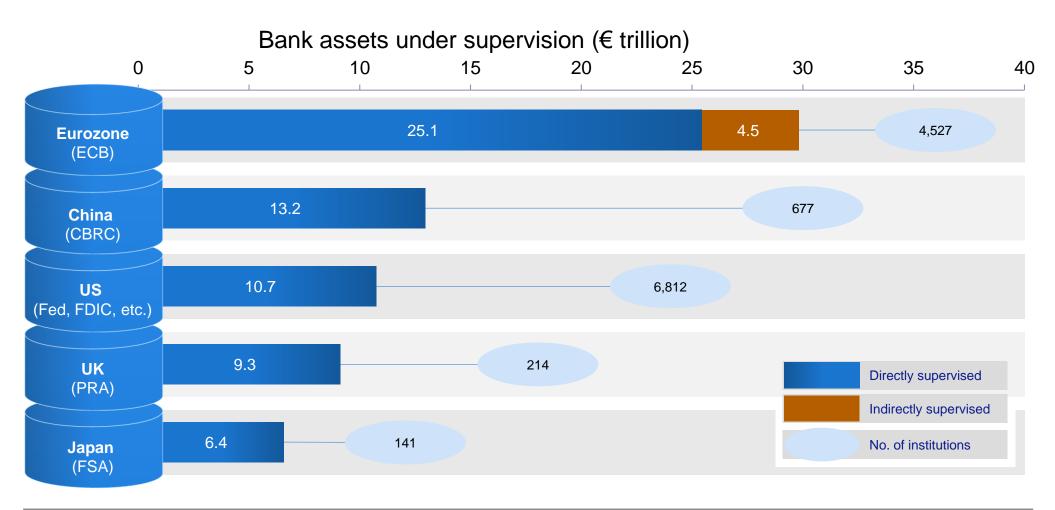
Note: Table shows the number of supervised entities in a jurisdiction listed as having been notified as "significant" by the ECB (this includes some eurozone branches of entities from non-eurozone EU member states) plus the number of their eurozone group entities also notified as significant (group entities may be established in a different eurozone state than the lead supervised entity). There are 4,527 CRD credit institutions in the eurozone, excluding inward branches (source: EBA credit institutions register).

The ECB will supervise more G-SIBs than any other international supervisor ...

Eurozone G-SIBs to be supervised by ECB (9)		Other G-SIBs (21)	
France (4)	 BNP Paribas Group Crédit Agricole Groupe BPCE Société Générale 	China – CBRC (2)	 Bank of China Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Limited
Germany (1)	■ Deutsche Bank	Japan – FSA (3)	Mitsubishi UFJ FGMizuho FGSumitomo Mitsui FG
Italy (1)	■ Unicredit Group	Sweden – FI (1)	■ Nordea
Netherlands (1)	■ ING Bank	Switzerland – FINMA (2)	Credit SuisseUBS
	Spain (2) BBVA Santander	UK – PRA (4)	 Barclays HSBC Royal Bank of Scotland Standard Chartered
Spain (2)		US – Fed (8)	 Bank of America Bank of New York Mellon Citigroup Goldman Sachs JP Morgan Chase Morgan Stanley State Street Wells Fargo

Sources: Financial Stability Board list of G-SIBs (November 2013); ECB list.

... and the ECB will supervise more bank assets than other leading international supervisors



Sources for bank assets: ECB (aggregated balance sheet of euro area credit institutions and ECB website statement that directly supervised banks represent almost 85% of total eurozone banking assets; consolidated banking data for domestic credit institutions and foreign controlled subsidiaries in the UK); CBRC (total assets – domestic portfolios – for PRC commercial banks, excluding cooperatives); FDIC (all US depository institutions); Bank of Japan (all domestically licensed banks). 2013 data.

Sources for number of institutions: EBA credit institutions register for eurozone and UK (CRD credit institutions, excluding inward branches - July 2014); CBRC 2013 annual report (PRC commercial banks, excluding cooperatives and village and township banks); FDIC (all US depository institutions 2013); Japanese FSA (all licensed domestic banks 2014).

Notes: Not adjusted for accounting differences. Illustrative only as not all data directly comparable.

The ECB will also directly supervise several entities from non-eurozone banking groups

EU non-eurozone parent		
HQ	Group	Significant entity (country)
Denmark	Danske	■ Danske Bank plc (Finland)
	Nordea	Nordea Bank Finland Plc (Finland) *
Sweden	SEB	SEB AG (Germany)AS SEB Pank (Estonia)AS SEB Banka (Latvia)
	Swedbank	Swedbank AS (Estonia)Swedbank AS (Latvia)
	Barclays	■ Barclays Bank PLC (Italy)†
UK	HSBC	HSBC France (France)*HSBC Bank Malta plc (Malta)
	RBS	Royal Bank of Scotland NV (Netherlands)

Non-EU parent		
HQ	Group	Significant entity (country)
Canada	RBC	RBC Investor Services Bank S.A. (Luxembourg)*
Russia	Sberbank	■ Sberbank Europe AG (Austria)*
Kussia	VTB	■ VTB Bank Austria AG (Austria)*
Switzerland	UBS	■ UBS (Luxembourg) S.A. (Luxembourg)
USA	BNY Mellon	■ Bank of New York Mellon (Belgium)
	State Street	State Street Bank Luxembourg S.A. (Luxembourg)*

Source: ECB list.

Notes: Table sets out examples of supervised entities from non-eurozone banking groups that the ECB proposes to treat as significant (* indicates that the notified entity has eurozone group entities that will also be directly supervised by the ECB). This includes a eurozone branch (†) of an entity from non-eurozone EU member states, where the ECB will directly act as host state supervisor. The ECB list also includes some banking subsidiaries of non-financial groups, e.g.:

- AXA Bank (Belgium, and its French affiliate) and
- Volkswagen Financial Services (Germany).

Timetable for ECB's comprehensive review

ECB publishes methodology for the "join-up" of the asset quality review (AQR) and the stress test
ECB publishes final list of "significant" banks
ECB conducts review of partial and preliminary AQR and stress test results with banks
CB publishes bank-level results of comprehensive assessment (banks notified shortly beforehand)
anks facing capital shortfall to submit capital plans for review by ECB
CB commences supervisory tasks (but can delay this in certain circumstances)
elementation of the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive (BRRD)
sks to cover capital shortfalls from AQR or baseline stress scenario
anks to cover capital shortfalls from adverse stress scenario

Source: ECB Note on the comprehensive assessment, July 2014, available at http://www.ecb.europa.eu/ssm/html/index.en.html

Notes: The ECB's note states that the overall amount of capital to be raised by a bank will be the maximum of the shortfall under the AQR, the baseline scenario and the adverse scenario of the stress test, whenever it appears over the three-year horizon covered by the review. Shortfalls should generally be met by new issuances of Common Equity Tier 1 instruments, but banks will be able to use issuances of Alternative Tier 1 instruments, certain existing convertible and state aid instruments, asset sales and retained 2014 earnings, subject to conditions. In addition, formal deleveraging and restructuring plans (agreed with the European Commission) will be taken into account.

The ECB's note also states that the first port of call to address capital shortfalls is private sources; public recapitalisations may be required in certain situations, but this should be the exception rather than the rule, and should be used only when strictly necessary to remedy a serious disturbance in the economy of a Member State and to preserve financial stability. From January 2015, the use of public funds would imply that an institution is deemed to be failing, or likely to fail, and could lead to resolution under the BRRD, except for precautionary public recapitalisations that meet all the conditions of the BRRD, including State aid approval.

Annex: List of notified entities (excluding group companies)

Austria	 BAWAG P.S.K. Bank für Arbeit und Wirtschaft und Österreichische Postsparkasse AG Erste Group Bank AG Österreichische Volksbanken AG Raiffesen-Holding Nierderösterreichische-Wien reg.Gen.m.b.H 	 Raiffeisenlandesbank Oberösterreich AG Raiffeisen Zentralbank Österreich AG Sperbank Europe AG VTB Bank (Austria) AG
Belgium	 Argenta Bank- en Verzekeringsgroep AXA Bank Europe SA Belfius Banque SA Banque Degroof S.A. 	 Dexia NV KBC Group NV The Bank of New York Mellon SA
Cyprus	Bank of Cyprus Public Company LtdCooperative Central Bank Ltd	 Hellenic Bank Public Company Ltd RCB Bank Ltd. (formerly Russian Commercial Bank (Cyprus) Ltd)
Estonia	■ AS SEB Pank	■ Swedbank AS
Finland	Danske Bank OyjNordea Bank Finland Plc	OP-Pohjola Group Central Cooperative
France	 BNP Paribas BPCE Bpifrance (Banque Publique d'Investissement) Confédération Nationale du Crédit Mutuel C.R.H. – Caisse de Refinancement de l'Habitat 	 La Banque Postale Crédit Agricole S.A. HSBC France Société de Financement Local Société Générale S.A.

Annex: List of notified entities (excluding group companies) (continued)

Germany	 Aareal Bank AG Bayerische Landesbank Commerzbank AG DekaBank Deutsche Girozentrale Deutsche Apotheker- und Ärztebank eG Deutsche Bank AG DZ Bank AG Deutsche Zentral-Genossenschaftsbank HASPA Finanzholding HSH Nordbank AG Hypo Real Estate Holding AG KfW IPEX-Bank GmbH 	 Landesbank Baden-Württemberg Landesbank Berlin Holding AG Landesbank Hessen-Thüringen Girozentrale Landeskreditbank Baden-Württemberg-Förderbank Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank Münchener Hypothekenbank eG Norddeutsche Landesbank-Girozentrale NRW.Bank SEB AG Volkswagen Financial Services AG WGZ Bank AG Westdeutsche Genossenschafts-Zentralbank
Greece	Alpha Bank, S.A.Eurobank Ergasias, S.A.	National Bank of Greece, S.A.Piraeus Bank, S.A.
Ireland	Allied Irish Banks plcPermanent tsb plc	The Governor and Company of the Bank of IrelandUlster Bank Ireland Limited
Italy	 Banca Carige S.P.A. — Cassa di Risparmio di Genova e Imperia Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena S.p.A. Banco Popolare — Società Cooperativa Banca Popolare Dell'Emilia Romagna — Società Cooperativa Banca Popolare Di Milano — Società Cooperativa A Responsabilità Limitata Banca Popolare di Sondrio, Società Cooperativa per Azioni Banca Popolare di Vicenza — Società Cooperativa per Azioni 	 Barclays Bank PLC (Italy)† ICCREA Holding S.p.A Intesa Sanpaolo S.p.A. Mediobanca — Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A. UniCredit S.p.A. Unione Di Banche Italiane Società Cooperativa Per Azioni Veneto Banca S.C.p.A.
Latvia	ABLV Bank, ASAS SEB banka	Swedbank AS

[†] Eurozone branch of an entity from another EU non-eurozone Member State.

Annex: List of notified entities (excluding group companies) (continued)

Luxembourg	 Banque et Caisse d'Epargne de l'Etat, Luxembourg Precision Capital S.A. (holding company of, inter alia, Banque Internationale à Luxembourg and KBL European Private Bankers S.A.) 	 RBC Investor Services Bank S.A. State Street Bank Luxembourg S.A. UBS (Luxembourg) S.A.
Malta	 Bank of Valletta plc Deutsche Bank (Malta) Ltd* 	■ HSBC Bank Malta plc
Netherlands	 ABN AMRO Bank N.V. Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten N.V. Coöperatieve Centrale Raiffeisen-Boerenleenbank B.A. ING Bank N.V. 	 Nederlandse Waterschapsbank N.V. SNS Bank N.V. The Royal Bank of Scotland N.V.
Portugal	Banco BPI, ASBanco Comercial Português, SA	Caixa Geral de Depósitos, ASEspírito Santo Financial Group, SA
Slovakia	Slovenská sporiteľňa, a.s.*Tatra banka, a.s.*	■ Všeobecná úverová banka, a.s.*
Slovenia	Nova Ljubljanska banka d. d., LjubljanaNova Kreditna Banka Maribor d.d.	SID — Slovenska izvozna in razvojna banka, d.d., Ljubljana
Spain	 Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria, S.A. Banco de Sabadell, S.A. Banco Financiero y de Ahorros, S.A. Banco Mare Nostrum, S.A. Banco Popular Español, S.A. Banco Santander, S.A. Bankinter, S.A. Caja de Ahorros y M.P. de Zaragoza, Aragón y Rioja 	 Caja de Ahorros y Pensiones de Barcelona Cajas Rurales Unidas, Sociedad Cooperativa de Crédito Catalunya Banc, S.A. Kutxabank, S.A. Liberbank, S.A. NCG Banco, S.A. Unicaja Banco, S.A.

^{*} Indicates that this entity is also a group entity of another notified entity from another eurozone Member State.

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María Luisa Alonso Counsel, Madrid

T: +34 91590 7541

E: marialuisa.alonso @cliffordchance.com

Clifford Chance contacts



Chris BatesPartner, London

T: +44 20 7006 1041

E: chris.bates

@cliffordchance.com



Marc Benzler Partner, Frankfurt

T: +49 697199 3304

E: marc.benzler @cliffordchance.com



Anna Biala Advocate, Warsaw

T: +48 22429 9692

E: anna.biala

@cliffordchance.com



Lucio Bonavitacola Partner, Milan

T: +39 028063 4238

E: lucio.bonavitacola @cliffordchance.com



Lounia Czupper Partner, Brussels

T: +32 2533 5987

E: lounia.czupper @cliffordchance.com



Caroline Dawson Senior Associate, London

T: +44 20 7006 4355

E: caroline.dawson @cliffordchance.com



Simon Gleeson Partner, London

T: +44 20 7006 4979

E: simon.gleeson

@cliffordchance.com



Frank Graaf
Partner, Amsterdam

T: +31 20711 9150

E: frank.graaf

@cliffordchance.com



Rachel Hugh-Jones Senior Associate, London

T: +44 20 7006 8339

E: rachel.hugh-jones @cliffordchance.com



Steve JacobyPartner, Luxembourg

T: +352 485050 219

E: steve.jacoby

@cliffordchance.com



Senior Associate PSL, London

T: +44 20 7006 2535

E: sean.kerr

Sean Kerr

@cliffordchance.com



Frederic Lacroix
Partner, Paris

T: +33 14405 5241

E: frederick.lacroix
@cliffordchance.com



Caroline Meinertz
Partner, London

T: +44 20 7006 4253

E: caroline.meinertz @cliffordchance.com



Ute Brunner-Reumann Counsel, Frankfurt

T: +49 697199 3234

E: ute.reumann
@cliffordchance.com



Simon Sinclair Partner, London

T: +44 20 7006 2977

E: simon.sinclair @cliffordchance.com

Worldwide contact information 36* offices in 26 countries

Abu Dhabi

Clifford Chance 9th Floor Al Sila Tower Sowwah Square PO Box 26492 Abu Dhabi United Arab Emirates Tel +971 (0)2 613 2300 Fax +971 (0)2 613 2400

Amsterdam

Clifford Chance Droogbak 1A 1013 GE Amsterdam PO Box 251 1000 AG Amsterdam The Netherlands Tel +31 20 7119 999

Bangkok

Clifford Chance Sindhorn Building Tower 3 21st Floor 130-132 Wireless Road Pathumwan Bangkok 10330 Thailand Tel +66 2 401 8800 Fax +66 2 401 8801

Barcelona

Clifford Chance Av. Diagonal 682 08034 Barcelona Spain Tel +34 93 344 22 00 Fax +34 93 344 22 22

Beijing

Clifford Chance
33/F, China World Office 1
No. 1 Jianguomenwai Dajie
Chaoyang District
Beijing 100004
China
Tel +86 10 6535 2288
Fax +86 10 6505 9028

Brussels

Clifford Chance Avenue Louise 65 Box 2 1050 Brussels Belgium Tel +32 2 533 5911 Fax +32 2 533 5959

Bucharest

Clifford Chance Badea Excelsior Center 28-30 Academiei Street 12th Floor, Sector 1 Bucharest, 010016 Romania Tel +40 21 66 66 100 Fax +40 21 66 66 111

Casablanca

Clifford Chance 169, boulevard Hassan 1er Casablanca 20000 Morocco Tel +212 520 132 080 Fax +212 520 132 079

Doha

Clifford Chance QFC Branch Suite B, 30th floor Tornado Tower Al Funduq Street West Bay PO Box 32110 Doha State of Qatar Tel +974 4491 7040 Fax +974 4491 7050

Dubai

Clifford Chance
Building 6, Level 2
The Gate Precinct
Dubai International Financial Centre
PO Box 9380
Dubai
United Arab Emirates
Tel +971 4 362 0444
Fax +971 4 362 04445

Düsseldorf

Clifford Chance Königsallee 59 40215 Düsseldorf Germany Tel +49 211 43 55-0 Fax +49 211 43 55-5600

Frankfurt

Clifford Chance Mainzer Landstraße 46 60325 Frankfurt am Main Germany Tel +49 69 71 99-01 Fax +49 69 71 99-4000

Hong Kong

Clifford Chance 27th Floor Jardine House One Connaught Place Hong Kong Tel +852 2825 8888 Fax +852 2825 8800

Istanbul

Clifford Chance
Kanyon Ofis Binasi Kat 10
Büyükdere Cad. No. 185
34394 Levent
Istanbul
Turkey
Tel +90 212 339 0001
Fax +90 212 339 0098

Jakarta**

LWP
DBS Bank Tower,
28th Floor, Ciputra World One
Jl. Prof. Dr. Satrio Kav 3-5
Jakarta 12940
Indonesia
Tel +62 21 2988 8300
Fax +62 21 2988 8310

Kviv

Clifford Chance
75 Zhylyanska Street
01032 Kyiv
Ukraine
Tel +380 44 390 5885
Fax +380 44 390 5886

London

Clifford Chance 10 Upper Bank Street London, E14 5JJ United Kingdom Tel +44 20 7006 1000 Fax +44 20 7006 5555

Luxembourg

Clifford Chance 10 boulevard G.D. Charlotte B.P. 1147 L-1011 Luxembourg Grand-Duché de Luxembourg Tel +352 48 50 50 1 Fax +352 48 13 85

Madrid

Clifford Chance Paseo de la Castellana 110 28046 Madrid Spain Tel +34 91 590 75 00 Fax +34 91 590 75 75

Milan

Clifford Chance Piazzetta M.Bossi, 3 20121 Milan Italy Tel +39 02 806 341 Fax +39 02 806 34200

Moscow

Clifford Chance
UI. Gasheka 6
125047 Moscow
Russian Federation
Tel +7 495 258 5050
Fax +7 495 258 5051

Munich

Clifford Chance Theresienstraße 4-6 80333 Munich Germany Tel +49 89 216 32-0 Fax +49 89 216 32-8600

New York

Clifford Chance 31 West 52nd Street New York, NY 10019-6131 USA Tel +1 212 878 8000 Fax +1 212 878 8375

Paris

Clifford Chance 9 Place Vendôme CS 50018 75038 Paris Cedex 01 France Tel +33 1 44 05 52 52 Fax +33 1 44 05 52 00

Perth

Clifford Chance Level 7, 190 St Georges Terrace Perth, WA 6000 Australia Tel +618 9262 5555 Fax +618 9262 5522

Prague

Clifford Chance
Jungmannova Plaza
Jungmannova 24
110 00 Prague 1
Czech Republic
Tel +420 222 555 222
Fax +420 222 555 000

Riyadh

Kryatii Chance
Building 15, The Business Gate
King Khaled International Airport Road
Cordoba District, Riyadh
P.O. Box: 90239, Riyadh 11613,
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Tel +966 11 481 9701
Fax +966 11 481 9701

Rome

Clifford Chance Via Di Villa Sacchetti, 11 00197 Rome Italy Tel +39 06 422 911 Fax +39 06 422 91200

São Paulo

Clifford Chance Rua Funchal 418 15th Floor 04551-060 São Paulo SP Brazil Tel +55 11 3019 6000 Fax +55 11 3019 6001

Seoul

Clifford Chance 21st Floor, Ferrum Tower 19, Eulji-ro 5-gil Jung-gu, Seoul 100-210 Korea Tel +82 2 6353 8100 Fax +82 2 6353 8101

Shanghai

Glifford Chance
40th Floor
Bund Centre
222 Yan An East Road
Shanghai 200002
China
Tel +86 21 2320 7288
Fax +86 21 2320 7256

Singapore

Clifford Chance
12 Marina Boulevard
25th Floor Tower 3
Marina Bay Financial Centre
Singapore 018982
Tel +65 6410 2200
Fax +65 6410 2288

Sydney

Clifford Chance Level 16 No. 1 O'Connell Street Sydney NSW 2000 Australia Tel +612 8922 8000 Fax +612 8922 8088

Tokvo

Clifford Chance
Akasaka Tameike Tower, 7th Floor
17-7 Akasaka 2-Chome
Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0052
Japan
Tel +81 3 5561 6600
Fax +81 3 5561 6699

Warsaw

Clifford Chance Norway House ul. Lwowska 19 00-660 Warszawa Poland Tel +48 22 627 11 77 Fax +48 22 627 14 66

Washington, D.C.

Clifford Chance 2001 K Street NW Washington, DC 20006 - 1001 USA Tel +1 202 912 5000 Fax +1 202 912 6000

^{*} Clifford Chance's offices include a second office in London at 4 Coleman Street, London EC2R 5JJ.

^{**} Linda Widyati & Partners in association with Clifford Chance.