



Mr Erkki Liikanen
Mr Lee White
IFRS Foundation
Columbus Building
7 Westferry Circus
Canary Wharf
LONDON
E14 4HD
VEREINIGTES KÖNIGREICH

Frankfurt am Main, August 31, 2021

Dear Mr Liikanen, dear Mr White,

We are writing to express our strong interest in hosting the headquarters of the IFRS International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) in Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

Our diversified group of private and public supporters welcomes the important move of the IFRS Foundation in developing a global baseline standard for sustainability reporting. We strongly promote the development of a globally consistent framework providing meaningful and comparable sustainability information to investors and other stakeholders. We support a possible distribution over several locations to emphasise the international reach of the ISSB.

Germany is a global leader in the fight against climate change, as demonstrated by the German goal to become climate neutral by 2045 and the initiative to create an international climate club. The National Sustainable Finance Strategy, which lays a focus on the promotion of

sustainability reporting, is aiming at making sustainability the guiding principle for financial markets and developing Germany as one of the world's leading centres of Sustainable Finance.

The State of Hesse is co-initiator of the Green and Sustainable Finance Cluster Germany at Frankfurt which is an impactful motor in advancing Sustainable Finance, especially regulations at European and national level. At international level it represents the German marketplace in the UN-convened initiative Financial Centres for Sustainability (FC4S).

Frankfurt, known to be an international, innovative, and open-minded finance and business centre, is extraordinarily well positioned to host the headquarters of the ISSB:

- Home to international, European and German institutions and authorities such as the European Central Bank (ECB), in particular with its supervisory function in the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM), Deutsche Bundesbank, European Systemic Risk Board (ESRB), European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority (EIOPA), Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation (GLEIF), BaFin and a leading role developing the Single Euro Payments Area (SEPA)
- Headquarters of many international companies and an important location for international audit firms
- Embedded in an ecosystem driving Sustainable Finance and business, it is a pioneer knowledge platform and implementer
- One of the world's top ten financial centres with more than 1,000 financial services companies
- An attractive science hub with a talent pool of 160,000 students and more than 40 research institutions and universities such as the Goethe University Frankfurt, the Leibniz Institute for Financial Research SAFE and the Frankfurt School of Finance & Management
- Located at the heart of Europe with an advanced infrastructure, including accessibility and Europe's digital capital

Frankfurt has attracted and been hosting international institutions for many decades and will ensure that the institution, board members and staff will feel welcome. Frankfurt is well-equipped for delivering administrative support to an international institution and its workforce, including assistance in obtaining residence and work permits, finding housing, schools, etc. The Frankfurt area offers its residents a high quality of life, with opera houses, theatres,

museums, international art and music festivals, sports, international schools and kindergartens, restaurants and clubs as well as the 'green city' with its parks for recreation.

Located at the heart of Europe, Frankfurt is easily accessible via its international airport with non-stop flights to all major cities around the globe and the most important rail transport hub in Germany in the city centre with more than 1,100 daily connections. It is the ideal place to hold conferences across different time zones and has one of the most advanced technological infrastructures. In short, it offers a perfect ecosystem for an organisation with international scope developing standards with a global audience where worldwide collaboration and outreach is key for success and credibility.

Frankfurt is embedded in an ecosystem that is driving the sustainability agenda on a global scale. The European Union is known as a leader in transforming towards a green economy, Sustainable Finance and sustainability reporting. With the ISSB located in the centre of Europe, collaboration will be positively affected. We would very much welcome a delegation of the IFRS Foundation to visit Frankfurt and experience the breeding ground of a stakeholder environment committed to driving global change building on sustainability reporting standards for more than 140 jurisdictions.

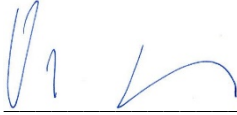
The Value Balancing Alliance, headquartered in Frankfurt, develops and tests sustainability accounting frameworks with international companies and maintains close contacts with the IFRS Foundation, the Value Reporting Foundation and EFRAG. It is mandated by the European Commission to develop natural capital accounting principles and a member of the EU Platform on Sustainable Finance.

All these initiatives are being conducted in close exchange with Deutsche Bundesbank, which as a central bank in the Eurosystem has a strong interest in the development of globally accepted sustainability reporting standards.

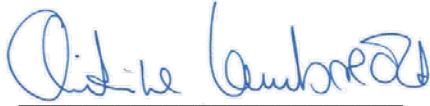
Our consortium of private and public institutions will be delighted to host the ISSB headquarters in Frankfurt. We will present a sound concept for seed funding and sufficient office space, and can provide full transparency about donors, none of which will have a controlling interest, which will safeguard the independence of the ISSB. Additionally we will share a list of all institutions that support the establishment of the ISSB in Frankfurt. Of course, we are pleased to provide any additional information required to facilitate your decision.

We would like to thank you for considering our application. Should any questions arise please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Olaf Scholz
Vice Chancellor and Federal Minister of Finance
Germany



Christine Lambrecht
Federal Minister of Justice and Consumer Protection
Germany



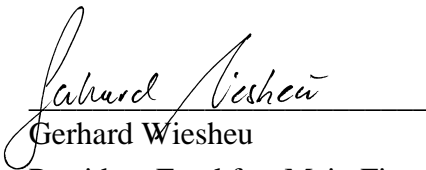
Michael Boddenberg
Minister of Finance
State of Hesse



Tarek Al-Wazir
Minister for Economic Affairs, Energy, Transport and Housing
State of Hesse



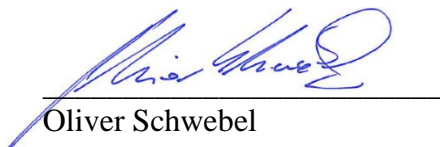
Markus Frank
Deputy Mayor of Department of Economy, Sports, Public Safety and Fire Protection
Frankfurt am Main



Gerhard Wiesheu
President Frankfurt Main Finance e. V.



Christian Heller
CEO Value Balancing Alliance e. V.



Oliver Schwebel
CEO Frankfurt Economic Development GmbH