

Global Finance Names the World's 50 Safest Banks 2013

NEW YORK, August 26, 2013 – Bank ratings are not yet showing the impact of either the slowdown in emerging economies or the more sustained recovery in developed countries. It is within this context that **Global Finance** announces its **22nd Annual Ranking of the World's 50 Safest Banks**.

Some banking market instability seems to be moving from the West to certain countries in the East, and companies are keeping a close eye on the solidity and reliability of their counterparties worldwide.

Canadian banks are once again the best performing in North America, with six banks in the top 50. But now US institutions are catching up, also boasting six banks in the top 50. Banks from Singapore are the strongest in Asia, as are those from Chile in Latin America. Once again the safest banks in Europe have explicit guarantees from AAA-rated governments. Development banks represent a large contingent of the Top 50.

The size threshold for banks is higher this year vs. 2012, with some strong local and global banks not qualifying for the list owing to their asset size, not their ratings.

Long-term ratings are still the most valuable tool for assessing a bank's reliability, especially when used in a comparative way.

With the Top 20 banks unchanged as of an April 2013 update to the 2012 rankings, the *Global Finance* World's 50 Safest Banks list shows that most of the top echelon of banks are truly worthy of the distinction of being named World's Safest Bank.

"In *Global Finance's* Safest Banks ranking, the number of emerging markets banks in the top 50 is slowly growing. The number of triple-A banks has not changed and it is pretty limited, as many countries have lost their top sovereign rating and no new ones have reached that level yet," says *Global Finance* publisher Joseph D. Giarraputo. "This ranking offers companies an objective tool for evaluating the world's banks—both globally and by region," Giarraputo notes. "Those institutions that top our ranking of the Safest Banks continue to show strength in trying times."

Global Finance's annual ranking of World's 50 Safest Banks has been a recognized and trusted standard of creditworthiness for the entire financial world for more than 20 years. Winners were selected through an evaluation of long-term credit ratings—from Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch—and total assets of the 500 largest banks worldwide.

The full results of this exclusive survey will be published in the October issue of *Global Finance*. The banks ranked 1-10 will be presented awards at a special ceremony to be held during the Annual Meetings of the IMF and World Bank in Washington, DC in October.

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Find the full list of
Global Finance's World's 50 Safest Banks 2013
on the following page.

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Ratings current as of July 30, 2013 / Press Release Date: *Global Finance* Magazine - August 26, 2013



The Reach of *Global Finance*

Global Finance, founded in 1987, has a circulation of 50,050 and readers in 163 countries. Its circulation is audited by BPA. *Global Finance's* audience includes chairmen, presidents, CEOs, CFOs, treasurers and other senior financial officers responsible for making investment and strategic decisions at multinational companies and financial institutions. *Global Finance* also targets the 8,000 international portfolio investors responsible for more than 80% of all global assets under professional management. Its website —Gfmag.com— offers analysis and articles that are the heritage of 26 years of experience in international financial markets, and provides a valuable source of data on 192 countries. *Global Finance* is headquartered in New York, with offices in London and Milan.

To obtain the *Global Finance* Safest Bank Award logo, please contact Chris Giarraputo at: chris@gfmag.com

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Rank	Group Name	Country
1	KfW	Germany
2	Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten	Netherlands
3	Zürcher Kantonalbank	Switzerland
4	Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank	Germany
5	L-Bank	Germany
6	Nederlandse Waterschapsbank	Netherlands
7	Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations	France
8	NRW.BANK	Germany
9	Banque et Caisse d'Epargne de l'Etat	Luxembourg
10	Rabobank	Netherlands
11	TD Bank Group	Canada
12	DBS Bank	Singapore
13	Oversea-Chinese Banking Corp	Singapore
14	United Overseas Bank	Singapore
15	Royal Bank of Canada	Canada
16	National Australia Bank	Australia
17	Commonwealth Bank of Australia	Australia
18	Westpac	Australia
19	ANZ Group	Australia
20	Nordea	Sweden
21	Bank of Nova Scotia	Canada
22	Svenska Handelsbanken	Sweden
23	Hang Seng Bank	Hong Kong
24	Caisse centrale Desjardins	Canada
25	HSBC	United Kingdom
26	Sparkassen-Finanzgruppe (Sparkasse)	Germany
27	China Development Bank	China
28	Bank of Montreal	Canada
29	CIBC	Canada
30	Agricultural Development Bank of China	China
31	BNY Mellon	United States
32	Pohjola	Finland
33	CoBank	United States
34	AgriBank	United States
35	National Bank of Abu Dhabi	UAE
36	Korea Finance Corporation	South Korea
37	National Bank of Kuwait	Kuwait
38	BancoEstado	Chile
39	AgFirst	United States
40	DZ Bank	Germany
41	U.S. Bancorp	United States
42	Industrial Bank of Korea	South Korea
43	Korea Development Bank	South Korea
44	Qatar National Bank	Qatar
45	Northern Trust	United States
46	Samba Financial Group	Saudi Arabia
47	Bank of Taiwan	Taiwan
48	Banco de Chile	Chile
49	LGT Bank	Liechtenstein
50	Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ	Japan

* The following institutions qualified for inclusion in the list but did not make the ranking owing to their total assets: Wells Fargo, Standard Chartered, Banque Fédérative du Crédit Mutuel, SEB, DnB, Swedbank, State Street, National Bank of Canada, Shizuoka Bank, National Commercial Bank, Al Rajhi Bank, Suncorp Metway, Banco Santander Chile, Riyad Bank

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