

Press release: Public banks' high level representatives meet with EC delegate to discuss future opportunities and new results of the European Commission's Investment Plan (Juncker Plan) for Europe

On June 6, the European Association of Public Banks (EAPB) organised its semestrial General Assembly in Sofia, Bulgaria. The event was kindly hosted by the Bulgarian Development Bank (<u>BDB</u>). EAPB member BDB is a publicly owned financial institution, its mission is to provide access to finance for small and medium-sized enterprises.

Mrs. Iliyana Tsanova, Deputy Executive Director of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), delivered a presentation on the implementation of the EFSI. The presentation prompted a lively discussion among the participants.

The event agenda included contributions from Mr. Philippe Mills, EAPB President, Mr. Angel Gekov, Chairman of the Management Board of BDB and Mr. Yves Millardet, CEO, Agence France Locale (<u>AFL</u>).

At the meeting Ms. Iris Bethge, Executive Managing Director at the Association of German Public Banks (<u>VÖB</u>) was appointed new board member of the EAPB.

EAPB would like to thank the participants, the speakers and BDB for making this a most memorable day.

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About EAPB:

The European Association of Public Banks (EAPB) gathers member organisations (financial institutions, funding agencies, promotional and public banks, associations of public banks and banks with similar interests) from 17 European Member States and countries, representing directly and indirectly the interests of over 90 financial institutions towards the EU and other European stakeholders. With a combined balance sheet total of about EUR 3,500 billion and a market share of around 15%, EAPB members constitute an essential part of the European financial sector.