Opinion of the European Banking Authority on the draft European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS)

Dear Mr Berrigan,

The submission of the first set of draft European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS) by the European Financial Reporting Advisory Group (EFRAG) to the European Commission occurred on 22 November 2022.

In line with Article 49(3b) of Directive 2013/34/EU (Accounting Directive), as amended by the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD), on 25 November 2022 the European Commission requested the opinion of the EBA on the technical advice submitted by EFRAG. It is my pleasure to submit to you today this EBA Opinion, as endorsed by the EBA’s Board of Supervisors.

In substance, the Opinion enclosed, highlights the significant improvement of the draft ESRS prepared by EFRAG when compared to the respective exposure drafts published for consultation. Overall consistency with international standards and relevant EU Regulation was achieved. In particular, the EBA very much welcomes the better alignment with the disclosure requirements under the EBA’s Pillar 3 Framework. In the Opinion, the EBA also highlights a few aspects that would deserve further consideration by the European Commission, including the timetable for the development of the sector-specific standards for credit institutions.

The Opinion will be published on the EBA’s public website shortly.

Yours sincerely,

José Manuel Campa
CC: Irene Tinagli, Chair of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs European Parliament
Claudia Lindemann, Head of ECON Secretariat
Elisabeth Svantesson, Minister of Finance Sweden, ECOFIN chair, Presidency of the Council of the EU
Tuomas Saarenheimo, Chair of Economic and Finance Committee, Council of the European Union
Jeppe Tranholm-Mikkelsen, Secretary-General, Council
Ugo Bassi, Director Dir C, Financial Markets, DG FISMA
Martin Merlin, Director Dir D, Regulation and prudential supervision of financial Institutions, DG FISMA
Sven Gentner, Head of Unit C1, Corporate reporting, audit and credit rating agencies, DG FISMA
Almoro Rubin de Cervin, Head of Unit D1, Bank regulation and supervision, DG FISMA
Dominique Thienpont, Legal Counsellor to Dir D, DG FISMA
Thomas Dodd, Policy Coordinator - Corporate transparency, DG FISMA Unit C.1
Giulia Bottazzi, Legal Officer - Corporate reporting/transparency and digitalisation – Law, DG FISMA Unit C.1

Encl: EBA-Op-2023-01 (Opinion of the European Banking Authority on the draft European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS))