

Company Name: The Chiba Bank, Ltd.
Representative: Tsutomu Yonemoto, President
Stock Exchange Listing: Tokyo (code: 8331)

**Chiba Bank Announces Sustainability Linked Loan Initiative
for RICOH LEASING COMPANY, LTD.
~TSUBASA Alliance cooperation measures~**

February 26, 2024 - The Chiba Bank, Ltd. (President and CEO: Tsutomu Yonemoto) (“Chiba Bank” or “the Bank”) today announced the execution through co-financing of a Sustainability Linked Loan (“SLL”) for RICOH LEASING COMPANY, LTD. (President and CEO: Tokuharu Nakamura) (“RICOH LEASING” or “the Company”) with The Chugoku Bank, LTD. (Director and President: Sadanori Kato) and THE SHIGA BANK, LTD. (President: Shinya Kubota), working together in the TSUBASA Alliance*1.

SLL is a financing scheme for businesses to set Sustainability Performance Targets (“SPT*2”), which are the target values for their SDGs and ESG strategies, and the financing terms and conditions will vary depending on the achievement of the SPTs.

RICOH LEASING, the recipient of the loan, aims to contribute to corporate growth opportunities and solve social issues through the use of transaction data centered on vendor leasing. Furthermore, the Company is contributing to the realization of a decarbonized society by promoting initiatives through its business, and has decided to move its own Scope 1 and 2 Net Zero targets ahead from 2050 to 2030 in order to accelerate its efforts.

To accelerate sustainability management, the Company established the Sustainability Linked Finance Framework*3 (“Framework”) in December 2022, and set the SPT to maintain the leadership level (A and A-), which is the highest level in the CDP Climate Change Score*4. This loan is based on the SPT established in the Framework.

The suitability of the Framework and the appropriateness of the SPT have been certified as a second opinion*5 by Rating and Investment Information, Inc.

Chiba Bank has made its core purpose “To create a local community better suited to bringing each person’s hope to life,” and aims to be an engagement bank group that works closely with the community by providing social value, such as contributing to the resolution of regional social issues.

*1 Wide-area regional bank partnership framework consisting of 10 banks: Chiba Bank, Daishi Hokuetsu Bank, Chugoku Bank, Iyo Bank, Toho Bank, North Pacific Bank, Musashino Bank, SHIGA BANK, Bank of the Ryukyus, and Gunma Bank. (<https://tsubasa-al.co.jp>) (Japanese)

*2 Business challenge targets in SDG/ESG Strategies (Sustainability Performance Target)

*3 https://www.r-lease.co.jp/assets/docs/sustainability_link_finance_framework.pdf (Japanese)

*4 The score is calculated by an NGO that sends questionnaires on "climate change", "water" and "forests" to major companies and cities around the world, asking them to disclose information on greenhouse gas emissions and business risks and opportunities caused by climate change, and evaluates and publishes the results based on their responses. Ratings are assigned at eight levels: A and A- (leadership level), B and B- (management level), C and C- (recognition level), and D and D- (information disclosure level).

*5 https://www.r-i.co.jp/news_release_suf/2022/12/news_release_suf_20221222_jpn.pdf (Japanese)

【Sustainability Linked Loan Outline】

Borrower	RICOH LEASING COMPANY, LTD.
Lending financial institution	Chiba Bank, Chugoku Bank, SHIGA BANK
Execution date	Monday, February 26, 2024
SPT	Maintain a leadership level in the CDP Climate Change Score
Third-Party Opinion	Rating and Investment Information, Inc.
Use of funds	Operating funds
Loan type	Term loan