



1. EFMLG Meetings by videoconference in 2020

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, the EFMLG continued its work this year. While the meeting scheduled to be hosted by BNP Paribas on 6 March 2020 in Paris had to be cancelled, the EFMLG was able to adapt to the virtual world. It held two meetings in 2020, both by videoconference hosted by the European Central Bank, on 5 June and 18 September.

In the 5 June meeting, EFMLG members covered the various measures taken in EU Member States with regard to suspension of insolvency applications, moratoria, and support to companies and individuals through the banking sector.



The EFMLG also covered elements of the Risk Reduction Package, of the Benchmark Reform and of the renewed Sustainable Finance Strategy of the European Commission, among others.

In its meeting on 18 September the EFMLG covered, among others, the finalization of the Brexit transition period with a focus on equivalence measures. It also covered the Capital Markets Union (Final Report of the High

Level Forum) and crypto assets including their consideration in some Member States as “financial instruments” subject to “custody”.

2. EFMLG letter to the European Commission. Risk Reduction Package – New Regulatory and Implementing Technical Standards in the Area of Recovery and Resolution.

Following its meeting on 5 June, the EFMLG sent a letter to the European Commission and the European Banking Authority on a large number of elements regarding bail-in clauses and bail-in-able liabilities also in connection with Brexit.

3. EFMLG letter to the European Banking Authority. Extension of the time limit for non-legislative moratoria on loan repayments.

On 10 June 2020 the EFMLG sent a letter to the European Banking Authority asking for an extension of the EBA’s time limit (30 June 2020) of non-legislative moratoria foreseen in the EBA Guidelines on moratoria on loan repayments applied in the light of the Covid-19 crisis, published on 2 April 2020. The EFMLG asked for an extension of the time limit of at least three months until 30 September 2020 arguing that such extension should enable the banks to provide further flexibility to their clients.

4. EFMLG submissions regarding the EU Benchmark Reform (BMR).

The EFMLG provided strong support to

the European Commission regarding the inclusion of instruments ensuring the preservation of financial stability in the BMR.

i) Letter and presentation of 20 March 2020 to the Commission.

The EFMLG prepared a detailed presentation and explanatory letter in which it proposed three EU legislative scenarios that the Commission could contemplate for statutory fallback provisions in the case of cessation of critical benchmarks in the EU. One of these scenarios coincides with the provisions of the Commission’s subsequent proposal.

ii) Feedback on the Commission proposal to amend the Benchmark Regulation on 6 October 2020.

The EFMLG provided detailed feedback and proposals on a large number of elements of the Commission proposal.

5. Sustainable Finance. Response to the European Commission targeted consultation on the Green Bond Standard.

On 2 October 2020 the EFMLG provided its response to the targeted consultation asking for the facilitation and improvement of some of the conditions for the issuance of green bonds (e.g. use of proceeds outside the EU).

6. Quadrilateral videoconference 2020

This was hosted by the FMLC (Bank of England) on 21 October with the participation of the EFMLG and its sister groups in London, New York and Tokyo.