

## BIS CPMI consultation on *ISO 20022 harmonisation requirements for enhancing cross-border payments*

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UK Finance is the collective voice for the banking and finance industry in the United Kingdom (UK). Representing more than 300 firms across the industry, we act to enhance competitiveness, support customers, and facilitate innovation.

We work for and on behalf of our members to promote a safe, transparent and innovative banking and finance industry. We offer research, policy expertise, thought leadership and advocacy in support of our work. We provide a single voice for a diverse and competitive industry. Our operational activity enhances members' own services in situations where collective industry action adds value.

UK Finance and its members welcome the opportunity to respond to the CPIM consultation on *ISO 20022 harmonisation requirements for enhancing cross-border payments*. UK Finance views this consultation as an important opportunity to help promote consistent implementation of ISO 20022 and further improve cross-border payments.

The introduction and implementation of ISO 20022 is a fundamental strategic change for the banking and payments industry, as well as for stakeholders more widely. We think the approach taken by CPMI, in terms of its broad consultation approach and the mechanisms it has put in place to gather feedback from a wide range of stakeholders has been effective and the industry welcomes the CPMI's open and consultative approach.

UK Finance is generally supportive of the direction of travel laid out in the CPMI harmonisation requirements for enhancing cross-border payments. Payment services are, by nature, internationally interconnected services and aligning with global standards is the right approach. Globally, firms and infrastructures are moving to ISO 20022, and this move will help to ensure that the UK retains its place as world class.

Our members have welcomed the introduction of ISO 20022 standard by the Bank of England in its redevelopment of the RTGS. We also support the ambition and strategy for aligning future retail payment messaging with the new global messaging standard ISO 20022, given the wide range of benefits this will bring to customers, payment service providers and the UK more widely.

UK Finance and its members see enhancing cross-border payments as a priority for the industry. Market participants involved in cross-borders operations are supportive of the G20 initiative to enhance cross-border payments and view the implementation of ISO 20022 messaging standards as key to ensure consistent information exchange across markets.

While UK Finance and its members have focused primarily on the cross-border aspects of this consultation, related UK developments, as noted above, are also relevant. Therefore, we have elected to respond jointly with Pay.UK, as the recognised operator and standards body for the UK's interbank retail payment systems, in charge of developing the implementation of the ISO 20022 data standards at the UK domestic level.