

CREDIT OPINION

16 December 2025

Update



RATINGS

Credit Logement

Domicile	PARIS, France
Long Term Rating	Aa3
Туре	LT Issuer Rating
Outlook	Stable

Please see the <u>ratings section</u> at the end of this report for more information. The ratings and outlook shown reflect information as of the publication date.

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Credit Logement

Update following affirmation of the long-term Issuer Rating

Summary

<u>Credit Logement</u>'s (CL) Aa3 long-term issuer rating reflects (1) the institution's dominant role and market position in France as leading provider of home-loan guarantees to the large banks; (2) its prudent underwriting and investment policy; (3) its solid loss-absorption capacity, which would enable the institution to withstand significant stress in its guaranteed loan portfolio; and (4) the relatively stable profitability expected despite rising inflation and lower level of production of home loans.

Credit strengths

- » Dominant market position and long track record as a provider of guarantees for French residential home loans.
- » High importance of home loan guarantees to the French housing market and soundness of the French home loan market.
- » A solid capital base resilient to potential stress in the loan portfolio.
- » Low but stable recurring profitability with the ability to transfer losses to borrowers through the mutual guarantee fund (MGF) during stress periods.
- » Shareholders' (large French banks) commitment to support the institution's solvency.

Credit challenges

- » Deterioration in the government of France's creditworthiness could constrain Credit Logement's own creditworthiness through higher pressure on the operating environment and eventually the quality of the guarantee portfolio.
- » Creditworthiness of Credit Logement is partly constrained by the creditworthiness of its shareholder banks due to the exposure via its treasury portfolio.
- » Although improving in the past year, higher interest rates affected the volume of home-loans' production in 2023 and 2024.

Outlook

The outlook is stable, reflecting our expectation that the French home loan market as well as Credit Logement's guarantee portfolio will remain sound over the outlook horizon and that Credit Logement will maintain a strong financial profile, including ample buffers that would help it withstand a potential deterioration in this market, if any.

Factors that could lead to an upgrade

» An upgrade of the issuer rating could occur following further reduction of risks in its guaranteed loan portfolio, or a material improvement in its loss-absorption capacity.

Factors that could lead to a downgrade

» A downgrade of the issuer rating could occur in case of a severe deterioration of the French housing market's performance or in Credit Logement's guaranteed home-loan portfolio.

- » A downgrade of the issuer rating could also occur if its loss-absorption capacity were to reduce, or if the quality and diversification of the investment portfolio were to deteriorate significantly.
- » A downgrade of the government of France's rating below A1 could also trigger a downgrade of Credit Logement's issuer rating. Because of the interconnectedness between Credit Logement's creditworthiness and its operating environment, we believe that Crédit Logement's rating is unlikely to exceed the sovereign rating by more than one notch.

Key indicators

Exhibit 1
Credit Logement (Unconsolidated Financials)[1]

Data in € millions	12-24 ¹	12-23 ¹	12-22 ¹	12-21 ¹	12-20 ¹	CAGR/Avg. ²
Total assets	12,389	12,462	12,553	12,402	11,931	0.9%
Off-balance sheet guaranteed portfolio	416,040	420,950	429,707	413,437	390,392	1.6%
Tier 1 capital	7,151	7,031	6,871	6,797	6,532	2.3%
Mutual Guarantee Fund	7,103	6,986	6,938	6,641	6,350	2.8%
Net income, group share	111	104	120	120	99	2.9%

[1] All figures and ratios are adjusted using Moody's standard adjustments, Local GAAP. [2] May include rounding differences because of the scale of reported amounts. Source: Company's financial statements and Moody's Ratings

Profile

Credit Logement is a Paris-based financial institution founded in 1975, which, through its shareholders^{1,2}, is the leading provider of guarantees for non-mortgage-backed residential housing loans to individuals in France. Credit Logement guaranteed 29% of the domestic home loans (including traditional mortgage loans) originated in 2024 and 32% of the entire stock of residential housing loans in France as of year-end 2024 (€1 283 billion).

Credit Logement opted for the license of "Société de Financement" (finance company) provided under L.511-11 II of the French Monetary and Financial Code, following the implementation of the Capital Requirement Directive IV starting 1 January 2014. The institution has to comply with banking regulations (solvency, liquidity, etc.), and is supervised by the French supervisory authority (Autorité de Contrôle prudentiel et de Régulation - ACPR).

As of 31 December 2024, the institution reported total assets of €12.4 billion and an off-balance-sheet guaranteed loan portfolio of €416 billion that is reflective of its core activity as a guarantor.

Detailed credit considerations

Unless noted otherwise, the data in this report is sourced from the company's reports and Moody's Banking Financial Metrics. Given the activities and the structure of the institution, in assigning the rating to Credit Logement we considered factors that are specific to mortgage insurers as set out in our Mortgage Insurers rating methodology, updated in August 2022 and republished in March 2024. Nevertheless, we also consider bank metrics in our analysis because Credit Logement is chartered as a "Société de Financement", which is required to comply with regulations that are very similar to those applicable to banks.

Dominant market position and long track record as a provider of guarantees for French residential home loans Credit Logement's franchise is a primary credit strength, given (1) its established leadership position as a provider of home loan guarantees; and (2) its expertise in domestic home financing.

This publication does not announce a credit rating action. For any credit ratings referenced in this publication, please see the issuer/deal page on https://ratings.moodys.com for the most updated credit rating action information and rating history.

The French banking industry relies mostly on guarantees rather than on mortgage claims for securing its housing loans. Based on the statistics published by the ACPR, the share of loans secured by a guarantee has continuously increased over the past ten years and accounted for 65% of total housing loans outstanding in France at year-end 2024.

Credit Logement is by far the largest provider of home loan guarantees with a portfolio of €416 billion at year-end 2024 representing 50% of total home loan guarantees outstanding in France. While the mutual banking groups have a large portion of their housing loans guaranteed by their own captive guarantee providers, all the other French banks primarily rely on the credit protection provided by Credit Logement.

In 2024, Credit Logement's share of housing loan guarantee production returned to its historical average at 42% after a temporary decrease to 34% in 2023. The decrease in market share in 2023 was due to the fact that the mutual banking groups remained more active than the other banks in originating new housing loans in the global context of the material slowdown in loan production since the middle of 2022. The other banks progressively resumed their origination activities in 2024. The scorecard captures the market share as the value of guarantees to retail customers arranged by Credit Logement relative to the value of total guaranteed production in France over the financial period³.

Credit Logement relies on the distribution networks of the largest French banking groups to write guarantees on home loans, thus benefitting from several distribution channels. The share of the institution's portfolio in the Paris region and the southeast of France is above average if compared to the geographical distribution of housing loans, with close to 60% of the annual production of home loan guarantees. However, the high concentration of exposures in these affluent regions reflects (1) the importance of these regions in the French housing market and its structural concentration, where Paris and its surroundings accounted for 23% of the French home loan production in 2024; and (2) the institution's focus on the premium segments of the French home loan market.

Credit Logement also offers collection services to third parties, where it provides its expertise to other banks. Other offers include valuation services and energy-efficiency estimation, as well as latest real estate market data. These activities do not generate any additional credit risk, but provide earnings diversification, although still limited.

Housing market structure underpins Credit Logement's low risk profile

As reflected by the assigned Housing Market Attributes score of Aa, the benign structure of the French home loan guarantee market is a strong credit driver, supporting Credit Logement's financial strength. This reflects the attractiveness of home loan guarantees relative to traditional mortgage loans translating into the strong market presence of the former, the generally sound underwriting criteria deployed by the French banks, and the relative stability of the property valuations.

The high penetration rate of home loan guarantees comes from the lack of competitiveness of mortgages, which are costly and involve slow process for the registration of mortgage deeds and foreclosures. The proportion of guaranteed loans in the stock of housing loans has been increasing mostly at the expense of traditional mortgage loans.

Exhibit 2
Guaranteed loans' share has been increasing at the expense of traditional mortgages in France

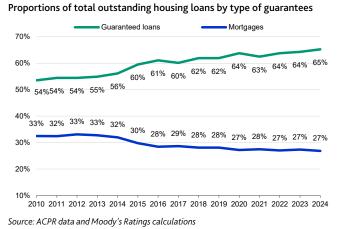
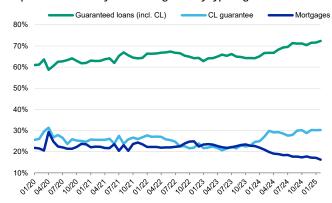


Exhibit 3

CL's share of production represents a high proportion of new housing loans in France

Proportions of monthly new housing loans by type of guarantees



Source: ACPR data and Moody's Ratings calculations

Housing loans in France are amortising and predominantly fixed-rate (98.5% of total housing loans outstanding at year-end 2024) and therefore immune to rise in interest rates). Furthermore, favorable social welfare system in France is supportive of the good performance of this asset class. Additionally, in case of default, lenders have full recourse on all the borrowers' net worth, should the proceeds of the property's sale not fully cover their claims. The average loan-to-value ratio (LTV) of the stock of French residential loans was 67% at year-end 2024, and the weighted average LTV of 2024 was around 78%, slightly down from 79% in 2023 and 83% in 2022.4

Underwriting, which is strongly focused on borrowers' debt service payment capacity, is good. France's High Council for Financial Stability (HCSF), the macroprudential authority entrusted with oversight of the country's financial system, pointed out some deterioration in French banks' underwriting standards on housing loans in 2019. These nonetheless have improved since the HCSF subsequently imposed new restrictions limiting debt service-to-income on housing loans to 35% and loan maturities to 25 years, and that have been effective since January 2022.

After several years of high growth until the middle of 2022, production of housing loans slowed significantly in France since the second half of 2022, reflecting both lower demand as higher interest rates reduced households' debt affordability and tighter underwriting. New lending to households decreased by 42% in 2023 and further contracted by around 20% in 2024. Supported by somewhat lower lending interest rates compared to the highest point reached at the end of 2023, origination of housing loans started to resume in 2H 2024 and rebounded by almost 40% in 1H 2025 - albeit from a low point (1H 2025 production still represents half of that of 1H 2022[§]).

House prices in France have decreased by close to 5% on average between the end of 2022 and the end of Q1 2025 after a continuous rise of over 30% between 2015 and 2022. Based on data from L'Observatoire Crédit Logement/CSA, the house price-to-income ratio in France, that fell below its long-term average in 2023 has been slowly progressing in 2025 but is still below the peak reached in the middle of 2021.

Credit Logement is well positioned to withstand a deterioration in the performance of its home loans

Credit Logement has a prudent underwriting policy and efficient collection of arrears

The ratio of doubtful loans to total guaranteed loans of 43 basis points as of year-end 2024, slightly up from 39 basis points at year-end 2023, remains materially lower than the doubtful loan ratio for the whole French residential market of 108 basis points at year-end 2024^Z, reflecting the strong quality of Credit Logement's portfolio. The performance of the assets guaranteed by Credit Logement is better than the market average because of its strict solvency-based standards, which are typically stricter than those of its partner banks and reflected in its own scoring system.

Credit Logement has put in place efficient collection procedures with a dedicated team focusing on early amicable recovery process in order to avoid litigations. The recovery process starts when a borrower defaults on its installments. At origination, loans are booked onto the partner banks' balance sheets, which also collect interest and principal repayment. If arrears occur on the guaranteed home loan, partner banks can call upon Credit Logement's guarantee. Credit Logement would first pay the customer's arrears to the partner bank. If the bank were to declare close-out of the loan, the partner bank would be repaid in full whereas the loan is transferred onto the balance sheet of Credit Logement for collection.

Credit Logement benefits from a negative pledge on the loans it guarantees, but would only register a mortgage on the property in case of foreclosure. Credit Logement is exposed to the risk of a debtor illegally contracting a mortgage just after defaulting on its loan. However, this risk is mitigated by the prudent management of nonperforming loans and the institution's ability to file a mortgage lien by way of court, which can be done quickly.

The institution has sufficient shock absorbers to withstand a period of stress, if any, on its guaranteed loan portfolio

Credit Logement has material on-balance-sheet resources that will help withstand a significant deterioration in, if any, in the performance of its guaranteed loan portfolio. At year-end 2024, these resources represented 2.5% of the guarantee portfolio and around 6 times the life-time expected loss on this portfolio, broadly stable from year-end 2023.

The quality of this loss absorbing buffer is very high as they are essentially composed of own funds or quasi own funds, including the Mutual Guarantee Fund (MGF, €7.1 billion as of year-end 2024), shareholder's equity (€1.6 billion) and subordinated debt (€1.4 billion).

The MGF is comprised of premiums paid by households when they take out a loan guaranteed by Credit Logement and is the first line of defense against credit losses. Under severe stress, the institution would have the ability to use the entire MGF to absorb losses. Although MGF contributions are, in principle, partially repaid to the households once the corresponding loans are repaid in full, the terms and conditions of the guarantee allows it to keep the entirety of the MGF in case of a material increase in expected losses on the portfolio. This feature makes the MGF eligible as CET1 capital.

Credit Logement also benefits from a commitment from its shareholders to replenish its MGF, but only with respect the contributions made to the MGF before 1 January 2014. As of year-end 2024, this commitment amounted to €1.2 billion. Credit Logement's article of associations also stipulates the obliation of the shareholders to support the company in case of difficulties thought the provision of subordinated loans. These provide some additional loss-absorption capacity, although the shareholders' ability to provide support would be diminished if Credit Logement were to face very high losses on its guaranteed loan portfolio because they would also likely be faced with the same stress.

Under the "Societe de Financement" prudential regime,¹⁰ Credit Logement's Tier 1 capital ratio was 12% (Tier 1 capital amounted to €7.2 billion) as of year-end 2024, broadly in line with year-end 2023. Its total capital ratio was 14.5% (total regulatory capital was €8.6 billion), somewhat down from 15.2% at year-end 2023, reflecting the repayment of €500 million Tier 2 debt in 2024.

Since 30 June 2017, Credit Logement has also been subject to a total capital requirement (pillar 2) of 2% of its outstanding guarantees. This requirement was set up by the ACPR in 2017 and must be complied with by all providers of home loan guarantees in France. As of year-end 2024, the institution's total regulatory capital (€8.6 billion) exceeded the total requirement of 2% of outstanding loans (i.e. €8.3 billion) by only €0.3 billion. Nonetheless we view this modest margin as easily manageable considering that loan production is expected to pick up only gradually in the current economic conditions, that each new guarantee extended contributes to the MGF (1% of the guarantee) and that the 2% pillar 2 requirement can be filled with the issuance of subordinated debt to shareholders. For more details on the new requirement, please refer to our Issuer In-Depth titled Harmonised capital rules for French guaranteed home loans are credit positive for Credit Logement, published in December 2017.

Our capital adequacy score incorporates a geography-specific adjustment¹¹ to the risks stemming from the guaranteed housing loans, to reflect the differences in guaranteed coverage between the French (typically 100% of the loan) and US-based mortgage insurers which cover only a portion of the loan. For the sake of comparability with its French peers, we consider total regulatory capital of Credit Logement (including the Tier 2 and subordinated debt) in the denominator of the ratio.

Credit Logement's low recurring profitability level is offset by its ability to transfer losses to borrowers through the MGF during periods of stress

Payments to the partner banks on defaulted loans - i.e. credit costs - are not accounted for as provisions but rather deducted directly from its regulatory capital. Credit Logement's accounting profit, therefore, only reflects the institution's capacity to cover its general expenses with (1) the commissions¹² on the *prêts cautionnés* paid by individual borrowers, released through its income statement throughout the life of the guarantee; and (2) the proceeds from the investment of its own funds.

Credit Logement has been consistently generating around €100 million net profit per annum on a recurring basis over the past few years. Net profit amounted to €111 million in 2024, up from €104 million in 2023. The improvement reflects €12 million increase in revenue, partly offset by €3 million increase in operating expenses (+5%). The rise in revenue was primarily driven higher net interest income that resulted from higher invested capital. Net commission income was slightly down on 2023 (-3%) despite the resumption in guarantee production because of lower loan prepayments (accrued commissions paid by the borrowers are fully release when the loans are prepaid). As a service provider to its shareholders, Credit Logement is not a profit maximiser. Although not high, the institution's profit still represents a potential additional source of capital in case of need.

In addition, Credit Logement's low recurring earnings generation capacity does not constrain its financial strength because the institution's (1) MGF is its first line of defence and Credit Logement may reduce the refund of the borrowers' initial contribution to the MGF at time of stress.

The combined ratio in the scorecard is a proxy. We use the change in the MGF (i.e. the difference between the new premium flows into the MGF and the outflows related to premiums repaid to the borrowers) as a proxy of premiums earned in the denominator of the

ratio. The numerator is composed of the expenses of the year as reported in the income statement and the cost of risk calculated by Credit Logement.

Our calculation of the Return on Capital ratio excludes the amount of MGF from the denominator to improve comparability with peers.

Shareholders' commitment to support Credit Logement's solvency mitigates significant financial leverage

Credit Logement's use of subordinated debt instruments is high. Credit Logement's financial leverage was around 48% as of year-end 2024, down from 55% as of year-end 2023 as a result of a redemption of €0.5 billion Tier 2 debt (leverage is defined as the ratio of debt to the sum of debt and own capital). The institution issues subordinated capital instruments as a means to beefing up its solvency so as to keep up with the growth in its guarantee commitments.

However, restricted access to wholesale funding in the event of a market disruption would not pose a material risk for Credit Logement in our view because (1) the firm only needs to issue subordinated debt instruments to its capital base, but does not need to tap the wholesale markets for funding purposes; and (2) Credit Logement's shareholders are committed to maintaining its solvency and to replenishing the MGF, 13 which would help the institution grow its regulatory capital base in sync with the growth of its guarantee portfolio. This commitment is illustrated by the 60.9 billion deeply subordinated loans (emprunts participatifs) held by the institution's shareholders as of year-end 2024, out of the total 61.4 billion subordinated debt outstanding as of the same date.

Some correlation between Credit Logement's financial strength and the average credit quality of its investment portfolio

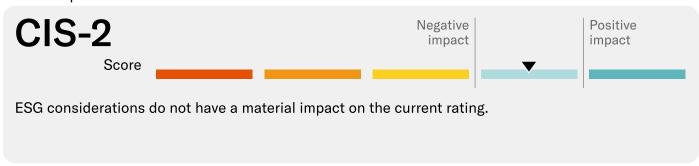
Credit Logement's investment portfolio (€9.9 billion, representing 138% of its Tier 1 capital as of year-end 2024) is of high quality and is diversified by counterparty, but remains heavily concentrated in French assets. This concentration exposes the company to a deterioration in the credit quality of the Government of France (Aa3 negative). In particular, a large share of the investment portfolio is comprised of deposits with French banks, notably with Credit Logement's shareholders.

Concentration risk stemming from the bank deposits are nonetheless mitigated by (1) a dynamic collateral posting mechanism by the banks based on their creditworthiness and the tenor of the exposures and (2) Credit Logement's ability to reduce them rapidly and without material losses in case of need. In addition, since 2014, the MGF can absorb the losses coming from the investment portfolio.

ESG considerations

Credit Logement's ESG credit impact score is CIS-2

Exhibit 4
ESG credit impact score



Source: Moody's Ratings

Credit Logement's CIS-2 indicates that ESG considerations do not have a material impact on the current rating.

Exhibit 5
ESG issuer profile scores



Source: Moody's Ratings

Environmental

Credit Logement faces low environmental risks. The company's business model, focused on the provision of guarantees for non-mortgage-backed residential housing loans to individuals in France, entails low exposure to carbon transition risk. The firm's exposure to physical climate risks is low as well because those guarantees do not cover any physical damage to properties arising from catastrophic events. Credit Logement's exposure to environmental risks from its investment portfolio is limited.

Social

Credit Logement faces moderate social risks, primarily arising from the security of personal data and cyber risk. Risks of mis-selling and mis-representation are mitigated by the fact that Credit Logement's relationship with retail customers is limited to those having defaulted on their home loans. The mortgage exposure is exclusively incurred in France and could be affected by demographic and societal trends, including the demand for housing and housing affordability.

Governance

Credit Logement faces low governance risks. Credit Logement has a clear and stable corporate and financial strategy, leading to stable and predictable levels of profit historically. In addition, Credit Logement's Mutual Guarantee Fund mechanism provides a strong loss absorption buffer and the ability to transfer losses to borrowers during adverse economic environments. Credit Logement's monoline business model involves a straightforward organizational structure and governance. Credit Logement serves its banking shareholders, which limits its ability to increase profits and could also create some ineffective decision making. However Credit Logement's independent underwriting policies and the absence of dominant shareholder are key mitigants.

ESG Issuer Profile Scores and Credit Impact Scores for the rated entity/transaction are available on Moodys.com. In order to view the latest scores, please click here to go to the landing page for the entity/transaction on MDC and view the ESG Scores section.

Support and structural considerations

The dated subordinated instruments are rated one notch below Credit Logement's long-term issuer rating, to reflect their subordination in case of liquidation.

Rating methodology and scorecard factors

Exhibit 6

Rating Factors

39.1% X X X	95.0%		67.9% 58.1%		A Baa	Aa Aa
X	95.0%				Baa	Aa
X	95.0%					
Х	95.0%					
Х						
Х			581%			
Х			30.170			
Х					Aa	Aa
Х						
					Α	Α
					Aa	Aa
7.0x						
					Α	Α
		3.1%				
Х						
					Baa	Α
			47.7%			
			47.7%			
				P	\aa - A	Aaa - A
					A1	Aa3
						Aa3
					-	Aa3

[1] Information based on LOCAL GAAP financial statements as of Fiscal YE 12/31/2024. [2] The Scorecard rating is an important component of the company's published rating, reflecting the stand-alone financial strength before other considerations (discussed above) are incorporated into the analysis.

Source: Moody's Ratings

Ratings

Exhibit 7

's Rating	ory
	IT LOGEMENT
STA	ting Outlook
Aa3	Issuer Rating
A1	bordinate
	bordinate : Moody's Ratings

Moody's related publications

Issuer In-Depth

» Credit Logement: Harmonised capital rules for French guaranteed home loans are credit positive for Credit Logement, December 2017

To access any of these reports, click on the entry above. Note that these references are current as of the date of publication of this report and that more recent reports may be available. All research may not be available to all clients.

Endnotes

1 Banks' ratings shown in this report are the banks' deposit rating, senior unsecured debt rating (where available) and Adjusted Baseline Credit Assessment.

- 2 Credit Logement's shareholders are French financial institutions that extend home loans together with a guarantee from Credit Logement ("prêts cautionnés"). They comprise the largest banks in the French banking sector, including BNP Paribas (A1/A1 stable, baa1), Crédit Agricole S.A. (A1/A1 stable, a3), LCL Le Crédit Lyonnais, Société Générale (A1/A1 negative, baa2), Banque Federative du Crédit Mutuel (A1/A1 stable, a3), CIC Credit Industriel et Commercial (A1/A1 stable, a3), BPCE S.A. (A1/A1 negative, baa1), Credit Foncier de France (A1 negative, baa1), La Banque Postale (A2/A2 stable, baa2), and CCF (Baa2/Baa2 stable, baa3). As of year-end 2024, three of the institution's four largest shareholders (BNP Paribas, LCL Le Crédit Lyonnais and Société Générale) held a 16.5% stake in the institution each, while Credit Agricole held a 16% stake.
- 3 Based on ACPR (Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel et de Résolution) data.
- 4 The improvement of the LTV profile of the production was driven by higher down payments in the context of higher interest rates and strict underwriting limits
- 5 Lenders are nonetheless authorised to grant an additional two-year grace period for housing loans intended for the purchase or construction of a new dwelling, or one undergoing extensive renovation. Furthermore, lenders retain some flexibility on the implementation of the 35% and 25-year limits for a maximum of up to 20% of new issuance, of which 80% must be dedicated to acquisitions of a household's main residence and 30% is specifically reserved for first-time buyers. In June 2023, the HCSF fine-tuned the criteria, introducing some flexibility regarding the origination of buy-to-let loans, but we believe these adjustments do not compromise French banks' lending practices nor their loan quality.
- 6 Source: ACPR.
- 7 Source: ACPR.
- 8 Calculation is based on the amount of life-time expected loss provided by Credit Logement.
- 9 The MGF collected after that date do not benefit from the same commitment from the shareholders because of changes in some rules following the extension of loss absorption by the MGF those incurred on this investment portfolio.
- 10 Credit Logement's regulatory solvency requirement under the "Societe de Financement" prudential regime is broadly in line with those applicable to banks under the European Capital Directive (CRD) 5. The main difference is that, under this prudential regime, the MGF is eligible as CET1 capital (except for the MGF collected before 2014, which is subject to a grandfathering clause).
- 11 Total risk in force is divided by 8 to reflect the differences in coverage.
- 12 The commission paid is the same for all borrowers, independently of their creditworthiness.
- 13 The shareholders' commitment to replenishing the MGF is limited to the portion contributed prior to 1 January 2014.

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