

March 28, 2019

SBI Holdings, Inc.

(TOKYO: 8473)

Notice Regarding Opening of Berlin Representative Office

SBI Holdings, Inc. (Head office: Minato-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director, President & CEO: Yoshitaka Kitao; hereinafter the “Company”) hereby announces that the Company has established its first representative office in Europe, in Berlin, Germany.

Germany, a country that is driving the European economy as the leading power of the European Union, has been promoting nationwide initiatives such as Industry 4.0 to digitalize and computerize its manufacturing industry, notably in recent years. These initiatives for the acceleration of innovations have had a significant impact both domestically and internationally. Against the backdrop of these circumstances, the number of start-ups in Germany has more than tripled over the past five years, to 1,550 companies in October 2018. In particular, Berlin has been working actively on efforts to invite startups from a variety of industries, including Fintech and IoT, on a global basis. As a result, approximately 16% of startups in Germany are located there*.

The SBI Group has been investing in startups in Europe including Germany and the U.K., mainly through SBI Investment Co., Ltd. (Head office: Minato-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director and President: Katsuya Kawashima), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company that engages in the management of venture capital funds. In Germany, it has stakes in FinLeap GmbH, a company builder startup specializing in the Fintech field, as well as solarisBank AG and Element AG, which operate under FinLeap’s umbrella, among other companies.

With a representative office established, the SBI Group expects that it will be able to gather the most recent information more easily by building and strengthening networks in Germany and more broadly across Europe going forward. In addition, by strengthening alliances with startups in which the SBI Group has a stake in a range of industries, it will make a significant contribution to the establishment and development of the SBI Group’s businesses in Germany and Europe and enhance the Company’s presence in this part of the world.

At the governmental level, Japan and Germany have confirmed that they will step up efforts in joint studies in leading-edge technology areas such as AI and IoT and lead the fourth industrial revolution together. The Company therefore believes that the establishment of the representative office will help further vitalize business activities in the two countries.

*Source:KPMG, Deutscher Startup Monitor 2018

[Overview of Representative Offices]

Name :SBI Holdings, Inc. Berlin Representative Office

Address :WeWork, Stresemannstrasse 123, 10963, Berlin Germany

Director :Naoyoshi Yoneyama

For further information, please contact:

SBI Holdings, Inc. Corporate Communications Dept., Tel: +81 3 6229-0126