

Press Release

N. S. Vishwanathan Appointed as Chairman of Acuité Ratings & Research Ltd.

Mumbai, April 29, 2022

Acuité Ratings & Research Limited (Acuité) today announced that Mr. N. S. Vishwanathan has been appointed as the Non-Executive Chairman of the Board of Acuité with effect from April 28, 2022.

Mr. Vishwanathan retired as Deputy Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in March 2020. During his illustrious career spanning nearly four decades in RBI, Mr. Vishwanathan has worked in both core central banking and administrative functions. As Deputy Governor he has handled Banking, Non-Banking and Co-operative banking regulation and supervision besides several other functions including internal governance, internal control and risk monitoring. Mr. Vishwanathan was also Member / Chairman of several key Working Groups and Committees constituted by Government of India and RBI. He was a Member of the Expert Committee on Economic Capital Framework for RBI set up under the Chairmanship of Dr. Bimal Jalan, former Governor, Reserve Bank of India. As Deputy Governor he represented RBI as the Member - Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS), Member - Financial Stability Board (FSB), Member and later Co-chair of FSB Regional Consultative Group for Asia (RCG Asia). He was also a non-Whole Time Member on the Board of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), and an ex officio Member of the Bank Board Bureau.

Mr. Vishwanathan, in the past, has served on Boards of Punjab and Sind Bank, Dena Bank (now merged with Bank of Baroda) and Punjab National Bank. He was a Member - Governing Council, Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT) and of sub committees of BCBS besides being a Member of the Executive Committee of the International Credit Union Regulators' Network. Mr. Vishwanathan is currently the Chairman of the Academic Advisory Council of the College of Supervisors of Reserve Bank of India. He is also a Sr. Fellow at the Centre for Public Policy at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Bangalore.

Speaking about Mr. Vishwanathan joining Acuité, Mr. Sankar Chakraborti, Group CEO & Executive Director said, "Mr. Vishwanathan is one of the most respected central bankers for the contributions he made to the Indian banking system. We believe his guidance will help Acuité serve its stakeholders, namely the lenders and the capital market investors."

Commenting on his appointment, Mr. Vishwanathan said, "Credit rating is one of the most crucial pillars of financial markets. High quality ratings help investors and borrowers eliminate information asymmetry in a transaction. Acuité is a young but important player. I look forward to working with the Board of Acuité Ratings & Research and help Acuité make a difference."

About Acuité Ratings & Research Limited:

Acuité Ratings & Research Limited is a full-service Credit Rating Agency registered with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). The company received RBI Accreditation as an External Credit Assessment Institution (ECAI), for Bank Loan Ratings under BASEL-II norms in the year 2012. Since then, it has assigned more than 9000 credit ratings to various securities, debt instruments and bank facilities of entities spread across the country and across a wide cross section of industries. It has its Registered and Head Office in Mumbai.

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