

Company Name: GMO Internet, Inc.

(TSE First Section, Code: 9449)

Address: 26-1 Sakuragaoka-cho Shibuya-ku Tokyo JAPAN

Representative: Masatoshi Kumagai, Founder, Chairman and Group CEO

Contact: Masashi Yasuda, Executive Vice President and CFO, Head of

**Group Management Division** 

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# Notice of Board of Director Candidate Appointments (GMO Internet adopts a group executive officer system and the Independent External Directors comprise a minimum of a third of the Board of Directors)

The GMO Internet, Inc. Board of Directors agreed at a meeting convened today on the proposal regarding Board of Director candidates to be submitted at the Annual General Shareholders' Meeting to be held on March 20, 2022, and group executive officer candidates.

All of the members' terms expire at the end of the Annual General Shareholders' Meeting on March 20, 2022. As announced in the press release "Introduction of a group executive officer system" published on January 24, 2022, we have adopted a group executive officer system to further enhance the group management system and improve the flexibility of business execution. The number of directors will change from 21 to 9, out of which 3 are Independent External Directors, so the Independent External Directors will comprise a minimum of a third of its Board of Directors.

#### 1. Group Executive Officer Candidates

#### (1) Promotion

Internet-related technologies develop significantly and competition in the sector is intense, and we are aware that ensuring advantage in technology and continuing to create visionary services that have cost advantages are significant business challenges. In this regard, sources of technological capability are engineers and creators who create services. Our goal is to see the ratio of creators (i.e. engineers and creators) surpass 50%. It has

## **GMO**INTERNET

grown to 47.7% as of December 30, 2021. The following people will be promoted today to further improve the GMO Internet Group's brand as a result of further strengthening technological capability: Mr. Hirofumi Yamashita, Head of Group Systems Division; Mr. Toshiaki Horiuchi, Head of Innovation and Technology Systems Office (GMO Internet Group's engineer recruitment and technology public relations are added as the fields he is put in charge of); Mr. Kimihiro Kodama, General Manager of Domain and Hosting Business Division; and Mr. Makoto Hashiguchi, Head of Group Advertisement Division of GMO Internet, Inc. (GMO Internet Group's brand is added as the field he is put in charge of). We will achieve our goals to see the ratio of creators surpass 50% during FY2022 under the new management system.

#### (2) New Candidates

We appoint the following group executive officers: Kentaro Sato (President and Representative Director of GMO Pepabo, Inc.) and Tomitaka Ishimura (President and Representative Executive Officer of GMO Financial Holdings, Inc.).



# 2. New Leadership Structure

## (1) Director Candidates

(Changes Underlined)

Name	New title	Current title
Masatoshi Kumagai	Founder, Chairman and Group CEO	Founder, Chairman and Group CEO
Masashi Yasuda	Director and Executive Vice President / Deputy to Group CEO / Group CFO / Head of Group Management Division	Director and Vice President / Deputy to Group CEO / Group CFO / Head of Group Management Division
Hiroyuki Nishiyama	Director and Executive Vice President / Deputy to Group CEO / Group COO / Head of Group Human Resources Development Division	Director and Vice President / Deputy to Group CEO / Group COO / Head of Group Human Resources Development Division
Issei Ainoura	Director and Executive Vice President / Head of Group Payment Processing Division / President and Representative Director of GMO Payment Gateway, Inc.	Director and Vice President / Head of Group Payment Processing Division / President and Representative Director of GMO Payment Gateway, Inc.
Tadashi Ito	Director and Executive Vice President / Head of Group Infrastructure Division / General Manager of Business Division, Head of Cryptoassets Mining Business	Director and Vice President / Head of Group Infrastructure Division / General Manager of Business Division
Koichi Tachibana	As per the current title	Director Audit Committee Member
Keigo Ogura	As per the current title	Director (independent director) Audit Committee Member
Takashi Gunjikake	As per the current title	Director (independent director) Audit Committee Member
Kaname Masuda	As per the current title	Director (independent director) Audit Committee Member



# (2) Group Executive Officer Candidates

(Changes Underlined)

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Name	New title	Current title
Hirofumi Yamashita (promotion)	Executive Vice President / Head of Group Systems Division / General Manager of Systems Division	Senior Managing Director / Head of Group Systems Division / General Manager of Systems Division
Katsumi Arisawa	Group Senior Managing Executive Officer / Head of Group Financial Department, General Manager of Group Global Business Development Office, General Manager of Group Human Resources Department	Senior Managing Director / Head of Group Financial Department, General Manager of Group Global Business Development Office, General Manager of Group Human Resources Department
Toshiaki Horiuchi (promotion)	Group Senior Managing Executive Officer / Head of Group Engineer Recruitment and Technology Public Relations / Head of Innovation and Technology Systems Office	Managing Director / Head of Innovation and Technology Systems Office
Teruhiro Arai	Group Managing Executive Officer / Head of Group Investment Strategy (Friend Maker)	Managing Director / Head of Group Investment Strategy (Friend Maker)
Yasuo Hayashi	Group Managing Executive Officer / General Manager of Internet Provider Business Division	Managing Director / General Manager of Internet Provider Business Division
Kimihiro Kodama	Group Managing Executive Officer / General Manager of Domain and Hosting Business Division	Director / General Manager of Domain and Hosting Business Division
Makoto Hashiguchi (promotion)	Group Managing Executive Officer / Head of Group Advertisement Division / Head of Group Brand / President and Representative Director of GMO AD Partners, Inc.	Director / Head of Group Advertisement Division / President and Representative Director of GMO AD Partners, Inc.
Ichiro Chujo	Group Executive Officer / Head of SSL Certificate and E-Contract Business / President and Representative Director of GMO GlobalSign K.K.	Director / Head of SSL Certificate and E-Contract Business / President and Representative Director of GMO GlobalSign K.K.
Atsuko Fukui	Group Executive Officer / General Manager of Group Communication Department	Director / General Manager of Group Communication Department
Takehito Kaneko	Group Executive Officer / Chairman and Representative Director of GMO Aozora Net Bank, Ltd.	Director / Chairman and Representative Director of GMO Aozora Net Bank, Ltd.
Noriko Inagaki	Group Executive Officer / General Manager of Group Finance Department	Director / General Manager of Group Finance Department
Yuki Kawasaki	Group Executive Officer / General Manager of Group Legal Department	Director / General Manager of Group Legal Department
Kentaro Sato (new)	Group Executive Officer / President and Representative Director of GMO Pepabo, Inc.	(New)
Tomitaka Ishimura (new)	Group Executive Officer / President and Representative Executive Officer of GMO Financial Holdings, Inc.	(New)





### (3) New Executive Officer Candidates

Name: Kentaro Sato

Date of Birth: January 10, 1981

Current Role: President and Representative Director, GMO Pepabo, Inc.

Profile		
January 2003	Joined paperboy&co. Limited (currently, GMO Pepabo, Inc.)	
January 2005	General Manager, CEO Strategy Office, paperboy&co., Inc. (currently,	
	GMO Pepabo, Inc.)	
February 2006	Director and General Manager, Corporate Planning, paperboy&co., Inc.	
	(currently, GMO Pepabo, Inc.)	
March 2007	Executive Vice President and General Manager, Corporate Planning,	
	paperboy&co., Inc. (currently, GMO Pepabo, Inc.)	
March 2008	Representative Executive Vice President and General Manager, Corporate	
	Planning, paperboy&co., Inc. (currently, GMO Pepabo, Inc.)	
March 2009	President and Representative Director, paperboy&co., Inc. (currently,	
	GMO Pepabo, Inc.) (present)	
March 2010	Director, GMO Internet, Inc.	
June 2012	Chairman of the Board, BookLog, Inc.	
March 2014	President and Representative Director, BookLog, Inc.	
June 2015	Chairman of the Board, OC Island, Inc.	
March 2019	Chairman of the Board, GMO Creators Network, Inc. (present)	

Name: Tomitaka Ishimura

Date of Birth: July 2, 1973

Current Role: Representative Executive Officer, President and COO, GMO Financial

Holdings, Inc.

Profile		
April 1997	Joins Toyo Trust and Banking Company, Limited (currently, Mitsubishi UFJ	
	Trust and Banking Corporation)	
August 2003	Joins livedoor Co., Ltd. (currently, NHN Techorus Corp.)	
February 2007	Transfers to KAZAKA Financial Group Co., Ltd.	
October 2010	Representative Director, OANDA Japan Inc.	
April 2013	Director and CEO, GMO CLICK UK LIMITED (currently, GMO-Z.com	
	Trade UK Limited)	
December 2017	President & Director, GMO Coin, Inc.	
January 2018	Representative Director, President & CEO, GMO Coin, Inc. (present)	
May 2018	Director, GMO-Z.COM COIN CANADA, INC. (present)	



January 2022

Representative Executive Officer, President and COO, GMO Financial

Holdings, Inc. (present)