JURISDICTION: FRANCE
AUTHORITY: AUTORITÉ DE CONTRÔLE PRUDENTIEL ET DE RÉSOLUTION (ACPR)

Background

The Autorité de contrôle prudentiel et de résolution (ACPR), was created on 21 January 2010. The ACPR is charged with preserving the stability of the financial system and protecting the customers, insurance policyholders, members and beneficiaries of the organisations that it supervises as well as representing France in the international and European bodies in negotiations regarding the financial regulatory and supervisory framework.

The ACPR ensures the permanent supervision of the insurance sector by overseeing the implementation of the current laws and regulations.

Sustainability objectives

In April 2020, ACPR and Banque de France published the working paper Long-term growth impact of climate change and policies: the Advanced Climate Change Long-term (ACCL) scenario building model. This paper provides a tool to build climate change scenarios to forecast Gross Domestic Product (GDP), modelling both GDP damage due to climate change and the GDP impact of mitigating measures.

ACPR has also contributed to several European publications:

1. The Legislative amendment proposals of Solvency 2 regulation on sustainable finance (governance and risk management): The EU’s action plan on sustainable finance seeks to clarify the duties of financial institutions to provide their clients with clear advice on the social and environmental risks and opportunities attached to their investments. The aim is to shift capital flows away from activities that have negative social and environmental consequences, and direct finance towards economic activities that have genuine long-term benefits for society.

2. The Regulation proposal on disclosure of climate-related risks and adverse impact of investment portfolio of insurers and asset managers: The three European Supervisory Authorities (European Banking Authority, EIOPA and ESMA) have issued a Consultation Paper seeking input on proposed environmental, social and governance disclosure standards for financial market participants, advisers and products.

3. The EIOPA discussion paper on the protection gap for natural catastrophes (January 2020). It addresses the issue of a protection gap for natural catastrophes in Europe in light of available evidence about the impact of climate change on the frequency and severity of extreme weather and climate-related events.

4. Responses to EU public consultations on:
   a. the review of the non-financial reporting directive;
   b. the EU renewed sustainable finance strategy.

Membership of any other initiatives/networks working on sustainability

- IAIS
- NGFS
Recent engagement with SIF

The ACPR participated in SIF 8 in Basel, Switzerland in February 2020 and actively provided written and oral contributions to the SIF/IAIS Issues Paper on the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures, published in February 2020. This has been followed by Emmanuel Rocher, Deputy Director, International Affairs, ACPR co-chairing the SIF/IAIS drafting team (with ACPR being a member of the drafting team) of the SIF/IAIS Application Paper on the Supervision of Climate-related Risks in the Insurance Sector. In his role as the Co-Chair he has co-hosted the stakeholder webinar on climate-related risks in the insurance sector. Previously, ACPR has also contributed a case-study to SIF/IAIS Issues Paper on Climate Change Risks to the Insurance Sector.

The ACPR has also actively participated in the development of SIF’s future work programme 2021-2023, by sharing input and taking part in SIF’s virtual meetings in May 2020. It also provided an update on its work in the sustainability sphere in SIF’s half yearly report 2020.