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### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION SEC FORM 17-C

#### CURRENT REPORT UNDER SECTION 17 OF THE SECURITIES REGULATION CODE AND SRC RULE 17.2(c) THEREUNDER

- 1.  $\underline{\text{March 4,2024}}$  Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)
- 2. SEC Identification Number  $\frac{17514}{}$  3. BIR TIN  $\frac{000-599-760-000}{}$
- 4. RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORPORATION

  Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter
- 5. Philippines 6. Care only)
  Province, country or other
  jurisdiction of incorporation Industry Classification Code
- 7. <u>6819 Ayala cor. Gil J. Puyat Ave., Makati City</u> <u>0727</u> Address of principal office Postal Code
- 8. <u>8894-9000</u>
  Registrant's telephone number, including area code
- 9. <u>Not Applicable</u>
  Former name or former address, if changed since last report
- 10. Securities registered pursuant to Sections 4 and 8 of the RSA

Number of Shares of Common Stock

Title of Each Class
Common Stock, P10.00 par value

Number of Shares of Common Stock
Outstanding and Amt. of Debt O/S
2,419,536,120 (as of March 4, 2024)

11. Indicate the item numbers reported herein: Item 9

#### Item 9. Other Events.

This is to inform the Exchange that we will be releasing to the press the attached statement entitled "RCBC strengthens advocacy in Sustainable Finance".

Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation (RCBC) announces the amendment of its Sustainable Finance Framework to align with current global standards. This follows the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Guidelines on Eligible Blue Projects and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) Guidelines for Blue Finance. The Framework is also updated to align with latest developments from the International Capital Market Association (ICMA) on Green Bond Principles, Social Bond Principles and Sustainability Bond Guidelines, as well as with the Loan Market Association (LMA), Asia Pacific Loan Market Association (APLMA) and Loan Syndications and Trading Association (LSTA) Green Loan and Social Loan Principles. It continues to conform to the ASEAN Capital Markets Forum (ACMF) Green Bond, Social Bond, and Sustainability Bond Standards.

The framework was amended under the advisement of the Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) Singapore Sustainability Solutions Group

APAC and a Second Party Opinion (SPO) has been issued by Sustainalytics, affirming the alignment of the Bank's Sustainable Finance Framework with relevant principles and market practices. RCBC publishes the annual limited assurance allocation report and impact report on its website in line with the disclosure requirements of the Framework.

#### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Regulation Code/ the Revised Securities Act, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORP.
Registrant

Date: March 4, 2024

Mar. Christin P. Alvarez

MARIA CHRISTINA P. ALVAREZ

Corporate Information Officer



#### RCBC strengthens advocacy in Sustainable Finance

Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation (RCBC) announces the amendment of its Sustainable Finance Framework to align with current global standards. This follows the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Guidelines on Eligible Blue Projects and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) Guidelines for Blue Finance. The Framework is also updated to align with latest developments from the International Capital Market Association (ICMA) on Green Bond Principles, Social Bond Principles and Sustainability Bond Guidelines, as well as with the Loan Market Association (LMA), Asia Pacific Loan Market Association (APLMA) and Loan Syndications and Trading Association (LSTA) Green Loan and Social Loan Principles. It continues to conform to the ASEAN Capital Markets Forum (ACMF) Green Bond, Social Bond, and Sustainability Bond Standards.

The framework was amended under the advisement of the Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) Singapore Sustainability Solutions Group APAC and a Second Party Opinion (SPO) has been issued by Sustainalytics, affirming the alignment of the Bank's Sustainable Finance Framework with relevant principles and market practices. RCBC publishes the annual limited assurance allocation report and impact report on its website in line with the disclosure requirements of the Framework.

"We remain to be a catalyst for positive change through responsible finance which can help contribute to the protection and restoration of our planet's invaluable ecosystems. The amended Framework also reinforces our support in addressing societal needs toward sustainable development," RCBC President and CEO Eugene Acevedo said.

The bank's Sustainable Finance Framework remains aligned with the four pillars of sustainable finance: use of proceeds, project evaluation and selection, management of proceeds, and reporting. Fundamental to the amendment is the expansion of eligibility criteria on green projects to include a subset of blue projects, in line with the SEC and IFC guidelines in blue financing. The eligibility criteria for social projects have also been updated.

In 2022, the Bank financed over 8,200 projects under eligible green and eligible social categories amounting to Php 71.2 billion.

In January 2024, RCBC raised USD 400 million from its five-year Sustainability Bonds issuance that was 5.9x oversubscribed, reflecting the trust of the global market.

RCBC's sustainability efforts have been globally recognized, bagging several accolades including (i) "Best Bank for Sustainable Development Philippines" at the 2024 Global Banking & Finance Awards, (ii) "The Asset Benchmarking Award for Excellence in



Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) – Platinum Award, 2022" by the Asset ESG Corporate Award in January 2023, (iii) "3G Eco-Friendly Financial Services Award 2023" at the 8th Global Good Governance Awards in May 2023, (iv) "Top Community Centric Companies in Asia, 2023" at the Asia Corporate Excellence & Sustainability Awards (ACES) 2023, and (v) "The Asset Benchmarking Award for Excellence in Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) – Platinum Award, 2023" by the Asset ESG Corporate Award.

The amended Sustainable Finance Framework, the SPO and reports are available at <a href="https://www.rcbc.com/sustainability">www.rcbc.com/sustainability</a>

#### About RCBC

RCBC is a leading financial services provider in the Philippines, offering a wide range of banking and financial products and services. RCBC is engaged in all aspects of traditional banking, investment banking, microfinance, retail financing (auto, mortgage and housing loans, and credit cards), remittance, leasing, foreign exchange, and stock brokering. RCBC is a member of the Yuchengco Group of Companies (YGC), one of the oldest and largest conglomerates in South East Asia. For more information, please visit https://www.rcbc.com.

C01209-2024

ANNEX A

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION SEC FORM 17-C

#### CURRENT REPORT UNDER SECTION 17 OF THE SECURITIES REGULATION CODE AND SRC RULE 17.2(c) THEREUNDER

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)
 Mar 4, 2024

2. SEC Identification Number 17514

3. BIR Tax Identification No. 000-599-760-000

4. Exact name of issuer as specified in its charter RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORPORATION

- 5. Province, country or other jurisdiction of incorporation Philippines
- 6. Industry Classification Code(SEC Use Only)
- Address of principal office
   6819 Ayala cor. Gil J. Puyat Ave., Makati City Postal Code 0727
- 8. Issuer's telephone number, including area code 8894-9000
- Former name or former address, if changed since last report Not Applicable
- 10. Securities registered pursuant to Sections 8 and 12 of the SRC or Sections 4 and 8 of the RSA

Title of Each Class	Number of Shares of Common Stock Outstanding and Amount of Debt Outstanding
Common	2,419,536,120

11. Indicate the item numbers reported herein

The Exchange does not warrant and holds no responsibility for the veracity of the facts and representations contained in all corporate disclosures, including financial reports. All data contained herein are prepared and submitted by the disclosing party to the Exchange, and are disseminated solely for purposes of information. Any questions on the data contained herein should be addressed directly to the Corporate Information Officer of the disclosing party.



# Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation RCB

PSE Disclosure Form 4-31 - Press Release References: SRC Rule 17 (SEC Form 17-C) Section 4.4 of the Revised Disclosure Rules

Subject of the Disclosure	
RCBC strengthens advocacy	in Sustainable Finance
Background/Description of th	Disclosure
Please see attached.	
Other Relevant Information	
-	
iled on behalf by:	
Name	Ma. Christina Alvarez
Designation	Corporate Planning Head and Corporate Information Officer