



## **PRESS NOTE**

GD Helicopter Finance ("GDHF") signs €77M+ million finance agreement with Bank of China Limited, London Branch ("Bank of China") and Helaba Landesbank Hessen-Thüringen ("Helaba") supported by Bpifrance Assurance Export ("Bpifrance"), for the acquisition of multiple factory new Airbus H160 Helicopters.

London, 9 December 2024. GDHF announced today that it has entered into finance agreements worth over €77 million (EUR) with Bank of China (acting as Arranger, Facility Agent and Security Trustee) and Helaba, supported by Bpifrance. The proceeds of the loan agreement will be used to enable GDHF acquisition of multiple Airbus H160 Helicopters to be delivered between 2024 and 2026.

**Michael York (CEO GDHF)** said "GDHF is very pleased to enter into this finance agreement which will further enhance our ability to support our customers globally and provide them additional highly effective multi-mission H160 helicopters on lease. We thank Bank of China, Helaba, Bpifrance and Airbus Helicopters for their trust and confidence in the GDHF team, the GDHF business model, and our customers. GDHF sees this financing agreement as a strong endorsement of the strength of the helicopter market globally and the ability of GDHF to meet the clear market need for efficient new technology helicopters that GDHF will provide using our large Airbus Helicopters order book."

**Arnaud Fiscel (Head of Transportation, Bank of China Limited, London Branch)** said: "As a leading Transportation financier, we were delighted to support both GDHF and Airbus Group on the structuring of this landmark transaction. Bank of China's involvement on the financing of such an innovative, latest technology, asset is a testimony of the strategic importance of Aviation to the Bank."

Regis Magnac (VP & Head of Energy, Leasing & Global Accounts - Airbus Helicopters) said:

"We congratulate the GDHF team on their agreement with Bank of China Limited, London Branch, Helaba, and in securing financing for the world's most advanced medium twin-engine helicopter, the multirole H160. The H160, with 68 patents, represents a significant leap in helicopter technology and is now actively serving diverse and critical missions across the globe. Its innovative design, reduced fuel consumption and exceptional operational capabilities make it a standout asset for financiers and lessors, highlighting its strong market appeal and long-term value potential. This agreement is a testimony to the H160's ability to deliver outstanding returns on investment. We look forward to continuing our successful partnership with GDHF and supporting future advancements in this dynamic sector."

GDHF was advised by Watson Farley & Williams (London). Bank of China and Helaba were advised by Norton Rose Fulbright (Paris).



## About GDHF

GD Helicopter Finance (GDHF) is a helicopter finance company based in Ireland. GDHF plans to rapidly grow a large portfolio of the newest technology, efficient, cost-effective, multi-mission helicopters (via order books), and lease to customers globally. GDHF's goal is to build the best team and platform in the industry, setting a strong long-term culture of customer focus, trust, integrity, excellence, speed and flexibility. GDHF also offers our customers the capacity to readily deploy additional capital to meet market requirements for helicopter financing.

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## About Bank of China Limited, London Branch

Established in 1929, Bank of China London Branch is the first business established by any Chinese institution in an international financial centre. Its history in the UK perfectly illustrates the international journey of China's modern financial services industry.

Over the past 95 years, Bank of China has expanded steadily in the UK and has become the first choice for both Chinese 'going-out' customers and local UK customers seeking to establish relationships with China, with branches in London, Manchester, Birmingham, and Glasgow. It is taking a leading role amongst UK based Chinese financial institutions and is developing itself into one of the mainstream foreign banks in the EMEA market.

