

HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. Disclosure Statements Booklet

March 2022

Included in this booklet are the following disclosure statements which must be read, understood and acknowledged as applicable to Customer's Account on the signature page of the Futures and Cleared Derivatives Transactions Customer Agreement.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FIA COMBINED DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	2
ELECTRONIC TRADING AND ORDER ROUTING SYSTEMS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT...	6
DISCLOSURE OF FUTURES COMMISSION MERCHANT MATERIAL CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS	7
DIRECT ORDER TRANSMITTAL CLIENT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT.....	9
FOREIGN TRADER DISCLOSURE STATEMENT.....	10
NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS: EXCHANGE FOR RELATED POSITIONS.....	11
NOTICE REGARDING AVERAGE PRICE SYSTEM.....	14
DISCLOSURES REQUIRED BY CME REGULATION TO BE PROVIDED TO SINGAPORE MARKET PARTICIPANTS	16
DISCLOSURE REQUIRED BY ONTARIO SECURITIES COMMISSION TO BE PROVIDED TO CANADIAN DOMICILED CLIENTS.....	17
NOTICE TO CLIENTS: POSITION LIMIT AND LARGE OPEN POSITION REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR OPTIONS AND FUTURES TRADED ON THE HONG KONG EXCHANGES	18
UNIFORM NOTIFICATION REGARDING ACCESS TO MARKET DATA.....	20
OTC CLEARED DERIVATIVES DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS LCH.CLEARNET LIMITED REQUIRED PROVISIONS.....	22
DISCLOSURE OF DCO RULES FOR CLEARED SWAPS CUSTOMERS	24
SECURITIES FINANCING TRANSACTION REGULATION INFORMATION STATEMENT....	25

You should retain these Disclosure Statements for your records.

FIA COMBINED DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The risk of loss in trading commodity futures contracts can be substantial. You should, therefore, carefully consider whether such trading is suitable for you in light of your circumstances and financial resources. You should be aware of the following points:

FUTURES

- (1) You may sustain a total loss of the funds that you deposit with your broker to establish or maintain a position in the commodity futures market, and you may incur losses beyond these amounts. If the market moves against your position, you may be called upon by your broker to deposit a substantial amount of additional margin funds, on short notice, in order to maintain your position. If you do not provide the required funds within the time required by your broker, your position may be liquidated at a loss, and you will be liable for any resulting deficit in your account.
- (2) The funds you deposit with a futures commission merchant for trading futures positions are not protected by insurance in the event of the bankruptcy or insolvency of the futures commission merchant, or in the event your funds are misappropriated.
- (3) The funds you deposit with a futures commission merchant for trading futures positions are not protected by the Securities Investor Protection Corporation even if the futures commission merchant is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission as a broker or dealer.
- (4) The funds you deposit with a futures commission merchant are generally not guaranteed or insured by a derivatives clearing organization in the event of the bankruptcy or insolvency of the futures commission merchant, or if the futures commission merchant is otherwise unable to refund your funds. Certain derivatives clearing organizations, however, may have programs that provide limited insurance to customers. You should inquire of your futures commission merchant whether your funds will be insured by a derivatives clearing organization and you should understand the benefits and limitations of such insurance programs.
- (5) The funds you deposit with a futures commission merchant are not held by the futures commission merchant in a separate account for your individual benefit. Futures commission merchants commingle the funds received from customers in one or more accounts and you may be exposed to losses incurred by other customers if the futures commission merchant does not have sufficient capital to cover such other customers' trading losses.
- (6) The funds you deposit with a futures commission merchant may be invested by the futures commission merchant in certain types of financial instruments that have been approved by the Commission for the purpose of such investments. Permitted investments are listed in Commission Regulation 1.25 and include: U.S. government securities; municipal securities; money market mutual funds; and certain corporate notes and bonds. The futures commission merchant may retain the interest and other earnings realized from its investment of customer funds. You should be familiar with the types of financial instruments that a futures commission merchant may invest customer funds in.
- (7) Futures commission merchants are permitted to deposit customer funds with affiliated entities, such as affiliated banks, securities brokers or dealers, or foreign brokers. You should inquire as to whether your futures commission merchant deposits funds with affiliates and assess whether such deposits by the futures commission merchant with its affiliates increases the risks to your funds.

- (8) You should consult your futures commission merchant concerning the nature of the protections available to safeguard funds or property deposited for your account.
- (9) Under certain market conditions, you may find it difficult or impossible to liquidate a position. This can occur, for example, when the market reaches a daily price fluctuation limit ("limit move").
- (10) All futures positions involve risk, and a "spread" position may not be less risky than an outright "long" or "short" position.
- (11) The high degree of leverage (gearing) that is often obtainable in futures trading because the small margin requirements can work against you as well as for you. Leverage (gearing) can lead to large losses as well as gains.
- (12) In addition to the risks noted in the paragraphs enumerated above, you should be familiar with the futures commission merchant you select to entrust your funds for trading futures positions. The Commodity Futures Trading Commission requires each futures commission merchant to make publicly available on its Web site firm specific disclosures and financial information to assist you with your assessment and selection of a futures commission merchant. Information regarding this futures commission merchant may be obtained by visiting our Web site, <https://www.qbm.hsbc.com/solutions/markets/derivatives-clearing-services>

OPTIONS

Variable degree of risk

- (13) Transactions in options carry a high degree of risk. Purchasers and seller of options should familiarize themselves with the type of option (i.e., put or call) which they contemplate trading and the associated risks. You should calculate the extent to which the value of the options must increase for your position to become profitable, taking into account the premium and all transaction costs.
- (14) The purchaser of options may offset or exercise the options or allow the options to expire. The exercise of an option results either in a cash settlement or in the purchaser acquiring or delivering the underlying interest. If the option is on a future, the purchaser will acquire a futures position with associated liabilities for margin (see the section on Futures above). If the purchased options expire worthless, you will suffer a total loss of your investment which will consist of the option premium plus transaction costs. If you are contemplating purchasing deep-out-of-the-money options, you should be aware that the chance of such options becoming profitable is ordinarily remote.
- (15) Selling ('writing' or 'granting') an option generally entails considerably greater risk than purchasing options. Although the premium received by the seller is fixed, the seller may sustain a loss well in excess of that amount. The seller will be liable for additional margin to maintain the position if the market moves unfavorably. The seller will also be exposed to the risk of the purchaser exercising the option and the seller will be obligated to either settle the option in cash or to acquire or deliver the underlying interest. If the option is on a future, the seller will acquire a position in a future with associated liabilities for margin (see the section on Futures above). If the position is 'covered' by the seller holding a corresponding position in the underlying interest or a future or another option, the risk may be reduced. If the option is not covered, the risk of loss can be unlimited.
- (16) Certain exchanges in some jurisdictions permit deferred payment of the option premium, exposing the purchaser to liability for margin payments not exceeding the amount of the

premium. The purchaser is still subject to the risk of losing the premium and transaction costs. When the option is exercised or expires, the purchaser is responsible for any unpaid premium outstanding at that time.

ADDITIONAL RISKS COMMON TO FUTURES AND OPTIONS

Terms and conditions of contracts

- (17) You should ask the firm with which you deal about the term and conditions of the specific futures or options which you are trading and associated obligations (e.g., the circumstances under which you may become obligated to make or take delivery of the underlying interest of a futures contract and, in respect of options, expiration dates and restrictions on the time for exercise). Under certain circumstances the specifications of outstanding contracts (including the exercise price of an option) may be modified by the exchange or clearing house to reflect changes in the underlying interest.

Suspension or restriction of trading and pricing relationships

- (18) Market conditions (e.g., illiquidity) and/or the operation of the rules of certain markets (e.g., the suspension of trading in any contract or contract month because of price limits or 'circuit breakers') may increase the risk of loss by making it difficult or impossible to effect transactions or liquidate/offset positions. If you have sold options, this may increase the risk of loss.
- (19) Further, normal pricing relationships between the underlying interest and the future, and the underlying interest and the option may not exist. This can occur when, for example, the futures contract underlying the option is subject to price limits while the option is not. The absence of an underlying reference price may make it difficult to judge 'fair' value.

Deposited cash and property

- (20) You should familiarize yourself with the protections accorded money or other property you deposit for domestic and foreign transactions, particularly in the event of a firm insolvency or bankruptcy. The extent to which you may recover your money or property may be governed by specified legislation or local rules. In some jurisdictions, property which has been specifically identifiable as your own will be pro-rated in the same manner as cash for purposes of distribution in the event of a shortfall.

Commission and other charges

- (21) Before you begin to trade, you should obtain a clear explanation of all commission, fees and other charges for which you will be liable. These charges will affect your net profit (if any) or increase your loss.

Currency risks

- (22) The profit or loss in transactions in foreign currency-denominated contracts (whether they are traded in your own or another jurisdiction) will be affected by fluctuations in currency rates where there is a need to convert from the currency denomination of the contract to another currency.

Trading facilities

- (23) Most open-outcry and electronic trading facilities are supported by computer-based component systems for the order-routing, execution, matching, registration or clearing of trades. As with all facilities and systems, they are vulnerable to temporary disruption or failure. Your ability to recover certain losses may be subject to limits on liability imposed by the system provider, the

market, the clearing house and/or member firms. Such limits may vary; you should ask the firm with which you deal for details in this respect.

Electronic trading

- (24) Trading on an electronic trading system may differ not only from trading in an open-outcry market but also from trading on other electronic trading systems. If you undertake transactions on an electronic trading system, you will be exposed to risk associated with the system including the failure of hardware and software. The result of any system failure may be that your order is either not executed according to your instructions or is not executed at all.

Off-exchange transactions

- (25) In some jurisdictions, and only then in restricted circumstances, firms are permitted to effect off-exchange transactions. The firm with which you deal may be acting as your counterparty to the transaction. It may be difficult or impossible to liquidate an existing position, to assess the value, to determine a fair price or to assess the exposure to risk. For these reasons, these transactions may involve increased risks. Off-exchange transactions may be less regulated or subject to a separate regulatory regime. Before you undertake such transactions, you should familiarize yourself with applicable rules and attendant risks.

ALL OF THE POINTS NOTED ABOVE APPLY TO ALL FUTURES TRADING WHETHER FOREIGN OR DOMESTIC. IN ADDITION, IF YOU ARE CONTEMPLATING TRADING FOREIGN FUTURES OR OPTIONS CONTRACTS, YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL RISKS:

- (26) Foreign futures transactions involve executing and clearing trades on a foreign exchange. This is the case even if the foreign exchange is formally "linked" to a domestic exchange, whereby a trade executed on one exchange liquidates or establishes a position on the other exchange. No domestic organization regulates the activities of a foreign exchange, including the execution, delivery, and clearing of transactions on such an exchange, and no domestic regulator has the power to compel enforcement of the rules of the foreign exchange or the laws of the foreign country. Moreover, such laws or regulations will vary depending on the foreign country in which the transaction occurs. For these reasons, customers who trade on foreign exchanges may not be afforded certain of the protections which apply to domestic transactions, including the right to use domestic alternative dispute resolution procedures. In particular, funds received from customers to margin foreign futures transactions may not be provided the same protections as funds received to margin futures transactions on domestic exchanges. Before you trade, you should familiarize yourself with the foreign rules which will apply to your particular transaction.
- (27) Finally, you should be aware that the price of any foreign futures or option contract and, therefore, the potential profit and loss resulting therefrom may be affected by any fluctuation in the foreign exchange rate between the time the order is placed and the foreign futures contract is liquidated or the foreign option contract is liquidated or exercised.

THIS BRIEF STATEMENT CANNOT, OF COURSE, DISCLOSE ALL THE RISKS AND OTHER ASPECTS OF THE COMMODITY MARKETS.

ELECTRONIC TRADING AND ORDER ROUTING SYSTEMS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT¹

Electronic trading and order routing systems differ from traditional open outcry pit trading and manual order routing methods. Transactions using an electronic system are subject to the rules and regulations of the exchange(s) offering the system and/or listing the contract. Before you engage in transactions using an electronic system, you should carefully review the rules and regulations of the exchange(s) offering the system and/or listing contracts you intend to trade.

DIFFERENCES AMONG ELECTRONIC TRADING SYSTEMS

Trading or routing orders through electronic systems vary widely among the different electronic systems. You should consult the rules and regulations of the exchange offering the electronic system and/or listing the contract traded or order routed to understand, among other things, in the case of trading systems, the system's order matching procedure, opening and closing procedures and prices, error trade policies, and trading limitations or requirements; and in the case of all systems, qualifications for access and grounds for termination and limitations on the types of orders that may be entered into the system. Each of these matters may present different risk factors with respect to trading on or using a particular system. Each system may also present risks related to system access, varying response times, and security. In the case of internet-based systems, there may be additional types of risks related to system access, varying response times and security, as well as risks related to service providers and the receipt and monitoring of electronic mail.

RISK ASSOCIATED WITH SYSTEM FAILURE

Trading through an electronic trading or order routing system exposes you to risks associated with system or component failure. In the event of system or component failure, it is possible that, for a certain time period, you may not be able to enter new orders, execute existing orders, or modify or cancel orders that were previously entered. System or component failure may also result in loss of orders or order priority.

SIMULTANEOUS OPEN OUTCRY PIT AND ELECTRONIC TRADING

Some contracts offered on an electric trading system may be traded electronically and through open outcry during the same trading hours. You should review the rules and regulations of the exchange offering the system and/or listing the contract to determine how orders that do not designate a particular process will be executed.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

Exchanges offering an electronic trading or order routing system and/or listing the contract may have adopted rules to limit their liability, the liability of Futures Commission Merchants, and software and communication system vendors and the amount of damages you may collect for system failure and delays. These limitations of liability provisions vary among the exchanges. You should consult the rules and regulations of the relevant exchanges(s) in order to understand these liability limitations.

¹ Each exchange's relevant rules are available upon request from the industry professional with whom you have an account. Some exchanges' relevant rules also are available on the exchange's internet home page.

DISCLOSURE OF FUTURES COMMISSION MERCHANT MATERIAL CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS

The purpose of this document is to provide you with information about some of the material conflicts of interest that may arise between you and HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. ("FCM") in connection with FCM performing services for you with respect to futures, options on futures, swaps (as defined in the Commodity Exchange Act), forwards or other commodity derivatives ("Contracts"). Conflicts of interests can arise in particular when FCM has an economic or other incentive to act, or persuade you to act, in a way that favors FCM or its affiliates.

Under applicable law, including regulations of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC"), not all swaps are required to be executed on an exchange or swap execution facility (each, a "Trading Facility"), even if a Trading Facility lists the swap for trading. In such circumstances, it may be financially advantageous for FCM or its affiliate to execute a swap with you bilaterally in the over-the-counter market rather than on a Trading Facility and, to the extent permitted by applicable law, we may have an incentive to persuade you to execute your swap bilaterally.

Applicable law may permit you to choose the CFTC-registered derivatives clearing organization ("Clearing House") to which you submit a swap for clearing. You should be aware that FCM may not be a member of, or may not otherwise be able to submit your swap to, the Clearing House of your choice. FCM consequently has an incentive to persuade you to use a Clearing House of which FCM or its affiliate is a member.

You also should be aware that FCM or its affiliate may own stock in, or have some other form of ownership interest in, one or more U.S. or foreign Trading Facilities or Clearing Houses where your transactions in Contracts may be executed and/or cleared. As a result, FCM or its affiliate may receive financial or other benefits related to its ownership interest when Contracts are executed on a given Trading Facility or cleared through a given Clearing House, and FCM would, in such circumstances, have an incentive to cause Contracts to be executed on that Trading Facility or cleared by that Clearing House. In addition, employees and officers of FCM or its affiliate may also serve on the board of directors or on one or more committees of a Trading Facility or Clearing House.

In addition, Trading Facilities and Clearing Houses may from time to time have in place other arrangements that provide their members or participants with volume, market-making or other discounts or credits, may call for members or participants to pre-pay fees based on volume thresholds, or may provide other incentive or arrangements that are intended to encourage market participants to trade on or direct trades to that Trading Facility or Clearing House. FCM or its affiliate may participate in and obtain financial benefits from such incentive programs.

When we provide execution services to you (either in conjunction with clearing services or in an execution-only capacity), we may direct orders to affiliated or unaffiliated market-makers, other executing firms, individual brokers or brokerage groups for execution. When such affiliated or unaffiliated parties are used, they may, where permitted, agree to price concessions, volume discounts or refunds, rebates or similar payments in return for receiving such business. Likewise, where permitted by law and the rules of the applicable Trading Facility, we may solicit a counterparty to trade opposite your order or enter into transactions for its own account or the account of other counterparties that may, at times, be adverse to your interests in a Contract. In such circumstances, that counterparty may make payments and/or pay a commission to FCM in connection with that transaction. The results of your transactions may differ significantly from the results achieved by us for our own account, our affiliates, or for other customers. In addition, where permitted by applicable law (including, where applicable, the rules of the applicable Trading Facility), FCM, its directors, officers, employees and affiliates may act on the other side of your order or transaction by the purchase or sale for an account, or the execution of a transaction with a counterparty, in which FCM or a person affiliated with FCM has a direct or indirect interest, or may effect any such order with a counterparty that provides FCM or its affiliates with discounts related to fees for

Contracts or other products. In cases where we have offered you a discounted commission or clearing fee for Contracts executed through FCM as agent or with FCM or its affiliate acting as counterparty, FCM or its affiliate may be doing so because of the enhanced profit potential resulting from acting as executing broker or counterparty.

FCM or its affiliate may act as, among other things, an investor, research provider, placement agent, underwriter, distributor, remarketing agent, structurer, securitizer, lender, investment manager, investment adviser, commodity trading advisor, municipal advisor, market maker, trader, prime broker or clearing broker. In those and other capacities, FCM, its directors, officers, employees and affiliates may take or hold positions in, or advise other customers and counterparties concerning, or publish research or express a view with respect to, a Contract or a related financial instrument that may be the subject of advice from us to you. Any such positions and other advice may not be consistent with, or may be contrary to, your interests or to positions which are the subject of advice previously provided by FCM or its affiliate to you, and unless otherwise disclosed in writing, we are not necessarily acting in your best interest and are not assessing the suitability for you of any Contract or related financial instrument. Acting in one or more of the capacities noted above may give FCM or its affiliate access to information relating to markets, investments and products. As a result, FCM or its affiliate may be in possession of information which, if known to you, might cause you to seek to dispose of, retain or increase your position in one or more Contracts or other financial instruments. FCM and its affiliate will be under no duty to make any such information available to you, except to the extent we have agreed in writing or as may be required under applicable law.

DIRECT ORDER TRANSMITTAL CLIENT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This statement applies to the ability of authorized customers of HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. ("HSBC") to place orders for foreign futures and options transactions directly with non-US entities (each, an "Executing Firm") that execute transactions on behalf of HSBC's customer omnibus accounts.

Please be aware of the following should you be permitted to place the type of orders specified above:

- The orders you place with an Executing Firm are for HSBC's customer omnibus account maintained with a foreign clearing firm. Consequently, HSBC may limit or otherwise condition the orders you place with the Executing Firm.
- You should be aware of the relationship of the Executing Firm and HSBC. HSBC may not be responsible for the acts, omissions, or errors of the Executing Firm, or its representatives, with which you place your orders. In addition, the Executing Firm may not be affiliated with HSBC. If you choose to place orders directly with an Executing Firm, you may be doing so at your own risk.
- It is your responsibility to inquire about the applicable laws and regulations that govern the foreign exchanges on which transactions will be executed on your behalf. Any orders placed by you for execution on that exchange will be subject to such rules and regulations, its customs and usages, as well as any local laws that may govern transactions on that exchange. These laws, rules, regulations, customs and usages may offer different or diminished protection from those that govern transactions on US exchanges. In particular, funds received from customers to margin foreign futures transactions may not be provided the same protections as funds received to margin futures transactions on domestic exchanges. Before you trade, you should familiarize yourself with the foreign rules which will apply to your particular transaction. United States regulatory authorities may be unable to compel the enforcement of the rules of regulatory authorities or markets in non-US jurisdictions where transactions may be effected.
- It is your responsibility to determine whether the Executing Firm has consented to the jurisdiction of the courts in the United States. In general, neither the Executing Firm nor any individuals associated with the Executing Firm will be registered in any capacity with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Similarly, your contacts with the Executing Firm may not be sufficient to subject the Executing Firm to the jurisdiction of courts in the United States in the absence of the Executing Firm's consent. Accordingly, neither the courts of the United States nor the Commodity Futures Trading Commission's reparations program will be available as a forum for resolution of any disagreements you may have with the Executing Firm, and your recourse may be limited to actions outside the United States.

Unless you object within five (5) days by giving notice as provided in your customer agreement after receipt of this disclosure, HSBC will assume your consent to the aforementioned conditions.

FOREIGN TRADER DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Customer:

In accordance with Rules 15.05 and 21.03 of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC"), 17 C.F.R. §§15.05 and 21.03, we are considered to be your agent for purposes of accepting delivery and service of communications from or on behalf of the CFTC regarding any commodity futures contracts or commodity option contracts which are or have been maintained in your account(s) with us. In the event that you are acting as agent or broker for any other person(s), we are also considered to be their agent, and the agent of any person(s) for whom they may be acting as agent or broker, for purposes of accepting delivery and service of such communications. Service or delivery to us of any communication issued by or on behalf of the CFTC (including any summons, complaint, order, subpoena, special call, request for information, notice, correspondence or other written document) will be considered valid and effective service or delivery upon you or any person for whom you may be acting, directly or indirectly, as agent or broker.

You should be aware that Rule 15.05 also provides that you may designate an agent other than HSBC Securities (USA) Inc.. Any such alternative designation of agency must be evidenced by a written agency agreement which you must furnish to us and which we, in turn, must forward to the CFTC. If you wish to designate an agent other than us, please contact us in writing. You should consult 17 C.F.R. §15.05 for a more complete explanation of the foregoing.

Upon a determination by the CFTC that information concerning your account(s) with us may be relevant in enabling the CFTC to determine whether the threat of a market manipulation, corner, squeeze, or other market disorder exists, the CFTC may issue a call for specific information from us or from you. In the event that the CFTC directs a call for information to us, we must provide the information requested within the time specified by the CFTC. If the CFTC directs a call for information to you through us as your agent, we must promptly transmit the call to you, and you must provide the information requested with the time specified by the CFTC. If any call by the CFTC for information regarding your account(s) with us is not met, the CFTC has authority to restrict such account(s) to trading for liquidation only. You have the right to a hearing before the CFTC to contest any call for information concerning your account(s) with us, but your request for a hearing will not suspend the CFTC's call for information unless the CFTC modifies or withdraws the call. Please consult 17 C.F.R. §21.03 for a more complete description of the foregoing (including the type of information you may be required to provide).

Certain additional regulations may affect you. Part 17 of the CFTC Regulations, 17 C.F.R. Part 17, requires each futures commission merchant and foreign broker to submit a report to the CFTC with respect to each account carried by such futures commission merchant or foreign broker which contains a reportable futures position. (Specific reportable position levels for all futures contracts traded on U.S. exchanges are established in Rule 15.03.) In addition, Part 18 of the CFTC Regulations, 17 C.F.R. Part 18, requires all traders (including foreign traders) who own or control a reportable futures or options position and who have received a special call from the CFTC to file a Large Trader Reporting Form (Form 103) with the CFTC within one day after the special call upon such trader by the CFTC. Please consult 17 C.F.R. 17 and 18 for more complete information with respect to the foregoing.

Very truly yours,

HSBC Securities (USA) Inc.

NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS: EXCHANGE FOR RELATED POSITIONS

Certain futures exchanges permit eligible customers to enter into privately-negotiated off-exchange futures or option on futures transactions (collectively, “futures”) known as exchange for related positions (“EFRP”). An EFRP involves the simultaneous execution of a futures transaction and an equivalent related position. A “related position” is defined to mean the cash commodity underlying the exchange contract or a by-product, a related product or an over-the-counter (“OTC”) derivative instrument of such commodity that has a reasonable degree of price correlation to the commodity underlying the exchange contract.

Types of EFRPs include:

- Exchange of Futures for Physical (“EFP”) or Against Actual (“AA”) – the simultaneous execution of a futures contract and a corresponding physical transaction or a forward contract on a physical transaction.
- Exchange of Futures for Risk (“EFR”) or Exchange of Futures for Swap (“EFS”) – the simultaneous execution of a futures contract and a corresponding OTC swap or other OTC derivative transaction.
- Exchange of Option for Option (“EOO”) – the simultaneous execution of an option contract and a corresponding transaction in an OTC option or other OTC instrument with similar characteristics.

EFRP transactions are subject to Applicable Law, as defined in the agreement between a futures commission merchant (“FCM”) and its customers. Customers that engage in EFRP transactions are responsible for reviewing, understanding and complying with the provisions of Applicable Law governing EFRP transactions, including, but not limited to, Rule 538 of the CME Group (CME, CBOT and NYMEX) and Rule 4.06 of ICE Futures US, and the frequently asked questions and other guidance that each exchange has issued with respect thereto.¹

Customers are subject to the jurisdiction of the exchange through which the EFRP transaction is entered into and, therefore, may be required to produce records and otherwise cooperate in any inquiry that the exchange may undertake with respect to the EFRP transaction. Moreover, customers may be sanctioned by the exchange if an EFRP transaction does not comply with the requirements of applicable exchange rules and guidance. For this reason, customers are encouraged to review these requirements with any employees that may engage in EFRP transactions on their behalf.

Certain common requirements of the rules and guidance issued by CME Group and ICE Futures US are summarized below. However, this summary is not a substitute for the customer’s obligation to review and understand such rules and related guidance in their entirety.

- The futures contract and the related position must be effected for the account of the same beneficial owner. If the customer is the seller of (or the holder of the short market exposure associated with) the related position, the customer must be the buyer of the futures contract(s) being exchanged in the EFRP; conversely, if the customer is the buyer of (or the holder of the long market exposure associated with) the related position, the customer must be the seller of the futures contract(s) being exchanged in the EFRP.
- The opposing accounts to an EFRP transaction must be: (a) independently controlled accounts with different beneficial ownership; (b) independently controlled accounts of separate legal entities with common beneficial ownership; or (c) independently controlled accounts of the same

¹ The CME Group’s most recent guidance with respect to EFRP transactions may be found at <http://www.cmegroup.com/rulebook/rulebook-harmonization.html>; ICE Futures US’ most recent guidance with respect to EFRPs may be found at <https://www.theice.com/futures-us/market-resources>. This guidance may be revised from time-to-time. Customers should confirm that they are reviewing the most current guidance.

legal entity, *provided* the account controllers operate in separate business units. For EFRP transactions between accounts with common beneficial ownership, the parties to the trade must be able to demonstrate the independent control of the accounts and that the transaction had economic substance for each party to the trade.

- Generally, there may be only two parties to an EFRP transaction. However, a third party, acting as principal, may facilitate the related position component of an EFRP on behalf of a customer, *provided* the third party is able to demonstrate that the related position was passed through to the customer that received the exchange contract as part of the EFRP.
- Each EFRP requires a *bona fide* transfer of ownership of the cash commodity between the parties or a *bona fide*, legally binding contract between the parties consistent with relevant market conventions for the particular related position transaction.
- Each side of an EFRP transaction must be independent. For example, confirmation of the related position may not be contingent on the acceptance of the futures transaction for clearing.
- Contingent EFRP transactions are prohibited. EFRP transactions may not be contingent upon the execution of another EFRP or related transaction that results in the offset of the related position without the incurrence of market risk that is material in the context of the related position transactions.
- Foreign currency EFPs, with immediate offset of the cash component of the transaction, are permitted, *provided* the parties to the transaction have acknowledged that, in the event the futures component of the transaction fails to clear, their responsibility for any resultant profit or loss associated with an offset of the cash component of the transaction.
- A party providing inventory financing for a storable agricultural, energy or metals commodity may, through the execution of an EFP, purchase the commodity and sell the equivalent quantity of futures contracts to a counterparty, and grant to the counterparty the non-transferable right, but not the obligation, to execute a second EFP during a specified time period in the future which will have the effect of reversing the original EFP.
- An EFRP may incorporate multiple exchange components with different market bias, *provided* the related components incur material market risk. An EFRP may incorporate multiple related position components, *provided* the net exposure of the related position components is approximately equivalent to the quantity of futures exchanged or, in the case of an EOO, the net delta-adjusted quantity of the OTC option components is approximately equivalent to the delta-adjusted quantity of the exchange-listed option.
- EFRP transactions may be executed at any commercially reasonable price agreed by the parties, *provided* the price of the exchange component of the EFRP transaction conforms to the minimum tick increment of the futures contract under exchange rules. Parties may be asked to demonstrate that EFRPs executed at prices away from the prevailing market price were executed at such prices for legitimate commercial purposes.
- The customer must maintain all records relevant to the futures transaction and the related cash, swap or derivative transaction in accordance with applicable exchange rules. Upon request, the customer must provide its FCM with documentation sufficient to verify its purchase or sale of the related position.
- EFR and EOO participants must comply with applicable Commodity Futures Trading Commission requirements governing eligibility to transact the related position component of an EFR or EOO. Generally, EFR and EOO participants must be "eligible contract participants," as defined in section 1a(18) of the Commodity Exchange Act.

- A swap that is traded on or subject to the rules of an exchange or a swap execution facility (“SEF”) is ineligible to be the related position component of an EFR or EOO transaction. OTC swaps that are bilaterally negotiated and submitted for clearing-only to a DCO qualify as a related position, *provided* such swaps have a reasonable degree of correlation to the underlying exchange product. Such swaps should be governed by the terms and conditions of an ISDA agreement negotiated between the parties.

NOTICE REGARDING AVERAGE PRICE SYSTEM

You should be aware that certain United States and foreign exchanges, including the CME and CBOT, may now or in the future allow a futures commission merchant such as HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. ("HSBC") to confirm trades executed on such exchanges to some or all of their customers on an average price basis, regardless of whether the exchanges have average price systems of their own. Average prices that are not calculated by an exchange system will be calculated by your futures commission merchant. In either case, trades that are confirmed to you at average prices will be designated as such on your daily and monthly statements.

An "average price system" enables a clearing futures commission merchant to confirm to customers an average price when multiple execution prices are received on an order or series of orders for the same accounts. For example, if an order transmitted by an account manager on behalf of several customers is executed at more than one price, those prices may be averaged and the average may be confirmed to each customer. Customers may choose whether to use an average price system and may request that an average price system be used for discretionary or non-discretionary accounts.

An order subject to an average price system must be for the same commodity. An average price system order may be used for futures, options or combination transactions. An average price system order for futures must be for the same commodity and month and, for options, it must be for the same commodity, month, type (i.e., put/call) and strike price.

An average price system indicator will appear on the confirmation and monthly statement for a customer whose positions have been confirmed at an average price. This indicator will notify the customer that the confirmed price represents an average price or rounded average price.

The average price is not the actual execution price. An average price system will calculate the same price for all customers that participate in the order.

An average price system may be used when a series of orders are entered for a group of accounts. For example, a bunched average price system order (i.e., an order that represents more than one customer account) executed at 10:00 a.m. could be averaged with a bunched average price system order executed at 12:00 p.m., provided, however, that each of the bunched orders is for the same accounts. In addition, market orders and limit orders may be averaged, as may limit orders at different prices, provided, however, that each order is for the same accounts.

The following scenario exemplifies what occurs if an average price system order is only partially executed. At 10:00 a.m. an average price system order to buy 100 Dec S & P 500 futures contracts is transmitted at a limit price of 376.00, of which 50 positions are executed at 376.00 and the balance is not filled. At 12:00 p.m. an average price system order to buy 100 Dec S & P 500 futures contracts is transmitted at a limit price of 375.00, of which 50 positions are executed at 375.00 and the balance is not filled. Both orders are part of a series for the same group of accounts. In this example, the two prices will be averaged. If the order was placed for more than one account, the account controller must rely on pre-existing allocation procedures to determine the proportions in which each account will share in the partial fill.

Upon receipt of an execution at multiple prices for an order with an average price system indicator, an average will be computed by multiplying the execution prices by the quantities at those prices divided by the total quantities. An average price for a series of orders will be computed based on the average prices of each order in that series. The actual average price or the average price rounded to the next price increment may be confirmed to customers. If a clearing member confirms the rounded average price, the clearing member must round the average price up to the next price increment for a sell order. The rounding process will create a cash residual of the difference between the actual average price and the rounded average price that must be paid to the customer.

An average price system may produce prices that do not conform to whole cent increments. In such cases, any amounts less than one cent may be retained by the clearing member. For example, if the total residual to be paid to a customer on a rounded average price for ten contracts is \$83.333333, the clearing member may pay \$83.33 to the customer.

If you would like more information on average price system orders, please contact your HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. Client Services Representative or your Trading Advisor (as applicable).

DISCLOSURES REQUIRED BY CME REGULATION TO BE PROVIDED TO SINGAPORE MARKET PARTICIPANTS

- CME Clearing's operations are subject to the laws of the United States and regulations promulgated by the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC");
- The rights and remedies available to Singapore-based participants as stated in CME's rules, policies and procedures may be governed by U.S. law. Such rights and remedies under U.S. law may differ from those available to Singapore-based participants when accessing Singapore-based clearing houses which are primarily regulated by Singapore laws;
- Funds and collateral posted to a clearing intermediary registered as a U.S. futures commission merchant ("FCM") are subject to customer protection provisions of U.S. law;
- U.S. law and regulation mandate segregation of customer positions and collateral from the positions and collateral of FCM clearing members and prescribe the customer segregation model for futures and swaps, respectively, at both the FCM- and clearing house-levels. The structure and insolvency law impacts of the U.S. customer protection regime may differ from those of Singapore;
- Trades cleared at CME will be subject to U.S. business hours and settlement timelines as set forth in Exchange or Clearing House rules;
- Trades cleared at CME may be subject to U.S. tax law and applicable provisions of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, which may have a different impact than Singapore tax law; and
- Costs associated with clearing should be discussed with the clearing member offering clearing services.

Nothing included in this bulletin should be regarded as legal advice. Tax advisors, legal counsel and Exchange or Clearing House rules, as applicable, should be consulted in all cases where a Singapore-based participant has questions concerning the conduct of their business or the impact of U.S. law or regulation thereon.

**DISCLOSURE REQUIRED BY ONTARIO SECURITIES COMMISSION TO BE
PROVIDED TO CANADIAN DOMICILED CLIENTS**

HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. ("HSBC") makes the following representations:

- (i) HSBC is not registered in Ontario to trade in futures as principal or agent;
- (ii) HSBC's head office or principal place of business is located in New York, New York, United States of America;
- (iii) all or substantially all of the HSBC's assets may be situated outside of Canada;
- (iv) there may be difficulty enforcing legal rights against HSBC because of the above; and
- (v) HSBC's agent for service of process in Ontario is 152928 Canada Inc. The address for service of process on the Agent for Service:
 - c/o Stikeman Elliott LLP
 - 5300 Commerce Court West
 - 199 Bay Street
 - Toronto, Ontario M5L 1B9
 - Canada

NOTICE TO CLIENTS: POSITION LIMIT AND LARGE OPEN POSITION REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR OPTIONS AND FUTURES TRADED ON THE HONG KONG EXCHANGES

The regulatory regime in Hong Kong imposes position limit and reportable position requirements for stock options and futures contracts traded on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong and on the Hong Kong Futures Exchange.

These requirements are set out in the Hong Kong Securities and Futures (Contracts Limits and Reportable Positions) Rules (as amended, the "Rules") made by the Securities and Futures Commission under the Securities and Futures Ordinance. The Rules impose monitoring and reporting obligations with regard to large open positions. Where you are holding a reportable position for your client, you must disclose the identity of the client. For the purposes of the Rules, a client is the person who is ultimately responsible for originating instructions you receive for transactions, (i.e., the transaction originator).

Further guidance on the Rules and what they require is set out in the Guidance Note of the Securities and Futures Commission on Position Limits and Large Open Position Reporting Requirements. You may download copies of the Rules and the Guidance Note from the website of the Securities and Futures Commission at www.sfc.hk.

Purpose of the Rules

The purpose of the Rules is to avoid potentially destabilizing market conditions arising from an over-concentration of futures and/or options positions accumulated by a single person or group of persons acting in concert and to increase market transparency.

Some of the major requirements of the Rules and Guidance Note are summarized below. However, you should review the Rules and Guidance Note in their entirety and consult with your legal counsel in order to ensure that you have a full understanding of your obligations in connection with trading in Hong Kong. Please note that the Rules make you responsible for ensuring that you comply with the Rules. Section 8 of the Rules makes it a criminal offence not to comply, subject to a maximum fine of HK\$100,000 and imprisonment for up to two years.

In 2004, the Securities and Futures Commission investigated six breaches of the Rules, including a breach by a non-Hong Kong fund manager which was referred to the fund manager's overseas regulator. It should be noted that the Securities and Futures Commission has expressly stated that it is not sympathetic to claims by overseas persons that they are not aware of the Hong Kong restrictions and that a failure to trade within the limits or make reports reflects badly on a firm's internal control measures, which might itself lead to disciplinary action.

Position Limits

The Rules say that you may not hold or control futures contracts or stock options contracts in excess of the prescribed limit, unless you have obtained the prior authorization of the Hong Kong regulators. For example, the prescribed limit for Hang Seng Index futures and options contracts and Mini-Hang Seng Index futures and options contracts is 10,000 long or short position delta limit for all contract months combined, provided, however, the position delta for the Mini-Hang Seng Index futures contracts or Mini-Hang Seng Index options contracts shall not at any time exceed 2,000 long or short for all contract months combined. For many futures contracts and stock options contracts, the position limit is set at 5,000 contracts for any one contract/expiry month.

The prescribed limit for each contract traded on the Hong Kong exchanges is set out in the Rules.

Reportable Positions

If you hold or control an open position in futures contracts or stock options contracts in excess of the specified level, the Rules require you to report that position in writing to the relevant Hong Kong exchange (i) within one day of first holding or controlling that position, ignoring Hong Kong public holidays and Saturdays, and (ii) on each succeeding day on which you continue to hold or control that position.

The specified reporting level for each contract traded on the Hong Kong exchanges is set out in the Rules. The report must state:

- (a) the number of contracts held or controlled in respect of the position in each relevant contract month; and
- (b) if the position is held or controlled for a client, the identity of the client and the number of contracts held or controlled for such person in respect of the reportable position in each relevant contract month.

Scope of the Rules

The prescribed limits and reportable position requirements apply to all positions held or controlled by any person, including positions in any account that such person controls, whether directly or indirectly. The Securities and Futures Commission takes the view that a person is regarded as having control of positions if, for example, the person is allowed to exercise discretion to trade or dispose of the positions independently without the day-to-day direction of the owner of the positions. (Section 4 of the Rules and Section 2.6 of the Guidance Note)

If a person holds or controls positions in accounts at more than one intermediary, the Rules require him to aggregate the positions for the purposes of applying the prescribed limits and reportable position requirements. (Section 6.1 of the Guidance Note)

The person holding or controlling a reportable position in accounts at more than one intermediary has the sole responsibility to notify the relevant exchange of the reportable position. The person may request its intermediary to submit the notice of the reportable position. If a firm agrees to submit the notice on his behalf, the person should provide to the firm its total positions held at other intermediaries so that the firm can submit the notice of the reportable position. Alternatively, the person should ask all of his intermediaries to report the positions in each of the accounts separately to the exchange, even if the positions in the individual accounts do not reach the reportable level. (Section 4.6 and Section 6.2 of the Guidance Note)

Where you are holding a reportable position for your client, the Rules say that you must disclose the identity of the client. The view of the Securities and Futures Commission is that, for the purposes of the Rules, a client is the person who is ultimately responsible for originating the transaction instructions, i.e., the transaction originator. (Section 6.4 of the Guidance Note)

The Rules apply separately to the positions held by each of the underlying clients of an omnibus account, except where the omnibus account operator has discretion over the positions, in which case the account operator must also aggregate these positions with his own positions. Positions held by different underlying clients should not be netted off for purposes of calculating and reporting reportable positions or determining compliance with the prescribed limits. (Section 6.8 of the Guidance Note).

UNIFORM NOTIFICATION REGARDING ACCESS TO MARKET DATA

As a market user you may obtain access to market data available through an electronic trading system, software or device that is provided or made available to you by a broker or an affiliate of such broker. This market data may include, with respect to products of an exchange (the "Exchange") or the products of third party participating exchanges (the "Participating Exchange") that are traded on or through the electronic trading platform of the Exchange, but is not limited to, "real time" or delayed market prices, opening and closing prices and ranges, high-low prices, settlement prices, estimated and actual volume information, bids or offers and the applicable sizes and numbers of such bids or offers.

You are hereby notified that this market data constitutes valuable confidential information that is the exclusive proprietary property of the applicable Exchange and is not within the public domain. Such market data may only be used for your firm's internal use. You may not, without the written authorization of the applicable Exchange, redistribute, sell, license, retransmit or otherwise provide the market data, internally or externally and in any format, by electronic or other means, including, but not limited to the Internet. Further, you may not, without the written authorization of the applicable Exchange, use market data of an Exchange (a) for purposes of determining any price, including any settlement price, for any futures product, options on futures product or other derivatives instrument traded on any exchange other than the applicable Exchange or a Participating Exchange or (b) in constructing or calculating the value of any index or indexed product. Additionally, you agree you will not, and will not permit any other individual or entity to, (x) use market data of an Exchange in any way so as to compete with such Exchange or to assist or allow a third party to compete with such Exchange or (y) use that portion of the market data of an Exchange which relates to any product of a Participating Exchange in any way so as to compete with that Participating Exchange or to assist or allow a third party to compete with such Participating Exchange.

You must provide upon request of the broker through which your firm has obtained access to market data of an Exchange, or upon request of the applicable Exchange, information demonstrating your firm's use of the market data of such Exchange in accordance with this notification. Each applicable Exchange reserves the right to terminate the access of any market user to such market data for any reason. You also agree that you will cooperate with each Exchange with respect to which you have access to market data of that Exchange and permit each such Exchange reasonable access to your premises should such Exchange wish to conduct an audit or review connected to the distribution of market data of that Exchange.

NEITHER AN EXCHANGE, NOR ANY PARTICIPATING EXCHANGE, NOR THE BROKER, NOR THEIR RESPECTIVE MEMBERS, SHAREHOLDERS, DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES OR AGENTS, GUARANTEE THE TIMELINESS, SEQUENCE, ACCURACY OR COMPLETENESS OF THE DESIGNATED MARKET DATA, MARKET INFORMATION OR OTHER INFORMATION FURNISHED NOR THAT THE MARKET DATA HAVE BEEN VERIFIED. YOU AGREE THAT THE MARKET DATA AND OTHER INFORMATION PROVIDED IS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED AS AN OFFER OR SOLICITATION WITH RESPECT TO THE PURCHASE OR SALE OF ANY SECURITY OR COMMODITY.

NEITHER AN EXCHANGE, NOR ANY PARTICIPATING EXCHANGE, NOR THE BROKER NOR THEIR RESPECTIVE MEMBERS, SHAREHOLDERS, DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES OR AGENTS, SHALL BE LIABLE TO YOU OR TO ANY OTHER PERSON, FIRM OR CORPORATION WHATSOEVER FOR ANY LOSSES, DAMAGES, CLAIMS, PENALTIES, COSTS OR EXPENSES (INCLUDING LOST PROFITS) ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THE MARKET DATA IN ANY WAY, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY DELAY, INACCURACIES, ERRORS OR OMISSIONS IN THE MARKET DATA OR IN THE TRANSMISSION THEREOF OR FOR NONPERFORMANCE, DISCONTINUANCE, TERMINATION OR INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE OR FOR ANY DAMAGES ARISING THEREFROM OR OCCASIONED THEREBY, DUE TO ANY CAUSE WHATSOEVER, WHETHER OR NOT RESULTING FROM NEGLIGENCE ON THEIR PART. IF THE FOREGOING DISCLAIMER AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY SHOULD BE DEEMED INVALID OR INEFFECTIVE, NEITHER AN EXCHANGE,

NOR ANY PARTICIPATING EXCHANGE, NOR THE BROKER, NOR THEIR RESPECTIVE SHAREHOLDERS, MEMBERS, DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES OR AGENTS, SHALL BE LIABLE IN ANY EVENT, INCLUDING THEIR OWN NEGLIGENCE, BEYOND THE ACTUAL AMOUNT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE OR THE AMOUNT OF THE MONTHLY FEE PAID BY YOU TO SUCH BROKER, WHICHEVER IS LESS. YOU AGREE THAT NEITHER AN EXCHANGE, NOR ANY PARTICIPATING EXCHANGE, NOR THE BROKER NOR THEIR RESPECTIVE SHAREHOLDERS, MEMBERS, DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES OR AGENTS, SHALL BE LIABLE TO YOU OR TO ANY OTHER PERSON, FIRM OR CORPORATION WHATSOEVER FOR ANY INDIRECT, SPECIAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, LOST PROFITS, COSTS OF DELAY OR COSTS OF LOST OR DAMAGED DATA.

OTC CLEARED DERIVATIVES DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS LCH.CLEARNET LIMITED REQUIRED PROVISIONS

Capitalized terms used in this Schedule shall have the meaning specified in the LCH FCM Rulebook. For purposes of this Schedule, the term "FCM Client" shall mean "Customer" (as defined in the Agreement). FCM Client hereby acknowledges and agrees that:

- (a) the services provided by the Clearing House with regard to the FCM SwapClear Clearing Services will be subject to and governed by the FCM Rulebook and the FCM Default Management Process Agreement between the Clearing House and the FCM Clearing Member. The FCM Client agrees that it shall not act so as to cause – whether directly or indirectly – any breach of the FCM Rulebook or the FCM Default Management Process Agreement. The provisions of the amended text of FCM Regulation 26 (Exclusion of Liability) of the FCM Rulebook set out below shall apply mutatis mutandis as though entered into by the FCM Client directly with the Clearing House;
- (b) the FCM Client understands, acknowledges and agrees that all transactions between the FCM Client and its FCM Clearing Member resulting in the registration of FCM SwapClear Contracts on behalf of FCM Client will be governed by the FCM Regulations and FCM Client agrees to be bound by such Regulations with respect to such transactions in all respects. Without limitation of the foregoing, FCM Client understands, acknowledges and agrees that, at the time that an FCM SwapClear Contract is registered in the name of its FCM Clearing Member on behalf of an FCM Client, the FCM Client will be deemed to be bound by the relevant FCM SwapClear Contract on the terms entered into between the FCM Clearing Member and the Clearing House, automatically and without any further action by such FCM Clearing Member or FCM Client, which such terms shall, without limitation, incorporate all applicable terms of the FCM Regulations and Schedule A thereto;
- (c) the Clearing House deals only with its FCM Clearing Members and FCM Client will have no right or authority to deal directly with the Clearing House, including but not limited to in connection with the matters addressed herein. FCM Client shall deal only with its FCM Clearing Member in connection with all FCM SwapClear Contracts cleared on FCM Client's behalf through the Clearing House;
- (d) upon the default of an FCM Clearing Member, if the Clearing House is required to do so by any Regulatory Body or applicable laws or regulations or determines in its discretion that it is necessary for its protection, the Clearing House will close out and terminate the FCM SwapClear Contracts entered into by that FCM Clearing Member in respect of the FCM Client and will not transfer or otherwise reestablish such positions;
- (e) the FCM Client will not be entitled to instruct the Clearing House to act or omit to act in any manner at any time prior to the default of the relevant FCM Clearing Member;
- (f) the FCM Client will not be entitled to any information from the Clearing House as to any balance held by the Clearing House for any person at any time;
- (g) the Clearing House will not hold any assets transferred to it in trust for any person;
- (h) where the FCM Clearing Member provides securities to the Clearing House as collateral (the Securities), the FCM Client will not be entitled to assert any equitable or other claim to any such Securities in circumstances where the assertion of such a claim would delay or inhibit the disposal by the Clearing House of such Securities and/or the application of the proceeds of sale of such Securities in accordance with the provisions of the FCM Rulebook; and

- (i) an FCM Clearing Member has such FCM Client's unconditional consent to furnish or deposit to or with the Clearing House as cover for the purposes of the FCM Regulations any securities or other assets of such FCM Client in the FCM Clearing Member's possession, and to repledge such property to the Clearing House.

DISCLOSURE OF DCO RULES FOR CLEARED SWAPS CUSTOMERS

Each derivatives clearing organization is required to have rules that govern the use of Cleared Swaps Customer Collateral, and the transfer, neutralization of risks, and liquidation of Cleared Swaps in the event of a default by a futures commission merchant relating to a Cleared Swaps Customer Account.

In compliance with CFTC Rule 22.16 (17 CFR 22.16), we are providing you with the URL links to the rules of the relevant derivatives clearing organizations. Please note that such rules and the URL links are susceptible to change. If you encounter difficulty accessing these rules, please contact your HSBC Representative for an updated URL link.

<http://www.cmegroup.com/rulebook/CME/index.html/>

https://www.theice.com/publicdocs/clear_credit/ICE_Clear_Credit_Rules.pdf

<http://www.lch.com/rules-regulations/rulebooks/ltc>

THE INCLUSION OF A DERIVATIVES CLEARING ORGANIZATION ON THIS LIST DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOUR ACCOUNT IS ELIGIBLE TO CLEAR ANY OR ALL PRODUCTS ON THAT DERIVATIVES CLEARING ORGANIZATION. SHOULD YOU REQUIRE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE BELOW, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR HSBC REPRESENTATIVE.

SECURITIES FINANCING TRANSACTION REGULATION INFORMATION STATEMENT

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION STATEMENT IS APPLICABLE TO ALL EU CLEARING CLIENTS WHERE HSBC SECURITIES (USA) INC. IS ACTING AS A FUTURES COMMISSION MERCHANT ('FCM'). PLEASE SEE APPENDIX 3, WHICH COVERS A CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP WITH A U.S. FCM.



**Information Statement in accordance with Article 15 of the
Securities Financing Transactions Regulation
Published on 13th May 2016**

This Information Statement is provided for information purposes only and does not amend or supersede the express terms of any Transaction, Collateral Arrangement or any rights or obligations you may have under applicable law, create any rights or obligations, or otherwise affect your or our liabilities and obligations.

The Information Statement with Appendices 1 and 2 has been prepared by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc., the Association for Financial Markets in Europe, the Futures Industry Association, Inc., the International Capital Market Association and the International Securities Lending Association. Appendix 3 has been prepared by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc., the Association for Financial Markets in Europe, the Futures Industry Association, Inc. and SIFMA.

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1. Introduction

You have received this Information Statement because you have entered into or may hereafter enter into one or more title transfer collateral arrangements or security collateral arrangements containing a right of use (together, "**Collateral Arrangements**") with us.

This Information Statement has been prepared to comply with Article 15 of the Securities Financing Transactions Regulation by informing you of the general risks and consequences that may be involved in consenting to a right of use of collateral provided under a security collateral arrangement or of concluding a title transfer collateral arrangement ("**Re-use Risks and Consequences**"). The information required to be provided to you pursuant to Article 15 of the Securities Financing Transactions Regulation relates only to Re-use Risks and Consequences, and so this Information Statement does not address any other risks or consequences that may arise as a result of your particular circumstances or as a result of the terms of particular Transactions.

This Information Statement is not intended to be, and should not be relied upon as, legal, financial, tax, accounting or other advice. Unless otherwise expressly agreed in writing, we are not providing you with any such legal, financial, tax, accounting or other advice and you should consult your own advisors for advice on consenting to a right of use of collateral provided under a security collateral arrangement or on concluding a title transfer collateral arrangement, including the impact on your business and the requirements of, and results of, entering into any Transaction.

Appendix 2 sets out an indicative (but not exhaustive) list of types of agreement that may constitute Collateral Arrangements.

Appendix 3 sets out alternative disclosures that are applicable if we are (1) a U.S. broker-dealer or futures commission merchant or (2) a U.S. bank or U.S. branch or agency office of a non-U.S. bank. In this Information Statement:

- "we", "our", "ours" and "us" refer to the provider of this Information Statement that may conduct Transactions with you (or, where we are acting on behalf of another person, including where that person is an affiliate, that person);
- "you", "your" and "yours" refer to each of the persons to which this Information Statement is delivered or addressed in connection with entering into, continuing, executing or agreeing upon the terms of Transactions with us (or, where you are acting on behalf of other persons, each of those persons);
- "right of use" means any right we have to use, in our own name and on our own account or the account of another counterparty, financial instruments received by us by way of collateral under a security collateral arrangement between you and us;
- "Securities Financing Transactions Regulation" means Regulation (EU) 2015/2365 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on transparency of securities financing transactions and of reuse and amending Regulation (EU) No 648/2012 (as amended from time to time);
- "Transaction" means a transaction entered into, executed or agreed between you and us under which you agree to provide financial instruments as collateral, either under a security collateral arrangement or under a title transfer collateral arrangement;

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- "financial instruments", "security collateral arrangement" and "title transfer collateral arrangement" have the meaning given to those terms in the Securities Financing Transactions Regulation. These are set out in Appendix 1 for reference.

2. Re-use Risks and Consequences

- a) Where you provide financial instruments to us under a title transfer collateral arrangement or if we exercise a right of use in relation to any financial instruments that you have provided to us by way of collateral under a security collateral arrangement containing a right of use, we draw your attention to the following Re-use Risks and Consequences:¹
- your rights, including any proprietary rights that you may have had, in those financial instruments will be replaced by an unsecured contractual claim for delivery of equivalent financial instruments subject to the terms of the relevant Collateral Arrangement;
 - those financial instruments will not be held by us in accordance with client asset rules, and, if they had benefited from any client asset protection rights, those protection rights will not apply (for example, the financial instruments will not be segregated from our assets and will not be held subject to a trust);
 - in the event of our insolvency or default under the relevant agreement your claim against us for delivery of equivalent financial instruments will not be secured and will be subject to the terms of the relevant Collateral Arrangement and applicable law and, accordingly, you may not receive such equivalent financial instruments or recover the full value of the financial instruments (although your exposure may be reduced to the extent that you have liabilities to us which can be set off or netted against or discharged by reference to our obligation to deliver equivalent financial instruments to you);
 - in the event that a resolution authority exercises its powers under any relevant resolution regime in relation to us any rights you may have to take any action against us, such as to terminate our agreement, may be subject to a stay by the relevant resolution authority and:
 - your claim for delivery of equivalent financial instruments may be reduced (in part or in full) or converted into equity; or
 - a transfer of assets or liabilities may result in your claim on us, or our claim on you, being transferred to different entities

although you may be protected to the extent that the exercise of resolution powers is restricted by the availability of set-off or netting rights;
 - as a result of your ceasing to have a proprietary interest in those financial instruments you will not be entitled to exercise any voting, consent or similar rights attached to the financial instruments, and even if we have agreed to

¹ As noted above, Appendix 3 sets forth the risks and consequences that may arise in connection with re-use of financial instruments by a U.S. broker-dealer, U.S. futures commission merchant, or U.S. bank or U.S. branch or agency office of a non-U.S. bank.

exercise voting, consent or similar rights attached to any equivalent financial instruments in accordance with your instructions or the relevant Collateral Arrangement entitles you to notify us that the equivalent financial instruments to be delivered by us to you should reflect your instructions with respect to the subject matter of such vote, consent or exercise of rights, in the event that we do not hold and are not able to readily obtain equivalent financial instruments, we may not be able to comply (subject to any other solution that may have been agreed between the parties);

- vi. in the event that we are not able to readily obtain equivalent financial instruments to deliver to you at the time required: you may be unable to fulfil your settlement obligations under a hedging or other transaction you have entered into in relation to those financial instruments; a counterparty, exchange or other person may exercise a right to buy-in the relevant financial instruments; and you may be unable to exercise rights or take other action in relation to those financial instruments;
 - vii. subject to any express agreement between you and us, we will have no obligation to inform you of any corporate events or actions in relation to those financial instruments;
 - viii. you will not be entitled to receive any dividends, coupon or other payments, interests or rights (including securities or property accruing or offered at any time) payable in relation to those financial instruments, although the express written terms of the relevant Collateral Arrangement or Transaction may provide for you to receive or be credited with a payment by reference to such dividend, coupon or other payment (a "manufactured payment");
 - ix. the provision of title transfer collateral to us, our exercise of a right of use in respect of any financial collateral provided to us by you and the delivery by us to you of equivalent financial instruments may give rise to tax consequences that differ from the tax consequences that would have otherwise applied in relation to the holding by you or by us for your account of those financial instruments;
 - x. where you receive or are credited with a manufactured payment, your tax treatment may differ from your tax treatment in respect of the original dividend, coupon or other payment in relation to those financial instruments.
- b) Where we provide you with clearing services (whether directly as a clearing member or otherwise), we draw your attention to the following additional Re-use Risks and Consequences:
- i. if we are declared to be in default by an EU central counterparty ("**EU CCP**") the EU CCP will try to transfer ("**port**") your transactions and assets to another clearing broker or, if this cannot be achieved, the EU CCP will terminate your transactions;
 - ii. in the event that other parties in the clearing structure default (e.g., a central counterparty, a custodian, settlement agent or any clearing broker that we may instruct) you may not receive all of your assets back and your rights may differ

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depending on the law of the country in which the party is incorporated (which may not necessarily be English law) and the specific protections that that party has put in place;

- iii. in some cases a central counterparty may benefit from legislation which protects actions it may take under its default rules in relation to a defaulting clearing member (e.g., to port transactions and related assets) from being challenged under relevant insolvency law.

Appendix 1

Defined terms for the purposes of the Securities Financing Transactions Regulation:

"financial instrument" means the instruments set out in Section C of Annex I to Directive 2014/65/EU on markets in financial instruments, and includes without limitation:

- 1) Transferable securities;
- 2) Money-market instruments;
- 3) Units in collective investment undertakings.

"title transfer collateral arrangement" means an arrangement, including repurchase agreements, under which a collateral provider transfers full ownership of financial collateral to a collateral taker for the purpose of securing or otherwise covering the performance of relevant financial obligations.

"security collateral arrangement" means an arrangement under which a collateral provider provides financial collateral by way of security in favour of, or to, a collateral taker, and where the full ownership of the financial collateral remains with the collateral provider when the security right is established.

Appendix 2

We have set out below examples of the types of agreements to which this Information Statement applies. These examples are for illustrative purposes only and should not be relied upon as a legal determination of the characterisation of each agreement. The fact that an agreement is grouped with Title Transfer Collateral Agreements below does not preclude its characterisation as a Security Collateral Arrangement with a right of use and vice versa. Moreover, the characterization of an agreement may be different under U.S. and European law.

Title Transfer Collateral Arrangement

Such arrangements may include without limitation:

- Overseas Securities Lender's Agreement
- Global Master Securities Lending Agreement
- Global Master Repurchase Agreement
- SIFMA Master Repurchase Agreement
- An ISDA Master Agreement incorporating an English Law ISDA Credit Support Annex
- An ISDA/FIA Client Cleared OTC Derivatives Addendum which provides for title transfer collateral arrangements and in particular where entered into in connection with an English law governed ISDA Master Agreement which includes the English law CSA Collateral Terms as set out in Appendix 1 thereto, or when entered into in connection with a relevant FIA client clearing agreement
- Master Gilt Edged Stock Lending Agreement
- Master Equity and Fixed Interest Stock Lending Agreement
- Prime brokerage agreements which provide for title transfer collateral arrangements
- FIA client clearing agreements for exchange traded and other cleared derivatives which provide for title transfer collateral arrangements
- FIA Clearing Module which provides for title transfer collateral arrangements
- Any bespoke agreements granting security by way of transfer of title to the secured party

Security Collateral Arrangement containing a right of use

Such arrangements may include without limitation:

- An ISDA Master Agreement incorporating a New York Law ISDA Credit Support Annex
- An ISDA/FIA Client Cleared OTC Derivatives Addendum which provides for security collateral arrangements and in particular where entered into in connection a New York law governed ISDA Master Agreement including the New York law CSA Collateral Terms as set out in Appendix 2 thereto, or when entered into in connection with a relevant FIA client clearing agreement
- An ISDA Master Agreement in respect of which an English Law ISDA Credit Support Deed incorporating a right of use is a credit support document
- Prime brokerage agreements which provide for the creation of security over financial instruments
- FIA client clearing agreements for exchange traded and other cleared derivatives which provide for a creation of security over financial instruments
- FIA Clearing Module which provides for a creation of security over financial instruments
- Security arrangements in relation to margin loan documentation and associated custody agreements

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- SIFMA Master Securities Lending Agreement (this agreement is generally a security collateral arrangement with respect to collateral delivered to the lender; the borrower takes title to the borrowed securities)
- Any bespoke security agreements creating security in respect of financial instruments with rehypothecation rights or a right of use over the financial instruments in favour of the secured party

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Appendix 3

U.S. BROKER-DEALER, U.S. FUTURES COMMISSION MERCHANT, or U.S. BANK:

This Appendix describes the Re-use Risks and Consequences that may arise under Collateral Arrangements with a bank chartered under U.S. federal or state law, a U.S. branch or agency office of a non-U.S. bank (any such bank, branch, or agency office, a “**U.S. banking organization**”), a U.S. entity that is registered as a broker-dealer with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“**broker-dealer**”), or a U.S. entity that is registered as a futures commission merchant with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“**FCM**”). A single U.S. entity can operate, and be regulated, as both a broker-dealer and an FCM, but it remains subject to separate regulatory requirements with respect to its separate activities.

U.S. law draws a distinction between financial instruments delivered to a broker-dealer or FCM and treated as customer assets (“**Customer Assets**”), financial instruments held by a U.S. banking organization in a trust or custodial capacity (“**Custodial Assets**”), and financial instruments delivered or pledged to a U.S. banking organization, broker-dealer, or FCM in a principal (non-customer) capacity (“**Non-Customer Assets**”). Customer Assets held by a broker-dealer or FCM are subject to mandatory segregation requirements under the rules of the SEC and CFTC, respectively, and special-purpose insolvency regimes under which segregated assets, *i.e.*, Customer Assets and cash required to be held in segregated accounts, are distributed to customers. Custodial Assets held by a U.S. banking organization are generally segregated on an account- or customer-specific basis, while in some circumstances broker-dealers and FCMs are permitted to segregate Customer Assets on an omnibus basis for all customers.

Financial instruments held in a securities account at a broker-dealer or delivered to an FCM as margin (or “performance bond”) for a cleared derivative generally constitute Customer Assets. On the other hand, securities delivered to us under a repurchase or securities lending agreement generally do not constitute Customer Assets. If, with respect to Customer Assets received by us as a broker-dealer, you separately agree to lend financial instruments to us under a securities lending agreement, or agree to sell financial instruments to us under a repurchase agreement, then the financial instruments are removed from your account and are no longer eligible for customer protection. Any financial instruments delivered to us under such transactions are Non-Customer Assets. ***If you are uncertain whether a financial instrument pledged or delivered to us is a Customer Asset, please obtain legal advice.***

With respect to Customer Assets received by us as an FCM in connection with your CFTC-regulated transactions, we generally cannot use such Customer Assets other than to margin, guarantee or secure those transactions. That is, we may transfer such assets to segregated or secured accounts established by us with banks, clearing houses and clearing brokers, which acknowledge, via rules or written agreements, that such Customer Assets are the property of the FCM’s customers and can be utilized solely to margin, guarantee or secure customer transactions. In addition, an FCM may, pursuant to repurchase agreements, substitute such segregated Customer Assets, subject to very strict CFTC regulations, including the requirement that such substitution is made on a “delivery versus delivery” basis, and the market value of the substituted securities is at least equal to that of the Customer Assets being substituted. To the extent segregated assets were found to be insufficient to satisfy customer claims in full, customers would continue to have a claim against the proprietary assets of the FCM.

With respect to Customer Assets received by us as a broker-dealer in connection with your SEC-regulated transactions, we generally can use such Customer Assets only with your consent and subject to regulatory usage limits that are imposed both at the account level (by reference to the amount of your obligations to us) and across all customers (by reference to the amount of all customer obligations to us). The SEC requires that broker-dealers perform a daily valuation of Customer Assets (including related

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customer obligations) and maintain in segregation either Customer Assets or cash or other high-grade assets such that the value of segregated assets will at all times exceed the value of all Customer Assets net of customer obligations to the broker-dealer. Further, to the extent segregated assets were to be insufficient to satisfy customer claims in full, customers would continue to have a claim against the proprietary assets of the broker-dealer.

Notwithstanding point (b) of paragraph 2 of Article 15 of the Securities Financing Transactions Regulation, when we use your Customer Assets, they continue to be included on your account statement reflecting their status as Customer Assets, and we may not identify to you the financial instruments that we have used.

If we are a broker-dealer or FCM, our exercise of our right to use Customer Assets has no effect on the nature of your property interest in the financial instruments or on your rights as a customer in the event of our insolvency. The amount of your customer claim in a broker-dealer or FCM insolvency proceeding is a function of the value of assets held in your account and the amount of your obligations to us, if any. In a broker-dealer or FCM insolvency proceeding, all customers generally receive the same pro rata share of their claims based on Customer Assets (and customer cash), regardless of whether their financial instruments were subject to use or were used by the broker-dealer or FCM. (In the case of an FCM insolvency, customers are separated into several account classes based on product type, and recoveries may vary across account classes. Customers within the same account class receive the same pro rata share of all customer claims within that class.)

In the insolvency of a U.S. banking organization, Custodial Assets are generally returned to their owners to the extent such assets are available for distribution. Your consent to our use of your financial instruments may prevent them from being treated as Custodial Assets, and it may jeopardize your right to obtain their return in the event of our insolvency.

Collateral Arrangements with respect to Non-Customer Assets can take a variety of forms with differing legal characterizations and practical consequences. Generally, a title transfer collateral arrangement entitles you only to a creditor claim for the return of your financial instruments. Under a security collateral arrangement, in some cases you may retain a property interest in the financial instruments delivered to us as collateral, but your property right (if any) may be subject to superior rights of our creditors or of a party to which we have transferred the financial instruments. Additionally, in the event of our insolvency, you may lose your property interest if you are unable to identify your property as distinct from our other assets, and our use of your financial instruments may impair your ability to do so.

This Appendix is not intended to provide a complete description of the treatment of Collateral Arrangements under U.S. law or the U.S. customer protection system, and you should not rely on it for that purpose.

If we are a U.S. broker-dealer, U.S. FCM, or U.S. banking organization, Sections 2(a)(i) through (v) of the Information Statement do not apply. Instead, where you provide financial instruments to us under a title transfer collateral arrangement or if we exercise a right of use in relation to any financial instruments that you have provided to us by way of collateral under a security collateral arrangement containing a right of use, we draw your attention to the following Re-use Risks and Consequences:

I. Risks in Connection with Financial Instruments That Are Customer Assets

If we are a U.S. broker-dealer or FCM and your financial instruments are Customer Assets, then we are permitted to use your financial instruments (i) to post as margin in respect of CFTC-regulated products with a clearing organization or other intermediary, and (ii) as otherwise permitted within the limits imposed

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by U.S. customer protection rules. When we use your Customer Assets, we may not hold them in segregation or trust, depending on the applicable U.S. regulation, but we continue to report them on your account statement reflecting their status as Customer Assets. As a result of our use of your Customer Assets, those assets are subject to the Re-use Risks and Consequences listed in Sections 2(a)(vi) through (x) of the Information Statement. In addition, if we provide you with clearing services (whether directly as a clearing member or otherwise), Customer Assets are subject to the Re-use Risks and Consequences listed in Section 2(b) of the Information Statement.

Moreover, as a result of our use of those financial instruments (including, in some cases, your ceasing to have a proprietary interest in those financial instruments), or the failure of a third party to deliver to us financial instruments, you may not be entitled to exercise any voting, consent or similar rights attached to the financial instruments, and even if we have agreed to exercise voting, consent or similar rights attached to any equivalent financial instruments in accordance with your instructions or the relevant Collateral Arrangement entitles you to notify us that the equivalent financial instruments to be delivered by us to you should reflect your instructions with respect to the subject matter of such vote, consent or exercise of rights, in the event that we do not hold and are not able to readily obtain equivalent financial instruments, we may not be able to comply (subject to any other solution that may have been agreed between the parties).

However, our right to use Customer Assets and our actual use of Customer Assets do not present any insolvency-related Re-use Risks and Consequences. This is because, as described above, in the event of our insolvency your claim for Customer Assets would be calculated according to a formula that does not take our use of assets into account.

In the event that a receiver, conservator or other insolvency official exercises its powers under an insolvency regime in relation to us, any rights you may have to take any action against us, such as to terminate our agreement, may be subject to a stay by the relevant authority and a transfer of assets or liabilities may result in your claim on us, or our claim on you, being transferred to different entities. However, this risk exists regardless of whether we have used your financial instruments or you have consented to their use.

II. Risks in Connection with Financial Instruments That Are Non-Customer Assets

Non-Customer Assets are not protected by the U.S. customer protection rules that apply to Customer Assets. If we are a U.S. broker-dealer or FCM and your financial instruments are Non-Customer Assets, or we are a U.S. banking organization, and you have granted us a right to use your financial instruments, then we will not hold such financial instruments in segregation or trust. Your rights, including any proprietary rights that you may have had, in those financial instruments may be replaced by a contractual claim (which would be unsecured unless otherwise agreed) for the delivery of equivalent financial instruments subject to the terms of the relevant Collateral Arrangement. As a result of our use of your Non-Customer Assets, those assets are subject to the Re-use Risks and Consequences listed in Sections 2(a)(vi) through (x) of the Information Statement.

If we are a U.S. banking organization, as a result of your consent to our use of your financial instruments, those financial instruments may not be held by us in accordance with the rules that apply to Custodial Assets, and, if they had benefited from any protections as Custodial Assets, those protection rights may not apply (for example, the financial instruments will not be segregated from our assets and will not be held subject to a trust).

Moreover, as a result of our use of financial instruments (including, in some cases, your ceasing to have a proprietary interest in those financial instruments), or the failure of a third party to deliver to us financial

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instruments, you may not be entitled to exercise any voting, consent or similar rights attached to the financial instruments, and even if we have agreed to exercise voting, consent or similar rights attached to any equivalent financial instruments in accordance with your instructions or the relevant Collateral Arrangement entitles you to notify us that the equivalent financial instruments to be delivered by us to you should reflect your instructions with respect to the subject matter of such vote, consent or exercise of rights, in the event that we do not hold and are not able to readily obtain equivalent financial instruments, we may not be able to comply (subject to any other solution that may have been agreed between the parties).

In the event of our insolvency your rights in financial instruments that we have used may be replaced by a general claim (which would be unsecured unless otherwise agreed) against us for equivalent financial instruments or the value of those financial instruments, and you may not receive such equivalent financial instruments or recover the full value of the financial instruments (although your exposure may be reduced to the extent that we have provided collateral to you or you have liabilities to us which can be set off or netted against or discharged by reference to our obligation to deliver equivalent financial instruments to you). To the extent you retain a property interest in financial assets we have used, our use of the financial instruments may give other parties superior rights in them and may interfere with your ability to identify the financial instruments for the purpose of obtaining their return.

In the event that a receiver, conservator or other insolvency official exercises its powers under an insolvency regime in relation to us, any rights you may have to take any action against us, such as to terminate our agreement, may be subject to a stay by the relevant authority and a transfer of assets or liabilities may result in your claim on us, or our claim on you, being transferred to different entities. However, this risk exists regardless of whether we have used your financial instruments or you have consented to their use.