



FRANKLIN • TEMPLETON • FIDUCIARY

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INVESTMENT ADVISER REGISTRATION FORM ADV PART 2A: FIRM BROCHURE

*This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Franklin Alternative Strategies Advisers, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact Global Client Service Support ("GCSS") via email at **GlobalClientServiceSupportAmericas@frk.com**. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.*

*Additional information about Franklin Alternative Strategies Advisers, LLC also is available on the SEC's website at **www.adviserinfo.sec.gov**.*

ANY REFERENCE TO FRANKLIN ALTERNATIVE STRATEGIES ADVISERS, LLC AS BEING A REGISTERED INVESTMENT ADVISER DOES NOT IMPLY A CERTAIN LEVEL OF SKILL OR TRAINING.

April 1, 2014

Item 2 Material Changes

Material changes made on or after the date of the last annual update of the Adviser's brochure on December 31, 2012 are summarized below:

Item 1: Cover Page – Updated to reflect adviser name change from Pelagos Capital Management, LLC to Franklin Alternative Strategies Advisers, LLC effective January 29, 2014. Adviser will continue to conduct a portion of its advisory business under the Pelagos Capital Management name.

Item 4: Advisory Business – Other-than-annual amendment made on July 5, 2013 to reflect June 13, 2013 change in ownership status whereby Adviser became a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of Franklin Resources, Inc. Addition of introductory information regarding Franklin Resources, Inc., the Adviser's indirect parent company, and its various subsidiaries.

Item 8: Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss – Additional disclosure regarding investment risks relating to derivative instruments, liquidity, market, credit, interest rates, currency, management, indices and bank holding company act concerns.

Item 10: Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations – Disclosure added regarding affiliated broker-dealers, investment advisers and bank holding company. Information regarding Adviser's CFTC registrations updated.

Item 11: Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading – Additional disclosure regarding potential participation or interest in client transactions and other potential conflicts relating to advisory activities.

Item 12: Brokerage Practices – Additional disclosure regarding factors considered in selecting broker-dealers for client transactions. Disclosure added regarding Adviser's policies relating to aggregation of purchase or sale of securities.

Item 16: Investment Discretion – Additional disclosure regarding procedures for participation in legal proceedings.

Item 17: Voting Client Securities – Disclosure regarding proxy voting policies and procedures.

Item 4: Advisory Business – Other-than-annual amendment made April 29, 2014 to update assets under management and add disclosure regarding new types of clients.

Item 5: Fees and Compensation – Other-than-annual amendment made April 29, 2014 to add fee disclosure applicable to new types of clients.

Item 6: Performance-Based Fees and Side-by-Side Management - Other-than-annual amendment made April 29, 2014 to reflect that the Adviser or its supervised persons may manage accounts that are charged a performance-based fee as well as accounts that are charged another type of fee.

Item 7: Type of Clients - Other-than-annual amendment made April 29, 2014 to update disclosure regarding new types of clients.

Item 8: Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss – Other-than-annual amendment made April 29, 2014 to reflect additional investment strategy used by the Adviser. Disclosure also added regarding investment risks relating to equity securities, debt securities, credit, interest rate, non-U.S. securities, developing market countries, concentration, growth and value style investing, investing in underlying funds and leverage.

Item 10: Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations – Other-than-annual amendment made April 29, 2014 to provide additional disclosure regarding CFTC registrations.

Item 11: Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading – Other-than-annual amendment made April 29, 2014 to update summary of Adviser's Code of Ethics and Insider Trading Policy. Updated disclosure to reflect that the Adviser or its affiliates may recommend to clients, or buy or sell for client accounts, securities in which the Adviser or its affiliates have a material financial interest.

Item 12: Brokerage Practices – Other-than-annual amendment made April 29, 2014 adding disclosure regarding client-directed brokerage transactions and allocation in IPOs and secondary offerings. Disclosure added regarding foreign exchange transactions.

Item 14: Client Referrals and Other Compensation – Other-than-annual amendment made April 29, 2014 to reflect that the Adviser or a related person may enter into referral fee arrangements to compensate affiliated and non-affiliated persons for recommending its investment advisory services to potential clients.

Item 15: Custody - Other-than-annual amendment made April 29, 2014 to provide updated disclosure regarding instances in which the Adviser may be deemed to have custody of its clients' assets.

Clients may request a copy of the current version of our brochure at no cost by contacting GCSS via email at **GlobalClientServiceSupportAmericas@frk.com**.

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Item 4 Advisory Business

INTRODUCTION TO FRANKLIN ALTERNATIVE STRATEGIES ADVISERS, LLC

Franklin Alternative Strategies Advisers, LLC (the “Adviser” or “we”), is a Delaware limited liability company formed on August 17, 2005 and based in Boston, Massachusetts. Prior to January 29, 2014 the Adviser was named Pelagos Capital Management, LLC, and it continues to conduct a portion of its advisory business under the Pelagos Capital Management name. The Adviser is a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of Franklin Resources, Inc. (“Franklin Resources”), a holding company that, together with its various subsidiaries is referred to as Franklin Templeton Investments,[®] a global investment management organization offering investment choices under the Franklin,[®] Templeton,[®] Mutual Series,[®] Bissett,[®] Fiduciary Trust,[™] Darby,[®] Balanced Equity Management[™] and K2[®] brand names. Franklin Templeton Investments, through current and predecessor subsidiaries, has been engaged in the investment management and related services business since 1947.

Franklin Resources is regulated as a bank holding company under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended (the “BHC Act”), and has elected to be a financial holding company under the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (the “GLB Act”). The common stock of Franklin Resources is traded on the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”) under the ticker symbol “BEN,” and is included in the Standard & Poor’s 500 Index.

ADVISORY SERVICES

The Adviser provides investment advisory and portfolio management services under management agreements with investment products in jurisdictions worldwide, which include one or more U.S.- and non-U.S.-registered funds, controlled foreign corporations wholly-owned by U.S.-registered funds, and unregistered funds (collectively, our “Sponsored Investment Products” or “SIPs”). The Adviser also provides sub-advisory services to one or more sub-advised investment products.

In the United States, the Adviser provides advice to investment companies registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) pursuant to the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”) (the “U.S. Registered Funds”) and pooled investment vehicles that are exempt from registration under the 1940 Act (the “Private Funds”). The Adviser provides sub-advisory services to one or more investment products sponsored by other companies (“Sub-Advised Products”) which may be sold to the public under the brand names of those other companies or on a co-branded basis. Please see Item 7 (“Types of Clients”) for greater detail.

The services provided by the Adviser will generally include investment research and portfolio management services, including the selection of securities to be purchased, held or sold and the selection of brokers through whom the portfolio transactions are executed.

The services offered by the Adviser are described more fully below. The Adviser provides investment management services pursuant to agreements in effect with each of its SIP and Sub-Advised Product clients.

With respect to SIPs and Sub-Advised Products for which the Adviser has been appointed to provide discretionary investment management services, the Adviser will perform or obtain investment research and determine which securities the SIPs or Sub-Advised Products will purchase, hold or sell under the supervision and oversight of the funds’ boards of directors or trustees, if applicable. In addition, the Adviser may take various steps to implement such decisions, including arranging for the selection of brokers and dealers and the execution and settlement of trades in accordance with applicable criteria set forth in the management agreement for each account, internal policies, and applicable law and practice.

Please see Item 16 (“Investment Discretion”) for details of the circumstances in which clients may place limitations on the Adviser’s discretionary authority.

Potential or actual conflicts of interest may arise in the allocation of investment opportunities among the Adviser’s accounts. Some of these are discussed in more detail in Item 11 (“Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading”).

SERVICES OF AFFILIATES

Franklin Templeton Investments operates its investment management business through the Adviser, as well as through multiple affiliates of the Adviser, some of which are registered with non-U.S. regulatory authorities and some of which are registered with multiple regulatory authorities. The Adviser may use the services of appropriate personnel of one or more of its affiliates for investment advice, portfolio execution and trading, and client servicing in their local or regional markets or their areas of special expertise, except to the extent restricted by the client in or pursuant to its investment management agreement, or inconsistent with applicable law. Arrangements among affiliates take a variety of forms, including delegation arrangements or formal sub-advisory or servicing agreements. In these circumstances, the client with whom the Adviser has executed the investment management agreement will typically require that the Adviser remains fully responsible for the account from a legal and contractual perspective. No additional fees are charged for the affiliates' services except as set forth in the investment management agreement. Please see Item 10 ("Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations") for more details.

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT

The Adviser may provide management services or continuous and regular supervisory services for the accounts that it manages. The Adviser may provide one or more of the following: (i) management services as an adviser to an account, (ii) management services as a sub-adviser to an affiliated or unaffiliated adviser managing or supervising an account, (iii) management services under delegated authority by an affiliated adviser, (iv) continuous and regular supervisory services for an account for which it has delegated management services to an affiliated adviser, or (v) management services as a co-manager to an account for which an affiliated adviser also provides management services. Assets under management described in this item may include all of these types of accounts, and may include accounts and assets that another affiliated or unaffiliated adviser is also reporting on its Form ADV.

As of April 1, 2014, the Adviser managed the following amounts on a discretionary and non-discretionary basis:

	U.S. Dollar Amount
Discretionary	\$319,881,418.83
Non-Discretionary	\$ 0.00
Total*	\$319,881,418.83

* May exclude certain assets treated as Regulatory Assets Under Management in Item 5.F. of Adviser's Form ADV Part 1A.

Item 5 Fees and Compensation

ADVISORY FEES

Investment management fees are generally calculated under contractual arrangements with our Sponsored Investment Products ("SIPs") and Sub-Advised Products as a percentage of the market value of assets under management. Annual rates vary by investment objective and type of services provided. Fee arrangements vary by client, and are based on a number of different factors, including investment mandate, services performed, and account/relationship size. To the extent permitted under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (the "Advisers Act"), the Adviser may negotiate and charge performance fees as well as asset based fees in connection with SIPs. In addition, fees may be fixed, fixed plus performance or performance only.

Please refer to Item 6 ("Performance-Based Fees and Side-by-Side Management") for additional discussion of performance based fees.

FEE SCHEDULES

U.S. REGISTERED FUNDS

With respect to the Adviser's management of U.S. Registered Funds, investors should consult the U.S. Registered Funds' offering documents for specific fee information on those products. The compensation paid by each U.S. Registered Fund is described in its prospectus and statement of additional information. Under the investment management agreements, the funds typically pay their advisers a monthly fee in arrears based upon a percentage of the fund's average daily net assets. Annual fee rates under the various agreements are often reduced as net assets exceed various threshold levels. Annual rates also vary by investment objective and type of services provided. Investment management agreements generally permit advisers to provide investment management services to more than one fund and to other clients as long as the advisers' ability to render services to each of the funds is not impaired, and so long as purchases and sales of portfolio securities for various advised funds are made on an equitable basis.

PRIVATE FUNDS

With respect to Private Funds, each Private Fund's Private Placement Memorandum ("PPM"), subscription agreement and/or other governing document sets forth the applicable fees and expenses. Fees disclosed in the offering documents of Private Funds may be negotiated in certain circumstances by individual investors in those Private Funds.

TIMING AND PAYMENT OF ADVISORY FEES

The timing of fee payments will be negotiated with each client or, with respect to the Adviser's SIPs, as set forth in the relevant fund's offering documents or PPM. Asset-based fees generally are paid monthly or quarterly and are calculated on the value of the account's net assets under management or, in the case of certain closed-end funds and Private Funds, committed capital or invested capital. Performance fees or other performance based compensation will be generally based on exceeding specified yield or total return benchmarks or "hurdles" or an appropriate index and generally are payable: (i) on a quarterly or annual basis, (ii) in the case of certain other Private Funds, at the time of withdrawal or redemption with respect to the amount withdrawn, and/or (iii) as redeemed or as investments are realized and/or capital is distributed. Certain Private Funds charge performance fees based on the relevant Private Funds' net profits without regard to any index or performance hurdle. In some cases, these arrangements may be subject to a cumulative high water mark or other provisions intended to ensure that prior losses are recouped before giving effect to any performance fees. In other cases, certain Private Funds may have periodic or cumulative performance hurdles prior to the Adviser receiving a performance fee. The timing and amount of performance fees are described in the relevant offering documents or PPM.

For the most part, the investment management agreements between the Adviser and U.S. Registered Funds must be renewed each year (after an initial two-year term), and must be specifically approved at least annually by a vote of each fund's board of directors or trustees as a whole and separately by the directors/trustees that are not interested persons of such fund under the 1940 Act, or by a vote of the holders of a majority of such fund's outstanding voting securities.

The Adviser's investment management agreements with clients other than U.S. Registered Funds and certain Private Funds generally do not have termination dates. Rather, investment management agreements typically may be terminated by the Adviser or the client with advance notice, as set forth in the relevant investment management agreement and may include automatic renewal provisions.

In a limited number of situations, clients may arrange to pay fees in advance. In the event of the termination of a relationship, unearned fees, if any, paid in advance will be refunded to the client. To the extent fees have been earned but not yet billed, such fees will be pro-rated and paid by the client upon termination. In certain cases (e.g., accounts with performance based fees), fees may continue to be paid after termination of the relationship in accordance with the investment management agreement.

Fees generally are calculated and paid on a quarterly basis and in arrears, *i.e.*, following the rendering of services (except as separately negotiated or as otherwise disclosed).

If permitted under the terms of its investment management agreements, the Adviser may, on behalf of certain clients, invest in pooled or collective investment vehicles, including mutual funds. Subject to applicable law and regulation and the terms of applicable agreements, such clients may bear the costs and expenses charged by such investment vehicles to their shareholders, such as management and administrative fees, in addition to the Adviser's management fees.

OTHER FEES AND EXPENSES

In addition to the fees described above, clients of the Adviser may bear other costs associated with investments or accounts including but not limited to: (i) custodial charges, brokerage fees, commissions and related costs, (ii) interest expenses, (iii) taxes, duties and other governmental charges, (iv) transfer and registration fees or similar expenses, (v) costs associated with foreign exchange transactions, (vi) other portfolio expenses, and (vii) costs, expenses and fees (including investment advisory and other fees charged by the investment advisers of funds in which the client's account invest) associated with products or services that may be necessary or incidental to such investments or accounts. With respect to such services (which may include, but are not limited to, custodial, securities lending, brokerage, futures, banking, consulting or third-party advisory services) each client will be required to establish business relationships with relevant service providers or other counterparties based on the client's own credit standing. The Adviser will not have any obligation to allow its credit to be used in connection with the establishment of such relationships, nor is it expected that such service providers or counterparties will consider or rely on the Adviser's credit in evaluating the client's creditworthiness.

Private Funds also generally bear their own operating and other expenses including, but not limited to, in addition to those listed above: (i) sales expenses, (ii) legal expenses, (iii) internal and external accounting, audit and tax preparation expenses, (iv) insurance, and (v) organizational expenses. The Adviser may use a master/feeder structure in certain situations. This structure allows an investment adviser to manage a single portfolio of securities at the master fund level and have multiple feeder funds that invest substantially all of their respective assets into the master fund. Individual and institutional shareholders invest in the feeder funds, which may offer a variety of service and distribution options. A management fee may be charged either at the master fund level or the feeder fund level depending on the specific requirements of the master/feeder fund, although master/feeder funds also involving performance fees or carried interest will typically charge these together with management fees at the master fund level. Administrative, shareholder servicing and custodian fees (when all portfolio securities are held in the master fund) are often waived at the feeder fund level and only charged at the master fund level, although the feeder funds will indirectly bear their pro-rata share of the expenses of the master fund as an investor in the master fund. Fees and expenses specific to a feeder fund may be charged at the level of that feeder fund.

Clients will generally incur brokerage and other transaction costs. See Item 12 ("Brokerage Practices") for discussion on brokerage.

Item 6 Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management

The Adviser may provide advice to one or more clients, such as Private Funds, that are charged performance-based fees. Some portfolio managers may manage both accounts that are charged a performance fee and accounts that are charged another type of fee, such as Private Funds with a performance fee in which employees or associates of the Adviser or an affiliate may participate as limited partners. Some portfolio managers may not manage any accounts that are charged a performance fee.

Side-by-side management by the Adviser or its supervised persons who provide investment supervisory services to one or more SIPs may raise potential conflicts of interest, including those associated with any differences in fee structures, as well as other pecuniary and investment interests the Adviser or its supervised persons may have in an account managed by the Adviser. U.S. Registered Funds, for example, generally pay management fees based on a fixed percentage of assets under management, whereas Private Funds may often have more varied

fee structures, including a combination of asset- and performance-based compensation. The prospect of achieving higher compensation from a Private Fund than from a U.S. Registered Fund may provide the Adviser incentive to favor the Private Fund over the U.S. Registered Fund when, for example, placing securities transactions that the Adviser believes could more likely result in favorable performance. Similarly, a significant proprietary investment held by the Adviser or an affiliate in a fund or account, may create an incentive for the Adviser to favor such a fund or account to the detriment of other funds or accounts.

With respect to Private Funds, performance fees may create an incentive for the Adviser to cause such pooled investment vehicles to make investments that are riskier than it would otherwise make. In addition, because the performance fee is calculated on a basis which includes unrealized appreciation of the assets of the funds, any performance fee may be greater than if that fee was based solely on realized gains.

The management of multiple funds and accounts may also give rise to potential conflicts of interest if the funds and accounts have different objectives, benchmarks, time horizons, and fees as the portfolio manager must allocate his or her time and investment ideas across multiple funds and accounts. The Adviser seeks to manage such competing interests for the time and attention of portfolio managers by having portfolio managers focus on a particular investment discipline. Accordingly, portfolio holdings, position sizes, and industry and sector exposures tend to be similar across similar portfolios, which may minimize the potential for conflicts of interest. Separate management of the trade execution and valuation functions from the portfolio management process also helps to reduce potential conflicts of interest.

However, securities selected for one fund or account may outperform the securities selected for another fund or account. Moreover, if a portfolio manager identifies a limited investment opportunity that may be suitable for several funds or accounts, a single fund or account may not be able to take full advantage of that opportunity due to an allocation of that opportunity across all eligible funds and other accounts. The Adviser seeks to manage such potential conflicts by using procedures intended to provide a fair allocation of buy and sell opportunities among funds and other accounts. Please refer to Item 12 ("Brokerage Practices") for more details.

The structure of a portfolio manager's compensation may give rise to potential conflicts of interest. A portfolio manager's base salary and bonus tend to increase with additional and more complex responsibilities that include increased assets under management. As such, there may be an indirect relationship between a portfolio manager's marketing or sales efforts and his or her compensation. Based on product structure, and in limited cases, portfolio managers may also be eligible to receive performance fees.

Varying tax structures may be employed by the Adviser or any of its affiliates with respect to the receipt of management fees, performance fees and/or carried interest including but not limited to tax structures that are intended to provide favorable tax treatment to the Adviser or any of its affiliates, or its or their directors, officers or employees. Such other fees or tax structuring may therefore create conflicts of interest or other incentives with respect to investment funds or accounts.

The Adviser has implemented "Policies and Procedures for Side-By-Side Management of Registered Investment Companies and Investment Accounts" designed to address potential conflicts of interest that may arise when a portfolio manager or different portfolio managers within a single investment adviser or within a single investment group manage both U.S. Registered Funds and other separately managed accounts or pooled vehicles ("investment accounts") for other advisory clients.

Cross trades are another area that may present potential conflicts of interest in that they may be viewed as favoring one client over another. For example, an adviser receiving performance-based compensation could be perceived as effecting cross trades that it anticipates may increase in value from a U.S. Registered Fund, with an asset based fee, to an investment account, with a performance fee, merely to increase the performance-based compensation it receives from the investment account. The reverse is true with respect to securities expected to decrease in value. In that case, the Adviser may be perceived to cross-trade such securities from an investment account to a U.S. Registered Fund to minimize the effect of those securities on the performance-based compensation. The Adviser has implemented inter-account transaction procedures to

address these potential conflicts of interest by, among other things, requiring pre-clearance of all cross-trades.

The Adviser may aggregate orders of its clients to effect a larger transaction and thereby reduce transaction costs. The Adviser must then allocate the securities among the participating accounts. Although such bunching of transactions is permissible, potential conflicts of interest may exist with respect to the aggregation and allocation of client transactions. For example, with respect to the allocations of aggregated trades, an adviser could be viewed as allocating securities that it anticipates will increase in value to certain favored clients, especially those that pay a performance-based fee to that adviser.

The Adviser has implemented trade aggregation and allocation procedures (the "Allocation Procedures") designed to address these potential conflicts of interest. The Allocation Procedures provide that aggregation of trades should be utilized whenever possible (subject to certain enumerated exceptions), and require that an average price be used for multiple executions of a particular security through the same broker on the same terms on the same day. The Allocation Procedures describe the allocation methodologies to be applied, and permissible exceptions from standard allocation methods that must be pre-approved by a designated trading desk compliance officer. Please see Item 12 (Brokerage Practices) for further discussion of allocation of investment opportunities.

The Allocation Procedures provide that all associated costs of an aggregated transaction will be shared on a proportionate basis by participating accounts. Previous allocations are reviewed periodically to consider whether any account was systematically disadvantaged due to bunched transactions and whether the order was appropriate for each of the participating accounts. Examination of the aggregation of orders and the allocation of securities is undertaken periodically to determine whether the Adviser considered the best interests of each client during the process.

In some cases, the Adviser may be unable, or limited in its ability, to aggregate orders by the nature of the instruments and securities traded for the funds and accounts advised by the Adviser, or by the nature of the SIPs and Sub-Advised Products it advises. In situations where orders cannot be aggregated, greater transaction costs may result.

Advisers to investment accounts may have a different valuation process for those accounts than the U.S. Registered Funds they or their affiliates advise. Consequently, a U.S. Registered Fund and an investment account that hold the same security may value that security differently. Different valuations of the same security could lead to questions about whether an adviser acted appropriately. For example, an adviser could be perceived as placing a higher valuation on a security held in an investment account merely to increase its performance-based compensation from that account.

To address this conflict, the Adviser must document an explanation for any differences in the valuation of securities held by both a U.S. Registered Fund and an investment account managed by the Adviser and/or its affiliates. The explanation provided must be reviewed and approved by the Valuation and Liquidity Oversight Committee ("VLOC"), which was formed to provide oversight and administration of the policies and procedures governing the fair valuation and liquidity determination of securities held in Franklin Templeton Investments portfolios. Key participants of the VLOC include individuals across Franklin Templeton Investments from legal, compliance, trading, investment operations, fund accounting, global risk management and global portfolio services.

With respect to Funds of Funds (as defined in Item 7) and other products or accounts which invest in privately placed pooled investment vehicles managed by third-parties or other underlying funds sponsored by third-party managers, the Adviser generally relies on pricing information provided by the private fund or the fund's manager or other service provider. While the Adviser expects that such persons will provide appropriate valuations, certain investments may be complex or difficult to value. The Adviser may also perform its own valuation analysis, but generally will not independently assess the accuracy of such valuations.

Item 7 Types of Clients

The Adviser currently provides investment advice to one or more U.S. Registered Funds, controlled foreign corporations wholly-owned by U.S. Registered Funds, Private Funds, and other pooled investment vehicles including ones that are sold outside the United States (collectively, our “Sponsored Investment Products” or “SIPs”). The Adviser also provides sub-advisory services to one or more investment products sponsored by other companies (“Sub-Advised Products”) which may be sold to the public under the brand names of those other companies or on a co-branded basis.

SIPs advised by the Adviser are offered globally to retail, institutional, high net-worth and separate account clients, which include individual investors, qualified groups, trustees, tax-deferred (such as IRAs in the United States) or money purchase plans, employee benefit and profit sharing plans, trust companies, bank trust departments and institutional investors. SIPs and Sub-Advised Products may include portfolios managed for corporations, endowments, charitable foundations and pension funds, as well as wealthy individuals and other institutions. The Adviser uses various investment techniques to focus on specific client objectives for these specialized portfolios.

Minimum investment requirements for U.S. Registered Funds, Private Funds or other pooled investment vehicles managed by the Adviser are generally set forth in the prospectus or other offering document. In some cases, account minimums may be negotiated or waived at the Adviser’s discretion.

U.S. REGISTERED FUNDS

Franklin Templeton Investments’ proprietary open-end and closed-end investment companies are registered under the Securities Act of 1933 and the 1940 Act, and are offered under one of the Franklin Templeton Investments brand names.

These funds consist of various open-end investment companies, including variable insurance funds, serving the institutional and retail market. The Franklin and Templeton management groups advise in addition a smaller number of publicly traded closed-end investment companies and the Franklin management group advises a number of money market funds.

Funds managed by separate management groups may have a common board of directors/board of trustees.

The Adviser also provides sub-advisory services to one or more Sub-Advised Products.

Certain of the U.S. Registered Funds and controlled foreign corporations wholly-owned by U.S. Registered Funds that the Adviser manages are commodity pools for which the Adviser is the commodity pool operator (“CPO”). As the CPO for these commodity pools, the Adviser is either (i) registered as a CPO with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”), or (ii) exempt from registration and related requirements pursuant to Rule 4.5 under the Commodity Exchange Act (“CEA”) or other provisions under the CEA and the rules of the CFTC. Where the Adviser serves as a registered CPO to a U.S. Registered Fund, the Adviser relies on exemptions from the CFTC’s disclosure and shareholder reporting rules, and certain recordkeeping rules, otherwise applicable to registered CPOs, that allow for substituted compliance with CFTC requirements based on the Adviser’s compliance with comparable SEC requirements. This means that for most of the CFTC’s disclosure and shareholder reporting applicable to the Adviser as the Fund’s CPO, the Adviser’s compliance with SEC disclosure and shareholder reporting will be deemed to fulfill the Adviser’s CFTC compliance obligations.

PRIVATE FUNDS

As a general matter, each Private Fund is managed in accordance with its investment objectives, strategies and guidelines, as described within the Private Fund’s PPM, and is not tailored to the individualized needs of any particular investor in the Private Fund (each an “Investor”). In addition, an investment in a Private Fund does not, in and of itself, create an advisory relationship between the Investor and the Adviser. Therefore, Investors must consider whether the Private Fund meets their investment objectives and risk tolerance prior to investing in a Private Fund.

Information about each Private Fund can be found in its PPM, which will be available to current and prospective Investors only through a broker-dealer affiliated with the Adviser or another authorized party. In some cases, a Private Fund may be established for the benefit of a single investor, in which case the Private Fund may be tailored to the individualized needs of that investor. Certain non-U.S. affiliates of the Adviser may act as placement agents with respect to the distribution of Private Funds to investors outside the United States. While this brochure may be provided to, and include information relevant to investors, it is designed solely to provide information about the Adviser and should not be considered to be an offer of interests in any Private Fund.

Some of the Private Funds advised by the Adviser are organized as limited liability companies or limited partnerships under the laws of jurisdictions within the United States (collectively the “U.S. Private Funds”) and typically are excluded from the definition of an “investment company” pursuant to Section 3(c)(7) of the 1940 Act.

Investors in the U.S. Private Funds are subject to certain eligibility requirements which are set forth in the PPM for each of the U.S. Private Funds.

Private Funds that are organized under the laws of jurisdictions outside of the United States (the “Offshore Funds”) are offered outside of the United States to persons who are not “U.S. Persons,” as defined under Regulation S of the Securities Act. Additionally, pursuant to Section 7(d) of the 1940 Act and the relevant related SEC guidance, the Offshore Funds may also be offered on a private placement basis to U.S. persons (typically tax-exempt institutions) that are both “accredited investors” as defined under the Securities Act and “qualified purchasers” as defined under the 1940 Act. Additionally, Investors in the Offshore Funds are subject to certain other eligibility requirements, which are set forth in the PPM for each of the Offshore Funds.

Certain Private Funds may operate using master/feeder structures, pursuant to which trading operations reside in a master fund while investors may access the master fund directly or may invest through one or more feeder funds that, in turn, invest (directly or indirectly) in the master fund.

Private Funds may include, but are not limited to, funds of funds that invest primarily in other affiliated or unaffiliated investment vehicles (each a “Fund of Funds”).

Certain of the Private Funds are commodity pools for which the Adviser is the commodity pool operator (“CPO”). As CPO for these Private Funds, the Adviser is registered as a CPO with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”), but exempt from certain reporting, recordkeeping and disclosure requirements pursuant to Rule 4.7 under the Commodity Exchange Act (“CEA”).

OTHER POOLED INVESTMENT VEHICLES

The Adviser’s assets under management are also held in funds that are sold outside of the United States, and whose investment objectives vary, but are largely international, global equity and global fixed-income oriented. Together with its affiliates, the Adviser provides investment management, marketing and distribution services to SICAV funds, contract-type funds and open ended investment companies organized in Luxembourg and the United Kingdom, respectively, which are distributed in non-U.S. marketplaces, as well as to locally organized funds in various countries outside the United States.

The Adviser is also the appointed investment manager to one or more collective investment trusts excluded from the definition of an “investment company” pursuant to Section 3(c)(11) of the 1940 Act.

Item 8 Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss

The Adviser advises a number of Sponsored Investment Products (or “SIPs”) and one or more Sub-Advised Products which utilize various investment strategies including, but not limited to, commodities, managed futures, exposure to hedge fund replication, and multi-asset strategies. The Adviser’s investment management services incorporate proprietary qualitative research and

quantitative models, as well as research services provided by brokerage firms and other third-party researchers to help determine portfolio exposures. The Adviser manages portfolios using public information on numerous asset classes. The Adviser's models employ several factors within a historical context, such as interest rates, earnings, stock price levels, correlations, and commodity prices. The models were constructed using fundamental investment insights based on research performed by the management team and data provided by third-party sources. The investment strategies employed by the portfolio management team involve taking positions in several asset class exposure vehicles. Models are used to strategically change the relative weights of asset class exposures. Portfolios are constructed with several risk control parameters.

The Adviser also offers multi asset strategies, which may combine strategies from various advisers both internal and external to Franklin Templeton Investments, or which may be outcome oriented in nature.

INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

Significant strategies used by the Adviser include:

COMMODITIES

The Adviser offers actively managed commodity strategies emphasizing individual commodity and curve positioning relative to the broad commodities market. The Adviser utilizes qualitative macroeconomic analysis and quantitative modeling to determine portfolio positioning. Exposures are primarily achieved through commodity-linked derivatives such as swaps and futures. The Adviser actively manages the positioning of the portfolio with regards to exposures of specific commodities relative to the index, as well as what specific derivative contracts to use when gaining exposure.

MANAGED FUTURES

The Adviser offers managed futures strategies designed to have a low correlation to traditional equity or fixed income assets. The strategy invests across commodity, currency, interest rate and equity markets using primarily derivative instruments. Proprietary quantitative models are used to determine long and short positions to the assets in question, with positions spread across asset classes to help diversify the portfolio.

HEDGE FUND STRATEGIES

The Adviser offers hedge fund strategies, which seek to capture the alternative betas of the hedge fund industry. Exposures are generated through a variety of investment allocations including notes, futures, fixed income instruments and ETFs. Allocations are determined through proprietary quantitative and qualitative models which seek to generate exposures which have correlations to hedge fund returns.

MULTI ASSET STRATEGIES

The Adviser offers various multi asset strategies utilizing short term tactical allocation mandates typically implemented using derivatives (commonly referred to as Global Tactical Asset Allocation strategies), implemented as standalone strategies or as an overlay to proprietary and third party strategies. Asset class views are built on proprietary evaluations of the relative attractiveness of equity, fixed income, cash and alternative investments. These strategies may have various goals, including total return, target volatility, real return, or others.

INVESTMENT RISKS

Particular investment strategies or investments in different types of securities or other investments involve specific risks that clients should be prepared to bear. The risks involved for different client accounts will vary based on each client's investment strategy and the type of securities or other investments held in the client's account. The following are descriptions of a number of the material risks related to the significant investment strategies used by the Adviser. Not all possible risks are described below.

Commodities - Exposure to investments in physical commodities presents unique risks. Investing in physical commodities, including through commodity-linked derivative instruments such as commodity-linked total return swaps, commodity futures, commodity index futures and options on commodities and commodity index futures, is speculative and can be extremely volatile. Market prices of commodities may fluctuate rapidly based on numerous factors, including: changes in supply and demand relationships (whether actual, perceived, anticipated, unanticipated or unrealized); weather; agriculture; trade; domestic and foreign political and economic events and policies; diseases; pestilence; technological developments; and monetary and other governmental policies, action and inaction. The current or “spot” prices of physical commodities may also affect, in a volatile and inconsistent manner, the prices of futures contracts in respect of the relevant commodity. Certain commodities are used primarily in one industry, and fluctuations in levels of activity in (or the availability of alternative resources to) one industry may have a disproportionate effect on global demand for a particular commodity. Moreover, recent growth in industrial production and gross domestic product has made certain developing nations oversized users of commodities and has increased the extent to which certain commodities prices are influenced by those markets.

Hedge Fund Exposure - Indirect exposure to hedge funds may subject clients to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. The hedge funds comprising a hedge fund index, for example, invest in and may actively trade securities and other financial instruments using a variety of strategies and investment techniques that may involve significant risks. The managers of the hedge funds also may use proprietary investment strategies that are not fully disclosed, which may involve risks that are not anticipated. In addition, the hedge fund managers often are entitled to receive performance-based allocations out of the net profits of the hedge funds, which may create an incentive for the managers to make investments that are riskier or more speculative than they might have made in the absence of such arrangements.

Managed Futures - The risks associated with the use of futures contracts include: (i) potential lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and, as a result, an inability to close out futures contracts at a time which is advantageous; (ii) the risk that losses caused by sudden, unanticipated market movements may be potentially unlimited; (iii) changes in the price of a futures contract may not always track the changes in market value of the underlying reference asset; (iv) trading restrictions or limitations may be imposed by an exchange, and government regulations may restrict trading in futures contracts; and (v) the risk of having insufficient cash to meet margin requirements, and therefore the need to sell other investments, potentially at a disadvantageous time.

Derivative Instruments - The performance of derivative instruments depends largely on the performance of an underlying reference asset and such derivatives often have risks similar to their underlying instrument, in addition to other risks. Derivatives involve costs and can create economic leverage in a portfolio which may result in significant volatility and cause the fund or account to participate in losses (as well as enable gains) in an amount that exceeds the initial investment. Other risks include illiquidity, mispricing or improper valuation of the derivative instrument, and imperfect correlation between the value of the derivative and the underlying instrument so that the intended benefits may not be realized. When used for hedging, the change in value of the derivative may also not correlate specifically with the underlying risk being hedged. Use of these instruments could also result in a loss if the counterparty to the transaction does not perform as promised, including because of such counterparty’s bankruptcy or insolvency. This risk may be heightened during volatile market conditions.

Market - The market value of securities or other investments managed by the Adviser will go up and down, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably. An investment’s market value may be reduced by market activity or other results of supply and demand unrelated to the issuer. This is a basic risk associated with all investments. When there are more sellers than buyers, prices tend to fall. Likewise, when there are more buyers than sellers, prices tend to rise.

Stock prices tend to go up and down more dramatically than those of other types of debt securities. A slower-growth or recessionary economic environment could have an adverse effect on the prices of the various stocks held by a portfolio managed by the Adviser.

Equity Securities - Equity securities represent a proportionate share of the ownership of a company; their value is based on the success of the company's business and the value of its assets, as well as general market conditions. The purchaser of an equity security typically receives an ownership interest in the company as well as certain voting rights. The owner of an equity security may participate in a company's success through the receipt of dividends, which are distributions of earnings by the company to its owners. Equity security owners may also participate in a company's success or lack of success through increases or decreases in the value of the company's shares.

Debt Securities - In general, a debt security represents a loan of money to the issuer by the purchaser of the security. A debt security typically has a fixed payment schedule that obligates the issuer to pay interest to the lender and to return the lender's money over a certain time period. Debt securities are all generally subject to interest rate, credit, income and prepayment risks and, like all investments, are subject to liquidity and market risks to varying degrees depending upon the specific terms and type of security. The Adviser attempts to reduce credit and market risk through diversification and ongoing credit analysis of each issuer, as well as by monitoring economic developments, but there can be no assurance that it will be successful at doing so.

Credit - An issuer of debt securities may fail to make interest payments and repay principal when due, in whole or in part. Changes in an issuer's financial strength, the market's perception of the issuer's financial strength or in a security's or a government's credit rating may affect a security's value. While some securities are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government or other issuing government, guarantees of principal and interest do not apply to market values or yields. Substantial losses may be incurred on debt securities that are inaccurately perceived to present a different amount of credit risk by the market, the Adviser or the rating agencies than such securities actually do.

Interest Rate - When interest rates rise, debt security prices generally fall. The opposite is also generally true: debt security prices rise when interest rates fall. In general, securities with longer maturities are more sensitive to these interest rate changes.

Non-U.S. Securities - Investing in non-U.S. securities typically involves more risks than investing in U.S. securities, and includes risks associated with: (i) political and economic developments - the political, economic and social structures of some countries may be less stable and more volatile than those in the U.S., (ii) trading practices - government supervision and regulation of non-U.S. security and currency markets, trading systems and brokers may be less than in the U.S. (iii) availability of information - non-U.S. issuers may not be subject to the same disclosure, accounting and financial reporting standards and practices as U.S. issuers, (iv) limited markets - the securities of certain non-U.S. issuers may be less liquid (harder to sell) and more volatile, and (v) currency exchange rate fluctuations and policies. Although not typically subject to currency exchange rate risk, depositary receipts may be subject to the same risks as non-U.S. securities generally. The risks of investments outside the U.S. may be greater in developing countries or emerging market countries.

Developing Market Countries - The Adviser may make investments in developing market countries. These investments are subject to all of the risks of investing in non-U.S. securities generally, and have additional heightened risks due to a lack of established legal, political, business and social frameworks to support securities markets, including: delays in settling portfolio securities transactions; currency and capital controls; greater sensitivity to interest rate changes; pervasiveness of corruption and crime; currency exchange rate volatility; and inflation, deflation or currency devaluation.

Concentration - Concentrating investments in a particular country, region, market, industry or asset class means that performance will be more susceptible to loss due to adverse occurrences affecting that country, region, market, industry or asset class.

Liquidity - Liquidity risk exists when the market for particular investments or types of investments are or become relatively illiquid so that it is or becomes more difficult to sell the investment at the price at which the investment was valued. Illiquidity may result from political, economic or issuer-specific events or overall market disruptions. Investments with reduced liquidity or that become illiquid involve greater risk than investments with more liquid markets.

Currency – Currency risk is the risk that changes in currency exchange rates will negatively affect investments denominated in such foreign currencies and any income received or expenses paid in that foreign currency.

Growth Style Investing – Growth stock prices reflect projections of future earnings or revenues, and can, therefore, fall dramatically if the company fails to meet those projections. Prices of these companies' securities may be more volatile than other securities, particularly over the short term.

Value Style Investing – A value stock may not increase in price as anticipated by the Adviser if other investors fail to recognize the company's value and bid up the price, the markets favor faster-growing companies, or the factors that the Adviser believes will increase the price of the security do not occur.

Management - The investment strategies, techniques and risk analyses employed, while designed to enhance returns, may not produce the desired results. The assessment of a particular investment or assessment of market, interest rate or other trends could be incorrect, which can result in losses.

Index – Certain funds advised by the Adviser have exposures to broad-based indices. None of the index sponsors has any obligation or responsibility to these funds or their shareholders in connection with any modification, discontinuance or suspension of an index, including any obligation or responsibility to notify these funds of any such modification, discontinuance or suspension.

Investing in Underlying Funds – Because the investments made by a fund of funds are concentrated in the underlying funds it selects, and the fund of fund's performance is directly related to the performance of the underlying funds held by it, the ability of the fund of fund to achieve its investment goal is directly related to the ability of the underlying funds to meet their investment goal. In addition, shareholders of a fund of fund will indirectly bear the fees and expenses of the underlying funds. To the extent that an underlying fund may engage in frequent trading of its portfolio securities, that may indirectly impact the fund of fund's investment performance, particularly through increased brokerage and other transaction costs and taxes.

Leverage - Particularly with respect to the Private Funds, which are not generally subject to the regulatory restrictions that apply to borrowing by U.S. Registered Funds, the Adviser may cause the funds that it advises to leverage their capital if the Adviser believes it may enable the funds to achieve a higher rate of return. However, the use of leverage means that a decline in value of a fund's investment could result in a substantial loss that would be greater than if the fund were not leveraged. In addition, leveraging by means of borrowing may exaggerate the effect of any increase or decrease in the value of portfolio securities on a fund's net asset value, and money borrowed will be subject to interest and other costs (which may include commitment fees and/or the cost of maintaining minimum average balances), which may or may not exceed the income or gains received from the securities purchased with borrowed funds.

Bank Holding Company Act Concerns - Franklin Resources is regulated by the U.S. Federal Reserve as a bank holding company and a financial holding company under the BHC Act. Franklin Resources, its non-bank subsidiaries, and their managed funds, including the Adviser, are, therefore, subject to certain limits on their activities and investments. Certain provisions of the BHC Act may from time to time restrict the operations of certain funds advised by the Adviser and/or their ability to capitalize on certain investment opportunities. If the Adviser expects that application of the BHC Act to these funds will materially affect their investment strategy, this will be disclosed in the relevant fund's offering documents.

Item 9 Disciplinary Information

None.

Item 10 Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

The Adviser is an indirectly-owned subsidiary of Franklin Resources, a holding company that, together with its various subsidiaries is referred to as Franklin Templeton Investments.

The Adviser may have business arrangements with related persons/companies that are material to the Adviser's advisory business or to its clients. In some cases, these business arrangements may create a potential conflict of interest, or appearance of a conflict of interest between the Adviser and a client. Please see Item 4 ("Advisory Business") for additional information on services of affiliates.

Recognized conflicts of interest are discussed in Item 11 ("Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading") below.

The Adviser has arrangements with one or more of the following types of related persons that may be considered material to its advisory business or to its clients.

RELATED BROKER-DEALERS

The Adviser is under common control with Franklin/Templeton Distributors, Inc. ("FTDI"), Franklin Templeton Financial Services Corp. ("FTFSC") and Templeton/Franklin Investment Services, Inc. ("TFIS"), all of which are registered broker-dealers.

FTDI is registered with the SEC as a broker-dealer and is a member of Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA"). FTDI's primary business is underwriter and distributor for the U.S. Registered Funds. Most of its distribution activities occur through independent third-party broker-dealers, who have the primary day-to-day direct contact with shareholders. FTDI is also the underwriter of the Franklin Templeton 529 College Savings Plan and the NJBEST 529 College Savings Plan ("529 Plans"). In addition, FTDI acts as program manager, servicing agent or distributor for the two 529 Plans, which are municipal fund securities. As a result, FTDI is registered as a municipal securities dealer, subject to regulation by the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. In certain instances, shareholders bypass a third-party broker-dealer and establish unsolicited accounts directly with FTDI, who becomes the broker-dealer of record by default. FTDI does not make recommendations to purchase or sell fund shares to retail investors.

Underwriting and distribution fees are earned primarily by distributing our funds pursuant to distribution agreements between FTDI and the funds. Under each distribution agreement, the fund's shares are offered and sold on a continuous basis and certain costs associated with underwriting and distributing the fund's shares may be incurred, including the costs of developing and producing sales literature, shareholder reports and prospectuses, which may be then either partially or fully reimbursed by the funds.

FTFSC is registered with the SEC as a broker-dealer and is a member of FINRA. In addition, FTFSC is registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") as an introducing broker and is a member of the National Futures Association ("NFA"). FTFSC, in conjunction with other Franklin Templeton Investments ("FTI") investment advisory and banking affiliates, provides the broker-dealer platform to pooled investment vehicles that are exempt from registration under the 1940 Act (the "Private Funds"). As such, FTFSC personnel are also associated with FTI investment advisers and banks so that they may utilize the FTFSC broker-dealer platform when offering investment advisory and banking services along with private placement and mutual fund securities products to their clients.

TFIS is registered with the SEC as a broker-dealer and is a member of FINRA. TFIS offers private placement and mutual fund products. Many of TFIS' registered associated persons are also dually registered with FTDI to support joint program initiatives, such as marketing U.S. mutual fund products. TFIS also has some dually registered associated persons with FTFSC.

SERVICES TO U.S. REGISTERED FUNDS

The Adviser serves as investment adviser to one or more U.S. Registered Funds and one or more controlled foreign corporations wholly-owned by U.S. Registered Funds.

RELATED INVESTMENT ADVISERS

The Adviser may enter into a sub-advisory arrangement with, or may refer a client to, an investment adviser affiliate capable of meeting the client's specific investment needs. One or more of these affiliated registered investment advisers may be serving as a commodity trading advisor ("CTA")

exempt from registration with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”). The Adviser is affiliated with other registered investment advisers which are under common control with the Adviser, and the Adviser may share certain supervised persons, portfolio management personnel and investment research with such affiliated investment advisers.

The Adviser may use the services of appropriate personnel of one or more of its affiliates for investment advice, portfolio execution and trading, and client servicing in their local or regional markets or their areas of special expertise, except to the extent restricted by the client or pursuant to its investment management agreement, or inconsistent with applicable law. Arrangements among affiliates take a variety of forms, including delegation arrangements or formal sub-advisory or servicing agreements. In these circumstances, the client with whom the Adviser has executed the investment management agreement will typically require that the Adviser remains fully responsible for the account from a legal and contractual perspective. No additional fees are charged for the affiliates’ services except as set forth in the investment management agreement.

BANK HOLDING COMPANY AFFILIATE

Franklin Resources is regulated as a bank holding company under the BHC Act, and has elected to be a financial holding company under the GLB Act. Franklin Resources, its non-bank subsidiaries and their managed funds are, therefore, subject to certain limits on their activities and investments. Certain provisions of the BHC Act may from time to time restrict the operations of certain funds advised by the Adviser and/or their ability to capitalize on certain investment opportunities. If the Adviser expects that application of the BHC Act to these funds will materially affect their investment strategy, this will be disclosed in the relevant fund’s PPM or offering documents.

LIMITED PARTNERSHIPS

The Adviser manages one or more Private Funds that are typically structured as U.S. and non-U.S. limited partnerships, limited liability companies or limited companies in order to meet the legal, regulatory and tax demands of clients. The Adviser or an affiliate acts as general partner, managing member, investment manager or otherwise exercises investment discretion with respect to these Private Funds in which clients are solicited to invest.

Entities affiliated with the Adviser may invest in and/or serve as general partner or managing member of a Private Fund and may provide services other than advice (including, but not limited to, administration, organizing and managing the business affairs, executing and reconciling trades, preparing financial statements and providing audit support, preparing tax related schedules or documents, and sales and investor relations support, diligence and valuation services) to such funds, in some cases for a fee separate and apart from the advisory fee. Franklin Templeton Investment’s personnel, including employees of the Adviser, may also serve on the board of directors of a Private Fund. A Private Fund may pay or reimburse the Adviser or its affiliates for certain organizational and initial offering expenses related to the Private Fund.

Further information can be found in the PPM for each Private Fund.

CFTC REGISTRATIONS

The derivatives used by the Adviser may include certain financial derivatives deemed by the CFTC to be “commodity interests,” such as futures, options on futures, swaps and certain foreign exchange contracts.

The Adviser is registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”) as a commodity trading advisor (“CTA”) and is a member of the National Futures Association (the “NFA”). However, the Adviser is generally exempt from the CFTC’s disclosure and recordkeeping requirements applicable to registered CTAs under various exemptions on which it relies, including but not limited to CFTC Rule 4.7.

The Adviser is also registered with the CFTC as a commodity pool operator (“CPO”) with respect to certain of the commodity pools it advises. The Adviser relies on various exemptions from the shareholder reporting, disclosure, and recordkeeping requirements otherwise applicable to

registered CPOs. These exemptions, as they apply to different types of clients, are discussed in Item 7 ("Types of Clients") above.

In addition, certain of the Adviser's management persons have registered as associated persons of the Adviser to the extent necessary or appropriate to perform their responsibilities.

Item 11 Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading

CODE OF ETHICS SUMMARY

The Adviser has adopted (a) a code of ethics pursuant to Rule 204A-1 under the Advisers Act and Rule 17j-1 of the 1940 Act (the "Code of Ethics") and (b) a policy statement on insider trading (the "Insider Trading Policy"). Following is a brief description of the main provisions of the Code of Ethics and the Insider Trading Policy that apply (unless otherwise disclosed to clients).

A. The Code of Ethics

The Code of Ethics states that the interests of the Adviser's clients are paramount and come before any of its Covered Employees (as defined below). All Covered Employees are required to conduct themselves in a lawful, honest and ethical manner, in their business practices and to maintain an environment that fosters fairness, respect and integrity.

Covered Employees are the Adviser's partners, officers, directors (or other persons occupying a similar status or performing similar functions), and employees, as well as any other person who provides advice on behalf of the Adviser and are subject to the supervision and control of the Adviser. The personal investing activities of Covered Employees must be conducted in a manner that avoids actual or potential conflicts of interest with the clients of the Adviser. Covered Employees are required to use their positions with the Adviser and any investment opportunities they learn of because of their positions with the Adviser in a manner consistent with their fiduciary duties to use such opportunities and information for the benefit of the Adviser's clients and applicable laws, rules and regulations. In addition, the Code of Ethics states that information concerning the security holdings and financial circumstances of the Adviser's clients is confidential and Covered Employees are required to safeguard this information.

Access Persons, a subset of Covered Employees, are required to provide certain periodic reports on their personal securities transactions and holdings. Access Persons are those persons who have access to non-public information regarding the securities transactions of the Adviser's funds or clients; are involved in making securities recommendations to clients; have access to recommendations that are non-public; or have access to non-public information regarding the portfolio holdings of funds for which a Franklin Templeton Investments investment adviser ("FTI Adviser") serves as an investment adviser or a sub-adviser or any fund whose investment adviser or principal underwriter controls an FTI Adviser, is controlled by an FTI Adviser or is under common control with an FTI Adviser. The Adviser's Access Persons must obtain pre-clearance from the Code of Ethics Department before buying or selling any security (other than those not requiring pre-clearance under the Code of Ethics). The Code of Ethics also requires pre-clearance before investing in a private investment or purchasing securities in a limited offering. The Code of Ethics prohibits Access Persons from investing in initial public offerings except for investments in Franklin Templeton closed-end funds, which require pre-approval from the Code of Ethics Administration Department.

To avoid actual or potential conflicts of interest with the Adviser's clients, certain transactions and practices are prohibited by the Code of Ethics and the Insider Trading Policy. These include: front-running, scalping, trading parallel to a client, trading against a client, using proprietary information for personal transactions, market timing, and short selling Franklin Resources stock and the securities of Franklin Templeton closed-end funds.

The Code of Ethics requires prompt internal reporting of suspected and actual violations of the Code of Ethics and the Insider Trading Policy. In addition, violations of the Code of Ethics and the Insider Trading Policy are referred to the Director of Global Compliance and/or the Chief Compliance Officer as well as the relevant management personnel.

B. The Insider Trading Policy

No Covered Employee or Access Person may trade while in possession of material, non-public information or communicate material non-public information to others.

Information is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable investor would consider the information to be important in making his or her investment decision, or if it is reasonably certain to have a substantial effect on the price of the company's securities.

Information is non-public until it has been effectively communicated to the marketplace. If the information has been obtained from someone who is betraying an obligation not to share the information (e.g., a company insider), that information is very likely to be non-public.

The Adviser has implemented a substantial set of trading procedures designed to avoid violation of the Policy.

Copies of the Code of Ethics and the Insider Trading Policy are available to any client or prospective client upon request.

POTENTIAL CONFLICTS RELATING TO ADVISORY ACTIVITIES

Participation or Interest in Client Transactions

The Adviser or its affiliates may from time to time recommend to clients or buy or sell for client accounts, securities in which the Adviser or its affiliates have a material financial interest. Such financial interests may include the contribution by the Adviser or an affiliate of seed capital to a fund it manages, or an actual investment by the Adviser or an affiliate in the fund or in third party vehicles in which it or a related person has a financial interest. The Adviser or its related persons may also purchase or sell for themselves securities or other investments which one or more advisory clients own, previously owned, or may own in the future.

The Adviser is not itself a general partner of any limited partnership, but one or more of its affiliates may serve as a manager, general partner or trustee or in a similar capacity, of a partnership, trust or other collective investment vehicle in which clients are solicited to invest. These entities generally invest in stocks and/or fixed income securities of domestic and/or foreign companies or in other funds that invest in such securities or in other partnerships, trusts or other investment vehicles that generally are engaged in the business of investing in, purchasing, selling, developing or re-developing commercial and residential real estate properties and interests.

There may arise potential or actual conflicts of interest in (i) the allocation of investment opportunities among the Adviser's clients, (ii) the investment by clients in entities in which the Adviser or its related persons have a financial interest, and (iii) investments by the Adviser or its employees for their personal accounts.

The Adviser and its affiliates manage numerous funds and accounts. The Adviser may give advice and take action with respect to one fund or account it manages, or for its own account, that may differ from action taken by the Adviser on behalf of any of the other funds or accounts it manages. This gives rise to certain potential conflicts of interest, as discussed below.

The Adviser's management of its clients may benefit members of the Adviser and its affiliates. For example, the Adviser's clients may, to the extent permitted by applicable law, invest directly or indirectly in the securities of companies in which a member of the Adviser, or the Adviser's other clients, or the Adviser's affiliate, for itself or its clients, has an equity, debt, or other interest.

The advisory contracts entered into by the Adviser with each client do not entitle clients to obtain the benefit of any particular investment opportunities developed by the Adviser or its officers or employees in which the Adviser, acting in good faith, does not cause such client to invest. The Adviser has total discretion to allocate investment opportunities among its clients subject only to each account's respective investment guidelines and the Adviser's duty to act in good faith.

Similarly, with respect to a particular fund or account, the Adviser is not obligated to recommend, buy or sell, or to refrain from recommending, buying or selling any security that the Adviser and "access persons," as defined by applicable federal securities laws, may buy or sell for its or their own account or for the accounts of any other fund. The Adviser is not obligated to refrain from investing in securities held by any funds it manages.

Allocations to any account in which the interests of the Adviser, its officers, directors, employees or affiliates collectively exceed 5% of the account's economic value shall be made in accordance with the procedures and policies adopted by Franklin Templeton Investments designed to ensure that buy and sell opportunities are allocated fairly among clients (the "Equity Trade Allocation Policy and Procedures").

These accounts may be deemed affiliated persons of the Adviser by reason of the collective 5% or greater ownership interest of the Adviser's insiders and the Adviser's registered mutual fund clients if any. Transactions for and allocations to these accounts must also be given special scrutiny because of the inherent conflict of interest involved. All exceptions to standard allocation/rotation procedures involving such affiliated accounts are monitored and recorded.

If securities traded for affiliated accounts are also the subject of trading activity (i) by an Adviser's advised mutual fund, or (ii) by other non-mutual fund client accounts, the securities traded for the affiliated accounts should generally be aggregated for trading with the Adviser's advised mutual fund or other non-mutual fund client accounts.

Similarly, the policies and procedures relating to trade allocation for fixed income securities (the "Fixed Income Allocation of Investment Opportunities Policy and Procedures") have been adopted by Franklin Templeton Investments to ensure that buy and sell investment opportunities are allocated fairly and equitably among clients. Because of the different fee structures and investment involvement, the Adviser or its affiliates may be viewed as having a reason to favor the performance of one account over another. In order to prevent any potential or actual conflicts of interests in the course of making allocations of fixed income investment opportunities, the portfolio managers of the Adviser may consider several factors listed in the Fixed Income Allocation of Investment Opportunities Policy and Procedures or allocate investment opportunities pursuant to alternative methodologies, provided such investment opportunities result in an equitable treatment of all clients over time, are consistently applied and the reason for using the allocation method is documented.

Finally, the management of personal accounts by a portfolio manager may give rise to potential conflicts of interest. While the SIPs and the Adviser have adopted the Code of Ethics which they believe contains provisions reasonably necessary to prevent a wide range of prohibited activities by portfolio managers and others with respect to their personal trading activities, there can be no assurance that the Code of Ethics addresses all individual conduct that could result in conflicts of interest. The Adviser has adopted certain additional compliance procedures that are designed to address these and other types of conflicts. However, there is no guarantee that such procedures will detect each and every situation where a conflict arises.

OTHER POTENTIAL CONFLICTS RELATING TO ADVISORY ACTIVITIES

The Adviser, where appropriate and in accordance with applicable laws, may purchase on behalf of the Adviser's clients, or recommend to the Adviser's clients that they purchase, shares of U.S. Registered Funds or other pooled investment vehicles (including Private Funds) for which the Adviser serves as investment adviser or sub-adviser collectively ("Affiliated Funds"), or invest their assets in other portfolios managed by the Adviser ("Affiliated Accounts"). In the case of private accounts managed in a similar style, this may take the form of an investment in other Private Funds managed by the Adviser.

The Adviser faces potential conflicts when allocating the assets of a client or Private Fund to one or more Affiliated Funds or Affiliated Accounts. For example, in hindsight and despite intent or innocent purpose, circumstances could be construed that such allocation conferred a benefit upon the Affiliated Fund, Affiliated Account or an adviser to the detriment of the Adviser's client or Private Fund, or vice versa.

As a shareholder in a pooled investment vehicle, a client of the Adviser will pay a proportionate share of the vehicle's fees and expenses. Investment by a client in an Affiliated Fund means that the Adviser may, directly or indirectly, receive, subject to applicable laws, advisory (or other) fees from the Affiliated Fund in addition to any other fees it receives from the Adviser's client for managing the client's account. Similarly, the Adviser's clients who invest through a separate account managed by another related adviser are subject to advisory fees charged in connection therewith.

The Adviser and its affiliates may, to the extent permitted by applicable laws, make payments to financial intermediaries relating to the placement of interests in Private Funds. These payments may be in addition to or in lieu of any placement fees payable by investors in those Private Funds. These payments, which may be significant to the financial intermediary and/or its representatives, may create an incentive for the financial intermediary to recommend the Private Fund over other products.

Certain Private Funds may be subject to regulations under the BHC Act that may limit or restrict investments in certain companies, or in their underlying funds' investments that invest in funds subject to BHC Act regulations. These restrictions are discussed in each applicable Private Fund's PPM.

The Adviser serves as investment sub-adviser to one or more investment companies, some of which have an investment goal and strategy similar to that of investment companies for which the Adviser or its affiliates serve as investment adviser. Even when there is similarity in investment goal and strategy, investment performance and portfolio holdings may vary between investment companies, potentially significantly, as a result of, among other things, differences in: inception dates, cash flows, asset allocation, security selection, liquidity, income distribution or income retention, fees, fair value pricing procedures, diversification methodology, use of different foreign exchange rates, use of different pricing vendors, ability to access certain markets due to country registration requirements, legal restrictions or custodial issues, legacy holdings in the fund, availability of applicable trading agreements such as ISDAs, futures agreements or other trading documentation, restrictions placed on the account (including country, industry or environmental and social governance restrictions) and other operational issues that impact the ability of a fund to trade in certain instruments or markets.

In certain circumstances, the Adviser may conclude that it is appropriate to sell securities held in one client account to another client account. Consistent with its fiduciary duty to each client (including the duty to seek best execution), the Adviser may (but is not required to) effect purchases and sales between clients or clients of affiliates ("cross trades") if the Adviser believes such transactions are appropriate based on each client's investment objectives, subject to applicable law and regulation. The Adviser will not receive compensation (other than its normal advisory fee for managing the account), directly or indirectly, for effecting a cross trade between advisory clients, and accordingly will not be deemed to have acted as a broker with respect to such transactions. The Adviser seeks to assure that the price paid or proceeds received by clients in a cross trade is fair and appropriate, which may be based on independent dealer quotes or information obtained from recognized pricing services. Since, in such cross trades, the Adviser will represent both the selling client and the buying client, the Adviser may have a perceived conflict of interest. Clients, therefore, should consider the possible costs or disadvantages of this potential conflict versus the potential benefit of obtaining reduced transaction or execution costs that may be obtained from such cross trades. Any cross trades effected with respect to U.S. Registered Fund clients would be accomplished in compliance with Rule 17a-7 of the 1940 Act.

Political Contributions

It is the policy of the Adviser to not make, and to prohibit its employees from making on behalf of the Adviser, any political contributions for the purpose of influencing an existing or potential client, a public official or his or her agency. However, employees may make personal political contributions in accordance with the requirements and restrictions of applicable law and the Adviser's policies. To help ensure compliance with SEC rules, and many state and local pay-to-play rules, the Adviser's employees subject to those rules must pre-clear and obtain prior approval from the Franklin Templeton Investments legal and compliance departments before they make any contributions (*i.e.*, any monetary contribution or contribution of goods or services) to a political candidate, government official, political party or political action committee.

Item 12 Brokerage Practices

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR BROKERS AND DEALERS

To the extent that the Adviser uses broker-dealers to effect portfolio transactions for any funds or accounts that it advises, the Adviser will attempt to obtain the best combination of low

commission rates relative to the quality of brokerage services received with the view towards maximizing value for the Adviser's clients.

The single most significant consideration is the quality of the execution of the transaction. In assessing execution quality, the following factors, among others, may be considered:

- Technology
- Transparency of order routing
- Effectiveness of algorithms for order routing
- Market impact cost/willingness of a broker to work an order
- Order size/liquidity considerations
- Willingness to commit capital
- Ability to get best price
- Knowledge of and access to natural contra side
- Commission rate
- Timeliness and quality of looks and reports on markets
- Ability to handle certain trading styles or strategies
- Knowledge of and access to potential market participants
- Trade aggregation and arbitrage capabilities
- Specialized expertise
- Consistency
- Promptness of execution
- Responsiveness
- Back office capabilities/quality of confirmations and account statements
- Sophistication of trading facilities
- Ability and willingness to correct errors
- Confidentiality
- Trustworthiness/reputation
- Experience/past execution history
- Financial condition of broker

The determination and evaluation of the reasonableness of the brokerage commissions paid in connection with portfolio transactions is based to a large degree on the professional opinions and judgments of the persons responsible for the placement and review of such transactions. These opinions are formed on the basis of, among other things, the experience of these individuals in the securities industry and information available to them concerning the level of commissions being paid by other investors of comparable size and type.

For most transactions in equity securities, the amount of commissions paid is negotiated between the Adviser's trading department and the broker executing the transaction. The Adviser may also place orders to buy and sell equity securities where the broker is acting on a principal rather than agency basis if the Adviser's traders believe that trading on a principal basis is likely to provide best execution.

When buying or selling fixed income securities in dealer markets, the Adviser will generally deal directly with market makers in the securities. On these transactions, the Adviser typically will effect trades on a net basis, and will not pay the market maker any commission, commission equivalent or markup/markdown other than the spread. Usually, the market maker profits from the spread, that is, the difference between the price paid (or received) by the Adviser and the price received (or paid) by the market maker in trades with other broker-dealers or other customers. In some instances, a broker-dealer who also serves as custodian for an account may assess a ticket charge for executing the transaction or a trade away charge for settling a transaction executed by a different broker.

Portfolio trading may also be performed electronically at a pre-established competitive commission rate. The Adviser may effect transactions that are placed pursuant to a negotiated agreement with a counterparty/futures commission merchant, including but not limited to swaps, futures, forwards, options and repurchase agreements. Due to the fact that certain instruments are traded pursuant to a private agreement with a counterparty (which must be in place prior to

effecting a transaction), such as swaps, futures, options, forwards and certain other instruments, and the fact that the Adviser will have a limited universe of counterparties from which to choose, the standard for best execution may vary with the type of security or instrument involved in a particular transaction.

USE OF CLIENT COMMISSIONS

The Adviser does not receive research or other products or services other than execution from a broker-dealer or a third party in connection with client securities transactions ("soft dollar benefits").

FOREIGN EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS

Some clients require transactions in currencies other than the base currency of their account to permit the purchase or sale of foreign securities and to repatriate the proceeds of such trades (as well as related dividends, interest payments or tax reclaims) back to the base currency of the account. Typically, these foreign exchange ("FX") transactions will be conducted either by the client's custodian bank as part of the FX transaction services offered to its custody clients or by the client's investment adviser through a third party broker. In some cases, a client may require that its custodian bank execute all FX transactions for its account or particular markets may be restricted meaning that FX transactions in those currencies can only be executed by the client's custodian bank.

Generally, FX transactions related to portfolio trades in unrestricted markets are performed by the Adviser for its clients. FX transactions related to portfolio trades in restricted markets, and for income repatriation, are generally the responsibility of the respective client's custodian bank.

For certain accounts, the Adviser may be responsible for the repatriation of income (including, for some of these accounts, the decision whether to repatriate the income or leave in local currency based on investment outlook) and for arranging FX transactions in one or more restricted markets. The Adviser will typically perform the income repatriation for these accounts in unrestricted markets and the client's custodian bank will generally carry out FX transactions and repatriation (through a sub-custodian bank domiciled in the foreign country) in restricted markets.

Whether a market is considered to be restricted will depend on a number of factors, including country specific statutory documentation requirements, structural risks, operational constraints, and convertibility issues. Any determination of restricted and unrestricted markets may also change over time and may be different depending on the type of transaction. The Adviser may consult with third parties, including broker-dealers and custodians in making a good faith determination on whether a market is considered restricted. The Adviser does not have the ability to control any FX transactions performed by the client's custodian bank and assumes no responsibility for the execution or oversight of FX transactions conducted by the client's custodian bank.

For certain Sponsored Investment Products ("SIPs"), including U.S. Registered Funds, where the custodian is appointed by the fund, the Adviser reviews FX activity performed by the respective custodian. In conducting any review, the Adviser may rely on information provided by a third party industry vendor. Typically, the analysis conducted as part of this review is carried out on a post-trade basis only and seeks to focus on trends over a period of time as an indicator of FX execution quality rather than on individual transactions in a fund's portfolio. However, with respect to accounts for which FX transactions are performed by the client's custodian bank, the Adviser does not monitor the execution quality of the FX transactions performed by the client's custodian bank. In exceptional circumstances, the Adviser may agree with a client to monitor certain FX activity performed by the client's custodian bank for that account. In doing so, the Adviser may rely on information provided by a third party industry vendor on the same basis as disclosed above.

CLIENT-DIRECTED BROKERAGE TRANSACTIONS

The Adviser does not routinely recommend, request or require that a client directs brokerage to any specific broker-dealers. In selecting brokers through whom portfolio transactions will be

executed, the Adviser's first responsibility will be to comply with any client instructions specifying the use of a particular broker.

Clients may limit the Adviser's discretionary authority and may occasionally direct the Adviser to use a particular broker-dealer to execute portfolio transactions for its account. Such direction may include expense reimbursement and commission recapture arrangements, where the Adviser is informed by a client that certain broker-dealers will rebate a certain portion of an account's brokerage commissions (or spreads on fixed income or principal trades) directly to the account, or apply the amount to an account's expenses.

When a client directs the use of a particular broker-dealer (including expense reimbursement and commission recapture arrangements), the Adviser may not be in a position to freely negotiate commission rates or spreads, or select broker-dealers on the basis of best price and execution. In addition, transactions for a client that directs brokerage may not be combined or batched for execution purposes with orders for the same securities for other accounts managed by the Adviser and may be placed at the end of batched trading activity for a particular security. Accordingly, directed transactions may be subject to price movements, particularly in volatile markets, that may result in the client receiving a price that is less favorable than the price obtained for the batched order. Under these circumstances, the direction by a client of a particular broker or dealer to execute transactions may result in higher commissions, greater spreads, or less favorable net prices than might be the case if the Adviser were empowered to negotiate commission rates or spreads freely, or to select brokers or dealers based solely on best execution considerations. Therefore, in instances where a client directs the Adviser to use a particular broker to execute trades, the Adviser may not be able to obtain best execution for such client-directed trades.

BATCHED TRANSACTION POLICY

The Adviser may aggregate orders of its clients to effect a larger transaction and thereby reduce transaction costs. The Adviser must then allocate the securities among the participating accounts. Although such bunching of transactions is permissible, potential conflicts of interest exist with respect to the aggregation and allocation of client transactions. For example, with respect to the allocations of aggregated trades, an adviser could be viewed as allocating securities that it anticipates will increase in value to certain favored clients, especially those that pay a performance-based fee to the adviser.

There may be instances where purchase or sale orders, or both, are placed simultaneously on behalf of the Adviser's advised accounts and by accounts advised by adviser affiliates. In seeking fair access for the Adviser's clients over time for trading opportunities, trades may be placed according to a random allocation, alternative sequence or rotation system. Alternatively, orders for such securities may be aggregated or "batched" for execution in accordance with established procedures. Generally, for each account, such batched transactions are averaged as to price and allocated as to amount in accordance with daily purchase or sale orders actually placed for such account. Generally, all accounts that are batched will participate on a pro-rata, relative order size, percentage, or other objective basis. Orders may be batched to facilitate best execution, as well as for the purpose of negotiating more favorable brokerage commissions beneficial to all accounts. Trades placed through directed brokerage arrangements that cannot be batched may be executed after discretionary trades. The Adviser may also batch orders for clients that permit client commission arrangements with clients that do not permit such arrangements. In such cases, the Adviser batches such orders to obtain best execution and does not seek a research credit for the portion of the trade that is executed for clients that do not permit such arrangements.

In some cases, the Adviser is unable, or limited in its ability, to aggregate orders by the nature of the instruments and securities traded for the funds and accounts advised by the Adviser, or by the nature of the SIPs and Sub-Advised Products it advises. In situations where orders cannot be aggregated, greater transaction costs may result and prices may vary among accounts. For example, where the client has directed the Adviser to use a specific broker-dealer, the Adviser may not be able to combine or batch client's orders for purposes of execution with orders of the same securities for other accounts managed by the Adviser; and, therefore, the Adviser may not be able to obtain best execution for the client. In addition, certain foreign markets may require

trades to be executed on an account by account basis. As portfolio transactions in such markets cannot be batched, prices may vary among accounts.

ALLOCATION IN IPOs AND SECONDARY OFFERINGS

From time to time, the Adviser may wish to participate in initial public offerings ("IPOs"), secondary offerings, or acquire other stocks for an account that are experiencing unusual trading activity and may only be available in limited quantities at the desired price. In determining which accounts may participate in such special situations, the Adviser may take into account the investment emphasis or focus of individual accounts on particular industries or geographic areas provided the approach used is consistently applied and results in a generally equitable treatment of all accounts over time. The Adviser has implemented equity trade allocation procedures designed to provide that all clients over time receive a fair opportunity to participate in such special situations. Additional care and caution is exercised if one of the accounts participating in limited investment opportunity is an affiliated account, including specific compliance approval when affiliated accounts are participating in an IPO or secondary offer.

Generally, requested indications of interest in IPOs are submitted to the underwriter by each adviser group to increase the opportunity of gaining additional shares. Allocation of the awarded shares is then done for each account per adviser on a pro-rata basis. For IPOs and offerings that are priced after the close of business on a given trading day, preliminary allocations are prepared and a final allocation is prepared on the following business day when the price and size of allocation are known. Any adjustments or reallocations made in this circumstance require special approval.

Item 13 Review of Accounts

The Adviser manages investment portfolios for each of its clients. Generally, the portfolios under the Adviser's management are reviewed by one or more portfolio managers who are responsible to their respective Chief Investment Officer, either directly or indirectly. Such review may be made with respect to the Adviser's clients' investment objectives and policies, limitations on the types of instruments in which each of its clients may invest and concentration of investments in particular industries or types of issues. There is no general rule regarding the number of accounts assigned to a portfolio manager.

The frequency, depth, and nature of reviews are often determined by negotiation with individual clients pursuant to the terms of each client's written investment management agreement or by the mandate selected by the client and the particular needs of each client.

Written reports of portfolio breakdown, transactions and performance are provided to clients no less frequently than quarterly. Additional trade reports may be available upon request.

Item 14 Client Referrals and Other Compensation

The Adviser or a related person may enter into referral fee arrangements to compensate affiliated and non-affiliated persons for referring or otherwise recommending its investment advisory services to potential clients. To the extent required, such arrangements would be entered into in accordance with Rule 206(4)-3 under the Advisers Act and other applicable law. The compensation paid may consist of a cash payment computed as a flat fee, a percentage of the Adviser's advisory fee, or some other method of computation agreed upon between the parties.

To the extent allowed under applicable law, the Adviser's Code of Ethics and the policies and procedures (including the Anti-Corruption Policy) of the Adviser, its affiliates, and/or a particular broker/dealer, the Adviser or a related person may (i) pay broker-dealer sponsors for training seminars, conferences and other educational events, (ii) pay travel and lodging expenses relating to financial advisers' attendance at the Adviser's due diligence meetings, (iii) give certain business-related gifts or gratuities, and/or pay reasonable expenses relating to meals and/or entertainment, for financial advisers, and (iv) make a contribution in connection with a charitable event or to a charitable organization sponsored, organized or supported by a broker-dealer or its representatives, on behalf of such broker-dealer or its representatives, or to which such broker-dealer or its affiliates provides professional services.

Item 15 Custody

The Adviser generally does not have custody of its clients' assets. However, the Adviser may be deemed to have custody of certain pooled investment vehicles it advises for which a related person of the Adviser serves as general partner (or in a comparable position for types of pooled investment vehicles other than limited partnerships). Investors in these pooled investment vehicles for which a related person of the Adviser serves as general partner (or in a comparable position for types of pooled investment vehicles other than limited partnerships) will receive the fund's annual financial statements in accordance with the Advisers Act. Such investors should review these statements carefully. If investors in these pooled investment vehicles do not receive audited financial statements in a timely manner, then they should contact the Adviser immediately.

To the extent that a pooled investment vehicle for which a related person of the Adviser serves as general partner (or in a comparable position for types of pooled investment vehicles other than limited partnerships) does not provide investors with its annual financial statements as described above, such fund's custodian will deliver to the investor a quarterly statement as required under the Advisers Act.

Item 16 Investment Discretion

Generally, the Adviser has discretionary authority to supervise and direct the investment of the assets under its management, without obtaining prior specific client consent for each transaction. However, this investment discretion is granted by written authority of the client in the investment management agreement between the client and the Adviser and is subject to such limitations as a client may impose by notice in writing. Under its discretionary authority, the Adviser may make the following determinations in accordance with the client's investment objectives and restrictions, internal policies and applicable law and practice, without prior consultation or consent before a transaction is effected:

- Which securities to buy or sell;
- The total amount of securities to buy or sell;
- The broker or dealer through whom securities are bought or sold; and/or
- The prices and commission rates at which securities transactions for client accounts are effected.

The Adviser may, in its sole discretion, accept one or more categories of social restrictions requested in writing by clients. Unless otherwise agreed to with a client, the Adviser's compliance with such restrictions will be based on good faith efforts and may be satisfied by utilizing a third party service to screen issuers against such restrictions, or, in its sole discretion, other market data services such as Bloomberg and Factset as well as internal research.

From time to time, the Adviser may, in its sole discretion, submit a shareholder proposal to the issuer of, or otherwise engage in shareholder activism with respect to, securities presently held in one or more client accounts (including but not limited to U.S. Registered Funds, Private Funds, pooled vehicles outside of the U.S., or its own account), when the Adviser believes that such shareholder proposal or activism has the potential to enhance the value of such issuer's securities or generally benefit shareholders. The Adviser may also consider such factors including but not limited to costs when considering whether to engage in such activities.

The Adviser may, in its sole discretion, accept the initial funding of client accounts with one or more securities-in-kind ("SIK"). Subject to the terms of the investment management agreement and applicable law, the Adviser will use good faith efforts to liquidate any SIK that the Adviser does not elect to keep as part of such accounts, and shall not be liable for any investment losses or market risk associated with such liquidation.

The investment guidelines applicable to an account are typically based on the account being fully funded and, during funding or transition phases, the Adviser's inability to comply with restrictions related to holding limitations, sector allocations and investment diversification shall not, unless

otherwise agreed with a client, be considered a breach of the investment management agreement between the Adviser and the client.

PARTICIPATION IN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Funds. With respect to the FTI U.S.-registered investment companies and certain other FTI pooled or collective investment vehicles that the Adviser manages, advises, or sub-advises (collectively, “Funds”), the Adviser, through its delegates (which may include, without limitation, personnel of an affiliate, a law firm, custodian, or other claim filing service), uses good faith efforts to file proofs of claim on behalf of the Funds in class action lawsuit settlements or judgments and regulatory recovery funds pending in the United States and Canada, involving issuers of securities presently or formerly held in the Funds’ portfolios, or related parties of such issuers, of which the Adviser learns and for which the Funds are eligible during each Fund’s existence (the “Claim Service”). Infrequently, such U.S. and Canadian class action lawsuits may require investors affirmatively to “opt in” to the class and may subject investors to public identification and to participation in discovery (“Opt-In Actions”). The Adviser has complete discretion to determine, on a case-by-case basis, whether to file proofs of claim and any other required documentation for the Funds in any Opt-In Actions of which the Adviser learns.

While the Claim Service is focused on recovery opportunities in the United States and Canada (the jurisdictions in which class action lawsuits and regulatory recovery funds predominate), it is possible that, as class action laws in legal systems in jurisdictions outside of the United States and Canada continue to evolve, the Adviser may learn of recovery opportunities in those other jurisdictions that similarly require only the filing of a proof of claim or its equivalent to recover, referred to here as “Foreign Actions.” The Adviser does not assume any obligation to identify, research, or file proofs of claim in, any such Foreign Actions. In the event that the Adviser does learn of any Foreign Actions, the Adviser has complete discretion to determine, on a case-by-case basis, whether to file proofs of claim for the Funds in such Foreign Actions.

In addition, from time to time, the Adviser may recommend that one or more of the Funds pursue litigation against an issuer or related parties (whether, for example, by opting out of an existing class action lawsuit, participating in a representative action in a foreign jurisdiction, or otherwise). The Adviser or the Funds may also participate in bankruptcy proceedings involving issuers of securities presently or formerly held in the Funds’ portfolios, or related parties of such issuers, and join official and ad hoc committees of creditors or other stakeholders. Similarly, the Adviser’s affiliates may recommend that the Funds they manage participate in litigation, bankruptcy proceedings or committees of creditors or other stakeholders. Neither the Adviser nor the Adviser’s affiliates will provide notice of, or the opportunity to participate in, any litigation against an issuer or related parties to the Adviser’s Third Party Fund Clients (defined below).

Third Party Fund Clients. With respect to the third party registered investment companies and other third party pooled or collective investment vehicles that the Adviser manages, advises or sub-advises on behalf of certain clients (collectively, “Third Party Fund Clients”), unless otherwise specifically agreed, the Adviser shall not be required, or be liable for any failure to, but may, without undertaking any obligation to do so, (i) provide the Claim Service, (ii) file proofs of claim in Foreign Actions, and (iii) file any required documentation in any Opt-In Actions, as described above. Foreign Actions do not include any other type of collective action outside of the U.S. and Canada, such as representative actions. Those other actions require individual analysis as to whether participation is in an investor’s best interest and often require participants to agree to funding agreements or to pay the costs of the litigation directly, to enter into agreements with representative organizations, to commit to participation in discovery, and may require participants to be identified publicly as plaintiffs in the action. The Adviser does not assume any obligation to identify or take any action with respect to such offshore collective or representative actions for its Third Party Fund Clients.

Further, unless otherwise specifically agreed, the Adviser shall not be required, or be liable for any failure to, but may, participate in any bankruptcy proceedings involving issuers of securities presently or formerly held in Third Party Fund Client accounts or related parties of such issuers. Without limiting the foregoing, unless otherwise specifically agreed, the Adviser shall not be required, or be liable for any failure to, but may in its discretion: (i) file proofs of claim in bankruptcy proceedings, (ii) notify Third Party Fund Clients of any applicable deadlines or other

events relating to bankruptcy proceedings, or (iii) participate in any committees of creditors or other stakeholders on behalf of Third Party Fund Clients.

In connection with the Claim Service and the Adviser's involvement in bankruptcy proceedings on behalf of Third Party Fund Clients, where applicable, the Adviser may disclose information about a Third Party Fund Client or the client's account, whether by including such information in any proofs of claim or otherwise disclosing such information in any related manner. By filing a proof of claim on behalf of a Third Party Fund Client, the Adviser may waive the Third Party Fund Client's right to pursue separate litigation with respect to the subject matter of the class action lawsuit or regulatory recovery fund, or the right to a jury trial in a bankruptcy proceeding, as applicable. Where the Adviser does provide the Claim Service or agrees to participate in bankruptcy proceedings on behalf of Third Party Fund Clients, the Adviser may (subject to the governing investment advisory or management agreement), at any time, terminate provision of such services by giving notice of such termination to the Third Party Fund Client (by any method the Adviser chooses, including electronic mail), and such services will, if not sooner terminated, automatically terminate upon the termination of the governing investment advisory or management agreement.

Item 17 Voting Client Securities

PROXY VOTING POLICIES & PROCEDURE

The Adviser has delegated its administrative duties with respect to voting proxies for client equity securities to the proxy group within Franklin Templeton Companies, LLC (the "Proxy Group"), an affiliate and wholly owned subsidiary of Franklin Resources, the parent company of the Adviser.

All proxies received by the Proxy Group will be voted based upon the Adviser's instructions and/or policies. To assist it in analyzing proxies, the Adviser subscribes to one or more unaffiliated third party corporate governance research services that provides in-depth analyses of shareholder meeting agendas, vote recommendations, recordkeeping and vote disclosure services (each a "Research Service"). Although Research Service analyses are thoroughly reviewed and considered in making a final voting decision, the Adviser does not consider recommendations from a Research Service or any other third party to be determinative of the Adviser's ultimate decision. Rather, the Adviser exercises its independent judgment in making voting decisions. The Adviser votes proxies solely in the best interests of the client, the Adviser-managed fund shareholders or, where employee benefit plan assets subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, are involved ("ERISA accounts"), in the best interests of plan participants and beneficiaries (collectively "Advisory Clients") unless (i) the power to vote has been specifically retained by the named fiduciary in the documents in which the named fiduciary appointed the Investment Manager or (ii) the documents otherwise expressly prohibit the Investment Manager from voting proxies. As a matter of policy, the officers, directors and Access Persons (as defined in the Code of Ethics Summary in Item 11) of the Adviser and the Proxy Group will not be influenced by outside sources whose interests conflict with the interests of Advisory Clients. In situations where a material conflict of interest is identified, the Proxy Group may defer to the voting recommendation of a Research Service or send the proxy directly to the relevant Advisory Clients with the Adviser's recommendation regarding the vote for approval.

As a matter of practice, the votes with respect to most issues are cast in accordance with the position of the management of the company in which the equity securities are held. Each issue, however, is considered on its own merits, and the Adviser will not support the position of the company's management in any situation where it deems that the ratification of management's position would adversely affect the investment merits of owning that company's shares.

The Proxy Group is part of the Franklin Templeton Companies, LLC Corporate Legal Department and is overseen by legal counsel. For each shareholder meeting, a member of the Proxy Group will consult with the research analyst(s) that follows the security and will provide the analyst(s) with the agenda, Research Service analyses, recommendations and any other information provided to the Proxy Group. Except in situations identified as presenting material conflicts of interest, the Adviser's research analyst(s) and relevant portfolio manager(s) are responsible for making the final voting decision based on their review of the agenda, Research Service analyses,

proxy statements, their knowledge of the company and any other information publicly available. In the case of a material conflict of interest, the final voting decision will be made in accordance with the conflict procedures, as described above. Except in cases where the Proxy Group is deferring to the voting recommendations of an independent third party service provider, the Proxy Group must obtain voting instructions from the Adviser's research analyst(s), relevant portfolio manager(s), legal counsel and/or an Advisory Client prior to submitting the vote.

The Adviser has adopted general proxy voting guidelines that are reviewed periodically by various members of the Adviser's organization, including portfolio management, legal counsel and the Adviser's officers, and are subject to change. These guidelines cannot provide an exhaustive list of all the issues that may arise nor can the Adviser anticipate all future situations. The guidelines cover such agenda items as the election of directors, ratification of auditors, management and director compensation, anti-takeover mechanisms, changes to capital structure, mergers and corporate restructuring, environmental, social and governance issues, and global corporate governance.

The Proxy Group is fully cognizant of its responsibility to process proxies and maintain proxy records pursuant to SEC rules and regulations, including Rule 206(4)-6 under the Advisers Act. In addition, the Adviser understands its fiduciary duty to vote proxies and that proxy voting decisions may affect the value of shareholdings. Therefore, the Adviser will attempt to process every proxy it receives for all U.S. and non-U.S. securities. However, there may be situations in which the Adviser will not vote a proxy, such as where: (i) proxy ballot was not received from the custodian bank, (ii) a meeting notice was received too late, (iii) there are fees imposed upon the exercise of a vote and the Adviser has determined that such fees outweigh the benefit of voting, (iv) there are legal encumbrances to voting, including blocking restrictions in certain markets that preclude the ability to dispose of a security if the Adviser votes a proxy or where the Adviser is prohibited from voting by applicable law or other regulatory or market requirements, including but not limited to, effective powers of attorney, (v) the Adviser held shares on the record date but has sold them prior to the meeting date, (vi) proxy voting service is not offered by the custodian in the market, (vii) the Adviser believes it is not in the best interests of the Advisory Client to vote the proxy for any other reason not enumerated herein, or (viii) a security is subject to a securities lending or similar program that has transferred legal title to the security to another person. In some foreign jurisdictions, even if the Adviser uses reasonable efforts to vote a proxy on behalf of its Advisory Clients, such vote or proxy may be rejected because of (a) operational or procedural issues experienced by one or more third parties involved in voting proxies in such jurisdictions; (b) changes in the process or agenda for the meeting by the issuer for which the Adviser does not have sufficient notice; and (c) the exercise by the issuer of its discretion to reject the vote of the Adviser. The Adviser or its affiliates may, on behalf of one or more of the registered investment companies advised by the Adviser or its affiliates, determine to use its best efforts to recall any security on loan where the Adviser or its affiliates (a) learn of a vote on a material event that may affect a security on loan, and (b) determine that it is in the best interests of such registered investment companies to recall the security for voting purposes. The Adviser will not generally make such efforts on behalf of other advisory clients, or notify such clients or their custodians that the Adviser or its affiliates has learned of such a vote.

The Proxy Group is responsible for maintaining the documentation that supports the Adviser's voting decision. Such documentation may include, but is not limited to, any information provided by Research Services and, with respect to any issuer that presents a potential conflict of interest, any board or audit committee memoranda describing the position it has taken. The Proxy Group may use an outside service such as a Research Service to support this recordkeeping function. All records will be retained for at least five years, the first two of which will be on-site at the offices of Franklin Templeton Companies, LLC. Advisory Clients may view the Adviser's complete proxy voting policies and procedures on-line at www.franklintempleton.com, request copies of their proxy voting records and the Adviser's complete proxy voting policies and procedures by calling the Proxy Group at 1-954-527-7678 or send a written request to: Franklin Templeton Companies, LLC, 300 S.E. 2nd Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301, Attention: Proxy Group. For U.S. mutual fund products, an annual proxy voting record for the period ending June 30 of each year will be posted to www.franklintempleton.com no later than August 31 of each year. In addition, the Proxy Group is responsible for ensuring that the proxy voting policies, procedures and records of the

Adviser are made available as required by law and is responsible for overseeing the filing of such policies and procedures with the SEC.

Item 18 Financial Information

No relevant information to disclose.