



# FRANKLIN TEMPLETON

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## INVESTMENT ADVISER REGISTRATION FORM ADV PART 2A: FIRM BROCHURE

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*This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of the entities listed on the following page (each, an “**Adviser**” and collectively, the “**Advisers**”), each of which is registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the “**SEC**”) as an investment adviser. With respect to an Adviser, this document, together with the appendix to this document for such Adviser (the “**Appendix**”), serves as the Form ADV Part 2A for such Adviser. The Advisers, collectively, along with Franklin Resources, Inc. (“**Franklin Resources**”) and its other subsidiaries (including certain other SEC registered investment advisers that separately have their own Form ADV Part 2A), are referred to in this document as “**Franklin Templeton**.” Due to space restrictions, the names as well as the business addresses and contact information for the Advisers are provided on the following page.*

*For additional information about a specific Adviser, please refer to the Appendix for that Adviser, which supplements and qualifies information provided in this document, as applicable. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure or would like to request the Appendix for any Adviser not already provided, please contact Global Client Service Support (“**GCSS**”) via email at [GlobalClientServiceSupportAmericas@franklintempleton.com](mailto:GlobalClientServiceSupportAmericas@franklintempleton.com). The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the SEC or by any state securities authority or regulator, and being a registered investment adviser does not imply a certain level of skill or training.*

*Additional information about each of the Advisers is available on the SEC’s website at: [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).*

**Fiduciary Investment Management International, Inc.**  
1133 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 410  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
USA  
+1 (202) 822-2110

**Franklin Advisers, Inc.**  
One Franklin Parkway  
San Mateo, California 94403  
USA  
+1 (650) 312-3000

**Franklin Advisory Services, LLC**  
One Franklin Parkway  
San Mateo, California 94403  
USA  
+1 (650) 312-3000

**Franklin Mutual Advisers, LLC**  
101 John F. Kennedy Parkway  
Short Hills, New Jersey 07078  
USA  
+1 (973) 912-2000

**Franklin Templeton Institutional, LLC**  
280 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10017  
USA  
+1 (212) 632-3000

**Franklin Templeton Investment Management Limited**  
Cannon Place, 78 Cannon Street  
London, England EC4N 6HL  
United Kingdom  
+44 (20) 7073-8500

**Franklin Templeton Investments Corp.**  
200 King Street West, Suite 1500  
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3T4  
Canada  
+1 (416) 957-6000

**Franklin Templeton Portfolio Advisors, Inc.**  
One Franklin Parkway  
San Mateo, California 94403  
USA  
+1 (650) 312-3018

**Templeton Asset Management Ltd.**  
7 Temasek Blvd.,  
Suntec Tower One, #38-03  
Singapore 038987  
+65 6241-0777

**Templeton Global Advisors Limited**  
PO Box N-7759  
Lyford Cay, Nassau  
The Bahamas  
+1 (242) 362-4600

**Templeton Investment Counsel, LLC**  
300 S.E. 2nd Street  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
USA  
+1 (954) 527-7500

## Item 2 Material Changes

Material changes made on or after the date of the last annual update of the Advisers' brochures through April 16, 2020 are summarized below. While the presentation of the information in the Advisers' brochures has been reformatted, the summaries below reflect the substantive material changes made on or after the date of the last annual update of the Advisers' brochures.

Item 5: Fees and Compensation – Added disclosure regarding co-investment vehicle expenses and the allocation of Fund expenses. In addition, the disclosure around the waiver of fees and other fees and expenses that a client may incur was updated.

Item 8: Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss – Updated and added additional investment risks that are applicable to the Advisers' significant investment strategies. Includes an other-than-annual amendment made on April 16, 2020 adding new disclosure in the "Market" risk and adding the "Outbreaks, Pandemics and Other Public Health Issues" risk, both discussing potential impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and other extraordinary events on the Accounts' investments and the Advisers' operations.

Item 11: Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading – Supplemented and added new conflicts of interest disclosure applicable to the Advisers, including, but not limited to, conflicts relating to: principal transactions and cross trades; investing alongside other Accounts and into affiliated Accounts; the use of information; with service providers and affiliated broker dealers; and the allocation of investment opportunities, expenses and resources.

Item 17: Voting Client Securities – Added additional disclosure around conflicts of interest related to proxy voting and how they are resolved. Also added disclosure regarding proxy voting for SMA Programs.

Although there have been no other material changes, the Advisers have updated and revised certain disclosures relating to their business operations, particularly in the following areas:

Item 4: Advisory Services – Updated the descriptions of the different advisory services offered by the Advisers, as well as the brand names used by Franklin Templeton.

Item 7: Types of Clients – Updated the descriptions of the different types of clients receiving advisory services from the Advisers.

Item 10: Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations – Updated information about the Advisers' related broker-dealers, and updated disclosure regarding the Advisers' arrangements with related investment advisers.

Item 12: Brokerage Practices – Added additional disclosure around aggregating and allocating thinly traded securities.

Item 16 – Investment Discretion – Added disclosure around trade execution for Accounts where the Advisers do not have investment discretion.

Please also refer to Item 2 ("Material Changes") of an Adviser's Appendix for other changes specific to that Adviser made on or after the date of the last annual update of that Adviser's brochure.

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

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## Item 4      Advisory Business

### INTRODUCTION TO FRANKLIN TEMPLETON

The Advisers are wholly-owned subsidiaries (whether directly or indirectly) of Franklin Resources, a holding company that, together with its subsidiaries, operates as Franklin Templeton®, a global investment management organization offering investment services and products under our various distinct brand names, including, but not limited to, Franklin, Templeton, Balanced Equity Management, Benefit Street Partners, Darby, Edinburgh Partners™, Fiduciary Trust™, Franklin Bissett, Franklin Mutual Series, K2 and LibertyShares. Franklin Templeton, through current and predecessor subsidiaries, has been engaged in the investment management and related services business since 1947.

The common stock of Franklin Resources is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol “BEN,” and is included in the Standard & Poor’s 500 Index.

### ADVISORY SERVICES

The Advisers collectively provide investment advisory and portfolio management services under investment management agreements with clients in jurisdictions worldwide, which include registered open-end and closed-end funds and unregistered funds (collectively, “**Funds**”), as well as separate accounts (“**Separate Accounts**”), which typically include Separate Accounts for institutional and high net-worth clients. In the United States, the Advisers provide advice to investment companies registered with the SEC pursuant to the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “**1940 Act**”), including exchange-traded funds (“**ETFs**”) ( “**U.S. Registered Funds**”), pooled investment vehicles that are exempt from registration under the 1940 Act (“**Private Funds**”), and Separate Accounts. In addition, certain Advisers’ assets under management include assets in funds or accounts that are sold outside of the United States. Certain Advisers manage, advise or sub-advise certain investment products sponsored by other companies (“**Sub-Advised Accounts**”), which may be sold to investors under the brand names of those other companies or on a co-branded basis. Please see Item 7 (“Types of Clients”) for greater detail. For information about the types of clients of a particular Adviser, please see that Adviser’s Appendix.

The Advisers provide investment management services under agreements with each of their Fund, Sub-Advised Account, Separate Account and other types of clients discussed herein (collectively, “**Accounts**”), as applicable. Investment management services include services to managed accounts with full investment discretion, and to advisory accounts with no investment discretion. Typically, Accounts are managed on a fully discretionary basis. Certain Accounts managed by the Advisers invest in funds and accounts managed by affiliated or unaffiliated investment advisers.

With respect to Accounts for which an Adviser has been appointed to provide discretionary investment management services, the Adviser will determine which securities the Accounts will purchase, hold or sell. In the context of a Fund, the Advisers will do this under the supervision and oversight of a board of directors, general partner, trustee or an equivalent body, person or entity, as applicable. In addition, the Advisers typically take various steps to implement such decisions, including arranging for the selection of broker-dealers and the execution and settlement of trades in accordance with applicable criteria set forth in the investment management agreement for each Account, internal policies, commercial practice, and applicable law. With respect to any Account for which an Adviser has been appointed to provide non-discretionary investment management services, the Adviser will make recommendations as to which securities the Accounts should purchase, hold or sell. In such cases, the Adviser may or may not perform trading activities for an Account depending on the authority provided by the client. When providing investment management services, each Adviser will perform or obtain research as it deems necessary or as agreed with the client.

Advisers with Separate Account clients will provide investment advice to such clients in accordance with the investment objectives, guidelines and restrictions which form part of the investment management agreement or other similar agreement negotiated with the client or as otherwise developed in consultation with the client. Such Advisers consider each prospective Separate Account client on an individual basis. Advisers will provide investment advice to Fund clients in accordance with the investment objectives, guidelines and restrictions as described in the prospectus, offering memorandum or other offering documents as well as applicable law. The

investment objectives, guidelines and restrictions for Funds will not be tailored to the needs of any particular investor in such Funds. Please see Item 7 (“Types of Clients”) for more information. Please see Item 16 (“Investment Discretion”) for details of the circumstances in which clients can place limitations on the Advisers’ discretionary authority.

Potential or actual conflicts of interest will, from time to time, arise in allocating investment opportunities among the Advisers’ Accounts. Conflicts of interest in relation to such allocation determinations are further discussed in Item 6 (“Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management”), Item 11 (“Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading”) and Item 12 (“Brokerage Practices”).

### **SMA Programs**

Certain Advisers act as adviser or sub-adviser with respect to certain clients and program sponsors in connection with third-party broker-dealer separately managed accounts (“**SMAs**”), unified managed accounts (“**UMAs**”) or other wrap fee programs (collectively, “**SMA Programs**”), which is discussed more fully in the Appendix of the Advisers providing such services.

### **Model Delivery Programs**

One or more Advisers provide model investment portfolios to unaffiliated investment advisers and other financial institutions for use in connection with their advisory programs to their clients, which is discussed more fully in the Appendix of the Advisers providing these services.

### **Electronic Advisory Programs**

One or more Advisers provide discretionary advisory services through an electronic program, which uses a proprietary investment algorithm to develop a portfolio for the client based on information provided by the client relating to its investment experience, risk tolerance and investment time horizon. More information regarding such services is discussed in the Appendix of the Advisers providing such services.

## **SERVICES OF AFFILIATES**

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

## **ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT**

The Advisers provide management services or continuous and regular supervisory services for the Accounts that they manage. As part of these overall services, the Advisers will typically 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) continuous and regular supervisory services for an Account where management services have been delegated by an Adviser to an affiliated adviser, (iv) management services as a co-manager to an Account for which an affiliated adviser also provides management services or (v) non-discretionary management services, which for certain Advisers include a UMA or similar

program (the Appendices for such Advisers provide more detail about the applicable Adviser's involvement in UMA or similar programs).

Please see the Appendix for each Adviser for details of the Adviser's assets under management described in this item.

## **Item 5 Fees and Compensation**

### **ADVISORY FEES**

Investment management fees are generally calculated under contractual arrangements with the Advisers' Accounts as a percentage of the market value of assets under management. Annual rates vary by investment objective and type of services provided. Fee arrangements for Separate Accounts 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 (the "**Advisers Act**") and other applicable law, the Advisers can negotiate and charge performance fees or special allocations in addition to asset-based fees in connection with Accounts. In addition, fees and allocations can 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 and allocations.

The Advisers are not generally required to provide notice to, or obtain the consent of, one client when waiving, reducing or varying fees or modifying other contractual terms with any other client. However, some Separate Account and Sub-Advised Account clients will, from time to time, seek to negotiate most favored nation ("**MFN**") clauses in their investment management agreements with an Adviser. These clauses typically require the Adviser to notify a client with an MFN clause if that Adviser subsequently enters into an agreement with a comparable client that provides a more favorable fee rate or certain other contractual terms than those in place with the client who has the MFN clause at that time. Once notified, the client can elect to either adopt or reject the more favorable terms or, usually when the MFN clause relates only to fees, require that any more favorable fee rate terms be extended automatically to the client. The applicability of an MFN clause will typically depend on the degree of similarity between clients. An Adviser will consider a number of factors when determining similarity between Accounts, including the type of client, the scope of investment discretion, reporting and other servicing requirements, the amount of assets under management, the fee structure and the particular investment strategy selected by each client. An Adviser does not under normal circumstances apply an MFN clause negotiated with the Adviser's client to investment management agreements between that Adviser's affiliates and their clients. The Advisers have sole discretion over whether or not to grant any MFN clause in all circumstances. Individual investors in certain Funds will, from time to time, seek to negotiate similar MFN provisions as a condition of their investment.

At the sole discretion of the Advisers, certain directors, officers, employees or strategic business associates of the Advisers, the Advisers' affiliates or their respective clients will have their investment management fees, performance-based fees and/or special allocations waived or reduced in connection with their investment into Accounts.

### **FEE SCHEDULES**

The Advisers' standard fees for Separate Account clients are normally calculated as a percentage of the value of assets under management, and are typically calculated monthly or quarterly, or as otherwise agreed with each client. The Appendix for each Adviser lists the Adviser's standard fee schedule for its Separate Account clients, if any. In some cases, fees will be negotiated.

### **U.S. REGISTERED FUNDS**

With respect to an Adviser's management of U.S. Registered Funds, investors should consult the applicable U.S. Registered Fund's offering documents and/or shareholder reports for specific fee information on those products. The compensation paid by a U.S. Registered Fund is described in its prospectus, statement of additional information, and/or shareholder reports. Under their investment management agreements, the funds typically pay their advisers a monthly fee in arrears (*i.e.*, after the services are rendered) 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**

Each Private Fund's private placement memorandum ("**PPM**"), subscription agreement and/or other offering or governing document describes the applicable fees and expenses. Fees charged to Private Fund investors ("**Private Fund Investors**") will, from time to time, differ from fees charged to other Accounts even where a similar investment mandate is followed. The fees disclosed in the offering and/or governing documents of Private Funds will, from time to time, be waived or reduced for particular investors in those Private Funds.

## **CO-INVESTMENT VEHICLE EXPENSES**

In certain cases, a co-investment vehicle, or other similar vehicle established to facilitate the investment by investors alongside another Private Fund, will be formed in connection with the consummation of a portfolio investment. In the event a co-investment vehicle is created, the investors in that co-investment vehicle will typically bear all expenses related to its organization and formation and other expenses incurred solely for the benefit of the co-investment vehicle. The co-investment vehicle will also generally bear its pro rata portion of expenses incurred in making, holding and divesting an investment.

If a proposed investment is not consummated, a co-investment vehicle generally will not have been formed, and the full amount of any expenses relating to the proposed but not consummated investment ("**Dead Deal Costs**") would therefore be borne by one or more of the other applicable Private Funds selected by the Adviser as proposed investors for the proposed investment. Furthermore, even if a co-investment vehicle has been formed to make a proposed investment that is ultimately not consummated (or co-investors have otherwise committed to invest in the unconsummated proposed investment), some or all of the Dead Deal Costs will, under certain circumstances, be borne solely by one or more of the other applicable Private Funds selected by the Adviser as proposed investors in the proposed investment and not by the co-investment vehicle. Dead Deal Costs include, among other things, legal, accounting, advisory, consulting and other third-party expenses; any travel and travel-related and accommodation expenses; all fees, costs and expenses of lenders, investment banks and other financing sources in connection with arranging financing for a proposed investment; any break-up fees, reverse termination fees, topping, termination or other similar fees; extraordinary expenses such as litigation costs and judgments and other expenses; and any deposits or down payments of cash or other property that are forfeited in connection with a proposed investment that is not consummated. Similarly, co-investment vehicles are not typically allocated any share of any break-up fees received in connection with an unconsummated investment.

## **ALLOCATION OF FUND EXPENSES**

From time to time an Adviser will be required to decide whether certain fees, costs and expenses should be borne by a Fund, on the one hand, or the Adviser on the other hand, and/or whether certain fees, costs and expenses should be allocated between or among Funds and/or other parties. Typically, certain expenses will be the obligation of one particular Fund and will be borne by that Fund; however, in some instances, expenses will be allocated among multiple Funds and entities. The Advisers will allocate fees and expenses incurred in the course of evaluating and making investments in accordance with each Fund's governing documents. To the extent not addressed therein and to the extent it has the authority to do so, an Adviser will make these allocation determinations in a fair and reasonable manner using its good faith judgment, notwithstanding its interest (if any) in the allocation. In exercising its discretion to allocate investment opportunities and fees and expenses, an Adviser is faced with a variety of potential conflicts of interest. For additional information regarding these potential conflicts, please see Item 11 ("Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading – Potential Conflicts Relating to Advisory and Other Activities").



## **TIMING AND PAYMENT OF ADVISORY FEES**

The timing of fee payments will be negotiated with each client or, with respect to the Advisers' Funds, as set forth in the relevant Fund's offering documents or PPM. With respect to Accounts for which an Adviser serves as an adviser or sub-adviser through an SMA Program, the timing of fee payments will be negotiated with each client or the SMA Program sponsor. Asset-based fees are generally paid monthly or quarterly and are calculated on (i) the value of the Account's net assets under management, (ii), in the case of certain closed-end funds and certain Private Funds, committed capital or invested capital, or (iii), in the case of UMAs managed by the program sponsor, the value of the assets in accounts utilizing the Adviser's model investment portfolio(s).

Except as separately negotiated or as otherwise disclosed, management fees are calculated in most cases as a percentage of assets under management and are payable monthly or quarterly in arrears based on the month- or quarter-end market value or on the average value for the fee period. Where an Adviser has agreed with a Separate Account client to calculate fees based on the value of assets at the end of a particular fee period, the Adviser will typically, unless otherwise instructed, pro-rate its fees to take into account capital contributions or withdrawals made by the client (with the exception of contributions or withdrawals below a threshold amount determined by the Adviser) during the relevant month or quarter. Although Separate Account clients typically elect to pay fees by authorizing their custodian to pay their Adviser out of their account assets pursuant to a pre-agreed fee schedule, some clients request their Adviser to bill them directly for fees incurred. Separate Accounts generally are subject to a minimum fee, determined by applying the client's fee schedule to the applicable minimum portfolio size. If an Adviser manages multiple Accounts for a client (or group of related clients), the assets of these Accounts will, under certain circumstances, be aggregated for purposes of taking advantage of available breakpoint fee reductions.

In some situations, including certain closed-end Private Funds, clients agree to pay fees in advance. In the event of a termination of a relationship, the relevant Adviser will issue the client a refund of unearned fees paid in advance, if any, typically determined based on the number of days after the date of termination within the relevant payment period. To the extent fees have been earned but not yet billed, such fees will be pro-rated and owed by the client, which could include after the date of termination.

With respect to certain Private Funds and Separate Accounts, performance fees or other performance-based compensation will be generally based on exceeding specified return benchmarks or other performance hurdles and generally are payable: (i) on a quarterly or annual basis, (ii) at the time of an investor's withdrawal or redemption with respect to the amount withdrawn or redeemed, and/or (iii) as investments are realized and/or capital is distributed. Certain Private Funds and Separate Accounts charge performance fees based on the Account's net profits without regard to any benchmark or performance hurdle. In some cases, arrangements will 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. The timing and amount of performance fees are described in the relevant investment management agreements, PPMs, and/or other offering documents. Please see Item 6 ("Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management") for additional information.

For the most part, investment management agreements between an 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 Advisers' investment management agreements with clients other than U.S. Registered Funds generally do not have termination dates. Rather, investment management agreements often include automatic renewal provisions or a provision stating that the Adviser or client may terminate with advance notice.

## OTHER FEES AND EXPENSES

In addition to the fees described above, clients of the Advisers typically bear other costs associated with their Accounts or portfolio investments, including, but not limited to: (i) custodial charges, brokerage fees/costs, commissions, other transaction costs and related costs, certain consulting fees, auditing fees, and transfer agency fees, (ii) interest expenses, (iii) taxes, duties and other governmental charges (including regulatory, licensing and filing expenses and fees, costs and expenses for preparation therefor), (iv) transfer and registration fees or similar expenses, (v) costs associated with foreign exchange transactions, (vi) other portfolio expenses, (vii) costs, expenses and fees (including investment advisory and other fees charged by the investment advisers of funds in which the client invests) associated with products or services that may be related to such investments and (viii) extraordinary expenses or costs that a client incurs from time to time. With respect to services used in connection with making, holding and divesting investments (which, depending on the circumstances, 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 Advisers will not have any obligation to allow their 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 Advisers' credit in evaluating the client's creditworthiness. When the Advisers believe it is beneficial for an Account, an affiliate of the Advisers will be engaged to oversee the activities of an unaffiliated service provider, such as in provision of administrative services. In these circumstances, the Advisers' affiliate generally collects the fees for such services from the client, retains a portion as compensation for providing oversight activities, and remits the remainder of the fee to the unaffiliated service provider. Clients will also generally incur brokerage costs. See Item 12 ("Brokerage Practices") for discussion on brokerage, including fees/costs associated therewith. In addition to the expenses listed above, Funds generally bear their own operating and other expenses, including, but not limited to: (i) sales expenses, (ii) legal, regulatory, reporting and compliance expenses, (iii) internal and external accounting, audit, valuation and tax preparation expenses, (iv) insurance, and (v) organizational expenses. Further details of these and certain other expenses (some of which are unique to a particular type of Fund given its strategy) are described in the relevant Fund's PPM and/or other offering documents.

Advisers that manage Private Funds will use a master/feeder structure for certain Private Funds, which allows such Advisers to manage a single portfolio of investments 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 investors typically invest in the feeder funds. A management fee (and performance fee or carried interest, if applicable) is charged either at the master fund level or the feeder fund level depending on the specific circumstances of the master/feeder fund. Administrative and custodian fees (when all portfolio investments are held in the master fund) are often waived at the feeder fund level and charged only 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 are usually charged only to that feeder fund.

An Adviser will, under certain circumstances on behalf of certain clients, invest in pooled investment vehicles, including U.S. Registered Funds. Subject to applicable law and regulation and the terms of their agreements, clients will generally bear the costs and expenses charged by these investment vehicles to their investors, such as management and administrative fees, in addition to the Adviser's management fees (subject to any adjustment as described below). In some cases, an Adviser may determine it is appropriate to invest a portion of a client's assets into other funds for which the Adviser or an affiliate of the Adviser serves as investment adviser or sub-adviser ("**Affiliated Funds**"). This might be appropriate where, for example, the Affiliated Fund provides a more efficient and cost-effective way to diversify an account. Such an arrangement creates a conflict of interest for the Adviser to the extent that the Adviser has an incentive to recommend investments in one of the Affiliated Funds rather than in unaffiliated funds or other securities. The Adviser or its affiliates will, under certain circumstances, receive investment advisory and other fees from the Affiliated Funds but not from unaffiliated funds or other securities (although any investments in such securities would generally be subject to the advisory fees applicable to the securities). The Advisers seek to mitigate the potential conflict by excluding any assets invested in Affiliated Funds from the

management fee charged by the Advisers to the Account, unless otherwise agreed with a client (for example, where a client requests additional allocation services at the Account level) or disclosed to a client and subject to applicable law. Those assets that are invested in Affiliated Funds are instead subject to the Affiliated Fund's fees and charges applicable to all investors in such fund, as disclosed in the Affiliated Fund's current prospectus or other relevant document. As a result, the Advisers or their affiliates will indirectly receive advisory and other fees paid by those clients as investors of an Affiliated Fund. While the management fees charged to the Account with respect to such assets are excluded, the client would generally still bear any operating expenses of the Account. This and other conflicts as well as similar arrangements with respect to investments in Affiliated Funds and conflicts associated therewith are further discussed in Item 11 ("Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading – Conflicts Related to Investment in Affiliated Funds and Affiliated Accounts").

For SMA Program clients, see the applicable Adviser's Appendix for more information on fees and expenses applicable to SMA Program clients.

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

The Advisers manage different types of Accounts with a variety of fee arrangements and charge performance-based fees or allocations with respect to certain clients in addition to management fees. These are described in more detail under Item 5 ("Fees and Compensation") above. U.S. Registered Funds, for example, generally pay management fees based on a fixed percentage of assets under management, whereas Separate Accounts and Private Funds typically have more varied fee structures, including potentially a combination of asset- and performance-based compensation.

Side-by-side management by an Adviser of Funds, Separate Accounts and Sub-Advised Accounts creates potential conflicts of interest, including those associated with any differences in fee structures, as well as other economic interests the Adviser or its supervised persons will, in certain circumstances, have in an Account managed by the Adviser.

When an Adviser receives performance-based fees or allocations, the reward for strong investment returns can incentivize the Adviser to make investments that are riskier or more speculative than it would otherwise make. The prospect of achieving higher compensation from a Private Fund or Separate Account that pays performance-based fees or allocations than from an Account that does not pay such fees (e.g., U.S. Registered Funds) provides an Adviser with an incentive to favor the Private Fund or Separate Account when, for example, placing securities transactions that the Adviser believes could more likely result in favorable performance. Similarly, a significant proprietary investment held by an Adviser or an affiliate in an Account creates an incentive for the Adviser to favor such Account relative to other Accounts. In addition, the application of tax laws affecting performance-based fees or allocations can create incentives and affect the behavior of an Adviser and its personnel with respect to holding or disposing of Account investments. Please see Item 11 ("Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading – Potential Conflicts Relating to Advisory and Other Activities – Allocation of Investment Opportunities") for more information regarding conflicts of interest related to allocation of investment opportunities.

The Advisers seek to conduct their business by treating all clients equally and by appropriately managing conflicts of interest that arise when conducting transactions involving multiple clients. The Advisers do this by disclosing potential conflicts to their clients and by implementing policies and procedures reasonably designed to address those conflicts. The Advisers have implemented a number of policies and procedures designed to address side-by-side management and the potential conflicts of interest that arise when a portfolio manager or different portfolio managers within a single investment adviser or investment group manage multiple funds and investment accounts for advisory clients. Advisers with U.S. Registered Funds as clients are subject to applicable law and/or policies and procedures with respect to such clients that limit or prescribe practices related to side-by-side management. For example, the U.S. Registered Funds are subject to restrictions relating to engaging in transactions with their affiliates, including restrictions relating to engaging in transactions jointly with their affiliates. These restrictions will, under certain circumstances, prohibit a U.S. Registered Fund from engaging in certain transactions alongside its

affiliates. Additional examples of situations that create the potential for conflicts of interest are discussed below.

A potential conflict of interest can arise if an Adviser sells short a security in one Account while simultaneously advising another Account to hold the same security long. The Advisers may have a legitimate reason for engaging in such inconsistent transactions. For example, the investment objectives of the two Accounts may differ. Nonetheless, the Advisers could be viewed as harming the performance of the Account with the long position for the benefit of the Account with the short position if the short sale caused the market value of the security to drop. To alleviate this potential conflict of interest, the Advisers have implemented policies and procedures to deny a short sale request in certain circumstances. Moreover, Advisers with U.S. Registered Funds as clients are subject to applicable law with respect to such clients that limit or prescribe practices related to short sales. Please see Item 11 (“Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading”) for additional information regarding conflicts arising from clients investing alongside other clients.

Cross trades are another area that can present potential conflicts of interest in that they may be viewed as favoring one client over another. For example, an Adviser making a cross trade that is expected to increase in value from an Account (e.g., U.S. Registered Funds) with an asset-based fee to an Account with a performance fee could be perceived as doing so merely to increase the performance-based compensation it receives from the Account with a performance fee. The reverse is true with respect to securities expected to decrease in value. The Advisers have implemented inter-account transaction procedures to address these potential conflicts of interest by, among other things, requiring pre-clearance of all cross trades from the Compliance Department. Advisers with U.S. Registered Funds as clients are also subject to applicable law with respect to such clients that limit or prescribes practices related to cross trades. Please see Item 11 (“Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading”) for additional information regarding conflicts of interest related to cross trades.

The Advisers will at times have different valuation processes for the Accounts they or their affiliates advise. Consequently, a U.S. Registered Fund and an 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 Account merely to increase its performance-based compensation from that Account. To address this conflict, an Adviser must document an explanation for any differences in the valuation of securities held by, for example, both a U.S. Registered Fund and another Account managed by the Adviser and/or its affiliates. The explanation provided must be reviewed and approved by the valuation committee formed to provide oversight and administration of the fair valuation and liquidity policies and procedures adopted by the Advisers (the “**Valuation Committee**”). Additionally, Advisers with U.S. Registered Funds as clients are subject to applicable law and/or policies and procedures with respect to such clients that limit or prescribe practices related to valuation. Please see Item 11 (“Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading”) for further discussion on conflicts of interest related to valuation of investments.

Aggregation and allocation of transactions and investment opportunities are other areas where potential conflicts of interest will arise. The Advisers, from time to time, aggregate orders of their clients to effect a larger transaction with the aim of reducing transaction costs. The Advisers must then allocate the securities among the participating Accounts. Although aggregation of transactions is permissible, potential conflicts of interest exist in the aggregation and allocation of client transactions. For example, 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. Similarly, if a portfolio manager identifies a limited investment opportunity that is 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. In other limited investment opportunities, including some privately offered investments, where the investment opportunity is suitable for multiple and different types of clients, allocation will, from time to time, be based on alternative methodologies designed to comply with applicable law and ensure fair and consistent treatment of such clients. The Advisers have implemented trade aggregation and allocation procedures designed to address these potential conflicts of interest. These procedures 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 and describe the allocation methodologies to be applied as well as permissible exceptions from standard allocation methods that must be pre-approved by a designated trading desk compliance officer. Please see Item 11 (“Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading – Potential Conflicts Relating to Advisory and Other Activities – Allocation of Investment Opportunities”) for further discussions on conflicts of interest related to allocation of investment opportunities and Item 12 (“Brokerage Practices – Aggregation and Allocation of Trades”) for further discussions on aggregation and allocation of trades.

## **Item 7      Types of Clients**

The Advisers currently provide investment advisory and portfolio management services under investment management agreements to clients in jurisdictions worldwide, which include registered open-end and closed-end funds and unregistered funds, as well as Separate Accounts. In addition, certain Advisers’ assets under management include assets in funds that are sold outside of the United States, including those that are similar to U.S. Registered Funds (“**Non-U.S. Registered Funds**”) and those that are similar to U.S. Private Funds. Certain Advisers also provide sub-advisory services to Sub-Advised Accounts sponsored by other companies, which may be sold to the public under the brand names of those other companies or on a co-branded basis, and advisory or sub-advisory services to clients, other investment advisers and program sponsors in connection with SMA Programs as described above. Additionally, at least one Adviser provides model investment portfolios to certain unaffiliated investment advisers and other financial institutions for use in connection with advisory service programs they provide to their clients, as well as advisory services through an electronic program using a proprietary investment algorithm. For information about the types of clients of a particular Adviser, please see that Adviser’s Appendix.

An Adviser, if applicable, will consider each prospective Separate Account or Sub-Advised Account client on an individual basis. An Adviser generally will accept management of a new Separate Account only if a minimum amount of assets is invested unless special circumstances are present. See an Adviser’s Appendix for more details. An Adviser generally will accept management of a new Sub-Advised Account only if a minimum of \$250 million in assets is invested by the end of the Sub-Advised Account’s third year under management with the Adviser, unless special circumstances are present. Special circumstances for Separate Account and Sub-Advised Account clients include the existence of a related account already managed by the Advisers or an affiliate. Minimum investment requirements for investing in U.S. Registered Funds, Private Funds and other pooled investment vehicles managed by the Advisers are generally set forth in the prospectus, PPM or other offering document of such client. In some cases, Account minimums are negotiated or waived at the applicable Adviser’s discretion.

## **U.S. REGISTERED FUNDS**

Franklin Templeton’s proprietary retail open-end and closed-end investment companies are registered under the 1940 Act and their securities are registered under the Securities Act of 1933 (“**Securities Act**”), and are offered under one of the Franklin Templeton brand names. These funds consist of various open-end investment companies serving the institutional and retail market, including variable insurance funds and smart beta, passive and actively managed ETFs. Additionally, certain Advisers provide investment management and related services to a number of closed-end investment companies and/or a number of money market funds whose shares are traded on various major U.S. stock exchanges. Funds managed by separate Advisers will, from time to time, have a common board of directors/board of trustees. Some Advisers also provide sub-advisory services to products regulated under the 1940 Act that are sponsored by third parties.

## **INSTITUTIONAL SEPARATE ACCOUNTS**

Advisers with institutional Separate Account clients generally provide investment management services to these clients in accordance with the investment objectives, strategies, guidelines and restrictions that are agreed to between the client and the Adviser in the investment management agreement or other similar agreement, which may be amended from time to time when mutually agreed to in writing.

Each client's guidelines are tailored to reflect their particular investment needs. The Advisers provide a broad array of investment management services to their institutional clients, which include, from time to time, corporations and other business entities, charitable foundations, endowment funds, insurance companies, state or municipal entities, sovereign wealth funds and foreign government and private institutions, and government and corporate defined contribution and pension plans.

## **PRIVATE FUNDS**

As a general matter, each Private Fund is managed in accordance with its investment objective, strategy, guidelines and restrictions, as described within the Private Fund's PPM. A Private Fund is not tailored to the individualized needs of any particular Private Fund Investor, except in limited cases where the Private Fund is established for the benefit of a single Private Fund Investor. In addition, an investment in a Private Fund does not, in and of itself, create an advisory relationship between the Private Fund Investor and an Adviser. Therefore, Private Fund Investors must consider whether a Private Fund meets their investment objectives and risk tolerance prior to making an investment in that Private Fund. Information about each Private Fund can be found in its PPM, which is available to current and prospective Private Fund Investors only through a broker-dealer affiliated with the Advisers or another authorized party. In addition, certain non-U.S. affiliates of the Advisers act as placement agents with respect to the distribution of certain Private Funds to Private Fund Investors outside the United States. While this brochure may be provided to, and include information relevant to, Private Fund Investors, it is designed solely to provide information about the Advisers and should not be considered an offer of interests in any Private Fund.

U.S.-domiciled Private Funds advised by an Adviser are generally organized as 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)(1) or 3(c)(7) of the 1940 Act. Private Funds that are organized under the laws of jurisdictions outside of the United States (the **"Offshore Funds"**) are typically offered to persons who are not "U.S. Persons," as defined under Regulation S of the Securities Act, and/or on a private placement basis to certain U.S. Persons (typically tax-exempt institutions) pursuant to Section 3(c)(1) or 3(c)(7) of the 1940 Act. Private Fund Investors are subject to certain eligibility requirements that are disclosed in the PPM for each of the U.S. Private Funds and Offshore Funds.

Certain Private Funds operate using master/feeder structures, where trading and investment operations occur at the master fund level while Private Fund Investors typically invest through one or more feeder funds that, in turn, invest substantially all of their assets in the master fund. Private Funds of certain Advisers include, but are not limited to, funds of funds that invest primarily in other affiliated or unaffiliated investment vehicles (each a **"Fund of Funds"**).

## **OTHER POOLED INVESTMENT VEHICLES**

In addition, certain Advisers' assets under management include assets in funds that are sold outside of the United States, and whose investment objectives vary. The Advisers provide investment management, marketing and distribution services to vehicles, including SICAV funds, contract-type funds and open-ended investment companies organized in Luxembourg and the United Kingdom, which are distributed in non-U.S. marketplaces, as well as to locally organized funds in various countries outside the United States.

Certain Advisers provide advisory services to one or more collective investment trusts exempted from the definition of an "investment company" pursuant to Section 3(c)(11) of the 1940 Act.

## **USE AND PROVISION OF CLIENT INFORMATION AND CONFIDENTIALITY CLAUSES IN INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS**

An Adviser will at times include a Separate Account client's name in a representative or sample client list prepared by the Adviser with the client's consent.

The Advisers are not generally required to provide notice to, or obtain the consent of, any client for use or disclosure of Account information to third parties, provided such use does not disclose the client's name or other personal information. This may include information relating to the Advisers' investment experience with respect to an Account or an Account's performance, composite and

representative Account performance presentations, marketing materials, attribution and research analyses, statistical and data compilations, or similar materials.

In various circumstances, an Adviser will disclose information to third parties that include a client's name, account number or other account information (including non-public information), including, but not limited to: (i) in connection with the performance of the Adviser's services under the respective investment management agreement (including, but not limited to, providing trading and other account information to brokers, third-party administrators, consultants, auditors and other counterparties, and the preparation and printing of client account statements and reports by third parties), (ii) if required by law or regulatory authority, including, but not limited to, any subpoena, administrative, regulatory or judicial demand or court order, or (iii) in connection with the bylaws or equivalent governing documents of any issuer in which the Account is invested. While the Advisers are not generally required to provide notice or obtain consent in these situations, certain clients may request in their investment management agreement notice of a regulatory request, to the extent permitted by applicable law or regulation.

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

The Accounts advised by the Advisers accommodate a variety of investment goals and risk tolerances – from capital appreciation (with more growth-oriented strategies) to capital preservation (with fixed-income strategies). In seeking to achieve an Account's specific investment objectives, each portfolio emphasizes different strategies and invests in different types of securities. The Advisers do not typically seek to recommend a particular type of security to a client.

For more information about the specific methods of analysis and investment strategies of a specific Adviser, please see that Adviser's Appendix.

### **INVESTMENT RISKS**

Particular investment strategies or investments in different types of securities or other investments involve specific risks, including risk of loss, that clients should be prepared to bear. The risks involved, and their degree of significance, for different Accounts will vary based on each client's investment strategy and the type of securities or other investments held in the Account. The following are descriptions of a number of the material risks, listed alphabetically, related to the significant investment strategies used by the Advisers. Not all possible risks are described below. Please refer to an Adviser's Appendix for a list of the relevant material risks related to the significant investment strategies used by such Adviser.

**Algorithm Risks** – One or more Advisers offer an electronic advisory program, which uses proprietary investment algorithms to develop a portfolio for the client based on information provided by the client. There are limitations inherent in the use of algorithms to manage Accounts. For instance, an algorithm is designed to manage Accounts according to the asset allocation selected for that Account and is not designed to actively manage asset allocations based on short-term market fluctuations. Algorithms are also not designed to consider certain factors such as short-term asset class volatility or individual tax circumstances such as capital gains taxes; rather, its functions consist of proposing a portfolio based on a client's answers to the online questionnaire, identifying opportunities for rebalancing, and initiating buy/sell orders accordingly. Investment advisory personnel oversee the algorithm but do not personally or directly monitor each individual Account. The Advisers' algorithms are subject to periodic updates, and modifications and changes arising therefrom may have unintended consequences. There is also a risk that the algorithm and related software used for strategy selection, rebalancing, and related functions may not perform within intended parameters, which may result in a recommendation of a portfolio that is more aggressive or conservative than necessary, and trigger or fail to initiate rebalancing.

**Asset Allocation** – The Advisers' ability to achieve their investment goal may depend upon their skill in determining a portfolio's asset allocation mix and/or selecting sub-advisers. There is the possibility that the Advisers' evaluations and assumptions regarding asset classes and the selected sub-advisers will not be successful in view of actual market trends.

**Blend Style Investing** – A "blend" strategy results in investments in both growth and value stocks, or in stocks with characteristics of both. Growth stock prices reflect projections of future earnings

or revenues and can fall dramatically if the company fails to meet those projections. With respect to value stocks, if other investors fail to recognize the company's value, or favor investing in faster-growing companies, value stocks may not increase in value as anticipated by the Adviser or may decline even further.

**Collateralized Debt Obligations** – The risks of an investment in a collateralized debt obligation or similarly structured, asset backed security (“CDO”) depend largely on the type of collateral held by the special purpose entity, the tranche of the CDO in which an Account invests, and may be affected by the performance of a CDO's collateral manager. Common varieties of CDOs include collateralized loan obligations, collateralized bond obligations, structured finance CDOs and synthetic CDOs. CDOs are, from time to time, illiquid investments. All tranches of CDOs can experience, and at times many have experienced, substantial losses due to actual defaults, increased sensitivity to future defaults due to the disappearance of protecting tranches, market anticipation of defaults, and market aversion as an asset class. In addition to the normal risks associated with asset backed securities (e.g., interest rate risk, credit risk and default risk), CDOs carry additional risks, such as: (i) distributions from collateral securities may be inadequate to make interest or other payments; (ii) the collateral may decline in value or quality, go into default, or be downgraded; (iii) an Account may invest in tranches of a CDO that are subordinate to other classes; and (iv) the security's complex structure may not be fully understood at the time of investment.

**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. A portfolio concentrating in a single state or jurisdiction is subject to greater risk of adverse economic, market, political or social conditions and regulatory changes than a portfolio with broader geographical diversification. Funds that specialize in investing in a particular industry or region of the world may be required to continue to invest in a particular industry or geographic area even if it is performing poorly.

**Convertible Securities** – Convertible securities are subject to the risks of stocks when the underlying stock price is high relative to the conversion price (because more of the security's value resides in the conversion feature) and debt securities when the underlying stock price is low relative to the conversion price (because the conversion feature is less valuable). A convertible security is not as sensitive to interest rate changes as a similar non-convertible debt security, and generally has less potential for gain or loss than the underlying stock.

**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 an issuer's securities' 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 Advisers or the rating agencies than such securities actually do. The Advisers may make investments in high-yield debt securities (including loans) and unrated securities of similar credit quality that involve greater risk of a complete loss of the investment, or delays of interest and principal payments, than higher-quality debt securities.

**Currency Management Strategies** – Currency management strategies may substantially change exposure to currency exchange rates and could result in losses to an Account if currencies do not perform as the Advisers expect. In addition, currency management strategies, to the extent that they reduce exposure to currency risks, may also reduce the ability to benefit from favorable changes in currency exchange rates. There is no assurance that the Advisers' use of currency management strategies will benefit a particular Account or that they will be, or can be, used at appropriate times. Furthermore, there may not be perfect correlation between the amount of exposure to a particular currency and the amount of securities in the portfolio denominated in that currency. Investing in foreign currencies for purposes of gaining from projected changes in exchange rates, as opposed to hedging currency risks applicable to a portfolio's holdings, further increases the exposure of an Account to foreign securities losses.

**Cybersecurity Risks** – The Advisers, service providers to the Accounts and other market participants increasingly depend on complex information technology and communications systems to conduct business functions. These systems are subject to different threats or risks that could



affect the Accounts and their investors, despite the efforts of the Adviser and the Accounts' service providers to adopt technologies, processes and practices intended to mitigate these risks and protect the security of their computer systems, software, networks and other technology assets, as well as the confidentiality, integrity and availability of information belonging to the Accounts and their investors. For example, unauthorized third parties may attempt to improperly access, modify, disrupt the operations of, or prevent access to these systems of the Advisers, the Accounts' service providers, counterparties or data within these systems. A successful penetration or circumvention of the security of the Advisers' systems could result in the loss or theft of an investor's data or funds, the inability to access electronic systems, loss or theft of proprietary information or corporate data, physical damage to a computer or network system or costs associated with system repairs. Such incidents could cause the Accounts, the Advisers or their service providers to incur regulatory penalties, reputational damage, additional compliance costs or financial loss, among others. Similar types of operational and technology risks are also present for the companies in which the Accounts invest, which could have material adverse consequences for such companies, and may cause the Accounts' investments to lose value.

**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 Advisers attempt 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.

**Depository Receipts** – Depository receipts are subject to many of the risks of the underlying securities. For some depository receipts, the custodian or similar financial institution that holds the issuer's shares in a trust account is located in the issuer's home country. In these cases, if the issuer's home country does not have developed financial markets, an Account could be exposed to the credit risk of the custodian or financial institution and greater market risk. In addition, the depository institution may not have physical custody of the underlying securities at all times and may charge fees for various services. There may also be delays in receiving dividend and interest payments or in the ability to exercise any shareholder rights. Moreover, there may be an increased possibility of untimely responses to certain corporate actions of the issuer in an unsponsored depository receipt program. Accordingly, there may be less information available regarding issuers of securities underlying unsponsored programs and there may not be a correlation between this information and the market value of the depository receipts.

**Derivative Instruments** – The performance of derivative instruments (such as forwards, options, swaps and futures) depends largely on the performance of an underlying instrument, such as a currency, security, interest rate or index, 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 an Account portfolio that may result in significant volatility and cause the Account to participate in losses (as well as enable gains) in an amount that exceeds the initial investment. Certain derivatives have the potential for unlimited loss, regardless of the size of 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. Their successful use will usually depend on the Advisers' ability to accurately forecast movements in the market relating to the underlying instrument. Should a market or markets, or prices of particular classes of investments, move in an unexpected manner, especially in unusual or extreme market conditions, the Account may not realize the anticipated benefits of the transaction and it may realize losses, which could be significant. If the Advisers are not successful in using such derivative instruments, the Account's performance may be worse than if the Advisers had not used such derivative instruments at all. When a derivative is used for hedging, the change in value of the derivative may also not correlate specifically with the currency, security, interest rate, index or other risk being hedged. There is also the risk, especially under extreme market conditions, that an instrument, which usually would operate as a hedge, provides no hedging benefits at all. In addition, there is the risk that a counterparty will not settle a transaction in accordance with its terms for reasons such as the

counterparty has a credit or liquidity problem. This risk is heightened if the Account buys and sells derivative instruments in over-the-counter markets.

**Developing and Emerging Market Countries** – The Advisers may make investments in developing and emerging 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.

**Dividend-Oriented Companies** – Companies that have historically paid regular dividends to shareholders may decrease or eliminate dividend payments in the future. A decrease in dividend payments by an issuer may result in a decrease in the value of the issuer's stock and less available income for the portfolio.

**Equity-Linked Notes** – Investments in equity-linked notes (“ELNs”) often have risks similar to their underlying securities, which could include management risk, market risk and, as applicable, non-U.S. securities and currency risks. In addition, ELNs are in note form and therefore subject to certain debt securities risks, such as interest rate and credit risks. Should the prices of the underlying securities move in an unexpected manner, an Account may not achieve the anticipated benefits of an investment in an ELN, and may realize losses, which could be significant, including the entire principal investment in the ELN. ELNs are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the issuer of the ELN will default or become bankrupt and fail to repay the principal amount of, or income from, the investment. Investments in ELNs are also subject to liquidity risk, which may make ELNs difficult to sell and value. In addition, ELNs may exhibit price behaviour that does not correlate with the underlying securities or a fixed-income investment.

**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.

**Extension** – Some debt securities, particularly mortgage-backed securities, are subject to the risk that the debt security's effective maturity is extended because calls or prepayments are less or slower than anticipated, particularly when interest rates rise. When that occurs, the effective maturity date of the Account's investment may be extended, resulting in an increase in interest rate sensitivity to that of a longer-term instrument. Such extension may also effectively lock-in a below market interest rate and reduce the value of the debt security.

**Floating Rate Corporate Investments** – Floating rate corporate loans and corporate debt securities generally have credit ratings below investment grade and may be subject to resale restrictions. They are often issued in connection with highly leveraged transactions, and may be subject to greater credit risks than other investments including the possibility of default or bankruptcy. In addition, a secondary market in corporate loans may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods, which may impair the ability to accurately value existing and prospective investments and to realize in a timely fashion the full value on sale of a corporate loan. A significant portion of floating rate investments may be “covenant lite” loans that may contain fewer or less restrictive constraints on the borrower or other borrower-friendly characteristics.

**Frontier Market Countries** – Frontier market countries generally have smaller economies and even less developed capital markets than traditional developing markets, and, as a result, the risks of investing in developing market countries are magnified in frontier market countries. The magnification of risks are the result of: potential for extreme price volatility and illiquidity in frontier markets; government ownership or control of parts of private sector and of certain companies; trade barriers, exchange controls, managed adjustments in relative currency values and other

protectionist measures imposed or negotiated by the frontier market countries or their trading partners; and the relatively new and unsettled securities laws in many frontier market countries.

**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.

**High-Yield Debt Securities** – Issuers of lower-rated or high-yield debt securities (including loans) and unrated securities of similar credit quality ("high-yield debt instruments" or "junk bonds") are not as strong financially as those issuing higher credit quality debt securities. These issuers are more likely to encounter financial difficulties because they may be more highly leveraged, or because of other considerations. In addition, high yield debt securities generally are more vulnerable to changes in the relevant economy, such as a recession or a sustained period of rising interest rates, that could affect their ability to make interest and principal payments when due. The prices of high-yield debt instruments generally fluctuate more than higher-quality securities. High-yield debt instruments are generally more illiquid (harder to sell) and harder to value. Less public information and independent credit analysis are typically available about high-yield debt securities, and therefore they may be subject to greater risk of default.

**Index-Related** – There is no assurance that the underlying index for certain ETFs will be determined, composed or calculated accurately. Such underlying index generally relies on various sources of information to assess the criteria of issuers included in such underlying index, including information that may be based on assumptions and estimates. The Adviser cannot ensure that such underlying index's calculation methodology or sources of information will provide an accurate assessment of included issuers or that the included issuers will provide the market exposure the Adviser seeks. In addition, certain underlying indexes rely on the multi-factor stock selection processes of the underlying index's third-party owner, which the Adviser cannot ensure will enhance performance, and may even detract from performance in some market environments, perhaps for extended periods.

**Inflation** – The market price of debt securities generally falls as inflation increases because the purchasing power of the future income and repaid principal is expected to be worth less when received. Debt securities that pay a fixed rather than variable interest rate are especially vulnerable to inflation risk because variable-rate debt securities may be able to participate, over the long term, in rising interest rates which have historically corresponded with long-term inflationary trends.

**Infrastructure-Related Companies** – Infrastructure-related companies may be subject to a variety of factors that may adversely affect their business or operations, including high interest costs in connection with capital construction programs, high leverage, costs associated with environmental and other regulations, the effects of economic slowdown, surplus capacity, increased competition from other providers of services, uncertainties concerning the availability of fuel at reasonable prices, the effects of energy conservation policies and other factors. Other factors that may affect the operations of infrastructure-related companies include difficulty in raising capital in adequate amounts on reasonable terms in periods of high inflation and unsettled capital markets, inexperience with and potential losses resulting from a developing deregulatory environment, increased susceptibility to terrorist acts or political actions, and general changes in market sentiment towards infrastructure assets.

**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. Interest rate changes on the whole are influenced by a number of factors including government policy, monetary policy, inflation expectations, perceptions of risk, and supply of and demand for bonds. In general, securities with longer maturities are more sensitive to these interest rate changes.

**Investing in ETFs** – Investment in ETFs will from time to time create greater risks than investing directly in the ETFs' underlying securities. These risks include the possibility that an ETF may experience a lack of liquidity that can result in greater volatility than its underlying securities; an ETF may trade at a premium or discount to its net asset value; or an ETF may not replicate exactly the performance of the benchmark index it seeks to track. In addition, investing in an ETF may also be more costly than owning the underlying securities directly. An Account bears a proportionate share of the ETF's expenses, which include management and advisory fees and other expenses.

In addition, an Account pays brokerage commissions in connection with the purchase and sale of shares of ETFs.

**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 Funds' performance is directly related to the performance of the underlying funds held by it, the ability of a Fund of Funds to achieve its investment goal is directly related to the ability of the underlying funds to meet their investment goals. In addition, shareholders of a Fund of Funds will indirectly bear the fees and expenses of the underlying funds. Depending on the size of the investment made by a Fund of Funds in an underlying fund and the timing of the redemption of such investment, an underlying fund could be forced to alter its portfolio assets significantly to accommodate a large redemption order. This could negatively impact the performance of the underlying fund as it may have to dispose prematurely of portfolio assets that have not yet reached a desired market value, resulting in a loss to the underlying fund. An underlying fund may engage in frequent trading of its portfolio securities, which may indirectly impact the Fund of Funds' investment performance, particularly through increased brokerage and other transaction costs and taxes. Additionally, when valuing Funds of Funds 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 Advisers generally rely on pricing information provided by the private fund or the fund's manager or other service provider. While the Advisers expect that such persons will provide appropriate valuations, certain investments will likely be complex or difficult to value. The Advisers may also perform their own valuation analysis, but generally will not independently assess the accuracy of such valuations. The investment risks described above are the principal risks of the Fund of Funds and the underlying funds in which it invests.

**Leverage** – Certain Advisers will, from time to time, cause certain Accounts that they advise to leverage their capital if the Advisers believe it may enable the Accounts to achieve a higher rate of return. This is particularly true with respect to Accounts that are not U.S. Registered Funds, as they are not generally subject to the regulatory restrictions that apply to borrowing by U.S. Registered Funds. However, the use of leverage means that a decline in value of an Account's investment could result in a substantial loss that would be greater than if the Account 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 an Account'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 assets.

**Liquidity** – Liquidity risk exists when the markets for particular securities or types of securities are or become relatively illiquid so that it is or becomes more difficult to sell the security, partially or in full, at the price at which the security was valued. Illiquidity may result from political, economic or issuer-specific events; changes in a specific market's size or structure, including the number of participants; or overall market disruptions. Securities with reduced liquidity or that become illiquid involve greater risk than securities with more liquid markets. Market quotations for illiquid securities may be volatile and/or subject to large spreads between bid and ask prices. Reduced liquidity may have an adverse impact on market price and the ability to sell particular securities when necessary to meet liquidity needs, which may arise or increase in response to a specific economic event or because of a desire to purchase particular investments or a belief that a higher level of liquidity would be advantageous. An investment may become illiquid if the Adviser and its affiliates receive material non-public information about the issuer or the investment. To the extent that a significant portion of an issuer's outstanding securities is held, greater liquidity risk will exist than if the issuer's securities were more widely held.

**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 security or assessment of market, interest rate or other trends could be incorrect, which can result in losses (realized and/or unrealized).

**Market** – The market value of securities or other investments managed by the Advisers will go up and down, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably. Investments may decline in value due to factors that affect an individual issuer (such as the result of supply and demand) or a particular industry or sector. A security's or other investment's market value may also go up and down due to general

market activity or other results of supply and demand unrelated to the issuer, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in interest rates or exchange rates, or adverse investor sentiment generally. In addition, extraordinary events and their aftermaths, such as epidemics and pandemics; natural, environmental or man-made disasters; financial, political or social disruptions; terrorism and war; and other tragedies or catastrophes, can cause investor fear and panic, which can adversely affect the economies of many companies, sectors, nations, regions and the market in general, in ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen. This is a basic risk associated with all securities. During a general downturn in the markets, multiple asset classes may decline in value. When markets perform well, there can be no assurance that securities or other investments will participate in or otherwise benefit from the advance.

Stock prices tend to go up and down more dramatically than those 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 Advisers.

U.S. and global financial markets and the broader current financial environment have recently been characterized by uncertainty, volatility and instability as a result of global events, including the “financial crises” of 2008-2009 and the “COVID-19 pandemic” of 2019-2020. These financial market fluctuations have the tendency to reduce the availability of attractive investment opportunities and may affect the Accounts’ ability to make investments and the value of the investments held by the Accounts. There can be no assurance that the market will, in the future, become more liquid than it is at present and it may well be volatile for the foreseeable future. The duration and ultimate effect of recent market conditions and whether such conditions may worsen cannot be predicted and there can be no assurances that conditions in the financial markets will not worsen or adversely affect one or more of an Account’s investments.

**Marketplace Loans** – Marketplace loans are originated through online platforms that provide a marketplace for lending and matching consumers, small and mid-sized enterprises or companies, and other borrowers seeking loans with investors that are willing to provide the funding for such loans (“**Marketplace Loans**”). Marketplace Loans are subject to the risks associated with debt investments generally, including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit, liquidity, high-yield debt, market and income risks. A platform operator is not obligated to make any payments due on a Marketplace Loan except to the extent that the operator actually receives payments from the borrower on the related loan. Accordingly, lenders and investors assume all of the credit risk on the loans they fund or purchase from a platform operator and are not entitled to recover any deficiency of principal or interest from the platform operator if the underlying borrower defaults on its payments due with respect to a loan. In addition, Marketplace Loans may represent obligations of consumers who would not otherwise qualify for, or would have difficulty qualifying for, credit from traditional sources of lending, or that are unable to effectively access public equity or debt markets, as a result of, among other things, limited assets, adverse income characteristics, limited credit or operating history or an impaired credit record. As a result of the credit profile of the borrowers and the interest rates on Marketplace Loans, the delinquency and default experience on the Marketplace Loans may be significantly higher than those experienced by financial products arising from traditional sources of lending. A platform may be unable, or may not seek, to verify all of the borrower information obtained by it. Moreover, the platforms’ credit decisions and scoring models are based on algorithms that could potentially contain programming or other errors or prove to be ineffective or otherwise flawed. In addition, courts have recently considered the regulatory environment applicable to marketplace lending platforms and purchasers of Marketplace Loans. In light of recent decisions, if upheld and widely applied, certain marketplace lending platforms could be required to restructure their operations and certain loans previously made by them through funding banks may not be enforceable, whether in whole or in part, by investors holding such loans or such loans could be subject to reduced returns and/or the platform subject to fines and penalties.

**Merger Arbitrage Securities and Distressed Companies** – A merger or other restructuring, or a tender or exchange offer, proposed or pending at the time a portfolio invests in merger arbitrage securities may not be completed on the terms or within the time frame contemplated, which may result in losses to the Account. Debt obligations of distressed companies typically are unrated, lower-rated, in default or close to default and are generally more likely to become worthless than the securities of more financially stable companies.

**Mortgage Securities** – Mortgage securities differ from conventional debt securities because principal is paid back periodically over the life of the security rather than at maturity. Investors may receive unscheduled payments of principal due to voluntary prepayments, refinancings or foreclosures on the underlying mortgage loans. Because of prepayments, mortgage securities may be less effective than some other types of debt securities as a means of “locking in” long-term interest rates and may have less potential for capital appreciation during periods of falling interest rates. A reduction in the anticipated rate of principal prepayments, especially during periods of rising interest rates, may increase or extend the effective maturity of mortgage securities, making them more sensitive to interest rate changes, subject to greater price volatility, and more susceptible than some other debt securities to a decline in market value when interest rates rise.

**Non-Correlation** – Certain Accounts, including ETFs, seek to track or are correlated with an underlying index. There is no guarantee that the Adviser will achieve a high degree of correlation to an underlying index. Market disruptions and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on the Adviser’s ability to adjust an Accounts exposure to the required levels in order to track an underlying index.

**Non-Diversification** – Non-diversification of investments means a portfolio may invest a large percentage of its assets in securities issued by or representing a small number of issuers. As a result, the portfolio’s performance may depend on the performance of a smaller number of issuers.

**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 policies or structures of some countries may be less stable and more volatile than those in the United States, (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 United States, (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 and information may be less timely and/or reliable than information provided by U.S. issuers, (iv) limited markets – the securities of certain non-U.S. issuers may be less liquid (harder to sell) and more volatile, (v) currency exchange rate fluctuations and policies, and (vi) unfavorable tax policies – such as substantial, punitive or confiscatory tax increases. 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 United States may be greater in developing countries or emerging market countries.

**Outbreaks, Pandemics and Other Public Health Issues** – In general, unexpected local, regional or global events, such as the spread of infectious illnesses or other public health issues and their aftermaths, could have a significant adverse impact on the Advisers’ operations (including the ability of the Advisers to find and execute suitable investments) and therefore the Accounts’ potential returns. In addition, such infectious illness outbreaks, as well as any restrictive measures implemented to control such outbreaks, could adversely affect the economies of many nations or the entire global economy, the financial condition of individual issuers or companies (including those that are held by, or are counterparties or service providers to, the Accounts) and capital markets in ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen, and such impact could be significant and long term. Moreover, the impact of infectious illnesses in emerging market countries may be greater due to generally less established healthcare systems. If such events occur, an Account’s exposure to a number of other risks described elsewhere in this brochure can increase.

For example, an outbreak of an infectious respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus known as COVID-19 was first detected in China in December 2019 and later detected globally, causing the World Health Organization to declare it a pandemic. This coronavirus caused global distress and market volatility and uncertainty, and it resulted in travel restrictions, closed international borders, enhanced health screenings at ports of entry and elsewhere, disruption of and delays in healthcare service preparation and delivery, prolonged quarantines, cancellations of services, supply chain disruptions, lower consumer demand and disruptions or suspensions of business activities across a wide range of industries (including causing the Advisers and other service providers to certain Accounts to implement business contingency plans). Although, as of the date of this brochure, the long-term economic fallout of COVID-19 is difficult to predict, and the outbreak could adversely affect the Accounts’ investments and/or the Advisers’ operations.

**Passive Investment** – For certain Account mandates, the Adviser will not actively manage the Account but instead will track an underlying index. In such scenarios, the Adviser does not attempt to take defensive positions under any market conditions, including declining markets. Therefore, the Adviser would not necessarily buy or sell a security unless that security is added or removed, respectively, from the underlying index, even if that security generally is underperforming.

**Portfolio Turnover** – In certain Accounts, the portfolio turnover rate may exceed 100% per year because of the anticipated use of certain investment strategies. Other Accounts may experience greater turnover rates due to rebalancing services provided by an Adviser's electronic advisory program. Such frequent trading may affect the Account's investment performance, particularly through increased brokerage and other transaction costs and taxes.

**Prepayment** – An issuer of debt securities may make unscheduled prepayments of principal, which means the holder of those debt securities loses anticipated interest. Prepayments generally increase when interest rates fall for fixed-rate investments, and when interest rates rise for floating or variable rate securities.

**Quantitative Model Risk** – When executing an investment strategy using various proprietary quantitative or investment models, securities or other financial instruments selected can perform differently than expected, or from the market as a whole, as a result of a model's component factors, the weight placed on each factor, changes from the factors' historical trends, and technical issues in the construction, implementation and maintenance of the models (e.g., data problems, software issues, etc.). There can be no assurance that a model will achieve its objective.

**Real Estate Securities** – Real estate values rise and fall in response to a variety of factors, including local, regional and national economic conditions, interest rates, tax and insurance considerations, changes in zoning laws, environmental regulations or hazards, or overbuilding, increases in property taxes and operating expenses or value decline in a neighborhood. When economic growth is slow, demand for property decreases and prices may decline.

**REITs** – The performance of a Real Estate Investment Trust ("REIT") depends on the types, values and locations of the properties it owns and how well those properties are managed. A decline in rental income may occur because of extended vacancies, increased competition from other properties, tenants' failure to pay rent or poor management. Because a REIT may be invested in a limited number of projects or in a particular market segment, it may be more susceptible to adverse developments affecting a single project or market segment than more broadly diversified investments. Loss of status as a qualified REIT under the U.S. federal tax laws could adversely affect the value of a particular REIT or the market for REITs as a whole.

**Repurchase/Reverse Repurchase Agreements** – A repurchase agreement involves selling a security at one price and simultaneously agreeing to buy it back at a fixed price. A reverse repurchase agreement involves buying a security at one price and simultaneously agreeing to sell it back at a higher price. These transactions may increase the volatility of an Account's income or net asset value. Additionally, a loss may occur in either transaction if the other party to the agreement becomes insolvent. The value of the purchased securities may drop or the value of the sold securities may rise between the time the other party becomes insolvent and the time of recovering the investment. This risk is generally mitigated by holding enough of the other party's securities or cash as collateral to cover its commitments in the agreements. An event of default by the counterparty may make it necessary to incur expenses to liquidate this collateral, and the collateral may decline in value before it can be liquidated.

**Securities Lending** – To generate additional income, the Adviser may lend certain of an Account's portfolio securities to qualified borrowers, including banks and broker-dealers, in exchange for cash collateral at least equal to the value of the security loaned that may then be invested while the loan is outstanding. If the borrower defaults on its obligation to return the securities loaned because of insolvency or other reasons, there could be delays and costs in recovering the securities loaned or in gaining access to the collateral. These delays and costs could be greater for foreign securities. If the Adviser is not able to recover the securities loaned, it may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market. Additional transaction costs would result, and the value of the collateral could decrease below the value of the replacement investment by the time the replacement investment is purchased. Until the replacement can be purchased, the Account will not have the desired level of exposure to the security which the borrower failed to return. Cash

received as collateral through loan transactions may be invested in other eligible securities, including shares of a money market fund. Investing this cash creates additional market risk, including losses on the collateral and, should the Adviser need to look to the collateral in the event of the borrower's default, losses on the loan secured by that collateral.

**Short Selling Risk** – A short sale is where an Account borrows securities from a lender and sells them in the open market (“**short sale**”). The Account must repurchase the securities at a later date in order to return them to the lender. In the interim, the proceeds from the short sale are deposited with the lender and the Account pays interest to the lender on the borrowed securities. If the value of the securities declines between the time of the initial short sale and the time it repurchases and returns the securities, the Account makes a profit for the difference (less any interest paid to the lender). If the price of the borrowed securities rises, however, a loss results. There are risks associated with short selling, namely, that the borrowed securities will rise in value or not decline enough to cover the borrowing costs. Any loss on short positions may or may not be offset by investing short sale proceeds in other investments. In addition, the Account may experience difficulties in repurchasing the borrowed securities if a liquid market for the securities does not exist. The lender from whom the securities have been borrowed may also become bankrupt, causing the borrowing Account to lose the collateral it deposited with the lender.

**Smaller and Midsize Companies** – Securities issued by smaller and midsize capitalization companies may be more volatile in price than those of larger capitalization companies and involve substantial risks. Such risks may include greater sensitivity to economic conditions, less certain growth prospects, lack of depth of management and funds for growth and development and limited or less developed product lines and markets. In addition, smaller and midsize companies may be particularly affected by interest rate increases, as they may find it more difficult to borrow money to continue or expand operations, or may have difficulty in repaying any loans.

**Sovereign Debt Securities** – Sovereign debt securities are subject to various risks in addition to those relating to debt securities and non-U.S. securities generally, including, but not limited to, the risk that a governmental entity may be unwilling or unable to pay interest and repay principal on its sovereign debt, or otherwise meet its obligations when due because of cash flow problems, insufficient foreign reserves, the relative size of the debt service burden to the economy as a whole, the government's policy towards principal international lenders such as the International Monetary Fund, or the political considerations to which the government may be subject. If a sovereign debtor defaults (or threatens to default) on its sovereign debt obligations, the indebtedness may be restructured. Some sovereign debtors have in the past been able to restructure their debt payments without the approval of some or all debt holders or to declare moratoria on payments. In the event of a default on sovereign debt, there may also be limited legal recourse against the defaulting government entity.

**State and U.S. Territories** – Certain Accounts may invest predominantly in state-specific municipal securities, in which case, events in that specific state are likely to affect the Account's investments and its performance by increasing price volatility, market yield and taxes owed on income earned. These events may include economic or political policy changes, tax base erosion, state constitutional limits on tax increases, budget deficits and other financial difficulties, and changes in the credit ratings assigned to municipal issuers of that state.

**Tracking Error and ETF Management Risk** – ETFs trade like stocks, fluctuate in market value and may trade at prices above or below the ETF's net asset value. ETF shares may be bought or sold throughout the day at their market price on the exchange on which they are listed. However, there can be no guarantee that an active trading market for ETF shares will develop or be maintained, or that their listing will continue or remain unchanged. While the shares of ETFs are tradable on secondary markets, they may not readily trade in all market conditions and may trade at significant discounts due to market forces. Certain ETFs are designed to track a specified market index; however, in some cases an ETF's return may deviate from the specified index. Other ETFs are actively managed and are therefore subject to management risk. Furthermore, unlike traditional open-end funds, investors generally cannot purchase ETF shares from, or redeem ETF shares with, the ETF sponsor. Rather, only specified large blocks of ETF shares called “creation units” can be purchased from, or redeemed with, the ETF sponsor. For more information on any ETF, investors should carefully consider the ETF's investment goals, risks, sales charges and expenses before investing. The prospectus contains this and other information.



**Unlisted Securities** – Unlisted securities (*i.e.*, securities not listed on a stock exchange or other markets and for which no liquid secondary trading market exists) may involve a high degree of business and financial risk and may result in substantial losses. The companies underlying such securities may have relatively limited operating and profit histories. Many of these companies may also need substantial additional capital to support expansion or to achieve or maintain a competitive position and there is no assurance that capital will be available to finance such needs. In the absence of a liquid trading market for unlisted securities, they will be difficult to value. It is also possible that such investments will be difficult to liquidate when desired, which may limit the ability to realize their full value. Although it is generally desirable that unlisted securities become listed in due course, there can be no assurance that this will be the case, or that sufficient liquidity for substantial shareholdings will be available following listing. Additionally, companies whose securities are not publicly traded generally are not subject to the same disclosure and investor protection requirements that apply to publicly-traded companies. As a consequence, the information available to security holders of such companies may be less complete and less reliable than would be the case with a publicly-traded company.

**Value Style Investing** – A value stock may not increase in price as anticipated by the Advisers 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 Advisers believe will increase the price of the security do not occur.

**Variable Rate Securities** – Variable rate securities generally are less price sensitive to interest rate changes than fixed rate debt securities. However, the market value of variable rate debt securities may decline or not appreciate as quickly as expected when prevailing interest rates rise if the interest rates of the variable rate securities do not rise as much, or as quickly, as interest rates in general. Conversely, variable rate securities will not generally increase in market value if interest rates decline. When interest rates fall, there may be a reduction in the payments of interest received by an Account from its variable rate securities.

## **Item 9      Disciplinary Information**

None unless otherwise noted in an Adviser's Appendix.

## **Item 10      Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations**

The Advisers are wholly-owned subsidiaries (whether directly or indirectly) of Franklin Resources, a holding company that, together with its various subsidiaries, is referred to herein as Franklin Templeton.

The Advisers have certain business arrangements with related persons/companies that are material to the Advisers' advisory business or to their clients, including those described in this Item 10 ("Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations"). In some cases, these business arrangements will, from time to time, create a potential conflict of interest, or appearance of a conflict of interest between the Advisers and a client. Please see Item 4 ("Advisory Business") for additional information on services of affiliates.

Recognized conflicts of interest are discussed in Item 6 ("Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management") above and Item 11 ("Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading") and Item 12 ("Brokerage Practices") below.

The Advisers have arrangements with one or more of the following types of related persons that may be considered material to their advisory business or to their clients.

### **RELATED BROKER-DEALERS**

The Advisers are 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 SEC registered broker-dealers and are members of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("**FINRA**").

FTDI's primary business is being the underwriter and distributor for the U.S. Registered Funds, including the Franklin Templeton ETFs. 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 (collectively, “**529 Plans**”). In addition, FTDI acts as program manager and distributor for the two 529 Plans, which are municipal fund securities as defined under Rule D-12 of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (“**MSRB**”) rule book. As a result, FTDI is registered as a municipal securities dealer, subject to regulation by the MSRB. In certain instances, shareholders establish unsolicited accounts directly with FTDI, which 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 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.

FTFSC, in conjunction with other investment advisory affiliates, provides placement and distribution services to Private Funds. As such, FTFSC personnel are also associated with certain Advisers so that they may utilize FTFSC’s services when offering private placement and mutual fund securities products to their clients. FTFSC is also registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“**CFTC**”) as an introducing broker and is a member of the National Futures Association (“**NFA**”).

TFIS offers fund products that are sold outside of the United States, including those that are similar to U.S. Registered Funds. 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.

In addition, certain of the Advisers’ employees are registered representatives of FTDI and/or FTFSC. Please see Item 11 (“Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading”) for a discussion of the associated conflicts.

In addition to the above, certain non-U.S. affiliates of the Advisers act as placement agents with respect to the distribution of certain Private Funds to Private Fund Investors outside the United States.

## **U.S. REGISTERED FUNDS**

Certain Advisers serve as investment adviser to one or more U.S. Registered Funds, as described in such Advisers’ Appendix.

## **RELATED INVESTMENT ADVISERS**

The Advisers will, under certain circumstances, enter into a sub-advisory arrangement with, or refer a client to, an investment adviser affiliate capable of meeting the client’s specific investment needs. One or more of these affiliated investment advisers may be serving as a commodity trading advisor (“**CTA**”) and/or a commodity pool operator (“**CPO**”) that is either registered or exempt from registration with the CFTC. The Advisers are affiliated with each other through the common control of Franklin Resources, and certain Advisers share certain supervised persons, portfolio management personnel and investment research with each other.

The Advisers will, from time to time, use the services of appropriate personnel of one or more of their 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. In carrying out the requested services for an Adviser, portfolio management personnel of the Adviser’s affiliates will, from time to time, recommend to, or invest on behalf of, the affiliates’ clients in securities that are the subject of recommendations to, or discretionary trading on behalf of, the Adviser’s clients. Arrangements among affiliates take a variety of forms, including delegation arrangements, formal sub-advisory agreements or servicing agreements. In these circumstances, the client with whom an Adviser has executed the investment management agreement will typically require that the Adviser remain fully responsible for the Account from a legal and contractual perspective. No additional fees are charged for the affiliates’ services except as disclosed in the investment management agreement or Fund offering documents. These relationships will, from time to time, present potential conflicts of interest relating to the Advisers’ activities. Please see Item 6 (“Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-

Side Management”) and Item 11 (“Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading”) for additional information.

## **PRIVATE FUNDS**

For the Advisers who manage Private Funds, these funds are typically structured as U.S. and/or non-U.S. limited partnerships, limited liability companies and/or exempted companies in order to meet the legal, regulatory and tax demands of Private Fund Investors. An Adviser or an affiliate thereof typically acts as general partner, managing member, investment manager and/or otherwise exercises investment discretion with respect to these Private Funds in which investors are solicited to invest. Entities affiliated with the Advisers will, from time to time, invest in and/or provide services other than advice (including, but not limited to, administration, organizing and managing business affairs, executing and reconciling trades, preparing financial statements and providing audit support, preparing tax-related schedules or documents, sales and investor relations support, diligence and valuation services) to such Private Funds, in some cases for a fee separate and apart from the advisory fee. Franklin Templeton’s personnel, including employees of the Advisers, usually also serve on the board of directors of certain Private Funds. A Private Fund will typically pay or reimburse the Advisers or their 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.

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

### **CODE OF ETHICS SUMMARY**

Franklin Resources has adopted a code of ethics and business conduct (the “**Code of Ethics**”), which is applicable to all officers, directors, and employees of Franklin Resources and its U.S. and non-U.S. subsidiaries and affiliates, including the Advisers. The Advisers are also subject to a personal investments and insider trading policy (the “**Personal Investments Policy**”), which serves as a code of ethics adopted by Franklin Templeton pursuant to Rule 204A-1 under the Advisers Act and Rule 17j-1 of the 1940 Act. A brief description of the main provisions of the Personal Investments Policy follows.

The Personal Investments Policy states that the interests of the Advisers’ clients are paramount and come before any employee. All Covered Employees (as defined below) 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**” include the Advisers’ 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 Advisers and are subject to the supervision and control of the Advisers. 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 Advisers. Covered Employees are required to use their positions with the Advisers and any investment opportunities they learn of because of their positions with the Advisers in a manner consistent with their fiduciary duties to use such opportunities and information for the benefit of the Advisers’ clients and with applicable laws, rules and regulations. In addition, the Personal Investments Policy states that information concerning the security holdings and financial circumstances of the Advisers’ clients is confidential and Covered Employees are required to safeguard this information.

Additionally, 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 Advisers’ 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 an Adviser serves as an investment adviser or a sub-adviser or any fund whose investment adviser or principal underwriter controls an Adviser, is controlled by an Adviser or is under common control with an Adviser. The Advisers’ Access Persons must obtain pre-clearance from the Compliance Department before buying or selling any security (other than those not requiring pre-clearance under the Personal Investments Policy). The Personal Investments Policy also requires pre-clearance before investing in a private investment

or purchasing securities in a limited offering. The Personal Investments Policy prohibits Access Persons from investing in initial public offerings (“IPOs”).

To avoid actual or potential conflicts of interest with the Advisers’ clients, certain transactions and practices are prohibited by the Personal Investments Policy. These include: front-running, 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 Personal Investments Policy requires prompt internal reporting of suspected and actual violations of the Personal Investments Policy. In addition, violations of the Personal Investments Policy are referred to the Director of Global Compliance and/or the Chief Compliance Officer as well as the relevant management personnel. No Covered Employee or Access Person may trade while in possession of material, non-public information (“MNPI”) or communicate MNPI 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 Advisers have implemented a substantial set of personal investing procedures designed to avoid violation of the Personal Investments Policy.

Copies of the Personal Investments Policy are available to any client or prospective client upon request by emailing GCSS at [GlobalClientServiceSupportAmericas@franklintempleton.com](mailto:GlobalClientServiceSupportAmericas@franklintempleton.com).

## **POTENTIAL CONFLICTS RELATING TO ADVISORY AND OTHER ACTIVITIES**

The Advisers and their affiliates engage in a broad range of activities, including investment activities for their own account and for the accounts of others and provide transaction-related, investment advisory, management and other services. In addition, while the Advisers are not themselves a general partner of any limited partnership, one or more of their affiliates often serve as a manager, general partner or trustee or in a similar capacity of a partnership, trust or other collective investment vehicle in which the Advisers’ clients are solicited to invest. In the ordinary course of an Adviser conducting its activities for a client, the interests of a client will, from time to time, conflict with the interests of the Advisers, other clients and/or their respective affiliates. Potential or actual conflicts of interest arise, from time to time, in (i) principal transactions, (ii) cross trades, (iii) investments by the Advisers or their employees for their personal accounts, (iv) client investment in entities affiliated with an Adviser or in which an Adviser or an affiliate has an interest, (v) allocation of investment opportunities and expenses, (vi) diverse membership among investors in a client Account, and (vii) diversity of client base, among others. In addition, while the Advisers are part of the Franklin Templeton organization, the Advisers have their own clients. Although an Adviser may focus primarily on an investment strategy different from other Advisers, clients of the Adviser and such other Advisers will, from time to time, invest in the same company or issuer, including in the same security or in different securities of such company or issuer. In such circumstances, interests of the Adviser’s clients will, at times, therefore conflict with the interests of the clients of the other Advisers. In addition, the interests of and between the Advisers themselves will at times be in conflict. These and other conflicts of interest are more fully described below.

The Advisers manage assets of clients in accordance with the investment mandate selected by the clients and applicable law and will seek to give advice to, and make investment decisions for, such clients that the Advisers reasonably believe to be in the best interests of such clients. The Advisers have implemented policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to appropriately identify, disclose, limit and/or mitigate conflicts of interest. Additional limits and mitigants of conflicts are identified below. Any review of a conflict of interest will take into consideration the interests of the relevant Accounts, the circumstances giving rise to the conflict, applicable policies and procedures of the Advisers, and applicable laws.

The following discussion is not a complete list of conflicts to which the Advisers or clients are subject. In addition, other conflicts are discussed elsewhere in this brochure and the Advisers’ Appendices.

## Principal Transactions

From time to time the Advisers may recommend, to the extent permitted by law, that clients buy an asset from, or sell an asset to, the Advisers or their affiliates. These transactions involving the purchase and sale of assets are commonly referred to as “principal transactions.” Principal transactions present an inherent conflict of interest because an Adviser and/or one or more of its affiliates are on both sides of such transactions. To the extent that an Adviser engages in a principal transaction covered by Section 206(3) of the Advisers Act, the Adviser will comply with the requirements of Section 206(3) of the Advisers Act, including that the Adviser will notify the applicable client (or an independent representative thereof) in writing of the transaction and obtain the client’s consent (or the consent of an independent representative thereof). The Advisers seek to alleviate the conflict of interest posed by principal transactions with procedures requiring pre-clearance of any principal transaction by the Compliance Department and ensuring requisite client consent has been received.

On occasion and subject to applicable law and a Private Fund’s governing documents, an Adviser that advises a Private Fund or a related person (including the Adviser’s affiliates, officers, directors or employees) may purchase investments on behalf of and in anticipation of opening a Private Fund that will hold such investment. Such investments are typically then transferred to the Private Fund.

## Cross Trades

In certain circumstances, the Advisers will conclude that it is appropriate to sell securities held in one Account to another Account. Consistent with its fiduciary duty to each client (including the duty to seek best execution), an Adviser will, from time to time, (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. For example, certain Private Funds are intended to generally invest on a “parallel” basis with each other (*i.e.*, proportionately in all transactions at substantially the same time and on substantially the same terms and conditions). These Private Funds will therefore, from time to time, engage in transactions at the end of the offering period that are intended to rebalance the portfolio in accordance with the final size and/or available capital of each respective entity.

In a cross trade, an Adviser has a conflict of interest because the Adviser and/or one or more of its affiliates represent the interests of both the selling party and the buying party in the same transaction. As a result, Accounts for whom the Advisers execute cross trades bear the risk that one or more other Accounts in the cross trade will be treated more favorably, particularly in cases where such other Accounts pay a higher management or performance-based fee or incentive allocation. The Advisers have established certain policies and procedures as they relate to cross trades, under which certain cross trades are permitted when it is in the best interest of each Account. Cross trades also pose a risk that the price of a security or other instrument bought or sold through a cross trade will not be as favorable as it might have been had the trade been executed in the open market or that an Account receives a security that is difficult to dispose of in a market transaction. The Advisers seek to ensure that the price paid or amount received by a client in a cross trade is fair and appropriate, which is sometimes based on independent dealer quotes or information obtained from recognized pricing services. Moreover, absent certain circumstances, if the Advisers are unable to obtain sufficient price quotes or otherwise determine the security is illiquid, then the cross trade would not be executed. In addition, the Advisers will not receive compensation (other than their 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. Any cross trades effected with respect to U.S. Registered Fund clients are subject to Rule 17a-7 under the 1940 Act. Please also see Item 6 (“Performance-Based Fees and Side-by-Side Management”) for additional information.

## Personal Trading

Management of personal accounts by a portfolio manager or other investment professionals will, from time to time, give rise to potential conflicts of interest. The Advisers have adopted the Personal Investments Policy, which they believe contains provisions reasonably designed to prevent a wide range of prohibited activities by portfolio managers and others with respect to their personal trading activities, as well as certain additional compliance procedures that are designed to address these and other types of conflicts. However, there is no guarantee that the Personal Investment Policy

or such additional compliance procedures will detect and/or address all situations where an actual or potential conflict arises.

### **Conflicts Related to Investments in Securities of Companies in Which an Adviser, an Affiliate or another Account Holds Interests**

The Advisers will, from time to time, recommend to clients, or buy or sell for Accounts, securities in which the Advisers or their affiliates have a material financial interest. Such financial interests include, among other things, seed capital contributed by an Adviser or an affiliate to a Fund that such Adviser manages, or an actual investment by an Adviser or an affiliate in the Fund or in third-party vehicles in which the Adviser or a related person has a financial interest. The Advisers or their related persons may also purchase or sell for themselves securities or other investments that one or more advisory clients own, previously owned, or may own in the future, subject to the Personal Investments Policy, other policies and procedures of the Advisers, and applicable law.

Under certain circumstances and to the extent permitted by applicable law, certain Accounts will invest directly or indirectly in the securities of companies in which a related person of the Adviser, for itself or its clients, has an equity, debt, or other interest. For example, an Adviser's affiliate may have contributed seed capital to a Private Fund that the Adviser concludes should co-invest in the same company with another Private Fund or Separate Account managed by the Adviser. In addition, an affiliate or a related person of an Adviser may make a strategic investment in a company (such as a company in the financial technology industry) that an Adviser separately determines is a prudent investment for an Account to make. Accordingly, an Adviser's management of its client's assets will, in certain circumstances, benefit the interests of members of the Adviser and/or its affiliates.

With respect to a particular Account, the Advisers are not obligated to recommend, buy or sell, or to refrain from recommending, buying or selling any security that the Advisers and "access persons," as defined by applicable federal securities laws, may buy or sell for their own account or for the accounts of any other fund. Additionally, the Advisers are permitted to invest in securities held by any Accounts they manage, subject to applicable policies and procedures adopted by the Advisers and applicable law.

### **Conflicts Related to Investing Alongside Other Accounts**

Under certain circumstances, an Account will make an investment in which one or more other Accounts are expected to participate, or already have made, or will seek to make, an investment in the same security. Such Accounts may have conflicting interests and objectives in connection with such investments, including with respect to views on the operations or activities of the issuer involved, the targeted returns from the investment and the timeframe for, and method of, exiting the investment. When making such investments, an Adviser may do so in a way that favors one Account over another Account, even if both Accounts are investing in the same security at the same time. For example, if two Accounts have different time horizons, and the Account with a shorter time horizon sells its interest first, this sale could affect the value of the investment in the company held by the Account with the longer time horizon. There will also be cases where Accounts (typically, certain Private Funds) invest on a "parallel" basis (*i.e.*, proportionately in all transactions at substantially the same time and on substantially the same terms and conditions).

The Advisers have no obligation to provide the same investment advice or to purchase or sell the same securities for each Account. Differing facts and circumstances among Accounts will, from time to time, result in an Adviser and one or more of its related persons giving advice and taking action with respect to one Account they manage, or for their own account, that differs from action taken on behalf of other Accounts they manage. However, such differing actions are subject to applicable policies and procedures adopted by the Advisers and are guided by the Advisers' fiduciary duties to act in each account's best interests. For example, in certain circumstances, clients will seek take an opposite investment position (*e.g.*, a long position versus a short position) in the same security held by other clients (or proprietary accounts), but policies and procedures of the Advisers' prohibit such requests in certain circumstances.

Certain Advisers serve as sub-adviser to various Sub-Advised Accounts, some of which have an investment goal and strategy similar to that of other types of client Accounts for which such Advisers serve as investment adviser. Even when there is similarity in investment goal and strategy, investment performance and portfolio holdings may vary between these Accounts, potentially

significantly, as a result of, among other things, differences in: (i) inception dates, (ii) cash flows, (iii) asset allocation, (iv) security selection, (v) liquidity, (vi) income distribution or income retention, (vii) fees, (viii) fair value pricing procedures, (ix) diversification methodology, (x) use of different foreign exchange rates, (xi) use of different pricing vendors, (xii) ability to access certain markets due to country registration requirements, (xiii) legal restrictions or custodial issues, (xiv) legacy holdings in the fund, (xv) availability of applicable trading agreements such as ISDAs, (xvi) futures agreements or other trading documentation, (xvii) restrictions placed on the account (including country, industry or environmental and social governance restrictions) and (xviii) other operational issues that impact the ability of a fund to trade in certain instruments or markets.

Please see Item 6 (“Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management”) for additional information regarding conflicts related to side-by-side management of different Accounts.

#### **Conflicts Related to Investing in Different Levels of the Capital Structure**

Potential conflicts exist in certain uses of multiple strategies by an Adviser. For example, conflicts will arise in cases where different Accounts invest in different parts of an issuer’s capital structure, including circumstances in which one or more Accounts own private securities or obligations of an issuer and one or more other Accounts own or seek to acquire securities of the same issuer. For instance, an Account may acquire a loan, loan participation or a loan assignment of a particular borrower in which one or more other Accounts have an equity investment, or may invest in senior debt obligations of an issuer for one Account and junior debt obligations or equity of the same issuer for another Account. In such and other similar situations, an Adviser may take actions with respect to the assets held by one Account that are adverse to the other Accounts, for example, by foreclosing on loans, disposing of equity, or by exercising rights to purchase or sell to an issuer, causing an issuer to take actions adverse to certain classes of securities. In these situations, decisions over items such as whether to make the investment, exercise certain rights, or take or determine not to take an action, proxy voting, corporate reorganization, how to exit an investment, bankruptcy or similar matters (including, for example, whether to trigger an event of default or the terms of any workout) will result in conflicts of interest.

#### **Conflicts Related to Use of Information**

The Advisers receive and generate various kinds of portfolio company data and other information, including those related to financial, industry, market, business operations, trends, budgets, customers, suppliers, competitors and other metrics. This information may, in certain instances, include MNPI received or generated in connection with efforts on behalf of an Account’s investment (or prospective investment) to better enable the Adviser to anticipate macroeconomic and other trends, and otherwise develop investment strategies. Information barriers and/or confidentiality or similar arrangements entered into by an Adviser with companies or other sources of information will limit such Adviser’s ability to internally share and use such information. The Advisers rely on these barriers in some instances to mitigate potential conflicts of interest, to preserve confidential information and to prevent the inappropriate flow of MNPI and confidential information. When not limited from using this information, the Advisers are likely in certain instances to use such information in a manner that could provide a material benefit to certain other Accounts (or the Advisers and/or their affiliates) without equally benefiting the Account(s) from which such information was obtained. In addition, the Advisers have an incentive to pursue investments in companies based on the data and information expected to be received or generated by such companies. Subject to applicable law and confidentiality obligations, the Advisers have in the past and are likely in the future to utilize such information to benefit certain Accounts (or the Advisers and/or their affiliates) in a manner that may otherwise present a conflict of interest.

#### **Conflicts Related to Investment in Affiliated Funds and Affiliated Accounts**

An Adviser, where appropriate (including in compliance with any applicable investment guidelines or restrictions) and in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, will at times purchase on behalf of the Adviser’s clients, or recommend to the Adviser’s clients that they purchase, shares of Affiliated Funds, or invest their assets in other portfolios managed by the Advisers or their affiliates (“**Affiliated Accounts**”). Conflicts of interest arise when investing a client’s assets into Affiliated Funds or Affiliated Accounts. For example, as a shareholder in a pooled investment vehicle, a client will pay a proportionate share of the vehicle’s fees and expenses. Investment by a client in an Affiliated Fund or Affiliated Account means that the applicable Adviser will, depending on the

circumstances and subject to applicable law, directly or indirectly receive advisory (or other) fees from the Affiliated Fund or Affiliated Account in addition to any other fees it receives from the client for managing the client's Account. The client investment will also, from time to time, be subject to other fees and expenses charged to the Affiliated Fund or Affiliated Account by other parties. Similarly, an Adviser's client who invests through a Separate Account managed by another Adviser is subject to advisory fees charged by that Adviser. If a client does not want its Separate Account assets to be invested in Affiliated Funds and/or Affiliated Accounts then the client should notify its Adviser to discuss modifying its investment guidelines. The Advisers' Separate Account clients are also permitted to invest directly in certain Affiliated Funds (including U.S. Registered Funds) or Affiliated Accounts independent of their Separate Account without paying additional Separate Account management fees to the Advisers.

In order to avoid duplication of fees, the Advisers exclude any assets invested in Affiliated Funds or Affiliated Accounts from the management fee charged by the Advisers to the Account, unless otherwise agreed with a client (for example, where a client requests additional allocation services at the Account level) or disclosed to a client, and subject to applicable law. Similarly, the Separate Account management fees paid by certain retirement accounts (including those subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA")) that invest in Affiliated Funds or Affiliated Accounts will exclude Account assets invested in such Affiliated Funds or Affiliated Accounts to the extent required by law when calculating the Advisers' Separate Account management fees. Accordingly, the assets of such Accounts invested in Affiliated Funds or Affiliated Accounts will pay their pro rata share of such applicable fees of the Affiliated Fund or Affiliated Account, to the extent permitted by applicable law. Alternatively, the Advisers may elect to provide a credit representing the respective Account's pro rata share of fees paid with respect to any assets of a client invested in shares of any such Affiliated Funds or Affiliated Accounts.

#### **Conflicts Related to Trading for Multiple Accounts**

Franklin Templeton generally endeavors to aggregate same-day client trades in the same security for Accounts under the management of an Adviser's portfolio management team. However, from time to time, an Adviser will manage or implement a portfolio decision on behalf of a client ahead of, or contemporaneously with, portfolio decisions of another client. In these circumstances, market impact, liquidity constraints, or other factors could result in one of the clients receiving less favorable pricing or trading results, paying higher transaction costs, or being otherwise disadvantaged. Similarly, from time to time, an Adviser or an affiliate will buy or sell securities for clients before or at about the same time that such Adviser or affiliate buys or sells the same securities for its own account(s); however, to mitigate the conflicts associated with such trades, Franklin Templeton has adopted policies and procedures applicable to the Advisers requiring such buy or sell orders to generally be aggregated. Please see Item 12 ("Brokerage Practices – Aggregation and Allocation of Trades") for more information regarding aggregation of transactions.

#### **Conflicts Related to Service Providers**

An Adviser will, in its discretion, contract with a related person of the Adviser, including related broker-dealers, administrators and/or transfer agents, to perform services for the Adviser in connection with its provision of advisory services to its clients. In these circumstances, the related person may perform such services itself, or it may engage an unaffiliated service provider that it oversees to provide the services. Similarly, an Adviser, in its discretion, at times recommends to its clients that they contract services with a related person of the Adviser or an entity with which the Adviser or its affiliates or a member of their personnel has a relationship or from which the Adviser or its affiliates or their personnel otherwise derives financial or other benefit. An Adviser will engage a related person to provide such services when it believes such engagement is beneficial to the Account, such as providing efficiencies in information sharing and higher quality of service. However, the Adviser also has an incentive, even if it does not act on such incentive, to recommend the related person even if another person may be more qualified to provide the applicable services and/or can provide such services at a lesser cost. Similarly, in hindsight, circumstances could be construed that the Adviser was not as incentivized to pursue remedies and enforce rights against affiliated service providers as compared to unaffiliated service providers, and the Adviser may be incentivized to agree to more favorable compensation terms with an affiliated service provider than with an unaffiliated service provider.



An Adviser and its affiliates may, to the extent permitted by applicable laws, make payments to financial intermediaries relating to the placement of interests/shares 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 to the financial intermediary and/or its representative create an incentive for the financial intermediary to recommend the Private Fund over other products.

In certain circumstances, conflicts of interest will also arise with respect to investments by an Adviser, its affiliates, or an Account in a service provider. For example, the Advisers will, under certain circumstances, have an incentive to pursue investments in companies where an Adviser or its affiliates are, or could become, a customer of the companies' services, or vice versa.

Where appropriate and permitted under an Account's governing documents or investment management agreement, an Adviser will, from time to time, recommend that such Account file claims or threaten action against other parties. To the extent such party is a service provider, vendor, distributor or placement agent for the Adviser or its affiliates, the Adviser will at times have an incentive not to recommend such action. The Advisers address such conflicts of interest by acting on behalf of their clients in accordance with their fiduciary obligations to each client. Accordingly, the Advisers' general practice is not to take into account the fact that an issuer is a client, service provider, vendor, distributor, or placement agent when making investment decisions or deciding to file claims or pursue legal actions.

### **Conflicts Related to Affiliated Broker Dealers**

Broker-dealers and placement agents related to the Advisers and their employees, to the extent such broker-dealers and placement agents receive compensation in connection with the sale of interests in the Accounts, will have an economic incentive with respect to recommending products and services offered by the Advisers. However, other than with respect to certain U.S. Registered Funds, where the related broker-dealer or placement agent receives compensation through either a front end or contingent-deferred sales charge (or load) paid by certain share classes, as disclosed in the applicable U.S. Registered Fund's prospectus, the Advisers will bear the costs of any such compensation (*i.e.*, it will not be borne by the Accounts or the investors therein). In addition, related broker-dealers and placement agents will have an incentive to recommend products and services of the Advisers over other products and services as a result of being a part of the Franklin Templeton organization.

In addition, as noted above in Item 10 ("Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations – Related Broker-Dealers"), certain Advisers' employees are registered representatives of FTDI and/or FTFSC. While these employees do not receive commissions in connection with the sale of interests in the Funds, they will under certain circumstances receive performance-based compensation from the Adviser in connection with the sale of interests in the Funds. As a result, these employees will have an economic incentive to recommend products and services of the Advisers over other products and services.

### **Allocation of Investment Opportunities**

The Advisers have discretion to allocate investment opportunities among their clients subject only to each Account's respective investment guidelines, the Advisers' duty to act in good faith and applicable law. The advisory contracts entered into by the Advisers with each client do not entitle clients to obtain the benefit of any particular investment opportunity that is developed by the Advisers, or their officers or employees, where the Advisers determine in good faith that such client should not invest.

In general, the Advisers have discretion to determine whether a particular security or instrument is an appropriate investment for each Account, based on the Account's investment objectives, investment restrictions and trading strategies. Accounts with investment restrictions that preclude investing in new, unseasoned or small capitalization issuers will generally not participate in IPOs or private equity transactions, including those that are expected to trade at a premium in the secondary market. Moreover, even an Account that is not explicitly precluded from making such investments may not participate if doing so would be inconsistent with its investment guidelines. In addition, Accounts with a specific mandate will at times receive first priority for securities falling within that mandate. As a result, certain Accounts managed by the Advisers or their affiliates may have greater opportunities to invest in private equity transactions or IPOs. In the event that an IPO or private equity transaction is oversubscribed, securities will be allocated among eligible Accounts

according to procedures designed to comply with the requirements and restrictions of applicable law and provide equitable treatment to all such Accounts over time. Subject to the above, allocation is done for each Account on a pro rata or other objective basis. The Advisers have implemented the Equity Trade Allocation Policy and Procedures (as defined below) designed to provide that all clients for whom such investments are appropriate receive a fair opportunity over time to participate in IPOs or private equity transactions. To the extent permitted by applicable law and regulations, additional care and caution is exercised if one of the Accounts participating in a limited investment opportunity is an affiliated Account, including specific compliance approval when affiliated Accounts are participating in an IPO or a private equity transaction. Please see Item 6 (“Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management”) and Item 12 (“Brokerage Practices – Aggregation and Allocation of Trades”) for more information regarding aggregation and allocation of transactions.

Allocations to any Account in which the interests of the Advisers, their officers, directors, employees or affiliates collectively meet or exceed 5% of the Account’s economic value shall be governed by procedures and policies adopted by Franklin Templeton reasonably designed to ensure that buy and sell opportunities are allocated fairly among clients (the “**Equity Trade Allocation Policy and Procedures**”). These Accounts will, in certain circumstances, be deemed affiliated persons of the Advisers by reason of the collective 5% or greater ownership interest of the Advisers’ insiders and the Advisers’ registered mutual fund clients, if any. Transactions for and allocations to these accounts are 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 are generally aggregated, to the extent permitted by applicable law and regulations, for trading with the Adviser’s advised mutual fund or other non-mutual fund client accounts.

The Advisers face potential conflicts when allocating the assets of a client to one or more Affiliated Funds or Affiliated Accounts. For example, in hindsight and despite good intention, circumstances could be construed that such allocation conferred a benefit upon the Affiliated Fund, Affiliated Account or an Adviser to the detriment of the Advisers’ client, or vice versa.

### **Allocation of Private Fund Co-Investment Opportunities**

Certain Advisers that advise Private Funds will, from time to time, offer co-investment opportunities to invest alongside a Private Fund to Private Fund Investors and to third parties but are under no obligation to do so. Co-investment opportunities will be allocated as determined by the Adviser in its sole discretion, and any such allocations as between investors will at times not correspond to their pro rata interests in the relevant Private Fund or the size of their accounts. In determining such allocations, an Adviser may take into account any facts or circumstances it deems appropriate, including the size of the prospective co-investor’s investment in the Private Fund and any other Accounts; the Adviser’s evaluation of the financial resources, sophistication, experience and expertise (with respect to the execution of co-investment transactions generally and with respect to the geographic location or business activities of the applicable investment) of the potential co-investor; perception of past experiences and relationships with the prospective co-investor; whether or not such person has co-invested previously and the ability of any such co-investor to respond promptly and appropriately to potential investment opportunities; perception of the legal, regulatory, reporting, public relations, competitive, confidentiality or other issues that may arise with respect to the prospective co-investor; and any strategic value or other benefit to the Adviser, the applicable Private Fund, or their respective affiliates resulting from offering such co-investment opportunity to the prospective co-investor. Additionally, the Advisers will at times grant certain investors (or their affiliates) in a Private Fund a priority right and/or preferential fee terms to participate in co-investment opportunities. The existence of such priority co-investment rights and/or preferential fee terms may result in other investors receiving fewer or no co-investment opportunities. Because co-investors may not be identified and/or may not agree to invest until relatively late in the investment process, or for other reasons, co-investors may not bear their proportionate share of investment-related expenses (including “broken deal” expenses).

Co-investments often result in conflicts between the applicable Private Fund and other co-investors (for example, over the price and other terms of such investment, exit strategies and related matters,

including the exercise of remedies of their respective investments). Furthermore, to the extent that the relevant Private Fund holds interests that are different (or more senior) from those held by such other co-investors, the applicable Adviser will be presented with decisions involving circumstances where the interests of such co-investors are in conflict with those of the Private Fund. To the extent an Adviser or its affiliate co-invests with any Private Fund or holds an interest in any co-investing entity, such conflicts will be heightened. To address these conflicts, the Advisers' policies and procedures seek to provide that allocation decisions are made in the best interests of clients, including giving preference to existing clients over prospective clients and without consideration of the Advisers' pecuniary, investment or other interests.

### **Allocation of Fees and Expenses**

A conflict of interest will, from time to time, arise with respect to an Adviser's determination of whether certain costs or expenses (or portions thereof) that are incurred are expenses for which a client Account is responsible, or are expenses that should be borne by one or more other Accounts or the Adviser or its affiliates. For example, an Adviser will have an incentive to allocate expenses to a client Account that does not pay incentive compensation and to classify expenses as borne by a client Account as opposed to the Adviser's. This conflict of interest is diminished by the terms of the investment management agreement between the client and the Adviser, which generally states which fees and expenses may be charged to the Account versus paid for by the Adviser or its affiliates. In addition, the Advisers seek to allocate shared expenses in a fair and reasonable manner over time among clients in accordance with applicable agreements and policies and procedures. Nonetheless, because such allocations require judgments as to methodology that the Adviser makes in good faith but in its sole discretion, the portion of an expense that the Adviser allocates to a client Account will not necessarily reflect the relative benefit derived by that Account in each instance.

### **Allocation of Adviser Resources**

The Advisers and their affiliates manage numerous funds and accounts. The Advisers' services are not exclusive to any of their clients, and the Advisers do render similar or other services to other persons and entities.

In order for an Adviser to adhere to applicable fiduciary obligations to its clients as well as to address and/or alleviate conflicts of interest or regulatory issues, it may not be possible or appropriate for an Adviser to allocate to a particular Account all of the resources that might be relevant to make particular investment decisions for such Account. These resource limitations could result in an Adviser making investment or other decisions for a particular Account that are different from the decisions it would make if there were no limitations. Although an Adviser's personnel will devote as much time to each investment as deemed appropriate, they may have conflicts in allocating their time and services among each investment and other clients advised by the Adviser or other Advisers.

To the extent that an Adviser receives performance fees or incentive allocations from an Account or otherwise receives higher fees than it does with respect to other Accounts generally, the Adviser will have an economic incentive, even if the Adviser does not act on such incentive, to allocate additional resources or investment professionals to such Account and, to the extent such resources are limited, away from other Accounts. In practice, however, allocation of additional resources or investment professionals will generally be guided by the Advisers' fiduciary duties to act in each Account's best interests. See Item 6 ("Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management") for more details on performance-based fees or incentive allocations.

### **Gifts, Entertainment and Intangible and Other Benefits**

The Advisers and their personnel receive certain gifts, entertainment and intangible and/or other benefits arising or resulting from their activities on behalf of Accounts. For example, to the extent permitted by Franklin Templeton's Gift & Entertainment Policy, the Advisers and their personnel and/or other affiliates will, in certain instances, receive meals, tickets to events (such as sports or the theater), or similar benefits of reasonable value and discounts on products and services provided by broker-dealers or counterparties for the Accounts, service providers to the Accounts and/or companies in which their Accounts are invested, as applicable. In addition, airline travel or hotel stays incurred as fund or operating expenses (although these are typically Adviser expenses) sometimes result in "miles" or "points" or credit in loyalty/status programs. Such gifts, entertainment

and other benefits and/or amounts will, whether or not de minimis or difficult to value, inure exclusively to the relevant Adviser and/or such personnel (and not the clients, investors and/or their investments).

### **Conflicts Related to Valuation of Investments**

The Advisers will, from time to time, value securities or assets in Accounts or provide assistance in connection with such valuation, which at times creates an incentive to influence the valuation of certain investments. For example, an Adviser could be incentivized to employ valuation methodologies or take other actions that: (i) improve an Account's track record, (ii) minimize losses from investments that have experienced a permanent impairment that must be returned prior to receiving performance-based or incentive fees or allocations or (iii) increase fees payable to the Adviser or its affiliates. Similarly, an Adviser will at times be incentivized to hold onto investments that have poor prospects for improvement in order to receive ongoing fees in the interim and, potentially, additional compensation (for example, performance-based fees or incentive allocations) if such asset's value appreciates in the future. To address these conflicts of interest, the Advisers' have implemented policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to determine the fair value of investments in good faith, without consideration of the Advisers' pecuniary, investment or other interests and in accordance with applicable law. Additionally, the Advisers have established the Valuation Committee to oversee and administer the application of these policies and procedures to the Advisers' Accounts.

### **Trading Restrictions and Other Restrictions on Investment Activity**

From time to time, the Advisers will be restricted from purchasing or selling, or will otherwise restrict or limit their advice, with respect to securities or other instruments on behalf of their clients. These restrictions may be the result of regulatory or legal requirements applicable to the Advisers, their affiliates or their clients, and/or internal policies, including those related to such regulatory and legal requirements. These restrictions may adversely impact the investment performance of client Accounts.

For example, if the Advisers are provided with MNPI with respect to a potential portfolio company as described under the heading "Conflicts Related to Use of Information" above, restrictions or limitations on initiating or recommending certain types of transactions will apply. Accordingly, should an employee come into possession of MNPI with respect to an issuer, such employee, his or her employing Adviser, and any other Advisers (unless separated from the employee and the employee's Adviser by an information barrier) generally will be prohibited from communicating such information to, or using such information for the benefit of, clients. This prohibition could limit the ability of clients to buy, sell or hold certain investments, thereby limiting the investment opportunities or exit strategies available to clients. Similarly, no employee who is aware of MNPI that relates to any other company or entity in circumstances in which such person is deemed to be an insider or is otherwise subject to restrictions under federal securities laws may buy or sell securities of that company or otherwise take advantage of, or pass on to others, such MNPI in violation of applicable law. An Adviser shall have no obligation or responsibility to disclose such information to, or use such information for the benefit of, any person (including Accounts that it advises). Moreover, the Advisers have implemented procedures, including information barriers in certain cases, that are designed to control the flow of and prohibit the misuse of such information by the Advisers, their employees and on behalf of Accounts.

In other circumstances, the Advisers are limited by one or more restricted lists of securities and issuers that are subject to certain trading prohibitions due to the Advisers' business activities (e.g., service on the board of the applicable company as an outside director by a Franklin Templeton or applicable Fund director, officer or employee) or other regulatory limitations (e.g., trading volume, ownership limitations). An Account will, in most circumstances, be unable to buy or sell certain securities until the restriction is lifted, which could disadvantage the Account. In addition, holdings in the securities or other instruments of an issuer by the Advisers will, in certain situations, affect the ability of an Account that it advises to make certain acquisitions of or enter into certain transactions with such issuer.

Similarly, where the Advisers invest in securities issued by companies that operate in certain regulated industries or in certain emerging or international markets, or are subject to corporate or regulatory ownership restrictions, there may be limits on the aggregate amount that the Advisers

can invest. For instance, the Advisers may be restricted from investing an amount that would require the grant of a license or other regulatory or corporate consent, or if doing so would violate the Advisers' internal policies. As a result, an Adviser on behalf of its clients may limit purchases, sell existing investments, or otherwise restrict or limit the exercise of rights (including voting rights) when the Adviser, in its sole discretion, deems it appropriate in light of potential regulatory or other restrictions on ownership or other consequences resulting from reaching investment thresholds or investment restrictions.

In those circumstances where ownership thresholds or limitations must be observed, the Advisers seek to equitably allocate limited investment opportunities among their Accounts over time. If the Accounts' holdings of an issuer exceed an applicable threshold and the Advisers are unable to obtain relief to enable the continued holding of such investments, it may be necessary to sell down these positions to meet the applicable limitations, possibly during deteriorating market conditions and/or at a loss to the client. Please see further discussion of allocation of investment opportunities under Item 12 ("Brokerage Practices"). Other ownership thresholds may trigger reporting requirements to governmental and regulatory authorities, and such reports may entail the disclosure of the identity of an Adviser's client or its intended strategy with respect to such security or asset.

### **Conflicts Related to Voting and Exercise of Proxies**

The Advisers generally manage proxy voting on behalf of their Accounts in accordance with their fiduciary obligations. Nonetheless, the Advisers will, from time to time, have conflicts with respect to the exercise of proxies, consents and similar rights. For example, the Advisers or their affiliates may receive service fees from companies whose management is soliciting proxies or the Advisers may have business or personal relationships with participants in proxy contests, corporate directors or candidates for directorships. In addition, an Adviser will at times restrict or otherwise limit its governance or voting rights with respect to an Account's investment in order to avoid certain regulatory consequences that could result in additional costs and disclosure obligations for, or impose restrictions on, the Adviser, its affiliates and/or other Accounts. This could have a negative impact on the clients whose voting rights are limited. Please refer to Item 17 ("Voting Client Securities") for additional detail on the Advisers' proxy voting policy.

## **Item 12 Brokerage Practices**

### **BEST EXECUTION**

The Advisers have adopted policies and procedures that address best execution with respect to equity and fixed income investments and provide guidance on brokerage allocation. The policies and procedures are reasonably designed to ensure (i) that execution services meet the quality standards established by the Advisers' trading teams and are consistent with established policies, (ii) the broadest flexibility in selecting which broker-dealers can provide best execution, (iii) evaluation of the execution capabilities of, and the quality of execution services received from, broker-dealers effecting portfolio transactions for the Advisers' clients, and (iv) the identification and resolution of potential conflicts of interest.

The policies and procedures for equity transactions outline the criteria that the trading team at each global location uses to determine which broker-dealer(s) have provided the highest quality execution services over a particular time period. These include a periodic review of brokerage allocations, the rationale for selecting certain broker-dealers, and a review of historical broker-dealer transactions to test application of the Advisers' best execution procedures.

While the Advisers generally seek competitive commission rates for equity transactions, they do not necessarily pay the lowest commission or commission equivalent; nor will they select broker-dealers solely on the basis of purported or posted commission rates, or seek competitive bidding for the most favorable commission rate in advance. In an effort to maximize value for their clients, the Advisers will seek to obtain the best combination of low commission rates relative to the quality of execution and other brokerage services (e.g., research) received. Transactions involving specialized services or expertise on the part of the broker-dealer may result in higher commissions or their equivalents.

The policies and procedures for fixed income transactions reflect the same general fiduciary principles that are covered in the equity transaction policies and procedures, but also address the

special considerations for executing transactions in fixed income securities. Since trading fixed income securities is fundamentally different from trading in equity securities in that the Advisers will generally deal directly with market makers, the Advisers consider different factors when assessing best execution. In these transactions, the Advisers typically effect trades on a net basis, and do not pay the market maker any commission, commission equivalent or markup/markdown other than the spread.

The Advisers' traders for both fixed income and equity investments are responsible for determining which qualified broker-dealers will provide best execution, taking into account the best combination of price and intermediary value given the client's strategies and objectives.

The Advisers may also engage in derivative transactions that are entered into under a negotiated agreement with a counterparty or futures commission merchant, including, but not limited to, swaps, futures, forwards and options. The agreements to trade these instruments must be in place prior to effecting a transaction. If the Advisers are unable to negotiate acceptable terms with a counterparty or are restricted from engaging certain counterparties for an Account, for example, based on an Adviser's assessment of a counterparty's creditworthiness and financial stability at any given time, the universe of counterparties that the Advisers can choose from will be limited and the standard for best execution may vary with the type of security or instrument involved in a particular transaction. The policies and procedures for equity and fixed income transactions also address the aggregation and allocation principles established by the Advisers for derivatives trading.

## **BROKERAGE FOR CLIENT REFERRALS**

If consistent with their duty to seek best execution, the Advisers will, from time to time, use broker-dealers that refer account clients to the Advisers or an affiliate. To the extent that these referrals result in an increase in assets under management, the Advisers or their affiliates will likely benefit. Therefore, a potential conflict exists that an Adviser could have an incentive to select or recommend a broker-dealer based on its interest in receiving client referrals rather than obtaining best execution on behalf of its clients.

In order to manage this potential conflict of interest, the Advisers do not enter into agreements with, or make commitments to, any broker-dealer that would bind the Advisers to compensate that broker-dealer through increased brokerage transactions for client referrals or sales efforts; nor will the Advisers use step-out transactions or similar arrangements to compensate selling brokers for their sales efforts. In addition, the U.S. Registered Funds have adopted procedures pursuant to Rule 12b-1(h) under the 1940 Act ("Prohibition on the Use of Brokerage Commissions to Finance Distribution"), which provide that neither such funds nor the fund's Adviser may direct brokerage in recognition of the sale of fund shares. Consistent with those procedures, the Advisers do not consider the sale of mutual fund shares in selecting broker-dealers to execute portfolio transactions. However, whether or not a particular broker or dealer sells shares of the Advisers' mutual funds neither qualifies nor disqualifies such broker or dealer to execute transactions for those mutual funds.

## **POLICY ON USE OF CLIENT COMMISSIONS**

When appropriate under their discretionary authority and consistent with their duty to seek best execution, the Advisers or their related persons will, from time to time, direct brokerage transactions for Accounts to broker-dealers that provide the Advisers with research and/or brokerage products and services. The brokerage commissions from client transactions that are used to pay for research or brokerage services in addition to basic execution services are referred to here as "**client commissions.**"

In the United States, broker-dealers typically bundle research with their trade execution services. The research provided can be either proprietary (created and provided by the executing broker-dealer, including tangible research products as well as access to analysts and traders) or third-party (created by a third party but provided by the executing broker-dealer). To the extent permitted by applicable law, the Advisers will, from time to time, use client commissions to obtain both proprietary and third-party research as well as certain brokerage products and services. The receipt of research in exchange for client commissions benefits the Advisers by allowing the Advisers to supplement their own research and analysis and also gain access to specialists from a variety of securities firms with expertise on certain companies, industries, areas of the economy, and market

factors without the Advisers having to pay for such services and resources. The Advisers believe that this research provides an overall benefit to their clients.

The Advisers become eligible for client commission credits by sending trades and paying trade commissions to broker-dealers ("**Client Commission Arrangement Broker-Dealers**") who both execute the trades and provide the Advisers with research and other brokerage products and services. These products and services come in a variety of forms including: (1) research reports generated by the broker-dealer, (2) conferences with representatives of issuers, and (3) client commission credits that can be used to obtain research reports or services from others. The portion of any trade commission on a particular trade attributable to the client commission research or other brokerage products and services cannot be identified at an individual account level.

The current list of Client Commission Arrangement Broker-Dealers includes the following, and is subject to change periodically:

Bank of America/Merrill Lynch  
Citigroup Global Markets Inc.  
Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC  
Deutsche Bank Securities Inc.  
Goldman Sachs & Co.  
Instinet LLC  
JP Morgan Securities Inc.  
Liquidnet  
Morgan Stanley & Co. Inc.  
UBS Securities LLC  
Virtu Financial

Section 28(e) of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934 provides a safe harbor that allows an investment adviser to pay for research and brokerage services with the client commission dollars generated by account transactions. The Advisers currently acquire only the types of products or services that qualify for the safe harbor. Research and brokerage services acquired with client commissions permitted under the safe harbor include, but are not limited to:

- reports, statistical data, publications and other information on the economy, industries, sectors, individual companies or issuers, which may include research provided by proxy voting services;
- software and communications services related to the execution, clearing and settlement of securities transactions;
- software that provides analyses of securities portfolios;
- statistical trade analysis;
- reports on legal developments affecting portfolio securities;
- registration fees for conferences and seminars;
- consultation with analysts, including research conference calls and access to financial models;
- investment risk analyses, including political and credit risk;
- investment risk measurement systems and software;
- analyses of corporate responsibility issues; and
- market data services, such as those which provide price quotes, last sale prices and trading volumes.

Examples of specific products and services received within the last year include those provided by Bloomberg, Thomson Reuters, FactSet, MSCI/Barra and Standard and Poor's. Services may also include access to information providers who are part of what may be referred to as an "expert network." Firms providing such a service often facilitate consultations among researchers, investment professionals, and individuals with expertise in a particular field or industry, such as doctors, academics and consultants. Access to expert networks is particularly helpful in understanding sectors of the market that are highly complex or technical in nature. The Advisers have developed controls in support of existing policies and procedures governing the use of expert networks and the information they may provide to the Advisers.

If a product or service used by the Advisers provides both research and non-research benefits, the Advisers will generally consider it as a mixed-use item and will pay for the non-research portion

with cash from their own resources, rather than client commissions. The Advisers will then allocate the cost of the product between client commissions and cash according to their anticipated use. Although the allocation between client commissions and cash is not a precise calculation, the Advisers make a good faith effort to reasonably allocate such services, and maintain records detailing the mixed-use research, services and products received and the allocation between the research and non-research portions, including payments made by client commissions and cash. It is not ordinarily possible to place an exact dollar value on the special execution or on the research services the Advisers receive from dealers effecting transactions in portfolio securities.

The Advisers will typically select a broker-dealer based on their assessment of the broker-dealer's trade execution services and their belief that the research, information and other services the broker-dealer provides will benefit Accounts. As a result, broker-dealers selected by the Advisers will, from time to time, be paid a commission rate for effecting portfolio transactions for Accounts in excess of amounts other broker-dealers would have charged for effecting similar transactions if the Advisers determine that the commission is reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and/or research services provided, viewed either in terms of a particular transaction or the Advisers' overall duty to their discretionary Accounts.

While the Advisers may negotiate commission rates and prices with certain broker-dealers with the expectation that they will be providing brokerage or research services, the Advisers will not enter into any agreement or understanding with any broker-dealer that would obligate the Advisers to direct a specific amount of brokerage transactions or commissions in return for such services. Research services are one of the factors considered when determining the amount of commissions to be allocated to a specific broker-dealer. As a result, the Advisers will have an incentive to select or recommend a broker-dealer based on the Advisers' interest in receiving research or other products or services, rather than on a client's interest in receiving the most favorable commission rate.

Certain broker-dealers state in advance the amount of brokerage commissions they require for particular services. If the Advisers do not meet the threshold for a desired product, they may either direct accumulated research commissions as part of a client commission arrangement with an executing broker-dealer to pay the research provider or the Advisers may pay cash.

The Advisers, to the extent consistent with best execution and applicable regulations, will, from time to time, direct trades to a broker-dealer with instructions to execute the transaction and have a third-party broker-dealer or research provider provide client commission products and/or services to the Advisers. This type of commission-sharing arrangement allows the Advisers to pay part of the commission on the trade to a broker-dealer that can provide better execution and the other part of the commission to another broker-dealer from which the Advisers receive research or other services.

Some clients permit the Advisers to use Client Commission Arrangement Broker-Dealers but prohibit the Advisers from using the commissions generated by their Accounts to acquire third-party and proprietary research services. While these clients may not experience lower transaction costs than other clients, they are likely to benefit from the research acquired using other clients' commissions because most research services are available to all investment personnel, regardless of whether they work on Accounts that generate client commissions eligible for research acquisition. The Advisers do not seek to use research services obtained with client commissions solely for the specific Account that generated the client commissions and will, from time to time, share that research with the Advisers' affiliates. As a result, the Advisers' Accounts benefit from research services obtained with client commissions generated by client accounts of other advisers within Franklin Templeton. The Advisers do not attempt to allocate the relative costs or benefits of research among Accounts because they believe that, in the aggregate, the research they receive assists the Advisers in fulfilling their overall duty to all clients.

In the case of Accounts that are covered by the European Union's revised Markets in Financial Instruments Directive ("**MiFID II**"), Franklin Templeton pays for third-party investment research out of its own resources. To the extent these Accounts' orders are aggregated with the orders of clients whose commissions pay for research, clients participating in such aggregated orders may not pay a pro rata share of all costs (*i.e.*, research payments) associated with such orders, and these Accounts and other non-research paying clients may realize the price and execution benefits of the



aggregated order while benefiting from the research acquired by Franklin Templeton, although all clients will pay the same average security price and execution costs.

## **AGGREGATION AND ALLOCATION OF TRADES**

Generally, all same day client trades in the same security for Accounts under the management of an Adviser's portfolio management team will be aggregated in a single order (sometimes called "block trading") unless aggregation is inefficient or is restricted by client direction, type of Account or other limitation. All Accounts that participate in a block transaction will participate on a pro rata, relative order size, percentage, or other objective basis. Potential conflicts of interest exist with respect to the aggregation and allocation of client transactions. For example, the Advisers could be viewed as allocating securities that they anticipate will increase in value to certain favored clients, especially those that pay a performance-based fee. Please see Item 6 ("Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management") for additional information.

There are instances where purchase or sale orders, or both, are placed simultaneously on behalf of the Advisers' Accounts and by accounts advised by other Advisers or the Advisers' affiliates. In these instances, the Advisers will aggregate the purchase or sale order in a block trade for execution in accordance with established procedures. Generally, for each participating account, the block transactions are averaged as to price and allocated as to amount in accordance with daily purchase or sale orders actually placed for the account. Orders may be aggregated to facilitate best execution, as well as to aid in negotiating more favorable brokerage commissions beneficial to all accounts. The Advisers will, from time to time, also aggregate orders for clients that permit client commission arrangements with clients that do not permit such arrangements. In these cases, the Advisers aggregate the orders to obtain best execution and do not seek a research credit for the portion of the trade that is executed for clients that do not permit such arrangements. As noted above, such circumstances may result in the non-research-paying clients (including those covered by MiFID II) realizing the price and execution benefits of the aggregated order while benefiting from the research acquired by Franklin Templeton. Generally, with the exception of those Accounts that are subject to MiFID II, all Accounts whose trades are aggregated will pay the same commission levels.

From time to time, aggregation will not be possible because a security or other instrument is thinly traded or otherwise not able to be aggregated and allocated among all clients seeking the investment opportunity, and clients may be limited in, or precluded from, participating in an aggregated trade. Also, an issuer in which clients wish to invest may have threshold limitations on aggregate ownership interests arising from legal or regulatory requirements or company ownership restrictions (e.g., poison pills or other restrictions in organizational documents), which may have the effect of limiting the potential size of the investment opportunity and thus the ability of clients to participate in the opportunity.

In making allocations of fixed income and other limited investment opportunities, the Advisers must address specific considerations. For example, the Advisers may not be able to acquire the same security at the same time for more than one Account, may not be able to acquire the amount of the security to meet the desired allocation amounts for each Account, or, alternatively, in order to meet the desired allocation amount for each Account, the Advisers may be required to pay a higher price or obtain a lower yield for the security. As a result, the Advisers will take into consideration one or more factors in making such allocations as part of their standard methodology, including, but not limited to:

- Investment objectives
- Relative cash position of Accounts
- Client tax status
- Regulatory restrictions
- "Round Lot" limitations when placing orders
- Emphasis or focus of particular Accounts
- Risk position of the Accounts
- Specific overriding client instructions
- Existing portfolio composition and applicable industry, sector, or capitalization weightings
- Client sensitivity to turnover
- Stage in the life cycle of the investment opportunity

- Structure of the investment opportunity

While pro rata allocation by order size is the most common form of allocation, to help ensure that the Advisers' clients have fair access to trading opportunities over time, certain trades will be placed by an alternative standard allocation or an objective methodology other than the standard methodology. Other objective methodologies are permissible provided they are employed with general consistency, operate fairly and are properly documented. In situations where orders cannot be aggregated, greater transaction costs may result and prices may vary among Accounts. See "Client-Directed Brokerage Transactions" below. In addition, certain non-U.S. markets require trades to be executed on an account-by-account basis. As portfolio transactions in such markets cannot be block traded, prices may vary among Accounts.

## **CLIENT-DIRECTED BROKERAGE TRANSACTIONS**

The Advisers do not routinely recommend, request or require that a client direct trading orders to any specific broker-dealer. However, the Advisers will, in certain circumstances, accommodate special requests from a client directing the Advisers to use a particular broker-dealer to execute portfolio transactions for its Account. This may include the use of expense reimbursement and commission recapture arrangements, where certain broker-dealers rebate a portion of an Account's brokerage commissions (or spreads on fixed income or principal trades) directly to the client's Account, or apply the amount against an Account's expenses. Clients may also ask the Advisers to seek reduced brokerage commissions with some or all broker-dealers used to execute their trades.

Specific client instructions on the use of a particular broker-dealer limit an Adviser's discretionary authority, and 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 blocked with orders for the same securities for other Accounts managed by the Advisers. These trades will generally be placed at the end of block trading activity for a particular security and executed after discretionary trades. Accordingly, client-directed transactions are vulnerable 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 block order. Under these circumstances, the client may be subject to higher commissions, greater spreads, or less favorable net prices than might be the case if the Advisers had the authority to negotiate commission rates or spreads, or to select broker-dealers based solely on best execution considerations. Therefore, where a client directs an Adviser to use a particular broker-dealer to execute trades, or imposes limits on the terms under which such Adviser may engage a particular broker-dealer, such Adviser will not, in certain circumstances, be able to obtain best execution for such client-directed trades.

## **FOREIGN EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS**

Some clients require transactions in currencies other than their base currency to permit the purchase or sale of foreign securities, to repatriate the proceeds of such trades (as well as related dividends, interest payments or tax reclaims) and to convert cash inflows back to their base currency. 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 (or certain instruments in particular markets) may be restricted such 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 Advisers for their 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 Advisers will be responsible for the repatriation of income (including, for some of these Accounts, the decision whether to repatriate the income or leave it in local currency based on investment outlook) and for arranging FX transactions in one or more restricted markets. The Advisers 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. The Advisers

do not have the ability to control any FX transactions performed by the client's custodian bank and assume no responsibility for the execution or oversight of FX transactions conducted by the client's custodian bank.

Whether a market is considered to be restricted will depend on a number of factors, including, but not limited to, country-specific statutory requirements, structural risks, and operational issues. Whether a market is restricted or unrestricted can also change over time and varies depending on the type of transaction. Accordingly, the Advisers will consult from time to time with third parties, including broker-dealers and custodians, to determine, in good faith, whether a market is considered restricted.

For certain Funds, including U.S. Registered Funds, where the custodian is appointed by the Fund, the applicable Adviser reviews FX activity performed by the custodian. In its review, the Adviser may rely on information provided by a third-party industry vendor. Typically, the analysis 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 applicable Adviser does not monitor the execution quality of the FX transactions performed by the client's custodian bank. In exceptional circumstances, an Adviser will 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.

## **Item 13      Review of Accounts**

The Advisers manage investment portfolios for each of their clients. Generally, the portfolios under an 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 an 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 Account reviews are often determined by negotiation with individual clients pursuant to the terms of each client's 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 Advisers or a related person, from time to time, 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 governed by the policy on use of solicitors and client referrals adopted by the Advisers and 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 an Adviser's advisory fee, or some other method of computation agreed upon between the parties. To the extent allowed under applicable law, the Advisers' Code of Ethics and the policies and procedures (including the Anti-Corruption Policy) of the Advisers, their affiliates, and/or a particular broker-dealer, the Advisers or a related person will, from time to time, (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 an 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.

With respect to certain Advisers that serve SMA Program clients, such Advisers receive fees, directly or indirectly, from the sponsor of the SMA Program for all services rendered by such Advisers to the SMA Program clients. As such, these Advisers may be considered to receive cash compensation from a non-client in connection with giving advice to SMA Program clients. Similarly, in certain cases where an Adviser serves as a sub-adviser, the Adviser will, from time to time,

receive advisory fees from the primary investment manager rather than directly from the investment advisory client.

For details regarding economic benefits provided to the Advisers by non-clients, including a description of related material conflicts of interest and how they are addressed, please see Item 11 (“Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading”) above.

## **Item 15 Custody**

For certain Separate Account clients that authorize an Adviser to receive its advisory fees out of the assets in such clients’ Accounts by sending invoices to the respective custodians of those Accounts, the Adviser will be deemed by the SEC to have custody of the assets in those Accounts, and, as a result, such clients, where required, will receive account statements directly from their third-party custodians for the Accounts, which should be carefully reviewed. In addition to account statements delivered by third-party custodians, the applicable Adviser may provide such clients with separate reports or account statements containing information about the Accounts. Clients should compare these carefully to the account statements received from the custodian and report any discrepancies to their Adviser and custodian immediately.

An Adviser, if it advises Private Funds, will also be deemed to have custody of the assets of certain Private Funds for which it or its related person serves as general partner (or in a comparable position for other types of pooled investment vehicles). Investors in these pooled investment vehicles that receive the fund’s annual audited financial statements in accordance with the Advisers Act should review these statements carefully and should contact their Adviser immediately if they do not receive audited financial statements in a timely manner. To the extent that a pooled investment vehicle for which an Adviser or its related person serves as general partner (or in a comparable position) does not provide investors with its annual audited financial statements as described above, such fund’s custodian will deliver to the investor a quarterly statement as required under the Advisers Act, which should be carefully reviewed by the investor, and the pooled investment vehicle will be subject to an independent examination in accordance with the Advisers Act.

## **Item 16 Investment Discretion**

Generally, the Advisers have discretionary authority to supervise and direct the investment of the assets under their management, without obtaining prior specific client consent for each transaction. This investment discretion is granted by written authority of the client in the investment management agreement between the client and an Adviser and is subject to such limitations as a client may impose by notice in writing and as agreed to by the Adviser. Under their discretionary authority, the Advisers will generally make the following determinations in accordance with the investment management agreement, the client’s investment restrictions, the Advisers’ internal policies, commercial practice, and applicable law, without prior consultation or consent before a transaction is effected:

- Which securities or other instruments to buy or sell;
- The total amount of securities or other instruments to buy or sell;
- The broker-dealer or counterparty used to buy or sell securities or other instruments; and/or
- The prices and commission rates at which transactions are effected.

When an Adviser believes engagement will be beneficial, it may, in the Adviser’s sole discretion unless otherwise agreed, submit a shareholder proposal to, or otherwise actively engage with, the issuer of securities held in one or more Accounts. An Adviser may also delegate its discretionary authority to a sub-adviser where the Adviser believes, in its sole discretion, that such delegation would be beneficial. The Advisers will consider a variety of factors including, but not limited to, costs when considering whether to engage in such activities.

The Advisers may, in an Adviser’s sole discretion, accept the initial funding of an Account with one or more securities in-kind. Subject to the terms of the investment management agreement and applicable law, the Advisers will use good faith efforts to liquidate any such securities that the Advisers do not elect to keep as part of such Account, and shall not be liable for any investment losses or market risk associated with such liquidation.

## LIMITATIONS ON DISCRETION

Certain Advisers provide non-discretionary services to Accounts, pursuant to which the Advisers provide a client with research, model portfolios or advice with respect to purchasing, selling, or holding particular investments. Accounts for which the Advisers do not have investment discretion may or may not include the authority to trade for the Account and are subject to any additional limitations that are imposed by a client in writing. For certain Accounts where the Advisers do not have investment discretion or trading authority, a conflict of interest will exist for the Advisers to delay a recommendation to buy or sell if the Advisers believe that the execution of such recommendation could have a material impact on pending trades for Accounts for which the Advisers hold investment discretion. Conversely, trades may be executed for discretionary clients in advance of executions for non-discretionary clients, potentially disadvantaging the non-discretionary clients where there is a timing difference related to the provision of advice to a non-discretionary client for consideration and that client's determination of whether or not to act on the advice.

The Advisers may, in an Adviser's sole discretion, accept one or more categories of investment restrictions requested in writing by clients. In the case of investment restrictions based on social, environmental or other criteria, unless otherwise agreed to with a client, the Advisers' compliance with such restrictions will be based on good faith efforts and can be satisfied by using either a third-party service to screen issuers against such restrictions, or a combination of other market data services (such as Bloomberg and FactSet) and internal research.

The investment guidelines applicable to an Account are typically based on the Account being fully funded. During funding or transition phases, or where there are unusual market conditions, an 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 such Adviser and its client. Moreover, investment restrictions are looked to at the time of investment unless otherwise agreed with the client in writing, and variances to the investment guidelines such as market movements (including exchange rates), the exercise of subscription rights, late settlement as a result of custodial action or inaction, a material increase or reduction in assets due to contributions or withdrawals by the client, or a change in the nature of an investment are generally not considered to be a breach of the investment management agreement unless specifically agreed to in writing.

## SWEEP VEHICLES

Generally, uninvested cash held in an Account will be automatically moved or "swept" temporarily by the client's custodian into one or more money market mutual funds or other short-term investment vehicles offered by such custodian. Sweep arrangements are typically made between the client and the client's custodian, and the client is responsible for selecting the sweep vehicle. The Advisers' sole responsibility in this regard, unless specifically directed otherwise in the client's investment management agreement or by separate agreement, is to issue standing instructions to the custodian to automatically sweep excess cash in the Account into the sweep vehicle. In circumstances where the client has not made arrangements with its custodian, the Advisers may consult with the client regarding an appropriate sweep vehicle from those made available by the custodian; however, the client will ultimately select the desired sweep vehicle. In exceptional circumstances, the Advisers will select the appropriate sweep vehicle from those made available by the custodian. However, the Advisers do not actively manage the residual cash in Accounts and will not be responsible for monitoring the sweep vehicle into which such residual cash is swept.

Whether sweep arrangements are made between the client and its custodian or in consultation with the Advisers, any client whose assets are swept into an unaffiliated money market mutual fund or other short-term investment vehicle will continue to pay the Adviser's regular advisory fee on the entire Account, plus the client may pay a management fee to the manager of such fund or short-term investment vehicle on the portion of the Account's assets invested in the money market mutual fund or short-term investment vehicle.

## PARTICIPATION IN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Funds. Unless otherwise noted in an Adviser's Appendix, with respect to the Funds that the Advisers manage, advise, or sub-advise, the Advisers, through their delegates (which include,

without limitation, personnel of an affiliate, a law firm, custodian or other claim filing service), use 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 Advisers learn and for which the Funds are eligible during the term of the investment management agreement (the "**Claim Service**"). Infrequently, such United States and Canadian class action lawsuits 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 Advisers have 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, and shall not be required, or be liable for any failure, to do so.

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 Advisers 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 ("**Foreign Actions**"). The Advisers do not assume any obligation to identify, research, or file proofs of claim in any Foreign Actions. In the event that the Advisers do learn of any Foreign Actions, the Advisers have 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, Advisers to Funds will recommend that one or more of such 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). In addition, unless otherwise noted in an Adviser's Appendix, the Advisers or the Funds they advise will also, from time to time, participate in bankruptcy proceedings involving issuers of securities presently or formerly held in such Funds' portfolios, or related parties of such issuers, and join official or *ad hoc* committees of creditors or other stakeholders. Similarly, the Adviser's affiliates will, from time to time, recommend that the Funds they manage participate in litigation, bankruptcy proceedings or committees of creditors or other stakeholders.

Separate Account/Sub-Advised Account Clients. With respect to Separate Accounts and Sub-Advised Accounts that an Adviser manages, 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/or (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 United States and Canada, such as representative actions, as those other actions require individual analysis as to whether participation is in an Account'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 (such offshore collective or representative actions, "**Foreign Litigation Actions**"). The Advisers do not assume any obligation to identify or take any action with respect to such Foreign Litigation Actions for their Separate Accounts or Sub-Advised Accounts.

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 Separate Account and Sub-Advised Account clients.

Further, unless otherwise specifically agreed, an 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 by Separate Account or Sub-Advised Account clients or related parties of such issuers. Without limiting the foregoing, unless otherwise specifically agreed, an 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 Separate Account or Sub-Advised Account 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 Separate Account or Sub-Advised Account clients.

In connection with the Claim Service and an Adviser's involvement in bankruptcy proceedings on behalf of Separate Account and Sub-Advised Account clients, where applicable, the Adviser will,

from time to time, disclose information about a Separate Account or Sub-Advised Account client, 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 Separate Account or Sub-Advised Account client, the Adviser will, from time to time, waive the Separate Account or Sub-Advised Account 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 an Adviser does provide the Claim Service or agrees to participate in bankruptcy proceedings on behalf of a Separate Account or Sub-Advised Account, such Adviser may (subject to the investment management agreement) at any time terminate provision of such services by giving notice of such termination to the Separate Account or Sub-Advised Account client (by any method such Adviser chooses, including electronic mail), and such services will, if not sooner terminated, automatically terminate upon the termination of the investment management agreement.

In addition, with respect to all Accounts, Accounts that are currently or were formerly investors in, or were otherwise involved with, investments that are the subject of a legal action will, under certain circumstances, be parties to the particular legal action with the result that an Account may participate in an action in which not all Accounts with similar investments participate. In these instances, non-participating Accounts will benefit from the results of such action without becoming or otherwise being subject to the associated fees, costs, expenses and liabilities.

SMA Program Clients. Unless otherwise specifically requested, Advisers that provide advice to clients or sponsors in connection with SMA Programs will not provide the services described above with respect to legal or bankruptcy proceedings to such clients or sponsors.

## **Item 17 Voting Client Securities**

### **PROXY VOTING POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

The Advisers have delegated their 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.

All proxies received by the Proxy Group will be voted based upon the Advisers' instructions and/or policies. To assist it in analyzing proxies, the Advisers subscribe to one or more unaffiliated third party corporate governance research services that provide in-depth analyses of shareholder meeting agendas, vote recommendations, recordkeeping and vote disclosure services (each a "**Proxy Service**"). Although Proxy Service analyses are thoroughly reviewed and considered in making a final voting decision, the Advisers do not consider recommendations from a Proxy Service or any other third party to be determinative of an Adviser's ultimate decision (except as otherwise discussed in an Adviser's Appendix). Rather, the Advisers exercise their independent judgment in making voting decisions. The Advisers vote proxies solely in the best interests of the client, the Fund investors or, where employee benefit plan assets subject to ERISA are involved, 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 an Adviser or (ii) the documents otherwise expressly prohibit an Adviser from voting proxies. As a matter of policy, the officers, directors and Access Persons of the Advisers and the Proxy Group will not be influenced by outside sources whose interests conflict with the interests of Advisory Clients.

The Advisers are affiliates of a large, diverse financial services firm with many affiliates and each Adviser makes its best efforts to mitigate conflicts of interest. However, conflicts of interest can arise in situations where the issuer of the equity securities that are the subject of the proxy vote is a client, a significant vendor to Franklin Templeton, a distributor of Franklin Templeton proprietary investment products, or a broker-dealer, or when an employee or director of an Adviser serves as an officer or director of the issuer.

Material conflicts of interest are identified by the Proxy Group based upon analyses of various sources. The Proxy Group gathers and analyzes this information on a best efforts basis, as much of this information is provided directly by individuals and groups other than the Proxy Group, and the Proxy Group relies on the accuracy of the information it receives from such parties.

In situations where a material conflict of interest is identified, the decision on how to resolve the conflict will be made in accordance with the Proxy Group's conflict of interest procedures, and the Proxy Group will, under certain circumstances, vote consistently with the voting recommendation of a Proxy Service or send the proxy directly to the relevant Advisory Clients with the Adviser's voting recommendation.

In certain circumstances, Separate Accounts are permitted to direct their votes in a particular solicitation pursuant to the applicable investment management agreement. A client that wishes to direct its vote in a particular solicitation shall give reasonable prior written notice to the relevant Adviser indicating such intention and provide written instructions directing the Adviser or the Proxy Group to vote in regard to the particular solicitation. Where such prior written notice is received, the Proxy Group (or the Adviser if applicable) will vote proxies in accordance with such written instructions received from the client.

The Adviser will inform clients that have not delegated voting responsibility to the Adviser, but that have requested voting advice, about the Adviser's views on such proxy votes.

In certain SMA Programs, typically where the SMA Program sponsor has not elected for the applicable Adviser to do so or where the applicable Adviser only provides non-discretionary management services to the SMA Program, the relevant Adviser will not be delegated the responsibility to vote proxies held by the SMA Program accounts. Instead, the SMA Program sponsor or another service provider will generally vote these proxies. Clients in SMA Programs should contact the SMA Program sponsor for a copy of the Program Sponsor's proxy voting policies.

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 Advisers will not support the position of the company's management in any situation where they deem 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, Proxy Service analyses, recommendations and any other information provided to the Proxy Group. Except in situations identified as presenting material conflicts of interest or as otherwise discussed in an Adviser's Appendix (if applicable), the Advisers' research analyst(s) and relevant portfolio manager(s) are responsible for making the final voting decision based on their review of the agenda, Proxy 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 voting consistently with the voting recommendations of an independent third-party service provider, the Proxy Group must obtain voting instructions from the Advisers' research analyst(s), relevant portfolio manager(s), legal counsel and/or an Advisory Client prior to submitting the vote.

The Advisers have adopted general proxy voting guidelines that are reviewed periodically by various members of the Advisers' organization, including portfolio management, legal counsel and the Advisers' officers, and are subject to change. These guidelines cannot provide an exhaustive list of all the issues that arise nor can the Advisers 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 and social issues, governance matters, and global corporate governance.

The Advisers will attempt to process every proxy they receive for all U.S. and non-U.S. securities. However, there may be situations in which the Advisers are unable to successfully vote a proxy, or choose to not vote a proxy, such as where: (i) a 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 Account's 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 Account's Adviser votes a proxy or where such



Adviser is prohibited from voting by applicable law, economic or other sanctions or other regulatory or market requirements, including, but not limited to, effective powers of attorney, (v) additional documentation or the disclosure of beneficial owner details is required, (vi) the Account's Adviser held shares on the record date but has sold them prior to the meeting date, (vii) proxy voting service is not offered by the custodian in the market, (viii) due to either system error or human error, the Account's Adviser's intended vote is not correctly submitted, (ix) the Account's 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 (x) a security is subject to a securities lending or similar program that has transferred legal title to the security to another person.

In some non-U.S. jurisdictions, even if the Advisers use reasonable efforts to vote a proxy on behalf of their Advisory Clients, such vote or proxy may be rejected because of (i) operational or procedural issues experienced by one or more third parties involved in voting proxies in such jurisdictions, (ii) changes in the process or agenda for the meeting by the issuer for which the Account's Adviser does not have sufficient notice, or (iii) the exercise by the issuer of its discretion to reject the vote of an Account's Adviser. In addition, despite the best efforts of the Proxy Group and its agents, there may be situations where the Advisers' votes are not received, or properly tabulated, by an issuer or the issuer's agent.

In certain circumstances, the Advisers or their affiliates will, on behalf of one or more of the U.S. Registered Funds and Non-U.S. Registered Funds advised by the Advisers or their affiliates, determine to use their best efforts to recall any security on loan where the Advisers or their affiliates (i) learn of a vote on a material event that may affect a security on loan, and (ii) determine that it is in the best interests of such registered investment companies to recall the security for voting purposes. The Advisers will not generally make such efforts on behalf of other Advisory Clients, or notify such clients or their custodians that the Advisers or their affiliates have learned of such a vote.

The Proxy Group is responsible for maintaining the documentation that supports the Advisers' voting decision. Such documentation typically includes, but is not limited to, any information provided by Proxy 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 will, from time to time, use an outside service such as a Proxy Service to support this recordkeeping function. All records will be retained in either hard copy or electronically 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 an Adviser's complete proxy voting policies and procedures online at [www.franklintempleton.com](http://www.franklintempleton.com), request copies of their proxy voting records and the Advisers' 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. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301, Attention: Proxy Group. For U.S. Registered Funds, an annual proxy voting record for the period ending June 30 of each year will be posted to [www.franklintempleton.com](http://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 U.S. Registered Funds are made available as required by law and is responsible for overseeing the filing of such U.S. Registered Fund voting records with the SEC.

## **Item 18 Financial Information**

Not applicable.

## FORM ADV PART 2A: FIRM BROCHURE APPENDIX

# FIDUCIARY INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Updated as of August 25, 2020

This appendix (this “**Appendix**”) provides additional information for Fiduciary Investment Management International, Inc. (the “**Adviser**”), and supplements the information about the Adviser provided in the corresponding items of the firm brochure of Franklin Templeton (the “**Primary Brochure**”). This Appendix must be read in conjunction with the Primary Brochure, which contains important information about the Adviser. To the extent any information in this Appendix is inconsistent with or conflicts with the information in the Primary Brochure, the information in this Appendix will supersede that of the Primary Brochure. For the avoidance of doubt, information in the Primary Brochure that is not relevant or applicable to the advisory services provided by the Adviser as described in Item 4 (“Advisory Business”) of this Appendix will not be applicable to the Adviser. Capitalized terms used in this Appendix but not defined herein will have the meanings assigned to them in the Primary Brochure.

### Item 2 Material Changes

Please refer to Item 2 (“Material Changes”) of the Primary Brochure for material changes made on or after the date of the last annual update of the Adviser’s brochure through April 16, 2020. Although there have been no other material changes specific to the Adviser, the Adviser has updated and revised certain disclosures relating to its business operations, particularly in the following areas:

Item 4: Advisory Services – Updated the Adviser’s assets under management as part of August 25, 2020 other-than-annual amendment.

Item 5: Fees and Compensation – Updated the Adviser’s fee schedules and added disclosure through an other-than-annual amendment on August 25, 2020 discussing the fees that apply in connection with certain Accounts investing in affiliated and unaffiliated pooled investment vehicles.

Item 8: Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss – Updated investment risks applicable to the Adviser’s investment strategies. Includes an other-than-annual amendment made on April 16, 2020 stating that the “Outbreaks, Pandemics and Other Public Health Issues” risk added to the Primary Brochure is applicable to the Adviser.

Item 11: Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading – Added disclosure through an other-than-annual amendment on August 25, 2020 discussing the fees that apply to certain Accounts investing in Affiliated Funds and the conflicts related to these fees.

### Item 4 Advisory Business

#### INTRODUCTION TO FIDUCIARY INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL, INC.

The Adviser is a Delaware corporation formed on March 2, 1998 and based in Washington, D.C. The Adviser is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Fiduciary International Holding, Inc., which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Franklin Resources.

## ADVISORY SERVICES

The Adviser provides investment advisory (“**Wealth Advisory Services**”) and portfolio management (“**Investment Management Services**”) to Separate Accounts.

## ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT

As of July 31, 2020, the Adviser managed the following amounts on a discretionary and non-discretionary basis:

	U.S. Dollar Amount
Discretionary	\$614,943,015.49
Non-Discretionary	\$ 0
Total*	\$614,943,015.49

\* May differ from Regulatory Assets Under Management (“**RAUM**”) disclosed in Item 5.F of the Adviser’s Form ADV Part 1A due to specific calculation instructions for RAUM.

Assets under management described in this item may include assets that an affiliated adviser is also reporting on its Form ADV.

## Item 5 Fees and Compensation

### FEE SCHEDULES – Separate Account Clients

The Adviser’s fee schedule is based on an annual percentage of an Account’s assets under management. Generally, the Adviser’s fee schedules for Separate Accounts fall within the following ranges (normally calculated as a percentage of the value of assets under management, and typically calculated quarterly, or as agreed with each client):

#### Fees for Wealth Advisory Services

- 0.65% of the first \$5 million assets
- 0.55% of the next \$5 million assets
- 0.35% of the next \$10 million assets
- 0.30% of the next \$30 million assets
- 0.25% of the next \$50 million assets
- 0.20% of the balance of the assets

#### Fees for Investment Management Services

##### Equity Management:

- 0.45% on the first \$10,000,000
- 0.35% of the next \$20,000,000
- 0.20% of the remaining balance

##### Fixed Income Management:

- 0.30% of the first \$10,000,000
- 0.20% of the balance of assets

A minimum annual fee of \$25,000 is assessed if the total annual account fees do not (in the aggregate) exceed such amount. The Adviser has employed different fee schedules with clients historically and, in certain cases, these historical fee schedules remain in effect with respect to such clients and may be outside the ranges provided above.

## OTHER FEES AND EXPENSES

The following paragraphs replace the penultimate paragraph of Item 5 (“Fees and Compensation – Other Fees and Expenses”) in the Primary Brochure in its entirety with respect to the Adviser.

The Adviser will, under certain circumstances on behalf of certain clients, invest in pooled investment vehicles, including U.S. Registered Funds. Generally, the value of assets in an Account invested in unaffiliated third-party pooled investment vehicles will be excluded from the calculation of management fees for Investment Management Services, but they will generally be included for

purposes of calculating management fees for Wealth Advisory Services. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, Accounts operating under the Adviser's historical fee schedules may have a different fee structure and calculation methodology. In both instances, clients will also generally bear the costs and expenses charged by these investment vehicles to their investors, such as management and administrative fees, subject to applicable law and regulation and the terms of the client's agreement. Additionally, in some cases the Adviser may determine it is appropriate to invest a portion of a client's assets into other funds for which the Adviser or an affiliate of the Adviser serves as investment adviser or sub-adviser ("**Affiliated Funds**"). The Adviser excludes any assets invested in Affiliated Funds from the management fees charged for both Wealth Advisory Services and Investment Management Services. However, subject to certain conditions and where permitted by law, an administrative fee of 0.25% is applied to the value of such assets (the "**Affiliated Funds Administrative Services Fee**").

As described in the prospectus or other relevant offering document of the respective Affiliated Funds, the Adviser's affiliates will, under certain circumstances, receive compensation for providing investment management and other services to each Affiliated Fund managed by such Adviser's affiliate in which an Account may invest. The Adviser's affiliate will also occasionally share such compensation with the Adviser. Such an arrangement creates a conflict of interest for the Adviser to the extent that the Adviser has an incentive to recommend investments in one of the Affiliated Funds rather than in unaffiliated funds. To mitigate this conflict, the Adviser excludes the value of Affiliated Funds from the management fee calculation (although, subject to certain conditions and to the extent permitted by law, the Account is charged the Affiliated Funds Administrative Services Fee). In addition, when selecting a pooled investment vehicle for the Account, including an Affiliated Fund, the Adviser will consider each investment's composition, performance and cost versus industry benchmarks and peer groups appropriate to the investment, including any potential cost savings of an investment into an Affiliated Fund resulting from excluding the value of such assets from the management fee. This and other conflicts, as well as similar arrangements with respect to investments in Affiliated Funds and conflicts associated therewith, are further discussed in Item 11 ("Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading – Conflicts Related to Investment in Affiliated Funds and Affiliated Accounts").

From time to time, an unaffiliated third-party manager or sub-adviser will be engaged to manage part of an Account. In such scenario, the client may incur additional fees charged by those third-party managers and sub-advisers.

## **Item 7      Types of Clients**

The Adviser provides Wealth Advisory Services and Investment Management Services to Separate Accounts. Separate Account clients include institutional and high net-worth clients. With respect to its institutional Separate Account clients, the Adviser's institutional clients include, from time to time, corporations and other business entities, charitable foundations, endowment funds, and government and corporate defined contribution and pension plans.

The Adviser generally will not accept management of a new Separate Account client of less than \$5 million unless special circumstances are present, including the existence of a related account already managed by the Adviser or an affiliate.

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

The Adviser's investment management group offers its clients customized portfolios represented by determining the appropriate asset allocation strategy to meet clients' long-term objectives, and investing in individual securities, mutual funds, exchange traded funds and alternative investments. The Adviser's investment management services incorporate strategic and tactical asset allocation recommendations based on proprietary expected risk and return forecasts to optimize portfolios. Fundamental investment research and valuation analyses, including original economic, political, industry and company research, and analyses of suppliers, customers and competitors are used in the security selection process. Company research includes the utilization of such sources as company public records and other publicly available information, management interviews, company prepared information, and company visits and inspections. In addition, research services provided by dedicated research or brokerage firms are used to support the Adviser's findings. In managing

discretionary Accounts and providing recommendations to non-discretionary clients, the Adviser uses various investment strategies, methods of analysis, and risk strategies. These strategies are implemented by the Adviser's portfolio managers.

The Adviser offers both U.S. and non-U.S. fixed income and equity investment strategies to individuals and institutional clients using a variety of investment styles, including growth, core and enhanced cash management, and including market capitalization ranges, such as small-, mid-, small/mid-, large- and all-cap, as well as geographic and industry sectors that can be tailored to meet the specific needs of clients. The Adviser also offers alternative asset (including multi-asset) separate account strategies to individuals and institutional clients.

## **INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

Significant strategies used by the Adviser include:

### **ASSET ALLOCATION**

The Adviser's Chief Investment Officer and Director of Asset Allocation lead the Asset Allocation Committee to conduct research on global economic and financial conditions, along with forecasts of expected return and risk on asset classes, to determine strategic and tactical asset allocation recommendations for clients. Portfolio managers will use the recommendations, along with their assessment of a client's required return, risk tolerance, and constraints to build strategies to meet the client's needs.

### **EQUITY MANAGEMENT**

The Adviser's equity investment team is represented by its portfolio managers and investment associates. The Adviser employs a fundamentally oriented process focused on identifying companies that it believes have the potential for long-term sustainable growth. A dedicated team will also, as appropriate, help to identify third-party managers for specific investment strategies or asset classes.

#### **Buy and Sell Discipline**

##### *Buy Discipline*

- Stocks are selected based on growth potential and valuation, with a primary focus on fundamentals:
  - Sustainability of the company's competitive advantage
  - Confidence in management
  - Expected impact of future growth drivers
  - Profitability and return profile of the business model
  - Valuation relative to other companies globally

##### *Sell Discipline*

- Stocks can be sold based on investment rationale or client-specific considerations. Stocks will be sold if:
  - The Adviser believes they are fully valued
  - There are signs of potential deterioration in fundamentals
  - An expected stock decline is greater than tax incurred by sale

The Adviser's portfolio managers leverage the expertise of research analysts who provide individual security analysis and also function as industry specialists. The Adviser's investment team searches the market capitalization spectrum globally for companies that meet specific growth, quality, and valuation criteria.

While portfolio managers have ultimate decision-making authority, every investment decision reflects the input and feedback of the entire investment team. Throughout the research process, portfolio managers communicate their investment ideas formally and informally to their colleagues.

## **FIXED INCOME MANAGEMENT**

The Adviser's fixed income portfolios benefit from the collective resources of three strategic committees:

- The Fixed Income Policy Committee is represented by the Adviser's Chief Investment Officer and senior members of the fixed income team. It is responsible for establishing the overarching fixed income investment strategies used by our portfolio managers to construct and manage fixed income portfolios. The Fixed Income Policy Committee analyzes macroeconomic trends and attempts to forecast their impact on the world bond markets. It also seeks to establish duration and maturity targets, provide sector/issue recommendations, and recommend exit and entry points.

To develop its macroeconomic forecasting, the Adviser does not rely on a single economist. Instead, the committee utilizes and maintains an extensive economic database using information from a range of external data sources. In addition, the Fixed Income Policy Committee leverages independent in-house analysis produced by Franklin Templeton's Equity and Fixed Income Research Groups.

The Adviser's macroeconomic forecasting forms the basis for its portfolios' structural characteristics.

In seeking to formulate maturity, duration, and entry/exit point strategies, the Fixed Income Policy Committee analyzes current U.S. fiscal and monetary policy, and detailed yield curve data. The Fixed Income Policy Committee also analyzes historical yield spreads and ratios for a range of sectors with the aim of determining which sectors or issues are over- or under-valued.

- The Strategy Committees consist of senior portfolio managers who specialize in assigned fixed income strategies. This team seeks to develop optimal and model portfolios represented by country, currency, duration, yield curve, and sector allocations.
- The Sector Committees consist of all fixed income portfolio managers, investment associates and traders. Each sector committee specializes in assigned fixed income market sectors. The teams provide bottom-up analysis to the Adviser's Fixed Income Policy Committee.

## **ALTERNATIVE ASSET CLASSES**

The Advisory Solutions Group ("**ASG**") supplements the Adviser's investment management services with asset allocation services and the ability to research and select third-party managers across the spectrum of asset classes, including alternative assets. Traditionally, the Adviser manages all or part of a client's assets, coordinating as required with the client's other advisors. For clients seeking greater diversification, ASG can assist with the selection and monitoring of third-party managers for specific segments of the portfolio. The Adviser's consultative approach focuses on providing tailored solutions, as opposed to proprietary products or a packaged "model portfolio." ASG draws on the expertise of a team of asset class specialists to identify investment managers in the particular asset classes needed in a client's portfolio. Searches are conducted on a case-by-case basis, using parameters driven by the client's specific needs. The asset class specialists are not tied to any predetermined list of Franklin Templeton or external investment managers. To address potential conflict, the Adviser accepts no placement fees or revenue sharing between third-party ASG advisers. Once selected, the Adviser will, from time to time, on behalf of a client, or the client itself will, from time to time, appoint the Adviser's affiliated investment adviser to serve as the investment manager of the Account. The Adviser does not commingle ASG clients' investments across managers.

## **INVESTMENT RISKS**

Particular investment strategies or investments in different types of securities or other investments involve specific risks, including risk of loss, that clients should be prepared to bear. The risks involved, and their degree of significance, for different Accounts will vary based on each client's

investment strategy and the type of securities or other investments held in the Account. The following is a list of certain of the material risks, listed alphabetically, related to the significant investment strategies used by the Adviser. Not all possible risks are listed below. Please refer to Item 8 (“Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss”) of the Primary Brochure for the descriptions of each risk listed below.

- Asset Allocation
- Concentration
- Credit
- Cybersecurity Risks
- Debt Securities
- Developing and Emerging Market Countries
- Equity Securities
- Growth Style Investing
- Interest Rate
- Liquidity
- Management
- Market
- Non-Diversification
- Non-U.S. Securities
- Outbreaks, Pandemics and Other Public Health Issues
- Prepayment
- Short Selling Risk
- Smaller and Midsize Companies

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

This section replaces Item 11 (“Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading – Potential Conflicts Relating to Advisory and Other Activities - Conflicts Related to Investment in Affiliated Funds and Affiliated Accounts”) in the Primary Brochure in its entirety with respect to the Adviser.

### **Conflicts Related to Investment in Affiliated Funds and Affiliated Accounts**

The Adviser, where appropriate (including in compliance with any applicable investment guidelines or restrictions) and in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, will at times purchase on behalf of the Adviser’s clients, or recommend to the Adviser’s clients that they purchase, shares of Affiliated Funds, or invest their assets in other portfolios managed by the Adviser or its affiliates (“**Affiliated Accounts**”). Conflicts of interest arise when investing clients’ assets into Affiliated Funds or Affiliated Accounts. For example, as a shareholder in a pooled investment vehicle, a client will pay a proportionate share of the vehicle’s fees and expenses. Investment by a client in an Affiliated Fund or Affiliated Account therefore means that the Adviser will, depending on the circumstances and subject to applicable law, receive advisory or other fees from an affiliate, including on occasion via a fee sharing or referral arrangement, as a result of the client’s investment in an Affiliated Fund or Affiliated Account. These fees are in addition to any other fees the Adviser receives from the client for managing the client’s Account. The client investment will also, from time to time, be subject to other fees and expenses charged to the Affiliated Fund or Affiliated Account by other parties. Similarly, the Adviser’s client who invests into an Affiliated Account that is a Separate Account managed by another adviser would be subject to any advisory fees charged by that adviser to the Separate Account. If a client does not want its Account assets to be invested in Affiliated Funds and/or Affiliated Accounts, then the client should notify the Adviser to discuss modifying its investment guidelines. The Adviser’s Separate Account clients are also permitted to invest directly in certain Affiliated Funds (including U.S. Registered Funds) or Affiliated Accounts independent of their Separate Account without paying additional Separate Account management fees or the Affiliated Funds Administrative Services Fee to the Adviser.

In order to limit duplication of fees, the Adviser excludes any assets invested in Affiliated Funds or Affiliated Accounts from the management fee calculation for both Wealth Advisory Services and Investment Management Services, unless otherwise agreed with a client or disclosed to a client, and subject to applicable law. Similarly, the Separate Account management fees paid by certain retirement accounts (including those subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“**ERISA**”)) that invest in Affiliated Funds or Affiliated Accounts will exclude Account assets invested in such Affiliated Funds or Affiliated Accounts to the extent required by law when calculating the Advisers’ Separate Account management fees. Accordingly, the assets of such Accounts invested in Affiliated Funds or Affiliated Accounts will pay their pro rata share of such applicable fees of the Affiliated Fund or Affiliated Account, to the extent permitted by applicable law. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Accounts that invest in Affiliated Funds, subject to certain conditions and where permitted by law, will be charged the Affiliated Funds Administrative Services Fee in connection with the cost to administer the Accounts’ investments in Affiliated Funds.

## **Item 15 Custody**

Funds or securities of substantially all of the clients of the Adviser are held by Fiduciary Trust Company International (“**FTCI**”), a bank affiliate of the Adviser, which is a Qualified Custodian for the purposes of the Advisers Act. Because the Adviser provides investment advice to clients whose funds or securities are held by a bank affiliate of the Adviser, the Adviser is deemed by the SEC to have custody of those assets under the Advisers Act. In order to demonstrate that it has taken proper steps to protect its clients’ interests in this situation, the Adviser must take a number of additional steps detailed in the Advisers Act. The Adviser must ensure that FTCI continues to meet the eligibility criteria for a Qualified Custodian, it must provide the relevant clients with custodian contact information, it must ensure that the custodian is sending quarterly statements to these clients and the Adviser must undergo an annual surprise examination and verification of those assets by an independent accountant registered and subject to inspection by the Public accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB). The Adviser has engaged PricewaterhouseCoopers LLC (“**PWC**”) for this purpose.

In addition, because the Adviser maintains custody of client assets with an affiliate, it is required to have FTCI obtain an internal control report from an independent PCAOB accountant, attesting to FTCI’s controls as a qualified custodian related to safekeeping of client assets. PWC has prepared this report for the Adviser.

## **Item 16 Investment Discretion**

### **PARTICIPATION IN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

This section replaces Item 16 (“Investment Discretion – Participation in Legal Proceedings”) in the Primary Brochure in its entirety with respect to the Adviser.

Unless otherwise specifically agreed with a client, the Adviser shall not be required or be liable for any failure to, but may, provide a claim service in connection with certain legal proceedings. Where provided, the Adviser, through its delegates (which from time to time include, without limitation, personnel of an affiliate, a law firm, or other claim filing service), uses good faith efforts to file proofs of claim on behalf of the Account 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 Account, or related parties of such issuers, of which the Adviser learns and for which the Account is eligible during the term of the investment management agreement (the “**Claim Service**”). Infrequently, such United States and Canadian class action lawsuits require Accounts affirmatively to “opt in” to the class and may subject Accounts to public identification and to participation in discovery (“**Opt-In Actions**”). 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, file any required documentation in any Opt-In Actions.

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



**("Foreign Actions")**. The Adviser does not assume any obligation to identify, research, or file proofs of claim in, any Foreign Actions. In the event that the Adviser does learn of Foreign Actions, the Adviser has complete discretion to determine, on a case-by-case basis, whether to file proofs of claim for the Account in such Foreign Actions. Foreign Actions do not include any other type of collective action outside of the United States and Canada, such as representative actions, as those other actions require individual analysis as to whether participation is in an Account'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 (such offshore collective or representative actions, **"Foreign Litigation Actions"**). The Adviser does not assume any obligation to identify or take any action with respect to such Foreign Litigation Actions for its Accounts.

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 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 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 Accounts.

In connection with the Claim Service and the Adviser's involvement in bankruptcy proceedings on behalf of its Accounts, where applicable, the Adviser will, from time to time, disclose information about an 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 an Account, the Adviser will, from time to time, waive the client Account'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 an Account, the Adviser may (subject to the investment management agreement), at any time, terminate the provision of such services by giving notice of such termination to the 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 investment management agreement.

In addition, with respect to all Accounts, Accounts that are currently or were formerly investors in, or were otherwise involved with, investments that are the subject of a legal action will, under certain circumstances, be parties to the particular legal action with the result that an Account may participate in an action in which not all Accounts with similar investments participate. In these instances, non-participating Accounts will benefit from the results of such action without becoming or otherwise being subject to the associated fees, costs, expenses and liabilities.

With respect to U.S. Registered Funds and certain other pooled or collective investment vehicles managed by the other Advisers (collectively, as used in this paragraph, **"Funds"**), such Advisers, on behalf of and in the name of the Funds, use good faith efforts to provide the Claim Service, as described above, during each Fund's existence. In addition, from time to time such Advisers will 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). Neither the Adviser nor such other Advisers will provide the Adviser's clients with notice of, or the opportunity to participate in, any litigation against an issuer or related parties. Such other Advisers or the Funds will, from time to time, 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 or ad hoc committees of creditors or other stakeholders.