

If you are in any doubt about the contents of this Prospectus, you should consult your stockbroker, bank manager, solicitor, accountant or other independent financial adviser.

The Directors of the Company, whose names appear under the heading "Management and Administration" are the persons responsible for the information contained in this Prospectus and accept responsibility accordingly. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the Directors (who have taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information contained in this document is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of the information.

# WISDOMTREE ISSUER PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

(An umbrella investment company with variable capital and having segregated liability between its Funds incorporated with limited liability in Ireland under registration number 503861 and authorised and regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland as a UCITS)

**PROSPECTUS** 

The date of this Prospectus is 2 February 2018.

## WISDOMTREE ISSUER PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

## 1. IMPORTANT INFORMATION

#### 1.1 General

Shares in any Fund described in this Prospectus or in any relevant Supplement as well as in the Key Investor Information Document are offered only on the basis of the information contained in those documents and the latest published annual report and audited financial statements (and, if published after such report, a copy of the latest semi-annual report and unaudited financial statements). These reports form part of this Prospectus and are, together with any relevant Supplement, available to the public at the registered office of the Company. To the extent there is any inconsistency between this Prospectus and a Supplement, the relevant Supplement will prevail.

No person has been authorised to give any information or to make any representation in connection with the offering or placing of Shares other than those contained in this Prospectus, any Supplement, and the reports referred to above. If given or made, such information or representation must not be relied upon as having been authorised by the Company. The delivery of this Prospectus (whether or not accompanied by the reports) or any issue of Shares shall not, under any circumstances, create any implication that the affairs of the Company have not changed since the date of this Prospectus or any relevant Supplement to this Prospectus. Statements made in this Prospectus are, except where otherwise stated, based on the law and practice at the date of this Prospectus. The Company will not be bound by an out of date prospectus when a new prospectus is in issue. Investors should ensure they are in possession of the most recent version.

The Company is both authorised and supervised by the Central Bank. The authorisation of the Company is not an endorsement or guarantee of the Company by the Central Bank and the Central Bank is not responsible for the contents of this Prospectus. The authorisation of the Company by the Central Bank does not constitute a warranty by the Central Bank as to the performance of the Company and the Central Bank shall not be liable for the performance or default of the Company.

## 1.2 Offering of Shares

The distribution of this Prospectus and the offering and placing of Shares in certain jurisdictions may be restricted. No persons receiving a copy of this Prospectus in any such jurisdiction may treat this Prospectus as constituting an invitation to them to purchase or subscribe for Shares, unless in the relevant jurisdiction such an invitation could lawfully be made to them. Accordingly, this Prospectus does not constitute an offer or solicitation by anyone in any jurisdiction in which such offer or solicitation is not lawful, or in which the person making such offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so, or to anyone to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation.

It is the responsibility of any persons in possession of this Prospectus and any persons wishing to apply for Shares pursuant to this Prospectus to inform themselves of, and to observe, all applicable laws and regulations of any relevant jurisdiction. Prospective applicants for Shares should inform themselves as to the legal requirements of applying and subscribing, holding or disposing of such Shares and any applicable exchange control regulations and taxes in the countries of their respective citizenship, residence, incorporation or domicile, including any requisite government or other consents and the observing of any other formalities.

Application will be made to register and distribute Shares of the Company in jurisdictions outside Ireland. The Manager may appoint or be required to appoint paying agents, representatives, distributors or other agents in the relevant jurisdictions. Local regulations may require such agents to maintain accounts through which subscription and redemption monies may be paid. Investors who choose or are obliged under local regulations to pay/receive subscription/redemption monies via an intermediary agent rather than directly via the Administrator to/from the Depositary bear a credit risk in relation to that intermediate agent with respect to subscription monies prior to transmission of such

monies to the Depositary for the account of the Company and with respect to redemption monies payable by such intermediate agent to the relevant investor.

## 1.2.1 United Kingdom

The Company by way of the appropriate application to the FCA, sought and obtained recognition under section 264 FSMA as a recognised collective investment scheme so that this Prospectus may be issued or distributed in the United Kingdom without restrictions under section 238 or 239 of FSMA.

Potential investors in the United Kingdom should be aware that the Company is not established or authorised in the United Kingdom, and that the protections under the United Kingdom regulatory system for investments in the Company are limited. Investors may not be able to make claims in respect of the Company or the Manager under the United Kingdom Financial Services Compensation Scheme. Prospective UK resident investors must therefore rely on their own examination of the legal, taxation, financial and other consequences of any investment in the Company, including the risk involved. Prospective investors should not treat the contents of this Prospectus as advice relating to legal, taxation or other matters and, if in any doubt about the Company, its suitability, or what action should be taken, should consult a person authorised and regulated by the FCA under the FSMA and qualified to advise on investments in collective investment schemes.

Upon obtaining FSMA recognition, the Company will maintain at an address in the UK certain facilities in the interests of UK investors in the Funds.

#### 1.2.2 United States

The Shares have not been, and will not be, registered under the 1933 Act or the securities laws of any of the states of the United States and the Shares may not be offered or sold directly or indirectly in the United States or to or for the account or benefit of any US Person, except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to the regulatory requirements of, the 1933 Act and any applicable state securities laws. Any re-offer or resale of any of the Shares in the United States or to US Persons may constitute a violation of US law. The Company has not been and will not be registered under the 1940 Act, and investors will not be entitled to the benefit of registration.

Shares may not be, except pursuant to an exemption from or in a transaction not subject to the regulatory requirements of the 1940 Act as the case may be, acquired by a person who is deemed to be a US Person. Shares may not be acquired or owned by, or acquired with the assets of, an ERISA Plan.

Shares have not been approved or disapproved by the SEC, any state securities commission or other regulatory authority, nor have any of the foregoing authorities passed upon or endorsed the merits of this offering or the accuracy or adequacy of this Prospectus as may be amended or supplemented from time to time. Any representation to the contrary is unlawful.

The Shares are subject to restrictions on transferability and resale and may not be transferred or resold in the United States except as permitted under the 1933 Act and applicable state securities laws, pursuant to registration or exemption therefrom.

In order to ensure compliance with the restrictions referred to above, the Company is, accordingly, not open for investment by any US Person except in exceptional circumstances and then only with the prior consent of the Directors. Please see Appendix IV for the definition of US Person and additional information on the restrictions pertaining to US Persons.

A prospective investor may be required at the time of acquiring Shares to represent that such investor is not (i) a US Person precluded from acquiring, purchasing or holding Shares for the account or benefit, directly or indirectly, of a US Person, or (ii) an ERISA Plan precluded from acquiring, purchasing or holding Shares with the assets of an ERISA Plan. The granting of prior consent by the Directors to an investment does not confer on the investor a right to acquire Shares in respect of any future or subsequent application.

## 1.3 Qualified Holders

Shareholders are required to notify the Administrator immediately in the event that they cease to be a Qualified Holder.

Where the Company becomes aware that any Shares are directly or beneficially owned by any person in breach of the above restrictions, it may (i) redeem the Shares so held compulsorily, (ii) direct the Shareholder to transfer his Shares to a person qualified to own such Shares, or (iii) request the Company to redeem the Shares.

## 1.4 Stock Exchange Listing

The Funds of the Company will be structured as exchange-traded funds in that one or more of the Share classes of each Fund will be listed and traded on a stock exchange.

Application to list certain classes of Shares on one or more stock exchanges will be made, as determined by the Directors from time to time.

## Irish Stock Exchange

The Shares of the Company issued and available for issue have been admitted to the Official List and to trading on the Main Securities Market of the Irish Stock Exchange. An application may be made to the Irish Stock Exchange for Shares of other classes to be admitted to its Official List and trading on its Main Securities Market.

Neither the admission of the Shares to the Official List, nor to trading on the Main Securities Market of the Irish Stock Exchange, nor the approval of the listing particulars pursuant to the listing requirements of the Irish Stock Exchange shall constitute a warranty or representation by the Irish Stock Exchange as to the competence of service providers to or any other party connected with the Company, the adequacy of information contained in the listing particulars or the suitability of the Company for investment purposes.

## London Stock Exchange

The Shares of the Company issued and available for issue have been admitted to trading on the Main Market of the London Stock Exchange.

## 1.5 Translations

This Prospectus and any Supplements may also be translated into other languages. Any such translation shall only contain the same information and have the same meaning as the English language Prospectus/ Supplement. To the extent that there is any inconsistency between the English language Prospectus/ Supplement and the Prospectus/ Supplement in another language, the English language Prospectus/ Supplement will prevail, except to the extent (but only to the extent) it is required by law of any jurisdiction where the Shares are sold, that in an action based upon disclosure in a Prospectus in a language other than English, the language of the Prospectus/ Supplement on which such action is based shall prevail.

#### 1.6 Definitions

Capitalised terms used in this Prospectus shall have the meanings attributed to them in the Definitions section below.

## 1.7 Choice of Law and Jurisdiction

All disputes and claims as to (a) the terms of this Prospectus and any Supplement, regardless of the language in which they are translated, (b) the issue, holding, transfer or redemption of Shares, or (c) any other claim or dispute whatsoever howsoever arising out of or in connection with Shares shall be

governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Ireland. All such disputes and claims shall be submitted to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of Ireland.

#### 1.8 Risk Factors

Investors should read and consider the risk discussion under "Risk Factors" before investing in the Company.

The value of Investments and the income derived therefrom may fall as well as rise and investors may not recoup the original amount invested in a Fund. Past performance provides no guarantee for the future. The difference at any one time between subscription and redemption prices for Shares (due to the application of a Subscription Fee and / or a Redemption Fee up to a maximum of 3%) means that any investment should be viewed as medium to long term.

This Prospectus should be read in its entirety before making an application for Shares. If you do not understand the contents of this document you should consult an authorised financial adviser.

## 1.9 Profile of a typical investor in the Funds

Each Fund is available to a wide range of investors seeking access to a portfolio managed in accordance with a specific investment objective and policy. Investors should be informed investors and have taken professional advice in relation to their ability to bear capital and income risk. An investment should only be made by those persons who are able to sustain a loss on their investment.

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## 2. **DEFINITIONS**

- "Act", the Companies Act as may be amended.
- "Administrator", State Street Fund Services (Ireland) Limited, and/or such other person as may be appointed, with the prior approval of the Central Bank, to provide administration services to the Company.
- "Administration Agreement", the agreement made between the Manager and the Administrator dated 2 October 2014 as may be amended from time to time in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank.
- "Articles", the Articles of Association of the Company, as amended from time to time.
- "Authorised Participant", a market maker or broker-dealer or other entity in the primary market trading process which has entered into a Participant Agreement with the Company.
- "Base Currency", in relation to a Fund, the currency in which the Net Asset Value of that Fund is calculated, as specified in the relevant Supplement.
- "Business Day", in relation to a Fund, such day or days as specified in the relevant Supplement and/or such other day as the Directors may from time to time determine and notify in advance to Shareholders.
- "Cash Component", in relation to a Creation Unit, the amount of cash equal to the difference between the Net Asset Value of the Shares comprising a Creation Unit (being the Net Asset Value per Share multiplied by the number of Shares in a Creation Unit) and the value of Deposit Securities.
- "Cash Transaction Charge" the charge disclosed in the Portfolio Composition File which is used by the Investment Manager to discharge the Duties and Charges which arise for the Fund on the occasion of a cash subscription or redemption.
- "Central Bank", the Central Bank of Ireland or any successor thereof.
- "Central Bank Requirements", the requirements of the Central Bank pursuant to the Regulations and the Central Bank (Supervision and Enforcement Act 2013 (Section 48(1)) (Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities) Regulations 2015 as same may be amended or replaced from time to time.
- "Central Securities Depository", the operator of a Securities Settlement System.
- "Company", WisdomTree Issuer public limited company.
- "Courts Service", is responsible for the administration of moneys under the control or subject to the order of the Courts.
- "Creation Unit", in respect of a Fund, the number of Shares of any class for which an Authorised Participant must subscribe or redeem as specified in the relevant Fund Supplement.
- "Currency Management Agreement", the agreement made between the Manager, the Investment Manager and State Street Europe Limited (the "Currency Manager") dated 2 October, 2015 as may be amended from time to time in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank.
- "Depositary", State Street Custodial Services (Ireland) Limited or such other person as may be appointed, with the prior approval of the Central Bank, to act as depositary to the Company.
- "Dealing Day", in relation to a Fund, such day or days as specified in the relevant Supplement (and/or such other day as the Directors may from time to time determine and notify in advance to Shareholders) provided always that there shall be at least two Dealing Days in each calendar month at regular intervals.

- "Dealing Deadline", means, in relation to any dealing applications for Shares of a Fund, the time or times on each Business Day by which Order Forms in respect of a Dealing Day must be received by the Administrator as specified in the relevant Supplement.
- "Dematerialised Form", in relation to Shares, means Shares, the title to which is recorded as being in uncertificated form and which may be transferred by means of a computer based settlement system in accordance with the Companies Act, 1990 (Uncertificated Securities) Regulations, 1996 (as amended).
- "Deposit Securities", in relation to a Creation Unit, a designated portfolio of Investments which are transferred to a Fund on the occasion of a subscription or transferred to a redeeming Shareholder on the occasion of a redemption. "Fixed Deposit Securities" are Deposit Securities that comprise a representative sample of the securities contained in an Index. "Negotiated Deposit Securities" are Deposit Securities identified by the Investment Manager as appropriate Investments of a Fund but which may require to be customised (for example by way of sale or purchase or by way of adjustment of underlying exposure) so as to represent Index constituents.
- "Depositary Agreement", the agreement between the Company, the Manager and the Depositary dated 13 May 2016 as may be amended from time to time in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank.
- "Depositary Receipt", an equity-related security which evidences ownership of underlying securities. Depositary Receipts may include American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs"), European Depositary Receipts ("EDRs"), Global Depositary Receipts ("GDRs") or Non-Voting Depository Receipts ("NVDRs"), which are receipts issued in Thailand that evidence a similar arrangement.
- "Directive", Directive No. 2009/65/EC of the Council of the European Parliament of 13 July 2009 as may be amended, supplemented or replaced from time to time.
- "Directors", the board of directors of the Company or any duly authorised committee thereof.
- "Duties and Charges", all stamp duties and other duties, taxes, governmental charges, imposts, levies, exchange costs and commissions (including foreign exchange spreads), custodian and subcustodian charges, transfer fees and expenses, agents' fees, brokerage fees, commissions, bank charges, registration fees and other duties and charges, including any provision for the spread or difference between the price at which any Investment was valued for the purpose of calculating the Net Asset Value per Share of any Fund and the estimated or actual price at which any such Investment is purchased or expected to be purchased, in the case of subscriptions to the relevant Fund, or sold or expected to be sold, in the case of redemptions from the relevant Fund, including, for the avoidance of doubt, any charges or costs arising from any adjustment to any FDI required as a result of a subscription or redemption, whether paid, payable or incurred or expected to be paid, payable or incurred in respect of the constitution, increase or reduction of all of the cash and other assets of the Company or the creation, acquisition, issue, conversion, exchange, purchase, holding, repurchase, redemption, sale or transfer of Shares (including, if relevant the issue or cancellation of certificates for Shares) or Investments by or on behalf of the Company.
- "Equivalent Measures", apply to an investment undertaking where the Irish Revenue have given the investment undertaking notice of approval in accordance with Section 739D (7B) of the Taxes Act and the approval has not been withdrawn.
- **"ERISA Plan"**, (i) any retirement plan subject to Title I of the United States Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"); or (ii) any individual retirement account or plan subject to Section 4975 of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.
- **"EU Benchmark Regulation"** means Regulation (EU) 2061/1011 of the European Parliament and the council of 8 June 2016 on indices used as benchmarks in financial instruments and financial contracts or to measure the performance of investment funds and amending Directives 2008/48/EC and 2014/17/EU and Regulation (EU) NO 596/2014.

- "Euro" and "€", the single European currency unit referred to in Council Regulation (EC) No. 974/98 on 3 May 1998 on the introduction of the euro.
- **"European Economic Area"** or **"EEA"**, the European Economic Area, the participating member states of which are the Member States, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein.
- **"Exchange Traded Notes"** or **"ETNs"**, ETNs generally are senior, un/secured, unsubordinated debt securities issued by a sponsor, such as an investment bank. ETNs are traded on exchanges and the returns are linked to the performance of underlying securities, instruments or market indices.
- "Exempted Irish Investor", (a) an Intermediary within the meaning of Section 739B of the Taxes Act; (b) a pension scheme which is an exempt approved scheme within the meaning of Section 774 of the Taxes Act or a retirement annuity contract or a trust scheme to which Section 784 or 785 of the Taxes Act applies; (c) a company carrying on life business within the meaning of Section 706 of the Taxes Act; (d) an investment undertaking within the meaning of Section 739(B)(1) of the Taxes Act; (e) an investment limited partnership within the meaning of Section 739J of the Taxes Act; (f) a special investment scheme within the meaning of Section 737 of the Taxes Act; (g) a unit trust to which Section 731(5)(a) of the Taxes Act applies; (h) a charity being a person referred to in Section 739D(6)(f)(i) of the Taxes Act; (i) a qualifying management company within the meaning of Section 734(1) of the Taxes Act; (j) a specified company within the meaning of Section 734(1) of the Taxes Act; (k) a person entitled to exemption from income tax and capital gains tax under Section 784A(2) of the Taxes Act where the Shares held are assets of an approved retirement fund or an approved minimum retirement fund; (I) a person who is entitled to exemption from income tax and capital gains tax by virtue of Section 787I of the Taxes Act and the Shares are assets of a PRSA; (m) a credit union within the meaning of Section 2 of the Credit Union Act, 1997; (n) an Irish Resident company investing in a money market fund being a person referred to in Section 739D(6)(k)(I) of the Taxes Act; (o) the National Pensions Reserve Fund Commission or a Commission Investment Vehicle; (p) the National Treasury Management Agency or a Fund investment vehicle (within the meaning of section 37 of the National Treasury Management Agency (Amendment) Act 2014) of which the Minister for Finance is the sole beneficial owner, or the State acting through the National Treasury Management Agency (g) a company that is or will be within the charge to corporation tax in accordance with Section 110(2) of the Taxes Act, in respect of payments made to it by the Company; or (r) any other Irish Resident or Irish Ordinary Resident who may be permitted to own Shares under taxation legislation or by written practice or concession of the Revenue Commissioners without giving rise to a charge to tax in the Company or jeopardising tax exemptions associated with the Company giving rise to a charge to tax in the Company,

provided that they have completed a Relevant Declaration (for all cases above).

- "FCA", the Financial Conduct Authority of the United Kingdom.
- "FDI", financial derivative instruments.
- **"Foreign Person"**, a person who is neither an Irish Resident nor an Irish Ordinary Resident for tax purposes who has provided the Company with the Relevant Declaration under Schedule 2B of the Taxes Act and in respect of whom the Company is not in possession of any information that would reasonably suggest that the Relevant Declaration is incorrect or has at any time been incorrect.
- "FSMA", the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 of the United Kingdom.
- "Fund", a fund of assets established for one or more classes of Shares which is invested in accordance with the investment objectives applicable to such fund and which forms part of the Company.
- "Global Certificate", a share certificate issued by the Company to a Central Securities Depository (or its nominee).
- "Global Supplement", a Supplement the sole purpose of which is to list the Funds of the Company currently authorised by the Central Bank.

- "Index", in relation to a Fund, the index a Fund will seek to track or replicate and against which its return will be compared.
- "Index Provider", the entity which created and maintains an Index as more particularly referred to in a Supplement.
- "Intermediary", a person who:- (i) carries on a business which consists of, or includes, the receipt of payments from an investment undertaking on behalf of other persons; or (ii) holds shares in an investment undertaking on behalf of other persons.
- "Irish Ordinary Resident", (i) in the case of an individual, means an individual who is ordinarily resident in Ireland for tax purposes; (ii) in the case of a trust, means a trust that is ordinarily resident in Ireland for tax purposes. An individual who has been resident in Ireland for three consecutive tax years becomes ordinarily resident with effect from the commencement of the fourth tax year. An individual who has been ordinarily resident in Ireland ceases to be ordinarily resident at the end of the third consecutive year in which s/he is not resident.
- "Irish Resident", (i) in the case of a company, means a company that is resident in Ireland for tax purposes; (ii) in the case of an individual, means an individual who is resident in Ireland for tax purposes; (iii) in the case of a trust, means a trust that is resident in Ireland for tax purposes.
- "Investment", any investment authorised by the Memorandum of Association which is permitted by the Regulations and the Articles.
- "Investment Manager", means currently either of Assenagon Asset Management S.A. or Irish Life Investment Managers Limited as may be appointed in respect of the relevant Fund and/or such other person as may be appointed, in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank, to provide investment management services to any of the Funds.
- "Investment Management Agreement", means, in respect of the relevant Fund, the agreement between the Manager and the relevant Investment Manager for that Fund as may be amended from time to time in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank.
- **"KIID"**, the key investor information document issued in respect of Shares of a Fund pursuant to the Regulations, as may be amended from time to time in accordance with the Central Bank Requirements.
- "LSE", the London Stock Exchange.
- "Manager", WisdomTree Management Limited, a limited liability company incorporated in Ireland.
- "Management Agreement", the agreement between the Company and the Manager dated 2 October 2014 as may be amended from time to time in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank.
- "Marketing Agent" WisdomTree Europe Limited and/or such other person as may be appointed, with the prior approval of the Central Bank, to provide marketing and support services to the Company.
- "Marketing and Support Services Agreement" the agreement made between the Manager and the Marketing Agent dated 2 October 2014 as may be amended from time to time in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank.
- "Member State", a member state of the European Union from time to time.
- "Net Asset Value", the net asset value of a Fund or Shares (as the case may be) determined in accordance with the Articles.
- "OECD", the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

- "Order Form", such form as the Directors may prescribe, to be used for the purpose of dealing in Shares in a Fund on the Primary Market. "Subscription Order Form", is the Order Form to be used for the purposes of subscriptions. "Redemption Order Form" is the Order Form to be used for the purpose of redemptions.
- "OTC", over the counter.
- "Participant Agreement", the agreement entered into between an applicant and the Company which enables the applicant to act as an Authorised Participant and to subscribe for or redeem Shares in the Company.
- "Personal portfolio investment undertaking" or "PPIU", an investment undertaking, under the terms of which some or all of the property of the undertaking, may be or was, selected by, or the selection of some or all of the property may be, or was, influenced by the investor, a person acting on behalf of the investor, a person connected with the investor, a person acting on behalf of the investor, the investor and a person connected with the investor, or a person acting on behalf of both the investor and a person connected with the investor.
- "Portfolio Composition File", in relation to the subscription for and redemption of Creation Units in a specific Fund, a schedule setting out the portfolio of Investments, Cash Component and securities customisation charge (if applicable) (for in-kind deals in a Fund) and the amount of cash and Cash Transaction Charge (if applicable) (for cash deals in a Fund) to be (a) transferred to the Company in respect of a Fund (on the occasion of a subscription) or (b) to be delivered by the Company in respect of a Fund (on the occasion of a redemption).
- "Primary Market", the off exchange market on which Shares of a Fund are created and redeemed directly with the Company.
- "Promoter", WisdomTree Asset Management, Inc.
- "Prospectus", this document as it may be amended from time to time in accordance with the Central Bank Requirements together with, where the context requires or implies, any Supplement or addendum.
- "Publication Time", the time the Portfolio Composition File is published by the Administrator as specified in the relevant Supplement.
- "Qualified Holder", any person, corporation or entity other than (i) a US Person as defined under Rule 902 (k) of the 1933 Act; (ii) an ERISA Plan; (iii) any other person, corporation or entity to whom a sale or transfer of Shares, or in relation to whom the holding of Shares (whether directly or indirectly affecting such person, and whether taken alone or in conjunction with other persons, connected or not, or any other circumstances appearing to the Directors to be relevant) would (a) cause the Company to be required to register as an "investment company" under the 1940 Act, (b) would cause the Shares in the Company to be required to be registered under the 1933 Act, (c) would cause the Company to become a "controlled foreign corporation" within the meaning of the US Internal Revenue Code of 1986, (d) would cause the Company to have to file periodic reports under section 13 of the US Exchange Act of 1934, (e) would cause the assets of the Company to be deemed to be "plan assets" of a Benefit Plan Investor, or (f) would cause the Company otherwise not to be in compliance with the 1940 Act, the 1933 Act, the US Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the US Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the US Exchange Act of 1934; or (iv) a custodian, nominee, trustee or the estate of any person, corporation or entity described in (i) to (iii) above.
- "Recognised Clearing System", a "recognised clearing system" so designated by the Irish Revenue Commissioners.
- "Redemption Fee", the fee payable by an investor to the Manager on the occasion of redemption of Shares in a Fund as set out in the relevant Fund Supplement.
- "Regulated Markets", the stock exchanges and/or regulated markets listed in Schedule I and in the relevant Supplement, if any.

- "Regulations", European Communities (Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities) Regulations 2011, as may be amended, supplemented or replaced from time to time.
- "Relevant Declaration", the declaration relevant to the Shareholder as set out in Schedule 2B of the Taxes Act. The Relevant Declaration for investors who are neither Irish Resident nor Irish Ordinary Resident (or Intermediaries acting for such investors) is set out in the Subscription Order Form.
- "Relevant Period", a period of 8 years beginning with the acquisition of a Share by a Shareholder and each subsequent period of 8 years beginning immediately after the preceding relevant period.
- "SEC", the US Securities and Exchange Commission.
- "Secondary Market", the market on which Shares of a Fund are traded other than directly with the Company.
- "Securities Settlement System", a system whose activity consists of the execution of orders to transfer the title to, or interest in a security.
- **"SFTR"**, Regulation (EU) 2015/2365 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on transparency of securities financing transactions and of reuse and amending Regulation (EU) No 648/2012, as may be amended or replaced.
- **"Share"**, a participating share of no par value in the capital of the Company issued in accordance with the Articles and with the rights provided for under the Articles in respect of a Fund.
- "Shareholder", the registered holder of a Share in a Fund of the Company.
- "Sterling", "GBP" or "Stg£", the lawful currency of the United Kingdom.
- **"Stock Connect"** means a securities trading and clearing linked programme to achieve mutual stock market access between the PRC (Shanghai and Shenzhen Stock Exchanges) and Hong Kong Securities Clearing Company Limited and enables the Company to trade eligible China A Shares listed on the relevant stock exchange(s) in the People's Republic of China.
- "Subscriber Shares", shares of €1 each in the capital of the Company designated as "Subscriber Shares" in the Articles and issued for the purposes of incorporating the Company.
- **"Subscription Fee"**, the fee payable by an investor to the Manager on the occasion of subscription for Shares in a Fund and as set out in the relevant Fund Supplement.
- "Supplement", any document issued by the Company expressed to be a supplement to this Prospectus.
- "Taxable Irish Person", any person, other than (i) a Foreign Person; or (ii) an Exempted Irish Investor.
- "Taxes Act", the Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997 as amended.
- "TER", total expense ratio.
- "Tracking Error", the volatility of the difference between the return of an index tracking or index replicating Fund and the return of the relevant Index, or relevant Hedged Index (as may be defined in the Supplement for the relevant Fund).
- **"UCITS"**, an Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities established pursuant to the Directive, as amended.
- "UKLA", the United Kingdom Listing Authority, part of the UK Financial Conduct Authority.

"United Kingdom" and "UK", the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

"United States" and "US", the United States of America, its territories, possessions, any State of the United States and the District of Columbia.

"US Dollar", "USD" or "US\$", the lawful currency of the United States.

**"US Person"**, is defined in Appendix IV of this Prospectus and generally means any person or entity deemed by the SEC from time to time to be a "US Person" under Rule 902(k) of the 1933 Act or other person or entity as the Directors may determine. The Directors may amend the definition of "US Person" without notice to Shareholders as necessary in order best to reflect then-current applicable US law and regulation. US Persons may not purchase Shares in the Company without the prior approval of the Directors.

**"Valuation Point"**, such time on any Business Day by reference to which the Net Asset Value of a Fund and the Net Asset Value per Share are calculated as set out in the relevant Fund Supplement.

"1933 Act", the Securities Act of 1933 (of the United States), as amended.

"1940 Act", the Investment Company Act of 1940 (of the United States), as amended.

## 3. DIRECTORY

#### **Directors Registered Office** Manager The Directors of the 25-28 North Wall Quay WisdomTree Management Company, whose business Dublin 1 Limited 25-28 North Wall Quay address is at: Ireland 25-28 North Wall Quay Dublin 1 Ireland Dublin 1 Ireland are as follows: **Securities Lending Agent** Secretary David Abner **Gregory Barton** Wilton Secretarial Limited State Street Bank GmbH Vincent Dodd 6<sup>th</sup> Floor 20 Churchill Place 2 Grand Canal Square Denise Kinsella Canary Wharf Amit Muni Dublin 2 London E14 5HJ Peter Ziemba Ireland **United Kingdom Depositary Investment Manager Investment Manager** State Street Custodial Assenagon Asset Irish Life Investment Services (Ireland) Limited Management S.A. Managers Limited 78 Sir John Rogerson's Quay Aerogolf Center **Beresford Court** Dublin 2 1B Heienhaff Beresford Place Ireland 1736 Senningerberg Dublin 1 Luxembourg Ireland Administrator, Registrar and **Listing Sponsor UK Facilities Agent Transfer Agent** Marketing Agent Davy Davy House WisdomTree Europe Limited State Street Fund Services (Ireland) 49 Dawson Street 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Limited Dublin 2 31-41 Worship Street 78 Sir John Rogerson's Quay Ireland London EC2A 2DX Dublin 2

United Kingdom

## Legal Advisers (as to Irish law)

A&L Goodbody
International Financial Services Centre
North Wall Quay
Dublin 1
Ireland

## Auditors

Ireland

Ernst & Young
Ernst & Young Building
Harcourt Centre
Harcourt Street
Dublin 2
Ireland

## WISDOMTREE ISSUER PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

#### 4. INTRODUCTION

The Company is an open-ended investment company with variable capital and segregated liability between its Funds. It was incorporated in Ireland on 20 September 2011. The Company qualifies and is authorised in Ireland by the Central Bank as a UCITS within the meaning of the Regulations.

The Company is structured as an umbrella fund in that the share capital of the Company may be divided into different classes of Shares with one or more classes representing a Fund of the Company. The creation of further Funds will require the prior approval of the Central Bank and the creation of any class of Shares will be effected in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank.

Investors should note that the assets of each Fund will be separate from one another and will be invested in accordance with the investment objective and policies applicable to each such Fund and that Shares of Funds may be issued on different terms and conditions. The Shares of each Fund will rank pari passu with each other in all respects except as to all or any of currency of denomination of the class, the dividend policy, the level of fees and the expenses to be charged, the number of Shares that comprise a Creation Unit or as the Directors may otherwise determine. In addition, each Fund may have more than one Share class allocated to it. If there are different classes of Shares constituting a Fund, details relating to the separate classes may be dealt with in a single Supplement or in separate supplements for each class. The Base Currency of each Fund will be determined by the Directors and will be set out in the relevant Supplement. Details of the current Funds of the Company are set out in the Global Supplement. Each Supplement shall form part of and should be read in the context of and together with this Prospectus.

## 5. INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

#### 5.1 General

The specific investment objectives and policies for each Fund will be formulated by the Directors at the time of the creation of that Fund and set out in the relevant Supplement. Any alteration to the investment objective or a material alteration to the investment policy of any Fund at any time will be subject to the prior approval in writing of all of the Shareholders of the relevant Fund, or, if a general meeting of the Shareholders of such Fund is convened, by a majority of the votes cast at such meeting. The Directors may implement non-material alterations to a Fund's investment policy from time to time. Shareholders will be given reasonable advance notice of the implementation of any alteration to the investment objective or policy of a Fund so as to enable them to redeem their Shares prior to such implementation.

## 5.2 Investment and Borrowing Limits

Investment of the assets of each Fund must comply with the Regulations. A detailed statement of the general investment and borrowing restrictions applicable to all Funds is set out in Schedule III to the Prospectus. The Directors may impose further restrictions in respect of any new Fund, details of which will be set out in the relevant Supplement.

The Directors may also from time to time impose such further investment restrictions as, in the opinion of the Investment Manager, may be compatible with or be in the interest of the Shareholders in order to comply with the laws and regulations of the countries where Shareholders of the Company are located or the Shares are marketed.

The Company has been authorised by the Central Bank with the flexibility for each Fund to invest up to 100% of a Fund's assets in transferable securities and money market instruments issued by a Member State, its local authorities, a non-Member State, or public international bodies of which one or more Member States are members.

It is intended that the Company should, subject to the prior approval of the Central Bank, have power to avail itself of any change in the investment restrictions laid down in the Regulations which would permit investment by the Company in securities, FDI or in any other assets which, as at the date of this Prospectus, is restricted or prohibited under the Regulations. The Company will give Shareholders reasonable notice of its intention to avail itself of any such change which is material in nature and the Prospectus will be updated accordingly.

## 5.3 Investment Strategies

The principal investment strategy used by a Fund will be disclosed in its investment objective. Typically a Fund will pursue either a replicating strategy or a representative sampling strategy. Irrespective of the strategy pursued, there are circumstances where it may not be possible or practicable for a Fund to hold Index constituents (for example where there is a period of illiquidity in an Index constituent). Also, as a result of market movements between periodic Index rebalancings the weighting of an Index, a constituent may exceed the regulatory investment restrictions. In such circumstances the Investment Manager will seek to reduce the Fund's exposure to the relevant constituent to seek to return the Fund to within the permitted limits. The Investment Manager may achieve this through representative sampling or by holding a security which is not an Index constituent but which the Investment Manager otherwise believes will help track the performance of the relevant Index.

## 5.3.1 Replicating strategy

Where a Fund intends to pursue a replicating strategy it will seek to hold all of the securities of an Index generally with the same weightings of that Index. Funds utilising this strategy will indicate the intention in their investment policy.

## 5.3.2 Representative sampling strategy

Where a Fund intends to pursue a representative sampling strategy it will generally invest in a sample of the Index constituents whose risk, return and other characteristics resemble the risk, return and other characteristics of the Index as a whole.

The quantity of holdings in a Fund using a representative sampling strategy will be based on a number of factors, including asset size of the Fund. In addition, from time to time, constituents are added to or removed from an Index and consequently the attributes of an Index, such as sectors, industries or countries represented in an Index and weightings, may change. A Fund may sell Investments that are represented in an Index, or purchase securities that are not yet represented in an Index, in anticipation of their removal from or addition to an Index or to reflect various corporate actions or other changes to an Index. Further,in seeking to track the performance of an Index a Fund may overweight or underweight securities in an Index or purchase or sell securities not in the Index.

Additional, specific sampling techniques may be set out in a Fund's Supplement from time to time.

## 5.4 Fund Investments

The Investments of each Fund are limited to investments permitted by the Regulations. The Investments which a Fund may purchase will normally be listed or traded on the Regulated Markets set out in Appendix I.

A Fund may also (subject to the investment concentration limits set out in Appendix III) and where consistent with its investment policy, acquire unlisted Investments, may invest in open-ended collective investment undertakings (whether listed or unlisted, including other Funds of the Company), may invest in equity securities (such as common stock and shares of companies), government bonds, Exchange Traded Notes, money market instruments (including short-term obligations, negotiable certificates of deposit and commercial paper rated investment grade at the time of purchase), tracking stocks (a class of stock whose value is linked to a specific business unit or operating division within a larger company and which is designed to "track" the performance of such business unit or division), and Depositary Receipts.

The Investment Manager may also, where set out in the investment policy of a Fund, for direct investment purposes use FDI including, but not limited to, forward foreign currency contracts, futures (which may, for example, be used to manage cash flows on a short term basis by holding the future to gain exposure to an asset class pending direct investment), foreign currency futures contracts (which may be used to protect against currency fluctuations), options on futures contracts, currency and other swap agreements (each of which will be used to assist the Investment Manager in achieving a Fund's objective and which may assist the Investment Manager in the efficient generation of exposure to Index constituents, production of a return similar to the return of the Index, management of cash flows, reduction of transaction costs or taxes, minimising of Tracking Error or for such other reasons as it deems of benefit to a Fund in the context of the Fund's investment objective). Funds of the Company that do not currently use FDI will, prior to engaging in any FDI transactions arrange for a risk management process to be submitted to and cleared by the Central Bank in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank. Where a Fund intends to use FDI this will be specified in its investment policy.

Each Fund may also hold ancillary liquid assets.

## 5.5 Limitations, and management of limitations, on investment in Index constituents

There may be a number of circumstances where holding Index constituents may be prohibited by regulation, or may not otherwise be in the interests of Shareholders. These circumstances (including a description of the manner in which they may be managed by the Investment Manager in relation to a Fund) are set out below. Such circumstances include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (i) restrictions on the proportion of each Fund's value which may be held in individual securities arising from compliance with the Regulations;
- (ii) the Index constituents change from time to time. The Investment Manager may adopt a variety of strategies when trading a Fund to bring it in line with the changed index. For example where a security which forms part of the Index is not available or a market for such security does not exist, a Fund may instead hold Depositary Receipts relating to such securities or may hold FDI;
- (iii) from time to time, securities in the Index may be subject to corporate actions. The Investment Manager has discretion to manage these events in the most efficient manner;
- (iv) a Fund may hold ancillary liquid assets and may have dividends or income receivable which the Investment Manager may equitise pending distribution;
- (v) securities held by a Fund and included in the Index may, from time to time, become illiquid or otherwise unobtainable at fair value. In these circumstances, the Investment Manager may use a number of techniques, including purchasing securities whose returns, individually or collectively, are seen to be well-correlated to desired constituents of the Index or purchasing a sample of stocks in the Index;
- (vi) the Investment Manager will have regard to the costs of any proposed portfolio transaction. It may not necessarily be efficient to execute transactions which bring the Fund perfectly in line with the Index at all times; and
- (vii) a Fund may sell securities that are represented in the Index in anticipation of their removal from the Index, or purchase securities not represented in the Index in anticipation of their addition to the Index.

## 5.6 Index replacement or substitution

The Company reserves the right to substitute another index for the Index specified for a Fund where:

- the weightings of constituent securities of the Index would cause the Fund to be in breach of the Regulations or become subject to adverse treatment under any relevant taxation rules or regulations;
- (b) the Index or index series ceases to exist;
- (c) a new index becomes available which supersedes the Index;
- (d) a new index becomes available which is regarded as the market standard for investors in the particular market and/or would be regarded as greater benefit to the Shareholders than the Index:
- (e) it becomes difficult to invest in securities comprised within the Index;
- (f) the Index Provider increases its charges to a level which the Directors of the Company considers too high;
- (g) the quality (including accuracy and availability of data) of the Index has, in the opinion of the Directors, deteriorated;
- (h) a liquid futures market relating to the transferable securities included in the Index ceases to be available; or
- (i) where an index becomes available which more accurately represents the likely tax treatment of the investing Fund in relation to the component securities in that index.

The general discretion referred to above is not exhaustive and Directors reserve the right to change a Fund's Index in any other circumstances as they consider appropriate. In any such instance, the substitute index would measure substantially the same market segment as the original Index, the relevant Fund Supplement will be updated, the Directors will change the name of a Fund (if appropriate) and Shareholders will be advised of the changed index. Any change to an Index, or to the name of a Fund will be approved in advance by the Central Bank.

Where any of the above changes cause a change to the investment objective or a material change to the investment policy of a Fund, approval of the Fund's Shareholders will be sought in advance of the change.

## 5.7 Efficient portfolio management

The Investment Manager may, on behalf of a Fund and subject to the conditions and within the limits laid down by the Central Bank, employ techniques and instruments relating to transferable securities and money market instruments for efficient portfolio management purposes. Transactions for the purposes of efficient portfolio management may be undertaken with a view to achieving the reduction of risk, the reduction of cost, or the generation of additional capital or income for a Fund with an appropriate level of risk and taking into account the risk profile of that Fund. Techniques and instruments used by the Funds for efficient portfolio management purposes are set out in Appendix II. Such techniques and instruments may include Investments in FDI such as futures, options and swaps, the entry into securities lending transactions, repurchase and/or reverse repurchase agreements. All revenues arising from efficient portfolio management activities, net of direct and indirect operational costs will be retained by the Fund.

New techniques and instruments may be developed which may be suitable for use by the Company and the Company (subject as aforesaid and to the requirements of the Central Bank) may employ such techniques and instruments. Where a Fund intends to use these instruments for direct investment purposes, details will be disclosed in the Fund's investment policy.

Unless otherwise provided in the relevant Fund's Supplement, the Company, on behalf of a Fund, does not currently engage in any 'Securities Financing Transactions' as such term is defined in accordance with the SFTR.

However, in relation to 'Total Return Swaps' as such term is defined in accordance with the SFTR, Funds which offer hedged share classes ("Hedged Share Classes") may engage in total return swaps for currency hedging purposes only. The maximum proportion of the Net Asset Value of a Fund which offers Hedged Share Classes that can be subject to total return swaps is 100%. The expected proportion of the Net Asset Value of a Fund which offers Hedged Share Classes that will be subject to total return swaps is 80%.

## 5.8 Share class hedging

Where a Fund seeks to hedge against currency fluctuations, while not intended, this could result in over-hedged or under-hedged positions due to external factors outside the control of the Fund. The Company in respect of the relevant Fund, shall ensure that under-hedged positions do not fall short of 95% of the proportion of the Net Asset Value of a class which is to be hedged and keep any under-hedged under review to ensure it is not carried forward from month to month. However, over-hedged positions will not exceed 105% of the Net Asset Value of the Hedged Share Class and hedged positions will be kept under review to ensure that positions materially in excess of 100% of the Net Asset Value will not be carried forward from month to month. To the extent that hedging is successful for a particular Hedged Share Class the performance of the Hedged Share Class is likely to move in line with the performance of the underlying assets with the result that Shareholders in that Hedged Share Class will not gain if the Hedged Share Class currency falls against the Base Currency and/or the currency in which the assets of the particular Fund are denominated.

Any costs related to such hedging shall be borne separately by the relevant Hedged Share Classes. All gains/losses which may be made by any Hedged Share Classes of a Fund as a result of such

hedging transactions shall accrue to the relevant Hedged Share Class. Hedging transactions shall be clearly attributable to the relevant Hedged Share Classes.

## 5.9 Securities lending programme

The Company, on behalf of a Fund may enter into securities lending programme for the purposes of efficient portfolio management and subject to the conditions and limits set out in the Central Bank Requirements. The Manager has appointed State Street Bank GmbH to act as the Company's securities lending agent for the purposes of managing the securities lending programme. State Street Bank GmbH is part of the same group of companies as the Depositary. Under the terms of securities lending agreements which the securities lending agent will enter into on behalf of a Fund, the Fund will be entitled to receive revenue by way of a securities lending fee. The securities lending agent will retain a portion of the fee which will cover the direct and indirect operational costs of the securities lending activity (such as the costs of effecting the loans, the costs of managing collateral and the securities lending agent's fee (which will be at normal commercial rates)). The Fund will be entitled to the balance of the securities lending fee. Details of revenue arising from the securities lending activity (as well as details of the direct and indirect operational costs and fees) shall be included in the Company's semi-annual and annual reports.

## 5.10 EU Benchmark Regulation

The EU Benchmark Regulation entered into force in June 2016 and became fully applicable in the EU on 1 January 2018 (save that certain provisions, including those related to 'critical benchmarks', which took effect as at 30 June 2016), subject to certain transitional provisions. The EU Benchmark Regulation applies to 'contributors' to, 'administrators' of, and 'users' of benchmarks in the EU. The EU Benchmark Regulation will, among other things, (a) require EU benchmark administrators to be authorised or registered and to comply with requirements relating to the administration of benchmarks, (b) prohibit the use in the EU of benchmarks provided by EU administrators which are not authorised or registered in accordance with the EU Benchmark Regulation, and (c) prohibit the use in the EU of benchmarks provided by non-EU administrators which are not (i) authorised or registered and subject to supervision in a jurisdiction in respect of which an 'equivalence' decision has been adopted in accordance with the EU Benchmark Regulation, or (ii) where such equivalence decision is pending, 'recognised' by the competent authorities of the applicable EU Member State(s). An exception to this is that a benchmark provided by a non-EU administrator can itself be endorsed for use in the EU by an EU authorised or registered administrator or an EU-based supervised entity, following authorisation of the endorsement by the relevant competent authority.

The EU Benchmark Regulation requires the Company to produce and maintain a robust contingency plan setting out the actions that it would take in the event that a benchmark (as defined by the EU Benchmark Regulation) materially changes or ceases to be provided.

The Company is required under the EU Benchmark Regulation to use only benchmarks which are provided by authorised benchmark administrators that are present in the register of administrators maintained by the European Securities and Markets Authority, pursuant to Article 36 of the EU Benchmark Regulation.

#### 6. INDICES

#### 6.1 General

Each Fund will seek to track or replicate the performance of an Index. The Investment Manager will seek to minimise (insofar as this is possible and practicable) Tracking Error. In doing so, as the Index constituents may change over time, the Investment Manager will rely solely on the Index Provider for information as to the composition and weighting of the Index constituents. If the Investment Manager is unable to obtain or process such information in relation to an Index on any Business Day, the most recently published composition and/or weighting of that Index will be used for the purpose of management of the Fund's Investments. There is no assurance that an Index will continue to be calculated and published on the basis described in this Prospectus or that it will not be amended significantly without reference to the Company or a Fund.

## 6.2 Index rebalancing

Rebalancing is the process by which an Index Provider periodically publishes changes in an Index to reflect the inclusion or exclusion of securities depending on the relevant Index rules. During a rebalance, securities are screened by an unaffiliated third party, retained by the Index Provider to calculate the Index, to determine whether they comply with the Index Provider's index methodology and are eligible to be included in an Index. Based on this screening, securities that meet Index requirements are added to the applicable Index, and securities that do not meet such requirements are dropped from the applicable Index. In response to market conditions, security and sector weights may fluctuate between annual Index rebalance dates. An Index Provider may also carry out unscheduled rebalances to an Index. An unscheduled rebalance may take place to adjust the constituents in an Index (for reasons which may include an error in a previous rebalancing).

When the constituents of an Index change, a Fund will typically seek to realign its Investments and exposures to more closely reflect the Index. To achieve this, Investments must be bought and sold. This rebalancing will incur costs (such as brokerage, exchange trading costs or other fees, charges, interest, taxes or levies incurred in connection with acquiring or disposing of Investments) which are borne by the Fund and are not reflected in the calculation of the Index. These costs may therefore impact a Fund's Tracking Error.

## 7. DIVIDEND POLICY

The Directors intend to distribute all or substantially all of the net income (interest and dividends, less expenses) of the Fund attributable to Shares. Dividends shall be payable in the currency of denomination of a Fund's distributing Share class to Shareholders. Normally, dividends will be declared with the frequency detailed in the relevant Fund's Supplement. Details relating to dividend payments can be found on www.wisdomtree.eu.

Shareholders who wish to receive dividend payments in any other currency should contact the Administrator to ascertain if this service is available. Any such foreign exchange conversions of dividend payments will be at the expense and risk of the Shareholder. Distributions of income in cash will be wired to the bank account designated by the Shareholder in the Participant Agreement or as designated in the Shareholder's arrangement with the Recognised Clearing System.

Any dividend unclaimed after six years from the date when it first becomes payable shall be forfeited automatically, without the necessity for any declaration or other action by the Company.

In the event Directors resolve to change the dividend policy of a Share class full details of the change in dividend policy will be reflected in a revised Fund Supplement and all Shareholders will be notified in advance.

#### 8. RISK FACTORS

An investment in the Company and in any Fund should be made with an understanding that the value of a Fund's Investments may fluctuate in accordance with changes in the financial condition of an issuer or counterparty, changes in specific economic or political conditions that affect a particular security or issuer and changes in general economic or political conditions. An investor in a Fund could lose the value of its investment over short or long periods of time.

Potential investors should therefore consider the risk factors below before investing in the Company or in any Fund. Additional risk information specific to individual Funds is specified in the Supplement for that Fund. This section is not intended to be a complete explanation and other risks may be relevant from time to time. In particular, the Company's and each Fund's performance may be affected by changes in market, economic and political conditions, and in legal, regulatory and tax requirements.

An investment in the Company and in any Fund should also be made with an understanding of the risks inherent in an investment in equity securities, including the risk that the financial condition of issuers may become impaired or that the general condition of the stock market may deteriorate (either of which may cause a decrease in the value of a Fund's Investments and therefore a decrease in the value of shares of the Fund). Common stocks are susceptible to general stock market fluctuations and to volatile increases and decreases in value as market confidence and perceptions change. These investor perceptions are based on various and unpredictable factors, including expectations regarding government, economic, monetary and fiscal policies; inflation and interest rates; economic expansion or contraction; and global or regional political, economic or banking crises.

Capital controls and sanctions risk. Economic conditions, such as volatile currency exchange rates and interest rates, political events, military action and other conditions may, without prior warning, lead to government intervention (including intervention by the government of an investor's country of residence with respect to other governments, economic sectors, foreign companies and related securities and interests) and the imposition of capital controls and/or sanctions, which may also include retaliatory actions of one government against another government, such as seizure of assets. Capital controls and/or sanctions include the prohibition of, or restrictions on, the ability to own or transfer currency, securities or other assets, which may potentially include derivative instruments related thereto. Levies may be placed on profits repatriated by foreign entities (such as a Fund). Capital controls and/or sanctions may also impact the ability of a Fund to create and redeem Shares or to buy, sell, transfer, receive, delivery or otherwise obtain exposure to, foreign securities or currency, negatively impact the value and/or liquidity of such instruments, adversely affect the trading market and price for Shares of a Fund, and cause a Fund to decline in value.

Corporate debt securities risk. Investors should note that cash interest rates vary over time. The price of debt securities will generally be affected by changing interest rates. A Fund may invest in corporate debt securities from companies with a range of credit worthiness. A default by the issuer of a debt security may result in a reduction in the value of that Fund. Although certain Funds may invest in debt securities that invest and trade in the secondary market, the secondary market for corporate debt securities can often be illiquid and therefore it may be difficult to achieve fair value on purchase and sale transactions.

**Counterparty risk**. Where a Fund enters into FDI transactions or places cash in bank deposit accounts, this exposes the Funds to the credit of its counterparties and their ability to satisfy the terms of such contracts. In the event of a bankruptcy or insolvency of a counterparty, a Fund could experience delays in liquidating positions and significant losses, including declines in the value of investments during the period in which a Fund seeks to enforce its rights, inability to realise any gains on its investments during such period and fees and expenses incurred in enforcing its rights.

Counterparty risk to the Depositary. The Company will be exposed to the credit risk of the Depositary as a counterparty or any depository used by the Depositary where cash is held by the Depositary or other depositaries. In the event of the insolvency of the Depositary or other depositaries, the Company will be treated as a general creditor of the Depositary or other depositaries in relation to cash holdings of the Funds. The Funds' securities are however maintained by the Depositary or other depositaries in segregated accounts and should be protected in the event of

insolvency of the Depositary or other depositaries. Were such a counterparty to have financial difficulties, even if a Fund is able to recover all of its capital intact, its trading could be materially disrupted in the interim, potentially resulting in material losses.

**Country risk.** The value of a Fund's assets may be subject to uncertainties such as changes in a country's government policies, taxation, restrictions on foreign investment, currency decisions, applicable laws and regulations, or any natural disasters or political upheaval, will weaken a country's securities markets.

Currency risk. A Fund's Base Currency will typically reflect the currency of denomination of the relevant Index. Where the Index constituents are denominated in currencies other than the Base Currency, Investments of a Fund may be acquired in currencies which are not in the Fund's Base Currency. Unless stated in its investment policy, the Investment Manager will not utilise hedging, techniques to seek to mitigate a Fund's currency exposure. The Fund will therefore be subject to exchange rate risk and the cost of acquiring Investments may be adversely or favourably affected by fluctuations in the exchange rate of the different currencies. For emerging market countries, volatility in currency markets can be heightened. Depending on an investor's currency of reference, currency fluctuations between that currency and the Base Currency may adversely affect the value of an investment in a Fund. Adverse movements in currency exchange rates can result in a decrease in return and a loss of capital. In addition, currency hedging transactions, while potentially reducing the currency risks to which a Fund would otherwise be exposed, involve certain other risks, including the risk of a default by a counterparty. Where a Fund engages in foreign exchange transactions which alter the currency exposure characteristics of its investments the performance of a Fund may be strongly influenced by movements in exchange rates as currency positions held by that Fund may not correspond with the securities positions held. Shares may be denominated in a currency other than that traded on a stock exchange in which case exchange rate fluctuations may have a negative effect on the returns of a Fund.

Cyber Security risk. With the increased use of technologies such as the internet to conduct business, the Company, Authorised Participants, service providers (including the Investment Manager, Administrator and Depositary) and the relevant listing exchange are susceptible to operational, information security and related "cyber" risks both directly and through their service providers. Similar types of cyber security risks are also present for issuers of securities in which a Fund invests, which could result in material adverse consequences for such issuers, and may cause a Fund's investment in such portfolio companies to lose value. Unlike many other types of risks faced by a Fund, these risks typically are not covered by insurance. In general, cyber incidents can result from deliberate attacks or unintentional events. Cyber attacks include, but are not limited to, gaining unauthorised access to digital systems (e.g. through "hacking" or malicious software coding) for purposes of misappropriating assets or sensitive information, corrupting data, or causing operational disruption. Cyber attacks may also be carried out in a manner that does not require gaining unauthorised access, such as causing denial-of-service attacks on websites (i.e. efforts to make network services unavailable to intended users). Cyber security failures by or breaches of the systems of a Fund's adviser, distributor and other service providers (including, but not limited to the Investment Manager, Administrator, Depositary, Index Providers, Registrar, Transfer Agent and fund accountants), market makers, Authorised Participants or the issuers of securities in which a Fund invests, have the ability to cause disruptions and impact business operations, potentially resulting in: financial losses, interference with a Fund's ability to calculate its Net Asset Value, disclosure of confidential trading information, impediments to trading, submission of erroneous trades or erroneous creation or redemption orders, the inability of a Fund or its service providers to transact business, violations of applicable privacy and other laws, regulatory fines, penalties, reputational damage, reimbursement or other compensation costs, or additional compliance costs. In addition, cyber attacks may render records of a Fund's assets and transactions, shareholder ownership of a Fund's shares, and other data integral to the functioning of a Fund inaccessible or inaccurate or incomplete. Substantial costs may be incurred by a Fund in order to resolve or prevent cyber incidents in the future. The Company cannot control the cyber security plans and systems put in place by service providers to the Funds. issuers in which a Fund invests, market makers or Authorised Participants. The Funds and Shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.

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**Dealing Day risk.** A Fund may not trade on a particular Dealing Day or it may have suspended the calculation of its Net Asset Value (and as a result the subscription and redemption of Shares) on a particular Dealing Day, notwithstanding that foreign exchanges on which a Fund's investments may be listed or traded. As a result the value of the securities in the Fund's portfolio may change on days when Shareholders or other investors will not be able to purchase or sell a Fund's Shares.

**Depositary Receipts.** Depositary Receipts may not necessarily be denominated in the same currency as the underlying securities into which they may be converted. A Fund will not invest in any unlisted Depositary Receipts or any Depositary Receipt that the Investment Manager deems to be illiquid or for which pricing information is not readily available. In addition, all Depositary Receipts generally must be sponsored; however, a Fund may invest in unsponsored Depositary Receipts under certain limited circumstances. The issuers of unsponsored Depositary Receipts are not obligated to disclose material information and, therefore, there may be less information available regarding such issuers and there may not be a correlation between such information and the market value of the Depositary Receipts. The use of Depositary Receipts may increase tracking error relative to an underlying Index.

Emerging markets risk. The economies of individual emerging countries may differ favourably or unfavourably from the economy of a developed country in such respects as growth of gross domestic product, rate of inflation, currency depreciation, asset reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency and balance of payments position. Further, the economies of emerging countries generally are heavily dependent upon international trade and, accordingly, have been, and may continue to be adversely affected by trade barriers, exchange controls, managed adjustments in relative currency values and other protectionist measures imposed or negotiated by the countries with which they trade. These economies also have been and may continue to be adversely affected by economic conditions in the countries with which they trade. The economies of certain of these countries may be based, predominantly, on only a few industries and may be vulnerable to changes in trade conditions. They may also have higher levels of debt or inflation. There are, therefore, certain risks involved in investing in securities of companies and governments of emerging market countries that are in addition to the usual risks inherent in investment in securities of more developed countries. These risks include:

## Auditing and accounting standards risk

The legal infrastructure and accounting, auditing and reporting standards in some countries in which a Fund may invest may not provide the same degree of information to investors as would generally apply internationally. In particular, valuation of assets, depreciation, exchange differences, deferred taxation, contingent liabilities and consolidation may be treated differently from international accounting standards.

## **Depositary** risk

Custody risk refers to the risks inherent in the process of clearing and settling trades and to the holding of securities by local banks, agents and depositories. Local agents are held to local standards of care and in general, the less developed a country's securities market is, the greater the likelihood of custody problems.

## Currency risk

Currency risk arises from fluctuations in currency exchange rates; revaluation of currencies; future adverse political and economic developments and the possible imposition of currency exchange blockages or other foreign governmental laws or restrictions.

#### Expropriation risk

With respect to certain emerging market countries, there is a possibility of expropriation, nationalisation, confiscatory taxation and limitations on the use or removal of funds or other assets of a Fund, including the withholding of dividends.

## Inflation risk

Although many companies in which a Fund may hold shares may have operated profitably in the past in an inflationary environment, past performance is no assurance of future performance. Inflation may adversely affect any economy and the value of companies' shares.

## Legal risk

Many of the laws that govern foreign investment, equity securities transactions and other contractual relationships in certain countries, particularly in developing countries, are new and largely untested. In certain emerging market countries there may be considerable uncertainty around the legislative framework for the purchase and sale of investments and in relation to beneficial interests in those investments and there can be no assurance regarding how the courts or agencies of those emerging market countries will react to issues arising from the Fund's investment in such countries and arrangements contemplated in relation thereto.

Laws, orders, rules, regulations and other legislation currently regulating the investment strategies contemplated may be altered, in whole or in part, and a court or other authority of an emerging market country may interpret any relevant existing legislation in such a way that the investment strategies contemplated are rendered illegal, null or void, whether retroactively or otherwise, or in such a way that the investment of the Fund is adversely affected. There may be unpublished legislation in force now or at any future time in any emerging market country which conflicts with or supersedes published legislation and which may substantially affect the investment strategies contemplated.

There is no guarantee that any arrangements made, or agreement entered into, between the Depositary and any sub-custodian, agent or correspondent will be upheld by a court of any emerging market country, or that any judgement obtained by the Depositary or the Company against any such sub-custodian, agent or correspondent in a court of any jurisdiction will be enforced by a court of an emerging market country.

Legislation regarding companies in emerging market countries, specifically those laws in respect of fiduciary responsibility of directors and/or administrators and disclosure may be in a state of evolution and may be of a considerable less stringent nature than corresponding laws in more developed countries.

As a result, a Fund may be subject to a number of unusual risks, including inadequate investor protection, contradictory legislation, incomplete, unclear and changing laws, ignorance or breaches of regulations on the part of other market participants, lack of established or effective avenues for legal redress, lack of standard practices and confidentiality customs characteristic of developed markets and lack of enforcement of existing regulations. Furthermore, it may be difficult to obtain and enforce a judgement in certain countries in which assets of a Fund are invested. There can be no assurance that this difficulty in protecting and enforcing rights will not have a material adverse effect on a Fund and its operations. In addition, the income and gains of a Fund may be subject to withholding taxes imposed by foreign governments for which Shareholders may not receive a full foreign tax credit. Furthermore, it may be difficult to obtain and enforce a judgement in a court outside of Ireland.

## Liquidity risk

Securities of many companies of emerging market countries may be less liquid and the prices more volatile than those securities of comparable companies in non-developing markets countries. Investment in foreign securities may also result in higher operating expenses due to the cost of converting foreign currency into the base currency of a Fund, higher valuation and communications costs and the expense of maintaining securities with foreign custodians.

## Political risk

Emerging market countries may also be subject to higher than usual risks of political changes, government regulation, social instability or diplomatic developments (including war) which could adversely affect the economies of the relevant countries and thus the value of investments in those countries. Governments of many emerging market countries have exercised and continue to exercise substantial influence over many aspects of the private sector through ownership or control of many companies. The future actions of those governments could have a significant effect on economic conditions in emerging markets, which in turn, may adversely affect companies in the private sector, general market conditions and prices and yields of certain of the securities of a Fund.

#### Settlement risk

Certain emerging market countries are known to experience long delays between the trade and settlement dates of securities purchased or sold.

FDI Risk. Where disclosed in the relevant Supplement a Fund may invest in FDI in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank. The FDI that may be used or invested in are futures, forwards, options, swaps, credit default swaps, inflation swaps (which may be used to manage, subject to the limits and conditions set out in Appendix II, inflation risk) swaptions, contracts for difference, interest rate swaps and warrants. These derivative positions may be executed either on exchange or over the counter. Such FDI tend to have a greater volatility than the securities to which they relate and they bear a corresponding greater degree of risk. The primary risks associated with the use of such derivatives are (i) failure to predict accurately the direction of the market movements and (ii) market risks, for example, lack of liquidity or lack of correlation between the change in the value of the underlying asset and that of the value of a Fund's derivatives. These techniques may not always be possible or effective in enhancing returns or mitigating risk. A Fund's investment in over the counter derivatives is subject to the risk of counterparty default. In addition, a Fund may have to transact with counterparties on standard terms which it may not be able to negotiate and may bear the risk of loss because a counterparty does not have the legal capacity to enter into a transaction, or if the transaction becomes unenforceable due to relevant legislation and regulation. To the extent that a Fund invests in FDI, a Fund may take a credit risk with regard to parties with whom it trades and may also bear the risk of settlement default.

**Fund suspension risk.** The Company may suspend calculation of the Net Asset Value and the subscription and redemption of Shares of one or more Funds under certain circumstances. During such suspension it may be difficult for an investor to buy or sell Shares, and the market price may not reflect the Net Asset Value per Share. In the event that the Company has to suspend the subscription and/or redemption of Shares of a Fund, or if a stock exchange on which a Fund's underlying investments are traded is closed, it is expected that the price at which an investor buys or sells shares may represent a larger discount or premium to the Net Asset Value per Share than might otherwise be the case.

**Geopolitical risk.** Some countries and regions in which a Fund may invest have experienced security concerns, war or threats of war and aggression, terrorism, economic uncertainty, natural and environmental disasters and/or systemic market dislocations that have led, and in the future may lead, to increased short-term market volatility and may have adverse long-term effects on local country and world economies and markets generally. Such geopolitical and other events may also disrupt securities markets and, during such market disruptions, a Fund's exposure to the other risks described herein will likely increase. Each of which may negatively impact a Fund's investments.

**Government debt securities risk.** Investors should note that in periods of low inflation the positive growth of Funds that invest in government debt securities may be limited.

**Issuer-specific risk.** Changes in the financial condition of an issuer or counterparty, changes in the specific economic or political conditions that affect a particular type of security or issuer, and changes in the general economic or political conditions can affect a security's or instrument's value. The value of securities of smaller, less well-known issuers can be more volatile than that of larger issuers. Issuer-specific events can have a negative impact on the value of a Fund.

**Index risk.** A Fund will seek to track Index returns regardless of the current or projected performance of the Index or of securities comprising the Index. As a result, a Fund's performance may be less favourable than that of a portfolio managed using an active investment strategy. The structure and composition of an Index will affect the performance, volatility and risk of the Index (in absolute terms and by comparison with other indices), and consequently, the performance, volatility and risk of the Fund.

The performance of a Fund may be negatively affected by a general decline of the securities or the market segment relating to an Index. Each Fund invests in securities included in or representative of an Index regardless of their investment merit. The securities in an Index or each Fund's portfolio may underperform the returns of other securities or indexes that track other economic sectors, countries, regions, markets or asset classes. Various types of securities or indices tend to experience cycles of outperformance and underperformance in comparison to general securities markets.

While Index Providers do provide descriptions of what each Index is designed to achieve, Index Providers do not generally provide any warranty or accept any liability in relation to the quality,

accuracy or completeness of data in respect of their indices, nor any guarantee that the published indices will be in line with their described index methodologies. Errors in respect of the quality, accuracy and completeness of the data may occur from time to time. In addition, apart from scheduled rebalances, Index Providers may carry out additional ad hoc rebalances to their indices in order to, for example, correct an error in the selection of index constituents. Where the Index of a Fund is rebalanced and the Fund in turn rebalances its portfolio to bring it in line with its Index, any transaction costs arising from such portfolio rebalancing will be borne by the Fund and, by extension, its Shareholders. Unscheduled rebalances to the Index may also expose the Fund to Tracking Error. Therefore, errors and additional ad hoc rebalances carried out by an Index Provider to a Fund's Index may increase the costs of the Fund. No Index Provider has any obligation to take the needs of the Company or the Shareholders into consideration in determining, composing or calculating any Index. The Company has neither control nor input into the determination of the composition or calculation of any Index.

Index replicating and tracking risk. There is no guarantee that the investment objective of any Fund will be achieved. In particular, no financial instrument enables the returns of any Index to be reproduced or tracked exactly. Changes in the investments of any Fund and re-weightings of an Index may give rise to various transaction costs (including in relation to the settlement of foreign currency transactions), operating expenses or inefficiencies which may adversely impact a Fund's tracking of the performance of an Index. Furthermore, the total return on investment in the Shares will be reduced by certain costs and expenses which are not taken into account in the calculation of the applicable Index. A Fund is not expected to track or replicate the performance of its respective Index at all times with perfect accuracy. A Fund is, however, expected to provide investment results that generally correspond to the price and yield of its respective Index.

Index sampling risks. It may be expensive and inefficient to buy and sell all Index constituents and so a Fund may, where disclosed in its investment policy, use "sampling" techniques to select securities. In such circumstances the Investment Manager may select a representative sample of securities that approximates the full Index in terms of key risk factors and other characteristics. These factors include price/earnings ratio, industry weights, country weights, market capitalisation, dividend yield, and other financial characteristics of stocks. While a Fund keeps currency, country, industry sector and subsector exposure within tight boundaries compared with that of its Index, there is the risk that the securities selected for the Fund, in the aggregate, will not provide investment performance matching that of the relevant Index.

**Investing in unlisted securities.** Although a Fund will generally invest in listed securities, pursuant to the Regulations a Fund has the right to invest up to 10% of its Net Asset Value in securities which are not traded on a Regulated Market. In such situations, a Fund may therefore be unable to readily sell such securities.

**Investment risk.** There is no assurance that any appreciation in the value of Investments will occur, or that the investment objectives of any Fund will be achieved.

**Investment style risk.** Each Fund invests in the securities included in, or representative of, its Index regardless of their investment merit. A Fund does not attempt to outperform its Index or take defensive positions in declining markets. As a result, a Fund's performance may be adversely affected by a general decline in the market segments relating to its Index. The returns from different types of securities in which a Fund invests may underperform returns from the various general securities markets or different asset classes. Different types of securities (for example, large-, midand small-capitalisation stocks) tend to go through cycles of doing better — or worse — than the general securities markets. In the past, these periods have lasted for as long as several years.

Liquidity and pricing risk. The shares of newly established companies may be less liquid than the shares of more mature and established companies. Newly established companies, as compared with more mature and established companies, may have a shorter history of operations, may not have as great an ability to raise additional capital and may have a smaller public market for their shares. Volatility in the price of Shares in a Fund may arise from fluctuations in the exchange rates of currencies in which the Fund's assets are held, as well as from fluctuations in the price of equities or interest rates in relation to other transferable securities in which the Fund may be invested.

Investments in emerging markets are less liquid and more volatile than the world's leading stock markets and this may result in greater fluctuations in the price of Shares in a Fund. There can be no assurance that there will be any market for an Investment acquired in an emerging market and such lack of liquidity may adversely affect the value or ease of disposal of such Investments. Additionally, there may be instances where illiquid Investments are traded through and priced by one broker only, which may also adversely affect the value or ease of disposal of such Investments.

**Portfolio turnover risk.** A Fund will purchase and sell securities without regard to the effect on portfolio turnover. Higher portfolio turnover will cause a Fund to incur additional transaction costs. A Fund whose Index is oriented to a specific economic sector, country or region will concentrate in the securities of issuers relating to that economic sector, country or region, and will be particularly subject to the risks of adverse political, industrial, social, regulatory, technological and economic events affecting such sector, country or region.

**Suspension risk.** The Company may suspend calculation of the Net Asset Value and the subscription and redemption of Shares of one or more Funds under certain circumstances. During such suspension it may be difficult for an investor to buy or sell Shares, and the market price may not reflect the Net Asset Value per Share. In the event that the Company has to suspend the subscription and/or redemption of Shares of a Fund, or if a stock exchange on which a Fund's underlying investments are traded is closed, it is expected that the price at which an investor buys or sells Shares may represent a larger discount or premium to the Net Asset Value per Share than might otherwise be the case.

In certain markets trading on the local exchange may be carried out by one or a small number of local market account holders. If such account holder(s) fail(s) to deliver stock or monies in relation to a trade, there is a risk of suspension in relation to all Funds which effect their trading on the local market through such account holder(s). This risk may be increased where a Fund participates in a securities lending programme. Suspension in either case may increase the costs of the Fund.

**Market risk.** The trading price of fixed income securities, equity securities, commodities and other instruments fluctuates in response to a variety of factors. These factors include events impacting the entire market or specific market segments, such as political, market and economic developments, as well as events that impact specific issuers. The Net Asset Value of a Fund, like security and commodity prices generally, will fluctuate within a wide range in response to these and other factors. Events in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 have resulted in a prolonged and significant market downturn and a high degree of market volatility. Possible continuing market turbulence may have an adverse effect on Fund performance. As a result, an investor could lose the value of its investment over short or even long periods.

Non-correlation risk. The performance of the Funds is measured against a specified Index. However, as with all index funds, the performance of a Fund and its Index may different from each other for a variety of reasons. For example, each Fund incurs operating costs not incurred by its Index. In addition, a Fund may not be fully invested in the securities of its Index at all times or may hold securities not included in its Index and may be subject to pricing differences, differences in the timing of dividend accruals, operational inefficiencies and/or the need to comply with investment and borrowing restrictions as set out under the heading "Investment and Borrowing Restrictions". A Fund may be subject to foreign ownership limitations and, as a result, may not be able to invest in certain securities to the same extent as its Index. The use of sampling techniques may affect a Fund's ability to achieve close correlation with its Index. A Fund using a representative sampling strategy generally can be expected to have a greater non-correlation risk and this risk may be heightened during times of increased market volatility or other unusual market conditions.

**Secondary Market risks.** Shares of a Fund will be traded on exchange, the Secondary Market. The price at which Shares are traded on the Secondary Market will differ from the Net Asset Value of Shares due to factors which include the extent of supply and demand on the stock exchange on which the Shares are traded. The Company cannot predict the level at which Shares will be traded and whether they will trade at, below, or above their Net Asset Value per Share. The Net Asset Value per Share and the Secondary Market price of Shares are expected to track each other through arbitrage. An Authorised Participant or other professional investor calculating the bid and offer price of Shares will take account of the Net Asset Value of Shares, the requisite amounts of securities of the Index in

respect of Creation Units including transfer taxes (if applicable), the costs of subscribing for Shares and custody costs (amongst others). Where the notional price of purchasing the securities comprising the Index corresponding to a subscription for a Creation Unit is less or more than the Secondary Market price of Shares in a Creation Unit, then an Authorised Participant may choose to arbitrage the Fund by subscribing for or redeeming Creation Units.

Investors on the Secondary Market may purchase Shares through a broker, Authorised Participant or other market maker. In such circumstances, the investor may not be entered as a Shareholder or appear on the Company's register of Shareholders. Where an investor does not appear on the Company's register of Shareholders, any such investor will not have rights exercisable by Shareholders, such as voting rights or rights to participate at meetings of the Company or of a Fund.

Secondary Market price of Shares risk. As with all exchange traded funds, Shares of a Fund will be bought and sold on the Secondary Market at market prices. Although it is expected that the market price of the Shares will approximate the Fund's Net Asset Value per Share, there may be times when the market price and the Net Asset Value per Share vary significantly, including due to supply and demand of the Fund's Shares and/or during periods of market volatility. As a result an investor may pay more or less than the Net Asset Value per Share when you buy Shares on the Secondary Market. Correspondingly, an investor may receive more or less than the Net Asset Value per Share when Shares are sold on the Secondary Market. Where an investor purchases Shares at a time when the market price is at a premium to the Net Asset Value per Share or sells Shares at a time when the market price is at a discount to the Net Asset Value per Share, an investor may sustain losses.

Securities lending risk. Where a Fund engages in stocklending transactions it will receive collateral from a borrower in respect of each transaction. Despite holding collateral, a Fund could still be exposed to a risk of loss should a borrower default on its obligation to return the borrowed securities. As with any extensions of credit, there are risks of delay, recovery or even loss. Should the borrower of securities fail to return the security or default in any of its obligations under any securities lending transaction, the collateral provided in connection with such transaction will be called upon. The value of the collateral will be maintained to equal or exceed the daily marked to market value of the securities on loan. However there is a risk that the value of the collateral may fall below the value of the securities on loan and if the Fund is not able to recover the securities loaned, the collateral will be sold and cash proceeds will be used to replace securities in the marketplace. Any shortfall in the cash proceeds available to replace the loaned securities shall be at the credit risk of the stocklending agent, under their contractual indemnification. In addition, as a Fund may invest cash collateral received it will be exposed to the risk associated with such investments, such as loss in value or a failure or default of the issuer of the relevant security.

**Segregated liability risk**. The Company is structured as an umbrella fund with segregated liability between its Funds. As a matter of Irish law, the assets of one Fund will not be available to meet the liabilities of another. However, the Company is a single legal entity that may operate or have assets held on its behalf or be subject to claims in other jurisdictions that may not necessarily recognise such segregation.

**Settlement risk.** Some Funds may have dealing procedures which provide for the settlement of subscriptions monies after the cut-off time for receipt of Order Forms. These Funds bear the risk that an Authorised Participant fails to pay some or all of the relevant subscription monies or that such payments are not made within the timeframe set out in the relevant Supplement. The Company may pursue such investors to recover any losses suffered by the relevant Fund. However, the relevant Fund may suffer a loss if the Company is unable to recover these losses from such investors.

**Taxation risk.** The tax information provided in the section entitled "Taxation" is based on the law and practice of taxation as at the date of this Prospectus and is subject to change from time to time. Any change in the taxation legislation in Ireland or in any jurisdiction where a Fund is registered, listed, marketed or invested could affect the tax status of the Company and any Fund. It could also affect the value of a Fund's Investments in the affected jurisdiction, a Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective, and/or alter the after-tax returns to Shareholders. Where a Fund invests in FDI, these considerations may also extend to the jurisdiction of the governing law of the FDI and/or the relevant counterparty and/or to the markets to which the FDI provides exposure. The availability and value of any tax reliefs available to Shareholders depend on the individual circumstances of each Shareholder.

The tax information provided in the section entitled "Taxation" is not exhaustive and does not constitute legal or tax advice. Prospective Shareholders should consult their tax advisors with respect to their particular tax situations and the tax effects of an investment in the Funds. Where a Fund invests in a jurisdiction where the tax regime is not fully developed or is not sufficiently certain, neither the Company, the Manager, a Fund, the Investment Manager, the Depositary nor the Administrator shall be liable to account to any Shareholder for any payment made or suffered by the Company or the affected Fund in good faith to a fiscal authority for taxes or other charges of the Company or the affected Fund notwithstanding that it is later found that such payments need not or ought not have been made or suffered.

The Company may be subject to withholding or other taxes on income and/or gains arising from its investment portfolio. Where the Company invests in securities that are not subject to withholding or other taxes at the time of acquisition, there can be no assurance that tax may not be imposed in the future as a result of any change in applicable laws, treaties, rules or regulations or the interpretation thereof. The Company may not be able to recover such tax and so any such change could have an adverse effect on the Net Asset Value of the Shares.

**Unlisted securities.** Although a Fund will generally invest in listed securities, a Fund has the discretion to invest up to 10% of its Net Asset Value in securities which are not listed or traded on a Regulated Market. Securities which are neither listed nor traded on a Regulated Market may become illiquid and as a result a Fund may be unable to readily sell such securities and thereby realise their value. In such circumstances the Fund's Net Asset Value will be adversely affected.

Valuation risk. A Fund's Investments will typically be valued at the relevant market value, in accordance with the Articles and applicable law. In certain circumstances, a portion of a Fund's assets may be valued by the Company at fair value using prices provided by a pricing service or, alternatively, a broker-dealer or other market intermediary when other reliable pricing sources may not be available. If no relevant information is available from those sources or if the Company considers available information unreliable, the Directors may value a Fund's assets based on such other information as the Company may in its discretion consider appropriate. There can be no assurance that such prices will accurately reflect the price a Fund would receive upon sale of an Investment and to the extent a Fund sells an asset at a price lower than the price at which it has been valued the Fund's Net Asset Value will be adversely affected.

**Volatility risk.** The Net Asset Value of certain Funds may be subject to high volatility. Further, prospective investors should be aware that investments are subject to normal market fluctuations and other risks inherent in investing in securities.

**Collection accounts**. A single collection account is operated at umbrella level in the name of the Company (the "Collection Account"). All subscription and redemption monies and dividends or cash distributions payable to or from the Funds are channelled and managed through the Collection Account.

Subscription monies received in respect of a Fund in advance of the issue of Shares will be held in the Collection Account in the name of the Company and will be treated as an asset of the relevant Fund. Investors will be unsecured creditors of the Company with respect to any cash amount subscribed and held by the Company in the Collection Account until such time as the Shares subscribed are issued, and will not benefit from any appreciation in the Net Asset Value of the relevant Fund in respect of which the subscription request was made or any other shareholder rights (including dividend entitlement) until such time as the relevant Shares are issued. In the event of the insolvency of that Fund or the Company, there is no guarantee that the Fund or Company will have sufficient funds to pay unsecured creditors in full.

Payment by a Fund of redemption proceeds and dividends is subject to receipt by the Administrator of original subscription documents and compliance with all anti-money laundering procedures. Payment of redemption proceeds or dividends to the Shareholders entitled to such amounts may accordingly be blocked pending compliance with the foregoing requirements to the satisfaction of the Administrator. Redemption and distribution amounts, including blocked redemption or distribution amounts, will, pending payment to the relevant investor or Shareholder, be held in the Collection Account in the name of the Company. For as long as such amounts are held in the Collection

Account, the investors/Shareholders entitled to such payments from a Fund will be unsecured creditors of the Company with respect to those amounts and, with respect to and to the extent of their interest in such amounts, will not benefit from any appreciation in the Net Asset Value of the relevant Fund or any other Shareholder rights (including further dividend entitlement). Redeeming Shareholders will cease to be Shareholders with regard to the redeemed Shares as and from the relevant redemption date. In the event of the insolvency of the relevant Fund or the Company, there is no guarantee that the Fund or the Company will have sufficient funds to pay unsecured creditors in full. Redeeming Shareholders and Shareholders entitled to dividends should therefore ensure that any outstanding documentation and/or information required in order for them to receive such payments to their own account is provided to the Company or its delegate, the Administrator, promptly. Failure to do so is at such Shareholder's own risk.

In the event of the insolvency of a Fund, recovery of any amounts to which other Funds are entitled, but which may have transferred to the insolvent Fund as a result of the operation of the Collection Account, will be subject to the principles of Irish trust law and the terms of the operational procedures for the Collection Account. There may be delays in effecting and/or disputes as to the recovery of such amounts, and the insolvent Fund may have insufficient funds to repay amounts due to other Funds.

#### 9. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

The Directors control the affairs of the Company and are responsible for the overall investment policy, which will be determined by them and notified to the Manager. The Manager has delegated certain of its duties to the Investment Manager, the Administrator and the Marketing Agent.

## 9.1 The Directors

The Company shall be managed and its affairs supervised by the Directors whose details are set out below. The Directors are all non-executive directors of the Company.

**Mr David Abner** (US Resident (UK Resident as of 31 August 2016)). Mr Abner is the CEO of WisdomTree's European Operations. Mr Abner has served as Head of Capital Markets at WisdomTree Asset Management since April 2008. Prior to joining WisdomTree, Mr Abner was a Managing Director and the head of ETF Trading Americas at BNP Paribas in New York from 2006 to 2008. Mr Abner started his career at Bear Stearns in 1992, where he ran the closed-end fund trading group until 2000 when he became head of ETF trading until his departure in 2006. Mr Abner holds a Master of Science in Management and Policy Analysis and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Mr Gregory Barton (US resident). Mr Barton has served as Executive Vice President—Operations and Chief Operating Officer of WisdomTree Investments, Inc. ("WTI") since October 2012. Before joining WTI, Mr Barton served as Executive Vice President Business and Legal Affairs, General Counsel and Secretary of TheStreet, Inc., a financial media company, from June 2009 to July 2012, following his service as General Counsel and Secretary of Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia, Inc., a media and merchandising company, from October 2007 to August 2008. From October 2004 to October 2007, Mr Barton served as Executive Vice President, Licensing and Legal Affairs, General Counsel and Secretary, and from November 2002 to October 2004, as Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary, of Ziff Davis Media Inc., a technology media company. Preceding Ziff Davis. Mr Barton served in a variety of positions at WTI (then known as Individual Investor Group. Inc.) from August 1998 to November 2002, including President, Chief Financial Officer and General Counsel; and prior to that was Vice President, Corporate and Legal Affairs, and General Counsel of Alliance Semiconductor Corporation, an integrated circuit company, from May 1995 to August 1998. Mr Barton was previously an attorney at the law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP. From June 2006 through October 2012 Mr Barton served as an Independent Trustee and Chairman of the Audit Committee for the WisdomTree Trust. Mr. Barton received a B.A. degree, summa cum laude, from Claremont McKenna College and a J.D. degree, magna cum laude, from Harvard Law School.

Mr Vincent Dodd (Irish Resident). Mr Dodd has over 24 years experience in fund management, fund administration and private banking. He currently serves as a specialist independent director to a number of Irish and international financial services companies, UCITS and exchange listed mutual funds. Mr Dodd was Head of Private Banking at KBC Bank in Ireland from 1997 to 2003. Before joining KBC Bank he was Head of Business Development at Bank of Ireland Securities Services, the custody and fund administration arm of the Bank of Ireland, from 1993 to 1997. He was a senior manager in the Private Clients Group of the Investment Bank of Ireland from 1991 to 1993. From 2003 to 2008, Mr Dodd was a senior consultant and director of a number of boutique advisory companies working with family offices, corporate and private institutions in the Irish market. Mr Dodd received his B.A. in Economics and Politics from University College Dublin in 1986 and his DBA in Corporate finance and Business Administration in 1987 from Queens University Belfast. Mr Dodd completed the Post Graduate Diploma in Corporate Governance in 2010 at the Smurfit Business School in University College Dublin. Mr Dodd is a member of the Institute of Directors. Mr Dodd is an independent, non-executive Director.

**Ms Denise Kinsella** (Irish resident). Ms Kinsella is an independent non-executive director of a number of investment funds with over 20 years experience in international financial services. She is a lawyer and for six years (1999 to 2005) was a Partner at Dillon Eustace Solicitors specialising in financial services law and regulation, in particular investment funds, banking and security. Prior to that she was a senior executive at Bank of Ireland Group where she worked for 11 years, including, in Bank of Ireland Securities Services, as Director of Client Services and Director of Legal Affairs and, in

Bank of Ireland Asset Management, as a Senior Manager. Ms Kinsella is a former Chairman of the Irish Fund Company Industry Association ("IFIA") and IFIA's legal and regulatory sub-committee and has participated in a number of key funds industry working groups. She holds an honours law degree from Trinity College Dublin and was admitted as a solicitor by the Law Society of Ireland in 1987. She holds a diploma in company direction from the Institute of Directors (UK) (2011).

Mr Amit Muni (US resident). Mr Muni has served as Executive Vice President—Finance and Chief Financial Officer of WTI since March 2008. Prior to joining WTI, Mr Muni served as Controller and Chief Accounting Officer of International Securities Exchange Holdings, Inc., an electronic options exchange, from 2003 until March 2008. Mr Muni was Vice President, Finance, of Instinet Group Incorporated, an electronic agency broker-dealer, from 2000 to 2003. From 1996 until 2000, Mr Muni was employed as a Manager of the Financial Services Industry Practice of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an accounting firm. From 1991 until 1996, Mr Muni was an accountant and a senior auditor for National Securities Clearing Corporation, a firm that provides centralised clearing, information and settlement services to the financial industry. Mr Muni received a B.B.A. in Accounting from Pace University and is a Certified Public Accountant.

**Mr Peter Ziemba** (US resident) - Mr. Ziemba has served as Executive Vice President—Business and Legal Affairs of WTI since January 2008 and Chief Legal Officer since March 2011. From April 2007 to March 2011, Mr Ziemba served as WTI General Counsel. Prior to joining WTI, Mr Ziemba was a partner in the Corporate and Securities department of Graubard Miller, which served as WTI's primary corporate counsel, from 1991 to 2007, and was employed at that firm beginning in 1982. Mr Ziemba received his B.A. in History with university honors from Binghamton University and his J.D. cum laude from Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law. Mr Ziemba served as a director of WTI from 1996 to 2003.

## 9.2 The Manager

The Company has appointed WisdomTree Management Limited as its manager pursuant to the Management Agreement. Under the terms of the Management Agreement, the Manager has responsibility for the management and administration of the Company's affairs and the distribution of the Shares, subject to the overall supervision and control of the Directors.

The Manager has delegated the investment management functions in respect of each Fund to the Investment Manager, the administration, transfer agency and registrar functions to the Administrator, and the marketing function to the Marketing Agent. The Manager may from time to time appoint entities in relation to the distribution of Shares, which entities shall be paid out of the fee payable to the Manager.

The Manager is a private company limited by shares and was incorporated in Ireland on 23 June 2014 under company registration number 545822. It is 100% indirectly owned by WisdomTree and is part of the Promoter's group of companies. The Manager has an authorised share capital of €10,000,000 and will maintain an issued and fully paid up share capital of at least €125,000. The Manager's main business is the provision of fund management and administration services to collective investment schemes such as the Company. The directors of the Manager are the same as those of the Company.

The secretary of the Manager is Wilton Secretarial Limited.

The Manager has approved and adopted a remuneration policy (the "Remuneration Policy"). The Remuneration Policy aligns the interests of staff with the long-term interests of clients, the business, shareholders, and other stakeholders. It focuses on performance-related pay, together with an emphasis on ensuring that performance is not achieved by taking risks which fall outside the Manager's risk appetite. In the Manager's opinion, the Remuneration Policy is proportionate and consistent with sound and effective risk management in accordance with applicable UCITS requirements. Details of the Manager's up-to-date Remuneration Policy, including a description of how remuneration and benefits are calculated and the identities of the persons responsible for awarding such remuneration/benefits, can be accessed from the following website: www.wisdomtree.eu. A paper copy of these policy details is also available free of charge from the Manager upon request.

#### 9.3 The Promoter

WisdomTree Asset Management, Inc acts as promoter of the Company. It is authorised by the SEC and is registered as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act, 1940, as amended. It was established on 11 February 2005. As at 30 April 2016, funds under management totalled approximately US\$44.3 billion.

## 9.4 The Investment Manager

In respect of certain of the Funds as set out in the relevant Supplement, the Manager has appointed Assenagon Asset Management S.A. as investment manager pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement. Assenagon Asset Management S.A. will be responsible for the management of the investment of the assets of certain Funds of the Company in accordance with the investment objectives and policies described in this Prospectus and the Supplement for the relevant Fund, subject always to the supervision and direction of the Directors. Assenagon Asset Management S.A is a joint stock company incorporated under the laws of Luxembourg and is authorised and regulated by the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier (the "CSSF") under Chapter 15 of the Law of December 2010 relating to undertakings for collective investments. Assenagon Asset Management S.A has a registered office at Aerogolf Center, 1B, Heienhaff, 1736 Senningerberg, Luxembourg. The Investment Manager has approximately €17 bn in assets under management as at 31 December 2015.

In respect of all the remaining Funds, the Manager has appointed Irish Life Investment Managers Limited as investment manager pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement. Irish Life Investment Managers Limited will be responsible for the management of the investment of the assets of certain Funds of the Company in accordance with the investment objectives and policies described in this Prospectus and the Supplement for the relevant Fund, subject always to the supervision and direction of the Directors. Irish Life Investment Managers Limited was incorporated in Ireland on the 8 August, 1986 and is regulated by the Central Bank. Irish Life Investment Managers Limited currently has approximately €68 bn in assets under discretionary management.

The Investment Manager may, in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank, appoint one or more sub-investment managers to whom it may delegate all or part of the day to day conduct of its investment management responsibilities in respect of any Fund. The Investment Manager will, unless otherwise agreed with the Manager, discharge the fees and expenses of any such sub-investment managers. Information relating to any other sub-investment managers to whom the investment decision making may be delegated will be provided to Shareholders on request and details of any such sub-investment managers will be disclosed in the Company's annual report and audited financial statements and semi-annual report and unaudited financial statements.

## 9.5 The Depositary

The Company has appointed State Street Custodial Services (Ireland) Limited to act as the depositary of the Company's assets pursuant to the Depositary Agreement. The Depositary provides safe custody of the Company's assets pursuant to the Regulations.

The Depositary is a limited liability company incorporated in Ireland on 22 May 1991 and is, like the Administrator, ultimately owned by the State Street Corporation. Its authorised share capital is GBP5,000,000 and its issued and paid up capital is GBP200,000. As at 31 May 2014 the Depositary held funds under custody in excess of US\$533 billion. The Depositary is a subsidiary of State Street Bank and Trust Company ("SSBT") and the liabilities of the Depositary are guaranteed by SSBT. The Depositary, SSBT and the Administrator are ultimately owned by State Street Corporation. The Depositary's principal business is the provision of custodial and trustee services for collective investment schemes and other portfolios.

State Street Corporation is a leading world-wide specialist in providing sophisticated global investors with investment servicing and investment management. State Street Corporation is headquartered in Boston, Massachusetts, USA, and trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "STT".

Pursuant to the Depositary Agreement, the Depositary will provide safekeeping for the Company's assets in accordance with applicable UCITS requirements. In addition, the Depositary has the following main duties, which may not be delegated:

- it must ensure that the sale, issue, repurchase, redemption and cancellation of Shares is carried out in accordance with the Regulations and the Articles;
- it must ensure that the value of the Shares is calculated in accordance with the Regulations and the Articles:
- it must carry out the instructions of the Manager, the Company, the Investment Manager and any currency manager appointed by or on behalf of the Company unless such instructions conflict with the Prospectus, the Regulations or the Articles;
- it must ensure that in transactions involving the Company's assets or the assets of any Fund that any payment in respect of same is remitted to the relevant Fund(s) within the usual time limits;
- it must ensure that the income of the Company or of any Fund(s) is applied in accordance with the Regulations and the Articles;
- it must enquire into the conduct of the Company and the Manager (acting on behalf of the Company) in each accounting period and report thereon to Shareholders; and
- it must ensure that the Company's cash flows are properly monitored in accordance with the Regulations and the Articles.

In accordance with applicable UCITS requirements, the Depositary shall be liable to the Company and the Shareholders (i) in respect of a loss of a financial instrument held in its custody (or in the custody of any third party to whom the Depositary's safekeeping functions have been delegated) unless the Depositary can prove that the loss has arisen as a result of an external event beyond its reasonable control, the consequences of which would have been unavoidable despite all reasonable efforts to the contrary and (ii) in respect of all other losses arising as a result of the Depositary's negligent or intentional failure to properly fulfil its obligations pursuant to the Regulations.

In accordance with the Regulations, the Depositary must not carry out activities with regard to the Company or with regard to the Manager acting on behalf of the Company that may create conflicts of interest between itself and (i) the Company, (ii) the Shareholders and/or (iii) the Manager unless it has separated the performance of its depositary tasks from its other potentially conflicting tasks in accordance with the Regulations and the potential conflicts are identified, managed, monitored and disclosed to Shareholders. Please refer to the section of this Prospectus entitled 'Conflicts of Interest' for details of potential conflicts that may arise involving the Depositary.

The Depositary may delegate its safekeeping duties only in accordance with the Regulations and provided that: (i) the services are not delegated with the intention of avoiding the requirements of the Regulations; (ii) the Depositary can demonstrate that there is an objective reason for the delegation; and (iii) the Depositary has exercised all due, skill, care and diligence in the selection and appointment of any third party to whom it has delegated its safekeeping duties either wholly or in part and continues to exercise all due skill, care and diligence in the periodic review and ongoing monitoring of any such third party and of the arrangements of such third party in respect of the matters delegated to it. Any third party to whom the Depositary delegates its safekeeping functions in accordance with the Regulations may, in turn, sub-delegate those functions subject to the same requirements as apply to any delegation effected directly by the Depositary. The liability of the Depositary will not be affected by any delegation of its safekeeping functions.

The Depositary may delegate its safekeeping duties in respect of the Company's assets to the list of sub delegates set out in Appendix V. The selection of entities to which safekeeping duties will be delegated will depend on the markets in which the Company invests. The Depositary has confirmed that no conflicts of interest arise as a result of such delegation.

Up-to-date information regarding the duties of the Depositary, any conflicts of interest that may arise and the Depositary's delegation arrangements will be made available to investors by the Company on request.

#### 9.6 The Administrator

The Manager has delegated its responsibilities as administrator to State Street Fund Services (Ireland) Limited pursuant to the Administration Agreement. The Administrator will have the responsibility for the administration of the Company's affairs including the calculation of the Net Asset Value, processing Order Forms and dealing requests from the Primary Market, registry, transfer agency services and the preparation of the accounts of the Company, subject to the overall supervision of the Directors and the Manager.

The Administrator is a limited liability company incorporated in Ireland on 23 March, 1992 and is ultimately a wholly-owned subsidiary of the State Street Corporation. The authorised share capital of the Administrator is Stg£5,000,000 with an issued and paid up capital of Stg£350,000.

State Street Corporation is a leading world-wide specialist in providing sophisticated global investors with investment servicing and investment management. State Street Corporation is headquartered in Boston, Massachusetts, USA, and trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "STT".

## 9.7 The Marketing Agent

The Manager has appointed WisdomTree Europe Limited as the entity responsible for marketing the Shares of the Company pursuant to the Marketing and Support Services Agreement. The Marketing Agent is part of the Promoter's group of companies.

# 9.8 Currency Manager

The Currency Manager has been appointed by the Manager and the Investment Manager on a non-discretionary basis to facilitate the carrying out of forward exchange transactions, within parameters determined and defined by the Manager and the Investment Manager for the purpose of implementing the currency hedging strategies for certain Funds. The Currency Manager is a leading financial services provider, regulated in the United Kingdom by the FCA that has \$200 billion in assets under management and employs approximately 30 professionals in its currency management team as of July 2015.

#### 9.9 Conflicts of Interest

Due to the widespread operations undertaken by the Promoter, WTI, the Directors, the Manager, the Investment Manager, the Marketing Agent, the Administrator and the Depositary and, where applicable, their respective holding companies, subsidiaries and affiliates (each an "Interested Party") conflicts of interest may arise. Subject to the provisions below, the Interested Parties may effect transactions where those conflicts arise and shall not (subject as below) be liable to account for any profit, commission or other remuneration arising. All such transactions must be in the best interests of Shareholders (as at the date of the transaction) and are conducted as if negotiated at arm's length.

Each of the Parties will use its reasonable endeavours to ensure that the performance of their respective duties will not be impaired by any such involvement they may have and that any conflicts which may arise will be resolved fairly. In particular, the Investment Manager will ensure that investment opportunities are allocated on a fair and equitable basis.

Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the following conflicts of interest may arise:

 an Interested Party may acquire or dispose of any Investment notwithstanding that the same or similar Investments may be owned by or for the account of or otherwise connected with the Company;

- (ii) an Interested Party may acquire, hold or dispose of Investments notwithstanding that such Investments had been acquired or disposed of by or on behalf of the Company by virtue of a transaction effected by the Company in which the Interested Party was concerned provided that the acquisition by an Interested Party of such Investments is in the best interests of Shareholders (as at the date of the transaction) and is conducted as if negotiated at arm's length;
- (iii) an Interested Party may deal with the Company as principal or as agent, provided that:-
  - A. the value of the transaction is certified by a person approved by the Depositary (or by the Directors in the case of a transaction with the Depositary or an affiliate of the Depositary) as independent and competent; or
  - B. execution is on best terms on an organised investment exchange in accordance with the rules of the relevant exchange; or
  - C. where A and B are not practical, execution is on terms which the Depositary (or the Directors in the case of a transaction with the Depositary or an affiliate of the Depositary) is satisfied conforms with the principle that such a transaction be conducted as if negotiated at arm's length and is in the best interest of the Shareholders;

In the case of each transaction entered into with an Interested Party for or on behalf of the Company or any Fund(s), the Depositary (or the Directors in the case of a transaction involving the Depositary or an affiliate of the Depositary), shall document the manner in which the transaction has complied with the principles set out at (A) to (C) above and where a transaction with an Interested Party is conducted in accordance with (C) above, the Depositary (or the Directors in the case of a transaction involving the Depositary or an affiliate of the Depositary) shall document its/their rationale for being satisfied that the transaction conformed to the requirement that such transactions be conducted as if negotiated at arm's length and in the best interests of Shareholders as at the date of the transaction.

- (iv) certain of the Directors of the Company are or may in the future be connected with the Manager, Investment Manager and its affiliates. However, in their capacity as Directors of the Company, they will function as persons with independent fiduciary duties and will not be subject to the control of the Manager or Investment Manager. For the avoidance of doubt, the Directors shall not be liable to account to the Company in respect of such conflict, for example, as a result of receiving remuneration as directors or employees of the Manager or Investment Manager;
- (v) the Company may purchase or hold an Investment the issuer of which is an Interested Party or where an Interested Party is its adviser or banker;
- (vi) the Company may establish a Fund, the Index of which is licenced from the Promoter. The Promoter may receive a fee from the Company or the Manager in respect of such licencing arrangement;
- (vii) the Investment Manager's fee may be based on a percentage of the Net Asset Value of a Fund. The Manager and Investment Manager may provide valuation services to the Administrator (to assist in calculating the Net Asset Value of a Fund) in relation to Investments. This may result in a potential conflict of interest as the Investment Manager's fee will increase as the Net Asset Value of a Fund increases:
- (viii) the Manager, Investment Manager and any sub-investment manager may be involved in advising or managing other investment funds which may have similar or overlapping investment objectives to or with the Company;
- (ix) the Company may invest in other collective investment schemes which may be operated and/or managed by an Interested Party. Where commission is received by the Manager or Investment Manager by virtue of an investment by the Company in the units/shares of any collective investment scheme, such commission will be paid into the property of the relevant Fund;

- (x) the Investment Manager may enter into arrangements with its affiliates whereby the Investment Manager may agree to pay out of its own resources an incentive or an inducement fee for new subscriptions into the Funds.
- (xi) affiliates of the Investment Manager may make investments in a Fund that could constitute a substantial percentage of a Fund's net assets. Such affiliate investors may, in their sole discretion and without notice to Shareholders, subscribe for Shares in a Fund or redeem all or a substantial amount of their Shares in a Fund.
- (xii) In the event of substantial redemptions by affiliated investors and/or other Shareholders, the Investment Manager may not be able to liquidate sufficient investments in a single Dealing Day and some or all of a redemption request by affiliated investors or other Shareholders may be deferred until a subsequent Dealing Day.

## 9.10 Conflicts of interest within the Investment Manager

Because the Investment Manager manages multiple portfolios for multiple clients, the potential for conflicts of interest exists. The Investment Manager manages portfolios having substantially the same investment style as the Funds but such portfolios may not have portfolio compositions identical to those of the Funds due, for example, to specific investment limitations or quidelines present in some portfolios or accounts, but not others. The Investment Manager may purchase securities for one portfolio and not another portfolio, and the performance of securities purchased for one portfolio may vary from the performance of securities purchased for other portfolios. The Investment Manager may place transactions on behalf of other accounts that are directly or indirectly contrary to investment decisions made on behalf of the Funds, or make investment decisions that are similar to those made for the Funds, both of which have the potential to adversely impact the Funds depending on market conditions. For example, the Investment Manager may purchase a security in one portfolio while appropriately selling that same security in another portfolio. In addition, some of these portfolios have fee structures that are or have the potential to be higher than the fees paid to the Investment Manager, which can cause potential conflicts in the allocation of investment opportunities between the Funds and the other accounts. However, the compensation structure for portfolio managers within the Investment Manager does not generally provide incentive to favour one account over another because that part of a portfolio manager's bonus based on performance is not based on the performance of one account to the exclusion of others. The Investment Manager has undertaken to manage all client accounts in a fair and equitable manner.

# 9.11 Meetings

Shareholders in the Company will be entitled to attend and vote at general meetings of the Company. The annual general meeting of the Company will be held in Ireland normally within six months of the end of each financial year of the Company. Notices convening each annual general meeting will be sent to Shareholders together with the annual report and audited financial statements not less than twenty-one days before the date fixed for the meeting.

# 9.12 Accounts and Information

The Company's accounting period ends on 31 December in each year and half-yearly reports will be prepared to each 30 June.

The Company prepares an annual report and audited financial statements within four months of the end of the financial period to which they relate i.e. by 30 April of each year. Copies of the half-yearly report and unaudited financial statements (made up to 30 June) are also prepared within two months of the end of the half year period to which they relate i.e. by 31 August of each year.

The annual report and audited financial statements and half-yearly report and unaudited financial statements will be sent to the Companies Announcement Office of the Irish Stock Exchange within four months of the Company's financial year end and two months of the half year period respectively.

Copies of the annual report and audited financial statements and half-yearly repfinancial statements will be sent, on request, to Shareholders.	ort and unaudited

#### 10. VALUATION

#### 10.1 Calculation of Net Asset Value

The calculation of the Net Asset Value of each Fund and of each class of Shares within a Fund (if applicable) will be carried out by the Administrator in accordance with the requirements of the Articles. Except when the determination of the Net Asset Value of any Fund has been suspended or postponed in the circumstances set out under the heading "Temporary Suspension" below, the calculation of the Net Asset Value of each Fund, the Net Asset Value of any class of Shares and the Net Asset Value per Share will be prepared by reference to each Valuation Point.

The Net Asset Value of each Fund will be expressed in its Base Currency. The Net Asset Value of a Fund shall be calculated by ascertaining the value of the assets of a Fund and deducting from such amount the liabilities of the Fund (which shall include all fees and expenses payable and/or accrued and/or estimated to be payable out of the assets of the Fund). The Net Asset Value of any class of Shares within a Fund will be determined by deducting the share of liabilities attributable to that class from the assets attributable to the class. The Net Asset Value of each Share class will be expressed in the currency of denomination of the relevant Share class. The Net Asset Value attributable to each Share of each class will be determined by dividing the Net Asset Value of the class by the number of Shares in issue (or deemed to be in issue) in that class as of the relevant Valuation Point.

Investments of a Fund will be valued in accordance with the valuation provisions contained in the Articles. The Articles enable a Fund to be valued using the methodology employed by the underlying Index for valuing Investments. Investments may therefore be valued at either (a) last traded price, (b) bid price (either closing bid price or last bid price), (c) closing mid-market price or (d) latest mid-market price at close of business on the relevant Regulated Market on a Dealing Day. A particular or specific asset may be valued using an alternative method of valuation if the Directors deem it necessary and the alternative method has been approved by the Depositary. The valuation methodology used to determine the Net Asset Value per Share of a Fund will be consistently applied for the same assets of the same class and will be specified in the Supplement of the relevant Fund.

Where Investments are quoted, listed or normally dealt in on more than one Regulated Market the market, which in the opinion of the Administrator, constitutes the main market for the relevant Investment or which provides the fairest criteria for valuing the relevant Investment shall be used. Where such Investments do not have available prices (or have prices which the Directors view as unrepresentative) those Investments shall be valued at their probable realisation value. The probable realisation value of an Investment will be estimated with care and in good faith by a competent person, firm or association making a market in such Investment appointed by the Directors (and approved for the purpose by the Depositary) and/or any other competent person, appointed by the Directors (and approved for the purpose by the Depositary). Where such Investments are acquired at a premium or a discount outside or off the Regulated Market they may be valued taking into account the level of premium or discount at the date of valuation with the approval of the Depositary (who must ensure the adoption of such a procedure is justifiable in the context of establishing the probable realisation value of the Investment).

Where Investments comprising bonds, notes, and similar non-money market debt assets are not constituents of the Index underlying a Fund, such assets shall be valued at the closing mid-market price on the main market on which these assets are traded or admitted for trading (i.e. the market which is the sole market or which is, in the opinion of the Directors the principal market on which the assets in question are quoted or dealt in) plus any interest accrued thereon from the date on which same were acquired. Where investments comprising money market instruments (eg certificates of deposit, bankers acceptances and commercial paper) are not constituents of the Index underlying a Fund, the value of such assets shall be determined using reliable market quotations. In the absence of reliable market quotations they shall be valued using valuation models or matrix pricing, which incorporate yield and/or price with respect to such money market instruments that are considered comparable in characteristics such as rating, interest rate and maturity date and quotations from securities dealers to determined current value. Investments comprising money market Investments with a known residual maturity of less than three months and have no specific sensitivity to market parameters, including credit risk may be valued using the amortised cost method of valuation in

accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank. The Directors or their delegates shall review or cause a review to take place of deviations between the amortised method of valuation and the market value of investments in accordance with the Central Bank's requirements.

The value of investments comprising a unit in an open-ended collective scheme/mutual fund shall be the latest available net asset value of such unit. Cash, deposits and other liquid assets will be valued at face value with applicable interest accrued. FDI (including futures contracts and options dealt in on a Regulated Market) shall be valued at the settlement price as determined by the market in question, provided that if such settlement price is not available for any reason or is unrepresentative, same shall be valued at the probable realisation value estimated with care and in good faith by a competent person appointed by the Directors (and approved for the purpose by the Depositary). OTC FDI shall be valued at least daily using either a counterparty quotation, an alternative valuation calculated by the Company or an independent pricing vendor appointed by the Directors and approved for this purpose by the Depositary. Where a counterparty valuation is used, it must be approved or verified at least weekly by a party independent of the counterparty (approved for the purpose by the Depositary). Where an alternative valuation is used the Company will follow best international practice established by bodies such as IOSCO (International Organisation of Securities Commission) and AIMA (the Alternative Investment Management Association) and any such valuation shall be reconciled to that of the counterparty on a monthly basis. The Company may also value OTC FDI in accordance with the requirements of relevant regulations or Central Bank requirements. Where significant differences arise these must be promptly investigated and explained.

Notwithstanding the provisions set out above the Directors, with the approval of the Depositary, may adjust the value of any Investment if, (a) after accounting for currency, applicable rate of interest, maturity, marketability, dealing costs and/or such other considerations as they may deem relevant, or (b) in relation to a specific asset permit an alternative method of valuation approved by the Depositary to be used if they deem it necessary to reflect its fair value.

#### 10.2 Publication of Net Asset Value

The Net Asset Value per Share in a Fund shall be made public at the offices of the Administrator during normal business hours on each Business Day and will be notified immediately upon calculation to the ISE and any other exchanges on which the Shares of the Funds are listed from time to time (as necessary) by the Administrator. The up to date Net Asset Value per Share in a Fund will also be published on <a href="https://www.wisdomtree.eu">www.wisdomtree.eu</a> and in such other media as may be required.

# 10.3 Temporary Suspension

The Directors may declare a temporary suspension of the determination of the Net Asset Value and of the issue, redemption and switching of any particular class of Shares in the Company or any Fund:

- (a) during the whole or any part of any period when any of the principal markets on which any significant portion of the Index constituents relating to a Fund or the Investments of a Fund (as the case may be) from time to time are quoted, listed, traded or dealt in, or when the foreign exchange markets corresponding to a Fund's Base Currency or the currency in which a considerable portion of the Index constituents relating to a Fund or the Fund's Investments (as the case may be) are denominated, is closed (otherwise than for customary weekend or ordinary holidays) or during which dealings therein are restricted or suspended or trading on any relevant futures exchange or market is restricted or suspended;
- (b) during the whole or any part of any period when, as a result of political, economic, military or monetary events or any other circumstances outside the control, responsibility and power of the Directors, any disposal or valuation of Investments of a Fund is not, in the opinion of the Directors, reasonably practicable without this being detrimental to the interests of owners of Shares in general or the owners of Shares of the relevant Fund or if, in the opinion of the Directors, the Net Asset Value cannot fairly be calculated or such disposal would be materially prejudicial to the owners of Shares in general or the owners of Shares of the relevant Fund;
- (c) during the whole or any part of any period during which any breakdown occurs in the means of communication normally employed in determining the value of any of the Investments of the

Company or when for any other reason the value of any of the Investments or other assets of the relevant Fund cannot reasonably or fairly be ascertained;

- (d) during the whole or any part of any period when the Company is unable to repatriate funds required for the purpose of making redemption payments or when such payments cannot, in the opinion of the Directors, be effected at normal prices or normal rates of exchange or during which there are difficulties or it is envisaged that there will be difficulties, in the transfer of monies or assets required for subscriptions, redemptions or trading;
- (e) upon the publication of a notice convening a general meeting of Shareholders for the purpose of resolving to wind up the Company or terminate any Fund;
- (f) when dealings of the Shares on a relevant stock exchange are restricted or suspended;
- (g) when settlement or clearing of securities in a Securities Settlement System is disrupted;
- (h) any period when the dealing of Shares is suspended pursuant to any order or direction issued by a relevant regulatory authority;
- (i) any period when an Index is not compiled or published; any period in which a counterparty with which the Company has entered into a swap transaction is unable to make any payment due or owing under the swap, including where it is unable to repatriate or exchange at a reasonable rate the proceeds of its underlying hedge;
- (j) any period when the Directors, in their discretion, consider suspension to be required or in the interests of the Company, a Fund or the Shareholders of a Fund; or
- (k) any period during which the Directors, in their discretion, consider suspension to be required for the purposes of effecting a merger, amalgamation or restructuring of a Fund or of the Company.

Notice of the beginning and end of any period of suspension will be communicated immediately to the Central Bank, the Irish Stock Exchange, any other relevant stock exchange and the relevant Securities Settlement System. Such notice shall also be published in such publication(s) as the Board may determine and, in any event, shall be communicated through the media by which Share prices are published. Notice shall also be given to any person applying to subscribe for, or redeem Shares in the Fund concerned. Any applications for Shares received during any period of suspension will normally be held over until the next Dealing Day.

The Company, where possible, will take all necessary steps to bring any period of suspension to an end as soon as possible.

#### 11. BROKERAGE TRANSACTIONS

The Investment Manager is responsible for the investment of Fund assets. In selecting the brokers or dealers for any transaction relating to Investments the Investment Manager may make such selection based on factors deemed relevant, including but not limited to the breadth of the market in the security; the price of the security; the reasonableness of the commission or mark-up or mark-down, if any; execution capability; settlement capability; back office efficiency and the financial condition of the broker or dealer, both for the specific transaction and on a continuing basis. The overall reasonableness of brokerage commissions paid is evaluated by the Investment Manager based upon its knowledge of available information as to the general level of commissions paid by other institutional investors for comparable services. Brokers may also be selected because of their ability to handle special or difficult executions, such as may be involved in large block trades, less liquid securities, broad distributions, or other circumstances. The Investment Manager does not consider the provision or value of research, products or services a broker or dealer may provide, if any, as a factor in the selection of a broker or dealer or the determination of the reasonableness of commissions paid in connection with portfolio transactions.

The Investment Manager will seek to ensure that transactions effected in relation to a Fund are on a best execution basis. This means that the Investment Manager will take all reasonable steps to select brokers who provide the best possible result for a Fund, taking into account price, cost, speed, likelihood of execution and settlement, size, nature or any other consideration relevant to execution of the transaction. In managing the assets of the Company, the Investment Manager may receive research and assistance from brokers (for example the provision of statistical and other information and computer systems (either hardware or software)). The Investment Manager may allocate brokerage business to entities who have provided such research and assistance to the Company. The benefits provided under any such arrangements must assist in the provision of investment services to the Company and any such arrangements must be disclosed in the periodic reports of the Company.

To the extent creation or redemption transactions are conducted on a cash or "cash in lieu" basis, a Fund may contemporaneously transact with broker-dealers for the purchase or sale of Investments in connection with such transactions. Such orders may be placed with an Authorised Participant in its capacity as broker-dealer or with an affiliated broker-dealer of such Authorised Participant.

#### 12. SHARE DEALING

#### 12.1 General

The Funds are exchange traded funds which means that Shares of the Funds are listed and actively traded on one or more stock exchanges. Only brokers (and similar entities) known as "Authorised Participants" are permitted to subscribe for and redeem Shares of the Funds directly with the Company in the Primary Market. Such Authorised Participants generally have the capability to deliver the Shares of the Funds within the Securities Settlement System relevant to the stock exchanges on which the Shares are listed. Authorised Participants usually sell the Shares they subscribe for on one or more stock exchanges, the Secondary Market, where such Shares become freely tradable. Potential investors who are not Authorised Participants can purchase and sell the Shares of the Funds on the Secondary Market through a broker/dealer on a recognised stock exchange or OTC. The section titled "Primary Market" relates to subscriptions and redemptions between the Company and Authorised Participants. Investors who are not Authorised Participants should refer to the section below titled "Secondary Market". The Company may impose such restrictions as it believes necessary to ensure that no Shares are acquired by persons who are not Qualified Holders.

The Company has absolute discretion to accept or reject in whole or in part any application for Shares without assigning any reason therefor. The Company may accept subscriptions for Shares and pay redemptions of Shares either in-kind, in cash or in a combination of both. The manner in which a subscription or redemption is satisfied is typically at the discretion of the Manager and further details specific to each Fund will be set out in the relevant Fund Supplement. For more detail on the general subscription and redemption process please see 12.6 below.

Shares in the Company may be issued either in certificated or uncertificated form, depending on the Securities Settlement System used by a Fund. If issued in certificated form, the Company will typically issue a Global Certificate registered in the name of the relevant Central Securities Depository or its designated nominee. Therefore, the name of the relevant Central Securities Depository or its designated nominee will be entered on the Company's register of Shareholders.

If Shares are issued in uncertificated form, the Directors will resolve that they will be issued in Dematerialised Form and no temporary documents of title will be issued. Details in relation to the manner in which Shares are issued for a particular Fund will be set out in the relevant Fund Supplement. Typically, the name of the Authorised Participant or the name of a broker, nominee or other entity who holds an account with a Securities Settlement System (and to whom Shares have been sold by the Authorised Participant) will be entered on the Company's register of Shareholders.

Investors should note that, in order to be a Shareholder in a Fund and to exercise the rights associated with being a Shareholder directly with the Company, the investor must be registered in the Company's register of Shareholders.

#### 12.2 Primary market

The issue or redemption of Shares directly with the Company is done on what is known as the "Primary Market". Only Authorised Participants are permitted to deal on the Primary Market.

Shares in a Fund are typically issued and redeemed in Creation Units on each Dealing Day on a forward pricing basis (i.e. by reference to the Net Asset Value of Shares calculated as at the Valuation Point for the relevant Dealing Day and after taking account of relevant Duties and Charges (and Cash Transaction Charge (if any)). No subscriptions, redemptions or switches of Shares in a Fund will be made during any period where a temporary suspension of the determination of the Net Asset Value and of the issue, redemption and switching of any particular class of Shares in the Company or any Fund has been declared.

# 12.3 Authorised Participants

To become an Authorised Participant and to deal with a Fund in the Primary Market an applicant must enter into a Participant Agreement with the Company. The Participant Agreement requires the applicant to satisfy certain eligibility criteria imposed by the Company on an ongoing basis. The

criteria may include requirements relating to creditworthiness and having access to one or more Securities Settlement Systems. The applicant must also undergo a money laundering prevention verification conducted by the Administrator on behalf of the Company. If the criteria set out in the Participant Agreement cease to be met by any Authorised Participant at any time, the Manager and / or the Company may take such steps as it believes necessary to seek to ensure that the interests of the Company, Fund and / or Shareholders are protected. The Company may revoke any authorisation to act as an Authorised Participant. Applicants wishing to become Authorised Participants should contact the Administrator for further details.

Where a Participant Agreement is initially submitted to the Administrator by fax the original Participant Agreement, together with such supporting documentation as may be requested by the Manager (for example, documentation required for the money laundering prevention verification conducted by the Administrator) must be received promptly by the Administrator thereafter. Failure to promptly provide the original Participant Agreement and all requested supporting documentation may, at the discretion of the Manager, result in the compulsory redemption of the Creation Unit(s) subscribed for. Until the original Participant Agreement and relevant verification has been completed an Authorised Participant will not receive the proceeds of any redemption of Creation Units or dividend payments (if any).

## 12.4 Dealing

Authorised Participants may submit Order Forms in respect of a Dealing Day to the Administrator on a Business Day either by fax, or electronically through the Administrator's on-line order platform. Alternative dealing methods may be made available in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank.

Subscriptions for and redemptions of Shares must (save as determined otherwise by the Manager at its discretion) be for one or more Creation Units. Order Forms for subscriptions and redemptions (whether submitted by fax or electronically) must be received by the Administrator by the relevant Dealing Deadline (provided always that the Directors may, in exceptional circumstances, decide to accept Order Forms for subscription or redemption of Shares after the Dealing Deadline subject, in all cases to such Order Forms being received before the relevant Valuation Point).

All dealing applications are at the Authorised Participant's own risk and Authorised Participants must ensure that Order Forms have actually been received by the Administrator. Authorised Participants must ensure that the instructions given in the context of any application for dealing in a Fund are clear and legible (where appropriate). Once an Order Form has been received by the Administrator it shall, save as determined by the Manager at its discretion, be irrevocable.

An Authorised Participant's registration details and payment instructions will only be amended upon receipt by the Administrator of an original or electronic instruction. Redemption requests will be processed only where the payment is to be made to the Authorised Participant's account of record.

Authorised Participants should note that, by submitting a Redemption Order Form it is deemed to represent to the Company and the Manager that the Shares to be redeemed have not been loaned or pledged to another party nor are they the subject of a repurchase agreement, securities lending agreement or such other arrangement which would preclude the delivery of Shares to the Company. The Manager reserves the right to verify these representations at its discretion. If the Authorised Participant, upon receipt of a verification request, does not provide sufficient verification of its representations as determined by the Manager, the Redemption Order Form will not be considered to have been received in proper form and may be rejected by the Company.

#### 12.5 Portfolio Composition File

On each Dealing Day and in respect of each Fund, the Administrator will calculate a Portfolio Composition File which will be published on a restricted area of <a href="www.wisdomtree.eu">www.wisdomtree.eu</a> (to which Authorisation Participants and market makers will have access) by the Publication Time. The Portfolio Composition File will contain an amount of cash or schedule of Investments and Cash Component which may (a) be delivered to the Company by the Authorised Participant on the occasion of a subscription for a Creation Unit, or (b) be delivered to the redeeming Shareholder on the occasion of a redemption of a Creation Unit. The value of Investments and the Cash Component in the Portfolio

Composition File will be equal to the sum of the Net Asset Value of the number of Shares in a Creation Unit.

#### 12.6 Subscription price and settlement procedures

#### 12.6.1 General

Creation Units can be subscribed for on a Dealing Day at a price based on the Net Asset Value per Share multiplied by the number of Shares in a Creation Unit together with relevant Duties and Charges.

The ability to subscribe for Creation Units in cash or in-kind will be specified in a Fund's Supplement.

A trade confirmation in relation to the subscription application will be sent by the Administrator to the Authorised Participant following the relevant Dealing Day.

Subject to the procedure at paragraph 12.9, below being used, Shares will not be issued to an Authorised Participant until all the Deposit Securities and Cash Component (as required by the Portfolio Composition File) (in relation to an in-kind subscription) or the cash (as required by the Portfolio Composition File) (in relation to a cash subscription) have been received by the Depositary and if applicable, the Duties and Charges, Cash Transaction Charge and Subscription Fee have been received by the Depositary.

#### 12.6.2 Timing of settlement

Payment in respect of the subscription price for Shares (whether in cash or in-kind) must be received by the Administrator by the time(s) specified in the Supplement of a Fund.

#### 12.6.3 Subscription Fee

The Manager, at its discretion may charge a Subscription Fee of up to 5% of the aggregate Net Asset Value per Share in the Creation Unit subscribed for. The ability to charge any such Subscription Fee will be specified in the Supplement of a Fund.

## 12.6.4 Cash Subscriptions

## Non-directed cash subscription

Subscriptions for Creation Units may be satisfied by way of payment of the amount of cash specified in the Portfolio Composition File together with applicable Duties and Charges. Typically the amount of cash will be based on the Net Asset Value of the Shares comprising a Creation Unit. The amount of Duties and Charges paid by an Authorised Participant can be determined either (a) by reference to the actual costs incurred in purchasing Investments or (b) by reference to a Cash Transaction Charge.

## **Directed cash subscription**

Where an Authorised Participant subscribes for Creation Units and wishes to settle the subscription order in cash it may agree with the Manager and the Investment Manager that trades in the underlying securities are directed to a particular broker. The Authorised Participant must advise the Manager and the Investment Manager of its wish to subscribe in this manner in advance provided always that the ability to avail of this facility remains at the discretion of the Manager and the Investment Manager. The Authorised Participant is obliged to ensure that the relevant securities are delivered to the Depositary to the Depositary's satisfaction (and must also comply with the Depositary's instructions as to the correct registration of relevant securities in the name of (or for the benefit of) the relevant Fund). The Authorised Participant, in addition to bearing the risk associated with non-settlement or partial settlement of the relevant securities, will also be responsible for all costs, Duties and Charges and other fees and expenses (howsoever arising) on the transfer of securities to the account of the relevant Fund.

## Collection Account

Subscription payments received in advance of the issue of Shares will be held in a Collection Account in the name of the Company. Investors should refer to the risk statement "Collection Accounts" in the section of this Prospectus entitled "Risk Factors" for an understanding of their position vis-a-vis monies held in a Collection Account.

## 12.6.5 In-kind subscriptions

Where an Authorised Participant subscribes for Creation Units and wishes to settle the subscription order in-kind it will transfer Deposit Securities and the Cash Component as set out in the Portfolio Composition File to the Fund.

#### **Fixed Deposit Securities**

An Authorised Participant may settle subscription orders for Creation Units by way of transfer of Fixed Deposit Securities, the Cash Component and an appropriate amount of Duties and Charges.

#### **Negotiated Deposit Securities**

An Authorised Participant may settle subscription orders for Creation Units by way of transfer of Negotiated Deposit Securities, the Cash Component and an appropriate amount of Duties and Charges. In addition an Authorised Participant will be required to pay a securities customisation charge in the amount set out in the Portfolio Composition File. The securities customisation charge is a charge paid by the Authorised Participant to the Investment Manager which represents the cost of adjusting the Negotiated Deposit Securities received by the Fund so that the Investments received reflect the concentration of Index constituents required by the Investment Manager in relation to a Fund.

The Authorised Participant must advise the Manager and the Investment Manager of this method of settlement in advance.

# 12.7 Redemption price and settlement procedures

#### 12.7.1 General

Creation Units may be redeemed on a Dealing Day at a price based on the Net Asset Value per Share multiplied by the number of Shares in a Creation Unit less relevant Duties and Charges.

Typically where an Authorised Participant subscribes for Creation Units on an in-kind basis, redemptions will be paid on an in-kind basis, at the discretion of the Manager, and subject to 12.7.6.

Authorised Participants must ensure that Shares, the subject of a redemption request, have been delivered to the Administrator for cancellation by the time set out in the relevant Fund Supplement.

## 12.7.2 Timing of settlement

Redemption proceeds (whether in cash or in-kind) will typically be paid by the time(s) specified in the Supplement of a Fund.

## 12.7.3 Redemption Fee

The Manager, at its discretion may charge a Redemption Fee of up to 3% of the aggregate Net Asset Value per Share in the Creation Unit redeemed. The ability to charge any such Redemption Fee will be specified in the Supplement of a Fund.

# 12.7.4 Cash redemptions

#### Non-directed cash redemption

Subject as provided below in paragraph 12.7.6, an Authorised Participant may request settlement of the proceeds of a redemption of Creation Units in cash. The cost of any transfer of proceeds by wire transfer will be deducted from such proceeds.

A redeeming Shareholder will have deducted from redemption proceeds an appropriate amount of Duties and Charges. The amount of Duties and Charges paid by an Authorised Participant can be determined either (a) by reference to the actual costs incurred in selling Investments or (b) by reference to a Cash Transaction Charge.

#### Directed cash redemption

Where an Authorised Participant requests redemption of Creation Units and wishes to direct the sale of underlying Investments to a particular broker it must advise the Manager and the Investment Manager of this in advance with the facility remaining at the discretion of the Manager and the Investment Manager. The Authorised Participant is obliged to ensure that the relevant broker purchases the relevant Investments from the Fund. The Authorised Participant, in addition to bearing the risk associated with non-purchase or partial purchase of relevant Investments, will also be responsible for all costs, Duties and Charges and other fees and expenses (howsoever arising) on the sale of the relevant Investments. The Authorised Participant will receive the purchase price paid by the relevant broker net of costs, Duties and Charges and other fees and expenses referred to above.

Redemption proceeds will be paid by bank transfer at the cost and risk of the redeeming Authorised Participant.

#### Collection Account

Redemption proceeds, including blocked redemption proceeds, will be held in a Collection Account in the name of the Company pending payment to the relevant Shareholder/investor. Shareholders/investors should refer to the risk statement "Collection Accounts" in the section of this Prospectus entitled "Risk Factors" for an understanding of their position vis-a-vis monies held in a Collection Account.

## 12.7.5 In-kind redemptions

Where an Authorised Participant requests redemption of Creation Units on an in-kind basis it will receive redemption proceeds by way of transfer to it of Investments and, where appropriate, a Cash Component. The redemption will be subject to an appropriate provision for Duties and Charges.

# 12.7.6 Large redemption requests

If an Authorised Participant who has subscribed in cash requests redemption of Creation Units representing 5% or more of the Net Asset Value of a Fund, the Directors may, in their sole discretion, redeem the Creation Units by way of a redemption in-kind. In such circumstances the Directors will, if requested by the Authorised Participant, sell the Investments on behalf of the Authorised Participant with the cost of sale being borne by the Authorised Participant.

If total requests for redemption or switching on any Dealing Day for any Fund exceed 10% of the Net Asset Value of that Fund, each redemption and / or switching request in respect of Shares in such Fund may, at the discretion of the Directors, be reduced pro-rata so that the total number of Shares of the Fund for redemption or switching on that Dealing Day shall not exceed 10% of the Net Asset Value of that Fund (or such greater percentage of the Net Asset Value of a Fund as the Directors may determine, at their discretion). Any redemption or switching request so reduced shall be carried forward to the next Dealing Day and each succeeding Dealing Day (in relation to which the Company shall have the same power) until all Shares to which the original request related have been redeemed. If redemption or switching requests are so carried forward, the Company shall procure

that the Shareholders whose dealings are affected thereby are promptly informed. In these circumstances the Company may redeem Shares in quantities other than Creation Units.

#### 12.8 Cash "in lieu"

The Company reserves the right to permit or require the substitution of an amount of cash (a "cash in lieu" amount) to be added to the Cash Component at its discretion. For example, cash may be substituted to replace any Deposit Security that may not be available (or available in sufficient quantity) for delivery. The Company also reserves the right to permit or require a "cash in lieu" amount where the delivery of the Deposit Security by the Authorised Participant would be restricted under the securities laws or where the delivery of the Deposit Security to the Authorised Participant would result in the disposition of the Deposit Security by the Authorised Participant becoming restricted under the securities laws, or in other situations deemed appropriate by the Company.

#### 12.9 Failure to deliver Deposit Securities

In the event that an Authorised Participant fails to deliver to the Depositary one or more of the Deposit Securities or the Cash Component (as specified in the Portfolio Composition File) or, in respect of a non-directed cash subscription, the amount of cash specified in the Portfolio Composition file together with applicable Duties and Charges by the designated time, the Company may reject the application for subscription. Similarly, in the case of a directed cash subscription or redemption where the broker selected by the Authorised Participant fails to deliver one or more of the Deposit Securities or the appropriate amount of cash, the Company may reject the application for subscription or redemption.

Where agreed in advance with the Manager, and in anticipation of either it or the relevant broker being unable to deliver Deposit Securities or the appropriate amount of cash, an Authorised Participant may post cash to an account with the Depositary as collateral for any Deposit Securities and cash it will be unable to deliver. Cash collateral posted in this manner must be in an amount at least equal to 105% of the value of the missing Deposit Securities and cash. The amount of collateral required will be determined by the Manager from time to time and may vary depending on the estimated cost of acquiring the missing Deposit Securities or the anticipated cost of selling underlying Investments to meet the cash redemption request.

Any such deposit must be made by the time specified in the relevant Fund Supplement. If the Depositary does not receive the appropriate amount of cash by the relevant time, then the subscription or redemption order may be deemed to be rejected. In such circumstances the Authorised Participant shall be liable to the Fund for losses, if any, resulting therefrom.

To the extent that missing Deposit Securities are not received by the relevant settlement time or in the event the cash payment is not made by the broker within one Business Day following notification to the Authorised Participant that such a payment is required, the Investment Manager may use the cash on deposit to purchase the missing Deposit Securities for the relevant Fund or may use the cash to satisfy the redemption payment due to the Authorised Participant.

Authorised Participants will be liable to the Company and relevant Fund for the costs incurred by the Fund in connection with any such transactions. These costs will be deemed to include the amount by which the actual purchase price of the Deposit Securities exceeds the market value of such Deposit Securities in respect of the relevant Dealing Day, and any associated Duties and Charges, as well as any stamp duty, income or dividends due (or, in the case of cash, the cost of remitting the cash to the Authorised Participant). Any unused portion of the cash deposit shall be returned to the Authorised Participant once all of the missing Deposit Securities have been properly received by the Depositary or purchased by the Investment Manager on behalf of the Fund and all related transaction costs and other items, as noted above, have been cleared.

Cash collateral must be in the Base Currency of the relevant Fund (save where otherwise agreed with the Manager), in immediately available funds, held by the Depositary and marked-to-market daily. The Company may, on behalf of the affected Fund, purchase the missing Deposit Securities at any time. The Company may settle the redemption obligation owed to the Authorised Participant out of cash so maintained by the settlement time provided for in the Supplement. The fees of the Depositary and any sub-custodians in respect of the delivery, maintenance and redelivery of the cash collateral shall be

payable by the Authorised Participant and deducted from any collateral held by the Depositary following satisfaction of the Authorised Participant's obligations to the Company. The Authorised Participant will be liable to the Company and the Fund for any shortfall between the cost to the Fund of purchasing such Deposit Securities, the cost of remitting the cash to the Authorised Participant and any Duties and Charges as well as any stamp duty, income or dividends due.

# 12.10 Switching of Shares

Shareholders may switch free of charge to another Fund as the Directors may permit in one or more Creation Units, or such other amount as the Directors may permit. Switching may be effected by submission of an Order Form to the Administrator or by such other means, such as by means of written instructions, as the Manager may prescribe from time to time. The general provisions on procedures for redemptions (including provisions relating to Dealing Deadlines) will apply equally to switching. The number of Shares to be issued in the new Fund will be calculated in accordance with the following formula (provided always that the number of Shares so issued shall be at least a Creation Unit in the new Fund):

$$A = B \times \frac{C \times D}{F}$$

Where

- A = number of Shares of the new class and/or Fund to be allocated (provided that this equates to a Creation Unit).
- B = number of Shares of the original class or Fund to be converted (provided that this equates to a Creation Unit).
- C = the Net Asset Value per Share on the relevant Dealing Day for the original class or Fund
- D = the currency conversion factor determined by the Administrator as representing the prevailing rate of exchange of settlement on the relevant Dealing Day applicable to the transfer of assets between the relevant Funds (where the Base Currencies of the relevant Funds are different) or where the Base Currencies of the relevant classes or Funds are the same D = 1
- E = the Net Asset Value per Share on the relevant Dealing Day for the new class and/or Fund.

It should be noted that the Manager will normally impose a fee on the switching of any Shares between Funds of up to 3% of the Net Asset Value of each Share to be switched. Such fee may be waived by the Manager at its discretion in any case.

## 12.11 The Secondary Market

The Directors intend that each Fund of the Company will be an exchange-traded fund. Accordingly, at least one class of Shares of each Fund will be listed on, and available for purchase, through one or more stock exchanges. Liquidity on stock exchanges is typically provided through market makers which are stock exchange member firms. It is through these entities that a liquid and efficient Secondary Market is expected to develop over time as retail demand for such Shares is met. Authorised Participants may, themselves, act as market makers or may offer Shares to retail customers as part of their broker/dealer business. Secondary market trading of Shares will be conducted in accordance with the normal rules and operating procedures of the relevant stock exchange and will be settled using the normal procedures applicable to trading securities.

# 12.11.1 Secondary Market: price of Shares

As the purchase and sale of Shares on the Secondary Market takes place on exchange via a stock exchange member firm or stockbroker, it is not a subscription or redemption of Shares directly with the Company. Rather, stock exchange member firms will provide offer and bid prices at which the Shares can be traded by investors. The price of any Shares traded on the Secondary Market depends on factors including market supply and demand, movements in the value of Index constituents as well as prevailing financial market, corporate, economic and political conditions. Investors should also be aware that on days when a stock exchange is trading Shares but the market on which Index constituents are traded is closed, the bid/offer spread may widen and the difference between the market price of Shares and the last calculated Net Asset Value per Share may increase.

This bid/offer spread is typically monitored by the relevant stock exchange (which may put limits on the extent of any such spread). Additionally investors should note that sale and purchase orders for Shares on the Secondary Market may incur costs such as stockbroker fees and commissions over which the Company has no control. Accordingly, Shares are not typically sold or purchased on the secondary market at their Net Asset Value.

## 12.11.2 Secondary Market: dealing

Investors may, when they purchase Shares on the Secondary Market, be registered as a Shareholder in a Fund. Typically, however, the purchase of Shares on the Secondary Market does not result in an investor being registered as a Shareholder in a Fund. This is because the investor will typically arrange for Shares to be purchased through an entity having an account with a Securities Settlement System.

Shares purchased on the Secondary Market cannot usually be sold directly back to the Company. Investors must buy and sell Shares on a Secondary Market with the assistance of an intermediary and may incur fees for doing so. As noted below, investors may pay more than the current Net Asset Value when buying Shares on the Secondary Market and may receive less than the current Net Asset Value when selling them.

Notwithstanding the requirements above in relation to dealing on the Primary Market if, in the opinion of the Manager, the stock exchange value of Shares differs significantly from their Net Asset Value (due to, for example the absence of a market maker or the existing of a market disruption event), Shareholders who have acquired Shares on the Secondary Market may, subject to the following requirements, redeem Shares directly with a Fund. A redemption request in such circumstances can only be accepted by the Fund where (i) a valid redemption request has been received by the Administrator, (ii) relevant anti-money laundering and client identification requirements prescribed have been satisfied, (iii) all account opening documentation and procedures have been validly completed, (including the provision of details of the relevant Shareholder's participation in a Securities Settlement System) and (iv) delivery of Shares, the subject of the redemption request, to the Administrator's account at the relevant Central Securities Depositary.

Where an investor holds Shares through an entity having an account with a Securities Settlement System, the investor will need to liaise with this entity in order to arrange for the sale of the Shares attributable to their investment to be effected directly with the Company on its behalf. Any such nominee/intermediary may charge fees and expenses for arranging such a redemption which are outside the control of the Company.

# 12.12 Intra-Day Net Asset Value

The Manager may at its discretion make available, or may designate other persons to make available on its behalf, on each Business Day, an intra-day Net Asset Value or "iNAV" for one or more funds. The iNAV is intended to provide investors and market participants with a continuous indication of the value of the fund. Where required by a Relevant Stock Exchange, the Manager will typically make iNAVs available for certain Funds. The iNAV will be calculated in respect of each fund on a per Share basis in real time, every 15 seconds during the trading day or any portion of the trading day and will ordinarily be based upon the then-current value of the assets/exposures of the fund on such Business Day.

Where the Manager elects to make available an iNAV for a particular Fund, the relevant Bloomberg and Reuters codes for the iNAV will be published on <a href="www.wisdomtree.eu">www.wisdomtree.eu</a> and in such other media as may be required.

iNAVs can only be provided for Funds which track Indices where intra-day prices of constituents are available. Intra-day prices are unavailable for Funds which track or replicate Indices comprised of dynamic strategies with variable allocations to re-balance at the end of each Business Day.

Any iNAV or estimated Net Asset Value is not, and should not be taken to be or relied on as being the value of a Share or the price at which Shares may be subscribed for or redeemed or purchased or

sold on any Relevant Stock Exchange and may not reflect the true value of a Share, may be misleading and should not be relied on. The inability of the Manager or its designee to provide an iNAV or estimated Net Asset Value, on a real-time basis or for any period of time, will not in itself result in a halt in the trading of the Shares on a on a Relevant Stock Exchange, however, the continued eligibility of the Shares for listing on a Relevant Stock Exchange will be determined by the rules of the Relevant Stock Exchange in the circumstances. Investors interested in purchasing or selling Shares on a Relevant Stock Exchange should not rely solely on any iNAV or estimated Net Asset Value which is made available in making investment decisions but should also consider other market information and relevant economic factors (including, where relevant, information regarding the Index, the Index Securities and financial instruments based on the Index corresponding to the relevant Fund).

Neither the Company, the Directors, the Manager nor any other service providers to the Company shall be liable to any person who relies on the iNAV or estimated Net Asset Value.

## 12.13 Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Terrorist Financing Measures

As at the date of this Prospectus, measures provided for in the Criminal Justice (Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing) Act 2013 which are aimed towards the prevention of money laundering may require detailed verification of each applicant's identity and where applicable the beneficial owner on a risk sensitive basis and the ongoing monitoring of the business relationship. Politically exposed persons ("PEPs"), an individual who is or who has, at any time in the preceding year, been entrusted with prominent public functions, and immediate family members, or persons known to close associates of such persons, must also be identified. In the case of corporate applicants, this may require production of a certified copy of the certificate of incorporation (and any change of name), memorandum and articles of association (or equivalent), the names, occupations, dates of birth and residential and business address of the directors of the company.

Depending on the circumstances of each application, a detailed verification may not be required where (a) the investor is a regulated credit or financial institution, or (b) the application is made through a regulated financial intermediary. These exceptions will only apply if the financial institution or intermediary referred to above is located in a country which has ratified the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force and has equivalent anti money laundering legislation to that in place in Ireland. Applicants may contact the Administrator in order to determine whether they meet the above exceptions.

The Administrator and the Company reserve the right to request such information as is necessary to verify the identity of an applicant. In the event of delay or failure by the applicant to produce any information required for verification purposes, the Company or the Administrator may refuse to accept the application and subscription monies and return all subscription monies or compulsorily repurchase such Shareholder's Shares and/or payment of repurchase proceeds shall be delayed (no repurchase proceeds will be paid nor will any interest accrue thereto if the Shareholder fails to produce such information) and none of the Company, the Directors, the Investment Manager or the Administrator shall be liable to the subscriber or Shareholder where an application for Shares is not processed or Shares are compulsorily repurchased in such circumstances. If an application is rejected, the Administrator will return application monies or the balance thereof by wire transfer in accordance with any applicable laws to the account from which it was paid at the cost and risk of the applicant. The Administrator shall not pay repurchase proceeds or dividend payments where the requisite documentation and/or information for verification purposes has not been produced by the entitled Shareholder. Any such blocked payments may be held in a Collection Account pending receipt, to the satisfaction of the Administrator, of the requisite documentation and/or information. Shareholders should refer to the risk statement "Collection Accounts" in the section of this Prospectus entitled "Risk Factors" for an understanding of their position vis-a-vis monies held in a Collection Account.

# 12.14 Data Protection

**Data Protection Notice** 

#### Introduction

By completing the Order Form, you are providing personal data to the Company. This Data Protection Notice is intended to ensure that you are aware of what personal data the Company, as data controller, holds in relation to you and how that data is used. The Company will use your personal data only for the purposes and in the manner set forth below which describes the steps taken to ensure our processing of your personal data is in compliance with the Data Protection Acts 1988 and 2003 as replaced by the General Data Protection Regulation ((EU) 2016/679) ("GDPR") and any implementing legislation ("Data Protection Legislation").

# Please note: you have the right to object to the processing of your personal data where that processing is carried out for our legitimate interests.

## Scope

This Data Protection Notice applies to you and to third parties whose information you provide to us in connection with our relationship with you. Please ensure that you provide a copy of this Data Protection Notice to any third parties whose personal data you provide to us. This Data Protection Notice applies to all personal data processed by us regardless of the media on which it is stored. The Company may update this Data Protection Notice at any time and will notify you in writing of any changes.

## Nature, Purpose & Legal Basis for Processing

Personal data is any data relating to a living person who can be identified directly from that data, or indirectly in conjunction with other information. The Company will hold some or all of the following types of personal data: name, address, bank details, email address, telephone number, . This personal data will be used for the purposes of administration, transfer agency, statistical analysis and research, in particular:

- 1. to manage and administer the investor's holding in the Company and any related accounts on an on-going basis:
- 2. to carry out statistical analysis and market research.

Personal data will only be processed to the extent necessary for the purposes set out above for the Company's legitimate business interests. The Company will also process personal data as necessary to comply with legal obligations. The Company will inform you in advance if we intend to further process your personal data for a purpose other than as set out above. The Company may also seek your specific consent to the processing of personal data for other specific purposes. You will have the right to withdraw such consent at any time.

## Where you do not provide your Personal Data

If you do not provide us with your personal data, the Company may not be able to process your investor application. The Company will tell you when we ask for information which is a contractual requirement or needed to comply with our legal obligations.

## Recipients of Investor Personal Data

Your personal data will be disclosed to, and processed by, the Administrator (who will be a Data Processor of your personal data, as defined in Data Protection Legislation) for the purposes of carrying out the services of administrator and registrar of the Company and to comply with legal obligations including under company law and anti-money laundering legislation or foreign regulatory requirements. The Administrator may in turn disclose your personal data to agents or other third parties where necessary to carry out these purposes.

1. The Company may also disclose your personal data to:

- the money laundering reporting officer, the Manager, the Investment Manager, the WisdomTree group of companies and our or their duly authorised agents and related, associated or affiliated companies;
- the Irish Revenue Commissioners;
- the Central Bank:
- agents of the Administrator who process the data for anti-money laundering purposes or for compliance with foreign regulatory requirements.
- other third parties including financial advisors, regulatory bodies, auditors, technology providers.

The Company takes all reasonable steps, as required by Data Protection Legislation, to ensure the safety, privacy and integrity of your personal data and where appropriate, enter into contracts with such third parties to protect the privacy and integrity of such data and any information supplied.

#### Transfers of Personal Data outside the EEA

The Company may transfer your personal data to countries outside of Ireland (including the U.S.) which may not have the same data protection laws as Ireland. The Company will take all steps reasonably necessary to ensure that your personal data is treated securely, and that appropriate safeguards are in place to protect the privacy and integrity of such personal data, in accordance with Data Protection Legislation. Please contact the Company if you wish to obtain information concerning such safeguards (see 'Contact Us' below).

#### Security, Storage and Retention of Personal Data

The Company takes all reasonable steps as required by Data Protection Legislation to ensure the safety, privacy and integrity of your personal data. The Company will retain your personal data only for so long as is necessary to carry out the purposes set out above and to comply with any legal obligations.

## Your Rights

You have a right to obtain a copy of, and the right to rectify any inaccuracies in, the personal data we hold about you by making a request to us in writing. You also have the right to request erasure, restriction, portability or object to the processing of your personal data or not to be subject to a decision based on automated processing, including profiling. You should inform us of any changes to your personal data. Any requests made under this section can be made using the details set out at 'Contact Us' below. We will respond to your request in writing, or orally if requested, as soon as practicable and in any event not more than one month after receipt of your request.

You have the right to lodge a complaint with the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner if unhappy with how your personal data is being handled.

## Contact us

If you have any queries regarding this data protection notice, please contact Carne Global Financial Services Limited at <a href="mailto:cbi@wisdomtree.com">cbi@wisdomtree.com</a>.

#### 13. FEES AND EXPENSES

## 13.1 Establishment expenses

All fees and expenses (including any listing costs and the fees of the advisers to the Company) relating to the organisation and establishment of the Company, the Funds of the Company and Shares thereof will be borne by the Manager.

#### 13.2 TER

The Company employs a unitary fee structure for its Funds (the TER) which means that each Fund pays all of its fees, costs and expenses (and its due proportion of any costs and expenses of the Company allocated to it) as a single flat fee. The Manager, the Auditors and the Directors will be paid out of the TER (which fees will be accrued daily and paid monthly in arrears). The Manager's fee will be the difference between the TER and the fees and expenses payable to the Auditors and the Directors.

The Manager is responsible for discharging all ordinary fees and operational expenses, including but not limited to the following, from the amount received by it out of the TER:

- (a) fees and expenses of the Investment Manager, any sub-investment manager, Depositary and Administrator;
- (b) any fees in respect of circulating details of the Net Asset Value per Share;
- (c) company secretarial fees;
- (d) rating fees (if any);
- (e) licensing fees (including those for the use of an Index);
- (f) fees and expenses of the tax, legal and other professional advisers of the Company;
- (g) the Central Bank's industry funding levy, statutory fees and the Companies Registration Office filing fees;
- (h) fees connected with listing of Shares on any stock exchange:
- (i) costs of publication of the intra-day net asset value (if any);
- (j) fees and expenses in connection with the provision of registrar and transfer agency services to the Company including, from or within CREST or any other system for the registration and transfer of dematerialised securities;
- (k) fees of any distributor, paying agent or facilities agent (including the UK Facilities Agent);
- (I) fees of any sub-custodian provided that such fees are at normal commercial rates;
- (m) fees connected with listing of Shares on any stock exchange;
- (n) fees and expenses in connection with the distribution of Shares and costs of registration and listing of the Company in jurisdictions outside Ireland (including fees of any advisors and translation fees);
- (o) costs of preparing, printing and distributing the Prospectus, Supplements, KIIDs, reports, financial statements and any explanatory memoranda;
- (p) fees and expenses of any portfolio monitoring;

- (q) any costs incurred as a result of periodic updates of the Prospectus, Supplement, KIIDs, or of a change in law or the introduction of any new law (including any costs incurred as a result of compliance with any applicable code, whether or not having the force of law);
- (r) the Central Bank's industry funding levy; and
- (s) any other fees and expenses relating to the management and administration of the Company or attributable to the Investments.

The TER payable in respect of a Fund shall be set out in the relevant Supplement. Whilst it is anticipated that the TER borne by a Fund shall not exceed the amounts set out above during the life of a Fund such amounts may need to be increased. Any such increase will be subject to the prior approval of the Shareholders of the relevant Fund evidenced either by a majority vote at a meeting of Shareholders or by a written resolution of all of the Shareholders. If such approval is obtained the relevant Supplement will be updated accordingly.

# 13.3 Operational costs and expenses

- 13.3.1 Each Fund will pay, out of its assets the following operational costs and expenses:
  - (i) brokerage or other fees, charges, interest, taxes (of any kind or nature including but not limited to, income, excise, transfer, withholding taxes, stamp and government duties), levies incurred in connection with acquiring or disposing of Investments or in connection with creation and redemption transactions including any fees and expenses payable as a result of entering into FDI transactions or arising from investment in collective investment schemes (including, without limitation, any fees, charges, taxes, levies or expenses related to the purchase or sale of an amount of any currency, or the patriation or repatriation of any security or other asset, or related to the execution of portfolio transactions or any creation or redemption transactions);
  - (ii) fees and expenses incurred in connection with securities lending;
  - (iii) extraordinary expenses, including fees in connection with any arbitration, litigation or pending or threatened arbitration or litigation, including any settlements in connection therewith;
  - (iv) costs and expenses incurred in connection with the exercise of voting rights (unless the Manager agrees to discharge such costs and expenses in a particular instance, or generally);
  - fees connected with the winding up of the Company and/or the Fund itself (unless the Manager agrees to discharge such costs and expenses in a particular instance, or generally); and
  - (vi) expenses of Shareholders meetings (unless the Manager agrees to discharge such costs and expenses in a particular instance, or generally).

# 13.3.2 Directors' Fees

The Directors shall be entitled to a fee payable out of the assets of the Company (unless the Manager agrees to discharge such costs and expenses in a particular instance, or generally) and remuneration for their services at a rate to be determined from time to time by the Directors. The fees of any Director in any one financial year shall not exceed €30,000 without the approval of the board of Directors. Any Director who holds any executive office (including, for this purpose, the office of Chairman) or who serves on any committee in his capacity as a Director of the Company, or who otherwise performs services which in the opinion of the Directors are outside the ordinary duties of a Director or who devotes special attention to the Company, may be paid such extra remuneration as the Directors may determine which shall not exceed €10,000. The Directors may also be paid, inter alia, for travelling, hotel and other expenses properly incurred by them in attending meetings of the

Directors or in connection with the business of the Company. The employees/directors of WisdomTree serving as Directors of the Company have agreed to waive their Directors' fees.

# 13.3.3 Subscription Fee and Redemption Fee

The Manager, at its discretion may charge a Subscription Fee and / or a Redemption Fee of up to 3% of the Net Asset Value per Creation Unit subscribed for, or redeemed. The ability to charge any such fee will be specified in the Supplement of a Fund.

#### 14. TAXATION

#### 14.1 General

The information given is not exhaustive and does not constitute legal or tax advice. Prospective investors should consult their own professional advisers as to the implications of their subscribing for, purchasing, holding, switching or disposing of Shares under the laws of the jurisdictions in which they may be subject to tax. The Directors, the Company, the Funds and each of their respective agents shall have no liability in respect of the tax affairs of Shareholders or prospective investors.

The following is a brief summary of certain aspects of Irish and United Kingdom tax law and practice relevant to the transactions contemplated in this Prospectus. It is based on advice received by the Directors as to the law and practice and official interpretation currently in effect, all of which are subject to change.

Dividends (if any) and interest which any of the Funds receive with respect to their Investments (other than securities of Irish issuers) may be subject to taxes, including withholding taxes, in the countries in which the issuers of Investments are located. However, the Company may not be able to benefit from reduced rates of withholding tax in double taxation agreements between Ireland and such countries in all cases.

If this position changes in the future and the application of a lower rate results in a repayment to the Company, the Net Asset Value will not be re-stated and the benefit will be allocated to the existing Shareholders rateably at the time of the repayment.

#### 14.2 Irish Taxation

The Directors have been advised that on the basis that the Company is resident in Ireland for taxation purposes the taxation position of the Company and the Shareholders is as set out below.

# 14.2.1 Residence - Individual

An individual will be regarded as being resident in Ireland for a particular twelve month tax year if s/he (i) spends 183 days or more in Ireland in that twelve month tax year; or (ii) has a combined presence of 280 days in Ireland, taking into account the number of days spent in Ireland in that twelve month tax year together with the number of days spent in Ireland in the preceding twelve month tax year. Presence in a twelve month tax year by an individual of not more than 30 days in Ireland will not be reckoned for the purpose of applying the two year test. Presence in Ireland for a day means the personal presence of an individual at any time during that day.

## 14.2.2 Residence – Trust

Determining the tax residence of a trust can be complex. A trust will generally be regarded as resident in Ireland for tax purposes if a majority of its trustees are resident for tax purposes in Ireland. Where some, but not all, of the trustees are resident in Ireland, the residency of the trust will depend on where the general administration of the trust is carried on. In addition, the provisions of any relevant double tax agreement would need to be considered. As a result, each trust must be assessed on a case by case basis.

## 14.2.3 Residence – company

It should be noted that the determination of a company's residence for tax purposes can be complex in certain cases and declarants are referred to the specific legislative provisions that are contained in Section 23A of the Taxes Act.

#### Companies incorporated on or after 1 January 2015

Finance Act 2014 introduced changes to the above residency rules. From 1 January 2015, a company incorporated in Ireland will be automatically considered resident in Ireland for tax purposes, unless it is considered resident in a jurisdiction with which Ireland has a double tax agreement. A company incorporated in a foreign jurisdiction that is centrally managed and controlled in Ireland will continue to be treated as resident in Ireland for tax purposes, unless otherwise resident by virtue of a double tax agreement.

Companies incorporated prior to 1 January 2015 have until 1 January 2021 before the new corporate residency provisions take effect.

## Companies incorporated prior to 1 January 2015

The Irish tax rules for companies incorporated prior to 1 January 2015 provides that a company incorporated in Ireland will be regarded for all tax purposes as being resident in Ireland. Irrespective of where a company is incorporated a company which has its central management and control in Ireland is resident in Ireland. A company which does not have its central management and control in Ireland but which is incorporated in Ireland is resident in Ireland except where:-

the company or a related company carried on a trade in Ireland, and either the company is
ultimately controlled by persons resident in EU Member States or in countries with which
Ireland has a double taxation treaty, or the company or a related company are quoted
companies on a recognised Stock Exchange in the EU or in a taxation treaty country;

or

- the company is regarded as not resident in Ireland under a double taxation treaty between Ireland and another country.

# 14.2.4 The Company

The Company will be regarded as resident in Ireland for tax purposes if the central management and control of its business is exercised in Ireland and the Company is not regarded as resident elsewhere. It is the intention of the Directors that the business of the Company will be conducted in such a manner as to ensure that it is Irish Resident for tax purposes.

The Directors have been advised that the Company qualifies as an investment undertaking as defined in Section 739B of the Taxes Act. Under current Irish law and practice, on that basis, it is not chargeable to Irish tax on its income and gains.

However, tax can arise on the happening of a "chargeable event" in the Company. A chargeable event includes any distribution payments to Shareholders or any encashment, redemption, cancellation or transfer of Shares. A chargeable event also includes the appropriation or cancellation of Shares of a Shareholder by the Company for the purposes of meeting the amount of appropriate tax payable on any gain arising on the transfer of an entitlement to a Share. It also includes the end of an eight year period following the acquisition of the Shares regardless of whether the Shares have been encashed, redeemed, cancelled or transferred. No tax will arise on the Company in respect of chargeable events in respect of a Shareholder who is neither Irish Resident nor Irish Ordinary Resident at the time of the chargeable event provided that the necessary signed Relevant Declaration is in place and the Company is not in possession of any information which would reasonably suggest that the information contained therein is not or, is no longer materially correct. In the absence of a signed and completed Relevant Declaration there is a presumption that the investor is Irish Resident or Irish Ordinary Resident. However, it is not necessary to obtain a Relevant Declaration from Shareholders if Equivalent Measures have been formally agreed with the Revenue Commissioners and the approval has not been withdrawn.

A chargeable event does not include (a) an exchange by a Shareholder, effected by way of an arms length bargain with the Company of Shares in the Company for other Shares in the Company; (b) any transaction (which might otherwise be a chargeable event) in relation to Shares held in a recognised

clearing system as designated by order of the Irish Revenue Commissioners; (c) a transfer by a Shareholder of the entitlement to a Share where the transfer is between spouses and former spouses, civil partners or former civil partners, subject to certain conditions; (d) an exchange of Shares arising on a qualifying amalgamation or reconstruction of the Company with another investment undertaking (within the meaning of Section 739H of the Taxes Act).

If the Company becomes liable to account for tax if a chargeable event occurs, the Company shall be entitled to deduct from the payment arising on a chargeable event an amount equal to the appropriate tax and/or where applicable, to appropriate or cancel such number of Shares held by the Shareholder or such beneficial owner as are required to meet the amount of tax. The relevant Shareholder shall indemnify and keep the Company indemnified against loss arising to the Company by reason of the Company becoming liable to account for tax on the happening of a chargeable event if no such deduction, appropriation or cancellation has been made.

Please see the "Shareholders" section below dealing with the tax consequences for the Company and the Shareholders of chargeable events in respect of (i) Shareholders who are neither Irish Resident nor Irish Ordinary Resident; and (ii) Shareholders who are either Irish Resident or Irish Ordinary Resident.

Finance Act 2008 introduced an amendment to the eight year deemed disposal rule for Taxable Irish Persons. This allows the Company the option of electing to value the Shares at bi-annual dates (meaning 30 June or 31 December) rather than at the date of the deemed eight year disposal itself. Therefore, the Directors will make an irrevocable election to allow the Shares in the calculation of the gain on a deemed disposal for Taxable Irish Persons to be valued at the later of the previous 30 June or 31 December prior to the date of the deemed disposal rather than at the date of the deemed disposal itself.

Where less than 10% of the Net Asset Value of Shares in the Company is held by Taxable Irish Persons, the Directors will elect not to apply a withholding tax to a deemed disposal of Shares in the Company and the Administrator will advise the Irish Revenue Commissioners of this election. Shareholders who are Taxable Irish Persons will therefore be required to return any gain and account for appropriate tax on the deemed disposal directly to the Irish Revenue Commissioners. Shareholders should contact the Administrator to ascertain whether the Directors have made such an election in order to establish their responsibility to account to the Irish Revenue Commissioners for any relevant tax.

Where less than 15% of the Net Asset Value of Shares in the Company is held by Taxable Irish Persons, the Directors will elect not to repay Shareholders any overpaid tax and as such Shareholders must seek repayment of any overpaid tax directly from the Irish Revenue Commissioners. Shareholders should contact the Administrator to ascertain whether the Directors have made such an election in order to establish whether they must seek repayment of any overpaid tax directly from the Irish Revenue Commissioners.

An anti avoidance measure applies in the case of certain investments in investment undertakings (such as the Company) by Taxable Irish Persons who are individuals. If the investment undertaking is regarded as a PPIU then any payment to such a shareholder will be taxed at 60%. It is a matter of fact whether or not the shareholder or a connected person has a right of selection as envisaged in the anti avoidance measures. Further penalties of tax can apply were tax returns in relation to distributions from a PPIU are incorrectly made by a shareholder.

Dividends received by the Company from investment in Irish equities may be subject to Irish dividend withholding tax at the standard rate of income tax (currently 20%). However, the Company can make a declaration to the payer that it is an investment undertaking within the meaning of Section 739B of the Taxes Act beneficially entitled to the dividends which will entitle the Company to receive such dividends without deduction of Irish dividend withholding tax.

#### 14.2.5 Shareholders

## (i) Shareholders who are neither Irish Resident nor Irish Ordinary Resident

The Company will not have to deduct tax on the occasion of a chargeable event in respect of a Shareholder if (a) the Shareholder is neither Irish Resident nor Irish Ordinary Resident, (b) the Shareholder has made a Relevant Declaration and (c) the Company is not in possession of any information which would reasonably suggest that the information contained therein is not, or is no longer materially correct. In the absence of a Relevant Declaration (or approval from Revenue to operate Equivalent Measures) tax will arise on the happening of a chargeable event in the Company regardless of the fact that a Shareholder is neither Irish Resident nor Irish Ordinary Resident. The appropriate tax that will be deducted is as described below in paragraph (ii).

To the extent that a Shareholder is acting as an Intermediary on behalf of persons who are neither Irish Resident nor Irish Ordinary Resident, no tax will have to be deducted by the Company on the occasion of a chargeable event provided that the Intermediary has made a Relevant Declaration that they are acting on behalf of such persons and the Company is not in possession of any information which would reasonably suggest that the information contained therein is not, or is no longer materially correct.

Shareholders who are neither Irish Resident nor Irish Ordinary Resident and who have made Relevant Declarations in respect of which the Company is not in possession of any information which would reasonably suggest that the information contained in the Relevant Declaration is not, or is no longer materially correct, will not be liable to Irish tax in respect of income from their Shares and gains made on the disposal of their Shares. However, any corporate Shareholder which is not Irish Resident and which holds Shares directly or indirectly by or for a trading branch or agency in Ireland will be liable to Irish tax on income from their Shares or gains made on disposals of the Shares.

Where taxes are withheld by the Company on the basis that no Relevant Declaration has been filed with the Company by the Shareholder, Irish legislation does not provide for a refund of tax except in the following circumstances;

- i. The appropriate tax has been correctly returned by the Company and within one year of making of the return the Company can prove to the satisfaction of the Revenue Commissioners that it is just and reasonable for such tax which has been paid to be repaid to the Company.
- ii. Where a claim is made for a refund of Irish tax under Section 189, 189A and 192 of the Taxes Act (relieving provisions relating to incapacitated persons, trusts in relation thereto and persons incapacitated as a result of drugs containing thalidomide) the income received will be treated as net income chargeable to tax under Case III of Schedule D from which tax has been deducted.
- (ii) Shareholders who are Irish Resident or Irish Ordinary Resident

Unless a Shareholder is an Exempted Irish Investor, makes a Relevant Declaration to that effect and the Company is not in possession of any information which would reasonably suggest that the information contained therein is not, or is no longer materially correct, tax at the rate of 41% will be required to be deducted by the Company from any distributions or other chargeable events in relation to a Shareholder who is Irish Resident or Irish Ordinary Resident (other than a Shareholder which is a corporate entity and which has made the necessary declaration). The rate of tax to be deducted by the Company in respect of a Shareholder which has made a declaration to the effect that it is a corporate entity is 25%.

There are a number of Irish Residents and Irish Ordinary Residents who are exempted from the provisions of the above regime once Relevant Declarations are in place. These are Exempted Irish Investors. Additionally, where Shares are held by the Courts Service no tax is deducted by the Company on payments made to the Courts Service. The Courts Service will be required to operate tax on payments to it by the Company when they allocate those payments to the beneficial owners.

Irish Resident corporate Shareholders who receive distributions from which tax has been deducted will be treated as having received an annual payment chargeable to tax under Case IV of Schedule D of the Taxes Act from which tax at 25% has been deducted. In general, such Shareholders will not be subject to further Irish tax on any other payments received in respect of their shareholding from which tax has been deducted. An Irish Resident corporate Shareholder whose Shares are held in connection with a trade will be taxable on any Irish income or gains as part of that trade with a set-off against corporation tax payable for any tax deducted by the Company. In general, non-corporate Shareholders who are Irish Resident or Irish Ordinary Resident will not be subject to further Irish tax on income from their Shares or gains made on disposal of the shares where tax has been deducted by the Company on payments received. Where a currency gain is made by a Shareholder on the disposal of his or her Shares, such a Shareholder may be liable to capital gains tax in the year of assessment in which the Shares are disposed of.

Any Shareholder who is Irish Resident or Irish Ordinary Resident and receives a distribution or a gain on an encashment, redemption, cancellation or transfer of Shares from which tax has not been deducted by the Company may be liable to income tax or corporation tax on the amount of such distribution or gain. Higher rates of tax may apply where non-corporate Shareholders do not correctly file their tax return before the specified return date.

The Company is required to periodically report information to the Irish Revenue Commissioners in relation to certain Shareholders and the value of their investments in the Company. The obligation arises in relation to Shareholders who are Taxable Irish Persons.

#### 14.2.6 Stamp Duty

Generally, no stamp duty is payable in Ireland on the issue, transfer, repurchase or redemption of Shares in the Company. Where any subscription for or redemption of Shares is satisfied by the in specie transfer of Irish securities or other Irish property, Irish stamp duty might arise on the transfer of such securities or property.

No Irish stamp duty will be payable by the Company on the conveyance or transfer of stock or marketable securities provided that the stock or marketable securities in question have not been issued by a company registered in Ireland and provided that the conveyance or transfer does not relate to any immovable property situated in Ireland or any right over or interest in such property or to any stock or marketable securities of a company (other than a company which is an investment undertaking within the meaning of Section 739B of the Taxes Act) which is registered in Ireland.

No Stamp Duty will arise on reconstructions or amalgamations of investment undertakings under Section 739H of the Taxes Act, provided the reconstructions or amalgamations are undertaken for bona fide commercial purposes and not for the avoidance of tax.

## 14.2.7 Capital Acquisitions Tax

The disposal of Shares will not be subject to Irish gift or inheritance tax (Capital Acquisitions Tax), provided that the Company falls within the definition of an investment undertaking in Section 739B of the Taxes Act and that (i) at the date of the gift or inheritance, the donee or successor is neither domiciled nor Ordinary Resident in Ireland; (ii) at the date of the disposition, the Shareholder disposing of the Shares is neither domiciled nor Ordinarily Resident in Ireland; and (iii) the Shares are comprised in the gift or inheritance at the date of the gift or inheritance and at the valuation date.

14.2.8 Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FATCA") and the Common Reporting Standards ("CRS")

The Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act (the "Hire Act") was signed into US law in March 2010. It includes provisions generally known as FATCA. The intention of these is that details of US investors holding assets outside the US will be reported by financial institutions to the IRS as a safeguard against US tax evasion. To discourage non-US financial institutions from staying outside

this regime, the Hire Act provides that US securities held by a financial institution that does not enter and comply with the regime will be subject to a US tax withholding of 30% on gross sales proceeds as well as income. The FATCA withholding regime is effective since 1 July 2014 in relation to payments of US interest, dividends, rents, royalties and compensation and, in relation to payments of gross proceeds from the sale of a US issuer's debt or equity, will be effective from 1 January 2017. The basic terms of the Hire Act include the Company as a "Financial Institution", such that in order to comply, the Company may require all investors to provide mandatory documentary evidence of their tax residence.

The Irish government has entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement (the "Irish IGA") with the US in relation to FATCA. Regulations implementing the Irish IGA (known as the Financial Accounts Reporting (United States of America) Regulations 2014) have been signed into Irish law. These provide that, in order to ensure compliance with the FATCA provisions, Financial Institutions such as the Company will report details of their US account holders to the Irish Revenue Commissioners who will then pass these details to the IRS. Registration with the IRS will be necessary in this regard.

Accordingly, in order to comply with its FATCA obligations, the Company may require investors to provide the Company with information and documentation prescribed by applicable law and such additional documentation as reasonably requested by the Company. Prospective investors should consult with their tax advisers regarding the possible implications of FATCA on their investment in the Company.

Although the Company will use commercially reasonable efforts to comply with any requirements that are necessary to avoid the imposition of withholding taxes on payments to the Company pursuant to FATCA, no assurance can be given that the Company will be able to satisfy these obligations. If the Company becomes subject to a withholding tax as a result of FATCA, the return of all investors may be materially affected.

Prospective investors should consult with their tax advisers regarding the possible implications of FATCA on their investment in the Company.

The Common Reporting Standard ("CRS") is a new, single global standard on Automatic Exchange Of Information ("AEOI"). It was approved by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development ("OECD") in February 2014 and draws on earlier work of the OECD and the EU, global anti-money laundering standards and, in particular, the Model FATCA Intergovernmental Agreement. Under the CRS, participating jurisdictions will be required to exchange certain information held by financial institutions regarding their non resident investors. The CRS was effective in Ireland from 1 January 2016. The Company will be required to provide certain information to the Irish Revenue Commissioners about non-Irish tax resident Shareholders (which information will in turn be provided to the relevant tax authorities). It should also be noted the CRS replaces the EU Taxation on Savings Directive.

Each investor agrees to provide the Company with information and documentation prescribed by applicable law and such additional documentation reasonably requested by the Company as may be necessary for the Company to comply with its obligations under FATCA and the CRS.

#### 14.3 UK Taxation

#### 14.3.1 General

The following statements are intended only as a general guide to current UK tax law and legislation, including the Offshore Funds (Tax) Regulations 2009 (the "Regulations") which set out the current UK tax regime for offshore funds, and to current published practice of HM Revenue & Customs. It should be noted that the levels and bases of, and reliefs from, taxation can change.

The following statements relate (except where stated otherwise) exclusively to individual Shareholders who are resident and domiciled in the UK for UK tax purposes and to corporate Shareholders who are resident in the UK for UK tax purposes or who are otherwise within the charge to UK corporation tax, in each case who are beneficial owners of Shares and who holder their Shares as an investment (a "UK Shareholder"). Further, they may not apply to certain types of Shareholders, such as dealers in securities, insurance companies and collective investment schemes. Any UK Shareholders who are in any doubt as to their UK tax position should consult their own professional advisers.

#### 14.3.2 UK Reporting Fund Status

It is the intention of the Directors that each Fund will apply for certification as "reporting funds" under the Regulations.

Prospective investors should consult their own professional advisers as to the implications of this.

#### 14.3.3 Taxation of the Company in UK

The Board of Directors intend that the affairs of the Company should be managed and conducted so that it does not become resident in the UK for UK taxation purposes. Accordingly, and provided that the Company is not trading in the UK through a fixed place of business or agent situated therein that constitutes a "permanent establishment" for UK taxation purposes and that all its trading transactions in the UK are carried out through a broker or investment manager acting as an agent of independent status in the ordinary course of its business, the Company will not be subject to UK corporation tax or income tax on its profits. The Board of Directors and the Investment Manager each intend that the respective affairs of the Company and the Investment Manager are conducted so that these requirements are met insofar as this is within their respective control. However, it can not be guaranteed that the necessary conditions will at all times be satisfied.

Certain interest and other income received by the Company which has a UK source may be subject to withholding taxes in the UK.

## 14.3.4 Taxation of UK Shareholders

Sale or redemption or other disposal of Shares

The Company is an offshore fund as defined in section 355 of the Taxation (International and Other Provisions) Act 2010, in respect of each Share Class (with each Share Class being deemed to constitute a separate offshore fund). Any gain accruing to UK Shareholders on the sale or other disposal of their Shares may therefore be taxed as income, rather than as a capital gain, unless the Company qualifies as a "reporting fund" throughout the period during which the UK Shareholders hold their Shares.

As stated above, the Directors intend to apply for each Fund (and, as applicable, each Share Class) to have "reporting fund" status. Each Fund or Share Class (as applicable), once it has obtained "reporting fund" status, will maintain such status for each period of account of the Company, provided the Company continues to comply with the applicable rules and does not elect in relation to any such Fund or Share Class to become a non-reporting fund. Continued compliance includes submitting annual reports to HM Revenue & Customs that detail the annual reportable income for the Fund or

Share Class (as applicable), avoiding serious breaches of the Regulations and avoiding four minor breaches of the Regulations in any period of account. Although the Directors intend to maintain "reporting fund" status for each Fund and Share Class, it cannot be guaranteed that such status will be maintained at all times.

For so long as a Fund or Share Class (as applicable) has "reporting fund" status, any gain arising to UK Shareholders from the sale or other disposal of their Shares will be taxed as chargeable gains (rather than income) and thus be subject to capital gains tax or corporation tax as applicable. Where "reporting fund" status is not obtained or maintained for a Fund or Share Class, any gains arising to UK Shareholders from the sale or other disposal of their Shares will be taxed as income (rather than as chargeable gains) and thus be subject to income tax or corporation tax as applicable. In each case, the tax treatment is subject to the application of the loan relationship rules for corporate UK Shareholders, as outlined below.

Corporate UK Shareholders will instead be subject to tax under the loan relationship rules (contained in Chapters 5 and 6 of the Corporation Tax Act 2009 ("CTA 2009"), on a fair value accounting basis, on all gains arising from the sale or other disposal of their Shares if the Company, the relevant Fund or the relevant Share Class (as applicable) has more than 60% by market value of its investments in "qualifying investments" (as defined in section 494 of CTA 2009, broadly being investments which yield a return directly or indirectly in the form of interest). These rules will apply to a corporate UK Shareholder if the 60% limit is exceeded at any time during the relevant UK Shareholder's accounting period, even if it was not holding Shares at that time. Based on the Investment Objectives set out in this Prospectus (which are further detailed for each Fund in the relevant Fund Supplement), the 60% limit may be exceeded for certain of the Funds and Share Classes.

Registered pension schemes are exempt from tax on gains arising on the sale or other disposal of Shares.

## Distributions / deemed distributions

Subject to their individual circumstances, UK Shareholders will generally be liable to UK income tax or corporation tax in respect of any dividends or other distributions of an income nature made by the Company, whether or not such dividends or distributions are reinvested.

As stated above, the Directors intend that each Fund will apply for "reporting fund" status in respect of each Share Class. Assuming that "reporting fund" status is obtained for a Share Class, in outline, a UK Shareholder who, at the end of any period of account, holds an interest in such Share Class will be deemed to receive a distribution of an amount equal to the UK Shareholder's proportionate share of the Company's reported income in respect of such Share Class for that period of account (as determined under international accounting standards or equivalent accounting standards) to the extent that reported amount has not been actually paid out as a distribution. Any such deemed distribution is taxed as though it were an actual distribution.

The rules relating to the taxation of dividends on UK resident individuals changed on 6 April 2016. From 6 April 2016, all UK resident individuals are entitled to a new tax-free Dividend Allowance whereby the first £5,000 of dividends received will be tax-free. Beyond this allowance, UK resident individuals liable to UK income tax at the basic rate will be taxed at 7.5% on the dividend received and those liable to income tax at the higher rate will be taxed at 32.5% on the dividend received. UK resident individuals who are liable to income tax at the additional rate will be taxed at 38.1% on dividend income received above the allowance.

However, if the Company, the relevant Fund or (if applicable) the relevant Share Class has more than 60% by market value of its investments in "qualifying investments" (see above) in the relevant accounting period, distributions received by individual UK Shareholders from the Company will be taxed as interest.

Shareholders within the charge to UK corporation tax are generally not subject to UK corporation tax in respect of distributions received (or deemed to be received) from the Company unless such distributions do not fall within the wide exemptions from UK corporation tax for distributions (including

distributions received from overseas companies) in Part 9A of CTA 2009, which are subject to certain exclusions and specific anti-avoidance rules.

Special rules apply to corporate UK Shareholders if the Company, the relevant Fund or (if applicable) the relevant Share Class has more than 60% by market value of its investments in "qualifying investments" (see above) in the relevant accounting period. In that case, dividends and distributions (including dividends and distributions that would otherwise be taxed as exempt distributions or annual payments) will instead be taken into account in the calculation of loan relationship debits and credits.

# Stamp duty and stamp duty reserve tax ("SDRT")

No stamp duty or SDRT will arise on the issue of the Shares.

Provided that (as is intended) the Shares are not registered in any register kept in the UK, any agreement to transfer the Shares will not be subject to stamp duty reserve tax. No stamp duty will be payable on any transfer of the Shares provided that the instrument to transfer is not executed in the UK and does not relate to any property situated, or to any matter or thing done or to be done, in the UK.

# Inheritance tax

The Shares will constitute non-UK situated property for inheritance tax purposes.

#### Other UK tax considerations

The attention of individual UK Shareholders is drawn to sections 714 to 751 of the Income Tax Act 2007. These provisions are aimed at preventing individuals avoiding income tax by transferring assets or income to persons, including companies, resident or domiciled abroad so that income arises abroad. If those provisions applied, individual UK Shareholders could be liable to tax in respect of undistributed income of the Company on an annual basis. Exemptions to those rules are available for genuine commercial transactions (including genuine commercial activities overseas) where the avoidance of tax was not the purpose or one of the purposes for which the transactions were effected.

The attention of individual UK Shareholders is also drawn to the fact that persons who become non-UK resident and then realise a gain on the sale or other disposal of their Shares may be subject to UK capital gains tax on that gain if they return to the UK within five whole tax years.

Individual Shareholders who are resident, but not domiciled, in the UK for tax purposes should note that, if they are applying for Shares, they may be required to make payment directly into a UK bank account. Where such an individual Shareholder intends to meet subscription proceeds from funds sourced outside the UK, such a payment may give rise to a taxable remittance for the purposes of UK taxation, depending upon the particular circumstances of that individual. Accordingly, it is recommended that such individual Shareholder seek independent tax advice in this respect before making a subscription for Shares from such funds.

The UK legislation contains provisions which subject certain UK resident companies to corporation tax on profits of non-UK resident companies in which they have an interest ("controlled foreign companies"). The provisions affect UK resident companies which, either alone or together with associates, have an interest in at least 25 per cent of the profits of the non-resident company where the non-resident company is controlled by UK residents. The legislation is not directed towards the taxation of capital gains and is generally focused on profits artificially diverted from the UK.

HM Revenue & Customs may seek to cancel tax advantages from certain transactions in securities under section 698 of the Income Tax Act 2007 or section 746 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010. The Directors do not believe that a relevant tax advantage will arise, but no clearance has been sought from HM Revenue & Customs.

If the shareholdings in the Company will not be sufficiently widely held to ensure that the Company would not be a close company if it were resident in the UK, then capital gains accruing to the Company may be apportioned to UK Shareholders who hold over 25 per cent of the Company, in

which case such UK Shareholders would be subject to capital gains tax or corporation tax (as applicable) on the gains apportioned to them. Exemptions to those rules are available, including in respect of the disposal by the Company of assets that were only used for the purposes of economically significant activities carried on by the Company wholly or mainly outside the UK or where it can be shown that the avoidance of tax was not the purpose or one of the purposes for which the relevant transactions were effected. Where capital gains tax or corporation tax is paid by a Shareholder under these provisions, it may be possible for that Shareholder to claim relief subsequently for all or part of it.

It should be noted that the levels and bases of, and reliefs from, taxation can change.

#### 15. STATUTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

## 15.1 Incorporation and share capital

The Company was incorporated in Ireland on 20 September 2011 as an investment company with variable capital, limited liability and having segregated liability between its Funds under registration number 503861. The authorised share capital of the Company is €300,000 divided into 300,000 Subscriber Shares of a par value of €1 each and 500,000,000,000 Shares of no par value.

#### 15.2 Title to Shares

The Company is required to have and maintain a register containing details of shareholders and holders of Subscriber Shares. Only persons whose name has been entered on the register will be shareholders in the Company.

The Directors may determine to issue Shares in Dematerialised Form in accordance with the Companies Act, 1990 (Uncertificated Securities) Regulations 1996 (as amended). In this instance Shares will not be issued with a share certificate.

Alternatively, the Directors may determine to issue Shares by way of issue of a Global Certificate. In this instance Shares will be represented by the Global Certificate and will be registered in the name of a Central Securities Depositary (or its nominee).

## 15.3 Rights of the Shareholders

Save as set out in this Prospectus all Shares shall rank pari passu and none of the Shareholders will have any different voting rights to other Shareholders.

#### 15.4 Disclosure of interests

The Articles enable the Directors, at any time and from time to time, in their absolute discretion, to give a notice to a Shareholder requiring such Shareholder to notify the Company in writing of full and accurate particulars of all or any of (i) his interest in such Share (including details and particulars of such Share as required by the Directors); (ii) if his interest in the Share does not consist of the entire beneficial interest in it, the interests of all persons having any beneficial interest (direct or indirect) in the Share (provided that one joint Holder of a share shall not be obliged to give particulars of interests of persons in the share which arise only through another joint Holder); and (iii) any arrangements (whether legally binding or not) entered into by him or any person having any beneficial interest in the Share whereby it has been agreed or undertaken or the Shareholder can be required to transfer the Share or any interest therein to any person (other than a joint holder of the Share) or to act in relation to any meeting of the Company or of any class of shares of the Company in a particular way or in accordance with the wishes or directions of any other person (other than a person who is a joint holder of such Share).

The Articles require Shareholders to provide such information promptly on request.

# 15.5 Voting Rights

Only holders of Shares and Subscriber Shares are entitled to vote at meetings of the Company. Where an investor has an interest in Shares other than by way of a registered holding of Shares (i.e. through a nominee or Central Securities Depository), that investor must look to the registered Shareholder for details relating to its entitlement to exercise any voting rights.

The holders of the Subscriber Shares shall, on a poll be entitled to one vote per Subscriber Share, shall not be entitled to any dividends whatsoever in respect of their holding of Subscriber Shares, and shall, in the event of a winding up or dissolution of the Company, be entitled (after payment to the holders of the Shares of a sum equal to the Net Asset Value of the Shares as at the date of commencement to wind up), to payment in respect of the nominal amount paid up thereon out of the assets of the Company.

The holders of Shares shall on a poll be entitled to one vote per Share, shall be entitled to such dividends as the Directors may from time to time declare and, in the event of a winding up or dissolution of the Company, be entitled, in priority to the holders of the Subscriber Shares, firstly to an amount equal to the Net Asset Value of the Shares of each class held at the date of winding up and, after payment to the holders of the Subscriber Shares of the nominal amount paid up thereon, to participate in surplus assets of the Company (if any).

Subject to the provisions of the Articles of Association and any special terms as to voting upon which any Shares may be issued or may for the time being be held, at any general meeting on a show of hands every holder of Shares who (being an individual) is present in person or (being a corporation) is present by a duly authorised representative and every proxy shall have one vote. To be passed, resolutions of the Company in general meeting will require a simple majority of the votes cast by the Shareholders at the meeting at which the resolution is proposed. A majority of not less than 75% of the Shareholders present and (being entitled to vote) voting in general meetings is required in order to (i) amend the Articles and (ii) wind up the Company.

The rights attached to any class of Shares may be varied or abrogated with the consent in writing of the holders of 75% of the issued and outstanding Shares of that class, or with the sanction of a special resolution passed at a separate general meeting of the holders of the Shares of the class in accordance with the Articles.

## 15.6 Segregated Liability between Funds

As the Company has segregated liability between its Funds, the records and accounts of each Fund shall be maintained separately in the Base Currency of the relevant Fund with the assets of each Fund belonging exclusively to that Fund, being segregated in the records of the Depositary from the assets of other Funds, and shall not (save as provided in the Act), be used to discharge directly or indirectly the liabilities of or claims against any other Fund and shall not be available for any such purpose. In the case where an asset or a liability of the Company cannot be considered as being attributable to a particular Fund, the Directors shall have the discretion, subject to the approval of the Auditors, to determine the basis upon which such asset or liability shall be allocated between the Funds and the Directors shall have power at any time and from time to time subject to the approval of the Auditors to vary such basis, provided that the approval of the Auditors shall not be required in any case where the assets or liability is allocated between all Funds pro rata to their Net Asset Value.

## 15.7 Issue of Shares

The Shares shall be at the disposal of the Directors and they may (subject to the provisions of the Act) allot, offer or otherwise deal with or dispose of them to such persons, at such times and on such terms as they may consider in the best interests of the Company.

## 15.8 Transfers of Shares

All transfers of Shares shall be effected by transfer in writing in any usual or common form and every form of transfer shall state the full name and address of the transferor and the transferee. The instrument of transfer of a Share shall be signed by or on behalf of the transferor. The transferor shall be deemed to remain the holder of the Share until the name of the transferee is entered in the Company's share register in respect of such Shares. Where Dematerialised Shares are the subject of a transfer, they may be transferred in accordance with the rules of the relevant Recognised Clearing System.

If in consequence of a transfer the transferor or transferee would hold less than a Creation Aggregation Unit (the relevant minimum holding), or would otherwise infringe the restrictions on holding Shares outlined in the Prospectus or in the Articles or if the transfer might result in the Company incurring any liability to taxation or suffering pecuniary disadvantages which the Company might not otherwise have incurred or suffered, the Directors may decline to register the transfer of a Share to such person. The registration of transfers may be suspended at such times and for such periods as the Directors may from time to time determine, provided always that such registration shall not be suspended for more than thirty days in any year. The Directors may decline to register any transfer of Shares unless the transferee is a Qualified Holder and otherwise meets the requirements of the Company for holding Shares.

## 15.9 Powers relating to borrowing and the granting of security

The Directors may exercise all borrowing powers on behalf of the Company and mortgage or charge its undertaking, property and assets or any part thereof whether outright or as collateral security for any debts or obligations.

#### 15.10 Restrictions on Shareholders

The Directors have power to impose such restrictions as they may think necessary for the purpose of ensuring that no Shares in the Company are acquired or held by any person who is not a Qualified Holder.

If it comes to the notice of the Directors that any Shares are so held by any such non-Qualified Holder as above the Directors may give notice to such person requiring the redemption or transfer of such Shares in accordance with the provisions of the Articles. If any person upon whom such a notice has been served fails to comply with such requirements within 30 days, he shall be deemed to have given a request in writing for the repurchase of all his Participating Shares which shall be redeemed the next following Dealing Day. A person who becomes aware that he is a non-Qualified Holder is required either to deliver to the Company a written request for redemption of his Shares in accordance with the Articles or to transfer the same to a person who would not thereby be a non-Qualified Holder.

## 15.11 Directors

## 15.11.1 Appointments

A Director may only be appointed if the approval of the Central Bank to such appointment has first been obtained. There must be at least two Directors and if the number of the Directors is reduced below the prescribed minimum, the remaining Director or Directors must appoint an additional Director or additional Directors to make up such minimum or convene a general meeting of the Company for the purpose of making such appointment. If there is no Director or Directors able or willing to act then any two Shareholders may summon a general meeting for the purpose of appointing Directors.

Subject as aforesaid, the Company by ordinary resolution may appoint a person to be a Director either to fill a vacancy or as an additional Director. Subject to the requirements of the Central Bank, any Director may appoint by writing under his hand any person (including another Director) to be his alternate.

## 15.11.2 Meetings

Subject to the provisions of the Articles, the Directors may regulate their proceedings as they think fit. A Director may, and the secretary at the request of a Director shall, call a meeting of the Directors. Any Director may waive notice of any meeting and any such waiver may be retrospective.

Notice of a meeting of the Directors shall be deemed to be duly given to a Director if it is given to him personally or by word of mouth or sent by any other means specified in the Articles to him at his last known address or any other address given by him to the Company for this purpose.

The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Directors may be fixed by the Directors and unless so fixed at any other number shall be two. A person who holds office only as an alternate Director shall, if his appointor is not present, be counted in the quorum but notwithstanding that such person may act as alternate Director for more than one Director he shall not count as more than one for the purposes of determining whether a quorum is present.

#### 15.11.3 Voting

Questions arising at any meeting of Directors shall be decided by a majority of votes. Where there is an equality of votes, the chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote. A Director who is also an alternate Director for one or more Directors shall be entitled in the absence of any such appointor from a meeting to a separate vote at such meeting on behalf of each such appointor in addition to his own vote. Each Director present and voting shall have one vote and in addition to his own vote shall be entitled to one vote in respect of each other Director not present at the meeting who shall have authorised him in respect of such meeting to vote for such other Director in his absence. Any such authority may relate generally to all meetings of the Directors or to any specified meeting or meetings and must be in writing bearing a printed or facsimile signature of the Director giving such authority.

#### 15.11.4 Directors' and other interests

As at the date of this Prospectus, none of the Directors nor any other connected person closely associated has any material interest in the Shares of the Company or any options in respect of such Shares.

For this purpose, a "connected person closely associated" means in respect of any Director (a) his spouse, dependent children other relatives who have shared the same household for at least one year on the date the transaction occurred; (b) any person (i) the managerial responsibilities of which are discharged by a person - (A) discharging managerial responsibilities within the Company, or (B) referred to in paragraph (a) above; (ii) that is directly or indirectly controlled by a person referred to in subparagraph (i) above; (iii) that is set up for the benefit of a person referred to in subparagraph (i) above; or (iv) the economic interests of which are substantially equivalent to those of a person referred to in subparagraph (i) above.

The Directors are entitled to such annual fees as may be agreed. The Articles provide that each Director shall be entitled to such remuneration for his services as the Directors shall from time to time resolve, provided that no Director may be paid in excess of a figure set out in the Prospectus without the approval of the Board. These fees are paid out of the TER.

Subject to the provisions of the Act, and provided that he has disclosed to the Directors the nature and extent of any material interest of his, a Director notwithstanding his office (i) may be a party to, or otherwise interested in, any transaction or arrangement with the Company or any subsidiary or associated company thereof or in which the Company or any subsidiary or associated company thereof is otherwise interested; (ii) may be a Director or other officer of, or employed by, or a party to any transaction or arrangement with, or otherwise interested in, any body corporate promoted by the Company or in which the Company or any subsidiary or associated company thereof is otherwise interested; and (iii) shall not be accountable, by reason of his office, to the Company for any benefit which he derives from any such office or employment or from any such transaction or arrangement or from any interest in any such body corporate and no such transaction or arrangement shall be liable to be avoided on the ground of any such interest or benefit. A Director shall not generally be permitted to vote at a meeting of the Directors or a committee of Directors on any resolution concerning a matter

in which he has, directly or indirectly, an interest which is material or a duty which conflicts or may conflict with the interests of the Company. A Director shall not be counted in the quorum present at a meeting in relation to any such resolution on which he is not entitled to vote. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Director shall be entitled to vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of resolutions concerning certain matters in which he has an interest including (inter alia) any proposal concerning any other company in which he is interested, directly or indirectly provided, that he is not the holder of or beneficially interested in 5% or more of the issued shares of any class of such company or of the voting rights available to members of such company (or of a third company through which his interest is derived).

No loan or guarantee has been provided by the Company to any Director.

#### No Director has:

- (i) had any unspent convictions in relation to indictable offences; or
- (ii) been a director of any company or partnership which, while he was a director with an executive function or partner at the time of or within the 12 months preceding such events, been declared bankrupt, went into receivership, liquidation, administration or voluntary arrangements; or
- (iii) been subject to any official public incrimination and/or sanctions by statutory or regulatory authorities (including designated professional bodies); or been disqualified by a court from acting as a director of a company or from acting in the management or conduct of affairs of any company.

#### 15.12 Indemnities

The Directors, Secretary and other officers of the Company shall be indemnified by the Company against losses and expenses which any such person may become liable to by reason of any contract entered into or any act or thing done by him as such officer in discharge of his duties (other than in the case of negligence or wilful default).

#### 15.13 Assets of the Company

The assets of the Company shall be deemed to include (i) all cash in hand, on deposit, or on call including any interest thereon and all accounts receivable, (ii) all bills, demand notes, certificates of deposit, and promissory notes, (iii) all bonds, forward currency transactions, time notes, shares, stocks, units of or participation in collective investment schemes/mutual funds, debenture stock, subscription rights, warrants, future contracts, options contracts, swap contracts, fixed rate securities, floating rate securities, securities in respect of which the return and/or repurchase amount is calculated by reference to any Index, price, or rate, financial instruments and other investments and securities owned or contracted for in respect of the Company, other than rights and securities issued by it: (iv) all stock and cash dividends and cash distributions to be received in respect of the Fund and not yet received by the Company but declared to stockholders on record on a date on or before the day as of which the Net Asset Value is being determined, (v) all interest accrued on any interestbearing securities owned by the Company except to the extent that the same is included or reflected in, the principal value of such security, (vi) all other assets of the Company, (vii) the establishment costs attributable to the Company and the cost of issuing and distributing Shares of the Company in so far as the same have not been written off, and (viii) all other assets of the Company of every kind and nature including prepaid expenses as valued and defined from time to time by the Directors.

#### 15.14 Compulsory redemption

The Directors may resolve to compulsorily redeem Shares and may subsequently terminate the Fund

(a) where Shares are or become owned, directly or indirectly, by or for the benefit of any person in breach of any restrictions on ownership from time to time specified by the Directors;

- (b) where, in the opinion of the Directors, such redemption would eliminate or reduce the exposure of the Company or its Shareholders to adverse tax or regulatory consequences or if Shares are held by a Shareholder who is not a Qualified Holder;
- (c) where not less than 75% of the Shareholders (voting at the meeting either in person or by proxy) approve of the redemption of the Shares at a general meeting of the relevant class of which not less than 21 days notice has been given;
- (d) at the discretion of the Directors, after the first anniversary of the first issue of Shares of the relevant class if the Net Asset Value of the relevant class falls below the level set out in a Fund's Supplement for a period of ten (10) Business Days or more;
- (e) at the discretion of the Directors, if the Fund ceases to be listed on a stock exchange;
- (f) a Shareholder has not completed the anti-money laundering procedures to the satisfaction of the Company and/or the Administrator; or
- (g) at the discretion of the Directors upon the provision of reasonable notice to a Shareholder.

The Company may deduct Duties and Charges and a Redemption Fee from the proceeds of any such compulsory redemption prior to remitting same to a redeeming Shareholder.

The Company may apply the proceeds of such compulsory redemption in the discharge of any taxation or withholding tax arising as a result of the holding or beneficial ownership of Shares by a Shareholder including any interest or penalties payable thereon.

#### 15.15 Circumstances of a winding up

The Company shall be wound up in the following circumstances:

- (a) by the passing of a Special Resolution for a winding-up;
- (b) where the Company does not commence business within a year of being incorporated or where it suspends its business for a year;
- (c) where the number of members falls below the statutory minimum of two;
- (d) where the Company is unable to pay its debts and a liquidator has been appointed;
- (e) where the appropriate court in Ireland is of the opinion that the Company's affairs and the powers of the Directors have been exercised in a manner oppressive to members; or
- (f) where the appropriate court in Ireland is of the opinion that it is just and equitable that the Company should be wound up.

#### 15.16 Termination of a Fund

Any Fund may be terminated by the Directors, in their sole and absolute discretion, by notice in writing to the Depositary in any of the following events:-

- (a) if at any time the Net Asset Value of the relevant Fund shall be less than the compulsory redemption threshold as may be determined by the Directors in respect of that Fund and disclosed in the relevant Supplement; or
- (b) if any Fund shall cease to be authorised or otherwise officially approved; or
- (c) if any law shall be passed which renders it illegal or in the opinion of the Directors impracticable or inadvisable to continue the relevant Fund; or
- (d) if there is a change in material aspects of the business, in the economic or political situation relating to a Fund which the Directors consider would have material adverse consequences on the Investments of the Fund; or
- (e) if the Directors shall have resolved that it is impracticable or inadvisable for a Fund to continue to operate having regard to prevailing market; or
- (f) if the Directors shall have resolved that it is or becomes impossible or impractical, for example from a cost, risk or operational perspective, to enter into, continue with or maintain derivatives relating to the Index for the relevant Fund or to invest in stocks comprised within the particular Index; or
- (g) if a Fund is unable to replicate the relevant Index and unable to substitute another index for the Index; or
- (h) if prevailing circumstances on the Secondary Market are such that it is impracticable or uneconomic for a Fund to operate.

#### 15.17 Distribution of assets on a liquidation

If the Company shall be wound up the liquidator shall, subject to the provisions of the Act, apply the assets of the Company on the basis that any liability incurred or attributable to a Fund shall be discharged solely out of the assets of that Fund. The assets available for distribution among the members shall then be applied in the following priority:

- (i) firstly, in the payment to the holders of the Shares of each class of each Fund a sum in the currency in which that class is designated or in any other currency selected by the liquidator as nearly as possible equal (at a rate of exchange determined by the liquidator) to the Net Asset Value of the Shares held by such holders respectively as at the date of commencement to wind up provided that there are sufficient assets available in the relevant Fund to enable such payment to be made. In the event that, as regards any class of Shares, there are insufficient assets available in the relevant Fund to enable such payment to be made, recourse shall be had to the assets of the Company (if any) not comprised within any of the Funds and not (save as provided in the Act) to the assets comprised within any of the Funds;
- (ii) secondly, in the payment to the holders of the Subscriber Shares of sums up to the nominal amount paid thereon out of the assets of the Company not comprised within any Funds remaining after any recourse thereto under sub-paragraph (b)(i) above. In the event that there are insufficient assets aforesaid to enable such payment to be made, no recourse shall be had to the assets comprised within any of the Funds;
- (iii) thirdly, in the payment to the holders of each class of Shares of any asset remaining in the relevant Fund of any balance being made in proportion to the number of Shares held; and
- (iv) fourthly, in the payment to the holders of the Shares of any balance then remaining and not comprised within any of the Funds such payment being made in proportion to the value of each Fund and within each Fund to the value of each class and in proportion to the number of Shares held in each class.

#### 15.18 Material contracts

- (a) The following contracts, not being contracts entered into in the ordinary course of business, have been entered into by the Company and are, or may be, material. Save as set out below the Company had not entered into any other contract (not being a contract entered into in the ordinary course of business) which contains any provision under which the Company has any obligations or entitlements which is material to the Company as at the date of this Prospectus:
  - (i) the Management Agreement. The Management Agreement provides that the appointment of the Manager will continue in force unless and until terminated by either party giving to the other not less than 180 days' written notice although in certain circumstances, such as the insolvency of either party or an unremedied breach after notice, the Management Agreement may be terminated forthwith by notice in writing by either party to the other. The Management Agreement contains indemnities in favour of the Manager other than in respect of matters arising by reason of its fraud, bad faith, wilful default, recklessness or negligence in the performance of its duties and obligations, in which cases the Manager shall be liable;
  - (ii) the Depositary Agreement. The Depositary Agreement provides that the appointment of the Depositary will continue in force unless and until terminated by either party giving to the other not less than ninety days' notice in writing although in certain circumstances, such as the insolvency of either party or an unremedied breach after notice, the Depositary Agreement may be terminated forthwith provided that in every instance the termination of the Depositary's appointment shall not take effect until such time as a successor sepositary has been appointed and its appointment has been approved by the Central Bank. The Depositary Agreement contains indemnities in favour of the Depositary other than in respect of matters arising by reason of its unjustifiable failure to perform its obligations or its improper performance of its obligations, in which cases the Depositary shall be liable;

- (b) The following contracts, not being entered into in the ordinary course of its business, have been entered into by the Manager in relation to the Company and are, or may be, material:
  - (i) the Investment Management Agreement pursuant to which the Manager has appointed Assenagon Asset Management S.A. as an Investment Manager of certain Funds. The Agreement provides that the appointment of Assenagon Asset Management S.A. will continue in force unless and until terminated by either party giving to the other not less than ninety days' notice in writing although, in certain circumstances such as the insolvency of either party, Assenagon Asset Management S.A. ceasing to be permitted to act as an investment manager, or an unremedied breach after notice, the Agreement may be terminated forthwith by notice in writing by either party to the other. The Agreement contains indemnities in favour of Assenagon Asset Management S.A. other than in respect of matters arising out of the breach of the confirmations or undertakings made or by reason of its wilful default, fraud, bad faith or negligence in the performance of its duties and obligations;
  - (ii) the Investment Management Agreement pursuant to which the Manager has appointed Irish Life Investment Managers Limited as an Investment Manager of certain Funds. The Agreement provides that the appointment of Irish Life Investment Managers Limited will continue in force unless and until terminated by either party giving to the other not less than ninety days' notice in writing although, in certain circumstances such as the insolvency of either party, Irish Life Investment Managers Limited ceasing to be permitted to act as an investment manager, or an unremedied breach after notice, the Agreement may be terminated forthwith by notice in writing by either party to the other. The Agreement contains indemnities in favour of Irish Life Investment Managers Limited other than in respect of matters arising by reason of its wilful default, fraud, bad faith, negligence or recklessness in the performance of its duties and obligations;
  - (iii) the Administration Agreement pursuant to which the Manager has delegated to the Administrator its administration and transfer agency functions. The Administration Agreement provides that the appointment of the Administrator will continue in force unless and until terminated by either party giving to the other not less than ninety days' notice in writing although in certain circumstances, such as the insolvency of either party or an unremedied breach after notice, the Administration Agreement may be terminated forthwith by notice in writing by either party to the other. The Administration Agreement contains indemnities in favour of the Administrator other than in respect of matters arising by reason of its negligence, wilful default or fraud in the performance of its duties under the Administration Agreement, in which cases the Administrator shall be liable;
  - (iv) the Marketing and Support Services Agreement pursuant to which the Manager has delegated to the Marketing Agent the function of marketing Shares of the Company. The Marketing and Support Services Agreement provides that the appointment of the Marketing Agent will continue in force unless and until terminated by either party giving to the other not less than ninety days' notice in writing although in certain circumstances, such as the insolvency of either party or an unremedied breach after notice, the Marketing and Support Services Agreement may be terminated forthwith by notice in writing by either party to the other. The Marketing and Support Services Agreement contains indemnities in favour of the Marketing Agent other than in respect of matters arising by reason of its negligence, wilful default or fraud in the performance of its duties under the Marketing and Support Services Agreement, in which cases the Marketing Agent shall be liable.
  - (v) the Currency Management Agreement pursuant to which the Manager and the Investment Manager have appointed the Currency Manager for the purpose of implementing the currency hedging strategies for certain Funds. The Currency Management Agreement provides that the appointment of the Currency Manager will continue in force unless and until terminated by any party giving to the other parties not less than ninety days' notice in writing. The Manager and the Investment Manager may further terminate the Currency Management Agreement and the appointment of the Currency Manager effective immediately if at any time the Currency Manager shall no

longer be authorised by law to provide the services or implement the strategy as set out in the Currency Management Agreement. The Currency Manager shall not be liable to the Manager and the Investment Manager in the performance of its obligations under the Currency Management Agreement other than in respect of matters arising by reason of its negligence, wilful misconduct or fraud in the performance of its duties under the Currency Management Agreement, in which cases the Currency Manager shall be liable.

## 15.19 Litigation

The Company is not, nor has it been since its incorporation, involved in any governmental, legal or arbitration proceedings nor, so far as the Company is aware, are there any governmental, legal or arbitration proceedings, pending or threatened by or against, the Company which may have or have had since the Company's incorporation a significant effect on the Company's financial position or profitability.

#### 15.20 Commissions

Save as disclosed under the heading "Fees and Expenses" above, no commissions, discounts, brokerages or other special terms have been granted or are payable by the Company in connection with the issue or sale of any capital of the Company.

#### 15.21 Miscellaneous

The Company does not have as at the date of this Prospectus any loan capital (including term loans) outstanding or created but unissued, or any outstanding mortgages, charges, debentures or other borrowings or indebtedness in the nature of borrowings, including bank overdraft, liabilities under acceptances or acceptance credits, obligations under finance leases, hire purchase, commitments, guarantees or other contingent liabilities. The Company does not have, nor has it had since its incorporation, any employees. No Director has any interest direct or indirect in the promotion of the Company or in any assets which have been acquired or disposed of by or leased to the Company or are proposed to be acquired by, disposed of or leased to the Company, nor is there any contract or arrangement subsisting at the date of this document in which a Director is materially interested and which is unusual in its nature and conditions or significant in relation to the business of the Company. The Company has not and does not intend to purchase or acquire nor agree to purchase or acquire any property.

#### 15.22 UK Facilities Agent

The UK Facilities Agent is WisdomTree Europe Limited. It will maintain facilities at its UK address so that (i) any person may inspect and/or obtain (free of charge) a copy of this Prospectus, the KIIDs, the Company's latest annual and half-yearly reports and the Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Company's constitutional documents may be obtained at no more than a reasonable charge. This Prospectus, the KIIDs and the Company's latest annual and half-yearly reports will be supplied at no charge; (ii) investors can obtain information on prices of Shares, redeem Shares or arrange to redeem Shares and receive payments for redemptions; and (iii) any person may submit a complaint about the operation of the Company to be transmitted to the Manager by the UK Facilities Agent.

#### 15.23 Inspection of Documents

Copies of the following documents will be available for inspection at any time during normal business hours on any day (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays) and the documents listed at (i) and (iii) may be obtained free of charge, at the offices of the Manager in Dublin and, for investors in the United Kingdom, at the office of the UK Facilities Agent during normal business hours on any Business Day

- (i) the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company;
- (ii) the Prospectus;
- (iii) the Fund Supplements, if any;
- (iv) the KIIDs; and
- (v) the latest annual and semi-annual reports of the Company.

Additionally, the material contracts referred to under the heading "Material Contracts" shall be made available for inspection for a period of 14 Business Days from the date of this Prospectus at the addresses noted above.

#### APPENDIX I

#### **Stock Exchanges and Regulated Markets**

With the exception of permitted investment in unlisted securities and off-exchange FDI, investment in securities or FDI will be made only in securities or FDI which are listed or traded on stock exchanges and markets listed below in this Prospectus or any Supplement thereto or revision thereof. These stock exchanges and markets are listed in accordance with the Central Bank Requirements, it being noted that the Central Bank does not issue a list of approved markets and exchanges. The list is currently as follows:

- 1. Stock exchanges in any EU Member State, EEA Member State, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, New Zealand or the United States.
- 2. The following stock exchanges:-

Argentina the Bolsa de Comercio de Buenos Aires

the Mercado Abierto Electronico S.A.

Bangladesh the Dhaka Stock Exchange

the Chittagong Stock Exchange Limited

Brazil the BM&F BOVESPA S.A.
Chile the Bolsa Electronica de Chile

the Bolsa de Comercio de Santiago

the Bolsa de Valparaiso

China the Shanghai Stock Exchange

the Shenzhen Stock Exchange

Colombia the Bolsa de Valores de Colombia
Croatia the Zagreb Stock Exchange
Egypt the Egyptian Exchange
India the National Stock Exchange

the Bombay Stock Exchange Limited

Indonesia the Indonesia Stock Exchange Israel the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange Jordan the Amman Stock Exchange Kenva the Nairobi Securities Exchange

South Korea the Korea Exchange
Lebanon the Beirut Stock Exchange

Malaysia Securities Berhad

the Bursa Malaysia Derivatives Berhad

Mauritius the Stock Exchange of Mauritius Mexico the Bolsa Mexicana de Valores

the Mercado Mexicano de Derivados

Morocco the Bourse de Casablanca
Nigeria the Nigeria Stock Exchange
Pakistan the Karachi Stock Exchange
the Lahore Stock Exchange

the Islamabad Stock Exchange the Bolsa de Valores de Lima

Philippines Stock Exchange

Russia the Open Joint Stock Company Moscow Exchange

MICEX-RTS (MICEX-RTS)

Singapore the Singapore Exchange Limited

the CATLIST

South Africa the JSE Limited

the South African Futures Exchange

Sri Lanka the Colombo Stock Exchange
Thailand the Stock Exchange of Thailand

the Market for Alternative Investments

the Bond Electronic Exchange the Thailand Futures Exchange

Peru

Taiwan Stock Exchange

the GreTai Securities Market the Taiwan Futures Exchange

the Bourse des Valeurs Mobilieres de Tunis

Turkey the Istanbul Stock Exchange

the Turkish Derivatives Exchange

UAE – Abu Dhabi the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange UAE – Dubai the Dubai Financial Market (DFM)

the NASDAQ Dubai Limited

Uruguay the Bolsa de Valores de Montevideo

the Bolsa Electrónica de Valores del Uruguay SA

Venezuela the Bolsa de Valores de Caracas

The following regulated markets including regulated markets on which FDI may be traded:

- (a) the markets organised by the International Capital Market Association;
- (b) the market conducted by "listed money market institutions" as described in the Bank of England publication "The Regulation of the Wholesale Cash and OTC Derivatives Markets (in Sterling, foreign currency and bullion)";
- (c) AIM the Alternative Investment Market in the UK, regulated and operated by the LSE;
- (d) NASDAQ in the United States;

Tunisia

- (e) the market in US government securities conducted by primary dealers regulated by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York;
- (f) the over-the-counter market in the United States regulated by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority;
- (g) the over-the-counter market in the United States regulated by MarketAxess;
- (h) the over-the-counter market in the United States regulated by National Association Of Securities Dealers (NASD);
- (i) the French market for "Titres de Creance Negotiable" (over-the-counter market in negotiable debt instruments);
- (j) The Korea Exchange (Futures Market);
- (k) the over-the-counter market in Canadian Government Bonds, regulated by the Investment Industry Regulatory Organisation of Canada;
- (I) any approved derivative market within the European Economic Area on which FDI are traded.
- (m) EUROTLX (Multilateral Trading Facility);
- (n) HI MTF (Multilateral Trading Facility);
- (o) NASDAQ OMX Europe (NEURO) (Multilateral Trading Facility);
- (p) EURO MTF for securities (Multilateral Trading Facility);
- (q) MTS Austria (Multilateral Trading Facility);
- (r) MTS Belgium (Multilateral Trading Facility);
- (s) MTS France (Multilateral Trading Facility);
- (t) MTS Ireland (Multilateral Trading Facility);
- (u) NYSE Bondmatch (Multilateral Trading Facility);
- (v) POWERNEXT (Multilateral Trading Facility);
- (w) Tradegate AG (Multilateral Trading Facility).

#### APPENDIX II

#### Investment Techniques and Instruments for Efficient Portfolio Management/Direct Investment Purposes

#### A. Investment in FDI

The following provisions apply whenever a Fund proposes to engage in transactions in FDI including, but not limited to, futures, forwards, swaps, inflation swaps (which may be used to manage inflation risk), options, swaptions and warrants, where the transactions are for the purposes of the efficient portfolio management of any Fund or for direct investment purposes (and such intention is disclosed in the Fund's investment policy). Where it does intend to engage in transactions in relation to FDI, the Manager will employ a risk management process to enable it to manage, monitor and measure, on a continuous basis, the various risks associated with FDI and their contribution to the overall risk profile of a Fund's portfolio. Only FDI which have been included in the risk management process will be used. The Company will, on request, provide supplemental information to Shareholders relating to the risk management methods employed, including the quantitative limits that are applied and any recent developments in the risk and yield characteristics of the main categories of investment.

The conditions and limits for the use of such techniques and instruments in relation to each Fund are as follows:

Position exposure to the underlying assets of FDI, including embedded FDI in transferable securities or money market instruments, when combined where relevant with positions resulting from direct investments, may not exceed the investment limits set out in the Central Bank Requirements. (This provision does not apply in the case of index based FDI provided the underlying index is one which meets with the criteria set out in the Central Bank Requirements).

A Fund may invest in FDI dealt in OTC provided that the counterparties to OTC transactions are institutions subject to prudential supervision and belonging to categories approved by the Central Bank.

Investment in FDI are subject to the conditions and limits laid down by the Central Bank.

#### B. Efficient Portfolio Management - Other Techniques and Instruments

In addition to the investments in FDI noted above, the Company may employ other techniques and instruments relating to transferable securities and money market instruments for efficient portfolio management purposes subject to the conditions imposed by the Central Bank such as repurchase/ reverse repurchase agreements, ("repo contracts") and securities lending. Techniques and instruments which relate to transferable securities and money market instruments and which are used for the purpose of efficient portfolio management, including FDI which are not used for direct investment purposes, shall be understood as a reference to techniques and instruments which fulfil the following criteria:

- (a) they are economically appropriate in that they are realised in a cost-effective way;
- (b) they are entered into for one or more of the following specific aims:
  - (i) reduction of risk;
  - (ii) reduction of cost;
  - (iii) generation of additional capital or income for a Fund with a level of risk which is consistent with the risk profile of a Fund and the risk diversification rules stipulated under the Regulations and Central Bank Requirements.
- (c) their risks are adequately captured by the risk management process of a Fund; and
- (d) they cannot result in a change to a Fund's declared investment objectives or add substantial supplementary risks in comparison to the general risk policy as described in the sales documents.

Techniques and instruments (other than FDI) may be used for efficient portfolio management purposes subject to the conditions set out below.

The following applies to repo contracts and securities lending arrangements, in particular, and reflects the requirements of the Central Bank:

- 1. Repo contracts and securities lending may only be effected in accordance with normal market practice.
- 2. The Company must have the right to terminate any securities lending arrangement which it has entered into at any time or demand the return of any or all of the securities loaned.
- 3. Repo contracts or securities lending do not constitute borrowing or lending for the purposes of Regulation 103 and Regulation 111 respectively.
- 4. Where the Company enters into repo contracts, it must be able at any time to recall any securities subject to the repo contract or to terminate the repo contract into which it has entered. Fixed-term repo contracts that do not exceed seven days should be considered as arrangements on terms that allow the assets to be recalled at any time by the Company.

Where the Company enters into reverse repurchase agreements, it must be able at any time to recall the full amount of cash or to terminate the reverse repurchase agreement on either an accrued basis or a mark-to-market basis. When the cash is recallable at any time on a mark-to-market basis, the mark-to-market value of the reverse repurchase agreement should be used for the calculation of a Fund's Net Asset Value. Fixed-term reverse repurchase agreements that do not exceed seven days should be considered as arrangements on terms that allow the assets to be recalled at any time by the Company.

The Manager conducts credit assessments of counterparties to a repurchase/reverse repurchase agreement or securities lending arrangement. Where a counterparty is subject to a credit rating by an agency registered and supervised by the ESMA that rating shall be taken into account in the credit assessment process and where the counterparty is downgraded by the credit rating agency to A-2 or below (or comparable rating), a new credit assessment of the counterparty is conducted by the Manager without delay.

# C. Risks and potential conflicts of interest involved in efficient portfolio management techniques.

There are certain risks involved in efficient portfolio management activities and the management of collateral in relation to such activities (see further below). Please refer to the section of this Prospectus entitled "Risk Factors". These risks may expose investors to an increased risk of loss.

# D. Management of collateral for OTC financial derivative transactions and efficient portfolio management techniques

For the purposes of this section, "Relevant Institutions" refers to those institutions which are credit institutions authorised in the EEA or credit institutions authorised within a signatory state (other than an EEA Member State) to the Basle Capital Convergence Agreement of July 1988 or credit institutions authorised in Jersey, Guernsey, the Isle of Man, Australia or New Zealand.

Collateral obtained in respect of OTC financial derivative transactions and efficient portfolio management techniques ("Collateral"), such as a repo contract or securities lending arrangement, must comply with the following criteria:

<u>Liquidity</u>: Collateral (other than cash) should be highly liquid and traded on a Regulated Market or multi-lateral trading facility with transparent pricing in order that it can be sold quickly at a price that is close to its pre-sale valuation. Collateral should also comply with the provisions of Regulation 74 of the Regulations;

<u>Valuation:</u> Collateral should be valued on at least a daily basis at marked to market value and assets that exhibit high price volatility should not be accepted as collateral unless suitably conservative haircuts are in place;

Issuer credit quality: Collateral should be of high quality. The Manager will ensure that:

- (i) where the issuer was subject to a credit rating by an agency registered and supervised by ESMA that rating shall be taken into account by the Manager in the credit assessment process; and
- (ii) where an issuer is downgraded below the two highest short-term credit ratings by the credit rating agency referred to in subparagraph (i) immediately above this shall result in a new credit assessment being conducted of the issuer by the Manager without delay;

<u>Correlation:</u> Collateral should be issued by an entity that is independent from the counterparty. There must be a reasonable ground for the Manager to expect that it would not display a high correlation with the performance of the counterparty;

#### **Diversification**:

- (i) subject to subparagraph (ii) immediately below, collateral should be sufficiently diversified in terms of country, markets and issuers with a maximum exposure to a given issuer of 20% of a Fund's Net Asset Value. When a Fund is exposed to different counterparties, the different baskets of collateral should be aggregated to ensure exposure to a single issuer does not exceed 20% of Net Asset Value;
- (ii) a Fund may be fully collateralised in different transferable securities and money market instruments issued or guaranteed by a Member State, its local authorities, non-Member States or public international bodies of which one or more Member States are members provided such Fund receives securities from at least 6 different issues and securities from any single issue do not account for more than 30% of the relevant Fund's Net Asset Value. The Member States, local authorities, non-Member States or public international bodies issuing or guaranteeing securities that may be accepted as collateral for more than 20% of a Fund's Net Asset Value are identified in paragraph 2.12 of Appendix III; and

<u>Immediately available:</u> Collateral must be capable of being fully enforced by the Company at any time without reference to or approval from the counterparty.

Subject to the above criteria, Collateral must be in the form of one of the following:

- (a) cash;
- (b) government or other public securities;
- (c) certificates of deposit issued by Relevant Institutions;
- (d) bonds/commercial paper issued by Relevant Institutions or by non-bank issuers where the issue or the issuer are rated A1 or equivalent;
- (e) letters of credit with a residual maturity of three months or less, which are unconditional and irrevocable and which are issued by Relevant Institutions; and
- (f) equity securities traded on a stock exchange in the EEA, Switzerland, Canada, Japan, the United States, Jersey, Guernsey, the Isle of Man, Australia or New Zealand.

Until the expiry of the repo contract or securities lending arrangement, collateral obtained under such contracts or arrangements must be marked to market daily; and is intended to equal or exceed the value of the amount invested or securities loaned. Collateral must be held by the Depositary, or its agent (where there is title transfer). This is not applicable in the event that there is no title transfer in which case the Collateral can be held by a third party custodian which is subject to prudential supervision, and which is unrelated to the provider of the Collateral.

## Non-cash Collateral

Non- cash Collateral cannot be sold, re-invested or pledged.

### Cash Collateral

Cash as Collateral may only be:

- placed on deposit with Relevant Institutions;
- 2. invested in high quality government bonds;
- 3. used for the purpose of reverse repurchase agreements provided the transactions are with Relevant Institutions and the Company can recall at any time the full amount of the cash on an accrued basis; and
- 4. short-term money market funds as defined in the ESMA ("European Securities and Markets Authority") Guidelines on a Common Definition of European Money Market Funds (ref CESR/10-049).
- 5. re-invested cash Collateral should be diversified in accordance with the diversification requirements applicable to non-cash Collateral.

The Company has implemented a haircut policy in respect of each class of assets received as Collateral. A haircut is a discount applied to the value of a Collateral asset to account for the fact that its valuation, or liquidity profile, may deteriorate over time. The haircut policy takes account of the characteristics of the relevant asset class, including the credit standing of the issuer of the Collateral, the price volatility of the Collateral and the results of any stress tests which may be performed in accordance with the collateral management policy. Subject to the framework of agreements in place with the relevant counterparty, which may or may not include minimum transfer amounts, it is the intention of the Company that any Collateral received shall have a value, adjusted in light of the haircut policy, which equals or exceeds the relevant counterparty exposure where appropriate.

The risk exposures to a counterparty arising from OTC financial derivative transactions and efficient portfolio management techniques should be combined when calculating the counterparty risk limits set out in Appendix III, section 2.8.

## **APPENDIX III**

## **INVESTMENT AND BORROWING RESTRICTIONS**

Investment of the assets of the relevant Fund must comply with the Regulations. The Regulations provide:

1	Permitted Investments
	Investments of a Fund are confined to:
1.1	Transferable securities and money market instruments, as prescribed in the Central Bank Requirements, which are either admitted to official listing on a stock exchange in a Member State or non-Member State or which are dealt on a market which is regulated, operates regularly, is recognised and open to the public in a Member State or non-Member State.
1.2	Recently issued transferable securities which will be admitted to official listing on a stock exchange or other market (as described above) within a year.
1.3	Money market instruments other than those dealt on a regulated market.
1.4	Units of UCITS.
1.5	Units of non-UCITS as set out in the Central Bank's guidance entitled "UCITS Acceptable Investment in other Investment Funds".
1.6	Deposits with credit institutions as prescribed in the Central Bank Requirements.
1.7	FDI as prescribed in the Central Bank Requirements.
2	Investment Restrictions
2.1	Each Fund may invest no more than 10% of its Net Asset Value in transferable securities and money market instruments other than those referred to in paragraph 1.
2.2	Each Fund may invest no more than 10% of its Net Asset Value in recently issued transferable securities which will be admitted to official listing on a stock exchange or other market (as described in paragraph 1.1) within a year. This restriction will not apply in relation to investment by a Fund in certain US securities known as Rule 144A securities provided that:
	<ul> <li>the securities are issued with an undertaking to register with the US Securities and Exchanges Commission within one year of issue; and</li> <li>the securities are not illiquid securities i.e. they may be realised by the Fund within seven days at the price, or approximately at the price, at which they are valued by the Fund.</li> </ul>
2.3	Subject to paragraph 2.4, each Fund may invest no more than 10% of its Net Asset Value in transferable securities or money market instruments issued by the same body provided that the total value of transferable securities and money market instruments held in the issuing bodies in each of which it invests more than 5% is less than 40%.
2.4	Subject to the prior approval of the Central Bank, the limit of 10% (in 2.3) is raised to 25% in the case of bonds that are issued by a credit institution which has its registered office in a Member State and is subject by law to special public supervision designed to protect bondholders. If a Fund invests more than 5% of its Net Asset Value in these bonds issued by one issuer, the total value of these investments may not exceed 80% of the Net Asset Value of the Fund.
2.5	The limit of 10% (in 2.3) is raised to 35% if the transferable securities or money market instruments are issued or guaranteed by a Member State or its local authorities or by a non-Member State or public international body of which one or more Member States are members.
2.6	The transferable securities and money market instruments referred to in 2.4 and 2.5 shall not

be taken into account for the purpose of applying the limit of 40% referred to in 2.3.

**2.7** Each Fund may not invest more than 20% of its Net Asset Value in deposits made with the same credit institution.

Deposits with any one credit institution, other than

- a credit institution authorised in the EEA (a Member State, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein);
- a credit institution authorised within a signatory state (other than an EEA member state) to the Basle Capital Convergence Agreement of July 1988 (Switzerland, Canada, Japan, United States); or
- a credit institution authorised in Jersey, Guernsey, the Isle of Man, Australia or New Zealand;

held as ancillary liquidity, must not exceed 10% of its Net Asset Value.

This limit may be raised to 20% in the case of deposits made with the Depositary.

2.8 The risk exposure of a Fund to a counterparty to an OTC FDI may not exceed 5% of its Net Asset Value.

This limit is raised to 10% in the case of a credit institution authorised in the EEA; a credit institution authorised within a signatory state (other than an EEA member state) to the Basel Capital Convergence Agreement of July 1988; or a credit institution authorised in Jersey, Guernsey, the Isle of Man, Australia or New Zealand

- 2.9 Notwithstanding paragraphs 2.3, 2.7 and 2.8 above, a combination of two or more of the following issued by, or made or undertaken with, the same body may not exceed 20% of a Fund's Net Asset Value:
  - investments in transferable securities or money market instruments;
  - deposits, and/or
  - counterparty risk exposures arising from OTC FDI transactions.
- **2.10** The limits referred to in 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.7, 2.8 and 2.9 above may not be combined, so that exposure to a single body shall not exceed 35% of a Fund's Net Asset Value.
- 2.11 Group companies are regarded as a single issuer for the purposes of 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.7, 2.8 and 2.9. However, a limit of 20% of a Fund's Net Asset Value may be applied to investment in transferable securities and money market instruments within the same group.
- Each Fund may invest up to 100% of its Net Asset Value in different transferable securities and money market instruments issued or guaranteed by any Member State, its local authorities, non-Member States or public international body of which one or more Member States are members.

The individual issuers must be drawn from the following list: OECD Governments (provided the relevant issues are investment grade), Government of the People's Republic of China, Government of Brazil (provided the issues are of investment grade), Government of India (provided the issues are of investment grade), Government of Singapore, European Investment Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Finance Corporation, International Monetary Fund, Euratom, The Asian Development Bank, European Central Bank, Council of Europe, Eurofima, African Development Bank, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (The World Bank), The Inter American Development Bank, European Union, Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae), Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac), Government National Mortgage Association (Ginnie Mae), Student Loan Marketing Association (Sallie Mae), Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Tennessee Valley Authority and Straight-A Funding LLC.

Each Fund must hold securities from at least 6 different issues, with securities from any one

	issue not exceeding 30% of net assets.		
3	Investment in Collective Investment Schemes		
3.1	Subject to section 3.2, investments made by a Fund in units of other collective investment schemes may not exceed, in aggregate, 10% of the assets of the Fund.		
3.2	Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3.1, where the investment policy of a Fund states in the Prospectus or a Supplement that it may invest more than 10% of its assets in other UCITS or collective investment undertakings, the following restrictions shall apply instead of the restrictions set out at section 3.1 above:		
	(a) Each Fund may not invest more than 20% of its Net Asset Value in any one CIS.		
	(b) Investments in non-UCITS collective investment schemes may not, in aggregate, exceed 30% of its Net Asset Value.		
3.3	The collective investment schemes are prohibited from investing more than 10% of net assets in other open-ended CIS.		
3.4	When a Fund invests in the units of other collective investment schemes that are managed, directly or by delegation, by the Manager or by any other company with which the Manager is linked by common management or control, or by a substantial direct or indirect holding, that management company or other company may not charge subscription, switching or redemption fees on account of the Fund's investment in the units of such other CIS.		
3.5	Where a commission (including a rebated commission) is received by the Fund's manager/investment adviser by virtue of an investment in the units of another CIS, this commission must be paid into the property of the Fund.		
3.6	Where the investment policy of a Fund states that it may invest in other Funds of the Company the following restrictions will apply:		
	a Fund will not invest in another Fund of the Company which itself holds Shares in other Funds within the Company;		
	a Fund which invests in another Fund of the Company will not be subject to subscription, switching or redemption fees; and		
	the Manager will not charge a management fee to a Fund in respect of that portion of the Fund's assets invested in another Fund of the Company (this provision also applies to the annual fee charged by the Investment Manager where this fee is paid directly out of the assets of the Company).		
4	Index Tracking UCITS		
4.1	A Fund may invest up to 20% of its Net Asset Value in shares and/or debt securities issued by the same body where the investment policy of the Fund is to replicate an index which satisfies the criteria set out in the Central Bank Requirements and is recognised by the Central Bank.		
4.2	The limit in 4.1 may be raised to 35%, and applied to a single issuer, where this is justified by exceptional market conditions, for example, market dominance. Market dominance exists where a particular constituent of an Index has a dominant position in the particular market sector in which it operates and as such accounts for a large proportion of an Index.		
5	General Provisions		
5.1	An investment company, or management company acting in connection with all of the collective investment schemes it manages, may not acquire any shares carrying voting rights which would enable it to exercise significant influence over the management of an issuing		

body. 5.2 A UCITS may acquire no more than: 10% of the non-voting shares of any single issuing body: 10% of the debt securities of any single issuing body; (ii) 25% of the units of any single CIS; (iii) (iv) 10% of the money market instruments of any single issuing body. NOTE: The limits laid down in (ii), (iii) and (iv) above may be disregarded at the time of acquisition if at that time the gross amount of the debt securities or of the money market instruments, or the net amount of the securities in issue cannot be calculated. 5.3 5.1 and 5.2 shall not be applicable to: (i) transferable securities and money market instruments issued or guaranteed by a Member State or its local authorities: (ii) transferable securities and money market instruments issued or guaranteed by a non-Member State: (iii) transferable securities and money market instruments issued by public international bodies of which one or more Member States are members; (iv) shares held by a Fund in the capital of a company incorporated in a non-Member State which invests its assets mainly in the securities of issuing bodies having their registered offices in that State, where under the legislation of that State such a holding represents the only way in which the Fund can invest in the securities of issuing bodies of that State. This waiver is applicable only if in its investment policies the company from the non-Member State complies with the limits laid down in 2.3 to 2.11, 3.1, 3.2, 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 5.5 and 5.6, and provided that where these limits are exceeded, paragraphs 5.5 and 5.6 below are observed. (v) Shares held by an investment company or investment companies in the capital of subsidiary companies carrying on only the business of management, advice or marketing in the country where the subsidiary is located, in regard to the repurchase of units at unit-holders' request exclusively on their behalf. 5.4 A Fund need not comply with the investment restrictions herein when exercising subscription rights attaching to transferable securities or money market instruments which form part of their assets. 5.5 The Central Bank may allow recently authorised Funds to derogate from the provisions of 2.3 to 2.11, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1 and 4.2 for six months following the date of their authorisation, provided they observe the principle of risk spreading. 5.6 If the limits laid down herein are exceeded for reasons beyond the control of a Fund, or as a result of the exercise of subscription rights, the Fund must adopt as a priority objective for its sales transactions the remedying of that situation, taking due account of the interests of its Shareholders. 5.7 A Fund may not carry out uncovered sales of: transferable securities: money market instruments\*; units of CIS; or FDI. 5.8 A Fund may hold ancillary liquid assets. 6

\*Any short selling of money market instruments by UCITS is prohibited.

must not exceed its total Net Asset Value.

Any Fund's global exposure (as prescribed in the Central Bank Requirements) relating to FDI

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6.1

- Position exposure to the underlying assets of FDI, including embedded FDI in transferable securities or money market instruments, when combined where relevant with positions resulting from direct investments, may not exceed the investment limits set out in the Central Bank Requirements. (This provision does not apply in the case of index based FDI provided the underlying index is one which meets with the criteria set out in the Central Bank Requirements.)
- Any Fund may invest in FDI dealt in OTC provided that the counterparties to OTC transactions are institutions subject to prudential supervision and belonging to categories approved by the Central Bank.
- **6.4** Investment in FDI are subject to the conditions and limits laid down by the Central Bank.

#### **Borrowing Restrictions**

The Regulations provide that the Company in respect of each Fund:

- (a) may not borrow, other than borrowings which in the aggregate do not exceed 10% of the Net Asset Value of the Fund and provided that this borrowing is on a temporary basis. The Depositary may give a charge on the assets of the Fund in order to secure borrowings. Credit balances (e.g. cash) may not be offset against borrowings when determining the percentage of borrowings outstanding;
- (b) may acquire foreign currency by means of a back-to-back loan. Foreign currency obtained in this manner is not classed as borrowings for the purpose of the borrowing restriction in paragraph (a), provided that the offsetting deposit: (i) is denominated in the Base Currency of the Fund and (ii) equals or exceeds the value of the foreign currency loan outstanding. However, where foreign currency borrowings exceed the value of the back-to-back deposit, any excess is regarded as borrowing for the purposes of paragraph (a) above.

#### **APPENDIX IV**

#### **DEFINITION OF US PERSON AND RELATED INFORMATION**

THE MANAGER MAY AMEND THE DEFINITION OF "US PERSON" WITHOUT NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS AS NECESSARY IN ORDER BEST TO REFLECT THEN-CURRENT APPLICABLE LAW AND REGULATION. CONTACT YOUR SALES REPRESENTATIVE FOR A LIST OF PERSONS OR ENTITIES THAT ARE DEEMED TO BE A "US PERSON".

#### Information Related to Definition of US Person(s)

Each subscriber for Shares will be required to certify to the Company, among other things, that the Shares are not being acquired and will not at any time be held for the account or benefit, directly or indirectly, of any US Person (as defined below) or any non-US person subject to the restrictions described herein. Shareholders are required to notify the Company immediately of any change in such information. EACH APPLICANT FOR SHARES WILL BE REQUIRED TO VERIFY THAT IT IS NOT A US PERSON THAT IS PROHIBITED FROM OWNING SHARES IN THE COMPANY.

Each prospective Shareholder is urged to consult with its own advisors to determine the suitability of an investment in the Shares, and the relationship of such an investment to the purchaser's overall investment programme and financial and tax position. By subscribing for Shares, each purchaser of Shares represents that, after all necessary advice and analysis, its investment in the Company is suitable and appropriate, in light of the foregoing considerations.

ERISA PLANS AND PERSONS ACQUIRING SHARES WITH THE ASSETS OF AN ERISA PLAN MAY NOT PURCHASE SHARES IN THE FUNDS. THE TAX AND OTHER MATTERS DESCRIBED IN THIS PROSPECTUS DO NOT CONSTITUTE, AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AS, LEGAL OR TAX ADVICE TO PROSPECTIVE SHAREHOLDERS. THE SHARES HAVE NOT BEEN AND WILL NOT BE REGISTERED UNDER THE UNITED STATES SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED. THE COMPANY IS NOT AND WILL NOT BE REGISTERED UNDER THE US INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940, AS AMENDED.

## Definition of US Person(s)

A "US Person" is a person described in any the following paragraphs:

- 1. With respect to any person, any individual or entity that would be a US Person under Regulation S of the US Securities Act of 1933. The Regulation S definition is set forth below. Even if you are not considered a US Person under Regulation S, you can still be considered a "US Person" within the meaning of this Prospectus under Paragraphs 2, 3 and 4, below.
- 2. With respect to any person, any individual or entity that would be excluded from the definition of "Non-United States person" in Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") Rule 4.7. The definition of "Non-United States person" is set forth below.
- 3. With respect to individuals, any US citizen or "resident alien" within the meaning of US income tax laws as in effect from time to time. Currently, the term "resident alien" is defined under US income tax laws to generally include any individual who (i) holds an Alien Registration Card (a "green card") issued by the US Immigration and Naturalisation Service or (ii) meets a "substantial presence" test. The "substantial presence" test is generally met with respect to any current calendar year if (i) the individual was present in the US on at least 31 days during such year and (ii) the sum of the number of days on which such individual was present in the US during the current year, 1/3 of the number of such days during the first preceding year, and 1/6 of the number of such days during the second preceding year, equals or exceeds 183 days.
- 4. With respect to persons other than individuals, (i) a corporation or partnership created or organised in the United States or under the law of the United States or any state, (ii) a trust where (a) a US court is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and (b) one or more US persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust and (iii) an estate which is subject to US tax on its worldwide income from all sources.

#### Regulation S Definition of US Person

- 1. Pursuant to Regulation S of the US Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act"), "US Person" means:
  - (i) any natural person resident in the United States;
  - (ii) any partnership or corporation organised or incorporated under the laws of the United States:
  - (iii) any estate of which any executor or administrator is a US person;
  - (iv) any trust of which any trustee is a US person;
  - (v) any agency or branch of a foreign entity located in the United States:
  - (vi) any non-discretionary account or similar account (other than an estate or trust) held by a dealer or other fiduciary for the benefit or account of a US Person;
  - (vii) any discretionary account or similar account (other than an estate or trust) held by a dealer or other fiduciary organised, incorporated, or (if an individual) resident in the United States; or
  - (viii) any partnership or corporation if:
    - (A) organised or incorporated under the laws of any non-US jurisdiction; and
    - (B) formed by a US Person principally for the purpose of investing in securities not registered under the Act, unless it is organised or incorporated, and owned, by accredited investors (as defined in Rule 501(a) under the Act) who are not natural persons, estates or trusts.
- 2. Notwithstanding (1) above, any discretionary account or similar account (other than an estate or trust) held for the benefit or account of a non-US Person by a dealer or other professional fiduciary organised, incorporated, or (if an individual) resident in the United States shall not be deemed a "US Person".
- 3. Notwithstanding (1) above, any estate of which any professional fiduciary acting as executor or administrator is a US Person shall not be deemed a "US Person" if:
  - (i) an executor or administrator of the estate who is not a US Person has sole or shared investment discretion with respect to the assets of the estate; and
  - (ii) the estate is governed by non-US law.
- 4. Notwithstanding (1) above, any trust of which any professional fiduciary acting as trustee is a US Person shall not be deemed a "US Person" if a trustee who is not a US Person has sole or shared investment discretion with respect to the trust assets, and no beneficiary of the trust (and no settlor if the trust is revocable) is a US Person.
- 5. Notwithstanding (1) above, an employee benefit plan established and administered in accordance with the law of a country other than the United States and customary practices and documentation of such country shall not be deemed a "US Person".
- 6. Notwithstanding (1) above, any agency or branch of a US Person located outside the United States shall not be deemed a "US Person" if:
  - (i) the agency or branch operates for valid business reasons; and
  - (ii) the agency or branch is engaged in the business of insurance or banking and is subject to substantive insurance or banking regulation, respectively, in the jurisdiction where located.
- 7. The International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank, the United Nations, and their agencies, affiliates and pension plans, and any other similar international organisations, their agencies, affiliates and pension plans shall not be deemed "US Persons".

The Directors may amend the definition of "US Person" without notice to Shareholders as necessary in order best to reflect then-current applicable US law and regulation. Contact your sales representative for a list of persons or entities that are deemed to be "US Persons".

## <u>Definition of "Non-United States Person"</u>

CFTC Rule 4.7 currently provides in relevant part that the following persons are considered "Non-United States persons":

1. a natural person who is not a resident of the United States or an enclave of the US government, its agencies or instrumentalities;

- 2. a partnership, corporation or other entity, other than an entity organised principally for passive investment, organised under the laws of a non-US jurisdiction and which has its principal place of business in a non-US jurisdiction;
- 3. an estate or trust, the income of which is not subject to US income tax regardless of source;
- 4. an entity organised principally for passive investment such as a pool, investment company or other similar entity, provided, that units of participation in the entity held by persons who do not qualify as Non-United States persons or otherwise as qualified eligible persons (as defined in CFTC Rule 4.7(a)(2) or (3)) represent in the aggregate less than ten per cent. of the beneficial interest in the entity, and that such entity was not formed principally for the purpose of facilitating investment by persons who do not qualify as Non-United States persons in a pool with respect to which the operator is exempt from certain requirements of Part 4 of the CFTC's regulations by virtue of its participants being Non-United States persons; and
- 5. a pension plan for the employees, officers or principals of an entity organised and with its principal place of business outside the United States.

## **APPENDIX V**

## LIST OF DEPOSITARY SUB-DELEGATES

Austria	UniCredit Bank Austria
Belgium	Deutsche Bank AG, Netherlands
Brazil	Citibank N.A. – São Paulo Branch
Switzerland	UBS Switzerland AG
Chile	Banco Itau Chile
Czech Republic	Ceskoslovenska Obchodni Banka A.S.
Germany	Deutsche Bank AG, Investor Services
Germany	State Street Bank and Trust Company:
Denmark	Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken Denmark
Spain	Deutsche Bank SAE, Spain
Euroclear	Euroclear Bank
Finland	Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB (Publ) (SEB), Finland
France	Deutsche Bank AG, Netherlands
CREST	State Street Bank and Trust Company
Hong Kong	Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong)
Hungary	UniCredit Bank Hungary Zrt.
Indonesia	Deutsche Bank AG, Jakarta
India	The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, India
Italy	Deutsche Bank S.p.A. Investor Services, Italy
Japan	Mizuho Bank, Ltd. 4-16-13, Tsukishima, Chuo-ku, Tokyo,
Korea	Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited Seoul,
Mexico	Banco Nacional de México S.A.
Malaysia	Deutsche Bank (Malaysia)
Netherlands	Deutsche Bank AG, Netherlands
Norway	Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken Securities Services, Norway
Philippines	Deutsche Bank AG, Investor Services, Philippines
Poland	Bank Handlowy w Warszawie S.A. Poland
Portugal	Deutsche Bank AG, Netherlands
Sweden	Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken
Thailand	Standard Chartered Bank (Thai) Public Company Limited
Turkey	Citibank A.Ş., Tekfen Tower,
Taiwan	Deutsche Bank AG 296 Ren-ai Road Taipei
South Africa	Standard Bank of South Africa Limited