Joint consultation conclusions paper on annual update to the list of Financial Services Providers under the clearing obligation for OTC derivative transactions

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Comments and Conclusions to Annual Update to the FSP List	1
Concluding Remarks and Next Steps	2
Appendix A – List of Respondents	3
Appendix B – Updated List of Financial Services Providers	

Introduction

- 1. In March 2020, the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (**HKMA**) and the Securities and Futures Commission (**SFC**) issued a joint consultation paper (**Consultation Paper**) on the annual update to the list of Financial Services Providers (**FSP List**) under the clearing obligation for over-the-counter (**OTC**) derivative transactions¹.
- 2. The deadline for submitting comments on the update to the FSP List was 28 April 2020. We received a total of four submissions. A list of respondents is set out at Appendix A and the full text of their comments (unless requested to be withheld from publication) can be viewed on the websites of the HKMA and the SFC.
- 3. This consultation conclusions paper (**Conclusions Paper**) sets out the comments received and should be read together with the Consultation Paper.

Comments and Conclusions to Annual Update to the FSP List

- 4. In the Consultation Paper, we identified new proposed Financial Services Providers (**FSPs**) based on our criteria for determining whether an entity comes within the scope of an FSP², and taking a snapshot of entities falling under the FSP criteria as at the end of 2019.
- 5. In respect of GSIBs or G15-dealers member entities which are no longer clearing members of IRS CCPs, our approach is to keep them on the FSP List unless there is a permanent change in their business models on OTC derivatives. We received a submission that as part of a reorganisation relating to the provision of broker/dealer services within the Bank of America group in 2019, BofA Securities, Inc. now provides the institutional services previously provided by Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (MLPF&S). As a result, MLPF&S no longer enters into OTC derivative transactions with non-affiliated counterparties. As BofA Securities, Inc. has already been identified as a new FSP in this annual update, we will remove MLPF&S from the updated FSP List.

(a) They belong to a group of companies appearing on the list of global systemically important banks (**GSIBs**) published by the Financial Stability Board, or on the list of dealer groups which undertook to the OTC Derivatives Supervisors Group to work collaboratively with central counterparties, infrastructure providers and global supervisors to continue to make structural improvements to the global OTC derivatives markets (**G15-dealers**); and

The current clearing regime covers transactions between major dealers where at least one of them is a prescribed person (ie, an authorized institution, an approved money broker or a licensed corporation). Transactions in standardised interest rate swaps in G4 currencies (ie, US dollar, Euro, British pound and Japanese yen) and Hong Kong dollar between a prescribed person which has reached the prescribed clearing threshold and another major dealer which is not a prescribed person also have to be centrally cleared. To that end, the concept of Financial Services Providers was introduced to identify such major dealers outside of Hong Kong.

² The FSP List includes entities that meet the following two criteria –

⁽b) They are members of the largest central counterparties offering clearing for interest rate swaps in the US, Europe, Japan and Hong Kong (IRS CCPs).

6. Other than the above, we did not receive any other objection to our proposed FSP List. The final proposed FSP List is set out at Appendix B.

Concluding Remarks and Next Steps

- 7. We take this opportunity to thank everyone who took the time and effort to comment and assist us in the annual update to the FSP List.
- 8. Following our current approach for the annual update, we will gazette the updated FSP List at Appendix B during the fourth quarter of 2020 for implementation on 1 January 2021.
- 9. We will continue to maintain close dialogue with the industry as we consult on other proposals regarding the OTC derivatives regulatory regime in the future.

Appendix A – List of Respondents

(in alphabetical order)

Respondents whose comments are published on the websites of the HKMA and the SFC in full

- 1. DTC Association, The
- 2. Hong Kong Association of Banks, The
- 3. Hong Kong Bar Association, The

Respondents who requested their full comments to be withheld

4. Bank of America

Appendix B – Updated List of Financial Services Providers

The following entities are proposed to be designated as Financial Services Providers for the purposes of the Clearing Rules.

Name of the entities

(in alphabetical order)

- 1. Agricultural Bank of China Limited
- 2. Banco Santander S.A.
- 3. Bank of America Merrill Lynch International Designated Activity Company
- 4. Bank of America, N.A.
- 5. Bank of China (UK) Ltd
- 6. Banque Palatine S.A.
- 7. Barclays Bank Ireland Plc
- 8. Barclays Bank PLC
- Barclays Bank UK PLC
- 10. Barclays Capital Inc.
- 11. BNP Paribas Fortis SA/NV
- 12. BNP Paribas SA
- 13. BNP Paribas Securities Corp.
- BofA Securities Europe SA
- 15. BofA Securities, Inc.
- 16. CACEIS Bank SA
- 17. Citibank Europe Plc
- 18. Citibank, N.A.
- 19. Citigroup Global Markets Europe AG
- 20. Citigroup Global Markets Inc.
- 21. Citigroup Global Markets Japan Inc.
- 22. Citigroup Global Markets Limited
- 23. Credit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank
- 24. Credit Foncier de France
- 25. Credit Suisse AG
- 26. Credit Suisse International
- 27. Credit Suisse (Schweiz) AG
- 28. Credit Suisse Securities (Japan) Limited
- 29. Credit Suisse Securities Sociedad de Valores, S.A.
- 30. Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC
- DB Privat- und Firmenkundenbank AG
- Deutsche Bank AG
- 33. Deutsche Bank Securities Inc.
- 34. Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC
- 35. Goldman Sachs Bank Europe SE
- 36. Goldman Sachs Bank USA
- 37. Goldman Sachs Financial Markets Pty Ltd
- 38. Goldman Sachs International
- 39. Goldman Sachs Japan Co., Ltd.
- 40. HSBC Bank plc
- 41. HSBC Bank USA, N.A.
- 42. HSBC France
- 43. HSBC Securities (USA) Inc.
- 44. HSBC UK Bank plc

- 45. ING Bank N.V.
- 46. ING Bank Slaski S.A.
- 47. ING-DiBa AG
- 48. J.P. Morgan AG
- 49. J.P. Morgan Securities LLC
- 50. J.P. Morgan Securities plc
- 51. JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
- 52. JPMorgan Securities Japan Co., Ltd.
- 53. Merrill Lynch Capital Services Inc.
- 54. Merrill Lynch International
- 55. Merrill Lynch Japan Securities Co., Ltd.
- 56. Mitsubishi UFJ Morgan Stanley Securities Co., Ltd.
- 57. Mizuho Bank, Ltd.
- 58. Mizuho Capital Markets LLC
- 59. Mizuho International plc
- 60. Mizuho Securities USA LLC
- 61. Morgan Stanley & Co. International plc
- 62. Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC
- 63. Morgan Stanley Capital Services LLC
- 64. Morgan Stanley Europe SE
- 65. Morgan Stanley MUFG Securities Co., Ltd.
- 66. MUFG Bank, Ltd.
- 67. MUFG Securities EMEA plc
- 68. National Westminster Bank Plc
- 69. NATIXIS
- 70. NatWest Markets N.V.
- 71. NatWest Markets plc
- 72. Nomura Financial Products & Services, Inc.
- 73. Nomura Global Financial Products, Inc.
- 74. Nomura International plc
- 75. Nomura Securities Co., Ltd.
- 76. Nomura Securities International, Inc.
- 77. Nordea Bank Abp
- 78. RBC Capital Markets, LLC
- 79. RBC Europe Limited
- 80. Royal Bank of Canada
- 81. Santander Financial Services Plc
- 82. Santander Investment Securities Inc.
- 83. SG Americas Securities LLC
- 84. SMBC Capital Markets Inc.
- 85. SMBC Nikko Securities Inc.
- 86. Societe Generale
- 87. Societe Generale International Limited
- 88. Standard Chartered Bank
- 89. Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation
- 90. Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Limited
- 91. TD Bank, N.A.
- 92. TD Bank USA, N.A.
- 93. The Bank of New York Mellon
- 94. The Toronto-Dominion Bank
- 95. UBS AG
- 96. UBS Europe SE
- 97. UBS Securities LLC
- 98. UBS Switzerland AG

- UniCredit Bank AG 99.
- 100. UniCredit Bank Austria AG

- 101. UniCredit S.p.A.
 102. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
 103. Wells Fargo Securities, LLC