



# SMA Relationship Trust

Supplement to the Statement of Additional Information | July 23, 2024

**Includes:**

- Series M

Dear Investor,

The purpose of this supplement is to update the information in the Statement of Additional Information, dated April 29, 2024, for Series M (the "Fund"), a series of SMA Relationship Trust<sup>SM</sup> (the "Trust"), as follows:

Oleg Morodokhin and Lisa DiPaolo no longer serve as portfolio managers for the Fund, and Marc Weisi is added as a portfolio manager for the Fund. Ryan Nugent will continue to serve as a portfolio manager for the Fund.

**Therefore, in the SAI under the heading "Investment advisory, administration, principal underwriting and other service arrangements" and the sub-heading "Portfolio managers," the information for Oleg Morodokhin and Lisa DiPaolo is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:**

| Portfolio manager<br>(Funds managed) | Registered<br>investment companies |                                    | Other pooled<br>investment vehicles |                                    | Other accounts |                                    |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
|                                      | Number                             | Assets<br>managed<br>(in millions) | Number                              | Assets<br>managed<br>(in millions) | Number         | Assets<br>managed<br>(in millions) |
| <b>Marc Weisi*</b><br>(Series M)     | 0                                  | \$0                                | 0                                   | \$0                                | 7,284          | \$16,000                           |

\* Mr. Weisi became a portfolio manager of the Fund in July 2024. Information is as of July 15, 2024.

**In addition, the following is added as the last sentence in the SAI under the heading "Investment advisory, administration, principal underwriting and other service arrangements" and the sub-heading "Portfolio managers":**

As of July 15, 2024, Mr. Weisi did not own shares in the Fund.

**PLEASE BE SURE TO RETAIN THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.**



# Series M (SRTMX)

Statement of Additional Information | April 29, 2024

One North Wacker Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Series M (the "Fund") is a series of SMA Relationship Trust<sup>SM</sup> (the "Trust").

UBS Asset Management (Americas) LLC ("UBS AM" or the "Advisor"), an indirect asset management subsidiary of UBS Group AG, serves as the investment advisor and administrator for the Fund. UBS Asset Management (US) Inc. ("UBS AM (US)"), an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of UBS Group AG, serves as the principal underwriter of the Fund.

Portions of the annual report to shareholders of the Fund are incorporated by reference into this Statement of Additional Information ("SAI"). You may obtain additional copies of the Fund's Annual Report without charge by calling toll-free 1-800-647 1568.

This SAI is not a prospectus and should be read only in conjunction with the Fund's current Prospectus, dated April 29, 2024. A copy of the Prospectus may be obtained by calling toll-free 1-800-647 1568. The Prospectus contains more complete information about the Fund. You should read it carefully before investing.

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SMA Relationship Trust<sup>SM</sup> and SMA\*RT Shares are service marks of UBS Group AG.

## The Fund and its investment policies

The Fund is classified as “non-diversified” for purposes of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), which means the Fund is not limited by the 1940 Act with regard to the portion of its assets that may be invested in the securities of a single issuer. To the extent that a non-diversified fund makes investments in excess of 5% of its total assets in the securities of a particular issuer, its exposure to the risks associated with that issuer is increased. Because a non-diversified fund may invest in a limited number of issuers, the performance of particular securities may adversely affect the performance of the fund or subject the fund to greater price volatility than that experienced by diversified investment companies. The Trust is an open-end management investment company that was organized as a Delaware statutory trust under Delaware law on December 3, 2002.

The Fund’s investment objective may not be changed without shareholder approval. Except where noted, the other investment policies of the Fund may be changed by the board of trustees of the Trust (the “Board”) without shareholder approval. There are no assurances that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

The Fund’s investment objective is to achieve total return consisting of capital appreciation and current income exempt from federal income tax. The Fund seeks to invest substantially all of its net assets in municipal bonds. Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets (plus borrowings for investment purposes, if any) in securities that pay income exempt from federal income tax.

The Fund normally invests at least 65% of its total assets in investment grade municipal bonds. The Fund may invest up to 10% of its total assets in municipal bonds that are not investment grade. The Fund may not invest more than 10% of its total assets in inverse floaters and may not invest more than 5% of its total assets in uninsured “non-appropriation” municipal lease obligations. There is no percentage limitation on the Fund’s ability to invest in other municipal lease obligations. The Fund may also invest in Treasury securities. The Fund may (but is not required to) use interest rate futures contracts, Treasury futures and other derivatives to help manage its portfolio duration. The Fund may purchase securities on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis.

## Investment strategies

The following discussion of investment techniques and instruments supplements and should be read in conjunction with the investment objective and policies set forth in the Fund’s Prospectus. The investment practices described below, except for the discussion of percentage limitations with respect to portfolio loan transactions and borrowing, are not fundamental and may be changed by the Board without the approval of the shareholders.

Where a particular type of security or investment technique is not discussed in the Fund’s Prospectus, that security or investment technique is not a principal investment strategy. The Fund’s transactions in a particular type of security or use of a particular technique is subject to limitations imposed by the Fund’s investment objective, policies and restrictions described in the Fund’s Prospectus and/or this SAI, as well as the federal securities laws. The Fund might not invest in all of these types of securities or use all of these techniques at any one time. The Board may, in the future, authorize the Fund to invest in securities other than those listed in this SAI and in the Prospectus, provided such investment would be consistent with the Fund’s investment objective and that it would not violate any fundamental investment policies or restrictions applicable to the Fund.

### **Cash and cash equivalents**

The Fund may invest a portion of its assets in short-term debt securities (including repurchase agreements and reverse repurchase agreements) of US corporations, US government and their agencies and instrumentalities and US banks and finance companies. The Fund may also invest a portion of its assets in shares issued by money market mutual funds.

Unless otherwise noted in its Prospectus or this SAI, the short-term debt securities in which the Fund may invest include demand notes, bank instruments, commercial paper and floating rate instruments. Demand notes are securities issued with a maturity date but callable for repayment by the lender or the borrower at a predetermined interval. Bank instruments in which the Fund may invest include bank loan participations, bank holding company commercial paper, deposits, bank notes and other bank related securities. Bank loan participations are loans sold by lending banks to investors. Bank holding company commercial paper is a form of short-term promissory note that is a direct obligation of a bank holding company. Deposits are obligations of a bank or its branches. Corporate commercial paper is a form of short-term promissory note issued by corporations primarily to finance short-term credit needs. Rates vary according to the credit standing of the issuers and money market conditions. Floating rate instruments are obligations with various final maturities and interest rates that are tied to other assorted market indices. The Fund will not invest more than 15% of the value of its net assets in floating or variable rate demand obligations as to which it cannot exercise the demand feature on not more than seven days' notice if there is no secondary market available for these obligations in which the Fund reasonably expects such securities can be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven days or less without significantly changing the value of the investment.

When the Advisor believes that market or other conditions warrant a defensive posture and that there are not enough suitable municipal bonds available, the Fund may temporarily and without percentage limitation hold cash and invest in money market instruments that pay taxable interest, including repurchase agreements. If the Fund holds cash, the cash would not earn income and would reduce the Fund's yield. When the Fund invests for defensive purposes, it may affect the attainment of its investment objective.

The SEC adopted changes to the rules that govern SEC registered money market funds in July 2023 that may affect the investment strategies, performance, yield, operating expenses and continued viability of money market funds in which the Fund invests.

Pursuant to the rules and regulations under the 1940 Act and any exemptive orders issued thereunder, the Fund may invest cash: (i) held for temporary defensive purposes; (ii) not invested pending investment in securities; (iii) that is set aside to cover an obligation or commitment of the Fund to purchase securities or other assets at a later date; and (iv) to be invested on a strategic management basis in one or more money market funds or other pooled investment vehicles, including other funds sponsored by UBS AM (US).

### **Borrowing**

The Fund may borrow money for temporary emergency or extraordinary purposes or to facilitate redemptions. The Fund will not borrow money in excess of 33⅓% of the value of its total assets (including amounts borrowed, but reduced by any liabilities not constituting senior securities). Any borrowing will be done from a bank with the required asset coverage of at least 300%. In the event that such asset coverage shall at any time fall below 300%, the Fund shall, within three days thereafter (not including Sundays or holidays), or such longer period as the US Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") may prescribe by rules and regulations, reduce the amount of its borrowings to such an extent that the asset coverage of such borrowings shall be at least 300%.

### **Repurchase agreements**

The Fund does not intend to enter into repurchase agreements, except as a temporary measure and under unusual circumstances, because repurchase agreements generate taxable income. The Fund is, however, authorized to enter into repurchase agreements with US banks and dealers with respect to any obligation issued or guaranteed by the US government, its agencies or instrumentalities, and also with respect to commercial paper, bank certificates of deposit and bankers' acceptances.

When the Fund enters into a repurchase agreement, it purchases securities from a bank or broker-dealer that simultaneously agrees to repurchase the securities at a mutually agreed upon time and price or upon demand, thereby

determining the yield during the term of the agreement. As a result, a repurchase agreement provides a fixed rate of return insulated from market fluctuations during the term of the agreement. The term of a repurchase agreement generally is short, possibly overnight or for a few days, although it may extend over a number of months (up to one year) from the date of delivery. Repurchase agreements are considered under the 1940 Act to be collateralized loans by the Fund to the seller secured by the securities transferred to the Fund. In accordance with the 1940 Act, repurchase agreements will be fully collateralized and the collateral will be marked-to-market daily. The Fund considers a repurchase agreement having more than seven days remaining to maturity an illiquid investment and will not enter into such repurchase agreement if, as a result, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments that are assets.

Repurchase agreements are securities, and may be treated as "Government Securities" as defined in the 1940 Act, if fully collateralized with such securities, for purposes of the tax diversification requirements that must be met for the Fund to qualify for pass-through treatment under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). Accordingly, the Fund will limit the value of its repurchase agreements on each of the quarterly testing dates to ensure compliance with Subchapter M of the Code.

### **Reverse repurchase agreements**

Reverse repurchase agreements involve sales of portfolio securities of the Fund to member banks of the Federal Reserve System or securities dealers believed creditworthy, concurrently with an agreement by the Fund to repurchase the same securities at a later date at a fixed price which is generally equal to the original sales price plus interest. The Fund retains record ownership and the right to receive interest and principal payments on the portfolio securities involved.

A reverse repurchase agreement involves the risk that the market value of the securities retained by the Fund may decline below the price of the securities the Fund has sold but is obligated to repurchase under the agreement. In the event the buyer of securities under a reverse repurchase agreement files for bankruptcy or becomes insolvent, the Fund's use of the proceeds of the agreement may be restricted pending a determination by the other party, or its trustee or receiver, whether to enforce the Fund's obligation to repurchase the securities.

### **Loans of portfolio securities**

The Fund may lend portfolio securities to qualified broker-dealers and financial institutions pursuant to agreements, provided the following conditions are satisfied: (1) the loan is secured continuously by collateral marked-to-market daily as described below; (2) the Fund may call the loan at any time and receive the securities loaned; (3) the Fund will receive any interest, dividends or other distributions paid on the loaned securities; and (4) the aggregate market value of securities loaned will not at any time exceed 33⅓% of the market value of the Fund's total assets. However, as a non-fundamental policy, the Fund may not enter into a securities loan if, after giving effect thereto, portfolio securities having a value in excess of 30% of the market value of the Fund's total assets would be subject to securities loans.

When loaning portfolio securities, the Fund will initially require the borrower to provide the Fund with collateral in an amount at least equal to 102% of the market value of the loaned securities with respect to domestic securities or 105% of the market value of the loaned securities with respect to foreign securities provided that loans of "Government Securities" as defined in the 1940 Act may be collateralized at 100%. Thereafter, collateral will generally be maintained in an amount at least equal to 102% of the value of the securities loaned with respect to domestic securities, 105% of the value of the securities loaned with respect to foreign securities or 100% of the value of the securities loaned with respect to "Government Securities." Occasionally, for certain securities, the market value of the collateral may fall below the collateral amount stated above by a *de minimis* amount for a period of time. However, at no time will the market value of the collateral fall below the market value of the loaned securities with respect to domestic securities or 102% of the value of the loaned securities with respect to foreign securities.

Collateral may consist of cash or “Government Securities” as defined in the 1940 Act. Pursuant to rules and regulations under the 1940 Act, under normal conditions, the Fund invests cash collateral from securities lending activities into a money market fund. In addition, cash collateral may be invested in repurchase agreements.

In the case that voting or consent rights that accompany a loaned security pass to the borrower, the Fund will recall the loaned security, if reasonably practicable, to permit the exercise of such rights if the matter involved would have a material effect on the Fund’s investment in the security.

Loans of securities involve a risk that the borrower may fail to return the securities or may fail to maintain the proper amount of collateral, which may result in a loss of money by the Fund or a delay in recovering the loaned securities. In addition, in the event of bankruptcy of the borrower, the Fund could experience delays in recovering the loaned securities or only recover cash or a security of equivalent value. Therefore, the Fund will only enter into portfolio loans after a review of all pertinent factors by the Advisor under the supervision of the Board, including the creditworthiness of the borrower and then only if the consideration to be received from such loans would justify the risk. Creditworthiness will be monitored on an ongoing basis by the Advisor.

#### **Non-publicly traded securities, private placements and restricted securities**

The Fund may invest in securities that are neither listed on a stock exchange nor traded over-the-counter (“OTC”), including privately placed securities and limited partnerships. Investing in unregistered or unlisted securities, including investments in new and early stage companies, may involve a high degree of business and financial risk that can result in substantial losses. As a result of the absence of a public trading market for these securities, they may be less liquid than publicly traded securities. Although these securities may be resold in privately negotiated transactions, the prices realized from these sales could be less than those originally paid by the Fund, or less than what may be considered the fair value of such securities. Furthermore, companies whose securities are not publicly traded may not be subject to the disclosure and other investor protection requirements that would be applicable if their securities were publicly traded. If such securities are required to be registered under the securities laws of one or more jurisdictions before being resold, the Fund may be required to bear the expense of registration. Non-publicly traded securities, private placements and restricted securities classified as illiquid after reasonable inquiry and taking into account relevant market, trading, and investment-specific considerations will be limited by the Fund’s prohibition on investing more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments.

#### **Illiquid investments**

The term “illiquid investments” includes any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment, as classified by the Fund and as determined pursuant to the 1940 Act and applicable rules and regulations thereunder. In classifying investments as illiquid, the Fund will use information obtained after reasonable inquiry and take into account relevant market, trading, and investment-specific considerations, as well as applicable Commission guidance. The Fund reviews liquidity classifications at least monthly, and more frequently if changes in relevant market, trading, and investment-specific considerations are reasonably expected to materially affect one or more of its investments’ classifications.

The Fund may not be able to readily liquidate its investments in illiquid investments and may have to sell other investments if necessary to raise cash to meet its obligations. The lack of a liquid secondary market for illiquid investments may make it more difficult for the Fund to assign a value to those securities for purposes of valuing its portfolio and calculating its net asset value. The Advisor monitors the liquidity of investments in the Fund’s portfolio and reports periodically on liquidity decisions to the Board. The Fund may not acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments that are assets.

In making determinations as to the liquidity of municipal lease obligations for the Fund, the Advisor will distinguish between direct investments in municipal lease obligations (or participations therein) and investments in securities that may be supported by municipal lease obligations or certificates of participation therein. Because these municipal lease obligation-backed securities are based on a well-established means of securitization, the Advisor does not believe that investing in such securities presents the same liquidity issues as direct investments in municipal lease obligations.

#### **Rule 144A**

The Fund may invest in securities that are exempt under Rule 144A from the registration requirements of the 1933 Act. Those securities purchased under Rule 144A are traded among qualified institutional buyers.

The Fund will classify the liquidity of a security exempt under Rule 144A using information obtained after reasonable inquiry and taking into account relevant market, trading, and investment-specific considerations. The restricted nature of a Rule 144A security is one factor considered by the Fund in evaluating the liquidity of a Rule 144A security. The Fund reviews liquidity classifications of a Rule 144A security at least monthly, and more frequently if changes in relevant market, trading, and investment-specific considerations are reasonably expected to materially affect one or more of its investments' classifications.

Investing in securities under Rule 144A could have the effect of increasing the level of the Fund's illiquidity to the extent that qualified institutional buyers become, for a time, uninterested in purchasing these securities. After the purchase of a security under Rule 144A, however, the Trust and the Advisor will continue to monitor the liquidity of that security to ensure that the Fund has no more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments.

The Fund will limit investments in securities of issuers which the Fund is restricted from selling to the public without registration under the 1933 Act to no more than 15% of the Fund's net assets, excluding restricted securities eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A that have been determined to be liquid pursuant to a policy and procedures adopted by the Trust, on behalf of the Fund, which include continuing oversight by the Board.

If the Advisor determines that a security purchased in reliance on Rule 144A that was previously determined to be liquid, is no longer liquid and, as a result, the Fund's holdings of illiquid investments exceed the Fund's 15% limit on investment in such securities, the Advisor will determine what action shall be taken to ensure that the Fund continues to adhere to such limitation, including disposing of illiquid investments, which may include such Rule 144A securities.

#### **Investment company securities and investments in affiliated investment companies**

Subject to the provisions of any rules and regulations under the 1940 Act or exemptive orders issued thereunder, securities of other investment companies may be acquired by the Fund to the extent that such purchases are consistent with the Fund's investment objective and restrictions and are permitted under the 1940 Act. Section 12(d)(1) of the 1940 Act requires that, as determined immediately after a purchase is made, (i) not more than 5% of the value of the Fund's total assets will be invested in the securities of any one investment company, (ii) not more than 10% of the value of the Fund's total assets will be invested in securities of investment companies as a group, and (iii) not more than 3% of the outstanding voting stock of any one investment company will be owned by the Fund. Certain exceptions to these limitations may apply. As a shareholder of another investment company, the Fund would bear, along with other shareholders, its pro rata portion of the other investment company's expenses, including advisory fees. These expenses would be in addition to the expenses that the Fund would bear in connection with its own operations.

The Fund may invest in securities issued by other registered investment companies advised by the Advisor beyond the above percentage maximums pursuant to rules promulgated by the SEC and/or exemptive relief granted by the SEC to the extent that the Advisor determines that such investments are a more efficient means for the Fund to gain exposure to certain asset classes than by the Fund investing directly in individual securities. The Fund may only



invest in portfolios of other affiliated investment companies to the extent that the asset class exposure in such portfolios is consistent with the permissible asset class exposure for the Fund, had the Fund invested directly in securities, and the portfolios of such investment companies are subject to similar risks and limitations as the Fund.

Rule 12d1-4 allows a fund to acquire the securities of another investment company in excess of the limitations imposed by Section 12 without obtaining an exemptive order from the SEC, subject to certain limitations and conditions. Among those conditions is the requirement that, prior to a fund relying on Rule 12d1-4 to acquire securities of another fund in excess of the limits of Section 12(d)(1), the acquiring fund must enter into a Fund of Funds Agreement with the acquired fund, unless the acquiring fund's investment adviser acts as the acquired fund's investment adviser and does not act as sub-adviser to either fund.

Rule 12d1-4 also is designed to limit the use of complex fund structures. Under Rule 12d1-4, an acquired fund is prohibited from purchasing or otherwise acquiring the securities of another investment company or private fund if, immediately after the purchase, the securities of investment companies and private funds owned by the acquired fund have an aggregate value in excess of 10% of the value of the acquired fund's total assets, subject to certain limited exceptions. Accordingly, to the extent the Fund's shares are sold to other investment companies in reliance on Rule 12d1-4, the Fund will be limited in the amount it could invest in other investment companies and private funds.

In addition to Rule 12d1-4, the 1940 Act and related rules provide certain other exemptions from these restrictions.

### **Exchange-traded funds ("ETFs")**

Subject to the limitations on investments in investment company securities and its own investment objective, the Fund may invest in securities of ETFs. Generally, ETFs hold portfolios of securities, commodities and/or currencies that are designed to replicate, as closely as possible before expenses, the performance of a specified market index. The performance results of ETFs will not replicate exactly the performance of the pertinent index due to transaction and other expenses, including fees to service providers, borne by ETFs. Furthermore, there can be no assurance that the portfolio of securities, commodities and/or currencies purchased by an ETF will replicate a particular index. Some ETFs are actively managed and instead of replicating, they seek to outperform a particular index or basket or price of a commodity or currency. The Fund may invest in ETFs that are currently operational and that may be developed in the future.

ETFs usually trade on stock exchanges and generally bear certain operational expenses. To the extent the Fund invests in securities of ETFs, the Fund must bear these expenses in addition to the expenses of its own operation.

Investments in ETFs are subject to a variety of risks, including all of the risks of a direct investment in the underlying securities that the ETF holds. For example, the general level of stock prices may decline, thereby adversely affecting the value of the underlying investments of the ETF and, consequently, the value of the ETF. In addition, the market value of the ETF shares may differ from their net asset value because the supply and demand in the market for ETF shares at any point in time is not always identical to the supply and demand in the market for the underlying securities. Also, ETFs that track particular indexes typically will be unable to match the performance of the index exactly due to the ETF's operating expenses and transaction costs.

Unless permitted by the 1940 Act or an order or rule issued by the SEC, the Fund's investments in unaffiliated ETFs that are structured as investment companies as defined in the 1940 Act are subject to the percentage limitations of the 1940 Act regarding investments in other investment companies.

### **Fixed income securities**

The Fund may invest in various types of fixed income securities of US issuers, as described in this SAI, including, but not limited to, governments and governmental entities and supranational issuers as well as corporations and other issuers. The Fund may purchase US securities that reflect a broad range of investment securities, qualities and sectors. The Fund may invest in municipal bonds, municipal lease obligations, industrial development bonds ("IDBs"),

private activity bonds (“PABs”) and floating rate and variable rate obligations. In addition, the Fund may invest in inverse floaters and other debt securities described in this SAI. The Fund may invest in US Treasury Securities, which include bills, notes, bonds, and other debt securities issued by the US Treasury. These are direct obligations of the US government and differ mainly in the length of their maturities. Other US government securities in which the Fund may invest may be backed by the full faith and credit of the US government or supported primarily or solely by the creditworthiness of the government-related issuer.

Securities issued by agencies and instrumentalities of the US government that are supported by the full faith and credit of the United States, such as securities issued by the Federal Housing Administration and Ginnie Mae (formally known as Government National Mortgage Association or GNMA), present little credit risk but are not free of credit risk. Other securities issued by agencies and instrumentalities sponsored by the US government that are supported only by the issuer’s right to borrow from the US Treasury, subject to certain limitations, such as securities issued by Federal Home Loan Banks, and securities issued by agencies and instrumentalities sponsored by the US government that are supported only by the credit of the issuing agencies are subject to a greater degree of credit risk.

Political events within the United States at times have resulted, and may in the future result, in a shutdown of government services, which could negatively affect the US economy, decrease the value of Fund investments, and increase uncertainty in or impair the operation of the US or other securities markets. Any controversy or ongoing uncertainty regarding the status of negotiations in the US Congress to increase the statutory debt ceiling could increase the risk that the US government may default on payments on certain US government securities, including those held by the Fund, which could have a material adverse impact on the Fund. In recent years, the long-term US credit rating was downgraded by at least one major rating agency as a result of disagreements within the US government over raising the debt ceiling to repay outstanding obligations, and similar situations in the future could increase volatility in both stock and bond markets, result in higher interest rates, lower prices of US Treasury securities and increase the costs of different kinds of debt. It is at least theoretically possible that under certain scenarios the US government could default on its debt, including US Treasuries. The Advisor cannot predict the effects of these or similar events in the future on the US economy and securities markets or on the Fund’s portfolio.

The Advisor considers investment grade securities to include: (i) securities with a minimum rating of Baa3 by Moody’s Investor Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”) or BBB- by S&P Global Ratings (“S&P”) or Fitch Ratings, Inc. (“Fitch”), comparably rated by another nationally recognized statistical rating organization (“NRSRO”), (ii) securities with comparable short-term NRSRO ratings, or (iii) unrated securities determined by the Advisor to be of comparable quality, each at the time of purchase. The descriptions of debt securities ratings may be found in Appendix A.

### **Yield factors**

The yield on a bond depends on a variety of factors, including general municipal or fixed income security market conditions, the financial condition of the issuer, the size of the particular offering, the maturity, credit quality and rating of the issue and/or expectations regarding changes in tax rates. The Fund may invest in bonds with a broad range of maturities, based on the Advisor’s judgment of current and future market conditions as well as other factors, such as the Fund’s liquidity needs. Generally, the longer the maturity of a bond, the higher the rate of interest paid and the greater the volatility.

### **Duration**

Duration is a measure of the expected life of a bond on a present value basis. Duration incorporates the bond’s yield, coupon interest payments, final maturity and call features into one measure and is one of the fundamental tools used by the Advisor in portfolio selection and yield curve positioning for the Fund’s bond investments. Duration was developed as a more precise alternative to the concept of “term to maturity.” Traditionally, a bond’s “term to maturity” has been used as a proxy for the sensitivity of the security’s price to changes in interest rates (which is

the “interest rate risk” or “volatility” of the security). However, “term to maturity” measures only the time until the scheduled final payment on the bond, taking no account of the pattern of payments prior to maturity.

Duration takes the length of the time intervals between the present time and the time that the interest and principal payments are scheduled or, in the case of a callable bond, expected to be made, and weights them by the present values of the cash to be received at each future point in time. For any bond with interest payments occurring prior to the payment of principal, duration is always less than maturity. For example, depending on its coupon and the level of market yields, a Treasury note with a remaining maturity of five years might have a duration of 4.5 years. For mortgage-backed and other securities that are subject to prepayments, put or call features or adjustable coupons, the difference between the remaining stated maturity and the duration is likely to be much greater.

Duration allows the Advisor to make certain predictions as to the effect that changes in the level of interest rates will have on the value of the Fund’s portfolio of bonds. For example, when the level of interest rates increases by 1%, a bond having a positive duration of three years generally will decrease by approximately 3%. Thus, if the Advisor calculates the duration of the Fund’s portfolio of bonds as three years, it normally would expect the portfolio to change in value by approximately 3% for every 1% change in the level of interest rates. However, various factors, such as changes in anticipated prepayment rates, qualitative considerations and market supply and demand, can cause particular securities to respond somewhat differently to changes in interest rates than indicated in the above example. Moreover, in the case of mortgage-backed and other complex securities, duration calculations are estimates and are not precise. This is particularly true during periods of market volatility. Accordingly, the net asset value of the Fund’s portfolio of bonds may vary in relation to interest rates by a greater or lesser percentage than indicated by the above example.

Futures, options and options on futures have durations that, in general, are closely related to the duration of the securities that underlie them. Holding long futures or call option positions will lengthen portfolio duration by approximately the same amount as would holding an equivalent amount of the underlying securities. Short futures or put options have durations roughly equal to the negative duration of the securities that underlie these positions and have the effect of reducing portfolio duration by approximately the same amount as would selling an equivalent amount of the underlying securities.

There are some situations in which the standard duration calculation does not properly reflect the interest rate exposure of a security. For example, floating and variable rate securities often have final maturities of ten or more years; however, their interest rate exposure corresponds to the frequency of the coupon reset. Another example where the interest rate exposure is not properly captured by the standard duration calculation is the case of mortgage-backed securities. The stated final maturity of such securities is generally 30 years, but current prepayment rates are critical in determining the securities’ interest rate exposure. In these and other similar situations, the Advisor will use more sophisticated analytical techniques that incorporate the economic life of a security into the determination of its duration and, therefore, its interest rate exposure.

### **Low or negative interest rates**

In a low or negative interest rate environment, debt instruments may trade at negative yields, which means the purchaser of the instrument may receive at maturity less than the total amount invested. In addition, in a negative interest rate environment, if a bank charges negative interest, instead of receiving interest on deposits, a depositor must pay the bank fees to keep money with the bank. To the extent the Fund holds a negatively-yielding debt instrument or has a bank deposit with a negative interest rate, the Fund would generate a negative return on that investment.

In the past, certain European countries and Japan have pursued negative interest rate policies, and there is the possibility that negative interest rate policies might be pursued in the United States at some point in the future. In a low or negative interest rate environment, some investors may seek to reallocate assets to other income-producing

assets, such as investment-grade and higher-yield debt instruments, or equity investments that pay a dividend, absent other market risks that may make such alternative investments unattractive. This increased demand for higher yielding assets may cause the price of such instruments to rise while triggering a corresponding decrease in yield over time, thus reducing the value of such alternative investments. In addition, a move to higher yielding investments may cause investors, including the Fund (to the extent permitted by its investment objective and strategies), to seek fixed-income investments with longer maturities and/or potentially reduced credit quality in order to seek the desired level of yield. These considerations may limit the Fund's ability to locate fixed-income instruments containing the desired risk/return profile.

### **Lower-rated debt securities**

The Fund may invest a portion of its assets in municipal securities that are rated below investment grade. Fixed income securities rated Ba1 or lower by Moody's or BB+ or lower by S&P or Fitch, comparably rated by another NRSRO, or, if unrated, are determined to be of comparable quality by the Advisor are below investment grade and are considered to be of poor standing and predominantly speculative. Such securities ("lower rated securities") are commonly referred to as "junk bonds" and are subject to a substantial degree of credit risk.

The non-investment grade municipal bonds in which the Fund may invest may be rated Ba, B or MIG-3 by Moody's; BB, B or SP-3 by S&P; or BB or B by Fitch, have an equivalent rating from another rating agency, or, if unrated, are determined by the Advisor to be of comparable quality.

Credit ratings attempt to evaluate the safety of principal and interest payments, but they do not evaluate the volatility of a bond's value or its liquidity and do not guarantee the performance of the issuer. Rating agencies may fail to make timely changes in credit ratings in response to subsequent events, so that an issuer's current financial condition may be better or worse than the rating indicates. There is a risk that rating agencies may downgrade a bond's rating. Subsequent to a bond's purchase by the Fund, it may cease to be rated or its rating may be reduced below the minimum rating required for purchase by the Fund. The Fund may use these ratings in determining whether to purchase, sell or hold a security. It should be emphasized, however, that ratings are general and are not absolute standards of quality. Consequently, bonds with the same maturity, interest rate and rating may have different market prices.

Lower rated securities may be issued as a consequence of corporate restructurings, such as leveraged buy-outs, mergers, acquisitions, debt recapitalizations or similar events. Also, lower rated securities are often issued by smaller, less creditworthy issuers or by highly leveraged (indebted) issuers, which are generally less able than more financially stable firms to make scheduled payments of interest and principal. The risks posed by securities issued under such circumstances are substantial.

In the past, the high yields from lower rated securities have more than compensated for the higher default rates on such securities. However, there can be no assurance that diversification will protect the Fund from widespread bond defaults brought about by a sustained economic downturn, or that yields will continue to offset default rates on lower rated securities in the future. Issuers of these securities are often highly leveraged, so that their ability to service their debt obligations during an economic downturn or during sustained periods of rising interest rates may be impaired. In addition, such issuers may not have more traditional methods of financing available to them and may be unable to repay debt at maturity by refinancing. The risk of loss due to default by the issuer is significantly greater for the holders of lower rated securities because such securities may be unsecured and may be subordinated to other creditors of the issuer. Further, an economic recession may result in default levels with respect to such securities in excess of historic averages.

The value of lower rated securities will be influenced not only by changing interest rates, but also by the bond market's perception of credit quality and the outlook for economic growth. When economic conditions appear to be deteriorating, lower rated securities may decline in market value due to investors' heightened concern over credit quality, regardless of prevailing interest rates.

Especially at such times, trading in the secondary market for lower rated securities may become thin and market liquidity may be significantly reduced. Even under normal conditions, the market for lower rated securities may be less liquid than the market for investment grade corporate bonds. There are fewer securities dealers in the high yield market and purchasers of lower rated securities are concentrated among a smaller group of securities dealers and institutional investors. In periods of reduced market liquidity, lower rated securities prices may become more volatile and the Fund's ability to dispose of particular issues when necessary to meet the Fund's liquidity needs or in response to a specific economic event such as a deterioration in the creditworthiness of the issuer may be adversely affected.

Lower rated securities frequently have call or redemption features that would permit an issuer to repurchase the security from the Fund. If a call were exercised by the issuer during a period of declining interest rates, the Fund likely would have to replace such called security with a lower yielding security, thus decreasing the net investment income to the Fund and any dividends to investors.

Besides credit and liquidity concerns, prices for lower rated securities may be affected by legislative and regulatory developments. For example, from time to time, Congress has considered legislation to restrict or eliminate the corporate tax deduction for interest payments or to regulate corporate restructurings such as takeovers or mergers. Such legislation may significantly depress the prices of outstanding lower rated securities. A description of various corporate debt and municipal bond ratings appears in Appendix A to this SAI.

### **Development bank bonds**

The Fund may invest in development bank bonds. Development banks are financial organizations formed by government entities to promote economic and social development. Development banks generally use their capital for projects that seek to improve the state of the developing world, promote sustainable growth, and raise living standards. The value of the Fund's investments in bonds issued by development banks may fall due to adverse financial market developments in the US and abroad. Borrowers from development banks include foreign countries, which may include emerging market countries, and borrowers of specific development banks also include the private sector with or without government guarantee. Therefore, negative economic, social and political developments could affect the ability of a borrower to repay its loan to the development bank and thus affect its financial condition. In addition, investments in such development bank bonds may involve special risks because the Fund may have limited legal recourse in the event of default. Also, development bank bonds may sometimes be less liquid and more difficult to sell and to value than high-quality securities of US issuers. Bonds issued by a development bank are backed by the shareholders of the development bank. The development bank may be supported via various mechanisms, including preferred creditor status, equity injections by its shareholders, and callable capital, even though the latter may have never been tested with respect to an issuer. Changes in the shareholder structure of a development bank or changes in the strength of the support by its shareholders could affect the credit rating and thus the value of the bonds issued by the development bank.

### **Municipal securities**

The Fund may invest in debt securities issued by states or local governments and their agencies, authorities and other government-sponsored enterprises. These securities include bonds and similar securities issued by or on behalf of the states, territories and possessions of the United States (including the District of Columbia) and their political subdivisions, agencies and instrumentalities, some of which are exempt from federal income tax. The two principal classifications of municipal bonds are "general obligation" and "revenue" bonds. General obligation bonds are secured by the issuer's pledge of its full faith, credit and taxing power for the payment of principal and interest. Revenue bonds are payable only from the revenues derived from a particular facility or class of facilities or, in some cases, from the proceeds of a special excise tax or other specific revenue source, such as from the user of the facility being financed. Municipal bonds also include "moral obligation" bonds, which are normally issued by special purpose authorities. For these bonds, a government unit is regarded as morally obligated to support payment of the

debt service, which is usually subject to annual budget appropriations. Various types of municipal bonds are described in the following sections.

Municipal securities may be more susceptible to downgrade, default, and bankruptcy as a result of recent periods of economic stress. Factors contributing to the economic stress on municipalities may include: lower property tax collections as a result of lower home values, lower sales tax revenue as a result of reduced consumer spending, lower income tax revenue as a result of higher unemployment rates, and budgetary constraints of local, state and federal governments upon which the municipalities may be relying for funding. Further, an insolvent municipality may file for bankruptcy, which may significantly affect the value of the securities issued by the municipality and therefore the value of a fund's investment.

Municipal securities are also subject to the risk that the perceived increase in the likelihood of default or downgrade among municipal issuers as a result of recent market conditions could result in increased illiquidity, volatility and credit risk. In addition, certain municipal issuers may either be unable to issue bonds or to access the market to sell securities or, if able to access the market, may be forced to issue securities at much higher rates. These events could result in decreased investment opportunities for a fund and lower investment performance.

### **Municipal lease obligations**

The Fund may invest in municipal lease obligations. Municipal bonds include municipal lease obligations, such as leases, installment purchase contracts and conditional sales contracts, and certificates of participation therein. Municipal lease obligations are issued by state and local governments and authorities to purchase land or various types of equipment or facilities and may be subject to annual budget appropriations. The Fund generally invests in municipal lease obligations through certificates of participation.

Although municipal lease obligations do not constitute general obligations of the municipality for which its taxing power is pledged, they ordinarily are backed by the municipality's covenant to budget for, appropriate and make the payments due, under the lease obligation. The leases underlying certain municipal lease obligations, however, provide that lease payments are subject to partial or full abatement if, because of material damage or destruction of the leased property, there is substantial interference with the lessee's use or occupancy of such property. This "abatement risk" may be reduced by the existence of insurance covering the leased property, the maintenance by the lessee of reserve funds or the provision of credit enhancements, such as letters of credit.

Certain municipal lease obligations contain "non-appropriation" clauses, which provide that the municipality has no obligation to make lease or installment purchase payments in future years unless money is appropriated for such purpose on a yearly basis. Some municipal lease obligations of this type are insured as to timely payment of principal and interest, even in the event of a failure by the municipality to appropriate sufficient funds to make payments under the lease. However, in the case of an uninsured municipal lease obligation, the Fund's ability to recover under the lease in the event of a non-appropriation or default will be limited solely to the repossession of leased property without recourse to the general credit of the lessee, and disposition of the property in the event of foreclosure might prove difficult.

### **Industrial development bonds and private activity bonds**

The Fund may invest in IDBs and PABs. IDBs and PABs are issued by or on behalf of public authorities to finance various privately operated facilities, such as airport or pollution control facilities. These obligations are considered municipal bonds if the interest paid thereon is exempt from federal income tax in the opinion of the bond issuer's counsel. IDBs and PABs are in most cases revenue bonds and thus are not payable from the unrestricted revenues of the issuer. The credit quality of IDBs and PABs is usually directly related to the credit standing of the user of the facilities being financed. IDBs issued after August 15, 1986 generally are considered PABs, and to the extent the Fund invests in such PABs, shareholders generally will be required to include a portion of their exempt-interest dividends



from the Fund in calculating their liability for the federal alternative minimum tax ("AMT"). See "Taxes" below. The Fund may invest up to 20% of its net assets in IDBs and PABs.

### **Floating rate and variable rate obligations**

The Fund may invest in floating rate and variable rate obligations. These include variable rate demand obligations ("VRDOs"), which are municipal bonds that bear interest at rates that are not fixed, but that vary with changes in specified market rates or indices. The interest rate on floating rate or variable rate securities ordinarily is readjusted on the basis of the prime rate of the bank that originated the financing or some other index or published rate, such as the 90-day US Treasury bill rate, or is otherwise reset to reflect market rates of interest. Generally, these interest rate adjustments cause the market value of floating rate and variable rate securities to fluctuate less than the market value of fixed rate obligations. Accordingly, as interest rates decrease or increase, the potential for capital appreciation or capital depreciation is less than for fixed rate obligations. VRDOs typically permit the holder to demand payment of principal from the issuer or remarketing agent at par value prior to maturity and may permit the issuer to prepay principal, plus accrued interest, at its discretion after a specified notice period. Frequently, VRDOs and/or the demand features thereon are secured by letters of credit or other credit support arrangements provided by banks or other financial institutions, the credit standing of which affects the credit quality of the obligations. Changes in the credit quality of these institutions could cause losses to the Fund and adversely affect its share price.

### **Build America Bonds**

The Fund's investment in municipal securities also may include Build America Bonds. Build America Bonds are taxable municipal obligations issued pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (the "ARRA Act"). The ARRA Act authorizes state and local governments to issue taxable bonds on which, assuming certain specified conditions are satisfied, issuers may either (i) receive reimbursement from the US Treasury with respect to its interest payments on the bonds ("direct pay" Build America Bonds) or (ii) provide tax credits to investors in the bonds ("tax credit" Build America Bonds). Unlike most other municipal obligations, interest received on Build America Bonds is subject to federal income tax and may be subject to state income tax. Under the terms of the ARRA Act, issuers of direct pay Build America Bonds are entitled to receive reimbursement from the US Treasury currently equal to 35% (or 45% in the case of Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds) of the interest paid. Holders of tax credit Build America Bonds can receive a federal tax credit currently equal to 35% of the coupon interest received. The Fund may invest in "principal only" strips of tax credit Build America Bonds, which entitle the holder to receive par value of such bonds if held to maturity. The Fund does not expect to receive (or pass through to shareholders) tax credits as a result of its investments. The federal interest subsidy or tax credit continues for the life of the bonds. Pursuant to the ARRA Act, the issuance of Build America Bonds was discontinued on December 31, 2010.

### **When-issued and delayed delivery securities**

The Fund may purchase securities offered on a "when-issued" or "delayed delivery" basis. The Fund may also sell securities on a "delayed delivery" basis. When so offered, the price, which is generally expressed in yield terms, is fixed at the time the commitment to purchase is made, but delivery and payment for the when-issued or delayed delivery securities take place at a later date. During the period between purchase and settlement, no payment is made by the purchaser to the issuer and no interest on the when-issued or delayed delivery security accrues to the purchaser. While when-issued or delayed delivery securities may be sold prior to the settlement date, it is intended that the Fund will purchase such securities with the purpose of actually acquiring them unless a sale appears desirable for investment reasons. At the time the Fund makes the commitment to purchase a security on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis, it will record the transaction and reflect the value of the security in determining its net asset value. The market value of when-issued or delayed delivery securities may be more or less than the purchase price. The Advisor does not believe that the Fund's net asset value or income will be adversely affected by its purchase of securities on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis.

When-issued and delayed-delivery transactions also are subject to the risk that a counterparty may become bankrupt or otherwise fail to perform its obligations due to financial difficulties, including making payments to the Fund.

The Fund may obtain no or only limited recovery in a bankruptcy or other organizational proceedings, and any recovery may be significantly delayed.

### **Zero coupon and delayed interest securities**

The Fund may invest in zero coupon or delayed interest securities, which pay no cash income until maturity or a specified date when the securities begin paying current interest (the "cash payment date") and are sold at substantial discounts from their value at maturity. When held to maturity or cash payment date, the entire income of such securities, which consists of accretion of discount, comes from the difference between the purchase price and the securities' value at maturity or cash payment date. The discount varies depending on the time remaining until maturity or cash payment date, prevailing interest rates, liquidity of the security and the perceived credit quality of the issuer. The discount, in the absence of financial difficulties of the issuer, decreases as the final maturity or cash payment date of the security approaches. The market prices of zero coupon and delayed interest securities are generally more volatile and more likely to respond to changes in interest rates than the market prices of securities having similar maturities and credit qualities that pay interest periodically.

Zero coupon securities are subject to greater market value fluctuations from changing interest rates than debt obligations of comparable maturities that make current distributions of interest (cash). Zero coupon convertible securities offer the opportunity for capital appreciation as increases (or decreases) in market value of such securities closely follow the movements in the market value of the underlying common stock. Zero coupon convertible securities generally are expected to be less volatile than the underlying common stocks, as they usually are issued with short maturities (15 years or less) and are issued with options and/or redemption features exercisable by the holder of the obligation entitling the holder to redeem the obligation and receive a defined cash payment.

Zero coupon securities include securities issued directly by the US Treasury, and US Treasury bonds or notes and their unmatured interest coupons and receipts for their underlying principal ("coupons") that have been separated by their holder, typically a custodian bank or investment brokerage firm. A holder will separate the interest coupons from the underlying principal (the "corpus") of the US Treasury security. A number of securities firms and banks have stripped the interest coupons and receipts and then resold them in custodial receipt programs with a number of different names, including "Treasury Income Growth Receipts" ("TIGRS") and Certificate of Accrual on Treasuries ("CATS"). The underlying US Treasury bonds and notes themselves are held in book-entry form at the Federal Reserve Bank or, in the case of bearer securities (i.e., unregistered securities that are owned ostensibly by the bearer or holder thereof), in trust on behalf of the owners thereof. Counsel to the underwriters of these certificates or other evidences of ownership of the US Treasury securities has stated that for federal tax and securities purposes, in its opinion, purchasers of such certificates, such as the Fund, most likely will be deemed the beneficial holder of the underlying US government securities.

The US Treasury has facilitated transfers of ownership of zero coupon securities by accounting separately for the beneficial ownership of particular interest coupon and corpus payments on Treasury securities through the Federal Reserve book-entry record-keeping system. The Federal Reserve program as established by the US Treasury Department is known as "STRIPS" or "Separate Trading of Registered Interest and Principal of Securities." Under the STRIPS program, the Fund will be able to have its beneficial ownership of zero coupon securities recorded directly in the book-entry record-keeping system in lieu of having to hold certificates or other evidences of ownership of the underlying US Treasury securities.

When US Treasury obligations have been stripped of their unmatured interest coupons by the holder, the principal or corpus is sold at a deep discount because the buyer receives only the right to receive a future fixed payment on the security and does not receive any rights to periodic interest (cash) payments. Once stripped or separated, the corpus and coupons may be sold separately. Typically, the coupons are sold separately or grouped with other coupons with like maturity dates and sold in such bundled form. Purchasers of stripped obligations acquire, in effect, discount obligations that are economically identical to the zero coupon securities that the US Treasury sells



itself. These stripped securities are also treated as zero coupon securities with original issue discount for tax purposes.

### **Demand features**

A demand feature gives the Fund the right to sell the securities to a specified party, usually a remarketing agent, on a specified date. A demand feature is often backed by a letter of credit from a bank or a guarantee or other liquidity support arrangement from a bank or other financial institution. As discussed under "Participation Interests" below, to the extent that payment of an obligation is backed by a letter of credit, guarantee or other liquidity support that may be drawn upon demand, such payment may be subject to that institution's ability to satisfy that commitment.

### **Participation interests**

Participation interests are interests in municipal bonds, including IDBs, PABs and floating and variable rate obligations, that are owned by banks. These interests carry a demand feature permitting the holder to tender them back to the bank, which demand feature generally is backed by an irrevocable letter of credit or guarantee of the bank. The credit standing of such bank affects the credit quality of the participation interests.

A participation interest gives the Fund an undivided interest in a municipal bond owned by a bank. The Fund has the right to sell the instruments back to the bank. Such right generally is backed by the bank's irrevocable letter of credit or guarantee and permits the Fund to draw on the letter of credit on demand, after specified notice, for all or any part of the principal amount of the Fund's participation interest plus accrued interest. Generally, the Fund expects to exercise the demand under the letters of credit or other guarantees (1) upon a default under the terms of the underlying bond, (2) to maintain the Fund's portfolio in accordance with its investment objective and policies, or (3) as needed to provide liquidity to the Fund in order to meet redemption requests. The ability of a bank to fulfill its obligations under a letter of credit or guarantee might be affected by possible financial difficulties of its borrowers, adverse interest rate or economic conditions, regulatory limitations or other factors. The Advisor seeks to monitor the pricing, quality and liquidity of the participation interests held by the Fund, and the credit standing of banks issuing letters of credit or guarantees supporting such participation interests, on the basis of published financial information, reports of rating services and bank analytical services.

### **Tender option bonds**

Tender option bonds are long-term municipal bonds sold by a bank subject to a "tender option" that gives the purchaser the right to tender them to the bank at par plus accrued interest at designated times (the "tender option"). The tender option may be exercisable at intervals ranging from biweekly to semiannually, and the interest rate on the bonds is typically reset at the end of the applicable interval in an attempt to cause the bonds to have a market value that approximates their par value. The tender option generally would not be exercisable in the event of a default on, or significant downgrading of, the underlying municipal bonds. Therefore, the Fund's ability to exercise the tender option will be affected by the credit standing of both the bank involved and the issuer of the underlying securities.

### **Put bonds**

A put bond is a municipal bond that gives the holder the unconditional right to sell the bond back to the issuer or a remarketing agent at a specified price and exercise date, which is typically well in advance of the bond's maturity date. The obligation to purchase the bond on the exercise date may be supported by a letter of credit or other credit support arrangement from a bank, insurance company or other financial institution, the credit standing of which affects the credit quality of the obligation.

If the put is a "one time only" put, the Fund ordinarily will either sell the bond or put the bond, depending upon the more favorable price. If the bond has a series of puts after the first put, the bond will be held as long as, in the judgment of the Advisor, it is in the best interest of the Fund to do so. There is no assurance that the issuer of a put

bond acquired by the Fund will be able to repurchase the bond upon the exercise date, if the Fund chooses to exercise its right to put the bond back to the issuer.

### **Tax-exempt commercial paper and short-term municipal notes**

Municipal bonds include tax-exempt commercial paper and short-term municipal notes, such as tax anticipation notes, bond anticipation notes, revenue anticipation notes and other forms of short-term loans. Such notes are issued with a short-term maturity in anticipation of the receipt of tax funds, the proceeds of bond placements and other revenues.

### **Inverse floaters**

The Fund may invest in municipal bonds on which the rate of interest varies inversely with interest rates on other municipal bonds or an index. Such obligations include components of securities on which interest is paid in two separate parts—an auction component, which pays interest at a market rate that is set periodically through an auction process or other method, and a residual component, or “inverse floater,” which pays interest at a rate equal to the difference between the rate that the issuer would have paid on a fixed-rate obligation at the time of issuance and the rate paid on the auction component. The market value of an inverse floater will be more volatile than that of a fixed-rate obligation and, like most debt obligations, will vary inversely with changes in interest rates. Because of the market volatility associated with inverse floaters, the Fund will not invest more than 10% of its total assets in inverse floaters.

Because the interest rate paid to holders of inverse floaters is generally determined by subtracting the interest rate paid to holders of auction components from a fixed amount, the interest rate paid to holders of inverse floaters will decrease as market rates increase and increase as market rates decrease. Moreover, the extent of the increases and decreases in the market value of inverse floaters may be larger than comparable changes in the market value of an equal principal amount of a fixed rate municipal bond having similar credit quality, redemption provisions and maturity. In a declining interest rate environment, inverse floaters can provide the Fund with a means of increasing or maintaining the level of tax-exempt interest paid to shareholders.

### **Mortgage subsidy bonds**

The Fund also may purchase mortgage subsidy bonds that are normally issued by special purpose public authorities. In some cases, the repayment of such bonds depends upon annual legislative appropriations; in other cases, repayment is a legal obligation of the issuer and, if the issuer is unable to meet its obligations, repayment becomes a moral commitment of a related government unit (subject, however, to such appropriations). The types of municipal bonds identified above and in the Prospectus may include obligations of issuers whose revenues are primarily derived from mortgage loans on housing projects for moderate to low income families.

### **Opinions as to validity of municipal bonds**

Opinions relating to the validity of municipal bonds and to the exemption of interest thereon from federal income tax and (when available) from the AMT are rendered by bond counsel to the respective issuing authorities at the time of issuance. Neither the Fund nor the Advisor reviews the proceedings relating to the issuance of municipal bonds or the basis for such opinions. An issuer's obligations under its municipal bonds are subject to the bankruptcy, insolvency and other laws affecting the rights and remedies of creditors (such as the federal bankruptcy laws) and federal, state and local laws that may be enacted that adversely affect the tax-exempt status of interest on the municipal bonds held by the Fund or the exempt-interest dividends received by the Fund's shareholders, extend the time for payment of principal or interest, or both, or impose other constraints upon enforcement of such obligations. There is also the possibility that, as a result of litigation or other conditions, the power or ability of issuers to meet their obligations for the payment of principal of, and interest on, their municipal bonds may be materially and adversely affected.

### **Stand-by commitments**

The Fund may acquire stand-by commitments pursuant to which a bank or other municipal bond dealer agrees to purchase securities that are held in the Fund's portfolio or that are being purchased by the Fund, at a price equal to (1) the acquisition cost (excluding any accrued interest paid on acquisition), less any amortized market premium or plus any accrued market or original issue discount, plus (2) all interest accrued on the securities since the last interest payment date or the date the securities were purchased by the Fund, whichever is later. The Fund may acquire such commitments to facilitate portfolio liquidity.

The Fund would enter into stand-by commitments only with those banks or other dealers that, in the opinion of the Advisor, present minimal credit risk. The Fund's right to exercise stand-by commitments would be unconditional and unqualified. A stand-by commitment would not be transferable by the Fund, although the Fund could sell the underlying municipal bonds to a third party at any time. The Fund may pay for stand-by commitments either separately in cash or by paying a higher price for the securities that are acquired subject to such a commitment (thus reducing the yield to maturity otherwise available for the same securities). The acquisition of a stand-by commitment would not ordinarily affect the valuation or maturity of the underlying municipal bonds. Stand-by commitments acquired by the Fund would be valued at zero in determining net asset value. Whether the Fund paid directly or indirectly for a standby commitment, its cost would be treated as unrealized depreciation and would be amortized over the period the commitment is held by the Fund.

### **Swaps**

The Fund may engage in swaps, including, but not limited to, interest rate, currency and total return swaps and the purchase or sale of related caps, floors, collars and other derivative instruments. The Fund may also enter into credit default swap agreements. The Fund expects to enter into these transactions to preserve a return or spread on a particular investment or portion of the portfolio's duration, to protect against any increase in the price of securities, to gain exposure to certain markets or returns, to earn income or to enhance returns. When the Fund enters into a swap transaction, there is a risk that the Fund may experience a loss that is greater than the amount it originally invested.

Generally, swap agreements are contracts between the Fund and another party (the swap counterparty) involving the exchange of payments on specified terms over periods ranging from a few days to multiple years. In a basic swap transaction, the Fund agrees with the swap counterparty to exchange the returns (or differentials in rates of return) and/or cash flows earned or realized on a particular "notional amount" or value of predetermined underlying reference assets. The notional amount is the set dollar or other value selected by the parties to use as the basis on which to calculate the obligations that the parties to a swap agreement have agreed to exchange. The parties typically do not actually exchange the notional amount. Instead they agree to exchange the returns that would be earned or realized if the notional amount were invested in given investments or at given interest rates. Examples of returns that may be exchanged in a swap agreement are those of a particular security, a particular fixed or variable interest rate, a particular non-US currency, or a "basket" of securities representing a particular index. Swaps can also be based on credit and other events.

A swap agreement may be negotiated bilaterally and traded OTC between the two parties (for an uncleared swap) or, in some instances, must be transacted through a futures commission merchant ("FCM") and cleared through a clearinghouse that serves as a central counterparty (for a cleared swap). As a result of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 and related regulatory developments, which have imposed comprehensive regulatory requirements on swaps and swap market participants, certain categories of swaps, such as most types of standardized interest rate and credit default swap agreements, are now subject to mandatory central clearing, and some of these cleared swaps must be traded on an exchange or swap execution facility. Additional categories of swaps may in the future be designated as subject to mandatory clearing and exchange trading. It is expected that additional categories of swaps will in the future be designated as subject to mandatory clearing and exchange trading. Mandatory clearing and exchange-trading of additional swaps will occur on a phased-in basis

based on the type of market participant, US Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”) approval of contracts for central clearing and public trading facilities making such cleared swaps available to trade. Some categories of swaps may also be cleared and traded on exchanges on a voluntary basis. While the intent of these regulatory reforms requiring clearing and exchange trading for swaps is to mitigate counterparty risk and increase liquidity and transparency in the swaps markets, mandatory clearing and exchange trading may increase trading costs and impose other risks.

The use of swaps involves investment techniques and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio security transactions. If the Advisor is incorrect in its forecast of market values, total return of securities, interest rates and other applicable factors, the investment performance of the Fund will be less favorable than it would have been if this investment technique was never used.

In an uncleared swap, the swap counterparty is typically a brokerage firm, bank or other financial institution. During the term of an uncleared swap, the Fund will be required to pledge to the swap counterparty, from time to time, an amount of cash and/or other assets equal to the net amount (if any) that would be payable by the Fund to the counterparty if all outstanding swaps between the parties were terminated on the date in question, including any early termination payments (variation margin). Periodically, changes in the amount pledged are made to recognize changes in value of the contract resulting from, among other things, interest on the notional value of the contract, market value changes in the underlying investment, and/or dividends paid by the issuer of the underlying asset. Likewise, the counterparty will be required to pledge cash or other assets to cover its obligations to the Fund. However, the amount pledged may not always be equal to or more than the amount due to the other party. Therefore, if a counterparty defaults on its obligations to the Fund, the amount pledged by the counterparty and available to the Fund may not be sufficient to cover all the amounts due to the Fund, and the Fund may sustain a loss.

Currently, the Fund does not typically provide initial margin in connection with uncleared swaps. However, rules requiring initial and variation margin to be posted by certain market participants for uncleared swaps have been adopted and are being phased in over time. When these rules take effect with respect to the Fund, if the Fund is deemed to have material swaps exposure under applicable swaps regulation, it will be required to post initial margin in addition to variation margin.

In a cleared swap, the Fund’s ultimate counterparty is a central clearinghouse rather than a brokerage firm, bank or other financial institution. Cleared swaps are submitted for clearing through each party’s FCM, which must be a member of the clearinghouse that serves as the central counterparty. When the Fund enters into a cleared swap, the Fund must make an initial margin deposit with the FCM, which is typically calculated as an amount equal to the volatility in market value of the cleared swap over a fixed period. If the value of the Fund’s cleared swap declines, the Fund will be required to make additional “variation margin” payments to the FCM to settle the change in value. Conversely, if the market value of the Fund’s position increases, the FCM will return “variation margin” to the Fund.

Central clearing is designed to reduce counterparty credit risk and increase liquidity compared to uncleared swaps because central clearing interposes the central clearinghouse as the counterparty to each participant’s swap, but it does not eliminate those risks completely and may involve additional costs and risks not associated with uncleared swaps. There is also a risk of loss by the Fund of the initial and variation margin deposits in the event of bankruptcy of the FCM with which the Fund has an open position, or of the central counterparty in a swap contract. If the FCM does not provide accurate reporting, the Fund is also subject to the risk that the FCM could use the Fund’s assets, which are held in an omnibus account with assets belonging to the FCM’s other customers, to satisfy its own financial obligations or the payment obligations of another customer to the central counterparty. Credit risk of cleared swap participants is concentrated in a few clearinghouses and the consequences of insolvency of a clearinghouse are not clear.

With cleared swaps, the Fund may not be able to obtain terms as favorable as it would be able to negotiate for an uncleared swap. In addition, an FCM may unilaterally amend the terms of its agreement with the Fund, which may include the imposition of position limits or additional margin requirements with respect to the Fund's investment in certain types of swaps. Central counterparties and FCMs can require termination of existing cleared swap transactions upon the occurrence of certain events, and can also require increases in margin above the margin that is required at the initiation of the swap agreement.

The Fund is also subject to the risk that, after entering into a cleared swap with an executing broker, no FCM or central counterparty is willing or able to clear the transaction. In such an event, the Fund may be required to break the trade and make an early termination payment to the executing broker.

Some types of swaps that are subject to mandatory clearing are also required to be traded on swap execution facilities ("SEFs"). An SEF is a trading platform where multiple market participants can execute swap transactions by accepting bids and offers made by multiple other participants on the platform. Transactions executed on an SEF may increase market transparency and liquidity but may require the Fund to incur increased expenses to access the same types of swaps that it has used in the past.

If a swap transaction is particularly large or if the relevant market is illiquid, the Fund may not be able to establish or liquidate a position at an advantageous time or price, which may result in significant losses. Participants in the swap markets are not required to make continuous markets in the swap contracts they trade. Participants could refuse to quote prices for swap contracts or quote prices with an unusually wide spread between the price at which they are prepared to buy and the price at which they are prepared to sell. Some swap agreements entail complex terms and may require a greater degree of subjectivity in their valuation. However, the swap markets have grown substantially in recent years, with a large number of financial institutions acting both as principals and agents, utilizing standardized swap documentation. As a result, the swap markets have become increasingly liquid. In addition, central clearing and the trading of cleared swaps on public facilities are intended to increase liquidity.

Interest rate swaps involve the exchange by the Fund with another party of their respective commitments to receive or pay interest (e.g., an exchange of fixed rate payments for floating rate payments) with respect to a notional amount of principal. Currency swaps involve the exchange of cash flows on a notional amount based on changes in the values of referenced currencies.

The purchase of a cap entitles the purchaser, in return for a premium paid to the seller, to receive payments on a notional principal amount from the seller of the cap to the extent that a specified index exceeds a predetermined interest rate or amount. The purchase of an interest rate floor entitles the purchaser of the floor to receive payments, in return for a premium paid to the seller, on a notional principal amount from the seller of the floor to the extent that a specified index falls below a predetermined interest rate or amount. A collar is a combination of a cap and a floor that preserves a certain return within a predetermined range of interest rates or values.

Total return swap contracts are agreements between two parties where one counterparty pays the other the total return of a particular instrument (e.g., a specified security, basket of securities or securities indices, including real estate market indices) during the specified period in return for periodic payments based on a fixed or variable interest rate, typically at a floating rate based on LIBOR, or the total rate of return on another financial instrument. The "total return" includes interest or dividend payments from, along with any change in value of, the referenced asset over a specified period. In a typical total return equity swap, payments made by the Fund or the counterparty are based on the total return of a particular reference asset or assets (such as an equity security, a combination of such securities, or an index). That is, one party agrees to pay another party the return on a stock, basket of stocks, or stock index in return for a specified interest rate. The Fund will enter into total return swap contracts only on a net basis, i.e., the two parties' obligations are netted out, with the Fund paying or receiving, as the case may be, only the net amount of the payments. Total return swap contracts may be used to obtain exposure to a security or

market without owning or taking physical custody of such security or investing directly in such market. The value of the swap position as well as the payments required to be made by the Fund or a counterparty will increase or decrease depending on the changes in value of the underlying asset. Total return swap contracts may effectively add leverage to the Fund's portfolio because, in addition to its total net assets, the Fund would be subject to investment exposure on the notional amount of the swap.

Total return swap transactions involve greater risks than if the Fund had invested in the underlying asset directly. Total return swap transactions involve counterparty risks, as discussed above, but also involve additional risks, including interest rate risk and market risk. The total rate of return of an investment on which a total return swap contract is based may exhibit substantial volatility and, in any given period, may be positive or negative for the specified period of the total return swap contract. If the Advisor is incorrect in its forecast of the underlying asset's total return, the investment performance of the Fund will be less favorable than it would have been if this investment technique was never used. In the event the total rate of return of the underlying asset is negative for the specified period of the swap contract, the Fund will be required to make a payment to the counterparty in addition to the periodic payment required by the swap contract to cover the decline in value of the underlying asset. The Fund's risk of loss, therefore, is increased because the Fund could lose an amount equal to the decrease in value of the underlying asset for the specified period of time, in addition to the periodic payments required by the total return swap contract.

The Fund also may enter into credit default swap agreements. The Fund may enter into a credit default swap on a single security or instrument or on a basket or index of securities or instruments (sometimes referred to as a "CDX" transaction). The "buyer" in a credit default contract typically is obligated to pay the "seller" a periodic stream of payments over the term of the contract, provided that no credit event with respect to any underlying reference obligation has occurred. If a credit event occurs, the seller typically must pay the buyer the "par value" (full notional value) of the reference obligation in exchange for the reference obligation. The Fund may be either the buyer or the seller in the transaction. If the Fund is a buyer and no credit event occurs, the Fund may lose its investment and recover nothing. However, if a credit event occurs, the buyer typically receives full notional value for a reference obligation that may have little or no value. As a seller, the Fund typically receives a fixed rate of income throughout the term of the contract, which typically is between six months and three years, provided a credit event does not occur. If a credit event occurs, the seller typically must pay the buyer the full notional amount of the reference obligation.

Credit default swaps involve greater risks than if the Fund had invested in the reference obligation directly, since, in addition to general market risks, credit default swaps are subject to illiquidity risk, counterparty risk and credit risk. A buyer also will lose its investment and recover nothing should no credit event occur and the swap is held to its termination date. If a credit event were to occur, the value of any deliverable obligation received by the seller, coupled with the up-front or periodic payments previously received, may be less than the full notional value the seller pays to the buyer, resulting in a loss of value to the Fund. When the Fund acts as a seller of a credit default swap, the Fund is exposed to many of the same risks of leverage since, if a credit event occurs, the seller may be required to pay the buyer the full notional value of the contract net of any amounts owed by the buyer related to its delivery of deliverable obligations.

The Fund also may engage in interest rate lock transactions (which may also be known as forward rate agreements). In an interest rate lock transaction, the buyer locks in an interest rate at a future settlement date. If the interest rate on the settlement date exceeds the lock rate, the buyer pays the seller the difference between the two rates, as applied to a specified notional amount. If the lock rate exceeds the interest rate on the settlement date, the seller pays the buyer the difference between the two rates, as applied to a specified notional amount.

The Fund may also purchase swaptions. An option on a swap agreement, also called a "swaption," is an option that gives the buyer the right, but not the obligation, to enter into a swap on a future date in exchange for paying a market-based "premium." A receiver swaption gives the owner the right to enter into a swap pursuant to which



the owner will receive payments based on a fixed rate in exchange for making payments based on the total return of a specified asset, reference rate, or index. A payer swaption gives the owner the right to make payments based on a fixed rate and, in exchange, receive payments based on the total return of a specified asset, reference rate, or index. Swaptions also include options that allow an existing swap to be terminated or extended by one of the counterparties.

To the extent that the Fund cannot dispose of a swap in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment, the Fund will treat the swap as illiquid and subject to its overall limit on illiquid investments of 15% of the Fund's net assets.

### **Futures**

The Fund may enter into contracts for the purchase or sale for future delivery of securities and indices. The Fund may purchase and sell municipal bond index futures contracts, municipal debt futures contracts, interest rate futures contracts and Treasury futures.

Generally, a futures contract is a standard binding agreement to buy or sell a specified quantity of an underlying reference asset, such as a specific security, currency, commodity, interest rate or index at a specified price at a specified later date. A purchase of a futures contract means the acquisition of a contractual right to obtain delivery to the Fund of the securities or foreign currency called for by the contract at a specified price during a specified future month. When a futures contract is sold, the Fund incurs a contractual obligation to deliver the securities or foreign currency underlying the contract at a specified price on a specified date during a specified future month.

When the Fund enters into a futures transaction, it must deliver to the FCM selected by the Fund, an amount referred to as "initial margin." The initial margin is required to be deposited in cash or government securities with an FCM. Minimum initial margin requirements are established by the futures exchange, and FCMs may establish initial margin requirements that are higher than the exchange requirements. After a futures contract position is opened, the value of the contract is marked-to-market daily. If a futures contract price changes to the extent that the margin deposit does not satisfy margin requirements, payment of a "variation margin" to be held by the FCM, will be required. Conversely, a reduction in the contract value may reduce the required margin resulting in a repayment of excess margin to the custodial accounts of the Fund. The Fund may also effect futures transactions through FCMs who are affiliated with the Advisor or the Fund in accordance with procedures adopted by the Board. Because all transactions in the futures market are made, offset or fulfilled by an FCM through a clearinghouse associated with the exchange on which the contracts are traded, the Fund will incur brokerage fees when it buys or sells futures contracts.

The Fund will enter into futures transactions on domestic exchanges and, to the extent such transactions have been approved by the CFTC for sale to customers in the United States, on foreign exchanges. In addition, the Fund may sell stock index futures in anticipation of or during a market decline to attempt to offset the decrease in market value of its common stocks that might otherwise result; and it may purchase such contracts in order to offset increases in the cost of common stocks that it intends to purchase. Although some futures contracts by their terms require the actual delivery or acquisition of the underlying instrument or asset, some require cash settlement. Where futures contracts provide for the delivery of securities, deliveries usually do not occur. Futures contracts can be terminated by entering into offsetting transactions.

The Fund may enter into futures contracts to protect against the adverse effects of fluctuations in security prices or interest rates without actually buying or selling the securities. For example, if interest rates are expected to increase, the Fund might enter into futures contracts for the sale of debt securities. Such a sale would have much the same effect as selling an equivalent value of the debt securities owned by the Fund. If interest rates did increase, the value of the debt securities in the portfolio would decline, but the value of the futures contracts to the Fund would increase at approximately the same rate, thereby keeping the net asset value of the Fund from declining as much as

it otherwise would have. Similarly, when it is expected that interest rates may decline, futures contracts may be purchased to hedge in anticipation of subsequent purchases of securities at higher prices. Because fluctuations in the value of futures contracts should be similar to those of debt securities, the Fund could take advantage of the anticipated rise in value of debt securities without actually buying them until the market had stabilized. At that time, the futures contracts could be liquidated and the Fund could then buy debt securities on the cash market. The Fund may also enter into futures contracts as a low cost method for gaining or reducing exposure to a particular currency or securities market without directly investing in those currencies or securities.

Futures strategies also can be used to manage the average duration of the Fund's portfolio. If the Advisor wishes to shorten the average duration of the Fund's portfolio, the Fund may sell a futures contract or a call option thereon or purchase a put option on that futures contract. If the Advisor wishes to lengthen the average duration of the Fund's portfolio, the Fund may buy a futures contract or a call option thereon or sell a put option thereon.

To the extent that market prices move in an unexpected direction, the Fund may not achieve the anticipated benefits of futures contracts or may realize a loss. For example, if the Fund is hedged against the possibility of an increase in interest rates, which would adversely affect the price of securities held in its portfolio, and interest rates decrease instead, the Fund would lose part or all of the benefit of the increased value that it has because it would have offsetting losses in its futures position. In addition, in such situations, if the Fund had insufficient cash, it may be required to sell securities from its portfolio to meet daily variation margin requirements. Such sales of securities may, but will not necessarily, be at increased prices that would reflect the rising market. The Fund may be required to sell securities at a time when it may be disadvantageous to do so.

Futures exchanges may also limit the amount of fluctuation permitted in certain futures contract prices during a single trading day. This daily limit establishes the maximum amount that the price of a futures contract may vary either up or down from the previous day's settlement price. Once the daily limit has been reached in a futures contract subject to the limit, no more trades may be made on that day at a price beyond that limit. The daily limit governs only price movements during a particular trading day and does not limit potential losses because the limit may prevent the liquidation of unfavorable positions. For example, futures prices have occasionally moved to the daily limit for several consecutive trading days with little or no trading, thereby preventing prompt liquidation of positions and subjecting some holders of futures contracts to substantial losses.

Futures contracts that are traded on non-US exchanges may not be as liquid as those purchased on CFTC-designated contract markets. In addition, non-US futures contracts and exchanges may be subject to varied regulatory oversight. The price of any non-US futures contract and, therefore, the potential profit and loss thereon, may be affected by any change in the non-US exchange rate between the time a particular order is placed and the time it is liquidated, offset or exercised.

There is a risk of loss by the Fund of the initial and variation margin deposits in the event of bankruptcy of the FCM with which the Fund has an open position in a futures contract. The assets of the Fund may not be fully protected in the event of the bankruptcy of the FCM or central counterparty because the Fund might be limited to recovering only a pro rata share of all available funds and margin segregated on behalf of an FCM's customers. If the FCM does not provide accurate reporting, the Fund is also subject to the risk that the FCM could use the Fund's assets, which are held in an omnibus account with assets belonging to the FCM's other customers, to satisfy its own financial obligations or the payment obligations of another customer to the central counterparty.

The Fund also may invest in municipal bond index futures contracts and municipal debt futures contracts. A municipal bond index futures contract is a bilateral agreement pursuant to which one party agrees to accept, and the other party agrees to make, delivery of an amount of cash equal to a specified dollar amount times the difference between the securities index value at the close of trading of the contract and the price at which the futures contract is originally struck. No physical delivery of the securities comprising the index is made. Generally, contracts are



closed out prior to the expiration date of the contract. Municipal debt futures contracts are bilateral agreements pursuant to which one party agrees to make, and the other party agrees to accept, delivery of a specified type of debt security at a specified future time and at a specified price. Although such futures contracts by their terms call for actual delivery or acceptance of debt securities, in most cases the contracts are closed out before the settlement date without the making or taking of delivery.

## **Options**

The Fund may purchase and write call or put options on US securities and indices and enter into related closing transactions. The Fund may also purchase and write call options on particular market segment indices to achieve temporary exposure to a specific industry.

The Fund may invest in options that are either listed on US exchanges or traded OTC. Certain OTC options may be illiquid. Thus, it may not be possible to close options positions and this may have an adverse impact on the Fund's ability to effectively hedge its securities. The Trust has been notified by the SEC that it considers OTC options to be illiquid. Accordingly, the Fund will only invest in such options to the extent consistent with its 15% limit on investments in illiquid investments.

*Purchasing call options*—The Fund may purchase call options on securities. The Fund may purchase call options on securities to the extent that premiums on all outstanding call options paid by the Fund do not aggregate to more than 20% of the Fund's total assets. When the Fund purchases a call option, in return for a premium paid by the Fund to the writer of the option, the Fund obtains the right to buy the security underlying the option at a specified exercise price at any time during the term of the option. The writer of the call option, who receives the premium upon writing the option, has the obligation, upon exercise of the option, to deliver the underlying security against payment of the exercise price.

The Fund may, following the purchase of a call option, liquidate its position by effecting a closing sale transaction. This is accomplished by selling an option of the same series as the option previously purchased. The Fund will realize a profit from a closing sale transaction if the price received on the transaction is more than the premium paid to purchase the original call option; the Fund will realize a loss from a closing sale transaction if the price received on the transaction is less than the premium paid to purchase the original call option.

Although the Fund will generally purchase only those call options for which there appears to be an active secondary market, there is no assurance that a liquid secondary market on an exchange will exist for any particular option, or at any particular time, and for some options no secondary market on an exchange may exist. In such event, it may not be possible to effect closing transactions in particular options, with the result that the Fund would have to exercise its options in order to realize any profit and would incur brokerage commissions upon the exercise of such options and upon the subsequent disposition of the underlying securities acquired through the exercise of such options. Further, unless the price of the underlying security changes sufficiently, a call option purchased by the Fund may expire without any value to the Fund, in which event the Fund would realize a capital loss which will be short-term unless the option was held for more than one year.

*Call writing*—The Fund may write call options from time to time on such portions of its portfolio, without limit, as the Advisor determines is appropriate in seeking to achieve the Fund's investment objective. If the security over which a call has been sold rises in value beyond the strike price of the sold option, then the Fund may not fully participate in the price appreciation.

During the option period for a call option, the writer may be assigned an exercise notice by the broker-dealer through whom such call option was sold, requiring the writer to deliver the underlying security against payment of the exercise price. This obligation is terminated upon the expiration of the option or upon entering a closing purchase transaction. A closing purchase transaction, in which the Fund, as writer of an option, terminates its obliga-

tion by purchasing an option of the same series as the option previously written, cannot be effected once the option writer has received an exercise notice for such option.

Closing purchase transactions will ordinarily be effected to realize a profit on an outstanding call option, to prevent an underlying security from being called, to permit the sale of the underlying security or to enable the Fund to write another call option on the underlying security with either a different exercise price, expiration date or both. The Fund may realize a net gain or loss from a closing purchase transaction depending upon whether the net amount of the original premium received on the call option is more or less than the cost of effecting the closing purchase transaction. Any loss incurred in a closing purchase transaction may be partially or entirely offset by the premium received from a sale of a different call option on the same underlying security. Such a loss may also be wholly or partially offset by unrealized appreciation in the market value of the underlying security. Conversely, a gain resulting from a closing purchase transaction could be offset in whole or in part by a decline in the market value of the underlying security.

If a call option expires unexercised, the Fund will realize a short-term capital gain in the amount of the premium on the option less the commission paid. Such a gain, however, may be offset by depreciation in the market value of the underlying security during the option period. If a call option is exercised, the Fund will realize a gain or loss from the sale of the underlying security equal to the difference between the cost of the underlying security and the proceeds of the sale of the security plus the amount of the premium on the option less the commission paid.

The Fund will generally write call options on a covered basis. A call option written by the Fund is “covered” if the Fund owns the underlying security covered by the call or has an absolute and immediate right to acquire that security without additional cash consideration (or for additional cash consideration maintained as Segregated Assets by the Fund’s custodian) upon conversion or exchange of other securities held by the Fund. A call option is also deemed to be covered if the Fund holds a call on the same security and in the same principal amount as the call written and the exercise price of the call held (i) is equal to or less than the exercise price of the call written or (ii) is greater than the exercise price of the call written if the difference is maintained as Segregated Assets by the Fund’s custodian.

*Purchasing put options*—The Fund may purchase put options. The Fund may only purchase put options to the extent that the premiums on all outstanding put options do not exceed 20% of the Fund’s total assets. The Fund generally will, at all times during which it holds a put option, own the security covered by such option. With regard to the writing of put options, the Fund will limit the aggregate value of the obligations underlying such put options to 50% of its total assets. A put option purchased by the Fund gives it the right to sell one of its securities for an agreed upon price up to an agreed upon date. The Fund intends to purchase put options in order to protect against a decline in the market value of the underlying security below the exercise price less the premium paid for the option (“protective puts”). The ability to purchase put options will allow the Fund to protect unrealized gains in an appreciated security in its portfolio without actually selling the security. If the security does not drop in value, the Fund will lose the value of the premium paid. The Fund may sell a put option that it has previously purchased prior to the sale of the securities underlying such option. Such sale will result in a net gain or loss depending on whether the amount received on the sale is more or less than the premium and other transaction costs paid on the put option that is sold.

The Fund may sell a put option purchased on individual portfolio securities. Additionally, the Fund may enter into closing sale transactions. A closing sale transaction is one in which the Fund, when it is the holder of an outstanding option, liquidates its position by selling an option of the same series as the option previously purchased.

*Writing put options*—The Fund may also write put options. In such event, the Fund would write a secured put option at an exercise price that, reduced by the premium received on the option, reflects the lower price it is willing to pay.

Following the writing of a put option, the Fund may wish to terminate the obligation to buy the security underlying the option by effecting a closing purchase transaction. This is accomplished by buying an option of the same series as the option previously written. The Fund may not, however, effect such a closing transaction after it has been notified of the exercise of the option.

### **Index options**

The Fund may purchase exchange-listed call options on stock indices and fixed income indices and sell such options in closing sale transactions for hedging purposes. The Fund also may purchase call options on indices primarily as a substitute for taking positions in certain securities or particular market segments. The Fund may also purchase call options on an index to protect against increases in the price of securities underlying that index that the Fund intends to purchase pending its ability to invest in such securities.

In addition, the Fund may purchase put options on stock indices and fixed income indices and sell such options in closing sale transactions. The Fund may purchase put options on broad market indices in order to protect its fully invested portfolio from a general market decline. Put options on market segments may be bought to protect the Fund from a decline in the value of heavily weighted industries in the Fund's portfolio. Put options on stock and fixed income indices may also be used to protect the Fund's investments in the case of a major redemption.

The Fund may also write (sell) put and call options on stock indices and fixed income indices.

Options on indices are similar to regular options except that an option on an index gives the holder the right, upon exercise, to receive an amount of cash if the closing level of the index upon which the option is based is greater than (in the case of a call) or lesser than (in the case of a put) the exercise price of the option. This amount of cash is equal to the difference between the closing price of the index and the exercise price of the option expressed in dollars multiplied by a specified multiple (the "multiplier"). The indices on which options are traded include both US and non-US markets.

### **Special risks of options on indices**

The Fund's purchases of options on indices will subject it to the risks described below.

Because the value of an index option depends upon movements in the level of the index rather than the price of a particular security, whether the Fund will realize gain or loss on the purchase of an option on an index depends upon movements in the level of prices in the market generally or in an industry or market segment rather than movements in the price of a particular security. Accordingly, successful use by the Fund of options on indices is subject to the Advisor's ability to predict correctly the direction of movements in the market generally or in a particular industry. This requires different skills and techniques than predicting changes in the prices of individual securities.

Index prices may be distorted if trading of a substantial number of securities included in the index is interrupted causing the trading of options on that index to be halted. If a trading halt occurred, the Fund would not be able to close out options that it had purchased and the Fund may incur losses if the underlying index moved adversely before trading resumed. If a trading halt occurred and restrictions prohibiting the exercise of options were imposed through the close of trading on the last day before expiration, exercises on that day would be settled on the basis of a closing index value that may not reflect current price information for securities representing a substantial portion of the value of the index.

If the Fund holds an index option and exercises it before final determination of the closing index value for that day, it runs the risk that the level of the underlying index may change before closing. If such a change causes the exercised option to fall "out-of-the-money," the Fund will be required to pay the difference between the closing index value and the exercise price of the option (multiplied by the applicable multiplier) to the assigned writer. Although the Fund may be able to minimize this risk by withholding exercise instructions until just before the daily cutoff time

or by selling rather than exercising the option when the index level is close to the exercise price, it may not be possible to eliminate this risk entirely because the cutoff times for index options may be earlier than those fixed for other types of options and may occur before definitive closing index values are announced.

### **Options on futures contracts**

The Fund may purchase and write options on futures contracts in which it is allowed to invest. For more information about the risks of entering into futures contracts, see "Futures" above.

When the Fund buys an option on a futures contract, it pays a premium for the right, but does not have the obligation, to purchase (call) or sell (put) the futures contract at a set price (called the exercise price). The purchase of a call or put option on a futures contract is similar in some respects to the purchase of a call or put option on an individual security or currency. Depending on the premium paid for the option compared to either the price of the futures contract upon which it is based or the price of the underlying reference instrument, the option may be less risky than direct ownership of the futures contract or the underlying reference instrument. For example, the Fund could purchase a call option on a long futures contract when seeking to hedge against an increase in the market value of the underlying reference instrument, such as appreciation in the value of a non-US currency against the US dollar.

When the Fund writes an option on a futures contract, the Fund becomes contractually obligated to take the opposite futures position if the buyer of the option exercises its rights to the futures position specified in the option. In return for the premium paid by the buyer, the seller assumes the risk of taking a possibly adverse futures position, which could result in substantial and potentially unlimited losses. The writing of a call option on a futures contract constitutes a partial hedge against the declining price of the security or foreign currency that is deliverable upon exercise of the futures contract. If the futures price at the expiration of the option is below the exercise price, the Fund will retain the full amount of the option premium, which provides a partial hedge against any decline that may have occurred in the value of the Fund's investment portfolio holdings. The writing of a put option on a futures contract constitutes a partial hedge against the increasing price of the security or foreign currency that is deliverable upon exercise of the futures contract. If the futures price at the expiration of the option is higher than the exercise price, the Fund will retain the full amount of the option premium, which provides a partial hedge against any increase in the price of securities that the Fund intends to purchase.

Options on a stock index futures contract give the holder the right to receive cash. Upon exercise of the option, the delivery of the futures position by the writer of the option to the holder of the option will be accompanied by delivery of the accumulated balance in the writer's futures margin account, which represents the amount by which the market price of the futures contract, at exercise, exceeds, in the case of a call, or is less than, in the case of a put, the exercise price of the futures contract. If an option is exercised on the last trading day prior to the expiration date of the option, the settlement will be made entirely in cash equal to the difference between the exercise price of the option and the closing price of the futures contract on the expiration date. If a put or call option that the Fund has written is exercised, the Fund may incur a loss, which will be reduced by the amount of the premium it received. Depending on the degree of correlation between changes in the value of its portfolio securities and changes in the value of its options positions, the Fund's losses from existing options on futures may, to some extent, be reduced or increased by changes in the value of portfolio securities. For example, the Fund will purchase a put option on an interest rate futures contract to hedge the Fund's investment portfolio against the risk of rising interest rates.

Furthermore, with respect to options on futures contracts, the Fund may seek to close out an option position by writing or buying an offsetting position covering the same securities or contracts and have the same exercise price and expiration date. The ability to establish and close out positions on options will be subject to the maintenance of a liquid secondary market, which cannot be assured.

### **Options on swap agreements**

The Fund may purchase options on swap agreements. For more information about these types of instruments, see “Swaps” above.

### **Exchange-traded notes (“ETNs”)**

The Fund may invest in ETNs. ETNs are senior, unsecured, unsubordinated debt securities whose returns are linked to the performance of a particular market benchmark or strategy minus applicable fees. ETNs are traded on an exchange (e.g., the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”)) during normal trading hours. However, investors can also hold the ETN until maturity. At maturity, the issuer pays to the investor a cash amount equal to the principal amount, subject to the day’s market benchmark or strategy factor.

ETNs do not make periodic coupon payments or provide principal protection. ETNs are subject to credit risk and the value of the ETN may drop due to a downgrade in the issuer’s credit rating, despite the underlying market benchmark or strategy remaining unchanged.

The value of an ETN may also be influenced by time to maturity, level of supply and demand for the ETN, volatility and lack of liquidity in underlying assets, changes in the applicable interest rates, changes in the issuer’s credit rating, and economic, legal, political, or geographic events that affect the referenced underlying asset. When the Fund invests in ETNs it will bear its proportionate share of any fees and expenses borne by the ETN. The Fund’s decision to sell its ETN holdings may be limited by the availability of a secondary market. In addition, although an ETN may be listed on an exchange, the issuer may not be required to maintain the listing, and there can be no assurance that a secondary market will exist for an ETN.

The timing and character of income and gains derived from ETNs is under consideration by the US Treasury and Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) and may also be affected by future legislation.

An ETN that is tied to a specific market benchmark or strategy may not be able to replicate and maintain exactly the composition and relative weighting of securities, commodities or other components in the applicable market benchmark or strategy. Some ETNs that use leverage can, at times, be relatively illiquid and, thus, they may be difficult to purchase or sell at a fair price. Leveraged ETNs are subject to the same risk as other instruments that use leverage in any form.

The market value of an ETN may differ from its market benchmark or strategy. This difference in price may be due to the fact that the supply and demand in the market for ETNs at any point in time is not always identical to the supply and demand in the market for the securities, commodities or other components underlying the market benchmark or strategy that the ETN seeks to track. As a result, there may be times when an ETN trades at a premium or discount to its market benchmark or strategy.

### **Structured notes**

The Fund may invest in structured notes. Structured notes are derivative debt securities, the interest rate and/or principal of which is determined by an unrelated indicator. The value of the principal of and/or interest on structured notes is determined by reference to changes in the return, interest rate or value at maturity of a specific asset, reference rate or index (the “reference instrument”) or the relative change in two or more reference instruments. The interest rate or the principal amount payable upon maturity or redemption may be increased or decreased, depending upon changes in the applicable reference instruments. Structured notes may be positively or negatively indexed, so that an increase in value of the reference instrument may produce an increase or a decrease in the interest rate or value of the structured note at maturity. In addition, changes in the interest rate or the value of the structured

note at maturity may be calculated as a specified multiple of the change in the value of the reference; therefore, the value of such note may be very volatile. Structured notes may entail a greater degree of market risk than other types of debt securities because the investor bears the risk of the reference instrument. Structured notes may also be more volatile, less liquid and more difficult to accurately price than less complex securities or more traditional debt securities.

### **Credit-linked securities**

The Fund may invest in credit-linked securities. Credit-linked securities are debt securities that represent an interest in a pool of, or are otherwise collateralized by, one or more corporate debt obligations or credit default swaps on corporate debt or bank loan obligations. Such debt obligations may represent the obligations of one or more corporate issuers. The Fund has the right to receive periodic interest payments from the issuer of the credit-linked security (usually the seller of the underlying credit default swap(s)) at an agreed-upon interest rate, and a return of principal at the maturity date.

The Fund bears the risk of loss of its principal investment and the periodic interest payments expected to be received for the duration of its investment in the credit-linked security, in the event that one or more of the underlying corporate debt obligations or credit default swaps go into default or otherwise become non-performing. Upon the occurrence of such a credit event (including bankruptcy, failure to timely pay interest or principal or a restructuring) with respect to an underlying debt obligation (which may represent a credit event of one or more underlying obligors), the Fund will generally reduce the principal balance of the related credit-linked security by the Fund's pro rata interest in the par amount of the defaulted underlying debt obligation in exchange for the actual value of the defaulted underlying obligation or the defaulted underlying obligation itself, thereby causing the Fund to lose a portion of its investment. As a result, on an ongoing basis, interest on the credit-linked security will accrue on a smaller principal balance and a smaller principal balance will be returned at maturity. To the extent that a credit-linked security represents an interest in underlying obligations of a single corporate issuer, a credit event with respect to such an issuer presents greater risk of loss to the Fund than if the credit-linked security represented an interest in underlying obligations of multiple corporate issuers.

In addition, the Fund bears the risk that the issuer of the credit-linked security will default or become bankrupt. In such an event, the Fund may have difficulty being repaid, or fail to be repaid, the principal amount of its investment and the remaining periodic interest payments thereon.

An investment in credit-linked securities also involves reliance on the counterparty to the swap entered into with the issuer to make periodic payments to the issuer under the terms of the credit default swap. Any delay or cessation in the making of such payments may be expected in certain instances to result in delays or reductions in payments to the Fund as an investor in such credit-linked securities. Additionally, credit-linked securities are typically structured as limited recourse obligations of the issuer of such securities such that the securities issued will usually be obligations solely of the issuer and will not be obligations or responsibilities of any other person.

Most credit-linked securities are structured as Rule 144A securities so that they may be freely traded among institutional buyers. The Fund will generally only purchase credit-linked securities that are determined to be liquid in accordance with the Fund's liquidity guidelines. However, the market for credit-linked securities may be, or suddenly can become, illiquid. The other parties to the transaction may be the only investors with sufficient understanding of the derivative to be interested in bidding for it. Changes in liquidity may result in significant, rapid and unpredictable changes in the prices for credit-linked securities. In certain cases, a market price for a credit-linked security may not be available or may not be reliable, and the Fund could experience difficulty in selling such security at a price the investment manager believes is fair. In the event a credit-linked security is deemed to be illiquid, the Fund will include such security in calculating its limitation on investments in illiquid investments.



The value of a credit-linked security will typically increase or decrease with any change in the value of the underlying debt obligations, if any, held by the issuer and the credit default swap. Further, in cases where the credit-linked security is structured such that the payments to the Fund are based on amounts received in respect of, or the value of performance of, any underlying debt obligations specified in the terms of the relevant credit default swap, fluctuations in the value of such obligation may affect the value of the credit-linked security.

The collateral of a credit-linked security may be one or more credit default swaps, which are subject to additional risks. See “Strategies for using derivative instruments—swaps” for a description of additional risks associated with credit default swaps.

### **Special risks of certain derivatives**

Certain derivative contracts entered into by the Fund may contain certain credit-risk-related contingent features that could be triggered subject to certain circumstances. If triggered, the derivative counterparty could request additional cash margin and/or terminate the derivative contract.

### **Risks of potential regulation of swaps and other derivatives**

The regulation of cleared and uncleared swaps, as well as other derivatives, is a changing area of law and is subject to modification by government and judicial action. The SEC, CFTC and the exchanges are authorized to take extraordinary actions in the event of a market emergency, including, for example, the implementation or reduction of speculative position limits, the implementation of higher margin requirements, the establishment of daily price limits and the suspension of trading.

It is not possible to predict fully the effects of current or future regulation. However, it is possible that developments in government regulation of various types of derivative instruments, such as speculative position limits on certain types of derivatives, or limits or restrictions on the counterparties with which the Fund engages in derivative transactions, may limit or prevent the Fund from using or limit the Fund’s use of these instruments effectively as a part of its investment strategy, and could adversely affect the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective. The Advisor will continue to monitor developments in the area, particularly to the extent regulatory changes affect the Fund’s ability to enter into desired swap agreements. New requirements, even if not directly applicable to the Fund, may increase the cost of the Fund’s investments and cost of doing business.

### **Commodity pool operator exclusions**

With respect to the Fund, the Advisor has claimed an exclusion from the definition of “commodity pool operator” (“CPO”) under the Commodity Exchange Act (“CEA”) and the rules of the CFTC and, therefore, is not subject to CFTC registration or regulation as a CPO. In addition, although the Advisor is registered with the CFTC as a “commodity trading advisor” (“CTA”), with respect to the Fund the Advisor is relying upon an exclusion from the definition of CTA under the CEA and the rules of the CFTC.

The terms of the CPO exclusion require the Fund, among other things, to adhere to certain limits on its investments in “commodity interests.” Commodity interests include commodity futures, commodity options and swaps, which in turn include non-deliverable currency forwards, as further described in this SAI. Because the Advisor and the Fund intends to comply with the terms of the CPO exclusion, the Fund may, in the future, need to adjust its investment strategies, consistent with its investment objective, to limit its investments in these types of instruments. This Fund is not intended as a vehicle for trading in the commodity futures, commodity options or swaps markets. The CFTC has neither reviewed nor approved the Advisor’s reliance on these exclusions, or the Fund, its investment strategies or this SAI.

Generally, the exclusion from CPO regulation on which the Advisor relies requires the Fund to meet one of the following tests for its commodity interest positions, other than positions entered into for bona fide hedging purposes (as defined in the rules of the CFTC): either (1) the aggregate initial margin and premiums required to establish the

Fund's positions in commodity interests may not exceed 5% of the liquidation value of the Fund's portfolio (after taking into account unrealized profits and unrealized losses on any such positions); or (2) the aggregate net notional value of the Fund's commodity interest positions, determined at the time the most recent such position was established, may not exceed 100% of the liquidation value of the Fund's portfolio (after taking into account unrealized profits and unrealized losses on any such positions). In addition to meeting one of these trading limitations, the Fund may not be marketed as a commodity pool or otherwise as a vehicle for trading in the commodity futures, commodity options or swaps markets. If, in the future, the Fund can no longer satisfy these requirements, the Advisor would withdraw its notice claiming an exclusion from the definition of a CPO, and the Advisor would be subject to registration and regulation as a CPO with respect to the Fund, in accordance with CFTC rules that apply to CPOs of registered investment companies. Generally, these rules allow for substituted compliance with CFTC disclosure and shareholder reporting requirements, based on the Advisor's compliance with comparable SEC requirements. However, as a result of CFTC regulation with respect to the Fund, the Fund may incur additional compliance and other expenses.

## Summary of risks

The principal risks of investing in the Fund are described in the risks sections of the Prospectus.

### **Cybersecurity risk**

As the use of technology has become more prevalent in the course of business, the Fund, like other business organizations, has become more susceptible to operational, information security and related risks through breaches in cybersecurity. In general, cybersecurity failures or breaches of the Fund or its service providers or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests may result from deliberate attacks or unintentional events and may arise from external or internal sources. Cybersecurity breaches may involve unauthorized access to the Fund's digital information systems (e.g., through "hacking" or malicious software coding), but may also result from outside attacks such as denial-of-service attacks (i.e., efforts to make network services unavailable to intended users). Cybersecurity failures or breaches affecting the Fund's investment advisor or any other service providers (including, but not limited to, Fund accountants, custodians, transfer agents and financial intermediaries) have the ability to cause disruptions and impact business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses, interference with the Fund's ability to calculate its net asset value, impediments to trading, the inability of Fund shareholders to transact business, destruction to equipment and systems, violations of applicable privacy and other laws, regulatory fines, penalties, reputational damage, reimbursement or other compensation costs, and/or additional compliance costs. In addition, substantial costs may be incurred in order to prevent any cybersecurity breaches in the future.

While the Advisor has established business continuity plans in the event of, and risk management systems to prevent, such cybersecurity breaches, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems including the possibility that certain risks have not been identified. Furthermore, the Advisor does not directly control the cybersecurity plans and systems put in place by the Fund's other service providers or any other third parties whose operations may affect the Fund or its shareholders. The Fund and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.

### **Market risk**

Market risks, including political, regulatory, market, economic and social developments, and developments that impact specific economic sectors, industries or segments of the market, can affect the value and liquidity of the Fund's investments. In addition, turbulence in financial markets and reduced liquidity in equity and/or fixed-income markets may negatively affect the Fund. Global economies and financial markets are becoming increasingly interconnected, and conditions and events in one country, region or financial market may adversely impact issuers in a different country, region or financial market. Events such as war, acts of terrorism, natural and environmental disas-



ters, recessions, rapid inflation, the imposition of international sanctions, pandemics or other public health threats could also significantly impact the Fund and its investments. These risks may be magnified if certain events or developments adversely interrupt the global supply chain, and could affect companies worldwide.

Recent examples include pandemic risks related to the coronavirus (“COVID-19”) and the aggressive measures taken worldwide in response by (i) governments, including closing borders, restricting travel and imposing prolonged quarantines of, or similar restrictions on, large populations, and (ii) businesses, including forced or voluntary closures, changes to operations and reductions of staff. The effects of COVID-19 have contributed to increased volatility in global financial markets and may affect certain countries, regions, companies, industries and market sectors more dramatically than others. The COVID-19 pandemic has had, and any other outbreak of an infectious disease or serious environmental or public health concern could have, a significant negative impact on economic and market conditions, could exacerbate pre-existing political, social and economic risks in certain countries or regions and could trigger a prolonged period of global economic slowdown, which may impact the Fund. Although the World Health Organization and the United States ended their declarations of COVID-19 as a global health emergency in May 2023, the full impact of COVID-19, and future impacts of other significant events, are unpredictable. To the extent the Fund is overweight in certain countries, regions, companies, industries or market sectors, such positions will increase the risk of loss from adverse developments affecting those countries, regions, companies, industries or sectors.

## Investment limitations of the Fund

Fundamental limitations. The investment limitations set forth below are fundamental policies and may not be changed by the Fund without the approval of a majority of the outstanding voting securities (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Fund. Unless otherwise indicated, all percentage limitations listed below apply to the Fund only at the time of the transaction. Accordingly, if a percentage restriction is adhered to at the time of investment, a later increase or decrease in the percentage that results from a relative change in values or from a change in the Fund’s total assets will not be considered a violation. The Fund may not:

- (1) Purchase or sell real estate, except that the Fund may purchase or sell securities of REITs;
- (2) Purchase or sell commodities, except that the Fund may purchase or sell currencies, may enter into futures contracts on securities, currencies and other indices or any other financial instruments, and may purchase and sell options on such futures contracts;
- (3) Issue securities senior to the Fund’s presently authorized shares of beneficial interest, except that this restriction shall not be deemed to prohibit the Fund from: (a) making any permitted borrowings, loans or pledges; (b) entering into options, futures contracts, forward contracts, repurchase transactions, or reverse repurchase transactions; or (c) making short sales of securities up to 10% of the Fund’s net assets to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act and any rule or order thereunder, or SEC staff interpretations thereof;
- (4) Make loans to other persons, except: (a) through the lending of its portfolio securities; (b) through the purchase of debt securities, loan participations and/or engaging in direct corporate loans for investment purposes in accordance with its investment objective and policies; and (c) to the extent the entry into a repurchase agreement is deemed to be a loan;
- (5) Borrow money in excess of 33⅓% of the value of its assets, except as a temporary measure for extraordinary or emergency purposes to facilitate redemptions. All borrowings will be done from a bank and to the extent that such borrowing exceeds 5% of the value of the Fund’s assets, asset coverage of at least 300% is required;

- (6) Concentrate (invest more than 25% of its net assets) in securities of issuers in a particular industry (other than securities issued or guaranteed by the US government or any of its agencies, or tax-exempt municipal securities); and
- (7) Act as an underwriter, except to the extent the Fund may be deemed to be an underwriter when selling its own shares.

With respect to the real estate restriction described in (1) above, the restriction does not prevent the Fund from investing in REITs or similar real estate securities.

For purposes of the commodities restriction described in (2) above, the term “any other financial instruments” includes swap agreements.

**Note regarding other investment limitations.** In addition to the Fund’s own investment policies and restrictions, UBS AM may adopt certain additional internal investment criteria which may further restrict the Fund’s investments, such as internal UBS AM policies limiting or prohibiting investments in businesses that engage in certain types of weapons manufacturing, natural resource activities or are identified as failing to meet certain criteria put forth by the United Nations or other global organizations (including “sanctions” lists).

# Trustees and officers; principal holders and management ownership of securities

## **Board of Trustees**

### *Organization of the Board*

The Board is responsible for establishing the Trust's policies and for overseeing the management of the Trust and the Fund. The Board appoints the officers of the Trust, who, along with third-party service providers, are responsible for administering the day-to-day operations of the Trust. The Board is comprised of four Trustees that are not considered to be "interested persons" by reason of their relationship with the Trust's management or otherwise as defined under the 1940 Act ("Independent Trustees"). Adela Cepeda, an Independent Trustee, is Chairperson of the Board. As Chairperson of the Board, Ms. Cepeda helps develop and review agendas for Board meetings and generally facilitates communication and coordination among the Independent Trustees and between the Independent Trustees and management. Ms. Adela Cepeda also acts as liaison between the Trust's Chief Compliance Officer ("CCO") and the Independent Trustees with respect to compliance matters between scheduled Board meetings.

The Board meets at least four times each year. At each regular meeting, the Independent Trustees meet in executive session to discuss matters outside the presence of management. In addition, the Board holds special meetings throughout the year, as needed, and the Trustees also discuss other matters on a more informal basis at other times.

The Board has two standing committees: an Audit Committee and a Nominating, Compensation and Governance Committee (the "Nominating Committee"). As described below, through these Committees, the Independent Trustees have direct oversight of the Trust's accounting and financial reporting policies, the selection and nomination of candidates to the Board and the Trust's governance procedures.

Each Independent Trustee sits on the Trust's Audit Committee, which has the responsibility, among other things, to: (i) select, oversee and approve the compensation of the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm; (ii) oversee the Trust's accounting and financial reporting policies and practices, its internal controls and, as appropriate, the internal controls of certain service providers; and (iii) oversee the quality and objectivity of the Fund's financial statements and the independent audit(s) thereof. The Audit Committee met four times during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023.

Each Independent Trustee sits on the Trust's Nominating Committee, which has the responsibility, among other things, to: (i) make recommendations and to consider shareholder recommendations for nominations for Board members; (ii) review Board governance procedures and recommend any appropriate changes to the full Board; (iii) periodically review Trustee compensation and recommend any changes to the Independent Trustees as a group; and (iv) make recommendations to the full Board for nominations for membership on all committees, review all committee assignments annually and periodically review the responsibilities and need for all committees of the Board. The Nominating Committee met three times during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023.

The Board also at times creates other committees of Board members to assist in the evaluation of specific matters. The Independent Trustees have also engaged independent legal counsel, and the Trustees have from time to time engaged consultants and other advisors to assist them in performing their oversight responsibilities.

The Board believes that the existing Board structure for the Trust is appropriate because it allows the Independent Trustees to exercise independent judgment in evaluating the governance of the Trust and performance of the Fund's service providers.

### *Board oversight of risk management*

The Board, as a whole, considers risk management issues as part of its general oversight responsibilities throughout the year at regular board meetings, through regular reports that have been developed by Fund management and the Advisor. These reports address certain investment, valuation, liquidity, and compliance matters.

The Board also may receive special written reports or presentations on a variety of risk issues, either upon the Board's request or upon the initiative of the Advisor. In addition, the Board meets at least annually with the Advisor's internal audit group to discuss the results of the internal audit group's examinations of the functions and processes of the Advisor that affect the Fund and to be advised regarding the internal audit group's plans for upcoming audits.

With respect to investment risk, the Board receives regular written reports describing and analyzing the investment performance of the Fund. The Board discusses these reports and the performance of the Fund and investment risks with management of the Advisor at the Board's regular meetings. To the extent that the Advisor seeks to change the Fund's investment strategy that may have a material impact on the Fund's risk profile or invest in a new type of security or instrument that is expected to have a material impact, the Board generally is provided information on such proposed changes for the Board's approval. In addition, the Advisor provides an annual report on the use of derivatives by the Fund.

With respect to valuation, the Advisor, as the Fund's valuation designee pursuant to Rule 2a-5 of the 1940 Act, provides regular written reports to the Board that enables the Board to oversee the valuation designee and the valuation designee's fair value determinations for investments in the Fund. Such reports also include information concerning the reasons for the fair valuation and the methodology used to arrive at the fair value, information on illiquid investments held by the Fund, information on pricing vendor oversight, and a summary of material fair value matters, if any. In addition, the Audit Committee reviews valuation procedures and pricing results with the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm in connection with such Committee's review of the results of the audit of the Fund's year-end financial statements.

With respect to liquidity, pursuant to Rule 22e-4 of the 1940 Act, the Board has approved a liquidity risk management program, which provides the framework for evaluating the liquidity of the Fund's investments. The Board has approved the designation of an administrator of such program, and will review, no less frequently than annually, a written report prepared by the administrator that addresses the operation of the program and assesses its adequacy and effectiveness of implementation. The Board also receives regular liquidity risk management reports.

With respect to compliance risks, the Board receives regular compliance reports prepared by the Advisor's compliance group and meets regularly with the Trust's CCO to discuss compliance issues, including compliance risks.

As required under SEC rules, the Independent Trustees meet at least quarterly in executive session with the CCO, and the Trust's CCO prepares and presents an annual written compliance report to the Board. The Board adopts compliance policies and procedures for the Trust and receives information about the procedures in place for the Trust's service providers. The compliance policies and procedures are specifically designed to detect and prevent violations of the federal securities laws.

At the request of the Board, the Advisor also has provided presentations to the Board with respect to the Advisor's operational risk management.

### *Trustee qualifications*

When a vacancy occurs on the Board, the Nominating Committee of the Board evaluates a candidate's qualification for Board membership and the independence of such candidate from the Advisor and other principal service providers. The Nominating Committee will consider nominees recommended by Qualifying Fund Shareholders if an Independent Trustee vacancy on the Board occurs. A Qualifying Fund Shareholder is a shareholder that: (i) owns of record, or beneficially through a financial intermediary, 1/2 of 1% or more of the Trust's outstanding shares and (ii) has been a shareholder of at least 1/2 of 1% of the Trust's total outstanding shares for 12 months or more prior to submitting the recommendation to the Nominating Committee. In order to recommend a nominee, a Qualifying Fund Shareholder should send a letter to the chairperson of the Nominating Committee, Adela Cepeda, care of Keith A. Weller, the Secretary of the Trust, at UBS Asset Management, One North Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606, and indicate on the envelope "Nominating Committee." The Qualifying Fund Shareholder's letter should include: (i) the name and address of the Qualifying Fund Shareholder making the recommendation; (ii) the number of shares of each class and series of shares of the Trust that are owned of record and beneficially by such Qualifying Fund Shareholder and the length of time that such shares have been so owned by the Qualifying Fund Shareholder; (iii) a description of all arrangements and understandings between such Qualifying Fund Shareholder and any other person or persons (naming such person or persons) pursuant to which the recommendation is being made; (iv) the name and address of the nominee; and (v) the nominee's resume or curriculum vitae. The Qualifying Fund Shareholder's letter must be accompanied by a written consent of the individual to stand for election if nominated for the Board and to serve if elected by shareholders.

The Nominating Committee of the Board believes that it is in the best interests of the Trust and its shareholders to obtain highly-qualified individuals to serve as members of the Board. In assessing Trustees for the Board, the Nominating Committee may consider factors such as the person's judgment, skill, diversity and experience with investment companies and other organizations of comparable purpose, complexity and size and subject to similar legal restrictions and oversight and the interplay of a Trustee or candidate's experience with the experience of other Board members. The Board believes that collectively, the Trustees currently serving on the Board have balanced and diverse experience, qualifications, attributes and skills that allow the Board to effectively oversee the management of the Trust and protect the interests of shareholders. The Board noted that Ms. Cepeda and Smith had experience serving as a director on the boards of operating companies and/or other investment companies. The Board also considered that Adela Cepeda has a career in the financial services or investment industries, including holding executive positions in companies engaged in these industries, which allows Ms. Cepeda to bring valuable, relevant experience as a member of the Board. The Board also noted that Abbie J. Smith, as a Professor of Accounting, also has the relevant skills and experience to serve as a member of the Board. The Board also considered that Muhammad Gigani is a certified public accountant who had a career in the financial services industry, including holding senior positions in companies engaged in this industry, which allows Mr. Gigani to bring valuable, relevant experience as a member of the Board. Finally, the Board noted that Mr. Garcia's considerable experience in both the government and private sector and his knowledge of the investment and financial services industries allows Mr. Garcia to provide valuable and relevant experience as a member of the Board.

The Trustees and executive officers of the Trust, along with their principal occupations over the past five years and their affiliations, if any, with UBS AM are listed below. None of the Trustees is an "interested person" (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Trust.

## Independent trustees

| Name, address and age  | Position(s) held with Trust | Term of office <sup>1</sup> and length of time served | Principal occupation(s) during past 5 years   | Number of portfolios in fund complex overseen by trustee  | Other directorships held by trustee  |
|--|-----------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Adela Cepeda; 66<br>c/o Keith A. Weller,<br>Fund Secretary,<br>UBS Asset Management (Americas) LLC<br>One North Wacker Drive<br>Chicago, IL<br>60606   | Chairperson and Trustee     | Since 2021 and 2004, respectively                     | Ms. Cepeda was a managing director at PFM Financial Advisors LLC (from 2016 to 2019). From 1995 to 2016, Ms. Cepeda was the founder and president of A.C. Advisory, Inc.  | Ms. Cepeda is a trustee of two investment companies (consisting of 11 portfolios) for which UBS AM serves as investment advisor or manager. | Ms. Cepeda is a director (since 2012) of BMO Financial Corp. (US holding company for the BMO Harris Bank N.A.) as well as a member of the audit, trust and capital committees, director of the Mercer Funds (7 portfolios) (since 2005) as well as a member of the nominations and governance and audit committees, and trustee of the Morgan Stanley Pathway Funds (11 portfolios) (since 2008) as well as a member of the nominations and governance and audit committees. |
| Rodrigo Garcia; 42<br>c/o Keith A. Weller,<br>Fund Secretary,<br>UBS Asset Management (Americas) LLC<br>One North Wacker Drive<br>Chicago, IL<br>60606 | Trustee                     | Since November 2023                                   | Mr. Garcia is US President (since 2023) and Global Chief Financial Officer (since 2022) of Talipot Holdings (single family office). He is also a board member of Latino Media Network, Inc. (since 2023), Canela Media, Inc. (since 2022) and Neurocytonix, Inc. (since 2022). Formerly, Mr. Garcia was a partner and Chief Investment Officer for BeDoWin360 Capital (from 2021-2022) and served as Deputy State Treasurer and Chief Investment Officer (2018-2021) and Chief Financial Officer and Chief Investment Officer (from 2015-2018) for the State of Illinois. Formerly, he has held roles for the Illinois Department of Veteran Affairs, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, and Morgan Stanley & Co., Inc. Mr. Garcia was also an Adjunct Professor in Public Finance at Northwestern University (2020-2022). Mr. Garcia is a certified treasury professional (CTP®) | Mr. Garcia is a trustee of two investment companies (consisting of 11 portfolios) for which UBS AM serves as investment advisor or manager. | None   |

<sup>1</sup> Each Trustee holds office for an indefinite term.

| <b>Name, address and age</b>  | <b>Position(s) held with Trust</b> | <b>Term of office<sup>1</sup> and length of time served</b> | <b>Principal occupation(s) during past 5 years</b>   | <b>Number of portfolios in fund complex overseen by trustee</b>   | <b>Other directorships held by trustee</b>  |
|---|------------------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| Muhammad Gigani; 46<br>c/o Keith A. Weller,<br>Fund Secretary,<br>UBS Asset Management (Americas) LLC<br>One North Wacker Drive<br>Chicago, IL<br>60606 | Trustee                            | Since 2021  | Mr. Gigani is a Vice President—Tax of Reyes Holdings, L.L.C. (global food and beverage company) (since 2018). Mr. Gigani is a trustee (since 2021) for The Adler Planetarium (non-profit). Formerly, Mr. Gigani held various positions at Deloitte Tax, LLP (from 2002 to 2018, most recently serving as a partner (from 2014 to 2018)). Mr. Gigani was a board member of Junior Achievement of Chicago (non-profit) (from 2016 to 2018). Mr. Gigani was also finance chair of Latin United Community Housing Association (non-profit) (from 2016 to 2018). Mr. Gigani is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA). | Mr. Gigani is a trustee of two investment companies (consisting of 11 portfolios) for which UBS AM serves as investment advisor or manager. | None  |
| Abbie J. Smith; 71<br>University of Chicago Booth School of Business<br>5807 S. Woodlawn Avenue<br>Chicago, IL<br>60637                                 | Trustee                            | Since 2009  | Ms. Smith is a Boris and Irene Stern Distinguished Service Professor of Accounting and James S. Ely, III Faculty Fellow in the University of Chicago Booth School of Business (since 1980). Formerly, Ms. Smith was a co-founding partner and director of research of Fundamental Investment Advisors (hedge fund) (co-founded in 2004, commenced operations in 2008) (from 2008 to 2010).   | Ms. Smith is a trustee of two investment companies (consisting of 11 portfolios) for which UBS AM serves as investment advisor or manager.  | Ms. Smith is a director (since 2000) of HNI Corporation (office furniture) and formerly lead director (from 2014-2017) and audit committee member and chair and a member of the human resources and compensation committee. Ms. Smith is also a director (since 2003 and was chair of the audit committee (until 2015)) and is currently the chair of the finance committee of Ryder System Inc. (transportation, logistics and supply-chain management). In addition, Ms. Smith is a trustee/director (since 2000) and a chair of the audit and nominating committees of the Dimensional Mutual Funds complex (a total of 123 series in 4 investment companies) and of Dimensional ETF Trust and with 38 ETFs. |

<sup>1</sup> Each Trustee holds office for an indefinite term.

## Officers

| Name, address and age        | Position(s) held with the Trust                            | Term of office <sup>†</sup> and length of time served | Principal occupation(s) during past 5 years  |
|------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Rose Ann Bubloski***<br>56   | Vice President and Assistant Treasurer                     | Since 2011  | Ms. Bubloski is a director (since 2012) (prior to which she was an associate director (from 2008 to 2012)) and senior manager of fund accounting—US (previously named product control and investment support) of UBS Asset Management (Americas) LLC and/or UBS Asset Management (US) Inc. (“UBS AM—Americas region”). Ms. Bubloski is vice president and assistant treasurer of 6 investment companies (consisting of 50 portfolios) for which UBS AM serves as investment advisor or manager. Ms. Bubloski is chief financial officer and treasurer of 5 investment companies (consisting of 9 portfolios) for which Credit Suisse Asset Management, LLC serves as investment advisor or manager.  |
| Mark Carver*<br>60           | President  | Since October 2023                                    | Mr. Carver is an executive director and senior member of UBS AM—Americas region Products team (since rejoining UBS in 2022). In addition to his Fund Board relations and governance role, he serves as a regional strategic product shelf manager including, UBS AM—Americas region strategic product alignment with UBS Financial Services Inc. Mr. Carver previously served in the role of fund president from 2010 to 2018 before moving to a senior product role at UBS Financial Services Inc. until 2020. Before rejoining UBS AM, Mr. Carver served in a consulting capacity for FLX Networks, a firm serving both the asset management and wealth management industries. He is president of 6 investment companies (consisting of 50 portfolios) for which UBS AM serves as investment advisor or manager. |
| Franklin P. Dickson***<br>45 | Vice President   | Since 2017  | Mr. Dickson is an associate director (since 2015) and tax compliance manager (since 2017) (prior to which he was a product controller (from 2015 to 2017)) of fund accounting—US of UBS AM—Americas region. Mr. Dickson is a vice president of 6 investment companies (consisting of 50 portfolios) for which UBS AM serves as investment advisor or manager.  |
| Joanne M. Kilkeary***<br>56  | Vice President, Treasurer and Principal Accounting Officer | Since 2006 and 2017, respectively                     | Ms. Kilkeary is an executive director (since 2013) (prior to which she was a director (from 2008 to 2013)) and head of fund accounting—US (since 2020) (prior to which she was head of regulatory, tax, audit and board governance for product control and investment support (from 2017 until 2020)). Previously, she was a senior manager of registered fund product control of UBS AM—Americas region (from 2004-2017). Ms. Kilkeary is a vice president and treasurer and principal accounting officer of 6 investment companies (consisting of 50 portfolios) for which UBS AM serves as investment advisor or manager.   |
| Leesa Merrill**<br>45        | Chief Compliance Officer                                   | Since 2022  | Ms. Merrill is an executive director (since 2023) (prior to which she was a director (from 2014 until 2023)) and served as head of compliance risk (from 2020 to 2022) (prior to which she was a senior compliance officer (from 2004 until 2020)) for UBS AM—Americas region. Ms. Merrill serves as chief compliance officer of 6 investment companies (consisting of 50 portfolios) for which UBS AM or one of its affiliates serves as investment advisor or manager.   |



| <b>Name, address and age</b> | <b>Position(s) held with the Trust</b> | <b>Term of office† and length of time served</b> | <b>Principal occupation(s) during past 5 years</b>  |
|------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Eric Sanders*<br>58          | Vice President and Assistant Secretary | Since 2005                                       | Mr. Sanders is a director and associate general counsel with UBS Business Solutions US LLC (since 2017) and also with UBS AM—Americas region (since 2005). Mr. Sanders is a vice president and assistant secretary of 6 investment companies (consisting of 50 portfolios) for which UBS AM serves as investment advisor or manager.  |
| Philip Stacey**<br>39        | Vice President and Assistant Secretary | Since 2018                                       | Mr. Stacey is a managing director (since 2023, prior to which he was an executive director from 2019 until 2023) and Secretary and Head of Legal—UBS AM—Americas region (since 2023, prior to which he was Head of Derivatives and Trading Legal from 2017 through 2022) with UBS Business Solutions US LLC and also with UBS AM—Americas region (since 2015). Mr. Stacey is a vice-president and assistant secretary of 6 investment companies (consisting of 50 portfolios) for which UBS AM serves as investment advisor or manager.   |
| Keith A. Weller**<br>62      | Vice President and Secretary           | Since 2004 and 2019, respectively                | Mr. Weller is an executive director (since 2005), deputy general counsel (since 2019) (prior to which he was senior associate general counsel) and Head of Registered Funds Legal (since 2022) with UBS Business Solutions US LLC (since 2017) and also with UBS AM—Americas region (since 2005) and has been an attorney with affiliated entities since 1995. Mr. Weller is a vice president and secretary of 6 investment companies (consisting of 50 portfolios) for which UBS AM serves as investment advisor or manager, and is also involved with other funds for which UBS AM or an affiliate serves as investment advisor or administrator. |

† Officers of the Trust are appointed by the Trustees and serve at the pleasure of the Board.

\* This person's business address is 787 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10019.

\*\* This person's business address is One North Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60606.

\*\*\* This person's business address is 1000 Harbor Boulevard, Weehawken, NJ 07086.

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## Information about trustee ownership of Fund shares

| Trustee                     | Dollar range of equity securities in trust <sup>†</sup> | Aggregate dollar range of equity securities in all registered investment companies overseen by trustee for which UBS AM or an affiliate serves as investment advisor, sub-advisor or manager <sup>†</sup> |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Independent trustees</b> |   |   |
| Adela Cepeda                | None  | over \$100,000  |
| Rodrigo Garcia <sup>2</sup> | None  | None  |
| Muhammad Gigani             | None  | None  |
| Abbie J. Smith              | None  | over \$100,000  |

<sup>†</sup> Information regarding ownership is as of December 31, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Garcia began serving as a Trustee effective November 21, 2023.

Note regarding ranges: In disclosing the dollar range of equity securities beneficially owned by a Trustee in these columns, the following ranges will be used: (i) none; (ii) \$1 - \$10,000; (iii) \$10,001 - \$50,000; (iv) \$50,001 - \$100,000; or (v) over \$100,000.

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## Information about independent trustee ownership of securities issued by UBS AM or UBS AM (US) or any company controlling, controlled by or under common control with UBS AM or UBS AM (US)

As of December 31, 2023, the Independent Trustees did not own any securities issued by UBS AM or UBS AM (US) or any company controlling, controlled by or under common control with UBS AM or UBS AM (US).

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## Compensation table

| Name and position held <sup>1</sup>  | Annual aggregate compensation from UBS AM on behalf of the trust <sup>1</sup> | Pension or retirement benefits accrued as part of fund expenses | Total compensation for the trust and fund complex paid to trustees <sup>2</sup> |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Adela Cepeda, Trustee                | \$26,728  | N/A   | \$187,500   |
| Rodrigo Garcia, Trustee <sup>3</sup> | —   | N/A   | —   |
| Muhammad Gigani, Trustee             | 24,946  | N/A   | 175,000   |
| Abbie J. Smith, Trustee              | 22,808  | N/A   | 160,000   |

<sup>1</sup> Represents aggregate annual compensation paid by UBS AM on behalf of the Trust to each Trustee indicated for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> This amount represents the aggregate amount of compensation paid to the Trustees for service on the Board of Trustees of two registered investment companies managed by UBS AM for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Garcia began serving as a Trustee effective November 21, 2023.

No officer or Trustee of the Trust who is also an officer or employee of the Advisor receives any compensation from the Trust for services to the Trust.

Each Independent Trustee receives for his or her service to the Fund complex (which consists of the Trust and one other registered investment company), an annual retainer of \$160,000 paid quarterly for serving as a Board member. In addition, the Chairperson of the Board, for serving as Chairperson of the Board; the Chairperson of the Audit Committee, for serving as Chairperson of the Audit Committee; and the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, for serving as Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, each receive from the Fund complex, for his or her service, an annual retainer of \$20,000, \$15,000 and \$7,500, respectively. The Fund complex also reimburses each Trustee for out-of-pocket expenses in connection with travel and attendance at Board meetings.

**Principal holders and management ownership of securities**

As of April 1, 2024, the Trustees and officers of the Fund, individually and as a group owned less than 1% of the outstanding equity securities of the Trust and the Fund.

As of April 1, 2024, no person owned, of record or beneficially, more than 5% of the outstanding voting shares of the Fund.

# Investment advisory, administration, principal underwriting and other service arrangements

## **Advisor**

UBS Asset Management (Americas) LLC (“UBS AM” or the “Advisor”), with its principal offices located at One North Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60606 and 787 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10019, manages the assets of the Fund pursuant to its investment advisory agreement with the Trust on behalf of the Fund (the “Agreement”). UBS AM is the Fund’s investment advisor and administrator. UBS AM is an investment management firm managing approximately \$365.3 billion, as of December 31, 2023. UBS AM is an indirect asset management subsidiary of UBS Group AG and a member of the UBS Asset Management Division, which had approximately \$1.2 trillion in assets under management as of December 31, 2023. The Advisor is also an affiliate of UBS Financial Services, which provides certain delegated transfer agency related services to the Fund’s transfer agent with respect to the Fund.

Pursuant to its Agreement with the Trust, on behalf of the Fund, UBS AM does not receive a fee from the Fund for providing investment advisory services. Although the Fund does not compensate UBS AM directly for its services under the Agreement, UBS AM may benefit from the Fund being an investment option in a wrap program sponsored by UBS AM or certain other programs advised or sub-advised by UBS AM or its affiliates. UBS AM is responsible for paying expenses it incurs in providing advisory services as well as the following expenses: (1) the fees and expenses of the Trust’s Trustees who are not interested persons (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Trust by reason of affiliation with UBS AM or any of UBS AM’s affiliates.; (2) the salaries and expenses of any of the Trust’s officers or employees who are not affiliated with UBS AM; (3) interest expenses; (4) taxes and governmental fees; (5) the expenses of registering and qualifying shares for sale with the SEC and with various state securities commissions; (6) auditing and legal costs; (7) insurance premiums; (8) fees and expenses of the Trust’s custodian, administrative and transfer agent and any related services; (9) expenses of obtaining quotations of the Fund’s portfolio securities and of pricing the Fund’s shares; (10) expenses of maintaining the Trust’s legal existence and of shareholders’ meetings; (11) expenses of preparation and distribution to existing shareholders of reports, proxies and prospectuses; and (12) fees and expenses of membership in industry organizations.

In the absence of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard by UBS AM of its obligations and duties under the Agreement, UBS AM shall not be subject to any liability whatsoever to the Fund, or to any shareholder of the Fund, for any error of judgment, mistake of law or any other act or omission in the course of, or connected with, rendering services under the Agreement, including, without limitation, for any losses that may be sustained in connection with the purchase, holding, redemption or sale of any security on behalf of the Fund. The Agreement terminates automatically upon its assignment and is terminable at any time without penalty by the Board or by vote of the holders of a majority of the Fund’s outstanding voting securities, on 60 days’ written notice to UBS AM or by UBS AM on 60 days’ written notice to the Trust.

## **Portfolio managers**

UBS AM’s investment professionals are organized into investment management teams, with a particular team dedicated to a specific asset class. Presented below is information about those individuals identified as portfolio managers of the Fund in the Fund’s Prospectus.

The following table provides information relating to all other accounts managed by the portfolio managers as of December 31, 2023:

| Portfolio manager | Registered investment companies |                              | Other pooled investment vehicles |                              | Other accounts |                              |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|
|                   | Number                          | Assets managed (in millions) | Number                           | Assets managed (in millions) | Number         | Assets managed (in millions) |
| Ryan Nugent       | 0                               | \$0                          | 0                                | \$0                          | 15,563         | \$30,557                     |
| Oleg Morodokhin   | 0                               | 0                            | 0                                | 0                            | 6,245          | 10,339                       |
| Lisa DiPaolo      | 3                               | 1,182                        | 0                                | 0                            | 627            | 2,542                        |

The portfolio management team's management of the Fund and other accounts could result in potential conflicts of interest if the Fund and other accounts have different objectives, benchmarks and fees because the portfolio management team must allocate its time and investment expertise across multiple accounts, including the Fund. A portfolio manager and their team manage the Fund and other accounts utilizing a model portfolio approach that groups similar accounts within a model portfolio. The portfolio management team manages accounts according to the appropriate model portfolio, including where possible, those accounts that have specific investment restrictions. Accordingly, portfolio holdings, position sizes and industry and sector exposures tend to be similar across accounts, which may minimize the potential for conflicts of interest.

If a portfolio manager identifies a limited investment opportunity that may be suitable for more than one account or model portfolio, the Fund may not be able to take full advantage of that opportunity due to an allocation of filled purchase or sale orders across all eligible model portfolios and accounts. To deal with these situations, the Advisor has adopted procedures for allocating portfolio trades across multiple accounts to provide fair treatment to all accounts.

The management of personal accounts by a portfolio manager may also give rise to potential conflicts of interest. The Advisor and the Trust have adopted Codes of Ethics that govern such personal trading, but there is no assurance that the Codes will adequately address all such conflicts.

UBS AM's compensation philosophy is to align the interests of its employees with those of its clients and investors. UBS AM's Total Reward Principles are intended to provide a strong link to its strategic imperatives and encourage employees to live UBS AM's strong and inclusive culture that is grounded in its three keys to success: UBS's Pillars, Principles and Behaviors.

These guiding principles underpin UBS AM's approach to compensation and define its compensation framework that aims to balance performance and prudent risk-taking with a focus on conduct and sound risk management practices. UBS AM's compensation structure is designed to encourage employees to develop a strong client franchise, create sustainable value and achieve the highest standards of performance. Moreover, UBS AM rewards behavior that helps build and protect the firm's reputation—specifically accountability with integrity, collaboration and innovation. UBS AM strives for excellence and sustainable performance in everything it does. Compensation for each employee is based on individual, team, business division and Group performance, within the context of the markets in which UBS AM operates.

In general, the total compensation received by the portfolio managers and analysts at UBS AM consists of two elements: a fixed component (base salary and benefits) and an annual discretionary performance award.

Fixed component (base salary and benefits):

- Set with the aim of being competitive in the industry and monitored and adjusted periodically with reference to the relevant local labor market in order to remain so.
- The fixed component is used to recognize the experience, skills and knowledge that each portfolio manager or analyst brings to their role.

Performance award:

- Determined annually on a discretionary basis.
- Based on the individual's financial and non-financial contribution—as assessed through a rigorous performance assessment process—as well as on the performance of their respective function, of UBS AM and of UBS as a whole.
- Delivered in cash and, when total compensation is over a defined threshold, partly in deferral vehicles.
- For awards subject to deferral, the deferred amount is calculated using graduated deferral rates, which increase as the value of the performance award increases.
- For Asset Management employees, deferred amounts are typically granted in two deferral vehicles. Investment professionals typically receive 60% in the UBS Fund Ownership Plan (“FOP”) and 40% in the Deferred Contingent Capital Plan (“DCCP”).
- All deferred awards under the FOP are granted in the form of Notional Funds. FOP awards vest over three years with 50% of the award vesting in year two and 50% in year three, provided the vesting conditions, including continued service, are met and the awards have not been forfeited on or before the vesting dates. The Notional Funds awarded under the FOP are aligned to selected UBS Asset Management funds. They provide for a high level of transparency and correlation between an employee's compensation and the investment performance of UBS Asset Management. This enhances the alignment of investment professionals' and other employees' interests with those of our clients.
- The DCCP was introduced for performance year 2012 as a key component of UBS's compensation framework to align compensation incentives with the capital strength of the firm. For employees whose performance award is subject to deferral, 40% of the amount deferred is delivered in the DCCP. The terms of the DCCP are similar to those of a loss-absorbing bond instrument offered to external investors with regard to notional interest entitlement and the impact of trigger and viability events.
- DCCP aligns the interests of our key employees with the interests of external investors and, alongside FOP, attempts to ensure an appropriate balance between client and other stakeholder alignment.

For our Equities, Fixed Income, Investment Solutions and Passive investment areas:

From January 1, 2015, UBS AM introduced a new Key Performance Indicator (“KPI”)-led model for each business area, aligning our business steering logic with our strategic priorities. For our investment areas, sustainable investment performance is a major component of the KPI model.

Portfolio managers' performance awards are subject to detailed KPIs, mainly focused on investment performance of relevant client portfolios and funds, and also including some other factors such as risk management and client focus. Equities, Fixed Income, Solutions and Passive are assessed annually based on the investment performance

during each of the prior three years versus benchmark, performance target and peers. (The specific benchmark for the Fund is identified in its Fund Summary section in the prospectus.) This helps to ensure that the interests of portfolio managers are aligned with those of our clients. In addition, we evaluate our passive strategies in terms of how closely the performance of the strategies tracks their respective benchmarks over time.

As of December 31, 2023, no portfolio managers owned shares in the Fund.

### **Administrative, accounting, custody and transfer agency and related services**

**Administrative and accounting services.** UBS AM serves as administrator to the Trust. The Administrator is an indirect wholly owned asset management subsidiary of UBS Group AG.

As administrator, UBS AM supervises and manages all aspects of the Trust's operations. Under the Administration Contract, UBS AM will not be liable for any error of judgment or mistake of law or for any loss suffered by any series of the Trust, the Trust or any of its shareholders in connection with the performance of the Administration Contract, except to the extent that such a loss results from negligence, willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence on the part of UBS AM in the performance of its duties or from reckless disregard of its duties and obligations thereunder. The Administration Contract is terminable at any time without penalty by the Board or by vote of the holders of a majority of the Fund's outstanding voting securities, on 60 days' written notice to UBS AM, or by UBS AM on 60 days' written notice to the Trust. UBS AM does not charge the Fund a fee for providing administrative services to the Fund.

UBS AM has entered into a Sub-Administration Contract with State Street Bank and Trust Company ("State Street"). UBS AM pays State Street for the services it provides under the Sub-Administration Contract.

The Fund has entered into a Service Agreement with State Street to provide certain regulatory support services to the Fund, including: (i) CFTC exclusion filing services and other services, as applicable; and (ii) Form N-PORT and Form N-CEN preparation and filing services. UBS AM pays State Street a fee at an agreed-upon rate for the services State Street provides under the Service Agreement.

**Custody services.** State Street, located at One Congress Street, Suite 1, Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2016, provides custodian services for the securities and cash of the Fund.

**Transfer agency and related services.** BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc. ("BNY Mellon"), a subsidiary of BNY Mellon Bank, N.A., serves as the Fund's transfer and dividend disbursing agent. It is located at 103 Bellevue Parkway, Wilmington, Delaware 19809.

### **Principal underwriting arrangements**

UBS Asset Management (US) Inc. ("UBS AM (US)" or the "Underwriter"), with its principal office located at 787 Seventh Avenue, New York, New York 10019-6028, acts as the principal underwriter of the shares of the Fund pursuant to a Principal Underwriting Contract with the Trust ("Principal Underwriting Contract"). The Principal Underwriting Contract requires the Underwriter to use its best efforts, consistent with its other businesses, to sell shares of the Fund.

**Personal trading policies.** The Trust, the Fund, UBS AM and the Underwriter have adopted a Code of Ethics. The Code of Ethics establishes standards by which employees of UBS Asset Management (including all employees of UBS AM and the Underwriter) (together, "Covered Persons") must abide when engaging in personal securities trading conduct.

Under the Code of Ethics, Covered Persons are prohibited from, among other things: (i) executing a securities transaction on a day during which the Fund has a pending or executed buy or sell in the same security; (ii) entering into



a net short position with respect to any security; (iii) purchasing or selling futures (except currency forwards) that are not traded on an exchange, as well as options on any type of futures (exchange-traded or not); (iv) purchasing securities issued by a supplier or vendor about which the Covered Person has information or with whom the Covered Person is directly involved in negotiating a contract; and (v) acquiring securities in an initial public offering (other than a new offering of a registered open-end investment company).

In addition, Covered Persons must obtain prior written approval before purchasing, selling or transferring any security subject to certain exceptions listed in the Code of Ethics. Covered Persons and Trustees are required to file the following reports: (1) an initial and annual holdings report disclosing all reportable securities owned by the Covered Person and any reportable securities accounts maintained by the Covered Person, which the initial holdings report must be filed within ten days of becoming a Covered Person and gaining access to UBS AM systems (Independent Trustees are not required to file this report); (2) quarterly reports of security investment transactions and new securities accounts (Independent Trustees need only report a transaction in a security if such Trustee, at the time of the transaction, knew or should have known, in the ordinary course of fulfilling their official duties as a Trustee, that, during the 15-day period immediately preceding or after the date of the transaction by the Trustee, such security was purchased or sold by the Fund, or was being considered for purchase or sale by the Fund); and (3) an annual certification that they have read and understand the Code of Ethics, that they have complied with its requirements during the preceding year, and that they have disclosed or reported all personal transactions/holdings required to be disclosed or reported.

A copy of the Code of Ethics has been filed with and is available through the SEC.

**Proxy voting policies.** The Board believes that the voting of proxies on securities held by the Fund is an important element of the overall investment process. As such, the Board has delegated the responsibility to vote such proxies to UBS AM. Following is a summary of UBS AM's proxy voting policy.

You may obtain information about the Fund's proxy voting decisions, without charge, online on the Trust's Web Site ([www.ubs.com/ubsam-proxy](http://www.ubs.com/ubsam-proxy)) or on the EDGAR database on the SEC's Web Site ([www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov)) for the most recent 12-month period ended June 30th.

The proxy voting policy of the Advisor is based on its belief that voting rights have economic value and should be treated accordingly. Good corporate governance should, in the long term, lead toward both better corporate performance and improved shareholder value. Generally, the Advisor expects the boards of directors of companies issuing securities held by its clients to act in the service of the shareholders, view themselves as stewards of the company, exercise good judgment and practice diligent oversight of the management of the company. A commitment to acting in as transparent a manner as possible is fundamental to good governance. While there is no absolute set of rules that determine appropriate corporate governance under all circumstances and no set of rules will guarantee ethical board behavior, there are certain principles, which provide evidence of good corporate governance. The Advisor may delegate to an independent proxy voting and research service the authority to exercise the voting rights associated with certain client holdings. Any such delegation shall be made with the direction that the votes be exercised in accordance with the Advisor's proxy voting policy.

When the Advisor's view of a company's management is favorable, the Advisor generally supports current management initiatives. When the Advisor's view is that changes to the management structure would probably increase shareholder value, the Advisor may not support existing management proposals. In general, the Advisor generally exercises voting rights in accordance with the following principles: (1) with respect to board structure, (a) an effective chairman is key, (b) the roles of chairman and chief executive generally should be separated, (c) board members should have appropriate and diverse experience and be capable of providing good judgment and diligent oversight of management of the company, (d) the board should include executive and non-executive members, and (e) the non-executive members should provide a challenging, but generally supportive environment; and (2) with respect to

board responsibilities, (a) the whole board should be fully involved in endorsing strategy and in all major strategic decisions, and (b) the board should ensure that at all times (i) appropriate management succession plans are in place; (ii) the interests of executives and shareholders are aligned; and financial audit is independent and accurate; (iii) the brand and reputation of the company is protected and enhanced; (iv) a constructive dialogue with shareholders is encouraged; and (v) it receives all the information necessary to hold management accountable. In addition, the Advisor focuses on the following areas of concern when voting its clients' securities: economic value resulting from acquisitions or disposals; operational performance; quality of management; independent non-executive board directors not holding executive management accountable; quality of internal controls; lack of transparency; inadequate succession planning; poor approach to corporate social responsibility; inefficient management structure; and corporate activity designed to frustrate the ability of shareholders to hold the board accountable or realize the maximum value of their investment. The Advisor exercises its voting rights in accordance with overarching rationales outlined by its proxy voting policies and procedures that are based on the principles described above.

The proxy voting policy includes guidelines regarding environmental, social, and corporate governance ("ESG") factors during the exercise of voting rights on behalf of UBS AM's clients, such as the Fund. Underlying UBS AM's voting and ESG guidelines are two fundamental objectives: (1) acting in the best financial interest of clients and enhancing the long-term value of their investments; and (2) promoting best practice in corporate governance and ensuring that portfolio companies are sustainable and successful.

The Advisor has implemented procedures designed to address a conflict of interest in voting a particular proxy proposal, which may arise as a result of its or its affiliates' client relationships, marketing efforts or banking, investment banking and broker/dealer activities. To address such conflicts, the Advisor has imposed information barriers between it and its affiliates who conduct banking, investment banking and broker/dealer activities and has implemented procedures to prevent business, sales and marketing issues from influencing its proxy votes. Whenever the Advisor becomes aware of a conflict with respect to a particular proxy, and under certain circumstances, the relevant internal UBS AM Committee may be notified and determine the manner in which such proxy is voted.

### **Portfolio holdings disclosure policies and procedures**

**Introduction.** UBS AM and the Board have adopted portfolio holdings disclosure policies and procedures to govern the disclosure of the portfolio holdings of the Fund (the "Disclosure Policy"). The Trust's policy with respect to the release of portfolio holdings information is to only release such information consistent with applicable legal requirements and the fiduciary duties owed to shareholders. Subject to the limited exceptions described below, the Fund's portfolio holdings will not be made available to anyone outside of UBS AM or a sub-advisor unless and until the information has been made available to all shareholders or the general public in a manner consistent with the spirit and terms of the Disclosure Policy. A description of the type and frequency of portfolio holdings that are disclosed to the public is contained in the Fund's Prospectus, as it may be updated from time to time.

The Disclosure Policy requires that the UBS AM Legal and Compliance Departments address any material conflicts of interest regarding a disclosure of portfolio holdings and determine whether a disclosure of the Fund's portfolio holdings is for a legitimate business purpose and in the best interest of the Fund's shareholders prior to the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Trust or an attorney in the UBS AM Legal and Compliance Departments authorizing the disclosure of portfolio holdings. The UBS AM Legal and Compliance Departments will periodically review how the Fund's portfolio holdings are being disclosed to and used by, if at all, shareholders, service providers, UBS AM affiliates, fiduciaries, and broker-dealers, to ensure that such disclosure and use is for legitimate Fund business reasons and consistent with the best interests of the Fund's shareholders.

The Board exercises continuing oversight of the disclosure of Fund portfolio holdings by: (i) overseeing the implementation and enforcement by the CCO of the Trust of the Disclosure Policy, the Trust's code of ethics and policies and procedures regarding the misuse of inside information; (ii) considering reports and recommendations by the CCO concerning any material compliance matters (as defined in Rule 38a-1 under the 1940 Act and Rule 206(4)-7 under

the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (“Advisers Act”) that may arise in connection with any policies governing portfolio holdings; and (iii) considering whether to approve or ratify any amendment to any policies governing portfolio holdings. The Disclosure Policy may be amended from time to time, subject to approval by the Board.

**Disclosure of complete portfolio holdings to service providers subject to confidentiality and trading restrictions.** UBS AM, for legitimate fund business purposes, may disclose the Fund’s complete portfolio holdings if it deems such disclosure necessary and appropriate to rating and ranking organizations, financial printers, proxy voting service providers, pricing information vendors, derivatives collateral managers, third-parties that deliver analytical, statistical or consulting services, custodians or a redeeming party’s custodian or transfer agent, as necessary in connection with redemptions in kind, and other third-parties that provide services (collectively, “Service Providers”) to UBS AM and/or the Fund.

Disclosure of complete portfolio holdings to a Service Provider is conditioned on the Service Provider being subject to a written duty of confidentiality, including a duty not to trade on the basis of any material non-public information, pursuant to the terms of the service agreement between the Service Provider and the Trust or UBS AM, or the terms of a separate confidentiality agreement. The frequency with which complete portfolio holdings may be disclosed to a Service Provider, and the length of lag, if any, between the date of information and the date on which the information is disclosed to the Service Provider, is to be determined based on the facts and circumstances, including, without limitation, the nature of the portfolio holdings information to be disclosed, the risk of harm to the Fund’s shareholders, and the legitimate fund business purposes served by such disclosure. Disclosure of the Fund’s complete portfolio holdings to a Service Provider must be authorized in writing by the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Trust or by an attorney in the UBS AM Legal and Compliance Departments.

**Disclosure of complete portfolio holdings to UBS Asset Management affiliates and certain fiduciaries subject to confidentiality and trading restrictions.** The Fund’s complete portfolio holdings may be disclosed between and among the following persons (collectively, “Affiliates and Fiduciaries”) subject to authorization by the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Trust, or an attorney in the UBS AM Legal and Compliance Departments, for legitimate fund business purposes within the scope of their official duties and responsibilities, and subject to such Affiliate/Fiduciary’s continuing duty of confidentiality and duty not to trade on the basis of any material non-public information, as such duties are imposed under the Trust’s and/or UBS AM’s Code of Ethics, the Fund’s policies and procedures regarding the prevention of the misuse of inside information, by agreement or under applicable laws, rules and regulations: (i) persons who are subject to UBS AM’s Codes of Ethics or the policies and procedures regarding the prevention of the misuse of inside information; (ii) an investment advisor, distributor, administrator, sub-administrator, transfer agent, custodian or securities lending agent to the Fund; (iii) an accounting firm, an auditing firm or outside legal counsel retained by UBS AM or the Fund; (iv) an investment advisor to whom complete portfolio holdings are disclosed for due diligence purposes when the advisor is in merger or acquisition talks with the Fund’s current advisor; and (v) a newly hired investment advisor or sub-advisor to whom complete portfolio holdings are disclosed prior to the time it commences its duties.

The frequency with which complete portfolio holdings may be disclosed between and among Affiliates and Fiduciaries, and the length of the lag, if any, between the date of the information and the date on which the information is disclosed between and among the Affiliates and Fiduciaries, is to be determined by the UBS AM Legal and Compliance Departments based on the facts and circumstances, including, without limitation, the nature of the portfolio holdings information to be disclosed, and the risk of harm to the Fund and its shareholders, and the legitimate fund business purposes served by such disclosure.

**Arrangements to disclose portfolio holdings to service providers and fiduciaries.** As of the date of this SAI, the specific Service Providers and Fiduciaries with whom the Trust has arrangements to provide portfolio holdings in

advance of their release to the general public in the course of performing or to enable them to perform services for the Fund are:

- State Street, the Fund’s custodian, accounting agent, securities lending agent and sub-administrator, receives portfolio holdings information daily on a real-time basis in connection with the custodian, fund accounting, securities lending and sub-administration services it provides to the Fund.
- Ernst & Young LLP, the Fund’s independent registered public accounting firm, receives portfolio holdings information on an annual and semiannual basis for reporting purposes. There is a 25-day lag between the date of portfolio holdings information and the date on which the information is disclosed to Ernst & Young for semiannual reporting purposes. Ernst & Young also receives portfolio holdings information annually at year-end for audit purposes. For information received at year-end for audit purposes, there is no lag between the date of the portfolio holdings information and the date on which the information is disclosed to Ernst & Young. In addition, Ernst & Young receives holdings twice a year for PFIC, fiscal income and excise tax provision reporting purposes with a 25-day lag time.
- Bloomberg Finance L.P. receives daily portfolio holdings for the Fund at the end of each day in connection with its provision of services related to liquidity risk management.
- The Fund uses a limited number of financial printers to print and file its annual and semiannual shareholder reports and other regulatory materials. There is at least a three-week lag between the date of the portfolio holdings information and the date on which the information is disclosed to the printer.
- Marketing Spectrum and Karen Murray receive portfolio holdings information on a semi-annual basis to provide writing services in connection with the preparation of shareholder reports. There is typically a 15-day lag between the date of the portfolio holdings information and the date on which they receive the information.
- Institutional Shareholder Services receives portfolio holdings information on a monthly basis on a 6-day lag in connection with proxy voting and class action claims processing services provided to the Fund.
- RiskMetrics Solutions LLC receives daily portfolio holdings for the Fund in connection with its provision of services related to risk management, including derivatives risk management.

**Disclosure of complete portfolio holdings to certain shareholders subject to confidentiality and trading restrictions.** UBS AM may make available the Fund’s complete non-public portfolio holdings, as of the most recent month-end, no sooner than 8 business days after the month-end for the purpose of assisting a shareholder to comply with the shareholder’s legal or other regulatory obligations. UBS AM may release the non-public portfolio holdings to a shareholder of the Fund if: (i) the shareholder requests the non-public portfolio holdings for the purpose of assisting the shareholder in complying with the shareholder’s legal or other regulatory obligations; (ii) the disclosure of the non-public portfolio holdings is consistent with the Fund’s legitimate business purpose; and (iii) the shareholder (and, if applicable, the shareholder’s service provider) executes a written confidentiality agreement whereby the shareholder (and, if applicable, the shareholder’s service provider) agrees not to disclose the non-public portfolio holdings information to third parties and not to purchase or sell any portfolio securities listed in the non-public portfolio holdings in reliance on the non-public portfolio holdings information.

Disclosure to a shareholder of the Fund of the non-public portfolio holdings information must be authorized in writing by the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Fund or by an attorney in the UBS AM Legal and Compliance Departments.

As of the date of this SAI, the Trust, on behalf of the Fund, has no arrangements to provide portfolio holdings in advance of their release to the general public to assist shareholders in complying with the shareholder's legal or regulatory obligations.

**Disclosure of portfolio holdings to broker-dealers in the normal course of managing Fund assets.** An investment advisor, administrator or custodian for the Fund may, for legitimate fund business purposes within the scope of their official duties and responsibilities, disclose portfolio holdings (whether partial portfolio holdings or complete portfolio holdings) and other investment positions comprising the Fund to one or more broker-dealers during the course of, or in connection with, normal day-to-day securities and derivatives transactions with or through such broker-dealers subject to the broker-dealer's legal obligation not to use or disclose material non-public information concerning the Fund's portfolio holdings, other investment positions, securities transactions or derivatives transactions without the consent of the Trust or the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Trust or an attorney in the UBS AM Legal and Compliance Departments. The Trust has not given its consent to any such use or disclosure and no person, including the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Trust or an attorney in the UBS AM Legal and Compliance Departments is authorized to give such consent except as approved by the Board. In the event consent is given to disclose portfolio holdings to a broker-dealer, the frequency with which the portfolio holdings may be disclosed to a broker-dealer, and the length of the lag, if any, between the date of the information and the date on which the information is disclosed to the broker-dealer, is to be determined based on the facts and circumstances, including, without limitation, the nature of the portfolio holdings information to be disclosed, and the risk of harm to the Fund and its shareholders, and the legitimate fund business purposes served by such disclosure.

**Disclosure of non-material information.** Policies and procedures regarding disclosure of non-material information permit the officers of the Trust, UBS Asset Management Fund portfolio managers and senior officers of UBS AM Fund Accounting-US, UBS AM Legal and Compliance Departments, and anyone employed by or associated with UBS AM who has been authorized by the UBS AM Legal Department (collectively, "Approved Representatives") to disclose any views, opinions, judgments, advice or commentary, or any analytical, statistical, performance or other information, in connection with or relating to the Fund or its portfolio holdings and/or other investment positions (collectively, commentary and analysis) or any changes in the portfolio holdings of the Fund that occurred after the most recent calendar-quarter end (recent portfolio changes) to any person if such information does not constitute material non-public information.

An Approved Representative must make a good faith determination whether the information constitutes material non-public information, which involves an assessment of the particular facts and circumstances. UBS AM believes that in most cases recent portfolio changes that involve a few or even several securities in a diversified portfolio or commentary and analysis would be immaterial and would not convey any advantage to a recipient in making an investment decision concerning the Fund. Nonexclusive examples of commentary and analysis include: (i) the allocation of the Fund's portfolio holdings and other investment positions among various asset classes, sectors, industries and countries; (ii) the characteristics of the stock and bond components of the Fund's portfolio holdings and other investment positions; (iii) the attribution of Fund returns by asset class, sector, industry and country; and (iv) the volatility characteristics of the Fund. An Approved Representative may in his or her sole discretion determine whether to deny any request for information made by any person, and may do so for any reason or no reason.

**Disclosure of portfolio holdings as required by applicable law.** Fund portfolio holdings and other investment positions comprising the Fund may be disclosed to any person as required by applicable laws, rules and regulations. Examples of such required disclosure include, but are not limited to, disclosure of Fund portfolio holdings: (i) in a filing or submission with the SEC or another regulatory body; (ii) in connection with seeking recovery on defaulted bonds in a federal bankruptcy case; (iii) in connection with a lawsuit; or (iv) as required by court order, subpoena or similar process (e.g., arbitration proceedings).

**Prohibitions on disclosure of portfolio holdings.** No person is authorized to disclose Fund portfolio holdings or other investment positions (whether online at [www.ubs.com](http://www.ubs.com), in writing, by fax, by e-mail, orally or by other means) except in accordance with the Disclosure Policy. In addition, no person is authorized to make disclosure pursuant to the Disclosure Policy if such disclosure would be unlawful under the antifraud provisions of the federal securities laws (as defined in Rule 38a-1 under the 1940 Act). Furthermore, UBS AM, in its sole discretion, may determine not to disclose portfolio holdings or other investment positions comprising the Fund to any person who might otherwise be eligible to receive such information under the Disclosure Policy, or may determine to make such disclosures publicly as described above.

**Prohibitions on receipt of compensation or other consideration.** Neither UBS AM, the Fund nor any other person may pay or receive any compensation or other consideration of any type for the purpose of obtaining disclosure of Fund portfolio holdings or other investment positions. "Consideration" includes any agreement to maintain assets in the Fund or in other investment companies or accounts managed by the investment advisor or by any affiliated person of the investment advisor.

#### **Bank line of credit**

The Fund participates with other funds managed by UBS AM in a \$185 million committed credit facility (the "Credit Facility") with State Street, to be utilized for temporary financing until the settlement of sales or purchases of portfolio securities, the repurchase or redemption of shares at the request of shareholders and other temporary or emergency purposes. Under the Credit Facility arrangement, the Fund has agreed to pay commitment fees on the average daily balance of the Credit Facility not utilized. Under the Credit Facility arrangement commitment fees are allocated amongst the participating funds as follows: 50% of the allocation is based on the relative asset size of funds and the other 50% of the allocation is based on utilization.

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, the Fund did not borrow under the Credit Facility.

## Portfolio transactions and brokerage commissions

UBS AM is responsible for decisions to buy and sell securities for the Fund and for the placement of the Fund's portfolio business and the negotiation of commissions, if any, paid on such transactions. Fixed income securities in which the Fund invests are traded in the OTC market. These securities are generally traded on a net basis with dealers acting as principal for their own accounts without a stated commission, although the bid/ask spread quoted on securities includes an implicit profit to the dealers. In OTC transactions, orders are placed directly with a principal market-maker unless a better price and execution can be obtained by using a broker. Brokerage commissions are paid on transactions in listed securities, futures contracts and options. UBS AM is responsible for effecting portfolio transactions and will do so in a manner deemed fair and reasonable to the Fund. Under its advisory agreement with the Fund, the Advisor is authorized to utilize the trading desk of its foreign affiliates to execute foreign securities transactions, but monitors the selection by such affiliated brokers and dealers used to execute transactions for the Fund.

The primary consideration in all portfolio transactions will be prompt execution of orders in an efficient manner at the most favorable price. However, subject to policies established by the Board, the Fund may pay a broker-dealer a commission for effecting a portfolio transaction for the Fund in excess of the amount of commission another broker-dealer would have charged if UBS AM determines in good faith that the commission paid was reasonable in relation to the brokerage or research services provided by such broker-dealer, viewed in terms of that particular transaction or such firm's overall responsibilities with respect to the clients, including the Fund, as to which UBS AM exercises investment discretion. In selecting and monitoring broker-dealers and negotiating commissions, UBS AM considers the firm's reliability, the quality of its execution services on a continuing basis and its financial condition. When more than one firm is believed to meet these criteria, preference may be given to brokers who provide



research or statistical material or other services to the Fund or to UBS AM. Such services include advice, both directly and in writing, as to the value of the securities; the advisability of investing in, purchasing or selling securities; and the availability of securities, or purchasers or sellers of securities, as well as analyses and reports concerning issues, industries, securities, economic factors and trends, portfolio strategy and the performance of accounts. This allows UBS AM to supplement its own investment research activities and obtain the views and information of others prior to making investment decisions. UBS AM is of the opinion that, because this material must be analyzed and reviewed by its staff, the receipt and use of such material does not tend to reduce expenses but may benefit the Fund by supplementing UBS AM's research.

UBS AM effects portfolio transactions for other investment companies and advisory accounts. Research services furnished by dealers through whom the Fund effects its securities transactions may be used by UBS AM, or its affiliated investment advisors, in servicing all of their accounts; not all such services may be used in connection with the Fund. In the opinion of UBS AM, it is not possible to measure separately the benefits from research services to each of the accounts (including the Fund). UBS AM will attempt to equitably allocate portfolio transactions among the Fund and others whenever concurrent decisions are made to purchase or sell securities by the Fund and another account. In making such allocations between the Fund and others, the main factors to be considered are the respective investment objectives, the relative size of portfolio holdings of the same or comparable securities, the availability of cash for investment, the size of investment commitments generally held and the opinions of the persons responsible for recommending investments to the Fund and the others. In some cases, this procedure could have an adverse effect on the Fund. In the opinion of UBS AM, however, the results of such procedures will, on the whole, be in the best interest of each of the clients.

When buying or selling securities, the Fund may pay commissions to brokers who are affiliated with UBS AM or the Fund. The Fund may purchase securities in certain underwritten offerings for which an affiliate of the Fund or UBS AM may act as an underwriter. The Fund may effect futures transactions through, and pay commissions to, FCMs who are affiliated with UBS AM or the Fund in accordance with procedures adopted by the Board.

For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2023, December 31, 2022, and December 31, 2021, the Fund did not incur brokerage commissions.

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, the Fund did not pay commissions for securities transactions to brokers that provided research services to the Fund.

For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2023, December 31, 2022, and December 31, 2021, the Fund did not pay brokerage commissions to an affiliated broker.

As of December 31, 2023, the Fund did not own securities issued by a company that is a regular broker-dealer for the Fund.

### **Portfolio turnover**

The Fund is free to dispose of its portfolio securities at any time, subject to complying with the Code and the 1940 Act, when changes in circumstances or conditions make such a move desirable in light of the Fund's investment objective. The Fund will not attempt to achieve or be limited to a predetermined rate of portfolio turnover, such a turnover always being incidental to transactions undertaken with a view to achieving the Fund's investment objective.

The Fund does not intend to use short-term trading as a primary means of achieving its investment objective. The rate of portfolio turnover shall be calculated by dividing: (a) the lesser of purchases and sales of portfolio securities for the particular fiscal year by (b) the monthly average of the value of the portfolio securities owned by the Fund during the particular fiscal year. Such monthly average shall be calculated by totaling the values of the portfolio securities as of the beginning and end of the first month of the particular fiscal year and as of the end of each of the succeeding eleven months and dividing the sum by 13.



The portfolio turnover rate of the Fund for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2023, December 31, 2022, and December 31, 2021 was as follows:

| Fund     | Fiscal year ended December 31, |      |      |
|----------|--------------------------------|------|------|
|          | 2023                           | 2022 | 2021 |
| Series M | 21%                            | 21%  | 18%  |

The portfolio turnover rate may exceed 100%. High portfolio turnover rates (over 100%) may involve correspondingly greater brokerage commissions and other transaction costs, which will be borne directly by the Fund and ultimately by the Fund's shareholders. In addition, high portfolio turnover may result in increased short-term capital gains, which, when distributed to shareholders, are treated as ordinary income.

## Securities lending

The Board has approved the Fund's participation in a securities lending program. Under the securities lending program, State Street serves as the securities lending agent for the Fund.

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, the Fund did not engage in securities lending activity.

## Redemption information and other services

**Additional redemption information.** No notice need be given to shareholders if, under extraordinary circumstances, either redemptions are suspended under the circumstances described below or the Fund temporarily delays or ceases the sales of its shares because it is unable to invest amounts effectively in accordance with its investment objective, policies and restrictions.

If conditions exist that make cash payments undesirable, the Fund reserves the right to honor any request for redemption by making payment in whole or in part in securities chosen by the Fund and valued in the same way as they would be valued for purposes of computing the Fund's net asset value. If payment is made in securities, a shareholder may incur brokerage expenses in converting these securities into cash. The Fund has elected, however, to be governed by Rule 18f-1 under the 1940 Act, under which it is obligated to redeem shares solely in cash up to the lesser of \$250,000 or 1% of its net asset value during any 90-day period with respect to any one shareholder. This election is irrevocable unless the SEC permits its withdrawal.

The Fund may suspend redemption privileges or postpone the date of payment during any period: (1) when the NYSE is closed or trading on the NYSE is restricted as determined by the SEC, (2) when an emergency exists, as defined by the SEC, that makes it not reasonably practicable for the Fund to dispose of securities owned by it or fairly to determine the value of its assets, or (3) as the SEC may otherwise permit. The redemption price may be more or less than the shareholders' cost, depending on the market value of the Fund's portfolio at the time.

**Service organizations.** The Fund may authorize service organizations, and their agents, to accept on the Fund's behalf purchase and redemption orders that are in "good form" in accordance with the policies of those service organizations. The Fund will be deemed to have received these purchase and redemption orders when a service organization or its agent accepts them. Like all customer orders, these orders will be priced based on the Fund's net asset value next computed after receipt of the order by the service organizations or their agents.

## Valuation of shares

The price at which you may buy, sell or exchange Fund shares is based on net asset value per share. The Fund generally calculates its net asset value on days that the NYSE is open. The Fund calculates net asset value as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE (generally, 4:00 p.m., Eastern time). The NYSE normally is not open, and the Fund does not price its shares, on most national holidays and on Good Friday. To the extent that the Fund's assets are traded in other markets on days when the NYSE is not open, the value of the Fund's assets may be affected on those days. If trading on the NYSE is halted for the day before 4:00 p.m., Eastern time, the Fund's net asset value per share generally will still be calculated as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE. The time at which a fund calculates its net asset value and until which purchases, sales or exchange orders are accepted may be changed as permitted by the SEC.

The Fund calculates its net asset value based on the current market value, where available, for its portfolio investments. The Fund normally obtains market values for its investments from independent pricing sources and broker-dealers. Independent pricing sources may use reported last sale prices, official market closing prices, current market quotations or valuations from computerized "evaluation" systems that derive values based on comparable investments. An evaluation system incorporates parameters such as security quality, maturity and coupon, and/or research and evaluations by its staff, including review of broker-dealer market price quotations, if available, in determining the valuation of the portfolio investments. Investments also may be valued based on appraisals derived from information concerning the investment or similar investments received from recognized dealers in those holdings. Investments traded in the OTC market and listed on The NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc. ("NASDAQ") normally are valued at the NASDAQ Official Closing Price. Other OTC securities are normally valued at the last bid price on the valuation date available prior to valuation. Investments which are listed on US and foreign stock exchanges normally are valued at the market closing price, the last sale price on the day the investments are valued or, lacking any sales on such day, at the last available bid price. In cases where investments are traded on more than one exchange, the investments are valued on the exchange designated as the primary market by UBS AM, the investment advisor of the Fund.

If a market value is not readily available from an independent pricing source for a particular investment, that security or instrument is valued at fair value as determined in good faith by or under the direction of the Board. Various factors may be reviewed in order to make a good faith determination of an investment's fair value. These factors include, but are not limited to, fundamental analytical data relating to the investment; the nature and duration of restrictions on disposition of the investments; and the evaluation of forces which influence the market in which the investment is purchased and sold.

The amortized cost method of valuation, which approximates market value, generally is used to value short-term debt instruments with 60 days or less remaining to maturity, unless the Advisor determines that this does not represent fair value. Investments in open-end investment companies are valued at the daily closing net asset value of the respective investment company. Pursuant to the Fund's use of the practical expedient within ASC Topic 820, investments in investment companies without publicly published prices are also valued at the daily net asset value.

Futures contracts are generally valued at the settlement price established each day on the exchange on which they are traded.

Swaps are marked-to-market daily based upon values from third party vendors or quotations from market makers to the extent available, and the change in value, if any, is recorded as an unrealized gain or loss on the Statement of assets and liabilities. In the event that market quotations are not readily available or deemed unreliable, the swap is valued at fair value as determined in good faith by the Advisor, as the valuation designee, subject to oversight by the Board.

## Potential conflicts of interest

### **Activities of UBS AM and its affiliates (collectively, “UBS Asset Management”), UBS Securities LLC and UBS Financial Services Inc. and their affiliates (collectively, “UBS”) and other accounts managed by UBS**

UBS Asset Management is a large asset management firm with approximately \$1.2 trillion in assets under management worldwide as of December 31, 2023.<sup>1</sup> UBS Asset Management offers investment capabilities and investment styles across all major traditional and alternative asset classes, including equity, fixed income, currency, hedge fund, real estate, infrastructure and private equity investment capabilities that can also be combined in multi-asset strategies. UBS Asset Management has nine main hubs globally: Chicago, Hong Kong, London, New York, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, Tokyo and Zurich.

UBS is a worldwide full-service investment banking, broker-dealer, asset management and financial services organization. As a result, UBS Asset Management and UBS (including, for these purposes, their directors, partners, officers and employees) worldwide, including the entities and personnel who may be involved in the investment activities and business operations of the Fund, are engaged in businesses and have interests other than that of managing the Fund. These activities and interests include potential multiple advisory, transactional, financial, consultative, and other interests in transactions, companies, securities and other instruments that may be engaged in, purchased or sold by the Fund. This section sets forth considerations of which investors in the Fund should be aware, and that may cause conflicts of interest on the part of UBS and UBS Asset Management that could disadvantage the Fund. To address these potential conflicts, UBS and UBS Asset Management have established various policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to detect and prevent these potential conflicts of interest and prevent the Fund from being disadvantaged.

Prospective investors should carefully review the following, which more fully describes these and other potential conflicts of interest presented by UBS Asset Management’s and UBS’ other businesses and interests.

**Potential conflicts relating to portfolio decisions, and the allocation of investment opportunities UBS’ other activities may have an impact on the Fund.** UBS AM makes decisions for the Fund in accordance with its obligations as investment advisor to the Fund. However, UBS’ other activities may, at the same time have a negative impact on the Fund. As a result of the various activities and interests of UBS, it is likely that the Fund will have multiple business relationships with, engage in transactions with, make voting decisions with respect to, or obtain services from UBS and other entities for which UBS performs or seeks to perform investment banking or other services. It is also likely that the Fund will undertake transactions in securities in which UBS makes a market or otherwise has other direct or indirect interests.

UBS conducts extensive broker-dealer, banking and other activities around the world and provides investment banking, broker-dealer, prime brokerage, administrative and other services to clients that may involve markets and securities in which the Fund invests. These activities will give UBS broad access to the current status of certain markets and investments. As a result of the activities described in this paragraph and the access and knowledge arising from those activities, parts of UBS may be in possession of information in respect of markets and investments, which, if known to UBS AM, might cause UBS AM to seek to dispose of, retain or increase interests in investments held by the Fund or acquire certain positions on behalf of the Fund. UBS will be under no duty to make any such information available to the Fund or personnel of UBS AM making investment decisions on behalf of the Fund and maintains information barriers designed to prevent the misuse of such information. In general, personnel of UBS AM making investment decisions will make decisions based solely upon information known by such decision makers without regard to information known by other UBS personnel.

<sup>1</sup> UBS AM manages approximately \$365.3 billion as of December 31, 2023.

In conformance with the Fund's investment objective and subject to compliance with applicable law, UBS AM may purchase securities for the Fund during an underwriting or other offering of securities in which a broker/dealer affiliate acts as a manager, co-manager, underwriter or placement agent, or receives a benefit in the form of management, underwriting, or other fees. Affiliates of UBS AM may act in other capacities in such offerings for which a fee, compensation, or other benefit will be received. From time to time, affiliates of UBS AM will be current investors in companies engaged in an offering of securities that UBS AM may purchase on behalf of its clients. Such purchases may provide a direct or indirect benefit to UBS Asset Management's affiliates acting as a selling shareholder. UBS Asset Management may also participate in structured fixed income offerings of securities in which a related person may serve as trustee, depositor, originator service agent or other service provider in which fees will be paid to such related person. Further, a related person may act as originator and/or servicing agent of loans or receivables for a structured fixed income offering in which UBS AM may invest Fund assets. Participation in such offering may directly or indirectly relieve financial obligations of related persons.

UBS Asset Management may purchase or sell, or recommend for purchase or sale, for its investment advisory clients securities of companies: (i) with respect to which its affiliates act as an investment banker or financial adviser; (ii) with which its affiliates have other confidential relationships; (iii) in which its affiliates maintain a position or (iv) for which its affiliates make a market; or in which it or its officers, directors or employees or those of its affiliates own securities or otherwise have an interest. Except to the extent prohibited by law or regulation or by client instruction, UBS Asset Management may recommend to its clients, or purchase for its clients, securities of issuers in which UBS has an interest as described in this paragraph.

**UBS' financial and other interests and relationships may incentivize UBS to promote the sale of Fund shares.** UBS, its personnel and other financial service providers, have interests in promoting sales of the Fund. UBS AM may also make cash and non-cash payments to banks, broker-dealers, insurance companies, financial planning firms and other financial intermediaries, that sell shares of the Fund, subject to UBS AM's internal policies and procedures. The source of such payments may come from the underwriter's own resources (including through transfers from affiliates). Payments made from the underwriter's own resources are often referred to as "revenue sharing." Please read the section entitled "Principal underwriting arrangements" for more information.

With respect to both UBS and its personnel, the remuneration and profitability relating to services to and sales of the Fund or other products may be greater than the remuneration and profitability relating to services to and sales of other products that might be provided or offered by UBS or other third parties. UBS and its sales personnel may directly or indirectly receive a portion of the fees and commissions charged to the Fund or its shareholders. UBS and its advisory or other personnel may also benefit from increased amounts of assets under management. Fees and commissions charged to the Fund may also be higher than for other products or services, and the remuneration and profitability to UBS and such personnel resulting from transactions on behalf of or management of the Fund may be greater than the remuneration and profitability resulting from similar transactions for other funds or products.

UBS also may have relationships with, and purchase, or distribute or sell, services or products from or to, distributors, consultants and others who recommend the Fund, or who engage in transactions with or for the Fund. For example, UBS regularly participates in industry and consultant sponsored conferences and may purchase educational, data or other services from consultants or other third parties that it deems to be of value to its personnel and its business. The products and services purchased from consultants may include, but are not limited to, those that help UBS understand the consultant's points of view on the investment management process. Consultants and other parties that provide consulting or other services to potential investors in the Fund may receive fees from UBS or the Fund in connection with the distribution of shares in the Fund or other UBS products. For example, UBS may enter into revenue or fee sharing arrangements with consultants, service providers, and other intermediaries relating to investments in mutual funds, collective trusts, or other products or services offered or managed by UBS AM. UBS

may also pay a fee for membership in industry-wide or state and municipal organizations or otherwise help sponsor conferences and educational forums for investment industry participants including, but not limited to, trustees, fiduciaries, consultants, administrators, state and municipal personnel and other clients. UBS' membership in such organizations allows UBS to participate in these conferences and educational forums and helps UBS interact with conference participants and to develop an understanding of the points of view and challenges of the conference participants. In addition, UBS' personnel, including employees of UBS, may have board, advisory, brokerage or other relationships with issuers, distributors, consultants and others that may have investments in the Fund or that may recommend investments in the Fund. In addition, UBS, including UBS AM, may make charitable contributions to institutions, including those that have relationships with clients or personnel of clients. UBS' personnel may also make political contributions. As a result of the relationships and arrangements described in this paragraph, consultants, distributors and other parties may have conflicts associated with their promotion of the Fund or other dealings with the Fund that creates incentives for them to promote the Fund or certain portfolio transactions.

To the extent permitted by applicable law, UBS AM may make payments to authorized dealers and other financial intermediaries ("Intermediaries") from time to time to promote the Fund. The additional payments by UBS AM may also compensate Intermediaries for subaccounting, administrative and/or shareholder processing services that are in addition to the fees paid for these or similar services by such products. Payments made by UBS AM may vary between different Intermediaries. Please read the section entitled "Principal underwriting arrangements" for more information.

**Potential conflicts relating to the allocation of investment opportunities among the Fund and other UBS accounts.** UBS Asset Management manages accounts of certain clients by means of separate accounts ("Separate Accounts"). With respect to the Fund, UBS AM may follow a strategy that is expected to be similar over time to that delivered by the Separate Accounts. The Fund and the Separate Account Clients are subject to independent management and, given the independence in the implementation of advice to these accounts, there can be no assurance that such investment advice will be implemented simultaneously. While each will use reasonable endeavors to procure timely execution, it is possible that prior execution for or on behalf of the Separate Accounts could adversely affect the prices and availability of the securities, currencies and instruments in which the Fund invests.

**Other potential conflicts relating to the management of the Fund by UBS Asset Management**

**Potential restrictions and issues relating to information held by UBS.** From time to time and subject to UBS Asset Management's policies and procedures regarding information barriers, UBS Asset Management may consult with personnel in other areas of UBS, or with persons unaffiliated with UBS. The performance by such persons of obligations related to their consultation with personnel of UBS Asset Management could conflict with their areas of primary responsibility within UBS or elsewhere. There will be no obligation on the part of such persons to make available for use by the Fund any information or strategies known to them or developed in connection with their own client, proprietary or other activities. In addition, UBS will be under no obligation to make available any research or analysis prior to its public dissemination.

In connection with its management of the Fund, UBS Asset Management may have access to certain fundamental analysis and proprietary technical models developed by UBS Asset Management or its affiliates (including UBS). UBS Asset Management will not be under any obligation, however, to effect transactions on behalf of the Fund in accordance with such analysis and models. In addition, neither UBS Asset Management nor any of its affiliates (including UBS) will have any obligation to make available any information regarding their proprietary activities or strategies, or the activities or strategies used for other accounts managed by them, for the benefit of the management of the Fund and it is not anticipated that UBS Asset Management will have access to such information for the purpose of managing the Fund. The proprietary activities or portfolio strategies of UBS Asset Management and its affiliates (including UBS) or the activities or strategies used for accounts managed by them or other client accounts could conflict with the transactions and strategies employed by UBS AM, and have adverse effects on the Fund.

**Potential conflicts relating to UBS' and UBS Asset Management's proprietary activities and activities on behalf of other accounts.** Transactions undertaken by UBS or client accounts managed by UBS and UBS Asset Management ("Client Accounts") may adversely impact the Fund. UBS and one or more Client Accounts may buy or sell positions while the Fund is undertaking the same or a differing, including potentially opposite, strategy, which could disadvantage the Fund. For example, the Fund may establish a short position in a security and UBS or other Client Accounts may buy that same security. The subsequent purchase may result in an increase of the price of the underlying position in the short sale exposure of the Fund and such increase in price would be to the Fund's detriment. Conversely, the Fund may buy a security and UBS or Client Accounts may establish a short position in that same security. The subsequent short sale may result in impairment of the price of the security that the Fund holds. Conflicts may also arise because portfolio decisions regarding the Fund may benefit UBS or other Client Accounts. For example, the sale of a long position or establishment of a short position by the Fund may impair the price of the same security sold short by (and therefore benefit) UBS or other Client Accounts, and the purchase of a security or covering of a short position in a security by the Fund may increase the price of the same security held by (and therefore benefit) UBS or other Client Accounts.

The directors, officers and employees of UBS and UBS Asset Management may buy and sell securities or other investments for their own accounts or for seed capital accounts (including through investment funds managed by UBS and UBS Asset Management). As a result of differing trading and investment strategies or constraints, positions may be taken by directors, officers and employees that are the same, different from or made at different times than positions taken for the Fund. To reduce the possibility that the Fund will be materially adversely affected by the personal or proprietary trading described above, each of the Fund, UBS and UBS Asset Management, has established policies and procedures that restrict securities trading in the personal accounts of investment professionals and others who normally come into possession of information regarding the Fund's portfolio transactions. Please see the section entitled "Personal trading policies" for more detailed information regarding these policies and procedures.

UBS Asset Management's affiliates have direct or indirect interests in electronic communication networks and alternative trading systems (collectively "ECNs"). UBS Asset Management, in accordance with its fiduciary obligation to seek to obtain best execution, may execute client trades through ECNs in which its related persons have, or may acquire, an interest. A related person may receive compensation based upon its ownership percentage in relation to the transaction fees charged by the ECNs. UBS Asset Management will execute through an ECN in which a related person has an interest only in situations when it reasonably believes such transactions will be in the best interests of its clients and the requirements of applicable law have been satisfied.

In accordance with Section 11(a) of the 1934 Act and the rules thereunder, UBS Asset Management's affiliates may effect transactions for the Fund or advisory client accounts on a national securities exchange of which an affiliate is an equity owner and/or a member and may retain compensation in connection with those transactions.

**Potential conflicts relating to side-by-side management.** UBS AM manages both accounts that are charged a performance-based fee and accounts that are charged a flat fee or an asset-based fee. Conflicts of interests may arise when managing these accounts side-by-side, as there may be an incentive to favor accounts for which UBS AM receives a performance-based fee. UBS AM seeks to mitigate these potential conflicts by implementing a number of compliance policies and business processes. Specifically, prior to implementing performance-based fee arrangements, these arrangements are reviewed by UBS AM to assess whether the proposed fee arrangement would unfairly disadvantage any of UBS AM's clients. In addition, many of UBS AM's strategies are managed on a model basis, meaning the portfolio managers manage a model for the strategy and translation of the models into individual client portfolios is handled by multiple other functions within UBS AM. This division of labor imparts checks and balances into the portfolio management process that minimizes the potential for one account to be favored over another. UBS AM's performance measurement team and compliance personnel monitor for dispersion of investment performance among similarly managed accounts to confirm that no accounts are being favored. UBS AM has established a trade allocation policy designed to ensure fair and equitable allocation of investments among



client accounts. Additionally, portfolio holdings, position sizes and industry and sector exposures tend to be similar across accounts, which may minimize the potential for conflicts of interests.

**Gifts and entertainment.** From time to time, directors, officers and employees of UBS and UBS Asset Management may receive gifts and/or entertainment from clients, intermediaries, or service providers to the Fund, UBS and UBS Asset Management, which could have the appearance of affecting or may potentially affect the judgment of the directors, officers and employees or the manner in which they conduct business on behalf of the Fund, UBS and UBS Asset Management. To reduce the appearance of impropriety and the possibility that the Fund may be materially adversely affected by such gifts and entertainment, UBS and UBS Asset Management have established policies and procedures that restrict the receipt of gifts and entertainment from clients, intermediaries, or service providers to the Fund.

**UBS may in-source or outsource.** Subject to applicable law, UBS, including UBS Asset Management, may from time to time and without notice to investors in-source or outsource certain processes or functions in connection with a variety of services that it provides to the Fund in its administrative or other capacities. Such in-sourcing or outsourcing may give rise to additional conflicts of interest.

#### **Selection of brokers and dealers and commission rates**

UBS Asset Management and our affiliates utilize a common portfolio and trading platform for its clients. Certain investment professionals and other employees of UBS AM are officers of advisory affiliates and related persons and may provide investment advisory services to clients of such affiliated entities. UBS AM's personnel also provide research and trading support to personnel of certain advisory affiliates. Research-related costs may be shared by advisory affiliates and related persons and may benefit the clients of such advisory affiliates. Since research services are shared between UBS AM and its advisory affiliates, UBS AM and its advisory affiliates maintain an aggregated soft dollar budget. Therefore, research services that benefit UBS AM's clients may be paid for with commissions generated by clients of its advisory affiliates. Similarly, research services paid for by commissions generated by UBS AM's clients may benefit advisory affiliates and their clients. UBS AM does not allocate the relative costs or benefits of research received from brokers or dealers among its clients because UBS AM believes that the research received is, in the aggregate, of assistance in fulfilling UBS AM's overall responsibilities to its clients. The research may be used in connection with the management of accounts other than those for which trades are executed by the brokers or dealers providing the research. For example, equity research may be used for fixed income funds and accounts.

While it selects brokers primarily on the basis of the execution capabilities, UBS Asset Management, in its discretion, may cause a client to pay a commission to brokers or dealers for effecting a transaction for that client in excess of the amount another broker or dealer would have charged for effecting that transaction. This may be done when it has determined in good faith that the commission is reasonable in relation to the value of the execution, brokerage and/or research services provided by the broker. Its arrangements for the receipt of research services from brokers may create conflicts of interest, in that it has an incentive to choose a broker or dealer that provides research services, instead of one that charges a lower commission rate but does not provide any research.

UBS Asset Management may receive a variety of research services and information on many topics, which it can use in connection with its management responsibilities with respect to the various accounts over which it exercises investment discretion or otherwise provide investment advice. These topics include: issuers, industries, securities, economic factors and trends, portfolio strategy, the performance of accounts, statistical information, market data, earnings estimates, credit analysis, pricing, risk measurement analysis, and other information that may affect the US or foreign economies, security prices, or management of the portfolio.

The research services may include written reports, pricing and appraisal services, market data services, analysis of issues raised in proxy statements, educational seminars, subscriptions to trade journals, portfolio attribution and



monitoring services and computer software and access charges that are directly related to investment research. Research services may be received in the form of written reports, online services, telephone contacts and personal meetings with security analysts, economists, corporate and industry spokespersons, investment consultants and government representatives. Research services are either provided directly by broker-dealers or generated by third parties and are provided by the brokerage firm to which the commissions are paid including commission sharing arrangements.

Certain services may be mixed use, or used for research purposes as well as other purposes. Payment for these services is made as follows: the portion allocated to research is paid for through commissions, and the portion allocated to other purposes is paid for by UBS Asset Management. This allocation is determined by its Best Execution and Trading Committee in good faith and based on objective criteria, to the extent available, of the amounts used for research and non-research purposes; however, the decision regarding what amounts are paid by UBS Asset Management versus paid by clients through commissions presents a conflict of interest. Research services received from brokers and dealers may be supplemental to its own research efforts and, when utilized, are subject to internal analysis before being incorporated into its investment process. As a practical matter, it would not be possible for UBS Asset Management to generate all of the information presently provided by brokers and dealers.

UBS Asset Management may receive in-house or proprietary research from dealers that execute trades on a principal basis for its clients. The research received will be of the type described above, excluding third-party research services.

#### **Potential regulatory restrictions on investment advisor activity**

From time to time, the activities of the Fund may be restricted because of regulatory requirements applicable to UBS and/or its internal policies designed to comply with, limit the applicability of, or otherwise relate to such requirements. A client not advised by UBS would not be subject to some of those considerations. There may be periods when UBS Asset Management may not initiate or recommend certain types of transactions, or may otherwise restrict or limit its advice with respect to certain securities or instruments issued by or related to companies for which UBS is performing investment banking, market making or other services or has proprietary positions or otherwise has come into possession of material inside information. For example, when UBS is engaged in an underwriting or other distribution of securities of, or advisory services for, a company, the Fund may be prohibited from or limited in purchasing or selling securities of that company. Similar situations could arise if UBS personnel serve as directors of companies the securities of which the Fund wishes to purchase or sell. The larger UBS Asset Management's investment advisory business and UBS' businesses, the larger the potential that these restricted list policies will impact investment transactions. However, if permitted by applicable law, the Fund may purchase securities or instruments that are issued by such companies or are the subject of an underwriting, distribution, or advisory assignment by UBS, or in cases in which UBS personnel are directors or officers of the issuer.

The investment activities of UBS for its proprietary accounts and for Client Accounts may also limit the investment strategies and rights of the Fund. For example, in regulated industries, in certain emerging or international markets, in corporate and regulatory ownership definitions, and in certain futures and derivative transactions, there may be limits on the aggregate amount of investment by affiliated investors that may not be exceeded without the grant of a license or other regulatory or corporate consent or, if exceeded, may cause UBS, the Fund or other Client Accounts to suffer disadvantages or business restrictions. If certain aggregate ownership thresholds are reached or certain transactions undertaken, the ability of UBS Asset Management on behalf of the Fund to purchase or dispose of investments, or exercise rights or undertake business transactions, may be restricted by regulation or otherwise impaired. As a result, UBS Asset Management on behalf of the Fund may limit purchases, sell existing investments, or otherwise restrict or limit the exercise of rights (including voting rights) when UBS Asset Management, in its sole discretion, deems it appropriate.

UBS Asset Management and its affiliates, including, without limitation, UBS and its advisory affiliates, have proprietary interests in, and may manage or advise with respect to, accounts or funds (including separate accounts, other

funds and collective investment vehicles) that have investment objectives similar to those of the Fund and/or that engage in transactions in the same types of securities, currencies and instruments as the Fund. UBS and its affiliates are also major participants in the global currency, equities, swap and fixed income markets, in each case both on a proprietary basis and for the accounts of customers. As such, UBS and its affiliates may be actively engaged in transactions in the same securities, currencies, and instruments in which the Fund invests. Such activities could affect the prices and availability of the securities, currencies, and instruments in which the Fund invests, which could have an adverse impact on the Fund's performance. Such transactions, particularly in respect of most proprietary accounts or client accounts, will be executed independently of the Fund's transactions and thus at prices or rates that may be more or less favorable than those obtained by the Fund. UBS Asset Management has developed policies and procedures consistent with regulatory requirements that provide that it will allocate investment opportunities and make purchase and sale decisions among the Fund and other client accounts in a manner that it considers, in its sole discretion and consistent with its fiduciary obligation to each account, to be reasonable. Allocations may be based on numerous factors and may not always be pro rata based. Thus, this system may adversely affect the size or price of the assets purchased or sold for the Fund.

The results of the Fund's investment activities may differ significantly from the results achieved by UBS Asset Management and its affiliates for their proprietary accounts or other accounts (including investment companies or collective investment vehicles) managed or advised by them. It is possible that UBS Asset Management and its affiliates and such other accounts will achieve investment results that are substantially more or less favorable than the results achieved by the Fund. Moreover, it is possible that the Fund will sustain losses during periods in which UBS Asset Management and its affiliates achieve significant profits on their trading for proprietary or other accounts. The opposite result is also possible.

The investment activities of UBS Asset Management and its affiliates for their proprietary accounts and accounts under their management may also limit the investment opportunities for the Fund in certain emerging and other markets in which limitations are imposed upon the amount of investment, in the aggregate or in individual issuers, by affiliated foreign investors.

From time to time, the Fund's activities may also be restricted because of regulatory restrictions applicable to UBS Asset Management and its affiliates, and/or their internal policies designed to comply with such restrictions. As a result, there may be periods, for example, when UBS Asset Management, and/or its affiliates, will not initiate or recommend certain types of transactions in certain securities or instruments with respect to which UBS Asset Management and/or its affiliates are performing services or when position limits have been reached where such securities or instruments otherwise would have been permissible investments for the Fund. Additionally, certain funds or accounts may be licensed to trade securities or engage in transactions in certain jurisdictions while other series of the Trust and accounts are not licensed.

In addition, certain officers and certain employees of UBS Asset Management are also officers or employees of UBS, or its affiliated entities. As a result, the performance by these officers and employees of their obligations to such other entities may be a consideration of which investors in the Fund should be aware.

UBS Asset Management may enter into transactions and invest in securities, instruments and currencies on behalf of the Fund where customers of UBS or, to the extent permitted by the SEC, UBS itself, serves as the counterparty, principal or issuer. In such cases, such party's interests in the transaction will be adverse to the interests of the Fund, and such party may have no incentive to assure that the Fund obtains the best possible prices or terms in connection with the transaction. In addition, the purchase, holding and sale of such investments by the Fund may enhance the profitability of UBS Asset Management and/or UBS. UBS and its affiliates may also create, write or issue derivatives for customers of UBS or its affiliates, the underlying securities, currencies or instruments of which may be those in which the Fund invests or may be based on the performance of the Fund. The Fund may, subject to applicable law, purchase investments that are the subject of an underwriting or other distribution by UBS or its affiliates

and may also enter into transactions with other clients of UBS Asset Management or its affiliates where such other clients have interests adverse to those of the Fund. At times, these activities may cause UBS Asset Management or its affiliates to give advice to clients that may cause these clients to take actions adverse to the interests of the Fund. To the extent affiliated transactions are permitted, the Fund will deal with UBS Asset Management, UBS and its affiliates on an arms-length basis. UBS Asset Management or UBS may also have an ownership interest in certain trading or information systems used by the Fund. The Fund's use of such trading or information systems may enhance the profitability of UBS Asset Management and its affiliates.

It is also possible that, from time to time, UBS Asset Management or any of its affiliates may, although they are not required to, purchase and hold shares of the Fund for UBS proprietary accounts and for Client Accounts. Increasing the Fund's assets may enhance investment flexibility and diversification and may contribute to economies of scale that tend to reduce the Fund's expense ratio. UBS Asset Management and its affiliates reserve the right to redeem at any time some or all of the shares of the Fund acquired for UBS proprietary accounts and for Client Accounts. A large redemption of shares of the Fund by UBS Asset Management or its affiliates or Client Accounts could significantly reduce the asset size of the Fund, which might have an adverse effect on the Fund's investment flexibility, portfolio diversification, expense ratio and may result in significant transaction costs. UBS Asset Management will consider the effect of redemptions on the Fund and other shareholders in deciding whether and when to redeem its shares. UBS Asset Management's ability to allocate investments for UBS proprietary accounts and Client Accounts among the funds and unaffiliated investment companies and other investments may create conflicts of interest. For example, a fund's portfolio managers may manage certain Client Accounts. Because they have access to the holdings of the funds and knowledge of the investment strategies and techniques of the funds they could be subject to conflicts of interest in timing and amount of allocations of Client Account investments to or redemptions from a fund. Further, a situation could occur where an action for a fund could be adverse to the interest of such a Client Account or vice versa.

It is possible that the Fund may invest in securities of companies with which UBS has or is trying to develop investment banking relationships as well as securities of entities in which UBS Asset Management or UBS has significant debt or equity investments or in which UBS makes a market. The Fund also may invest in securities of companies to which UBS Asset Management or UBS provides or may someday provide research coverage. Such investments could cause conflicts between the interests of the Fund and the interests of other UBS Asset Management or UBS clients. In making investment decisions for the Fund, UBS Asset Management is not permitted to obtain or use material non-public information acquired by any division, department or affiliate of UBS Asset Management in the course of these activities. In addition, from time to time, UBS' activities may limit the Fund's flexibility in purchases and sales of securities. When UBS is engaged in an underwriting or other distribution of securities of an entity, UBS Asset Management may be prohibited from purchasing or recommending the purchase of certain securities of that entity for the Fund.

Present and future activities of UBS Asset Management and its affiliates, in addition to those described in this section, may give rise to additional conflicts of interest.

UBS AM may buy for the Fund securities or obligations of issuers in which UBS or other funds or accounts have made, or are making, an investment in securities or obligations that are subordinate or senior to securities of the Fund. For example, the Fund may invest in debt securities of an issuer at the same time that UBS or other funds or accounts are investing, or currently have an investment, in equity securities of the same issuer. To the extent that the issuer experiences financial or operational challenges that may impact the price of its securities and its ability to meet its obligations, decisions by UBS (including UBS AM) relating to what actions to be taken may also raise conflicts of interests and UBS may take actions for certain accounts that have negative impacts on other advisory accounts.

While UBS AM will make proxy voting decisions as it believes appropriate and in accordance with UBS Asset Management's policies designed to help avoid conflicts of interest, proxy voting decisions made by UBS AM with respect to the Fund's portfolio securities may have the effect of favoring the interests of other clients or businesses of other divisions or units of UBS. UBS Asset Management's proxy voting policy is discussed in more detail in the section entitled "Proxy voting policies."

As a registered investment advisor under the Advisers Act, UBS AM is required to file a Form ADV with the SEC. Form ADV Part 2A contains information about assets under management, types of fee arrangements, types of investments, potential conflicts of interest, and other relevant information regarding UBS AM. A copy of Part 1A and Part 2A of UBS AM's Form ADV is available on the SEC's website ([www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov)).

## Taxes

The following is a summary of certain additional tax considerations generally affecting the Fund and its shareholders that are not described in the Prospectus. No attempt is made to present a detailed explanation of the tax treatment of the Fund or its shareholders, and the discussion here and in the Prospectus is not intended as a substitute for careful tax planning.

This "Taxes" section is based on the Code and applicable regulations in effect on the date of this SAI. Future legislative, regulatory or administrative changes or court decisions may significantly change the tax rules applicable to the Fund and its shareholders. Any of these changes or court decisions may have a retroactive effect.

**Taxation of the Fund.** The Fund has elected and intends to qualify each year as a regulated investment company (sometimes referred to as a "regulated investment company," "RIC" or "fund") under Subchapter M of the Code. If the Fund so qualifies, the Fund will not be subject to federal income tax on the portion of its investment company taxable income (that is, generally, taxable interest, dividends, net short-term capital gains, and other taxable ordinary income, net of expenses, without regard to the deduction for dividends paid) and net capital gain (that is, the excess of net long-term capital gains over net short-term capital losses) that it distributes to shareholders.

*Qualification as a regulated investment company*—In order to qualify for treatment as a regulated investment company, the Fund must satisfy the following requirements:

- (i) **Distribution Requirement**—The Fund must distribute an amount equal to the sum of at least 90% of its investment company taxable income and 90% of its net tax-exempt income, if any, for the tax year (including, for purposes of satisfying this distribution requirement, certain distributions made by the Fund after the close of its taxable year that are treated as made during such taxable year).
- (ii) **Income Requirement**—The Fund must derive at least 90% of its gross income from dividends, interest, certain payments with respect to securities loans, and gains from the sale or other disposition of stock, securities or foreign currencies, or other income (including, but not limited to, gains from options, futures or forward contracts) derived from its business of investing in such stock, securities or currencies and net income derived from qualified publicly traded partnerships ("QPTPs").
- (iii) **Asset Diversification Test**—The Fund must satisfy the following asset diversification test at the close of each quarter of the Fund's tax year: (1) at least 50% of the value of the Fund's assets must consist of cash and cash items, US government securities, securities of other regulated investment companies, and securities of other issuers (as to which the Fund has not invested more than 5% of the value of the Fund's total assets in securities of an issuer and as to which the Fund does not hold more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of the issuer); and (2) no more than 25% of the value of the Fund's total assets may be invested in the securities of any

one issuer (other than US government securities or securities of other regulated investment companies) or of two or more issuers which the Fund controls and which are engaged in the same or similar trades or businesses, or, in the securities of one or more QPTPs.

In some circumstances, the character and timing of income realized by the Fund for purposes of the Income Requirement or the identification of the issuer for purposes of the Asset Diversification Test is uncertain under current law with respect to a particular investment, and an adverse determination or future guidance by the IRS with respect to such type of investment may adversely affect the Fund's ability to satisfy these requirements. See, "Tax treatment of portfolio transactions" below with respect to the application of these requirements to certain types of investments. In other circumstances, the Fund may be required to sell portfolio holdings in order to meet the Income Requirement, Distribution Requirement, or Asset Diversification Test, which may have a negative impact on the Fund's income and performance.

The Fund may use "equalization accounting" (in lieu of making some cash distributions) in determining the portion of its income and gains that has been distributed. If the Fund uses equalization accounting, it will allocate a portion of its undistributed investment company taxable income and net capital gain to redemptions of Fund shares and will correspondingly reduce the amount of such income and gains that it distributes in cash. If the IRS determines that the Fund's allocation is improper and that the Fund has under-distributed its income and gain for any taxable year, the Fund may be liable for federal income and/or excise tax. If, as a result of such adjustment, the Fund fails to satisfy the Distribution Requirement, the Fund will not qualify that year as a regulated investment company the effect of which is described in the following paragraph.

If for any taxable year the Fund does not qualify as a regulated investment company, all of its taxable income (including its net capital gain) would be subject to tax at the corporate income tax rate without any deduction for dividends paid to shareholders, and the dividends would be taxable to the shareholders as ordinary income (or possibly as qualified dividend income) to the extent of the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits. Failure to qualify as a regulated investment company would thus have a negative impact on the Fund's income and performance. Subject to savings provisions for certain failures to satisfy the Income Requirement or Asset Diversification Test, which, in general, are limited to those due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, it is possible that the Fund will not qualify as a regulated investment company in any given tax year. Even if such savings provisions apply, the Fund may be subject to a monetary sanction of \$50,000 or more. Moreover, the Board reserves the right not to maintain the qualification of the Fund as a regulated investment company if it determines such a course of action to be beneficial to shareholders.

*Portfolio turnover*—For investors that hold their Fund shares in a taxable account, a high portfolio turnover rate may result in higher taxes. This is because a fund with a high turnover rate is likely to accelerate the recognition of capital gains and more of such gains are likely to be taxable as short-term rather than long-term capital gains in contrast to a comparable fund with a low turnover rate. Any such higher taxes would reduce the Fund's after-tax performance. See, "Taxation of Fund distributions—Distributions of capital gains" below. For non-US investors, any such acceleration of the recognition of capital gains that results in more short-term and less long-term capital gains being recognized by the Fund may cause such investors to be subject to increased US withholding taxes. See, "Non-US investors—Capital gain dividends" and "—Short-term capital gain dividends and interest-related dividends" below.

*Capital loss carryovers*—The capital losses of the Fund, if any, do not flow through to shareholders. Rather, the Fund may use its capital losses, subject to applicable limitations, to offset its capital gains without being required to pay taxes on or distribute to shareholders such gains that are offset by the losses. If the Fund has a "net capital loss" (that is, capital losses in excess of capital gains), the excess (if any) of the Fund's net short-term capital losses over its net long-term capital gains is treated as a short-term capital loss arising on the first day of the Fund's next taxable year, and the excess (if any) of the Fund's net long-term capital losses over its net short-term capital gains is treated as a long-term capital loss arising on the first day of the Fund's next taxable year. Any such net capital losses of the

Fund that are not used to offset capital gains may be carried forward indefinitely to reduce any future capital gains realized by the Fund in succeeding taxable years.

The amount of capital losses that can be carried forward and used in any single year is subject to an annual limitation if there is a more than 50% “change in ownership” of the Fund. An ownership change generally results when shareholders owning 5% or more of the Fund increase their aggregate holdings by more than 50% over a three-year look-back period. An ownership change could result in capital loss carryovers being used at a slower rate, thereby reducing the Fund’s ability to offset capital gains with those losses. An increase in the amount of taxable gains distributed to the Fund’s shareholders could result from an ownership change. The Fund undertakes no obligation to avoid or prevent an ownership change, which can occur in the normal course of shareholder purchases and redemptions or as a result of engaging in a tax-free reorganization with another fund. Moreover, because of circumstances beyond the Fund’s control, there can be no assurance that the Fund will not experience, or has not already experienced, an ownership change. Additionally, if the Fund engages in a tax-free reorganization with another fund, the effect of these and other rules not discussed herein may be to disallow or postpone the use by the Fund of its capital loss carryovers (including any current year losses and built-in losses when realized) to offset its own gains or those of the other fund, or vice versa, thereby reducing the tax benefits Fund shareholders would otherwise have enjoyed from use of such capital loss carryovers.

*Undistributed capital gains*—The Fund may retain or distribute to shareholders its net capital gain for each taxable year. The Fund currently intends to distribute net capital gains. If the Fund elects to retain its net capital gain, the Fund will be taxed thereon (except to the extent of any available capital loss carryovers) at the corporate income tax rate. If the Fund elects to retain its net capital gain, it is expected that the Fund also will elect to have shareholders treated as if each received a distribution of its pro rata share of such gain, with the result that each shareholder will be required to report its pro rata share of such gain on its tax return as long-term capital gain, will receive a refundable tax credit for its pro rata share of tax paid by the Fund on the gain, and will increase the tax basis for its shares by an amount equal to the deemed distribution less the tax credit.

*Excise tax distribution requirements*—To avoid a 4% non-deductible excise tax, the Fund must distribute by December 31 of each year an amount equal to at least: (1) 98% of its ordinary income for the calendar year, (2) 98.2% of capital gain net income (that is, the excess of the gains from sales or exchanges of capital assets over the losses from such sales or exchanges) for the one-year period ended on October 31 of such calendar year (or, at the election of a regulated investment company having a taxable year ending November 30 or December 31, for its taxable year), and (3) any prior year undistributed ordinary income and capital gain net income. Generally, the Fund intends to make sufficient distributions prior to the end of each calendar year to avoid any material liability for federal income and excise tax, but can give no assurances that all or a portion of such liability will be avoided. In addition, under certain circumstances, temporary timing or permanent differences in the realization of income and expense for book and tax purposes can result in the Fund having to pay an excise tax.

**Taxation of fund distributions.** The Fund anticipates distributing substantially all of its investment company taxable income and net capital gain for each taxable year. The Fund’s dividend and capital gain distribution will be paid only in cash. The Fund will send you information annually as to the federal income tax consequences of distributions made (or deemed made) during the year.

The Fund intends to qualify each year to pay exempt-interest dividends by satisfying the requirement that at the close of each quarter of the Fund’s taxable year at least 50% of the Fund’s total assets consists of municipal securities, which are exempt from federal income tax.

*Exempt-interest dividends*—Distributions from the Fund will constitute exempt-interest dividends to the extent of the Fund’s tax-exempt interest income (net of allocable expenses and amortized bond premium). Exempt-interest dividends distributed to shareholders of the Fund are excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes.



However, shareholders required to file a federal income tax return will be required to report the receipt of exempt-interest dividends on their returns. Moreover, while exempt-interest dividends are excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, they may be subject to the AMT in certain circumstances and may have other collateral tax consequences as discussed below.

*Distributions of ordinary income and capital gains*—Any gain or loss from the sale or other disposition of a tax-exempt security generally is treated as either long-term or short-term capital gain or loss, depending upon its holding period, and is fully taxable. However, gain recognized from the sale or other disposition of a tax-exempt security purchased after April 30, 1993, will be treated as ordinary income to the extent of the accrued market discount on such security. Distributions by the Fund of ordinary income and capital gains will be taxable to shareholders as discussed below.

Additionally, the Fund may earn taxable income from many sources, including income from temporary investments, discount from stripped obligations or their coupons, income from securities loans or other taxable transactions, and ordinary income from the sale of market discount bonds. If you are a taxable investor, any distributions by the Fund from this income will be taxable to you as ordinary income.

*Qualified dividend income for individuals*—Because the Fund's income is derived primarily from interest rather than dividends, none or a nominal part of its distributions are expected to be qualified dividend income eligible for taxation by individuals at long-term capital gain rates.

*Dividends-received deduction for corporations*—Because the Fund's income is derived primarily from interest rather than dividends, none or a nominal part of its distributions are expected to qualify for the corporate dividends-received deduction.

*Alternative minimum tax*—AMT is imposed in addition to, but only to the extent it exceeds, the regular tax and is computed at a maximum rate of 28% for non-corporate taxpayers on the excess of the taxpayer's alternative minimum taxable income ("AMTI") over an exemption amount. Exempt-interest dividends derived from certain "private activity" municipal securities issued after August 7, 1986 generally will constitute an item of tax preference includable in AMTI for non-corporate taxpayers. However, tax-exempt interest on private activity bonds issued in 2009 and 2010 is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the AMT. Consistent with its stated investment objective, the Fund may invest up to 20% of its net assets in PABs (which may be subject to the AMT).

*Effect on taxation of social security benefits; denial of interest deduction; "substantial users"*—Exempt-interest dividends must be taken into account in computing the portion, if any, of social security or railroad retirement benefits that must be included in an individual shareholder's gross income subject to federal income tax. Further, a shareholder of the Fund is denied a deduction for interest on indebtedness incurred or continued to purchase or carry shares of the Fund. Moreover, a shareholder who is (or is related to) a "substantial user" of a facility financed by industrial development bonds held by the Fund will likely be subject to tax on dividends paid by the Fund which are derived from interest on such bonds. Receipt of exempt-interest dividends may result in other collateral federal income tax consequences to certain taxpayers, including financial institutions, property and casualty insurance companies and foreign corporations engaged in a trade or business in the United States.

*Exemption from state tax*—To the extent that exempt-interest dividends are derived from interest on obligations of a state or its political subdivisions, or from interest on qualifying US territorial obligations (including qualifying obligations of Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, and Guam), they also may be exempt from that state's personal income taxes. In addition, most states do not grant tax-free treatment to interest on state and municipal securities of other states. Shareholders in a qualified fund of funds that receive exempt-interest dividends should consult their own tax advisors as to whether such dividends are exempt from personal income tax in their state of residence.



*Loss of status of securities as tax-exempt*—Failure of the issuer of a tax-exempt security to comply with certain legal or contractual requirements relating to the security could cause interest on the security, as well as Fund distributions derived from this interest, to become taxable, perhaps retroactively to the date the security was issued. In such a case, the Fund may be required to report to the IRS and send to you amended Forms 1099 for a prior taxable year in order to report additional taxable income. This, in turn, could require you to file amended federal and state income tax returns for such prior year to report and pay tax and interest on your pro rata share of the additional amount of taxable income.

*Redemptions at a loss within six months of purchase*—Any loss incurred on the redemption or exchange of shares held for six months or less is disallowed to the extent of any exempt-interest dividends paid to you with respect to your Fund shares, and any remaining loss is treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any long-term capital gains distributed to you by the Fund on those shares.

*Returns of capital*—Distributions by the Fund that are not paid from earnings and profits will be treated as a return of capital to the extent of (and in reduction of) the shareholder's tax basis in his shares; any excess will be treated as gain from the sale of his shares. Thus, the portion of a distribution that constitutes a return of capital will decrease the shareholder's tax basis in his Fund shares (but not below zero), and will result in an increase in the amount of gain (or decrease in the amount of loss) that will be recognized by the shareholder for tax purposes on the later sale of such Fund shares. Return of capital distributions can occur for a number of reasons including, among others, the Fund over-estimates the income to be received from certain investments such as those classified as partnerships or equity REITs.

*Impact of realized but undistributed income and gains, and net unrealized appreciation of portfolio securities*—At the time of your purchase of shares, the Fund's net asset value may reflect undistributed income, undistributed capital gains, or net unrealized appreciation of portfolio securities held by the Fund. A subsequent distribution to you of such amounts, although constituting a return of your investment, would be taxable, and would be taxed as ordinary income (some portion of which may be taxed as qualified dividend income), capital gains, or some combination of both, unless you are investing through a tax-advantaged arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account. The Fund may be able to reduce the amount of such distributions from capital gains by utilizing its capital loss carryovers, if any.

*Tax credit bonds*—If the Fund holds, directly or indirectly, one or more "tax credit bonds" (including build America bonds, clean renewable energy bonds and qualified tax credit bonds) on one or more applicable dates during a taxable year, the Fund may elect to permit its shareholders to claim a tax credit on their income tax returns equal to each shareholder's proportionate share of tax credits from the applicable bonds that otherwise would be allowed to the Fund. Under the TCJA, the build America bonds, clean renewable energy bonds and certain other qualified bonds may no longer be issued after December 31, 2017. In such a case, shareholders must include in gross income (as interest) their proportionate share of the income attributable to their proportionate share of those offsetting tax credits. A shareholder's ability to claim a tax credit associated with one or more tax credit bonds may be subject to certain limitations imposed by the Code. Even if the Fund is eligible to pass through tax credits to shareholders, the Fund may choose not to do so.

*US government securities*—To the extent the Fund invests in certain US government obligations, dividends paid by the Fund to shareholders that are derived from interest on these obligations should be exempt from state and local personal income taxes, subject in some states to minimum investment or reporting requirements that must be met by the Fund. The income on portfolio investments in certain securities, such as repurchase agreements, commercial paper and federal agency-backed obligations (e.g., Ginnie Mae or Fannie Mae securities), generally does not qualify for tax-free treatment. The rules on exclusion of this income are different for corporate shareholders.

*Dividends declared in October, November or December and paid in January*—Ordinarily, shareholders are required to take distributions by the Fund into account in the year in which the distributions are made. However, dividends declared in October, November or December of any year and payable to shareholders of record on a specified date in such a month will be deemed to have been received by the shareholders (and made by the Fund) on December 31 of such calendar year if such dividends are actually paid in January of the following year. Shareholders will be advised annually as to the US federal income tax consequences of distributions made (or deemed made) during the year in accordance with the guidance that has been provided by the IRS.

*Medicare tax*—A 3.8% Medicare tax is imposed on net investment income earned by certain individuals, estates and trusts. “Net investment income,” for these purposes, means investment income, including ordinary dividends and capital gain distributions received from the Fund and net gains from redemptions or other taxable dispositions of Fund shares, reduced by the deductions properly allocable to such income. The tax will be imposed on the lesser of (1) the shareholder’s net investment income or (2) the amount by which the shareholder’s modified adjusted gross income or adjusted gross income, as applicable, exceeds a certain threshold. Net investment income does not include exempt-interest dividends. This Medicare tax, if applicable, is reported by you on, and paid with, your federal income tax return.

**Sales, exchanges and redemptions of Fund shares.** If you are a taxable investor, sales, exchanges and redemptions (including redemptions in kind) of Fund shares are taxable transactions for federal and state income tax purposes. If you redeem your Fund shares, or exchange them for shares of a different fund, the IRS requires you to report any gain or loss on your redemption. If you held your shares as a capital asset, the gain or loss that you realize will be a capital gain or loss and will be long-term or short-term, generally depending on how long you have held your shares. Any redemption fees you incur on shares redeemed will decrease the amount of any capital gain (or increase any capital loss) you realize on the sale. Capital losses in any year are deductible only to the extent of capital gains plus, in the case of a noncorporate taxpayer, \$3,000 of ordinary income.

*Tax basis information*—Unless you are investing in the Fund through a tax-advantaged retirement account, such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account, or a money market account, the Fund is required to report to you and the IRS annually on Form 1099-B the cost basis of shares purchased or acquired on or after January 1, 2012 where the cost basis of the shares is known by the Fund (referred to as “covered shares”) and which are disposed of after that date. Cost basis will be calculated using the Fund’s default method of average cost, unless you instruct the Fund in writing to use a different calculation method. In general, average cost is the total cost basis of all your shares in an account divided by the total number of shares in the account. To determine whether short-term or long-term capital gains taxes apply, the IRS presumes you redeem your oldest shares first.

The IRS permits the use of several methods to determine the cost basis of mutual fund shares. The method used will determine which specific shares are deemed to be sold when there are multiple purchases on different dates at differing share prices, and the entire position is not sold at one time. The Fund does not recommend any particular method of determining cost basis, and the use of other methods may result in more favorable tax consequences for some shareholders. It is important that you consult with your tax advisor to determine which method is best for you and then notify the Fund in writing if you intend to utilize a method other than average cost for covered shares.

In addition to the Fund’s default method of average cost, other cost basis methods offered by the Fund, which you may elect to apply to covered shares, include:

- First-In, First-Out (FIFO)—shares acquired first in the account are the first shares depleted.
- Last-In, First-Out (LIFO)—shares acquired last in the account are the first shares depleted.
- Highest Cost In, First Out (HIFO)—shares acquired with the highest cost per share are the first shares depleted.

- Lowest Cost In, First Out (LOFO)—shares acquired with the lowest cost per share are the first shares depleted.
- Highest Cost Long-Term In, First Out (HILT)—long-term shares with the highest cost per share are the first shares depleted.
- Highest Cost Short-Term In, First Out (HIST)—short-term shares with the highest cost per share are the first shares depleted.
- Lowest Cost Long-Term In, First out (LILT)—long-term shares with the lowest cost per share are the first shares depleted.
- Lowest Cost Short-Term In, First out (LIST)—short-term shares with the lowest cost per share are the first shares depleted.
- Specific Lot Identification—shareholder selects which lots to deplete at time of each disposition. Transaction amount must be in shares. If you identify an insufficient number of shares or do not make a timely identification, the transaction will default to the first-in, first-out method.

You may elect any of the available methods detailed above for your covered shares. If you do not notify the Fund in writing of your elected cost basis method upon the later of January 1, 2012 or the initial purchase into your account, the default method of average cost will be applied to your covered shares. The cost basis for covered shares will be calculated separately from any shares purchased prior to January 1, 2012 or shares acquired on or after January 1, 2012 for which cost basis information is not known by the Fund (“noncovered shares”). You may change or revoke the use of the average cost method and elect another cost basis method for covered shares if you notify the Fund in writing. You may change from average cost to another cost basis method for covered shares at any time, but only for shares acquired after the date of the change (the change is prospective). The basis of the shares that were averaged before the change will remain averaged after the date of the change.

With the exception of the specific lot identification method, the Fund first depletes noncovered shares in first-in, first-out order before applying your elected method to your remaining covered shares. If you want to deplete your shares in a different order then you must elect specific lot identification and choose the lots you wish to deplete first.

The Fund will compute and report the cost basis of your Fund shares sold or exchanged by taking into account all of the applicable adjustments to cost basis and holding periods as required by the Code and Treasury regulations for purposes of reporting these amounts to you and the IRS. However, the Fund is not required to, and in many cases the Fund does not possess the information to, take all possible basis, holding period or other adjustments into account in reporting cost basis information to you. Therefore, shareholders should carefully review the cost basis information provided by the the Fund, and make any additional basis, holding period or other adjustments that are required by the Code and Treasury regulations when reporting these amounts on their federal income tax returns. Shareholders remain solely responsible for complying with all federal income tax laws when filing their federal income tax returns.

If you hold your Fund shares through a broker (or other nominee), please contact that broker (nominee) with respect to reporting of cost basis and available elections for your account.

*Wash sales*—All or a portion of any loss that you realize on a redemption of your Fund shares will be disallowed to the extent that you buy other shares in the Fund (through reinvestment of dividends or otherwise) within 30 days before or after your share redemption. Any loss disallowed under these rules will be added to your tax basis in the new shares.

*Redemptions at a loss within six months of purchase*—Any loss incurred on a redemption or exchange of shares held for six months or less will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any long-term capital gain distributed to you by the Fund on those shares.

*Reportable transactions*—Under Treasury regulations, if a shareholder recognizes a loss with respect to the Fund's shares of \$2 million or more for an individual shareholder or \$10 million or more for a corporate shareholder (or certain greater amounts over a combination of years), the shareholder must file with the IRS a disclosure statement on Form 8886. The fact that a loss is reportable under these regulations does not affect the legal determination of whether the taxpayer's treatment of the loss is proper. Shareholders should consult their tax advisors to determine the applicability of these regulations in light of their individual circumstances.

**Tax treatment of portfolio transactions.** Set forth below is a general description of the tax treatment of certain types of securities, investment techniques and transactions that may apply to the Fund and, in turn, affect the amount, character and timing of dividends and distributions payable by the Fund to its shareholders. This section should be read in conjunction with the sections above for a detailed description of the various types of securities and investment techniques that apply to the Fund.

*In general*—In general, gain or loss recognized by the Fund on the sale or other disposition of portfolio investments will be a capital gain or loss. Such capital gain and loss may be long-term or short-term depending, in general, upon the length of time a particular investment position is maintained and, in some cases, upon the nature of the transaction. Property held for more than one year generally will be eligible for long-term capital gain or loss treatment. The application of certain rules described below may serve to alter the manner in which the holding period for a security is determined or may otherwise affect the characterization as long-term or short-term, and also the timing of the realization and/or character, of certain gains or losses.

*Certain fixed-income investments*—Gain recognized on the disposition of a debt obligation purchased by the Fund at a market discount (generally, at a price less than its principal amount) will be treated as ordinary income to the extent of the portion of the market discount which accrued during the period of time the Fund held the debt obligation unless the Fund made a current inclusion election to accrue market discount into income as it accrues. If the Fund purchases a debt obligation (such as a zero coupon security or pay-in-kind security) that was originally issued at a discount, the Fund generally is required to include in gross income each year the portion of the original issue discount which accrues during such year. Therefore, the Fund's investment in such securities may cause the Fund to recognize income and make distributions to shareholders before it receives any cash payments on the securities. To generate cash to satisfy those distribution requirements, the Fund may have to sell portfolio securities that it otherwise might have continued to hold or to use cash flows from other sources such as the sale of Fund shares.

*Investments in debt obligations that are at risk of or in default present tax issues for the Fund*—Tax rules are not entirely clear about issues such as whether and to what extent the Fund should recognize market discount on a debt obligation, when the Fund may cease to accrue interest, original issue discount or market discount, when and to what extent the Fund may take deductions for bad debts or worthless securities and how the Fund should allocate payments received on obligations in default between principal and income. These and other related issues will be addressed by the Fund in order to ensure that it distributes sufficient income to preserve its status as a regulated investment company.

*Options, futures, forward contracts, swap agreements and hedging transactions*—In general, option premiums received by the Fund are not immediately included in the income of the Fund. Instead, the premiums are recognized when the option contract expires, the option is exercised by the holder, or the Fund transfers or otherwise terminates the option (e.g., through a closing transaction). If an option written by the Fund is exercised and the Fund sells or delivers the underlying stock, the Fund generally will recognize capital gain or loss equal to (a) the sum of the strike price and the option premium received by the Fund minus (b) the Fund's basis in the stock. Such gain or

loss generally will be short-term or long-term depending upon the holding period of the underlying stock. If securities are purchased by the Fund pursuant to the exercise of a put option written by it, the Fund generally will subtract the premium received from its cost basis in the securities purchased. The gain or loss with respect to any termination of the Fund's obligation under an option other than through the exercise of the option and related sale or delivery of the underlying stock generally will be short-term gain or loss depending on whether the premium income received by the Fund is greater or less than the amount paid by the Fund (if any) in terminating the transaction. Thus, for example, if an option written by the Fund expires unexercised, the Fund generally will recognize short-term gain equal to the premium received.

The tax treatment of certain futures contracts entered into by the Fund as well as listed non-equity options written or purchased by the Fund on US exchanges (including options on futures contracts, broad-based equity indices and debt securities) may be governed by section 1256 of the Code ("section 1256 contracts"). Gains or losses on section 1256 contracts generally are considered 60% long-term and 40% short-term capital gains or losses ("60/40"), although certain foreign currency gains and losses from such contracts may be treated as ordinary in character. Also, any section 1256 contracts held by the Fund at the end of each taxable year (and, for purposes of the 4% excise tax, on certain other dates as prescribed under the Code) are "marked to market" with the result that unrealized gains or losses are treated as though they were realized and the resulting gain or loss is treated as ordinary or 60/40 gain or loss, as applicable. Section 1256 contracts do not include any interest rate swap, currency swap, basis swap, interest rate cap, interest rate floor, commodity swap, equity swap, equity index swap, credit default swap, or similar agreement.

In addition to the special rules described above in respect of options and futures transactions, the Fund's transactions in other derivative instruments (including options, forward contracts and swap agreements) as well as its other hedging, short sale, or similar transactions, may be subject to one or more special tax rules (including the constructive sale, notional principal contract, straddle, wash sale and short sale rules). These rules may affect whether gains and losses recognized by the Fund are treated as ordinary or capital or as short-term or long-term, accelerate the recognition of income or gains to the Fund, defer losses to the Fund, and cause adjustments in the holding periods of the Fund's securities. These rules, therefore, could affect the amount, timing and/or character of distributions to shareholders. Moreover, because the tax rules applicable to derivative instruments are in some cases uncertain under current law, an adverse determination or future guidance by the IRS with respect to these rules (which determination or guidance could be retroactive) may affect whether the Fund has made sufficient distributions, and otherwise satisfied the relevant requirements, to maintain its qualification as a regulated investment company and avoid a fund-level tax.

Certain of the Fund's investments in derivatives and the Fund's hedging activities, may produce a difference between its book income and its taxable income. If the Fund's book income is less than the sum of its taxable income and net tax-exempt income (if any), the Fund could be required to make distributions exceeding book income to qualify as a regulated investment company. If the Fund's book income exceeds the sum of its taxable income and net tax-exempt income (if any), the distribution of any such excess will be treated as (i) a dividend to the extent of the Fund's remaining earnings and profits (including current earnings and profits arising from tax-exempt income, reduced by related deductions), (ii) thereafter, as a return of capital to the extent of the recipient's basis in the shares, and (iii) thereafter, as gain from the sale or exchange of a capital asset.

*Securities lending*—While securities are loaned out by the Fund, the Fund generally will receive from the borrower amounts equal to any dividends or interest paid on the borrowed securities. For federal income tax purposes, payments made "in lieu of" dividends are not considered dividend income. These distributions will neither qualify for the reduced rate of taxation for individuals on qualified dividends nor the 50% dividends-received deduction for corporations. Also, any foreign tax withheld on payments made "in lieu of" dividends or interest will not qualify for the pass-through of foreign tax credits to shareholders. Additionally, in the case of the Fund with a strategy of investing in tax-exempt securities, any payments made "in lieu of" tax-exempt interest will be considered taxable

income to the Fund, and thus, to the investors, even though such interest may be tax-exempt when paid to the borrower.

*Investments in securities of uncertain tax character*—The Fund may invest in securities the US federal income tax treatment of which may not be clear or may be subject to recharacterization by the IRS. To the extent the tax treatment of such securities or the income from such securities differs from the tax treatment expected by the Fund, it could affect the timing or character of income recognized by the Fund, requiring the Fund to purchase or sell securities, or otherwise change its portfolio, in order to comply with the tax rules applicable to regulated investment companies under the Code.

### **Backup withholding**

By law, the Fund may be required to withhold a portion of your taxable dividends and sales proceeds unless you:

- provide your correct social security or taxpayer identification number,
- certify that this number is correct,
- certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, and
- certify that you are a US person (including a US resident alien).

The Fund also must withhold if the IRS instructs it to do so. When withholding is required, the amount will be 24% of any distributions or proceeds paid. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld may be credited against the shareholder's US federal income tax liability, provided the appropriate information is furnished to the IRS. Certain payees and payments are exempt from backup withholding and information reporting. The special US tax certification requirements applicable to non-US investors to avoid backup withholding are described under the "Non-US investors" heading below.

### **Abandoned or unclaimed property**

Please be advised that abandoned or unclaimed property laws for certain states (to which your account may be subject) require financial organizations to transfer (escheat) unclaimed property (including shares of a fund) to the appropriate state if no activity occurs in an account for a period of time specified by state law. For IRA accounts escheated to a state under these abandoned property laws, the escheatment will generally be treated as a taxable distribution to you; federal and any applicable state income tax will be withheld. This may apply to your Roth IRA as well.

**Non-US investors.** Non-US investors (shareholders who, as to the United States, are nonresident alien individuals, foreign trusts or estates, foreign corporations, or foreign partnerships) may be subject to US withholding and estate tax and are subject to special US tax certification requirements. Non-US investors should consult their tax advisors about the applicability of US tax withholding and the use of the appropriate forms to certify their status.

*In general*—The United States imposes a flat 30% withholding tax (or a withholding tax at a lower treaty rate) on US source dividends, including on income dividends paid to you by the Fund, subject to certain exemptions described below. However, notwithstanding such exemptions from US withholding at the source, any dividends and distributions of income and capital gains, including the proceeds from the sale of your Fund shares, will be subject to backup withholding at a rate of 24% if you fail to properly certify that you are not a US person.

*Capital gain dividends*—In general, a capital gain dividend reported by the Fund to shareholders as paid from its net long-term capital gains, other than long-term capital gains realized on disposition of US real property interests (see



the discussion below) is not subject to US withholding tax unless you are a nonresident alien individual present in the United States for a period or periods aggregating 183 days or more during the calendar year.

*Interest-related capital gain dividends and short-term dividends*—Generally, dividends reported by the Fund to shareholders as interest-related dividends and paid from its qualified net interest income from US sources and short-term capital gain dividends reported by the Fund to shareholders as paid from its net short-term capital gains are not subject to US withholding tax. However, the Fund does not intend to report interest-related dividends or short-term capital gain dividends for the benefit of non-US investors. As a result, non-US investors may be subject to more US withholding tax than would otherwise be the case.

*Exempt interest dividends*—In general, exempt-interest dividends reported by the Fund to shareholders as paid from net tax-exempt income are not subject to US withholding tax.

*Net investment income from dividends on stock and foreign source interest income continue to be subject to withholding tax; foreign tax credits*—Ordinary dividends paid by the Fund to non-US investors on the income earned on portfolio investments in (i) the stock of domestic and foreign corporations and (ii) the debt of foreign issuers continue to be subject to US withholding tax. Foreign shareholders may be subject to US withholding tax at a rate of 30% on the income resulting from an election to pass-through foreign tax credits to shareholders, but may not be able to claim a credit or deduction with respect to the withholding tax for the foreign tax treated as having been paid by them.

*Income effectively connected with a US trade or business*—If the income from the Fund is effectively connected with a US trade or business carried on by a foreign shareholder, then ordinary income dividends, capital gain dividends and any gains realized upon the sale or redemption of shares of the Fund will be subject to US federal income tax at the rates applicable to US citizens or domestic corporations and require the filing of a nonresident US income tax return.

*US estate tax*—Transfers by gift of shares of the Fund by a foreign shareholder who is a nonresident alien individual will not be subject to US federal gift tax. An individual who, at the time of death, is a non-US shareholder will nevertheless be subject to US federal estate tax with respect to Fund shares at the graduated rates applicable to US citizens and residents, unless a treaty exemption applies. If a treaty exemption is available, a decedent's estate may nonetheless need to file a US estate tax return to claim the exemption in order to obtain a US federal transfer certificate. The transfer certificate will identify the property (i.e., Fund shares) as to which the US federal estate tax lien has been released. In the absence of a treaty, there is a \$13,000 statutory estate tax credit (equivalent to US situs assets with a value of \$60,000). For estates with US situs assets of not more than \$60,000, the Fund may accept, in lieu of a transfer certificate, an affidavit from an appropriate individual evidencing that decedent's US situs assets are below this threshold amount.

*US tax certification rules*—Special US tax certification requirements may apply to non-US shareholders both to avoid US backup withholding imposed at a rate of 24% and to obtain the benefits of any treaty between the United States and the shareholder's country of residence. In general, if you are a non-US shareholder, you must provide a Form W-8 BEN (or other applicable Form W-8) to establish that you are not a US person, to claim that you are the beneficial owner of the income and, if applicable, to claim a reduced rate of, or exemption from, withholding as a resident of a country with which the United States has an income tax treaty. A Form W-8 BEN provided without a US taxpayer identification number will remain in effect for a period beginning on the date signed and ending on the last day of the third succeeding calendar year unless an earlier change of circumstances makes the information on the form incorrect. Certain payees and payments are exempt from backup withholding.



The tax consequences to a non-US shareholder entitled to claim the benefits of an applicable tax treaty may be different from those described herein. Non-US shareholders are urged to consult their own tax advisors with respect to the particular tax consequences to them of an investment in the Fund, including the applicability of foreign tax.

*Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FATCA")*—Under FATCA, the Fund will be required to withhold a 30% tax on income dividends paid by the Fund to certain foreign entities, referred to as foreign financial institutions ("FFI") or non-financial foreign entities ("NFFE"). After December 31, 2018, FATCA withholding also would have applied to certain capital gain distributions, return of capital distributions and the proceeds arising from the sale of Fund shares; however, based on proposed regulations issued by the IRS, which can be relied upon currently, such withholding is no longer required unless final regulations provide otherwise (which is not expected). The FATCA withholding tax generally can be avoided: (a) by an FFI, if it reports certain direct and indirect ownership of foreign financial accounts held by US persons with the FFI and (b) by an NFFE, if it: meets certification requirements described below. The US Treasury has negotiated intergovernmental agreements ("IGA") with certain countries and is in various stages of negotiations with a number of other foreign countries with respect to one or more alternative approaches to implement FATCA; an entity in one of those countries may be required to comply with the terms of an IGA instead of US Treasury regulations.

An FFI can avoid FATCA withholding if it is deemed compliant or by becoming a "participating FFI," which requires the FFI to enter into a US tax compliance agreement with the IRS under section 1471(b) of the Code ("FFI agreement") under which it agrees to verify, report and disclose certain of its US accountholders and meet certain other specified requirements. The FFI will either report the specified information about the US accounts to the IRS, or, to the government of the FFI's country of residence (pursuant to the terms and conditions of applicable law and an applicable IGA entered into between the US and the FFI's country of residence), which will, in turn, report the specified information to the IRS. An FFI that is resident in a country that has entered into an IGA with the US to implement FATCA will be exempt from FATCA withholding provided that the FFI shareholder and the applicable foreign government comply with the terms of such agreement.

An NFFE that is the beneficial owner of a payment from the Fund can avoid the FATCA withholding tax generally by certifying that it does not have any substantial US owners or by providing the name, address and taxpayer identification number of each substantial US owner. The NFFE will report the information to the Fund or other applicable withholding agent, which will, in turn, report the information to the IRS.

Such foreign shareholders also may fall into certain exempt, excepted or deemed compliant categories as established by US Treasury regulations, IGAs, and other guidance regarding FATCA.

An FFI or NFFE that invests in the Fund will need to provide the Fund with documentation properly certifying the entity's status under FATCA in order to avoid FATCA withholding. Non-US investors should consult their own tax advisors regarding the impact of these requirements on their investment in the Fund. The requirements imposed by FATCA are different from, and in addition to, the US tax certification rules to avoid backup withholding described above. Shareholders are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the application of these requirements to their own situation.

**Effect of future legislation; local tax considerations.** The foregoing general discussion of US federal income tax consequences is based on the Code and the regulations issued thereunder as in effect on the date of this Statement of Additional Information. Future legislative or administrative changes; including provisions of current law that sunset and thereafter no longer apply or court decisions may significantly change the conclusions expressed herein, and any such changes or decisions may have a retroactive effect with respect to the transactions contemplated herein. Rules of state and local taxation of ordinary income, qualified dividend income and capital gain dividends may differ from the rules for US federal income taxation described above. Distributions may also be subject to additional state, local and foreign taxes depending on each shareholder's particular situation. Non-US shareholders may be subject to

US tax rules that differ significantly from those summarized above. Shareholders are urged to consult their tax advisors as to the consequences of these and other state and local tax rules affecting investment in the Fund.

**This discussion of “Taxes” is not intended or written to be used as tax advice and does not purport to deal with all federal tax consequences applicable to all categories of investors, some of which may be subject to special rules. You should consult your own tax advisor regarding your particular circumstances before making an investment in the Fund.**

## Other information

**Voting rights.** Shareholders of the Fund are entitled to one vote for each full share held and fractional votes for fractional shares held. Voting rights are not cumulative and, as a result, the holders of more than 50% of all the shares of the Trust may elect all of the Trustees of the Trust. The shares of the Fund will be voted together. The shares of each series of the Trust will be voted separately, except when an aggregate vote of all the series of the Trust is required by law.

**The Trust does not hold annual meetings.** Shareholders of record of no less than two-thirds of the outstanding shares of the Trust may remove a board member through a declaration in writing or by vote cast in person or by proxy at a meeting called for that purpose. A meeting will be called to vote on the removal of a board member at the written request of holders of 10% of the outstanding shares of the Trust.

**Legal counsel.** Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young, LLP, 2005 Market Street, Suite 2600, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-7098, is legal counsel to the Trust and the Independent Trustees.

**Independent registered public accounting firm.** Ernst & Young LLP, One Manhattan West, New York, New York 10001-8604, serves as the independent registered public accounting firm for the Trust. The independent registered public accounting firm audits the financial statements included in the Fund’s Annual Report to shareholders.

## Financial statements and report of independent registered public accounting firm

The Fund’s financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023 and the report thereon of Ernst & Young LLP, dated February 26, 2024, which are contained in the Fund’s Annual Report dated December 31, 2023 (as filed with the SEC on March 11, 2024, pursuant to Section 30(b) of the 1940 Act and Rule 30b2-1 thereunder (Accession Number (0001104659-24-032977))), are incorporated herein by reference.

## Appendix A—Debt Ratings

### **Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") Global Long-Term Ratings:**

Moody's long-term ratings are assigned to issuers or obligations with an original maturity of eleven months or more and reflect both on the likelihood of a default or impairment on contractual financial obligations and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default or impairment.

**Aaa.** Obligations rated Aaa are judged to be of the highest quality, subject to the lowest level of credit risk.

**Aa.** Obligations rated Aa are judged to be of high quality and are subject to very low credit risk.

**A.** Obligations rated A are judged to be upper-medium grade and are subject to low credit risk.

**Baa.** Obligations rated Baa are judged to be medium-grade and subject to moderate credit risk and as such may possess certain speculative characteristics.

**Ba.** Obligations rated Ba are judged to be speculative and are subject to substantial credit risk.

**B.** Obligations rated B are considered speculative and are subject to high credit risk.

**Caa.** Obligations rated Caa are judged to be speculative of poor standing and are subject to very high credit risk.

**Ca.** Obligations rated Ca are highly speculative and are likely in, or very near, default, with some prospect of recovery of principal and interest.

**C.** Obligations rated C are the lowest rated and are typically in default, with little prospect for recovery of principal or interest.

**Note:** Moody's appends numerical modifiers 1, 2, and 3 to each generic rating classification from Aa through Caa. The modifier 1 indicates that the obligation ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates a ranking in the lower end of that generic rating category. Additionally, a "(hyb)" indicator is appended to all ratings of hybrid securities issued by banks, insurers, finance companies, and securities firms.\*

*\* By their terms, hybrid securities allow for the omission of scheduled dividends, interest, or principal payments, which can potentially result in impairment if such an omission occurs. Hybrid securities may also be subject to contractually allowable write-downs of principal that could result in impairment. Together with the hybrid indicator, the long-term obligation rating assigned to a hybrid security is an expression of the relative credit risk associated with that security.*

### **Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC ("S&P Global Ratings") Long-Term Issue Credit Ratings:**

Issue credit ratings are based, in varying degrees, on S&P Global Ratings' analysis of the following considerations:

- The likelihood of payment—the capacity and willingness of the obligor to meet its financial commitments on an obligation in accordance with the terms of the obligation;
- The nature and provisions of the financial obligation, and the promise S&P Global Ratings imputes; and
- The protection afforded by, and relative position of, the financial obligation in the event of a bankruptcy, reorganization, or other arrangement under the laws of bankruptcy and other laws affecting creditors' rights.

An issue rating is an assessment of default risk but may incorporate an assessment of relative seniority or ultimate recovery in the event of default. Junior obligations are typically rated lower than senior obligations, to reflect lower priority in bankruptcy, as noted above. (Such differentiation may apply when an entity has both senior and subordinated obligations, secured and unsecured obligations, or operating company and holding company obligations.)

**AAA.** An obligation rated AAA has the highest rating assigned by S&P Global Ratings. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is extremely strong.

**AA.** An obligation rated AA differs from the highest-rated obligations only to a small degree. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is very strong.

**A.** An obligation rated A is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher-rated categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is still strong.

**BBB.** An obligation rated BBB exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to weaken the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

**BB, B, CCC, CC, and C.** Obligations rated BB, B, CCC, CC, and C are regarded as having significant speculative characteristics. BB indicates the least degree of speculation and C the highest. While such obligations will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these may be outweighed by large uncertainties or major exposure to adverse conditions.

**BB.** An obligation rated BB is less vulnerable to nonpayment than other speculative issues. However, it faces major ongoing uncertainties or exposure to adverse business, financial, or economic conditions that could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

**B.** An obligation rated B is more vulnerable to nonpayment than obligations rated BB, but the obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation. Adverse business, financial, or economic conditions will likely impair the obligor's capacity or willingness to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

**CCC.** An obligation rated CCC is currently vulnerable to nonpayment and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitments on the obligation. In the event of adverse business, financial, or economic conditions, the obligor is not likely to have the capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

**CC.** An obligation rated CC is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment. The CC rating is used when a default has not yet occurred but S&P Global Ratings expects default to be a virtual certainty, regardless of the anticipated time to default.

**C.** An obligation rated C is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment, and the obligation is expected to have lower relative seniority or lower ultimate recovery compared with obligations that are rated higher.

**D.** An obligation rated D is in default or in breach of an imputed promise. For non-hybrid capital instruments, the D rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due, unless S&P Global Ratings believes that such payments will be made within the next five business days in the absence of a stated grace period or within the earlier of the stated grace period or the next 30 calendar days. The D rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual

certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions. A rating on an obligation is lowered to D if it is subject to a distressed debt restructuring.

\* Ratings from AA to CCC may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or minus (-) sign to show relative standing within the rating categories.

### **Moody's Global Short-Term Ratings:**

Moody's short-term ratings are assigned to obligations with an original maturity of thirteen months or less and reflect both on the likelihood of a default or impairment on contractual financial obligations and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default or impairment.

**P-1.** Ratings of Prime-1 reflect a superior ability to repay short-term obligations.

**P-2.** Ratings of Prime-2 reflect a strong ability to repay short-term obligations.

**P-3.** Ratings of Prime-3 reflect an acceptable ability to repay short-term obligations.

**NP.** Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Not Prime do not fall within any of the Prime rating categories.

### **Moody's US Municipal Short-Term Debt and Demand Obligation Ratings: Short-Term Obligation Ratings**

Moody's uses the global short-term Prime rating scale for commercial paper issued by US municipalities and non-profits. These commercial paper programs may be backed by external letters of credit or liquidity facilities, or by an issuer's self-liquidity.

For other short-term municipal obligations, Moody's uses one of two other short-term rating scales, the Municipal Investment Grade ("MIG") and Variable Municipal Investment Grade ("VMIG") scales. Moody's uses the MIG scale for US municipal cash flow notes, bond anticipation notes and certain other short-term obligations, which typically mature in three years or less.

**MIG 1.** This designation denotes superior credit quality. Excellent protection is afforded by established cash flows, highly reliable liquidity support, or demonstrated broad-based access to the market for refinancing.

**MIG 2.** This designation denotes strong credit quality. Margins of protection are ample, although not as large as in the preceding group.

**MIG 3.** This designation denotes acceptable credit quality. Liquidity and cash-flow protection may be narrow, and market access for refinancing is likely to be less well-established.

**SG.** This designation denotes speculative-grade credit quality. Debt instruments in this category may lack sufficient margins of protection.

### **Variable Municipal Investment Grade Ratings:**

For variable rate demand obligations (VRDOs), Moody's assigns both a long-term rating and a short-term payment obligation rating. The long-term rating addresses the issuer's ability to meet scheduled principal and interest payments. The short-term payment obligation rating addresses the ability of the issuer or the liquidity provider to meet any purchase price payment obligation resulting from optional tenders ("on demand") and/or mandatory tenders of the VRDO. The short-term payment obligation rating uses the VMIG scale. Transitions of VMIG ratings with conditional liquidity support differ from transitions of Prime ratings reflecting the risk that external liquidity support will terminate if the issuer's long-term rating drops below investment grade.

For VRDOs, Moody's typically assigns a VMIG rating if the frequency of the payment obligation is less than every three years. If the frequency of the payment obligation is less than three years, but the obligation is payable only with remarketing proceeds, the VMIG short-term rating is not assigned and it is denoted as "NR".

Industrial development bonds in the US where the obligor is a corporate may carry a VMIG rating that reflects Moody's view of the relative likelihood of default and loss. In these cases, liquidity assessment is based on the liquidity of the corporate obligor.

**VMIG 1.** This designation denotes superior credit quality. Excellent protection is afforded by the superior short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections.

**VMIG 2.** This designation denotes strong credit quality. Good protection is afforded by the strong short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections.

**VMIG 3.** This designation denotes acceptable credit quality. Adequate protection is afforded by the satisfactory short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections.

**SG.** This designation denotes speculative-grade credit quality. Demand features rated in this category may be supported by a liquidity provider that does not have a sufficiently strong short-term rating or may lack the structural or legal protections.

#### **S&P Global Ratings' Short-Term Issue Credit Ratings:**

Short-term issue credit ratings are generally assigned to those obligations considered short-term in the relevant market, typically with an original maturity of no more than 365 days. Short-term issue credit ratings are also used to indicate the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to put features on long-term obligations. S&P Global Ratings would typically assign a long-term issue credit rating to an obligation with an original maturity of greater than 365 days. However, the ratings S&P Global Ratings assigns to certain instruments may diverge from these guidelines based on market practices.

**A-1.** A short-term obligation rated A-1 is rated in the highest category by S&P Global Ratings. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is strong. Within this category, certain obligations are designated with a plus sign (+). This indicates that the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on these obligations is extremely strong.

**A-2.** A short-term obligation rated A-2 is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher rating categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is satisfactory.

**A-3.** A short-term obligation rated A-3 exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to weaken an obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

**B.** A short-term obligation rated B is regarded as vulnerable and has significant speculative characteristics. The obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitments; however, it faces major ongoing uncertainties that could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitments.

**C.** A short-term obligation rated C is currently vulnerable to nonpayment and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

**D.** A short-term obligation rated D is in default or in breach of an imputed promise. For non-hybrid capital instruments, the D rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due, unless S&P Global Ratings believes that such payments will be made within any stated grace period. However, any stated grace period longer than five business days will be treated as five business days. The D rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of a similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions. A rating on an obligation is lowered to D if it is subject to a distressed debt restructuring.

### **S&P Global Ratings Municipal Short-Term Note Ratings:**

An S&P Global Ratings US municipal note rating reflects S&P Global Ratings' opinion about the liquidity factors and market access risks unique to the notes. Notes due in three years or less will likely receive a note rating. Notes with an original maturity of more than three years will most likely receive a long-term debt rating. In determining which type of rating, if any, to assign, S&P Global Ratings' analysis will review the following considerations:

- Amortization schedule—the larger the final maturity relative to other maturities, the more likely it will be treated as a note; and
- Source of payment—the more dependent the issue is on the market for its refinancing, the more likely it will be treated as a note.

**SP-1.** Strong capacity to pay principal and interest. An issue determined to possess a very strong capacity to pay debt service is given a plus (+) designation.

**SP-2.** Satisfactory capacity to pay principal and interest, with some vulnerability to adverse financial and economic changes over the term of the notes.

**SP-3.** Speculative capacity to pay principal and interest.

**D.** D is assigned upon failure to pay the note when due, completion of a distressed debt restructuring, or the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions.

### **Fitch Ratings, Inc. ("Fitch") Issuer Default Ratings**

Rated entities in a number of sectors, including financial and non-financial corporations, sovereigns, insurance companies and certain sectors within public finance, are generally assigned Issuer Default Ratings ("IDRs"). IDRs are also assigned to certain entities or enterprises in global infrastructure, project finance and public finance. IDRs opine on an entity's relative vulnerability to default (including by way of a distressed debt exchange) on financial obligations. The threshold default risk addressed by the IDR is generally that of the financial obligations whose non-payment would best reflect the uncured failure of that entity. As such, IDRs also address relative vulnerability to bankruptcy, administrative receivership or similar concepts.

In aggregate, IDRs provide an ordinal ranking of issuers based on the agency's view of their relative vulnerability to default, rather than a prediction of a specific percentage likelihood of default.

**AAA.** Highest credit quality. AAA ratings denote the lowest expectation of default risk. They are assigned only in cases of exceptionally strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is highly unlikely to be adversely affected by foreseeable events.

**AA.** Very high credit quality. AA ratings denote expectations of very low default risk. They indicate very strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.



**A.** High credit quality. A ratings denote expectations of low default risk. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to adverse business or economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings.

**BBB.** Good credit quality. BBB ratings indicate that expectations of default risk are currently low. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered adequate, but adverse business or economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity.

**BB.** Speculative. BB ratings indicate an elevated vulnerability to default risk, particularly in the event of adverse changes in business or economic conditions over time; however, business or financial flexibility exists that supports the servicing of financial commitments.

**B.** Highly speculative. B ratings indicate that material default risk is present, but a limited margin of safety remains. Financial commitments are currently being met; however, capacity for continued payment is vulnerable to deterioration in the business and economic environment.

**CCC.** Substantial credit risk. Very low margin for safety. Default is a real possibility.

**CC.** Very high levels of credit risk. Default of some kind appears probable.

**C.** Near default. A default or default-like process has begun, or for a closed funding vehicle, payment capacity is irrevocably impaired. Conditions that are indicative of a C category rating for an issuer include:

- a. the issuer has entered into a grace or cure period following non-payment of a material financial obligation;
- b. the formal announcement by the issuer or their agent of a distressed debt exchange; and
- c. a closed financing vehicle where payment capacity is irrevocably impaired such that it is not expected to pay interest and/or principal in full during the life of the transaction, but where no payment default is imminent.

**RD.** Restricted default. RD ratings indicate an issuer that in Fitch's opinion has experienced:

- a. an uncured payment default or distressed debt exchange on a bond, loan or other material financial obligation, but
- b. has not entered into bankruptcy filings, administration, receivership, liquidation, or other formal winding-up procedure, and
- c. has not otherwise ceased operating.

This would include:

- i. the selective payment default on a specific class or currency of debt;
- ii. the uncured expiry of any applicable original grace period, cure period or default forbearance period following a payment default on a bank loan, capital markets security or other material financial obligation.

**D.** Default. D ratings indicate an issuer that in Fitch's opinion has entered into bankruptcy filings, administration, receivership, liquidation or other formal winding-up procedure or that has otherwise ceased business and debt is still outstanding.

Default ratings are not assigned prospectively to entities or their obligations; within this context, non-payment on an instrument that contains a deferral feature or grace period will generally not be considered a default until after the expiration of the deferral or grace period, unless a default is otherwise driven by bankruptcy or other similar circumstance, or by a distressed debt exchange.

In all cases, the assignment of a default rating reflects the agency's opinion as to the most appropriate rating category consistent with the rest of its universe of ratings and may differ from the definition of default under the terms of an issuer's financial obligations or local commercial practice.

**Fitch Short-Term Issuer Credit Ratings:**

A short-term issuer or obligation rating is based in all cases on the short-term vulnerability to default of the rated entity and relates to the capacity to meet financial obligations in accordance with the documentation governing the relevant obligation. Short-term deposit ratings may be adjusted for loss severity. Short-Term Ratings are assigned to obligations whose initial maturity is viewed as "short term" based on market convention (a long-term rating can also be used to rate an issue with short maturity). Typically, this means a timeframe of up to 13 months for corporate, sovereign, and structured obligations and up to 36 months for obligations in US public finance markets.

**F1: Highest Short-Term Credit Quality.** Indicates the strongest intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments; may have an added + to denote any exceptionally strong credit feature.

**F2: Good Short-Term Credit Quality.** Good intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments.

**F3: Fair Short-Term Credit Quality.** The intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is adequate.

**B: Speculative Short-Term Credit Quality.** Minimal capacity for timely payment of financial commitments, plus heightened vulnerability to near term adverse changes in financial and economic conditions.

**C: High Short-Term Default Risk.** Default is a real possibility.

**RD: Restricted Default.** Indicates an entity that has defaulted on one or more of its financial commitments, although it continues to meet other financial obligations. Typically applicable to entity ratings only.

**D: Default.** Indicates a broad-based default event for an entity, or the default of a short-term obligation.

**You should rely only on the information contained or referred to in the Prospectus and this Statement of Additional Information. The Fund and its principal underwriter have not authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different. The Prospectus and this Statement of Additional Information are not an offer to sell shares of the Fund in any jurisdiction where the Fund or its principal underwriter may not lawfully sell those shares.**

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