

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between the

Cayman Islands Monetary Authority (CIMA)

and

Labuan Financial Services Authority (Labuan FSA)

**on the Exchange of Information
for Co-operation and Consultation**

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WHEREAS:

- A. Labuan Financial Services Authority, a statutory body established under the Labuan Financial Services Authority Act 1996 for the development and administration of the Labuan International Business and Financial Centre (Labuan IBFC) and having its address at Level 17, Main Office Tower, Financial Park Complex, Jalan Merdeka, 87000 Federal Territory of Labuan, Malaysia (“**Labuan FSA**”); and
- B. Cayman Islands Monetary Authority, a statutory body established under the Monetary Authority Law 1997 as the financial services regulator of the Cayman Islands and having its address at 80e Sheddon Road, Elizabethan Square, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands (“**CIMA**”)
- C. CIMA and Labuan FSA together hereinafter referred to as the “Authorities” and singularly referred to as the “Authority” recognise the need for mutual cooperation between the Authorities in the carrying out of their regulatory and supervisory functions under the relevant laws, regulations and rules in their respective countries.
- D. The Authorities further acknowledge the importance of compliance with relevant international standards established by international standard setting bodies such as the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, The International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS), the International Organisation of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).
- C. The arrangements outlined below are intended to enhance the existing working relationship between the Authorities.

1 DEFINITIONS

“**Requesting Authority**” means the Authority making a request under this Memorandum of Understanding.

“**Requested Authority**” means the Authority to whom a request is made pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding;

“**Person**” means a natural person, body corporate, partnership, or unincorporated association, government or political subdivision, agency or instrumentality of a government;

“**Financial Institutions**” mean the institutions and persons regulated and supervised by either of the Authorities, and

“**Jurisdiction**” means the country, state or other territory, as the case may be, in which either of the Authorities has legal authority, power and/or jurisdiction by law.

“**Memorandum of Understanding**” means this Memorandum of understanding that contains the arrangements for both mutual co-operation and exchange of information between regulatory bodies premised herein.

“Registered Person” means any person carrying on banking or other financial business activities requiring registration by either of the Authorities in order to carry out those functions, who may or may not be subject to individual registration but who is subject to the operative legislation within the jurisdiction.

2. INTENTION

- 2.1 This Memorandum of Understanding sets forth a statement of intent of the Authorities to establish a framework for mutual assistance and to facilitate the exchange of information between the Authorities to enforce or secure compliance with any laws, regulations or rules relating to the functions and duties of the Authorities in their respective jurisdictions.
- 2.2 The Authorities intend to provide one another with assistance under this Memorandum of Understanding to the full extent permitted by the laws, regulations and rules of their respective jurisdictions.
- 2.3 This Memorandum of Understanding will serve to promote the integrity, efficiency and financial soundness of financial institutions by improving the effective regulation, enhancing the supervision of cross-border transactions, and preventing fraudulent and other prohibited practices in Labuan and the Cayman Islands.
- 2.4 This Memorandum of Understanding does not create any binding legal obligations upon the Authorities.
- 2.5 The Authorities intend, where legal authorisation is lacking, to actively pursue all avenues towards obtaining, by law, all the necessary powers for the effective achievement of the objectives of this Memorandum of Understanding, and to keep each other informed of developments in connection therewith.
- 2.6 The provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding do not lead to the right of any person, directly or indirectly, to obtain, suppress or exclude any information or to challenge the execution of a request for assistance under this Memorandum of Understanding
- 2.7 The Authorities acknowledge that they may only provide information under this Memorandum of Understanding if permitted or not prevented under any applicable laws, regulations and requirements within the Authorities’ respective jurisdiction.
- 2.8 The Authorities will use reasonable effort to provide each other, as permitted by the laws of their respective jurisdictions, with any information that they discover which leads to a suspicion of a breach or anticipated breach of rules or laws in the jurisdictions of the Authorities.

3. SCOPE

- 3.1 Through the machinery set up by this Memorandum of Understanding, the Authorities agree to strengthen, promote, co-operate and provide mutual assistance and exchange of information to enable the Authorities to perform their respective duties and functions effectively according to the laws, regulations and rules of their respective jurisdictions.

Supervisory and Enforcement:

- 3.2 In terms of this general theme, the scope of this Memorandum of Understanding includes the following:
- (a) Cooperation on reciprocal basis on matters related to regulation and supervision of banks, financial institutions, collective investment schemes and clearing and settlement activities;
 - (b) Assisting in the discovery of and taking of action against unlawful activities and practices contrary to international standards subscribed to by the Authorities in relation to activities they regulate.
 - (c) Enforcement of the laws, regulations and rules relating to banking or other financial activities subject to regulation by the Authorities in their respective jurisdictions.
 - (d) Promoting and securing the fit and proper qualities of registered persons and the promotion of high standards of fair dealing and integrity of their conduct of business; and
 - (e) Assisting in the carrying out of responsibilities for the prevention of and enquiries relating to money laundering under the laws of their respective jurisdictions including the proper implementation of anti-money laundering procedures by financial institutions.

Research and Development:

- (f) Assisting each other in activities relating to research and development geared towards improving the Authorities' regulatory, legal, and supervisory framework in furtherance of carrying out the respective functions of the Authorities.

Exchange of Information:

- (g) Assist each other in the exchange of relevant information towards carrying out and enhancing the respective regulatory functions of the Authorities to the extent permitted by the respective legislations.

Miscellaneous:

(h) Any matters agreed upon between the Authorities from time to time.

4. UNDERTAKING OF INSPECTION VISITS

4.1 The Requesting Authority may undertake or accompany inspection visits on Financial Institutions having business operations in or from the jurisdiction of the Requested Authority. Inspection visits will take place in accordance with the laws of the Requested jurisdiction.

4.2 All members of the inspection team will be required to give an undertaking of confidentiality prior to the commencement of any on-site inspection.

4.3 In the course of carrying out an inspection, an inspection team as referred to in 4.1 and 4.2 shall normally include a member of the Requested Authority's staff.

5. REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE OR INFORMATION

5.1 This Memorandum of Understanding does not affect the ability of the Authorities to obtain information, or request for assistance from, other authorities or persons, provided that the existing Authorities observe procedures in the jurisdiction of each Authority for the obtaining of such information.

5.2 To facilitate communication and ensure continuity in the co-operation between the Authorities, each Authority designates the contact persons set forth in Appendix A hereto for communications under this Memorandum of Understanding.

5.3 A Requesting Authority will make requests for assistance in writing addressed to the contact officer of the Requested Authority.

5.4 The request will include -

(a) a description of both the subject matter of the request and the purpose for which the Requesting Authority seeks the assistance or information;

(b) a description of the assistance, documents or information sought by the Requesting Authority;

(c) any information in the possession of the Requesting Authority that might assist the Requested Authority in identifying the persons, bodies or entities believed by the Requesting Authority to possess the information sought, or the places where the Requested Authority may obtain such information;

- (d) the legal provisions concerning the matter that is the subject matter of the request and the relevance of the requested information to the specified laws or regulatory requirements;
- (e) whether any other authorities, governmental or non-governmental, are co-operating with the Requesting Authority or seeking information from the confidential files of the Requesting Authority and to whom onward disclosure of information is likely to be necessary; and the desired period of time for the reply;
- (f) In urgent circumstances, the Requested Authority will accept a request for assistance and will expedite to the extent possible a reply thereto by summary procedures or by means of communication other than the exchange of letters. Such urgent communications must be confirmed in writing as prescribed above by the contact person set out in Appendix A within ten business days.

6. EXECUTION OF REQUESTS

6.1 Where the Requested Authority is satisfied in accordance with this Memorandum of Understanding and the laws governing the Requesting Authority that the assistance should be given, the Requested Authority will;

(a) Provide information held by the Requested Authority;

(b) Obtain information, including statements and testimony, and gather documents in accordance with the laws and procedures in the jurisdiction of the Requested Authority.

6.2 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Memorandum of Understanding any person providing information or documents as a result of a request made under this Memorandum of Understanding will be entitled to all applicable rights and privileges of the laws in the jurisdiction of the Requested Authority. Assertions regarding rights and privileges arising exclusively under the laws applicable in the jurisdiction of the Requesting Authority will be preserved for consideration by Courts in that jurisdiction.

6.3 Each request will be assessed on a case by case basis by the Requested Authority to determine whether information can be provided under the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding.

7. UNSOLICITED INFORMATION

7.1 Where one Authority has information that will assist the other Authority in the performance of its regulatory functions, the former may provide such information, or arrange for such information to be provided spontaneously, to the extent permitted by the laws of its respective jurisdiction even though the other Authority has made no request. The terms and conditions of this

Memorandum of Understanding will apply if the providing Authority specifies that it is passing the information under this Memorandum of Understanding.

8. PERMISSIBLE USES OF INFORMATION

- 8.1 Any assistance or information provided under the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be used by the recipient only for the purpose of enabling the Requested Authority to exercise regulatory functions, including the conduct of civil or administrative investigations and proceedings to enforce the laws, regulations or rules of the Requested Authority as specified in the request.
- 8.2 The Requesting Authority may not use information furnished for any purpose other than as specified in paragraph 8.1 or Section 3 herein without the written consent of the Requested Authority.
- 8.3 If the Requesting Authority wants to use the information obtained for any purpose other than that stated in paragraph 8.1 or Section 3 the Requesting Authority shall first obtain written consent from the Requested Authority.
- 8.4 In seeking the written consent referred to in 8.3 above, the Requesting Authority shall notify the Requested Authority, in writing, of its intention and provide a reasonable justification for the request.
- 8.5 Where the Requesting Authority believes that sharing confidential information with a third party is necessary, it must inform the Requested Authority, in writing, of the third party's interest and not share any information prior to obtaining the written consent under paragraph 8.3 above.
- 8.6 The Requesting Authority may consult with the Requested Authority concerning the reasons for the objection if the Requested Authority opposes such use.

9. CONFIDENTIALITY

- 9.1 The Authorities will, to the full extent permitted by the laws, regulations and rules of their respective jurisdictions, keep confidential:-
 - (a) any request for assistance or information pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding;
 - (b) any information received or provided pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding; and
 - (c) any matter arising during the operation of this Memorandum of Understanding, including consultations and unsolicited assistance.
- 9.2 The Requesting Authority shall not disclose the assistance or information obtained pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding to third parties without the prior written consent of the Requested Authority.

- 9.3 Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 9.1 and 9.2, the confidentiality provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding shall not prevent the Authorities from informing the law enforcement or regulatory bodies in its jurisdiction of the request or from passing information received pursuant to a request provided that:-
- (a) such agencies or bodies have responsibility for prosecuting, regulating or enforcing rules or laws falling within the scope of this Memorandum of Understanding; and/or
 - (b) the purpose of passing on such information to such an agency or body falls within the scope of this Memorandum of Understanding; and
- 9.4 Notwithstanding anything herein, the Authorities confidential treatment of assistance and information given under this Memorandum of Understanding shall continue and shall be binding on the Authorities in perpetuity regardless whenever either Authority gives notice of its intent to cease co-operation under this Memorandum of Understanding. The Authorities understand that the laws, regulations and rules of their respective jurisdictions place limitations on use and disclosure of non-public information obtained pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding.

10. RIGHTS OF REQUESTED AUTHORITY

- 10.1 The Requested Authority may deny requests for assistance under the Memorandum of Understanding -
- (a) where the request would require the Requested Authority to act in a way that would violate the laws of the jurisdiction of the Requested Authority;
 - (b) where the request is not in accordance with the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding;
 - (c) where corresponding assistance would not be given in the country of or territory of the Requesting Authority;
 - (d) where the request involves a breach of law or other requirement which has no close parallel in the country or territory of the Requested Authority or involve the assertion of a jurisdiction not recognised in the country or territory of the Requested Authority; or
 - (e) on the grounds of national or public interest.
- 10.2 Where the Requested Authority denies a request for assistance, or where assistance is not available under the law of the jurisdiction of the Requested Authority, the Requested Authority will provide the reasons why it is not

granting the assistance. The Authorities will then consult pursuant to Clause 11.

- 10.3 The Authorities recognise that nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding is intended to either limit or enhance the powers of the Authorities under the laws of their respective jurisdictions to investigate or gather information or to take measures otherwise than as provided in this Memorandum of Understanding to obtain information, whether or not concerning a request under this Memorandum of Understanding.

11. CONSULTATION

- 11.1 The Authorities will consult with each other to improve the operation of this Memorandum of Understanding and resolving any matters that may arise including but not limited to -
- (a) matters of mutual interest to enhance co-operation and to protect investors by ensuring the stability, efficiency, and integrity of the financial services industry in their respective jurisdictions; or
 - (b) the co-ordination of the supervision of financial institutions; or
 - (b) the administration of the laws, regulations and rules of their respective jurisdictions; or
 - (d) any dispute or disagreement arising out from this Memorandum of Understanding

The purpose of such consultations is to assist in the development of mutually agreeable approaches for strengthening the financial services industries of their respective jurisdictions whilst avoiding, whenever possible, conflicts that may arise from the application of differing regulatory practices.

- 11.2 The Authorities will consider the need for additional measures for the exchange of investigation, enforcement, supervisory and surveillance information in the administration and enforcement of the laws, regulations and rules concerning financial institutions in their respective jurisdictions, on an ongoing basis. To this end, the Authorities will inform one another of the adoption of domestic measures that may affect their respective authority to provide assistance under this Memorandum of Understanding.
- 11.3 The Authorities may take practical measures as may be necessary to facilitate the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding. As such, the Authorities may amend, relax or waive any of the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding provided prior written consent is provided by the Authorities.

12. COSTS INCIDENTAL TO THIS MOU

- 12.1 Any costs to be incurred by the Requested Authority in response to the request by the Requesting Authority shall be borne by the Requesting Authority.
- 12.2 Any costs incidental to the preparation of this Memorandum of Understanding by the Authorities shall be borne the Authorities respectively.

13. TERMINATION OF THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding will continue in effect until the expiration of 3 months after either Authority gives written notice to the other Authority of its intention to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding (the "Termination Notice"). If either Authority gives such notice, this Memorandum of Understanding will continue to have effect with respect to all requests for assistance that the Authorities made before the Termination Notice given until the Requesting Authority terminates the matter for which it requested assistance.

14. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Memorandum of Understanding will be effective from the date of its signing by the Authorities.

SIGNED at this 28 day of July 2015

**FOR AND ON BEHALF OF
THE CAYMAN ISLANDS MONETARY AUTHORITY**

Scotland

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**FOR AND ON BEHALF OF
THE LABUAN FINANCIAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

[Signature]

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APPENDIX A

DESIGNATED CONTACT OFFICERS

The Cayman Islands Monetary Authority

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