Introduction

The purpose of this document is to disclose the levels of protection associated with the different levels of segregation that we provide in respect of securities that we hold directly for clients with Central Securities Depositories within the EEA (CSDs), including a description of the main legal implications of the respective levels of segregation offered and information on the insolvency law applicable. This disclosure is required under Article 38(6) of the Central Securities Depositories Regulation (CSDR) (in relation to CSDs in the EEA).

This document is not intended to constitute legal or other advice and should not be relied upon as such. Clients should seek their own legal advice if they require any guidance on the matters discussed in this document.

Background

In our own books and records, we record each client’s individual entitlement to securities that we hold for that client in a separate client account. We also open accounts with CSDs in our own (or in our nominee’s or a nominee of our affiliates) name in which we hold clients’ securities. We currently make two types of accounts with CSDs available to clients: Individual Client Segregated Accounts (ISAs) and Omnibus Client Segregated Accounts (OSAs).

An ISA is used to hold the securities of a single client (which can be a single legal entity or an institution representing multiple legal entities) and therefore the client’s securities are held separately from the securities of other clients and our own proprietary securities.

An OSA is used to hold the securities of a number of clients on a collective basis. We do not hold our own proprietary securities in OSAs.

Main legal implications of levels of segregation

Insolvency

Clients’ legal entitlement to the securities that we hold for them directly with CSDs would not be affected by our insolvency, whether those securities were held in ISAs or OSAs.

The distribution of the securities in practice on an insolvency would depend on a number of factors, the most relevant of which are discussed below.
Application of Luxembourg insolvency law

Were we to become insolvent, our insolvency proceedings would take place in Luxembourg and be governed by Luxembourg insolvency law. A trustee would be appointed to liquidate our assets and distribute them to customers and creditors under court supervision.

Under Luxembourg law, securities that we held on behalf of clients would not form part of our estate on insolvency for distribution to creditors. Rather, they would be deliverable to clients in accordance with each client’s in rem rights in the securities.

As a result, it would not be necessary for clients to make a claim in our insolvency as a general unsecured creditor in respect of those securities. Securities that we held on behalf of clients would also not be subject to any bail-in process (see glossary), which may be applied to us if we were to become subject to resolution proceedings (see glossary).

Accordingly, where we hold securities in custody for clients, they should be protected on our insolvency or resolution. This applies whether the securities are held in an OSA or an ISA. Insolvency proceedings may, however, delay the restitution of the securities to the client, amongst other because an insolvency practitioner may require a full reconciliation of the books and records in respect of all securities accounts prior to the release of any securities from those accounts.

Nature of clients’ interests

Luxembourg law provides a protective measure in favour of clients holding book entry securities in an account with us, which consists in granting the clients a right in rem in such securities and not merely a personal claim. The client has a right in rem of an intangible nature, up to the number of securities booked to its securities account held with us, on the entirety of the securities of the same kind held in accounts by us (the "securities entitlement") as the immediate account provider, i.e. as the account provider who has opened the client’s securities account. This is in addition to any contractual right a client may have against us to have the securities delivered to them.

According to Luxembourg law, the securities entitlement can only be exercised by the client against its immediate account provider, even if the latter has sub-deposited the securities in its name with a higher tier intermediary. This means that the client can generally only exercise its rights in relation to the securities entitlements against us and not against CSDs with which we hold accounts, whether the client’s securities are held in ISAs or OSAs.

Shortfalls

If there were a shortfall between the number of securities that we are obliged to deliver to clients and the number of securities that we hold on their behalf in either an ISA or an OSA, this could result in fewer securities than clients are entitled to being returned to them on our insolvency.

How a shortfall may arise

A shortfall could arise for a number of reasons including as a result of administrative error, intraday movements or counterparty default following the exercise of rights of reuse.
We do not permit clients to make use of or borrow securities belonging to other clients for intra-day settlement purposes, even where the securities are held in an OSA, in order to reduce the chances of a shortfall arising as a result of the relevant client failing to meet its obligations to reimburse the OSA for the securities used or borrowed.

Treatment of a shortfall

The treatment of shortfalls may vary depending on whether the securities are held by us in an ISA or OSA. In case of an ISA\(^1\), the whole of any shortfall on that ISA would be attributable to the client for whom the account is held and would not be shared with other clients for whom we hold securities. Similarly, the client would not be exposed to a shortfall on an account held for another client or clients. In the case of an OSA, the shortfall would be shared among the clients in relation to the securities held in the OSA. Therefore, a client may be exposed to a shortfall even where securities have been lost in circumstances which are completely unrelated to that client.

The risk of a shortfall arising is, however, mitigated as a result of our obligation, in case the available quantity of specific securities is insufficient, to cover the loss by securities of the same nature belonging to us in certain circumstances and within the limits set out by law.

If a shortfall arose and we would not hold a sufficient amount of securities of the same nature belonging to us, clients may have a claim against us for any loss suffered. If we were to become insolvent prior to covering a shortfall, clients would rank as general unsecured creditors for any amounts owing to them in connection with such a claim. Clients would therefore be exposed to the risks of our insolvency, including the risk that they may not be able to recover all or part of any amounts claimed. In these circumstances, clients could be exposed to the risk of loss on our insolvency.

In order to calculate clients’ shares of any shortfall in respect of an OSA, each client’s interests with respect to securities held within that account would need to be established as a matter of law and fact based on our books and records. Any shortfall in a particular security held in an OSA would then be allocated among all clients with an interest in that security in the account. It is likely that this allocation would be made rateably between clients with an interest in that security in the OSA, although arguments could be made that in certain circumstances a shortfall in a particular security in an OSA should be attributed to a particular client or clients. It may therefore be a time consuming process to confirm each client’s entitlement. This could give rise to delays in returning securities and initial uncertainty for a client as to its actual entitlement on an insolvency.

Security interests

Security interest granted to third party

Security interests granted over clients’ securities could have a different impact in the case of ISAs and OSAs.

---

\(^1\) Clients should note that for the purposes of this section if a client elects for an ISA as part of an intra-fund arrangement whereby the assets of that client and any assets of any of its related funds are “ring-fenced” from the assets of other clients that are not related funds, then this type of ISA may be treated as an OSA if there is a shortfall notwithstanding the client’s election of an ISA.
Where a client purported to grant a security interest over its interest in securities held in an OSA and the security interest was asserted against the CSD with which the account was held, there could be a delay in the return of securities to all clients holding securities in the relevant account, including those clients who had not granted a security interest, and a possible shortfall in the account. However, in practice, we would expect that the beneficiary of a security interest over a client’s securities would perfect its security by notifying us rather than the relevant CSD and would seek to enforce the security against us rather than against such CSD, with which it had no relationship. We would also expect CSDs to refuse to recognise a claim asserted by anyone other than ourselves as account holder.

**Security interest granted to CSD**

Where the CSD benefits from a security interest over securities held for a client, there could be a delay in the return of securities to a client (and a possible shortfall) in the event that we failed to satisfy our obligations to the CSD and the security interest was enforced. This applies whether the securities are held in an ISA or an OSA. However, in practice, we would expect that a CSD would first seek recourse to any securities held in our own proprietary accounts to satisfy our obligations and only then make use of securities in client accounts. We would also expect a CSD to enforce its security rateably across client accounts held with it.

Furthermore, restrictions apply in relation to the situations in which we may grant a security interest over securities held in a client account.
**Glossary**

**Bail-in** refers to the process under the law of 18 December 2015 on the resolution, reorganisation and winding up measures of credit institutions and certain investment firms and on deposit guarantee and investor compensation schemes (the **2015 Law**) applicable to failing Luxembourg banks and investment firms under which the firm’s liabilities to clients may be modified, for example by being written down or converted into equity.

**Central Securities Depository** or **CSD** is an entity which records legal entitlements to dematerialised securities and operates a system for the settlement of transactions in those securities.

**Central Securities Depositories Regulation** or **CSDR** refers to EU Regulation 909/2014 which sets out rules applicable to CSDs and their participants.

**Direct participant** means an entity that holds securities in an account with a CSD and is responsible for settling transactions in securities that take place within a CSD. A direct participant should be distinguished from an indirect participant, which is an entity, such as a global custodian, which appoints a direct participant to hold securities for it with a CSD.

**EEA** means the European Economic Area.

**Resolution proceedings** are proceedings for the resolution of failing Luxembourg banks and investment firms under the 2015 Law.

**Segregated Accounts** means an ISA and/or an OSA, as the case may be.

**Disclaimer**

This material (“Material”) is provided by J.P. Morgan for informational purposes only.

This Material may not be relied upon as definitive, and shall not form the basis of any decisions. It is the user's responsibility to independently confirm the information presented in this Material, and to obtain any other information deemed relevant to any decision made in connection with the subject matter contained in this Material.

This Material is not intended as tax, legal, financial or equivalent advice and should not be regarded as or used as such. Users of this Material are should seek their own professional experts as they deem appropriate including, but not limited to, tax, financial, legal, investment or equivalent advisers, in relation to the subject matter covered by this Material. The Material should not be relied upon for compliance.

The provision of this Material does not constitute, and shall not be construed as constituting or be deemed to constitute, an invitation to treat in respect of, a solicitation of, or offer or inducement to provide or carry on, any type of investment service or activity by J.P. Morgan, including but not limited to the purchase or sale of any security.

Under all applicable laws, including, but not limited to, the U.S. Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, or the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Regulated Activities) Order 2001, as amended, no portion of this Material shall constitute, or be construed as constituting or be deemed to constitute “investment advice” for any purpose, and J.P. Morgan shall not be considered as a fiduciary of any person or institution for any purpose in relation to Material.

©2018 JPMorgan Chase & Co. All rights reserved.