Alternative Reference Rates Committee (ARRC) Minutes for the August 5, 2020¹ Meeting

The ARRC Chair welcomed everyone and thanked them for their continued active participation during these unprecedented times and encouraged everyone to continue their engagement and interaction during the virtual meetings. Members were informed that Items #4 and #5 on the agenda included discussions related to Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for the spread adjustment publication and the term rate publication and that any member that intended to respond to either of the RFPs, or that has an affiliate that intended to respond to an RFP, must recuse themselves for this discussion. Those who do not recuse themselves would not be eligible to submit a proposal in response to the RFPs or to have an affiliate submit a proposal. To wrap up the administrative items, an ARRC member provided an update on the recent European discounting switch from the clearing house perspective. A brief discussion followed with respect to next steps in anticipation for the US discounting switch scheduled for October.

Brunswick provided an update on the <u>SOFR Summer series</u>, a webinar series hosted and designed by the ARRC to educate the public on the history of LIBOR; the development and strengths of the SOFR; progress made in the transition away from LIBOR to date; and how to ensure organizations are ready for the end of LIBOR. The sessions were well attended and well received by participants and members of the press. ARRC members were reminded that presentations and recordings are available on the <u>ARRC</u> <u>website</u>. Brunswick also announced a publication date for a <u>SOFR Starter Kit</u>, a set of factsheets to inform the public about the recommended transition away from U.S. dollar LIBOR to SOFR.

An update was provided on recent ISDA work to implement fallbacks for derivatives, touching upon recent ISDA announcements and publications related to the IBOR Fallbacks Protocol including the July 29 announcement and ISDA's July 22nd letter followed by discussion on how the ARRC can help highlight the recent ISDA developments in order to reflect its strong support of the protocol, and to encourage market participants to adhere to the protocol at the earliest opportunity to support the inclusion of fallbacks to SOFR in legacy USD LIBOR derivatives contracts (as well as fallbacks to other RFRs in derivatives contracts referencing other IBORs). Subsequent to the meeting, the ARRC Chair sent a letter to ARRC members recommending that they be prepared to sign onto the ISDA <u>IBOR Fallbacks</u> <u>Protocol</u>.

At the continuation of the meeting on August 14, the ARRC discussed a potential update to its recommended Best Practices in anticipation of ISDA's upcoming <u>IBOR Fallbacks Protocol</u>. While the ARRC's Best Practices have always recommended adoption of the Protocol, the update recommended that a subset of derivatives market participants adhere to the Protocol as promptly as possible. The update to the <u>Best Practices</u> was broadly supported and published on August 19.

The ARRC Chair then reminded members intending to respond to either of the RFPs, or with an affiliate that intended to respond to an RFP, to recuse themselves as the discussion transitioned to the launch of the RFP processes in connection with the <u>2020 Objectives</u> related to selecting: 1) an administrator of an ARRC-recommended forward looking SOFR term rate, and 2) an administrator to publish the ARRC's

¹ Note that given time constraints, a subsequent ARRC call was scheduled for August 14, 2020 from 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM to continue this meeting with further discussion of items #3, #4 and #5 on the agenda (the ISDA Protocol Update, Spread Adjustment RFP Process Update and Term Rate RFP Process Updates).

recommended spread adjustments and spread-adjusted rates. Members were encouraged to provide feedback on the latest drafts of the RFPs. The <u>spread adjustment RFP</u> was subsequently published on the ARRC website.

In closing, the ARRC Chair noted that the next meeting will be held September 9th via Webex and that he appreciates everyone's diligence as we continue to move forward with the transition.

Attendance at the August 5, 2020 Meeting*

ARRC Members

American Bankers Association Association for Financial Professionals AXA **Bank of America Bank of America** BlackRock Citigroup Citigroup Comerica **CME Group CRE Finance Council CRE Finance Council** Deutsche Bank **Deutsche Bank** Fannie Mae Fannie Mae Federal Home Loan Bank Federal Home Loan Bank Federal Home Loan Bank of New York Freddie Mac Freddie Mac **GE** Capital **Goldman Sachs Goldman Sachs Goldman Sachs Government Finance Officers Association Government Finance Officers Association** HSBC Huntington Bank Intercontinental Exchange Intercontinental Exchange International Swaps and Derivatives Association JP Morgan Chase & Co. JP Morgan Chase & Co. JP Morgan Chase & Co. KKR LCH Loan Syndications and Trading Association MetLife MetLife Morgan Stanley Morgan Stanley Morgan Stanley

Hu Benton Thomas Hunt Julien Zusslin **Greg Todd** Sonali Theisen Jack Hattem Dina Faenson Jeannine Hyman Dave Shipka Agha Mirza Raj Aidasani Lisa Pendergrast Adam Eames* Nader Jarun **Bob** Ives Wells Engledow Kyle Lynch Phil Scott Rei Shinozuka* Ameez Nanjee **Michelle Thomas** Fred Robustelli Gigi Chavez de Arnavat Guillaume Helie Jason Granet **Emily Brock** Pat McCoy BlairSelber Beth Russell Chris Edmonds Harvey Flax* Ann Battle Alice Wang* Emilio Jimenez* Perry Elbadrawi* Tal Reback Phil Whitehurst Meredith Coffey* **Kevin Budd** Joe Demetrick Maria Douvas Matt Ochs* Paige Mandy*

Morgan Stanley National Association of Corporate Treasurers PIMCO PIMCO PNC **Prudential Financial Prudential Financial** Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association Structured Finance Association Structured Finance Association TD Bank TD Bank Wells Fargo Wells Fargo World BankGroup

Tom Wipf Tom Deas Scott Goodman Andrei Wagner Andrew Wilson Chris McAlister Gary Horbacz* **Chris Killian** Rob Toomey* Jen Earyes Kristi Leo **Greg Moore** Priya Misra Alexis Pederson Brian Grabenstein Don Sinclair

Sayee Srinivasan

Ex-Officio ARRC Members

Commodity Futures Trading Commission Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Federal Housing Finance Agency Federal Reserve Bank of New York Federal Reserve Board of Governors Federal Reserve Board of Governors Federal Reserve Board of Governors National Association of Insurance Commissioners Office of Financial Research Office of Financial Research Office of the Comptroller of the Currency U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission U.S. Treasury U.S. Treasury

Abhishek Agarwal Irina Leonova Dan Coates **Betsy Bourassa** Jamie Pfeifer Justine Hansen Nate Wuerffel **Raymond Check** Scott Nagel William Riordan David Bowman Evan Winerman Jeffrey Huther Eric Kolchinsky Robert "Jay" Kahn Matt McCormick* Kevin Walsh Jose Fernandez David Metzman Jason Leung **Michelle Danis** Tamara Brightwell Peter Phelan Chloe Cabot

Observers

Bank of Canada BNP Paribas

Sheryl King Simon Winn Boston Consulting Group Brunswick Brunswick Brunswick Cadwalader Cadwalader Deloitte Ernst & Young Morgan Lewis Oliver Wyman Roy Choudhury Pauline Blondiaux* Casey Gunkel Elizabeth Lilly Jeanmarie McFadden Jason Halper Lary Stromfeld Alexey Surkov Marc Saidenberg Jon Roellke Adam Schneider

*This meeting was held via WebEx; asterisk indicates participation by dial-in.

Attendance at the August 14, 2020 Continuation of August 5 Meeting*

ARRC Members

American Bankers Association Association for Financial Professionals AXA Bank of America BlackRock BlackRock Citigroup Citigroup Comerica **CME** Group **CRE Finance Council CRE Finance Council CRE Finance Council** Deutsche Bank Fannie Mae Fannie Mae Federal Home Loan Bank Federal Home Loan Bank of New York Ford Freddie Mac **Freddie Mac GE** Capital GoldmanSachs **Goldman Sachs Goldman Sachs Government Finance Officers Association Government Finance Officers Association** HSBC HSBC Huntington Bank Independent Community Bankers of America Intercontinental Exchange International Swaps and Derivatives Association JP Morgan Chase & Co. JP Morgan Chase & Co. JP Morgan Chase & Co. KKR LCH Loan Syndications and Trading Association Loan Syndications and Trading Association MetLife MetLife MetLife

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U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission U.S. Treasury U.S. Treasury

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