# **Alternative Reference Rates Committee (ARRC)**

## Minutes for the November 17, 2021 Meeting

The ARRC Chair welcomed participants to the virtual meeting. The Chair highlighted the FCA's <u>November 16 announcement</u> which confirmed rules for legacy use of synthetic sterling and yen LIBOR rates in all legacy contracts and again confirmed regulatory prohibitions against new use of USD LIBOR for UK-supervised entities after December 31, 2021. The Chair also noted the 2022 meeting dates while iterating that the frequency could be increased or decreased if needed.

The ARRC members then discussed a revised draft of ARRC recommended fallbacks for 1-week and 2-month USD LIBOR in connection with the New York legislation. ARRC members were asked to provide any additional feedback on the draft recommendations.<sup>1</sup>

The Legal Working Group provided an update on the status of federal legislation to provide a narrow solution for legacy contracts that cannot effectively be amended to fallback to an alternative reference rate upon LIBOR's cessation. While emphasizing the critical importance of having a federal legislative solution, the Working Group Chairs noted that work to promote potential legislation in other states was also ongoing in the event a state-by-state approach is needed. Members were encouraged to reach out to state banking associations to raise awareness of the efforts.

The new chairs of the Operations / Infrastructure Working Group provided an update on the strategy of the revamped working group. ARRC members were asked to review their respective memberships for the working group to ensure the appropriate people are involved in the work going forward.

It was noted that the Market Risk Advisory Committee (MRAC) of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) was finalizing their recommendations for the fourth phase of the <u>SOFR First</u> trading convention switches, which is focused on exchange traded futures, including but not limited to the Eurodollar futures and options markets. The MRAC has previously recommended that cross-currency swaps referencing USD, CHF, JPY and GBP should utilize RFRs in each currency instead of LIBOR as of September 21, 2021. This additional SOFR First recommendation is intended to capture the USD leg of all other cross-currency derivative transactions, regardless of the accompanying non-USD currency leg.<sup>2</sup>

On the year-end outlook, members discussed a draft survey to help gauge ARRC members' sentiment regarding progress on the LIBOR transition as year-end approaches. The purpose of the survey is to track progress and to also identify areas where the ARRC can be helpful with

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The final recommendation was <u>published</u> by the ARRC on December 3, 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The CFTC <u>announced</u> its selection of the SOFR First switching date for additional cross-currency derivatives on December 2, 2021.

moving the transition forward. Members agreed to proceed with the survey, and it was noted that the survey would be sent out shortly after the meeting for ARRC member responses.

The ARRC Chair closed the meeting by thanking everyone and reminding everyone of the next ARRC meeting to be held December 16<sup>th</sup> via Webex.

### Attendance at the November 17, 2021 Meeting\*

#### **ARRC Members**

**American Bankers Association** American Bankers Association Association for Financial Professionals Bank of America Bank of America Bank of America Bank of New York Mellon Bank of New York Mellon Bank of New York Mellon BlackRock **CME Group CRE Finance Council CRE Finance Council** Citigroup Citigroup Comerica **Deutsche Bank Deutsche Bank** Equitable Fannie Mae Federal Home Loan Bank Office of Finance Federal Home Loan Bank of New York Ford Motor Company Freddie Mac Freddie Mac Freddie Mac Goldman Sachs **Government Finance Officers Association** HSBC Huntington 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

Andrew Guggenheim Hu Benton Tom Hunt Greg Todd Janet Choi Sonali Theisen Jason Granet Jeanne Naughton-Carr **Oliver Bader Jack Hattem** Agha Mirza Raj Aidasani Sairah Burki Jeannine Hyman Josie Evans Dave J Shipka Adam Eames Kayam Rajaram Julien Zusslin Wells Engledow Kyle Lynch Rei Shinozuka Jason Behnke Ameez Nanjee **Guim Barbour Michelle Thomas Guillaume Helie Emily Brock** Shirley Hapangama **Beth Russell** Chris Cole Harvey Flax Ann Battle Alice Wang Emilio Jimenez John Van Etten Tal Reback Phil Whitehurst Meredith Coffey\* **Tess Virmani** Alex Strickler

MetLife MetLife **Morgan Stanley** Morgan Stanley **Morgan Stanley** Morgan Stanley National Association of Corporate Treasurers PNC PNC Pacific Investment Management Company Prudential Financial Prudential Financial Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association Structured Finance Association Structured Finance Association **TD Bank** TD Bank **US Chamber of Commerce** Wells Fargo Wells Fargo

#### **Ex-Officio ARRC Members**

**Commodity Futures Trading Commission Consumer Financial Protection Bureau** Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Federal Housing Finance Agency Federal Housing Finance Agency Federal Reserve Bank of New York Federal Reserve Board of Governors Office of Financial Research

Joe Demetrick William Ding Tom McCrocklin Maria Douvas-Orme Matt Ochs Tom Wipf Tom Deas Alexander Spiro Andrew Wilson Jerry Woytash Chris Mcalister **Jason** Pan Chris Killian Jennifer Earyes Kristi Leo **Greg Moore** Priya Misra **Kristen Malinconico Alexis Pederson** Brian Grabenstein

Alicia Lewis Abhishek Agarwal Irina Leonova **Daniel Coates** Muna Sisay **Betsy Bourassa** Cam Fuller Caren Cox Fatima Madhany Jamie Pfeifer **Justine Hansen** Nathaniel Wuerffel **Ray Check** Will Riordan Scott Sherman **Megan Zirinksy** Darren Gersh David Bowman **Erik Heitfield** Evan Winerman Jeffrey Huther **Robert Kahn** 

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency Office of the Comptroller of the Currency U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission U.S. Treasury U.S. Treasury U.S. Treasury U.S. Treasury

#### Observers

BNP Paribas BNP Paribas Bank of Canada BlackRock Brunswick Cadwalader Cadwalader Deloitte Morgan Lewis Ang Middleton Kevin Walsh Mike Nardacci Jason Leung Michelle Danis Brian Smith Daniel Harty Dini Ajmani Joshua Frost

Simon Winn Christophe Rousseau Sheryl King Alex Krol Jeanmarie McFadden Lary Stromfeld Victor Bieger Alexey Surkov Jon Roellke

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