# Alternative Reference Rates Committee (ARRC) Minutes for the January 10, 2022 Meeting

The ARRC Chair welcomed participants to the virtual meeting and introduced John Williams, the President of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, who delivered remarks thanking the committee for their work in facilitating a smooth transition from LIBOR and highlighting the positive momentum going into 2022. President Williams noted that over the coming year, the ARRC can continue to play a key role in monitoring progress in the transition away from LIBOR to robust reference rates, and in ensuring industry preparedness for the end of LIBOR publication in mid-2023.

Next, the Chair noted that the Financial Stability Oversight Council (FSOC) received an update from staff of the Federal Reserve on the transition from LIBOR at its <u>December 17<sup>th</sup> meeting</u>. Discussion among the FSOC members acknowledged the positive progress made in the LIBOR transition heading into year end, underscored the importance of transitioning to more durable rates, such as SOFR, and highlighted the importance of adopting federal legislation to support the transition of legacy contracts. The Chair highlighted comments from FSOC Principals that commended the ARRC for its efforts to facilitate this progress.

The Legal Working Group then provided an update on the status of proposed federal legislation. It was noted that the House of Representatives passed <u>H.R. 4616</u>, the Adjustable Interest Rate (LIBOR) Act in December 2021 and the bill is now with the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. The working group noted that the Senate committee members are actively engaged in reviewing the bill. The discussion on federal legislation was followed by an update on state legislation. A number of states are in varying stages of considering a LIBOR legislation similar to the <u>legislation passed by New York</u> and Alabama in 2021. Members were encouraged to reach out to state organizations that they had relationships with to increase awareness and emphasize that legislation addressing the transition of tough legacy LIBOR contracts was of importance. It was emphasized that both federal and state legislative efforts are parallel workstreams as passage of a federal legislative solution is not guaranteed.

The Tax/Accounting Working Group noted that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) had published final IBOR regulations in the *Federal Register*. The IRS's final regulations discuss the ARRC's work, including participation by ex officio members that include the Treasury Department, and the ARRC's development of recommended fallback language for inclusion in the terms of certain cash products, such as syndicated loans and securitizations. The IRS noted that in October 2020, the Treasury Department and the IRS released Rev. Proc. 2020-44, 2020-45 I.R.B. 991, in advance of finalizing the proposed regulations to support the adoption of the ARRC's recommended fallback provisions and the ISDA 2020 IBOR Fallbacks Protocol. The final regulations authorize the ARRC to determine what should be a "qualified rate" to replace an IBOR so long as the Federal Reserve Bank of New York continues to be an ex officio member of

the ARRC. Last, the Treasury Department and IRS projected that the final regulations, "by implementing the regulatory provisions requested by ARRC and taxpayers, will help facilitate the economy's adaptation to the cessation of LIBOR in a least-cost manner."

Next, the Regulatory Working Group Chairs provided an update on the work of the group which included the submission of a <u>letter</u> by ARRC members requesting an extension and related modifications to no-action relief issued by the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC). In particular, the ARRC had requested certain CFTC letters relating to the LIBOR transition be extended, considering many USD LIBOR settings will continue to be published until June 30, 2023. The CFTC issued <u>revised no-action letters</u> to swap dealers and other market participants on December 22, 2021. The letters provided relief particularly to older, legacy swaps and contained conditions for counterparties to qualify for relief.

ARRC members discussed progress on the transition in non-US dollar and US dollar cash and derivatives markets over year-end, indicating that the milestone year-end transition from LIBOR went smoothly. Members described continued and accelerated progress in the transition to the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) across cash and derivatives markets ahead of the 2021 year-end milestone and into the start of the new year (see Appendix A for charts). In Q4 2021, SOFR swap volumes more than doubled relative to the volume of SOFR swaps traded during the first three quarters of 2021. It was noted that, the amount of SOFR risk traded in the swaps market had surpassed LIBOR in January and now represented the majority of risk traded. SOFR futures also continue to see progress with SOFR futures volumes rising to about 25 percent of Eurodollar futures volume compared to only 2 percent a year ago. In option markets, participants indicated that there was a baseline level of streaming liquidity in SOFR options. Issuance activity of SOFR-linked loans increased in December 2021 with participants generally noting a strong pipeline ahead. However, some members pointed out that, despite the progress in SOFR futures trading volumes, LIBOR trading remained the majority of futures volumes and that further progress was needed to ensure that futures markets reflected the shift in swaps and loan markets. To close the discussion, ARRC members were reminded that they will be sent the sentiment survey for another round of feedback shortly.

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

## Attendance at the January 10, 2022 Meeting\*

### **ARRC Members**

American Bankers Association Hu Benton

American Bankers Association Andy Guggenheim

Association for Financial Professionals Thomas Hunt
Bank of America Greg Todd

Bank of America Janet Choi
Bank of America Sonali Theisen

Bank of New York Mellon

Jason Granet

Bank of New York Mellon

Oliver Bader

Bank of New York Mellon Jeanne Naughton-Carr

BlackRock Jack Hattem BlackRock Alexander Krol Citigroup Josie Evans Agha Mirza **CME Group** Comerica Bank Dave Shipka **CRE Finance Council** Raj Aidasani **CRE Finance Council** Sairah Burki Deutsche Bank **Adam Eames** Deutsche Bank Kayam Rajaram

Equitable Julien Zusslin
Fannie Mae Wells Engledow
Fannie Mae Bob Ives

Fannie Mae

Federal Home Loan Bank Office of Finance

Federal Home Loan Bank of New York

Federal Home Loan Bank of New York

Federal Home Loan Bank of New York

Ford Motor Company

Bob Ives

Kyle Lynch

Phil Scott

Rei Shinozuka

Jason Behnke

Freddie Mac Ameez Nanjee Freddie Mac **Guim Barbour** Freddie Mac Michelle Thomas Freddie Mac Timothy O'Neill Freddie Mac Karen Pilewski Fred Robustelli **GE Capital GE Capital** Mike Taets Goldman Sachs Guillaume Helie Goldman Sachs **Richard Chambers** 

Goldman Sachs
Goldman Sachs
Government Finance Officers Association
Richard Chambers
Alan Farrell
Patrick McCoy

HSBC Shirley Hapangama

**Emily Brock** 

Huntington National Bank Beth Russell

Intercontinental Exchange Harvey Flax International Swaps and Derivatives Association Ann Battle

Government Finance Officers Association

JP Morgan Chase & Co.Alice WangJP Morgan Chase & Co.Emilio JimenezJP Morgan Chase & Co.John Van EttenJP Morgan Chase & Co.Katherine Morgan

KKR Tal Reback
LCH Phil Whitehurst
Loan Syndications and Trading Association Meredith Coffey

Loan Syndications and Trading AssociationTess VirmaniMetLifeAlex StricklerMetLifeJoe DemetrickMetLifeWilliam Ding

Morgan Stanley Maria Douvas-Orme
Morgan Stanley Matt Ochs
Morgan Stanley Tom Wipf
Morgan Stanley Priya Bindra
Morgan Stanley Paige Mandy

Morgan Stanley Thomas McCrocklin

National Association of Corporate Treasurers

Pacific Investment Management Company

PNC

Tom Deas

Jerry Woytash

Alexander Spiro

PNC
Prudential Financial
Chris Mcalister
Prudential Financial
Chris Mcalister
Gary Horbacz
Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association
Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association
Chris Killian

Structured Finance Association

TD Bank

TD Bank

TD Bank

Greg Moore

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Kristen Malinconico

Wells Fargo Brian Grabenstein
Wells Fargo Alexis Pederson
World Bank Donald Sinclair

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

Federal Reserve Bank of New York

Commodity Futures Trading Commission Alicia Lewis Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Abhishek Agarwal Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Irina Leonova **Daniel Coates** Federal Housing Finance Agency Federal Housing Finance Agency Muna Sisay Federal Reserve Bank of New York John Williams Federal Reserve Bank of New York **Betsy Bourassa** Federal Reserve Bank of New York Fatima Madhany Federal Reserve Bank of New York Pooja Gupta

Jamie Pfeifer

Federal Reserve Bank of New York Nathaniel Wuerffel Federal Reserve Bank of New York Raymond Check Federal Reserve Bank of New York Will Riordan Federal Reserve Bank of New York Justine Hansen Federal Reserve Bank of New York Mari Baca Federal Reserve Bank of New York Cam Fuller Federal Reserve Bank of New York Scott Sherman Federal Reserve Bank of New York Caren Cox Federal Reserve Board of Governors Darren Gersh Federal Reserve Board of Governors **David Bowman** Federal Reserve Board of Governors Erik Heitfield Federal Reserve Board of Governors Evan Winerman Federal Reserve Board of Governors Jeffrey Huther Ginnie Mae Jon Blaha

Ginnie Mae Michael Nardacci

Office of Financial Research Jay Kahn

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency Ang Middleton Office of the Comptroller of the Currency Kevin Walsh

Joshua Miller U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Jason Leung

U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Michelle Danis U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Tamara Brightwell

U.S. Treasury Daniel Harty Dini Ajmani **U.S. Treasury** 

**U.S. Treasury** Sui Ngan Au Yeung

U.S. Treasury Joshua Frost

#### **Observers**

**BNP Paribas** Simon Winn Bank of Canada Sheryl King **Brunswick** Nathan Kline Cadwalader Lary Stromfeld Credit Suisse Maureen Smith

Davis Polk & Wardwell Lucy Farr Morgan Lewis Jon Roellke

Venerable **Charles Schwartz** 

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

# Appendix A LIBOR Transition Update

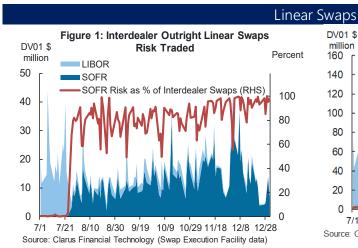
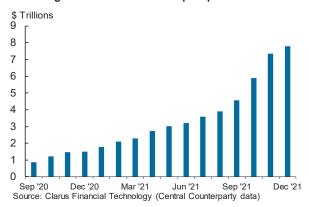


Figure 3: SOFR Linear Swaps Open Interest



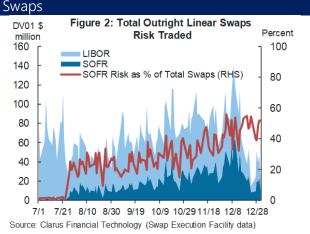
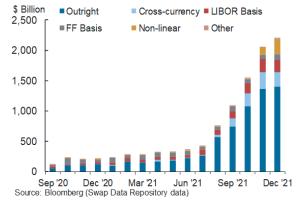
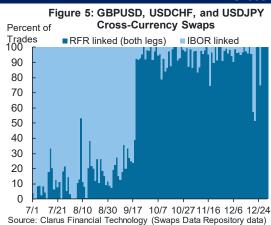
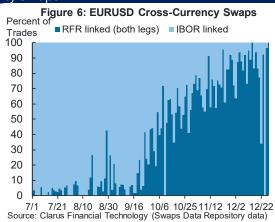


Figure 4: Monthly SOFR OTC Derivatives Volumes



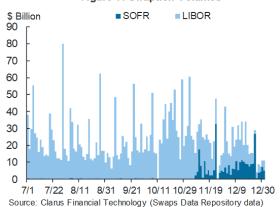
### **Cross-Currency Swaps**





## Non-linear Derivatives

Figure 7: Swaption Volumes



## Exchange-traded Derivatives

Figure 8: SOFR Futures Open Interest as a Proportion of Fed Funds and Eurodollar Futures Open Interest



Figure 9: Average Daily Notional SOFR Futures Volumes



# Cash Products

Figure 10: FRN Issuance by Reference Rate

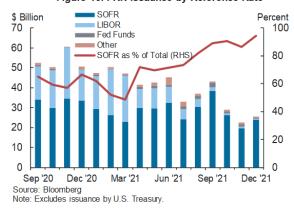


Figure 11: SOFR FRN Issuance by Issuer Type



Note: Excludes issuance by U.S. Treasury.

Figure 12: LIBOR FRN Issuance by Issuer Type

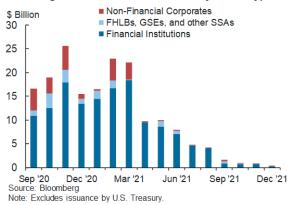


Figure 13: SOFR-indexed ARM Agency MBS Issuance

