Alternative Reference Rates Committee (ARRC)

Minutes for the February 9, 2023 Meeting

The ARRC Chair welcomed participants to the virtual meeting.

Federal Reserve staff then provided an overview of the USD LIBOR transition, using the charts provided in the <u>February 9 Meeting Readout</u>.

ARRC members then discussed overall transition-related progress and issues observed in the market. Members noted some improvement had been made in the pace of remediation of leveraged loans, one of the key remaining market segments needing to accelerate the transition away from LIBOR ahead of June 30, 2023, but that further progress was needed. The ARRC observed that many syndicated loans that had adopted fallback language with an "amendment approach", which does not prescribe a specific replacement rate and typically includes a negative consent provision, remain unremedied. ARRC members cautioned that failing to remediate contracts in time could pose various risks such as unnecessary uncertainty related to fallback outcomes as well as operational disruptions amid a pile up of unremediated contracts. In line with consistent official sector messaging, the ARRC emphasized the importance of remediation ahead of June 30, 2023 and encouraged further progress in the leveraged loan market.

The Operations/Infrastructure Working Group then provided an update on its work on the DTCC's LIBOR Replacement Index Communication Tool aimed at facilitating effective and efficient communication of rate changes via the LENS system. For U.S.-issued securities, the ARRC recommends that all determining persons, agents, and other parties responsible for disseminating information use this system as soon as available for communicating rate/conforming changes. It was noted that testing on the front-end data screens was completed on February 3rd, with good participation across the submitting community, comprised of issuers, trustees and agents. The working group and DTCC have also continued to work with market data providers to ensure their readiness to accept these messages. DTCC's LIBOR Replacement Index Communication Tool is expected to move into production on February 27. The Working Group continued to collaborate with DTCC to create a centralized LIBOR transition site to house documents on how to use the new tool, FAQ's and additional LIBOR transition <u>background information</u>.

Next, the Term Rate Task Force provided an update on its discussions around its <u>existing</u> <u>ARRC best practice recommendations on the scope of use of Term SOFR</u>, which were guided by the <u>principles</u> set out by the ARRC and are in line with <u>guidance</u> issued by the Financial Stability Board. The Task Force noted that awareness of the existing ARRC best practice recommendations on the scope of use of Term SOFR could benefit from the publication of additional information and illustrative examples of the practices in use. Accordingly, the ARRC is working on a draft of such a publication. The ARRC will also continue to assess the use of Term SOFR in relation to its recommended scope of use and guiding principles.

The ARRC Chair ended the meeting by requesting members to review and finalize the <u>February 9 Meeting Readout</u>. The ARRC Chair then thanked the members and noted that the next ARRC meeting will be held in person on March 9th.

Attendance at the February 9, 2023 Meeting*

ARRC Members

American Bankers Association American Bankers Association Association for Financial Professionals Bank of America Bank of America Bank of New York Mellon Bank of New York Mellon Bank of New York Mellon BlackRock Citigroup Citigroup Citigroup **CME** Group Comerica **CRE Finance Council CRE** Finance Council **Deutsche Bank** Equitable Life Fannie Mae Fannie Mae Federal Home Loan Bank of New York Federal Home Loan Bank of New York Ford Freddie Mac Freddie Mac Freddie Mac Freddie Mac Freddie Mac GE GE **Goldman Sachs Government Finance Officers Association Government Finance Officers Association** HSBC HSBC Intercontinental Exchange International Swaps and Derivatives Association JP Morgan Chase & Co. JP Morgan Chase & Co.

Hu Benton Sayee Srinivasan Tom Hunt Janet Choi Sonali Theisen **Oliver Bader** Jason Granet Jeanne Naughton-Carr Jack Hattem Peter Phelan Luis Asturizaga **Rodrigo Fernandez** Agha Mirza Mathew Cornish Lisa Pendergast Raj Aidasani Kayam Rajaram Julien Zusslin **Robert Ives** Wells Engledow Rei Shinozuka **Philip Scott** Jason Behnke Sam Chapin **David Hays** Karen Pilewski Guim Barbour Allan Krinsman Michael Taets Fred Robustelli **Guillaume Helie Emily Brock Cindy Harris** Oresta Mehta **Neil Middleton** Harvey Flax Ann Battle Alice Wang **Emilio Jimenez**

JP Morgan Chase & Co. KKR London Clearing House Loan Syndications and Trading Association Loan Syndications and Trading Association MetLife MetLife Morgan Stanley Morgan Stanley Morgan Stanley National Association of Corporate Treasurers PGIM PIMCO PNC **Prudential Financial** Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association **TD Bank** TD Bank U.S. Chamber of Commerce Wells Fargo World Bank

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 Federal Reserve Board of Governors Ginnie Mae Ginnie Mae Office of the Comptroller of the Currency **Keith Stephan** Tal Reback Phil Whitehurst Meredith Coffey **Tess Virmani** Joseph Demetrick Alex Strickler Tom Wipf Maria Douvas-Orme Matt Ochs Tom Deas Gary Horbacz Jerry Woytash Andrew Wilson **Chris McAlister Chris Killian** Priya Misra Sumant Gupta Kristen Malinconico **Alexis Pederson** Don Sinclair

Alicia Lewis Abhishek Agarwal Irina Leonova* **Daniel Coates** Muna Sisay Pooja Gupta Sophie Legrand-Green Jamie Pfeifer Scott Sherman Nathaniel Wuerffel Justine Hansen Carolyn Windover Mari Baca Jeffrey Huther David Bowman Carol Vilsack **Diego Leguizamon** Kevin Walsh

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

Observers

Bank of Canada BNP Paribas Cadwalader Morgan Lewis State Street Venerable Ang Middleton Maria Chelo De Venecia Michelle Danis Jason Leung Robert Errett Joshua Frost Sally Au Yeung Thomas Teles Dini Ajmani

Sheryl King Simon Winn Lary Stromfeld Jon Roellke Scott Longo Charles Schwartz

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