

# Public Minutes of a Meeting of the Precious Metals Oversight Committee of ICE Benchmark Administration ("IBA") held on Monday, 11 October 2021 14:30 UK Boardroom, Milton Gate, 60 Chiswell Street, London EC1Y 4SA

PRESENT: Mr S Pickford (Independent), Chairman

Mr G Angwin (Independent)

Mr S Bhandari (Kotak Mahindra Bank) - by Zoom for part of the meeting

Mr S Lodder (Jane Street) - by Zoom for part of the meeting

Ms C Lynn (Ero Copper) - by Zoom

Ms S Mirza (LBMA)

Mr J Oliff (Independent) - by Zoom
Mr M Prada (IBA INED) - by Zoom
Mr S Weeks (Independent) - by Zoom
Mr T Wood (Denver Gold Group) - by Zoom

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr T Bowler (IBA President)

Ms J ten Elsen (Committee Secretary)
Mr C McFadden (IBA Operations) - by Zoom

Ms E Vick (IBA Compliance) Mr S Tselikas (IBA COO) Mr J Wright (IBA Surveillance)

**APOLOGIES:** Mr J Crompton (IBA INED)

Mr J Hallenbeck (Newmont Corporation)

Mr R Hayes (AngloGold Ashanti)

**CIRCULATION:** IBA website

# Chairman's Welcome and Apologies

The Chairman welcomed the Members of the Precious Metals Oversight Committee to the meeting and noted the apologies as listed above.

### **Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

None of the Committee Members had any new conflicts to declare.

## **Previous Meeting**

#### **Full Minutes**

The minutes for the PMOC meeting held on 08 June 2021 were considered and approved.

#### Public Minutes

The public minutes for the PMOC meeting held on 08 June 2021 were considered and approved for publication.

## **Matters Arising**

The Chairman noted that the matters arising items were either closed or covered during the meeting.

#### **Dashboards**

IBA presented to the Committee the LBMA Gold and Silver Price Dashboards for June to September 2021, covering:



- a summary chart of the LBMA Gold and Silver Prices, respectively,
- charts covering key performance indicators of volumes, spread of spot market vs auction price and number of rounds; and
- management information on surveillance.

IBA confirmed that there were currently 18 gold auction and 15 silver auction participants, and that there was still room for onboarding further participants. The Committee noted that in the past four years only one participant had resigned.

#### Incidents

IBA confirmed that there had been no incidents since the last meeting.

#### Periodic Review

IBA referred to the Committee Role, Procedures & Terms of Reference and the Changes & Cessation Procedure for LBMA Gold & Silver Prices, noting that IBA proposed some drafting changes to reflect the amended regulatory requirements since the end of the EU exit transition period on 31 December 2020.

The Committee noted that the Code of Conduct and the Auction Rule Book had been shared with auction participants, who agreed to keep the documents unchanged.

The Committee considered and agreed the review of the following documents as complete:

- Committee Role, Procedures & Terms of Reference;
- Code of Conduct;
- Auction Rule Book; and

approved the Changes and Cessation Policy.

#### Imbalance Threshold Review for Silver

IBA presented the Committee with the findings of the Imbalance Threshold review for silver.

The Committee noted that the silver auctions were still running well at the current imbalance thresholds, which were set at 500,000 oz (5 lakhs).

The Committee members discussed the review and endorsed IBA's recommendation of maintaining the current imbalance threshold for silver at 500,000 oz (5 lakhs) as well as the current maximum emergency imbalance threshold of 1,000,000 oz (10 lakhs).

## Basel III Net Stable Funding Ratio (NSFR) & Potential Impact on PM Markets

The Committee was provided with an update about the LBMA's efforts to change the treatment of unallocated gold to make it exempt from the requirement of the net stable funding ratio calculation (NSFR). Currently, unallocated gold is not regarded as a High Quality Liquid Asset (HQLA) and will be subject to a required stable funding factor (RSF) of 85% under new Basel III regulations

The Committee noted that the LBMA continued to engage with regulators on this matter.

The Committee discussed the regulations' impact on the Precious Metals market.

## LBMA Update on Industry Developments

The Committee received an update from the LBMA on industry developments, noting that

- the Global Precious Metals Code, which was implemented in 2017, was currently being reviewed to ensure that it remained relevant and fit for purpose;
- ESG factors for gold had been one of the recent LBMA Conference's talking points, with refiners now required to provide more information about their gold's provenance; and
- an increasing number gold ETFs were available online.



# Any Other Business

The Chairman noted that the next scheduled meeting was on 02 December 2021.

The Chairman thanked the Committee Members for their attendance and contributions and, with there being no further business to discuss, closed the meeting.

Stephen Pickford
Chairman