

20 January 2015

Securities and Markets
Supervision Unit

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By e-mail

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Re: Publication of Guidelines on the Reporting Obligations Applicable to Alternative Investment Fund Managers

Further to the circulars to the financial services industry published on 26 March 2014 and 16 December 2014, the MFSA has today published a set of guidelines, namely the *Reporting Guidelines for Alternative Investment Fund Managers* (“*the Guidelines*”) to clarify the reporting obligations of alternative investment fund managers (“AIFMs”) falling within the scope of the AIFM definition as stipulated in Article 4 of the AIFMD.

AIFMs are required to submit information to the MFSA on their operations as well as that of their Alternative Investor Funds (“AIFs”) under management. To note that in terms of the AIFMD a self-managed collective investment scheme is considered to be the AIFM. Given that the MFSA has obligations to ESMA, it is of utmost importance that AIFMs adhere to the respective deadlines based on the calendar year. There are three types of reporting categories, namely annual, half-yearly and quarterly depending on the characteristics of the AIFM and AIFs under management.

The Guidelines consist of eight sections, as follows:

- [i] General;
- [ii] Reporting Timeframes;
- [iii] Extensible Markup Language (‘XML’) Reporting Format;
- [iv] Specific Information Reporting;
- [v] Special Situations;
- [vi] The ESMA Opinion;
- [vii] Submission of AIFM Return Files; and
- [viii] Further Considerations.

The Guidelines also include a user manual on the MFSA Licence Holder Portal (Appendix C of the Guidelines refers) to assist the industry in submitting the AIFMD reports in the correct manner and using the correct naming convention.



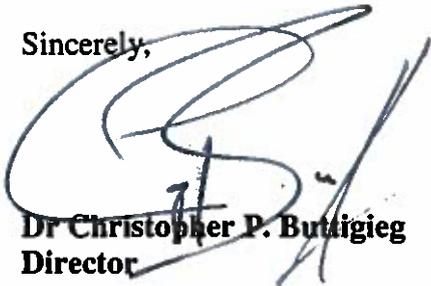
MFSA

MALTA FINANCIAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Lastly, Licence Holders are advised to consider the AIFMD FAQs as revised from time to time as well as any other documentation published by the European Securities and Markets Authority. The aforementioned documents are accessible from the MFSA and ESMA website as applicable.

Any queries or comments on the reporting obligations under the AIFMD or on electronic reporting should be addressed to Mr Ian Meli on aifmdreporting@mfsa.com.mt.

Sincerely,



Dr Christopher P. Buttigieg
Director

Encl: Reporting Guidelines for Alternative Investment Fund Managers