

Circular regarding the UCITS IV Directive

This circular outlines the recent developments on the UCITS IV Directive. These relate to the publication of the UCITS IV – Level II Implementing Measures and CESR's Level III Guidelines on risk measurement and the calculation of global exposure and counterparty risk.

UCITS IV – Level II Implementing Measures

On the 8th July, the MFSA issued a circular to the industry, wherein it was indicated that the European Commission had adopted four implementing measures in the form of two Directives and two Regulations. The circular also indicated that these measures had not yet been published.

The Commission's implementing measures were published in the EU's Official Journal on the 10th July, 2010. These have now been uploaded on the MFSA's website (www.mfsa.com.mt) under the section 'Securities – UCITS IV'.

CESR - Level III Guidance

CESR has on the 28th July, 2010 issued Level III Guidelines on risk measurement and the calculation of global exposure and counterparty risk for UCITS (Ref. CESR/10-788).

CESR's guidelines set out detailed methodologies that have to be followed by UCITS when they use either the commitment or the Value-at-Risk (VAR) approach for calculating their global exposure. For UCITS using the VAR approach, the guidelines also provides for additional safeguards which UCITS should follow when calculating the global exposure.

The guidelines also set-out the high-level principles relating to assets that may be used as collateral and cover rules for transactions in financial derivatives instruments.

A copy of the above-mentioned CESR documents is available on the MFSA's website (www.mfsa.com.mt) under the section 'Securities – UCITS IV'.

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