

Annex I – Programmed Withdrawals – Drawdown Rates

ANNEX I

(Paragraph 16.9.4 of Chapter 16)

Scope and definitions

1. The purpose of this Annex is to include instructions and tables on programmed withdrawals to determine the maximum income withdrawal from 'capped' drawdown retirement benefits and instructions in line with paragraph 16.9.4 of Chapter 16.

Application: for calculations in respect of dates on or after 20 April 2023

Introduction

2. From 20 April 2023, 'capped' drawdown retirement products will be introduced as the way in which a policyholder and/or beneficiary may take retirement benefits (through income withdrawal) from funds accumulated upon retirement as part of a personal or occupational pension product as applicable. This retirement product will be offered by life insurance companies authorised under the Insurance Business Act hereinafter "the Act" to carry on long term business of insurance and retirement provision business and hereinafter referred to as "Authorised Insurance Undertakings."

3. The authorised insurance undertaking of a 'capped' drawdown retirement product needs to determine the maximum level of drawdown retirement benefits that may be paid to policyholder and/or beneficiaries as applicable from the pension pot accumulated. The maximum amount needs to be calculated when the policyholder first becomes entitled to such a retirement benefit and at 3-year intervals thereafter. On reaching age 75 the amount is recalculated annually at the beginning of each pension year.

4. The maximum amount of drawdown retirement benefits that may be paid from a given date is determined by reference to a basis amount calculated at that point, using

tables compiled by the MFSA. This document provides the tables and the conjoining instructions for the use and further details of the assumptions used in constructing the table below.

5. The basis amount shown in the table below (the same table to be used for all genders) is structured to provide a measure of the annual amount of lifetime annuity retirement benefit that the drawdown retirement product could generate for the policyholder and/or beneficiary at the point of calculation. For the first calculation in respect of a drawdown from the retirement product, the point of calculation must be the date that entitlement to a drawdown retirement benefit first arises, that is, when the policyholder first designates some of the benefits held in her or his arrangement to be used to provide a drawdown retirement benefit. Subsequent recalculations for drawdown retirement benefits are expected to be carried out on or within a 60-day window of the recalculation reference date.

6. The amount of lifetime annuity that the retirement product could generate will generally be related to the policyholder's age and to the yields available on (Maltese) government bonds, which are used as proxy for the main investments expected to be used by authorised insurance undertakings which distribute this type of retirement product in Malta. Hence, to access the correct figure from the relevant table it is necessary to determine the policyholder's age at the point of calculation, and to access information on Maltese government bond yields at the same date. The procedure to be followed for deriving the appropriate rate will be outlined below.

7. The MFSA will review the applicable drawdown table as it deems necessary. The table in this document should be considered valid until further notice.

Procedures for determining the basis amount and pension drawdown amounts

Step A Establish the calculation date. For the first calculations for a drawdown retirement product, this is the date the policyholder first designates some of the retirement held in her or his retirement product to be used to provide a 'capped' drawdown retirement benefits. As stated above, for subsequent reviews a 60-day window may be used as a maximum deviation from the actual recalculation reference date.

Step B Determine the age in complete years of the policyholder at the point of calculation (age last birthday, designated B). For ages of 90 and higher, use age 90.

Step C Obtain the yield (designated C) on Maltese government bonds (10 years)¹ for the 15th day of the calendar month before the calendar month in which the point of calculation falls. If the 15th day of the preceding calendar month is not a working day, obtain the corresponding yield for the working day immediately preceding the 15th.

Step D Yield C must be rounded down to the nearest 0.25%-step (designated D), with a lower bound of 0%.

Step E Obtain the basis amount E per 1,000 EUR of fund from the published table below by extracting the figure applicable to age B and yield D.

Step F Establish the amount of the drawdown retirement product at the point of calculation (F).

Step G The basis amount is calculated as $F / 1000 \times E$.

Example

Stephanie, who was born on 1 June 1961, has accumulated 10,000 EUR in her drawdown fund to provide a drawdown pension from 11 December 2022.

Step A The point of calculation is 11 December 2022.

Step B Stephanie's age at the point of calculation is 61.

Step C The yield on Maltese government bonds for 15 November 2022 was 2.926%.

Step D The yield rounded down to the next 0.25% is 2.75%.

Step E The tabulated drawdown rate for age 61 and yield 2.75% is 53 EUR per 1,000 EUR.

Step F The amount of drawdown pension fund at the point of calculation is 10,000 EUR.

Step G The basis amount is calculated as: $10,000 / 1,000 \times 53 = 530$ EUR as annual rate.

¹ As publicly available via commercial providers, for instance through <https://www.investing.com/rates-bonds/malta-10-year-historical-data>

Appendix A - Basis amount per 1,000 EUR of fund for drawdown pensions

Yield/Age	0.00%	0.25%	0.50%	0.75%	1.00%	1.25%	1.50%	1.75%	2.00%	2.25%	2.50%	2.75%	3.00%	3.25%	3.50%	3.75%	4.00%	4.25%	4.50%	4.75%	5.00%	5.25%	5.50%	5.75%	6.00%	6.25%	6.50%	6.75%	7.00%	7.25%	7.50%	7.75%	8.00%
20	13	14	15	17	18	20	21	23	25	27	28	30	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	51	53	55	57	59	61	64	66	68	70	72	74
21	14	15	16	18	19	21	22	24	25	27	29	31	33	35	37	39	41	43	45	47	49	51	53	55	57	60	62	64	66	68	70	73	75
22	14	15	16	18	19	21	22	24	26	27	29	31	33	35	37	39	41	43	45	47	49	51	53	55	58	60	62	64	66	68	70	73	75
23	14	15	17	18	19	21	23	24	26	28	29	31	33	35	37	39	41	43	45	47	49	51	53	55	58	60	62	64	66	68	71	73	75
24	14	15	17	18	20	21	23	24	26	28	30	31	33	35	37	39	41	43	45	47	49	51	53	56	58	60	62	64	66	68	71	73	75
25	14	16	17	18	20	21	23	25	26	28	30	32	34	35	37	39	41	43	45	47	49	52	54	56	58	60	62	64	66	69	71	73	75
26	15	16	17	19	20	22	23	25	27	28	30	32	34	36	38	39	41	43	45	48	50	52	54	56	58	60	62	64	66	69	71	73	75
27	15	16	18	19	20	22	24	25	27	29	30	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	58	60	62	64	67	69	71	73	75
28	15	16	18	19	21	22	24	25	27	29	31	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	58	60	62	65	67	69	71	73	75
29	15	17	18	20	21	22	24	26	27	29	31	33	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	58	60	63	65	67	69	71	73	75
30	16	17	18	20	21	23	24	26	28	29	31	33	35	37	38	40	42	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	59	61	63	65	67	69	71	73	76
31	16	17	19	20	22	23	25	26	28	30	31	33	35	37	39	41	42	44	46	48	50	52	55	57	59	61	63	65	67	69	71	74	76
32	16	18	19	20	22	23	25	27	28	30	32	33	35	37	39	41	43	45	47	49	51	53	55	57	59	61	63	65	67	69	72	74	76
33	17	18	19	21	22	24	25	27	28	30	32	34	35	37	39	41	43	45	47	49	51	53	55	57	59	61	63	65	67	70	72	74	76
34	17	18	20	21	23	24	26	27	29	30	32	34	36	38	39	41	43	45	47	49	51	53	55	57	59	61	63	66	68	70	72	74	76
35	17	19	20	21	23	24	26	27	29	31	33	34	36	38	40	42	43	45	47	49	51	53	55	57	59	62	64	66	68	70	72	74	76
36	18	19	20	22	23	25	26	28	29	31	33	35	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	58	60	62	64	66	68	70	72	74	76
37	18	19	21	22	24	25	27	28	30	32	33	35	37	39	40	42	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	58	60	62	64	66	68	70	72	74	77
38	19	20	21	23	24	26	27	29	30	32	34	35	37	39	41	43	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	58	60	62	64	66	68	71	73	75	77
39	19	20	22	23	24	26	27	29	31	32	34	36	37	39	41	43	45	47	49	51	52	54	56	58	60	63	65	67	69	71	73	75	77
40	19	21	22	23	25	26	28	29	31	33	34	36	38	40	41	43	45	47	49	51	53	55	57	59	61	63	65	67	69	71	73	75	77
41	20	21	23	24	25	27	28	30	32	33	35	37	38	40	42	44	46	47	49	51	53	55	57	59	61	63	65	67	69	71	73	75	78
42	20	22	23	24	26	27	29	30	32	34	35	37	39	40	42	44	46	48	50	52	54	55	57	59	61	63	65	68	70	72	74	76	78
43	21	22	23	25	26	28	29	31	32	34	36	37	39	41	43	45	46	48	50	52	54	56	58	60	62	64	66	68	70	72	74	76	78
44	21	23	24	25	27	28	30	31	33	35	36	38	40	41	43	45	47	49	51	52	54	56	58	60	62	64	66	68	70	72	74	76	78
45	22	23	25	26	27	29	30	32	33	35	37	38	40	42	44	45	47	49	51	53	55	57	59	61	63	65	67	69	71	73	75	77	79
46	22	24	25	27	28	29	31	32	34	36	37	39	41	42	44	46	48	50	52	53	55	57	59	61	63	65	67	69	71	73	75	77	79
47	23	24	26	27	29	30	32	33	35	36	38	40	41	43	45	47	48	50	52	54	56	58	60	62	64	65	67	69	71	73	75	77	80
48	24	25	26	28	29	31	32	34	35	37	39	40	42	44	45	47	49	51	53	54	56	58	60	62	64	66	68	70	72	74	76	78	80
49	24	26	27	28	30	31	33	34	36	38	39	41	43	44	46	48	50	51	53	55	57	59	61	63	65	67	68	70	72	74	76	78	80
50	25	26	28	29	31	32	34	35	37	38	40	42	43	45	47	48	50	52	54	56	58	59	61	63	65	67	69	71	73	75	77	79	81
51	26	27	29	30	31	33	34	36	37	39	41	42	44	46	47	49	51	53	55	56	58	60	62	64	66	68	70	72	74	75	77	79	81
52	27	28	29	31	32	34	35	37	38	40	41	43	45	46	48	50	52	53	55	57	59	61	63	65	66	68	70	72	74	76	78	80	82
53	27	29	30	32	33	34	36	37	39	41	42	44	46	47	49	51	52	54	56	58	60	61	63	65	67	69	71	73	75	77	79	81	83
54	28	30	31	32	34	35	37	38	40	41	43	45	46	48	50	52	53	55	57	59	60	62	64	66	68	70	72	74	76	77	79	81	83
55	29	31	32	33	35	36	38	39	41	42	44	46	47	49	51	52	54	56	58	59	61	63	65	67	69	71	72	74	76	78	80	82	84
56	30	32	33	34	36	37	39	40	42	43	45	47	48	50	52	53	55	57	59	60	62	64	66	68	70	71	73	75	77	79	81	83	85
57	31	33	34	35	37	38	40	41	43	44	46	48	49	51	53	54	56	58	60	61	63	65	67	69	71	72	74	76	78	80	82	84	86
58	32	34	35	37	38	39	41	42	44	46	47	49	50	52	54	55	57	59	61	62	64	66	68	70	72	73	75	77	79	81	83	85	87
59	34	35	36	38	39	41	42	44	45	47	48	50	52	53	55	57	58	60	62	64	65	67	69	71	73	74	76	78	80	82	84	86	88
60	35	36	38	39	40	42	43	45	47	48	50	51	53	55	56	58	60	61	63	65	67	68	70	72	74	76	77	79	81	83	85	87	89
61	36	38	39	40	42	43	45	46	48	49	51	53	54	56	58	59	61	63	64	66	68	70	71	73	75	77	79	81	82	84	86	88	90
62	38	39	40	42	43	45	46	48	49	51	52	54	56	57	59	61	62	64	66	68	69	71	73	75	76	78	80	82	84	86	87	89	91
63	39	41	42	43	45	46	48	49	51	52	54	56	57	59	61	62	64	66	67	69	71	73	74	76	78	80	82	83	85	87	89	91	93
64	41	42	44	45	47	48	50	51	53	54	56	57	59	61	62	64	66	67	69	71	72	74	76	78	80	81	83	85	87	89	90	92	94
65	43	44	46	47	48	50	51	53	54	56	58	59	61	62	64	66	67	69	71	73	74	76	78	79	81	83	85	87	88	90	92	94	96
66	45	46	47	49	50	52	53	55	56	58	60	61	63	64	66	68	69	71	73	74	76	78	80	81	83	85	87	88	90	92	94	96	98
67	47	48	50	51	53	54	56	57	59	60	62	63	65	67	68	70	71	73	75	77	78	80	82	83	85	87	89	91	92	94	96	98	100
68	49	51	52	53	55	56	58	59	61	63	64	66	67	69	71	72	74	76	77	79	81	82	84	86	88	89	91	93	95	96	98	100	102
69	52	53	55	56	57	59	60	62	64																								

Appendix B – Assumptions used in constructing the table

8. Specific assumptions used in the determination of tabulated rates are detailed below.

Mortality

9. Past mortality rates that serve as input for projections have been based on data provided by the Malta National Statistics Office for the period 2001-2020 (source data used is available upon request). Deaths and exposure levels have been provided for each calendar year, split by age and gender. No exclusions have been applied for the non-native population. As drawdown rates are gender-uniform, no split has been made in analysis by gender. Due to the small sample for Malta, the MFSA has grouped ages together for statistical analysis purposes (0 deaths for a particular cohort may distort results).

10. Mortality rates per age-group, accounting for development over time have been estimated using the Lee-Carter model. This model is widely used as an actuarial model to estimate mortality rates varying by age and time.

11. The MFSA has carried out a variety of sensitivity analyses on the results obtained, both including and excluding the specific Covid-19 affected calendar year 2020.

12. Statistical analysis details on the derivation of mortality rates that enable full replication of results will be made available for market participants through a separate paper.

13. The tables have been generated on the basis of no provision for continuing beneficiary annuity on the death of the policyholder (that is, it is a single life rather than a joint life contract, also no continuing benefit for children upon death of the policyholder).

14. For age 98+ mortality rates have been exponentially extrapolated for all calendar years based on the pattern for ages 87-97.

15. For practical purposes, the age definition used is the age attained at the last birthday on or before the point of calculation

Rate of Interest

16. The rate of interest used for deriving the annuity rates is set having regard to the gross redemption yield on Maltese 10-year government bonds (see procedures above).

Expenses

17. In producing the table, a deduction of 4% of the purchase price of the annuity is assumed to allow for the expenses of authorised insurance undertakings. In using the tables no further expense adjustment is expected to be applied.

Other assumptions

18. Annuity rates have been determined on the basis that they would provide level income for policyholders, with no guarantee period applicable. The frequency of payment allowed for in the annuity rate is monthly in advance.

Appendix C – Drawdown Rates Table in Excel format



MFSA Drawdown
Rates v1.1.xlsx

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