Annual report as at 31 August 2023

Management company: BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT FRANCE Registered office: 1 boulevard Haussmann, 75009 Paris, France Depositary: BNP PARIBAS SA Publication of issue and redemption prices: available to unitholders from the Management Company

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### STRATEGY

### **IDENTIFICATION**

### CLASSIFICATION

Equities from European Union countries.

### MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE

The Fund aims to replicate the performance of the Euronext CAC 40® ESG Gross Return Index (the "Index"), regardless of its volatile performance, by investing in equities selected based on the environmental, social and governance (ESG) responsibility criteria. The Fund may use either complete or optimised replication.

As the Fund is indexed, it seeks to maintain the tracking error at a level below 1% in absolute terms between the growth of the Fund's net asset value and that of the Index. If this tracking error exceeds 1%, it must not under any circumstances exceed 5% of the Index's volatility.

### **BENCHMARK INDEX**

The benchmark is the Euronext CAC 40® ESG Gross Return index (Bloomberg code: CACESGGR index) published in euro by Euronext Paris SA, dividends reinvested.

The Index is composed of 40 stocks of mainly French companies selected on the basis of sustainable development criteria while aiming to reduce the carbon footprint of the Index (weighted) compared to its starting universe, the Euronext CAC® Large 60 index. These corporate securities receive an environmental, social and governance (ESG) rating (environmental opportunities, pollution and waste, human capital, corporate governance etc.). They are selected and ranked on the basis of their ratings and their efforts to reduce their exposure to coal and unconventional fossil fuels with a cap that limits a company's maximum weight in the Index to 10% at each rebalancing date.

Consequently, companies involved in sectors with potentially high negative ESG impacts, those subject to significant violations of the UN Global Compact principles and those that have been involved in serious ESG-related controversies are excluded from the Index.

The type of approach used here is the Best-in-Universe" approach (type of ESG selection whereby the best rated issuers from an extra-financial point of view are favoured regardless of their sector of activity, assuming sectoral biases, since sectors that are overall considered more virtuous will be more represented). The sectoral breakdown is available in the descriptive sheet published by the index provider at <u>www.euronext.com</u>. The Index excludes 20% of the stocks with the lowest environmental, social and governance ratings from its investment universe ("selectivity" approach).

The non-financial analysis is carried out on all the stocks composing the Index.

The Index administrator uses company ratings provided by the ESG research of its rating partners to determine, among other things, equity eligibility.

- 1. From the starting universe (Euronext CAC® Large 60 Index), the methodology excludes stocks belonging to controversial sectors defined by the Index administrator (controversial weapons, tobacco, conventional weapons, coal etc.).
- 2. Use of ESG ratings (Vigeo Eiris) to identify companies that have demonstrated their ability to manage their ESG risks and opportunities.

- 3. To be eligible for inclusion in the Euronext CAC 40® ESG index, the stock must also meet the following criteria in addition to the above:
  - Have a good ESG rating. Companies involved in systematic violations of the United Nations Global Compact receive a poor ESG rating and are excluded from the index.
  - Not generate more than a certain percentage of revenue from tobacco distribution, thermal coal production etc. Companies
    involved in thermal coal mining, oil sands and oil shale, tobacco production etc. are excluded. Information on exclusions is
    available in the methodology downloadable from the website <u>www.euronext.com</u>.

The index is defined after application of the various filters and restrictions mentioned above which are reviewed at each quarterly revision of the Index.

No guarantee is given on the compliance of certain filters at any time, in particular on the maintenance of a positive ESG rating between rebalances. If a company is involved in a controversy between two index rebalances, it will be automatically excluded from the next review unless there is a severe controversy as determined by the rating partner, in which case the stock will be removed five days after the partner's announcement.

In addition to the information on the general methodology shared by all Euronext indices, further information on the benchmark index, its composition, how it is calculated and the rules of control and periodic rebalancing are available on the website <u>www.euronext.com</u>.

Euronext N.V. or its subsidiaries hold all proprietary rights to the Index. Euronext N.V. or its subsidiaries do not guarantee, endorse or are in any way concerned by the issue and offering of the product. Euronext N.V. and its subsidiaries will not be liable for any inaccuracy in the data on which the Index is based, nor for any fault, error or omission in the calculation or dissemination of the Index, nor for its use in connection with this issue and offering.

Euronext Paris SA is the administrator of the Index.

In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016, the European CAC 40® ESG index administrator is included in the register of administrators and benchmark indices maintained by the European Securities and Markets Authority.

Pursuant to the same regulation, the Management Company has a procedure for monitoring the benchmark indices used outlining the measures to be implemented in the event that substantial changes are made to an index or if the index should cease to be provided.

### **INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

### STRATEGY USED TO ACHIEVE THE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:

To achieve its management objective, the Fund invests primarily in equities which make up the composition of the benchmark defined above in compliance with the allocation implemented by the latter in its choice of equities. If the composition were to change, the Fund would replicate the new distribution tracked by the benchmark index.

However, the manager may use techniques and negotiable financial instruments which they consider to be financially appropriate to the optimal management of the portfolio (regulated or over-the-counter purchases/sales of financial instruments, subscriptions/redemptions of units or equities in French or European coordinated UCITS (Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities) or the use of forward financial instruments).

As a consequence, the risk characteristics of the portfolio will be similar to those of the benchmark index.

In order to optimise the management of the Fund, the manager may use one of the two index replication methods described below.

### Full replication

The Fund will gain exposure to equities issued by mainly large and potentially mid-cap French companies that meet environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria by investing at least 90% of its assets in equities issued by companies included in the Index, and/or equity-linked securities whose underlying assets are issued by companies included in the Index.

### Optimised replication

The Fund will gain exposure to equities issued by mainly French large and possibly mid-cap companies that meet environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria by investing in a representative sample of the underlying Index (the Model Portfolio).

The Fund will invest at least 90% of its assets in equities or equity-linked securities of issuers included in the Index.

If the manager uses total or optimised replication, the remaining part of the assets may be invested in equities and equity-linked securities other than those specified in the main policy, in debt securities and money market instruments, cash, derivatives (futures etc.).

More specifically, a maximum of 10% of the Fund's assets may be invested in derivative instruments (including futures) issued by an investment bank and listed on a regulated market, for the purpose of hedging against currency fluctuations or for exposure to the index being replicated.

Optimised replication will be favoured over full replication when the number of components is too high compared to the assets under management or when liquidity is not homogeneous between the constituents of the Index.

While optimisation may prove to be a more cost effective approach than full replication, it may also result in an increase in the Tracking Error as the Fund does not hold all the constituents of the Index. A model portfolio will thus be constructed, whose close relationship to the index (max. 1% tracking error) will be constantly monitored and whose correlations between components (correlation matrices, stress tests) will be closely controlled.

The Fund aims to replicate the performance of its benchmark index as closely as possible. However, some tracking error may occur due to replication costs.

The tracking error is the standard deviation of the difference between the weekly returns of the Fund and the benchmark index over one year.

In the context of full replication, the tracking error is primarily caused by transaction costs, differences in income reinvestment policies, tax treatments and the impact of liquid assets.

In the context of optimised replication, the tracking error is mainly caused by differences in the composition of the Fund and the Index, transaction costs, differences in income reinvestment policies, tax treatments and the impact of liquid assets.

For both full and optimised replication, the Fund follows the same rebalancing policy as the Index. Changes to the index are reflected in the composition of the Fund on the same day in order to avoid any difference in performance.

The costs for rebalancing the portfolio will depend on the turnover of the Index and the transaction costs of the underlying securities. These costs will have a negative impact on the performance of the Fund.

### Information relating to the SFDR and the EU Taxonomy Regulation:

The characteristics promoted by the Fund include environmental and/or social and governance characteristics in accordance with Article 8 of the European Regulation of 27 November 2019 on sustainability-related disclosures in the financial services sector (SFDR). The Fund holds a minimum proportion of its assets in sustainable investments within the meaning of this regulation.

Within the Fund's investment process, sustainability risks are integrated as defined in the "Risk profile" section. Their integration comes into play when selecting the Fund's underlying index. For the selection of an index with extra-financial ESG characteristics, a number of elements are analysed, including, but not limited to the following: source and quality of the ESG data used, legitimacy and expertise of the ESG data and/or index providers, ESG index methodology including ESG sector exclusions and the integration of ESG criteria for the selection and weighting of securities, portfolio diversification between sectors and countries, index scalability and liquidity, compliance with the Benchmark Regulation and ESG index rating relative to the investment universe concerned. The objective is to propose an index-linked fund that replicates an index with better extra-financial ESG characteristics than the parent index or a relevant investment universe (i.e. with the objective of a lower carbon footprint and higher ESG rating).

For the above analysis, the manager works closely with a team of specialists from the Management Company. The internal ESG rating framework facilitates the assessment of ESG risks specific to businesses/sectors. The BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT Responsible Business Conduct Policy (https://www.bnpparibas-am.com/fr/documentation-sustainability/)) provides an exclusion list of companies that it considers to be in violation of the principles of the United Nations Global Compact (www.unglobalcompact.org), the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights or the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, as well as businesses that do not meet the requirements of BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT's sector-specific policies. The launch of a Fund on the relevant ESG index is validated on the basis of this overall analysis.

For a Fund applying the total or optimised replication method, the investment process involves investing in securities belonging to the index with selected extra-financial ESG characteristics.

The pre-contractual disclosures on the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the Fund is available in the annex to the Prospectus in accordance with the Delegated Regulation (EU) of 6 April 2022 supplementing the SFDR.

### MAIN ASSET CLASSES USED (EXCLUDING EMBEDDED DERIVATIVES):

### Equities:

The Fund is eligible for the PEA (Plan d'Epargne en Actions – French equity savings plan) and must therefore ensure that at least 75% of its assets consist of securities eligible for the PEA.

The Fund invests in securities of mainly French companies in all sectors, of large and possibly mid-capitalisation, issued on the markets of one or more European countries that are members of the OECD, mainly included in the benchmark index.

The Fund may invest in equities under the special clauses for index-tracking UCITS, that is to say, up to 20% of its assets in equities from the same issuing entity, in accordance with the conditions outlined in Article R214-22 Section 1 of the French Monetary and Financial Code. When exceptional market conditions so justify, and specifically when certain securities are dominant, this 20% limit may be increased to 35% for a single issuing entity.

### • Debt securities and money market instruments:

In order to manage its cash and/or depending on market conditions, the Fund may invest in money market instruments (French treasury bills, short-term negotiable securities.) or in negotiable debt securities.

These instruments are granted a minimum rating of A-3 (Standard & Poor's) or P-3 (Moody's) on acquisition or in the absence of a "long-term investment grade" rating or an internal rating of the Management Company that meets equivalent criteria.

The issuers selected may come from either the private or public sector (governments, regional authorities etc.), and private debt may represent up to 100% of the debt-instrument assets.

INTEREST RATE SENSITIVITY RANGE	From 0 to 1
CURRENCY OF SECURITIES	All currencies
LEVEL OF CURRENCY RISK	None
EXPOSURE RANGES CORRESPONDING	Eurozone countries: 0% to 110% of net assets
TO THE GEOGRAPHIC AREA OF THE ISSUERS OF THE SECURITIES	Non-eurozone countries: 0% to 110% of net assets

### • Units or equities in collective investment undertakings:

The Fund may invest up to 10% of its net assets in UCITS, AIF (Alternative Investment Fund) and investment fund units or equities.

These UCITS, AIFs and investment funds include:

- UCITS under French or foreign law;
- French AIFs or AIFs established in other European Union member states or investment funds established on the basis of a foreign law that meet the criteria set out in Article R.214-13 of the French Monetary and Financial Code.

These UCITSs, AIFs and investment funds may be managed by the Management Companies of the BNP Paribas Group.

### • Derivatives:

The Fund may use forward financial instruments, traded on regulated (French and foreign) or over-the-counter markets.

The Fund may use the forward financial instruments mentioned below on these markets in order to be exposed to the investment strategy and to achieve the hedging and management objectives where applicable:

- Futures
- Options
- Currency futures.

The Fund will not use total return swaps.

These financial instruments will be entered into with counterparties selected by the Management Company in line with its best execution policy from among those institutions, the registered office of which is located in an OECD or European Union Member State referred to in Article R. 214-19 of the French Monetary and Financial Code and which has a good quality issuer rating. These counterparties may be companies related to the management company.

### • Instruments with embedded derivatives:

The Fund does not aim to acquire this type of asset directly. Any warrants held in the portfolio are only there as a result of securities transactions leading to the allocation of this type of security.

### • Deposits:

To achieve the management objective, the Fund may make deposits of a maximum term of 12 months with one or more credit institutions subject to a limit of 100% of the net assets.

### Cash borrowings:

In the normal course of operations, the Fund may have a temporary current account deficit and may therefore need to borrow cash, subject to a limit of 10% of its net assets.

### • Securities financing transactions:

None.

### CONTRACTS AMOUNTING TO COLLATERAL:

To achieve its management objective, the Fund may obtain or grant the collateral referred to in Article L. 211-38 of the French Monetary and Financial Code in accordance with the management company's risk policy. This collateral may therefore be in the form of cash, money market instruments, bonds issued or guaranteed by an OECD member state, equities, UCITS units offering daily liquidity etc. and is kept in separate accounts by the depositary.

This collateral will be subject to a discount tailored to each asset class, pursuant to the management company's risk policy. Only collateral received in cash may be reinvested in accordance with the regulations in force. Cash received may therefore be placed in deposits, invested in high-quality government bonds, used in reverse repurchase transactions or invested in short-term money market UCITS.

The collateral received must be sufficiently diversified. Securities received from a single issuer may not exceed 20% of net assets. Notwithstanding the following, the Fund may receive up to 100% of its net assets, securities issued or guaranteed by an OECD member state as collateral in accordance with the management company's risk policy. The Fund may thus be fully guaranteed by securities issued or guaranteed by a single eligible OECD member state.

In addition to the collateral outlined above, the management company provides collateral on the Fund's assets (financial securities and cash) in favour of the Depositary in respect of its financial obligations to the latter.

### TOTAL RISK

The method used by the Management Company to calculate the total risk of the UCI it manages is the commitment method.

### **RISK PROFILE**

#### General consideration:

Your portfolio will be primarily invested in financial instruments selected by the management company. These instruments will be subject to market trends and fluctuations.

The Fund is classified as "Equities from European Union countries". Investors are primarily exposed to the following risks:

- Risk of capital loss:

Investors are advised that the Fund may not perform in line with its objectives and that the capital invested, after subscription fees have been deducted, may not be recovered in full.

Equity market risk:

This market may be subject to sharp downturns, particularly in the case of investment in mid-cap markets, which can pose risks for investors and can be subject to negative downward variations that are more pronounced and occur faster than on large-cap markets. If these equity markets fall, the net asset value of the Fund may decrease.

Risk associated with the use of derivatives:

In order to achieve its management objective, the Fund may use over-the-counter or listed derivatives to hedge and/or optimise its portfolio yields. Investors' attention is drawn to the fact that the volatility of the Fund's yield increases by this means and the use of these instruments may significantly alter the exposure of the portfolio compared with a simple, direct investment. If this risk occurs, it could cause a drop in the Fund's net asset value.

### <u>Credit risk</u>:

This is linked to an issuer's ability to honour its debts and to the risk of an issue or issuer being downgraded, which may result in a fall in the value of the debt securities in which the Fund is invested. This risk is also linked to the use of credit derivatives. Investments made using credit derivatives in a market with low liquidity may result in significant capital losses if the sale of these assets is required. In this case, the Fund's net asset value may fall.

### <u>Volatility risk</u>:

The Fund may be exposed to the implicit volatility, both upwards and downwards and either directly or through derivatives, of equities, interest rate and foreign exchange markets. For example, if an investment is positive on volatility, the Fund's net asset value could drop if the implicit volatility falls.

### - Liquidity risk on a stock exchange:

The market price of the ETF (Exchange Traded Fund) may deviate from its indicative net asset value. The liquidity of the Fund's units on a stock exchange may be affected by any suspension which could be specifically related to:

- the suspension or halting of calculating the Euronext CAC 40® ESG Gross Return index;
- the suspension of the market(s) on which the components of the Euronext CAC 40® ESG Gross Return index are listed;
- a stock exchange's inability to obtain the indicative net asset value;
- the inability of the Calculation Agent to calculate and release the indicative net asset value;
- a breach by a market maker of the rules applicable to that stock exchange.
- a failure especially of the IT or electronic systems used by that stock exchange or of the market maker(s).
  - Risks associated with collateral management:

Management of collateral received in connection with over-the-counter forward financial instruments may involve certain specific risks such as operational risks or custody risk. The conclusion of these contracts may therefore result in a negative effect on the net asset value of the Fund.

### - <u>Sustainability risks</u>:

Unmanaged or unmitigated sustainability risks can impact returns on financial products. For example, if an environmental, social or governance event or situation were to occur, it could have an actual or potential negative impact on the value of an investment. The occurrence of such an event or situation may also lead to a modification of the Fund's investment strategy, including the exclusion of the securities of certain issuers. More specifically, the negative effects of sustainability risk may affect issuers by means of a series of mechanisms, including: 1) a decrease in revenues; 2) higher costs; 3) damages or depreciation of asset value; 4) higher cost of capital; and 5) regulatory fines or risks. Owing to the nature of sustainability risks and specific issues such as climate change, the likelihood that sustainability risks will have an impact on returns on financial products is likely to increase in the longer term.

### - Risks associated with the incorporation of non-financial criteria:

A non-financial approach may be implemented in different ways by financial managers, in particular due to the lack of common or harmonised labels at European level.

This means that it can be difficult to compare strategies that incorporate non-financial criteria. The selection and weighting applied to certain investments can be based on indicators that share the same name but have different meanings.

When evaluating a security on the basis of non-financial criteria, financial managers may use data sources provided by external providers. Given the evolving nature of the non-financial criteria, these data sources may currently be incomplete, inaccurate, unavailable or updated. The application of responsible business conduct standards and non-financial criteria in the investment process may lead to the exclusion of the securities of certain issuers.

Therefore, the performance of the Fund may sometimes be better or worse than the performance of similar funds that do not apply these criteria. Furthermore, the proprietary methodologies used to take into account non-financial criteria may be updated or revised in the event of regulatory changes or updates that may lead, in compliance with applicable regulations, to an increase or decrease in product classifications, the indicators used or the minimum investment commitment levels set.

### <u>Legal risk</u>:

The use of forward financial instruments including total return swaps may give rise to a legal risk relating, in particular, to the execution of contracts.

### Ancillary counterparty risk:

The Fund is exposed to a counterparty risk arising from the conclusion of over-the-counter forward financial instruments in order to achieve the management objective. Counterparty risk refers to losses incurred by the Fund as a result of its investments with a counterparty if that counterparty defaults. However, counterparty risk is limited by the implementation of a guarantee granted to the Fund in accordance with the regulations in force.

### GUARANTEE OR PROTECTION: None.

### RECOMMENDED MINIMUM INVESTMENT HORIZON

5 years.

### **MANAGEMENT REPORT**

### STATUTORY AUDITOR

PricewaterhouseCoopers

### **INVESTMENT POLICY**

### ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ENVIRONMENT

As a result of the tougher tone adopted by central bankers in the summer of 2022, which was accompanied by a rapid rise in key rates, the starting point for our period under review corresponded to a low on equity markets. By mid-October, the MSCI AC World index had fallen to its lowest level in two years. Subsequently, investors welcomed the prospect of a slowdown in the pace of monetary tightening (changing their definition of a "pivot" in monetary policy, which previously referred to the hypothesis of a rapid cut in key rates from the start of 2023). This expectation clearly bolstered equities in the autumn. However, from mid-December onwards, markets were forced to pay greater attention to statements from central banks confirming inflation remained too high and monetary policy needed to tighten and continue in this vein in 2023, as long as core inflation remained incompatible with the 2% target.

In 2023, unstable economic consensus has led to high volatility across all asset classes. In January, signs of a downturn in activity and inflation seemed to validate the scenario of less aggressive monetary tightening, which gave global equities a very positive start to the year. In turn, indicators proved to be better than expected in February, calling into question the idea of a "pivot" envisaged in January. In March, difficulties experienced by several US regional banks and a very limited contagion effect on European banks raised the spectre of the financial crisis. The authorities' swift reaction enabled equities to end the first quarter of 2023 on strong gains (+6.8% for the MSCI AC World Index in US dollars), but did not prevent further drastic revisions to monetary policy expectations.

Despite the various events that dominated trading from April onwards, global equities continued to rise in Q2 (+5.6%). This continued into July, before giving way to two consecutive monthly declines due to immense pressure on government bond yields (nominal and real). Q3 2023 ended with a decline of 3.8%. Over twelve months, the MSCI AC World index rose by 18.7%.

The other crucial element for equity investors over the past twelve months was China's change of strategy regarding the COVID epidemic in autumn 2022. The end of the zero-COVID policy initially raised many hopes and supported emerging equities from the end of November to the end of January (with a 20% rise in the MSCI China index over this period). From January onwards, the relevance of China's acceleration was called into question and disappointments over growth began to concern investors, who would have liked to have seen a more forceful response from authorities. Against this turbulent backdrop to say the least (with continuing difficulties in the property sector), emerging market equities recorded a year-on-year rise of 8.8% (MSCI Emerging Markets index in US dollars).

Among developed markets, the S&P 500 index rose by 19.6% and the Nasdaq Composite by 25%, buoyed by enthusiasm for technologies revolving around artificial intelligence and semi-conductors. The rise in long-term rates at the end of the period clearly weighed on these stocks, but their surge over the preceding months enabled them to maintain a clear lead, recording the best sector performance by far. In the eurozone, the strongest performances over the year were posted by banking stocks, as key rates were raised until September 2023 and the yield curve steepened at the end of the period. The Eurostoxx 50 rose by 25.8% and the Nikkei 225 by 22.8%. Performances are in indices' local currencies, without reinvesting dividends.

### MANAGEMENT POLICY

BNP Paribas Easy CAC 40® ESG UCITS ETF is invested in stocks from the CAC 40, adhering to the allocation that the latter applies in selecting securities.

The Fund aims to replicate the performance of the Euronext CAC 40® ESG Gross Return Index (the "Index"), regardless of its volatile performance, by investing in equities selected based on the environmental, social and governance (ESG) responsibility criteria.

Management of the BNP Paribas Easy CAC 40® ESG UCITS ETF portfolio consists of i) as regards the portion invested in equities, adhering at all times to the respective weightings of the securities comprising the index by purchasing the relevant securities when new shares are listed; ii) handling outflows and inflows of securities when the index is reshuffled; and iii) adjusting the overall investment of the portfolio via CAC 40 contracts.

Dividends received by the Fund are reinvested in the equity portfolio.

From 31 August 2022 to 31 August 2023, the CAC 40 ESG index gross dividends reinvested rose by +24.38%. Over the same period, the Fund's performance showed an increase of 24.03%, after deducting the dividend of EUR 0.32 paid by Easy ETF CAC 40 ESG on 9 November 2022.

This past performance of the UCITS is no indication of its future performance.

The tracking error achieved between the Fund and its benchmark index was 0.02%. This (ex post) tracking error over the period is in line with the expected tracking error.

The performance gap between the Fund and its benchmark index results from optimising replication.

	31/08/2022	31/08/2023	Change (%)
EasyETF CAC 40 ESG*	9.895	11.904	20.30%
CAC 40 ESG**	1869.82	2259.1	20.82%
CAC 40 ESG Gross Total			
Return***	2781.27	3459.39	24.38%

\* Performance of the Fund not including the dividend of EUR 0.32 paid by the Fund on 9 November 2022

\*\* Index not including dividends

\*\*\* Index including gross dividends

\* \* \*

### Performance

Annual performance stood at 24.03%. The UCI's past performance is no indication of its future performance.

\* \* \*

#### Index-based management

The annual performance of the BM Euronext CAC 40 ESG EUR RI (OFFICIAL) benchmark indicator is 24.38%. The tracking error over the period was 0.02%.

\* \* \*

### **ABERDEEN** paragraph

#### Tax claims in relation to the Aberdeen/Fokus Bank project.

In several EU member states, Community law gives undertakings for collective investment (UCIs) the option of filing claims in order to recover taxes that have been unduly levied. In effect, the fact that a member state imposes heavier taxation on a foreign UCI than a resident UCI constitutes discrimination in the light of Community law.

This principle was endorsed by the judgement of the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) in the Aberdeen case (18 June 2009). This judgement recognises that a non-resident UCI may be subject to discriminatory taxation, which constitutes an obstacle to the freedom of establishment and/or the free movement of capital. Other rulings made by the CJEU have confirmed this jurisprudence. These are the rulings made in the Santander case (10 May 2010) and the Emerging Markets case (10 April 2014) concerning French and Polish tax legislation respectively.

On the basis of that jurisprudence, and in order to safeguard the rights of the UCIs to benefit from a tax reimbursement, the Management Company has decided to file claims with the tax authorities in several member states that have discriminatory legislation that is not compliant with Community law. These procedures are examined in advance, to determine the viability of the claims, i.e. for which funds, in which member states and for which period to apply for reimbursement.

To date, there is no European legislation that provides a uniform procedure for this type of claim. For this reason, the reimbursement period and complexity of the procedure vary according to the member state concerned, making it necessary to continuously review developments on this issue.

\* \* \*

#### PEAs

The Fund complies with the ratio of 75% of the assets in securities or rights eligible for PEAs. This ratio can be provided by the Management Company on request.

\* \* \*

### Securities financing transactions pursuant to the SFTR Regulation

The UCI was not affected by SFTR instruments during the year.

#### Allowance

Pursuant to the provisions laid down in Article 158 of the French General Tax Code relating to information on the portion of income eligible for the 40% allowance and the portion not eligible for the allowance, the income to be distributed is broken down as follows:

Distribution per unit: €0.30

- portion eligible for the 40% allowance: €0
- portion not eligible for the allowance: €0.30

Capital gains distribution Distribution per unit: €0.02

- portion eligible for the 40% allowance: €0

- portion not eligible for the allowance: €0.02

\* \* \*

#### Changes during the financial year

- 01/01/23: Update of the prospectus in regard to SFDR: Level 2 and the EU Taxonomy Regulation
- > 01/10/22: Change in custodian from BNP Paribas Securities Services to BNP PARIBAS SA

\* \* \*

### ETHICS

### Group financial instruments held in the UCI

This information appears in the appendix to the annual report – Additional information.

\* \*

### Main changes in the composition of the securities portfolio over the period

ISIN	Product name	Direction	Gross amount
FR0000121014	LVMH MOET HENNESSY LOUIS VUI	Purchase	5,940,257.69
FR0000120578	SANOFI	Purchase	4,721,750.60
FR0000120321	L'OREAL	Purchase	4,065,164.77
FR0000121972	SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC SE	Purchase	3,849,722.07
FR0000120073	AIR LIQUIDE SA	Purchase	3,441,337.62

ISIN	Product name	Direction	Gross amount
NL00150001Q9	STELLANTIS NV	Sale	3,487,361.02
FR0000121014	LVMH MOET HENNESSY LOUIS VUI	Sale	2,186,061.17
FR0000121014	LVMH MOET HENNESSY LOUIS VUI	Sale	1,559,859.20
FR0010242511	EDF	Sale	1,429,179.53
FR0000120578	SANOFI	Sale	1,243,741.97

\* \* \*

When managing collective investment schemes, transaction fees are invoiced when deals are executed on financial instruments (purchases and sales of securities, repurchase agreements, futures and swaps).

### \* \* \*

### Transparency in promoting environmental or social characteristics and sustainable investments

### I - BNP Paribas Asset Management approach

On its website, BNP Paribas Asset Management provides investors with access to its policy on the integration of sustainability risks into investment decision-making processes in accordance with Article 3 of Regulation 2019/2088 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019 on the publication of sustainability information in the financial services sector (SFDR).

In addition, and in accordance with Article L. 533-22-1 of the French Monetary and Financial Code, BNP Paribas Asset Management will make available to subscribers and to the public a document outlining its policy on how its investment strategy considers environmental, social and governance criteria, and the means implemented to contribute to the energy and ecological transition, as well as a strategy for implementing this policy. This information will fall under the transparency of information required regarding the negative impacts on sustainability and will be available on the Management Company's website in accordance with Article 4 of the SFDR Regulation.

The SFDR Regulation establishes rules for transparency and for the provision of information on sustainability.

In addition to the SFDR Regulation, Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2020 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, and amending the SFDR Regulation (Taxonomy Regulation) aims to establish criteria to determine whether an economic activity is environmentally sustainable.

The European Taxonomy Regulation is thus a classification system that establishes a list of economic activities which are environmentally sustainable.

Economic activities that are not recognised by the Taxonomy Regulation are not necessarily harmful to the environment or unsustainable. Furthermore, other activities that contribute substantially to the environmental and social objectives are not yet necessarily part of the Taxonomy Regulation.

For BNP Paribas Asset Management, responsible investment rests on six pillars. The first four pillars contribute to improving our management practices, notably through new investment ideas, optimising the composition of our portfolios, controlling risk, and using our influence on the companies and the different markets in which we invest.

### **ESG** Integration:

Our analysts and managers systematically take into account the most relevant ESG factors, regardless of the investment process. Our ESG guidelines and integration policy apply to all of our investment processes (and therefore to funds, mandates and thematic funds). However, they are not all applicable to index funds, exchange-traded funds (ETFs) or certain exceptions to the specific management process. In line with the convictions of BNP Paribas Asset Management, this approach allows us to identify risks and opportunities that other market players may not have knowledge of, which may therefore provide us with a comparative advantage. The process of integrating ESG factors is guided by common formal principles. Since 2020, each investment process – and, by definition, any eligible investment strategy – has been reviewed and approved by an ESG validation committee.

### Vote, dialogue and commitment:

We invest wisely and have established detailed voting guidelines on a number of ESG issues. In addition, we believe that enhanced dialogue with issuers can improve our investment processes and enable us to better control long-term risks. Our managers and experts from the BNP Paribas Asset Management Sustainability Centre engage with the companies we invest in, with the goal of encouraging them to adopt responsible and environmentally friendly practices.

In addition, we aim to meet frequently with governments in order to discuss ways of fighting global warming. Our governance and voting policy is available here: <u>9EF0EE98-5C98-4D45-8B3C-7C1AD4C0358A (bnpparibas-am.com)</u>

### Responsible business conduct and industry exclusions:

BNP Paribas Asset Management applies ESG exclusions based on the ten principles of the United Nations Global Compact for all its investments. The Global Compact is a universal reference framework for business evaluation and is applicable to all industrial sectors; it is based on international conventions in the areas of respect for human rights, labour rights, the environment and the fight against corruption.

In addition to the principles of the United Nations Global Compact, BNP Paribas Asset Management applies the OECD Guidelines for Enterprises. Specific ESG standards that must be met by companies operating in certain sectors that are sensitive to social and environmental impacts are defined in BNP Paribas Asset Management sector policies. To date, they include palm oil, pulp, coal, nuclear energy, controversial weapons, unconventional oil and gas, mining, asbestos, agriculture and tobacco. Non-compliance with the ESG standards defined by BNP Paribas Asset Management leads to the exclusion of companies from the investment scope. Lastly, in accordance with applicable regulations, some sectors such as controversial weapons (anti-personnel mines and cluster munitions) are banned from any investment.

The BNPP AM Responsible Business Conduct Policy and its various elements are available here: <u>Responsible Business Conduct Policy and</u> <u>Industry Exclusions</u>

### A forward-looking vision:

We believe that three key points underpin a more sustainable and inclusive economic system: energy transition, environmental protection and equality. We have defined a set of objectives and developed performance indicators to measure how we will align our research, our portfolios, and our commitment to businesses and governments on these three issues, the "3Es".

### UCI range with a strengthened non-financial approach

Part of our range incorporates the four fundamental pillars of our sustainable approach, with the addition of "enhanced ESG" strategies that include multi-factor, best-in-class and labelled funds; "thematic" strategies for investing in companies that offer products and services providing concrete solutions to environmental and/or social challenges and, finally, "impact" strategies to generate, in addition to financial performance, an intentional, positive and measurable environmental and/or social impact.

### **Our CSR approach**

As a sustainable investor, our own practices must equal or exceed the standards we expect from the entities in which we invest. We are therefore integrating sustainable development into our operational and civic activities with the following priorities: ensuring gender equality in our workforce, reducing our waste and CO2 emissions and working toward the inclusion of young people.

The results of our sustainable approach are summarised in our non-financial report available on our website: <u>Sustainability Report 2020 – BNP</u> Paribas Asset Management (bnpparibas-am.com)

### II – Investment strategy of the Fund

The Fund promotes environmental and/or social and governance characteristics in accordance with Article 8 of the SFDR and partially invests in sustainable investments within the meaning of this regulation.

A sustainable investment within the meaning of the SFDR consists of:

- an investment in an economic activity that contributes to an environmental objective, measured, for example, using key indicators
  regarding the efficient use of resources involving the use of energy, renewable energy, commodities, water and land, waste production
  and greenhouse gas emissions or effects on biodiversity and the circular economy, or
- an investment in an economic activity that contributes to a social objective, in particular investments that contribute to the fight against inequality or that promote social cohesion, social integration and working relationships, or
- an investment in human capital or economically or socially disadvantaged communities, provided that these investments do not cause
  extensive harm to any of these objectives and the companies in which investments are made follow good governance practices, in
  particular with regard to healthy management structures, dealings with staff, remuneration for skilled employees and compliance with
  tax obligations.

As part of its range of products that promote, among other characteristics, environmental or social characteristics, or a combination of those characteristics, provided that the companies in which the investments are made follow good governance practices, BNP Paribas Asset Management is committed to taking a responsible investment approach to its investments.

The extent and manner in which sustainable investment issues and risks are incorporated into each strategy will vary according to a number of factors such as asset class, geographical area and the financial instruments used.

As such, the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the Fund have been achieved through the implementation of our four pillars of responsible investment (see below): an in-depth analysis of environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors; principles of responsible corporate engagement; exclusions based on products and industries that have a negative impact on society or the environment; and a focus on three thematic areas to promote a sustainable future (energy transition, environmental protection, equality and inclusive growth). Since 2020, all of our eligible investment strategies have adopted our sustainable investment approach as set out in our Global Sustainability Strategy (GSS), of which ESG integration forms a key component. Our ESG integration guidelines require managers of our active portfolios to avoid investing in a low-rated company without proactively engaging with the company to improve its ESG rating.

The ESG assessment of issuers by BNP Paribas Asset Management is based on materiality, measurability, quality and availability of data. The ESG assessment focuses on a limited set of robust non-financial metrics, using the following sources:

i) External providers: organisations specialising in ESG research, such as Sustainalytics (ESG indicators, UNGC, controversies), Trucost (climate change, natural capital), CDP (environmental impact), Iceberg Data Lab (natural capital), SBTi (climate change), ISS (governance), Beyond Ratings (sovereign debt), Vigeo Eiris (UNGC, controversies); and leading ESG intermediaries;

ii) Internal qualitative research: Insights from BNP Paribas Asset Management's ESG analysts assessing ESG performance and reviewing data from external providers based on direct contact with issuers, academics, institutions, civil society research, issuer publications managers;

iii) International institutions: Eurostat, OECD, United Nations, World Bank, International Energy Agency, World Health Organization, World Resources Institute, ADEME (Agence de l'environnement et de la maîtrise de l'énergie — French environment and energy management agency) and the World Benchmarking Alliance.

Further information about our proprietary ESG rating framework is available online at: <u>https://docfinder.bnpparibas-am.com/api/files/A3DC126A-A500-4B2E-A569-18471E45EC28</u>

The economic activity of the Fund's sustainable investments could contribute to the environmental objectives of the Taxonomy Regulation. To date, however, the Management Company cannot indicate a minimum percentage of investment in environmental economic activities that are in line with the above-mentioned environmental objectives, in full or in part. Due to the recent, evolving nature of sustainable finance at the European level, this information will be updated as soon as the Management Company has the necessary data available. The prospectus will be updated with a description of how and to what extent the investments underlying the financial product are made in economic activities which could be considered environmentally sustainable within the meaning of the Taxonomy Regulation.

The principle of "not causing extensive harm" as defined by Taxonomy Regulation would only apply to the Fund's underlying investments that take account of the European Union criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities. The underlying investments for the remaining portion of this Fund do not take into account the European Union criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities as established by the Taxonomy Regulation.

\* \* \*

### INFORMATION ON THE MANAGEMENT COMPANY'S REMUNERATION POLICY

### Qualitative aspects of remuneration

Information regarding the remuneration policy applicable to the 2022 financial year is available on request from the Management Company: BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT France – TSA 47000 – 75318 Paris Cedex 09, France. Detailed information regarding the Management Company's remuneration policy is also available online at <a href="https://www.bnpparibas-am.com/en/remuneration-policy/">https://www.bnpparibas-am.com/en/remuneration-policy/</a>.

### Quantitative aspects of remuneration

Quantitative information regarding remuneration is outlined below, as required by Article 22 of the AIFM Directive (Directive 2011/61/EU of 8 June 2011) and by Article 69-3 of the UCITS V Directive (Directive 2014/91/EU of 23 July 2014), in a format that complies with the recommendations of the AFG (Association Française de Gestion — French asset management association)<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Note: The above remuneration amounts cannot be reconciled directly with the accounting data for the year because they reflect the sums awarded based on the number of employees at the end of the annual variable remuneration campaign, in May 2022. Therefore, for example, these amounts include all the variable remuneration awarded during this campaign, regardless of whether or not it was deferred, and regardless of whether or not the employees ultimately remained at the company.

# Aggregated remuneration of employees of BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT France ("BNPP AM France") (Article 22-2-e of the AIFM Directive and Article 69-3 (a) of the UCITS V Directive):

	Number of employees	Total remuneration (€k) (fixed + variable)	Of which total variable remuneration (€k)
All employees of <b>BNPP AM</b> France <sup>2</sup>	978	133,825	50,406

# Aggregated remuneration of employees of BNPP AM France whose activity has a significant impact on the risk profile and who are therefore "Identified Staff" (Article 22-2-f of the AIFM Directive and Article 69-3 (b) of the UCITS V Directive):

Business sector	Number of employees	Total remuneration (€k)
Identified Staff employed by BNPP AM France:	176	42,857
including managers of Alternative Investment Funds/UCITS/managers of European discretionary funds	154	34,914

### Other information:

### > Number of AIFs and UCITS managed by BNPP AM France:

	Number of funds (31/12/2022)	Assets under management (€ billion) as at 31/12/2022
UCITS	188	79
Alternative Investment Funds	315	45

- In 2022, carried interest of €6.6k was paid to BNPP AM France staff employed as at 31 December 2022.

- An independent central audit of the overall BNP Paribas Asset Management remuneration policy and its implementation in 2021 was conducted between June and September 2022, under the supervision of the remuneration committee of BNP Paribas Asset Management Holding Group and its Board of Directors. Following this audit, which covered BNP Paribas Asset Management entities holding an AIFM and/or UCITS licence, the policy was awarded a "Satisfactory" grade (the best out of four possible grades) in recognition of the robustness of the current system, particularly in its key stages: identification of Identified Staff, consistency of the performance-remuneration link, application of mandatory deferral rules, and implementation of indexation and deferral mechanisms. A recommendation (not a warning) was made in 2022 to members of management teams who do not directly manage the portfolios themselves in order to improve some of the documentation and controls of the selection of index baskets.
- Additional information on the way in which variable remuneration is determined and on deferred remuneration instruments can be found in the remuneration policy, which has been published on the company's website.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In addition to these employees and the corresponding amounts, we should not overlook:

<sup>-</sup> five employees of the Austrian branch, one of whom has the status of "Identified Staff" and whose total fixed remuneration and total variable remuneration in 2021 amounted to €916k and €370k, respectively;

<sup>- 23</sup> employees of the German branch, one of whom has the status of "Identified Staff" and whose total fixed remuneration and total variable remuneration in 2021 amounted to €5,026k and €1,867k respectively.

<sup>- 53</sup> employees of the Italian branch, two of whom have the status of "Identified Staff" and whose total fixed remuneration and total variable remuneration in 2021 amounted to €6,171k and €1,910k, respectively.

<sup>- 74</sup> employees of the Dutch branch, 10 of whom have the status of "Identified Staff" and whose total fixed remuneration and total variable remuneration in 2021 amounted to €10,668k and €2,902k, respectively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The list of "Identified Staff" is determined in light of the review conducted at year end.

\* \* \*

### INFORMATION ON THE POLICY FOR SELECTING AND EVALUATING SERVICES TO AID INVESTMENT DECISIONS AND ORDER EXECUTION

Information on BNP Paribas Asset Management France's policy for selecting and evaluating entities providing services to aid investment decisions and order execution is available online at <u>www.bnpparibas-am.com</u>.

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### **REPORT ON INTERMEDIARY FEES**

The latest report on intermediary fees is available online at <u>www.bnpparibas-am.com</u>.

\* \* \*

### BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT FRANCE (BNPP AM FRANCE) BEST SELECTION AND BEST EXECUTION POLICY

The selection and execution policy is available online at <u>www.bnpparibas-am.com</u>.

\* \* \*

Since 24 February 2022, we have been paying close attention to the effects of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, as well as its repercussions in terms of energy and food shortages in Europe. We are closely monitoring the situation regarding the global outlook, markets and financial risks in order to take all the necessary measures in the interests of shareholders.

\* \* \*

Annual report as at 31 August 2023



### STATUTORY AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Financial year ended 31 August 2023

This is a free translation into English of the statutory auditors' report on the financial statements of the fund issued in French and it is provided solely for the convenience of English speaking users.

The statutory auditors' report includes information required by European regulation and French law, such as information about the appointment of the statutory auditors or verification of the management report.

This report should be read in conjunction with, and construed in accordance with, French law and professional auditing standards applicable in France.



#### **STATUTORY AUDITOR'S REPORT** ON THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Financial year ended 31 August 2023

#### **BNP PARIBAS EASY CAC 40® ESG UCITS ETF** UCITS ESTABLISHED IN THE FORM OF A MUTUAL FUND Governed by the French Monetary and Financial Code

Management Company BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT France 1 boulevard Haussmann 75009 Paris, France

#### Opinion

In performing the task entrusted to us by the Management Company, we carried out the audit of the annual financial statements of the UCITS established as the BNP PARIBAS EASY CAC 40® ESG UCITS ETF mutual fund for the financial year ended 31 August 2023, as attached to this report.

We certify that the annual financial statements provide a true and fair description, in accordance with French accounting rules and principles, of the performance of the past financial year as well as the financial position and the assets and liabilities of the UCITS established in the form of a mutual fund at the end of the said financial year.

### **Basis of opinion**

### Audit terms of reference

We have conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of professional practice applicable in France. We believe that the evidence gathered is sufficient and appropriate to justify our opinion. Our responsibilities pursuant to these standards are set out in the *"Statutory Auditor's responsibilities regarding the audit of the annual financial statements"* section of this report.

### Independence

We carried out our audit in accordance with the rules of independence laid down in the French commercial code and the Code of ethics for statutory auditors, for the period from 1 September 2022 to the date of issue of our report and notably we have not provided any services prohibited by Article 5(1) of Regulation (EU) No. 537/2014.

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Accounting firm registered with the Paris Île-de-France Tableau de l'Ordre. Auditing firm and member of the *Compagnie Régionale de Versailles* (Versailles regional association of statutory auditors). Société par actions simplified (simplified joint-stock company) with capital of €2,510,460. Registered office: 63 rue de Villiers, 92200 Neuilly-sur-Seine, France. Nanterre Trade and Companies Register no. 672 006 483. VAT No. FR 76 672 006 483. SIRET no. 672 006 483 00362. APE [trade sector] code 6920 Z. Offices: Bordeaux, Grenoble, Lille, Lyon, Marseille, Metz, Nantes, Nice, Paris, Poitiers, Rennes, Rouen, Strasbourg, Toulouse.



### Key points of the audit

In accordance with the provisions of Articles L. 823-9 and R. 823-7 of the French Commercial Code relating to the justification of our assessments, we bring to your attention the following key audit matters regarding the risks of material misstatements which, in our professional opinion, were the most significant for the audit of the year's annual financial statements and the responses we applied towards countering these risks.

The assessments were made as part of our audit of the annual financial statements, taken as a whole, and therefore contributed to the formation of the opinion expressed in the first part of this report. We have no comment to make on any individual aspect of these annual financial statements.

Key points of the audit	Audit response to cover these risks
The main risks of this Fund relate to the financial instruments in its portfolio.	
Any error in the recording or valuation of these financial instruments may lead to a discrepancy in the establishment of the net asset value of the Fund and in the financial statements.	
We therefore focused our work on the existence and valuation of financial instruments in the portfolio.	
Valuation of financial instruments traded on a regulated or equivalent market	
The valuation of financial instruments traded on a regulated or equivalent market and held by the Fund is not complex as it is mainly based on listed prices provided by independent sources.	We have compared the valuation of financial instruments traded on a regulated or equivalent market and held by the Fund at the end of the financial year with the observable prices found in market databases.
However, the amounts involved are significant and could be a source of material error.	
The value of financial instruments traded on a regulated or equivalent market is recorded in the balance sheet and included in the detailed inventory presented in the notes to the annual financial statements. The valuation rules for these instruments are described in the accounting rules and methods in the notes to the financial statements.	

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Key points of the audit	Audit response to cover these risks
Existence of financial instruments	
The financial instruments in the portfolio are held in the safe custody of or managed by the Fund's depositary. The latter certifies their existence at the end of the financial year.	We have verified the existence of the financial instruments in the portfolio by checking the reconciliation statements drawn up by the Fund between the financial instruments it holds at the end of the financial year and those recorded by the depositary in an account opened in its name. The significant
However, there is a risk that these instruments may be incorrectly or incompletely recorded in the Fund's accounts.	discrepancies, if any, were examined, where appropriate, on the basis of transaction notices or contracts.
The existence of these instruments constitutes a key point of the audit as the amounts involved are significant and could be a source of material error.	

### **Specific verifications**

In accordance with the standards of professional practice applicable in France, we have also conducted the specific verifications required by the legal and regulatory provisions.

We have no observations to make concerning the fairness and the consistency with the annual financial statements of the data provided in the Management Company's management report.

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### Information resulting from other legal and regulatory obligations

#### Appointment of Statutory Auditors

We were appointed as Statutory Auditors of the BNP PARIBAS EASY CAC 40® ESG UCITS ETF, a UCITS established in the form of a mutual fund by the Management Company on 29 June 2016.

As at 31 August 2023, our firm was in the seventh year of its uninterrupted mandate, i.e. the seventh year since the Fund's securities were admitted to trading on a regulated market.

#### Responsibilities of the Management Company relating to the annual financial statements

It is the Management Company's responsibility to prepare annual financial statements of the fund that give a true and fair view, in accordance with French accounting rules and principles, and to implement the internal controls it deems necessary for the preparation of annual financial statements that do not include any material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

When preparing the annual financial statements, it is the Management Company's responsibility to assess the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, to present in said financial statements, where applicable, the necessary information relating to its viability as a going concern and to apply the going concern accounting policy, unless it intends to wind up the Fund or to cease trading.

It is the responsibility of the Management Company to monitor the financial information preparation process and to monitor the effectiveness of internal control and risk management systems and of internal auditing, with regard to procedures relating to the preparation and processing of accounting and financial information.

The annual financial statements have been prepared by the Management Company.

#### Statutory Auditor's responsibilities regarding the audit of the annual financial statements

#### Audit objective and methodology

It is our responsibility to draw up a report on the annual financial statements. Our aim is to obtain reasonable assurance that the annual financial statements, taken as a whole, are free of material misstatement. Reasonable assurance corresponds to a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee that an audit performed in accordance with the standards of professional practice can systematically detect any material misstatement. Misstatements may arise from fraud or error and are considered material where it can reasonably be expected that, taken individually or together, they may influence the economic decisions made by users of the annual financial statements that are based upon such misstatements.

As specified in Article L.823-10-1 of the French commercial code, our task is to certify the financial statements and not to guarantee the viability or quality of management.

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As part of an audit performed in accordance with the standards of professional practice applicable in France, the Statutory Auditor exercises its professional judgement throughout this audit. In addition:

• it identifies and assesses the risks that the annual financial statements may contain material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error, sets out and implements the audit procedures intended to counter these risks, and collates the items that it deems sufficient and appropriate to justify its opinion. The risk of non-detection of a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than that of non-detection of a material misstatement due to an error, since fraud may involve collusion, forgery, deliberate omissions, misrepresentation or the circumvention of internal control processes;

• it takes note of the internal control processes relevant to the audit so as to set out audit procedures that are appropriate to the circumstances, and not to express an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control processes;

• it assesses the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by the Management Company, as well as the information provided in their regard in the annual financial statements;

• it assesses the appropriateness of the application by the Management Company of the going concern accounting policy and, based on the evidence gathered, whether or not there is significant uncertainty relating to events or circumstances that may affect the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. This assessment is based on the evidence gathered up to the date of its report, on the understanding that subsequent events or circumstances may affect its viability as a going concern. If it concludes that there is significant uncertainty, it draws the attention of readers of the report to the information provided in the annual financial statements about this uncertainty or, if this information is not provided or is not relevant, it issues certification with reservations or a refusal to certify;

• it appraises the overall presentation of the annual financial statements and assesses whether said statements reflect the transactions and underlying events such that they provide a true and fair view thereof.

Neuilly-sur-Seine, France, date of electronic signature

2023.12.08.16:24:38 +0100

Document authenticated by electronic signature The Statutory Auditor PricewaterhouseCoopers Audit Amaury Couplez

[Signature]

# Assets

	Financial year 31/08/2023	Financial year 31/08/2022
Net fixed assets		-
Deposits	-	-
Financial instruments	285,348,822.13	147,643,193.66
Equities and equivalent securities	285,348,822.13	147,643,193.66
Traded on a regulated or equivalent market	285,348,822.13	147,643,193.66
Not traded on a regulated or equivalent market		-
Bonds and equivalent securities		-
Traded on a regulated or equivalent market		-
Not traded on a regulated or equivalent market		-
Debt securities		-
Traded on a regulated or equivalent market – Negotiable debt securities	-	-
Traded on a regulated or equivalent market – Other debt securities	-	-
Not traded on a regulated or equivalent market		-
Securities in undertakings for collective investment		-
General-purpose UCITS and AIFs and their equivalents from other European Union member states intended for non-professional investors		-
Other funds and their equivalents from other European Union member states intended for non-professional investors		-
General-purpose professional investment funds and their equivalents from other European Union member states and listed securitisation undertakings		-
Other professional investment funds and their equivalents from other European Union member states and unlisted securitisation undertakings		-
Other non-European undertakings	-	-
Temporary securities transactions		-
Receivables representing securities received under repurchase agreements		-
Receivables representing loaned securities		-
Borrowed securities	-	-
Securities assigned under repurchase agreements		-
Other temporary transactions		-
Forward financial instruments	-	-
Transactions on a regulated or equivalent market		-
Other transactions		-
Other assets: Loans		-
Other financial instruments	-	-
Receivables	16,906.75	27,500.00
Forward foreign exchange transactions	-	-
Other	16,906.75	27,500.00
Financial accounts	193,289.18	219,020.94
Cash	193,289.18	219,020.94
TOTAL ASSETS	285,559,018.06	147,889,714.60

# Liabilities

	Financial year 31/08/2023	Financial year 31/08/2022
Shareholders' equity	-	-
Capital	162,570,531.84	74,265,013.34
Undistributed previous net capital gains and losses (a)	110,525,258.65	57,280,188.26
Balance carried forward (a)	6,455.69	74,845.28
Net capital gains and losses for the financial year (a, b)	5,090,218.00	11,811,914.09
Profit/loss for the financial year (a, b)	7,306,123.12	4,422,545.53
Total shareholders' equity (= Amount representing net assets)	285,498,587.30	147,854,506.50
Financial instruments		-
Disposals of financial instruments	-	-
Temporary securities transactions		-
Debts representing securities assigned under repurchase agreements		-
Debts representing borrowed securities		-
Other temporary transactions		-
Forward financial instruments	-	-
Transactions on a regulated or equivalent market		-
Other transactions		-
Debts	60,430.76	35,208.10
Forward foreign exchange transactions		-
Other	60,430.76	35,208.10
Financial accounts	-	-
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	-
Borrowings	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	285,559,018.06	147,889,714.60

(a) Including accruals and deferrals.

(b) Less interim dividends paid during the financial year.

## **Off-balance sheet**

	Financial year 31/08/2023	Financial year 31/08/2022
Hedging transactions		
Commitments on regulated or equivalent markets		
Over-the-counter commitments		
Other commitments		
Other transactions		
Commitments on regulated or equivalent markets		
Futures		
purchase CAC40 EURO FUT 16/09/2022		306,200.00
Over-the-counter commitments		
Other commitments		

### **Income statement**

	Financial year 31/08/2023	Financial year 31/08/2022
ncome from financial transactions	-	-
Income from equities and equivalent securities	8,064,736.36	5,503,334.98
Income from bonds and equivalent securities	-	-
Income from debt securities	-	-
Income from temporary purchases and sales of securities	-	-
Income from forward financial instruments	-	-
Income from deposits and financial accounts	-	-
Income from loans	-	-
Other financial income	3,291.66	55.00
ΓΟΤΑL Ι	8,068,028.02	5,503,389.98
Expenses on financial transactions	-	-
Expenses on temporary purchases and sales of securities	-	-
Expenses on forward financial instruments	-	-
Expenses on financial debts	-21.51	-3,912.39
Other financial expenses	-	-
FOTAL II	-21.51	-3,912.39
Profit/loss on financial transactions (I + II)	8,068,006.51	5,499,477.59
Other income (III)	-	-
Management fees and provisions for depreciation (IV)	-590,296.86	-445,469.59
Net income for the financial year (I + II + III + IV)	7,477,709.65	5,054,008.00
Accrued income for the financial year (V)	-171,586.53	-631,462.47
nterim dividends paid during the financial year (VI)	-	-
Profit/loss (I + II + III + IV + V + VI)	7,306,123.12	4,422,545.53

### Accounting principles and policies

The annual financial statements are presented in the form provided for by ANC Regulation No. 2014-01 of 14 January 2014, as amended.

The accounting currency is the euro.

All transferable securities held in the portfolio are recognised at historical cost, excluding charges.

Securities, futures and options held in the portfolio denominated in a foreign currency are converted into the accounting currency based on the exchange rates in Paris on the valuation day.

The portfolio's value is appraised whenever the net asset value is calculated and at the end of the accounting period using the following methods:

### **Transferable securities**

Listed securities: at stock market value, including accrued coupons (at the day's closing price).

However, transferable securities for which the price is not established on the valuation day or which are quoted by contributors and for which the price has been adjusted, and securities that are not traded on a regulated market, are valued under the responsibility of the Management Company (or the Board of Directors for an open-ended investment company (société d'investissement à capital variable – SICAV)), at their likely trading value. Prices are adjusted by the Management Company based on its knowledge of the issuers and/or markets.

UCIs: at their last known net asset value or, if unavailable, at their last estimated value. The net asset values of the securities of foreign undertakings for collective investment valued on a monthly basis are confirmed by the fund administrators. Valuations are updated weekly based on the estimates issued by the administrators of these UCIs and validated by the fund manager.

Negotiable debt and similar securities that are not traded in high volumes are valued using an actuarial method. This involves using the rate applicable to issues of equivalent securities and, if necessary, applying a differential that is representative of the intrinsic features of the issuer. In the absence of sensitivity, securities with a residual term of three months are valued at the most recent rate until maturity; for those acquired for periods of less than three months, the interest is calculated on a straight-line basis.

### Forward financial instruments and options

Futures: at the day's settlement price.

The off-balance sheet valuation is calculated on the basis of the nominal value, its settlement price and, where appropriate, the exchange rate.

Options: the day's closing price or, failing this, the last known price.

Over-the-counter options: These options are valued at their market value, based on prices reported by the counterparties. These valuations are subject to controls by the Management Company.

The off-balance sheet valuation is calculated as an underlying equivalent based on the delta and the price of the underlying asset and, where appropriate, the exchange rate.

Forward exchange contracts: revaluation of foreign currency commitments at the daily rate with the premium/discount calculated according to the term of the contract.

Term deposits: These are recorded and valued at their nominal amount, even if their maturity date extends beyond three months. Any associated accrued interest is added to this amount. However, some contracts provide special terms in the event of requests for early repayment in order to take into account the impact of the increase in the counterparty's financing curve. Accrued interest may then be reduced by this impact, but cannot be negative. Term deposits are valued at least at their nominal value.

### Financial management fees and administrative fees external to the Management Company

- 0.25% incl. tax per annum maximum

Fees are calculated on the basis of the net assets. These fees, not including transaction fees, will be charged directly to the Fund's profit and loss account.

These fees cover all of the costs invoiced directly to the UCI, except for transaction fees. Transaction costs include intermediary fees (brokerage fees, stock market taxes etc.) as well as transaction fees, if any, which may be charged, in particular by the depositary and the Management Company.

#### **Research expenses**

None

### Performance fee

None

### **Retrocession of management fees**

None

### Method used to recognise interest

Interest received

### Allocation of income

Distribution

### Allocation of net realised capital gains

Accumulation and/or distribution

### Changes affecting the Fund

None

# Change in net assets

	Financial year 31/08/2023	Financial year 31/08/2022
Net assets at the beginning of the financial year	147,854,506.50	169,762,097.44
Subscriptions (including subscription fees paid to the UCI)	120,156,547.80	31,392,535.31
Redemptions (after deduction of redemption fees paid to the UCI)	-21,209,499.68	-34,801,875.16
Capital gains realised on deposits and financial instruments	6,533,416.40	15,939,449.74
Capital losses realised on deposits and financial instruments	-1,666,826.02	-3,065,821.85
Capital gains realised on forward financial instruments	34,365.00	134,436.28
Capital losses realised on forward financial instruments	-30,450.00	-221,352.40
Transaction fees	-410,827.37	-217,150.69
Exchange differences	-20,644.93	2,921.66
Change in the valuation difference for deposits and financial instruments:	31,534,750.63	-32,007,518.67
Valuation difference, financial year N	45,007,706.38	13,472,955.75
Valuation difference, financial year N-1	-13,472,955.75	-45,480,474.42
Change in the valuation difference for forward financial instruments:	22,075.00	-10,515.00
Valuation difference, financial year N	-	-22,075.00
Valuation difference, financial year N-1	22,075.00	11,560.00
Distribution from the previous financial year on net capital gains and losses	-298,533.48	-513,338.52
Distribution from the previous financial year on income	-4,478,002.20	-3,593,369.64
Net income for the financial year before accruals and deferrals	7,477,709.65	5,054,008.00
Interim dividend(s) paid during the financial year on net capital gains and losses	-	-
Interim dividend(s) paid during the financial year on income	-	-
Other items	-	-
Net assets at the end of the financial year	285,498,587.30	147,854,506.50

## Additional information 1

	Financial year 31/08/2023
Commitments received or given	
Commitments received or given (capital surety or other commitments) (*)	-
Current value of financial instruments registered in the portfolio constituting collateral deposits	
Financial instruments received as collateral and not recorded on the balance sheet	-
Financial instruments given as collateral and kept under the original item	-
Financial instruments in the portfolio issued by the provider or entities in its group	
Deposits	-
Equities	14,146,254.36
Interest rate securities	-
UCIs	-
Temporary purchases and sales of securities	
Swaps (nominal)	-
Current value of financial instruments subject to a temporary purchase	
Securities acquired under repurchase agreements	-
Securities received under resale agreements	-
Borrowed securities	-

 $({}^{\star})$  For guaranteed UCIs, the information appears in the accounting principles and policies.

## **Additional information 2**

	Financial year 31/08/2023	
Issues and redemptions during the financial year	Number of securities	
Classic class (Currency: EUR)		
Number of securities issued	10,907,722	
Number of securities redeemed	1,821,435	
Subscription and/or redemption fees	Amount (EUR)	
Subscription fees paid to the UCI	366,477.63	
Redemption fees paid to the UCI	2,121.17	
Subscription fees received and shared		
Redemption fees received and shared		
Management fees	Amount (EUR)	% of average net assets
Classic class (Currency: EUR)		
Operating and management fees (*)	590,296.86	0.25
Performance fees		-
Other charges	-	-
Retrocessions of management fees (all units)	-	

(\*) For UCIs with a financial year that is not 12 months, the percentage of average net assets corresponds to the average annualised rate.

# Breakdown of receivables and debts by type

	Financial year 31/08/2023
Breakdown of receivables by type	
Tax credit to recover	
Deposit – EUR	
Deposit – other currencies	
Cash collateral	
Valuation of purchases of currency futures	
Exchange value of forward sales	
Other miscellaneous debtors	
Coupons receivable	16,906.75
TOTAL RECEIVABLES	16,906.75
Breakdown of debts by type Deposit – EUR	
Deposit – conces	
Cash collateral	
Provisions for loan charges	
Valuation of sales of currency futures	
Exchange value of forward purchases	
Costs and expenses not yet paid	60,430.76
Other miscellaneous payables	
Provisions for market liquidity risk	
TOTAL DEBTS	60,430.76

# Breakdown of instruments by legal or economic type

	Financial year 31/08/2023
Assets	
Bonds and equivalent securities	
Index-linked bonds	-
Convertible bonds	-
Equity securities	
Other bonds and equivalent securities	
Debt securities	-
Traded on a regulated or equivalent market	-
Treasury bills	-
Other negotiable debt securities	-
Other debt securities	-
Not traded on a regulated or equivalent market	-
Other assets: Loans	
Liabilities	
Disposals of financial instruments	
Equities	-
Bonds	-
Other	-
Off-balance sheet	
Hedging transactions	
Rate	
Equities	-
Other	-
Other transactions	
Rate	-
Equities	-
Other	-

# Breakdown of assets, liabilities and off-balance sheet items by interest rate type

	Fixed rate	Variable rate	Adjustable rate	Other
Assets				
Deposits	-	-	-	-
Bonds and equivalent securities	-	-	-	-
Debt securities	-	-	-	-
Temporary securities transactions	-	-	-	-
Other assets: Loans	-	-	-	-
Financial accounts	-	-	-	193,289.18
Liabilities				
Temporary securities transactions	-	-	-	-
Financial accounts	-	-	-	-
Off-balance sheet				
Hedging transactions	-	-	-	-
Other transactions	-	-	-	-

# Breakdown of assets, liabilities and off-balance sheet items by residual maturity

	[0–3 months]	]3 months– 1 year]	]1–3 years]	]3–5 years]	> 5 years
Assets					
Deposits	-	-	-	-	-
Bonds and equivalent securities	-	-	-	-	-
Debt securities	-	-	-	-	-
Temporary securities transactions	-	-	-	-	-
Other assets: Loans	-	-	-	-	-
Financial accounts	193,289.18	-	-	-	-
Liabilities					
Temporary securities transactions	-	-	-	-	-
Financial accounts	-	-	-	-	-
Off-balance sheet					
Hedging transactions	-	-	-	-	-
Other transactions	-	-	-	-	-

# Breakdown of assets, liabilities and off-balance sheet items by listing currency

	USD
Assets	
Deposits	-
Equities and equivalent securities	-
Bonds and equivalent securities	-
Debt securities	-
UCI securities	-
Temporary securities transactions	-
Other assets: Loans	-
Other financial instruments	-
Receivables	-
Financial accounts	13,032.94
Liabilities	
Disposals of financial instruments	-
Temporary securities transactions	-
Debts	-
Financial accounts	-
Off-balance sheet	
Hedging transactions	-
Other transactions	-

Only the five currencies that are most representative of the net asset component are included in this table.

# Allocation of income

Classic class (Currency: EUR)

### Allocation table of distributable amounts relating to income

	Financial year 31/08/2023	Financial year 31/08/2022
Amounts still to be allocated		
Balance carried forward	6,455.69	74,845.28
Profit/loss	7,306,123.12	4,422,545.53
Total	7,312,578.81	4,497,390.81
Allocation		
Distribution	7,219,258.80	4,493,372.70
Balance carried forward for the financial year	93,320.01	4,018.11
Accumulation	-	-
Total	7,312,578.81	4,497,390.81
Information relating to securities with distribution rights		
Number of securities	24,064,196	14,977,909
Distribution per unit	0.30	0.30
Tax credits and tax benefits attached to the distribution of income		
Overall amount of tax credits and tax benefits:		
originating in the year	-	-
originating in year N-1	-	-
originating in year N-2	-	-
originating in year N-3	-	-
originating in year N-4	-	-

### Allocation table of distributable amounts relating to net capital gains and losses

	Financial year 31/08/2023	Financial year 31/08/2022
Amounts still to be allocated		
Undistributed previous net capital gains and losses	110,525,258.65	57,280,188.26
Net capital gains and losses for the financial year	5,090,218.00	11,811,914.09
Interim payments on net capital gains and losses for the financial year	-	-
Total	115,615,476.65	69,092,102.35
Allocation		
Distribution	721,925.88	299,558.18
Undistributed net capital gains and losses	114,893,550.77	68,792,544.17
Accumulation	-	-
Total	115,615,476.65	69,092,102.35
Information relating to securities with distribution rights		
Number of securities	24,064,196	14,977,909
Distribution per unit	0.03	0.02

# Table of results and other characteristic items over the previous five years

### Classic class (Currency: EUR)

	30/08/2019	31/08/2020	31/08/2021	31/08/2022	31/08/2023
Net asset value (in EUR)					
D units	9.1087	8.1211	10.9502	9.8715	11.8640
Net assets (in EUR K)	290,940.73	219,369.03	169,762.10	147,854.51	285,498.59
Number of securities					
D units	31,940,810	27,012,200	15,503,141	14,977,909	24,064,196

Payment date	30/08/2019	31/08/2020	31/08/2021	31/08/2022	31/08/2023
Distribution per unit on net capital gains and losses (including interim dividends) (in EUR)	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03
<b>Distribution per unit on income</b> (including interim dividends) (in EUR)	0.28	0.16	0.21	0.30	0.30
Tax credits per unit (*) individuals (in EUR)	-	-	-		
Accumulation per unit on net capital gains and losses (in EUR) D units	-	-	-	-	-
Accumulation per unit on income (in EUR) D units	-	-	-	-	

(\*) "The tax credit per unit is calculated on the payment date, in accordance with the French tax instruction dated 04/03/93 (Inst. 4 K-1-93). The theoretical amounts, calculated in accordance with the rules applicable to individuals, are shown here for information purposes. "Instruction 4 J-2-99 of 08/11/99 also specifies that beneficiaries of tax credits other than individuals are solely responsible for calculating the amount of the tax credits to which they are entitled."

# Inventory of financial instruments as at 31 August 2023

Asset items and description of securities	Quantity	Price	Listing currency	Current value	Rounded % of net assets
Equities and equivalent securities				285,348,822.13	99.95
Traded on a regulated or equivalent market				285,348,822.13	99.95
ACCOR SA	39,016.00	33.09	EUR	1,291,039.43	0.45
AIRBUS SE	126,090.00	135.38	EUR	17,070,064.20	5.98
AIR LIQUIDE SA	111,643.00	166.86	EUR	18,628,750.98	6.52
ALSTOM	67,627.00	25.51	EUR	1,725,164.77	0.60
ARKEMA	11,776.00	96.64	EUR	1,138,032.64	0.40
AXA SA	399,251.00	27.77	EUR	11,089,196.53	3.88
BNP PARIBAS	236,916.00	59.71	EUR	14,146,254.36	4.95
BUREAU VERITAS SA	62,444.00	24.74	EUR	1,544,864.56	0.54
CAPGEMINI SE	33,142.00	172.35	EUR	5,712,023.70	2.00
CARREFOUR SA	126,650.00	17.67	EUR	2,237,905.50	0.78
COMPAGNIE DE SAINT GOBAIN	99,982.00	60.16	EUR	6,014,917.12	2.11
CREDIT AGRICOLE SA	290,866.00	11.66	EUR	3,390,334.10	1.19
DANONE	137,138.00	53.83	EUR	7,382,138.54	2.59
EDENRED	53,315.00	58.84	EUR	3,137,054.60	1.10
ENGIE	390,154.00	14.89	EUR	5,809,393.06	2.03
FORVIA	38,245.00	19.64	EUR	751,131.80	0.26
HERMES INTERNATIONAL	6,765.00	1,900.80	EUR	12,858,912.00	4.50
KERING	15,995.00	494.20	EUR	7,904,729.00	2.77
LEGRAND SA	56,995.00	91.10	EUR	5,192,244.50	1.82
L'OREAL	51,537.00	405.80	EUR	20,913,714.60	7.33
LVMH MOET HENNESSY LOUIS VUI	33,811.00	782.20	EUR	26,446,964.20	9.26
MICHELIN (CGDE)	152,545.00	28.91	EUR	4,410,075.95	1.54
ORANGE	397,753.00	10.36	EUR	4,119,925.57	1.44
PERNOD RICARD SA	44,080.00	181.20	EUR	7,987,296.00	2.80
PUBLICIS GROUPE	48,803.00	72.06	EUR	3,516,744.18	1.23
RENAULT SA	44,030.00	37.34	EUR	1,643,860.05	0.58
REXEL SA	45,794.00	21.70	EUR	993,729.80	0.35
SAFRAN SA	73,011.00	148.30	EUR	10,827,531.30	3.79
SANOFI	243,438.00	98.64	EUR	24,012,724.32	8.41
SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC SE	121,848.00	158.58	EUR	19,322,655.84	6.77
SOCIETE GENERALE SA	172,468.00	26.21	EUR	4,521,248.62	1.58
SODEXO SA	17,253.00	99.02	EUR	1,708,392.06	0.60
STMICROELECTRONICS NV	136,154.00	43.66	EUR	5,945,164.41	2.08

# Inventory of financial instruments as at 31 August 2023

Asset items and description of securities	Quantity	Price	Listing currency	Current value	Rounded % of net assets
TELEPERFORMANCE	12,598.00	127.85	EUR	1,610,654.30	0.56
UNIBAIL-RODAMCO-WESTFIELD	23,475.00	49.39	EUR	1,159,430.25	0.41
VALEO	44,457.00	18.00	EUR	800,226.00	0.28
VEOLIA ENVIRONNEMENT	129,892.00	28.86	EUR	3,748,683.12	1.31
VINCI SA	114,882.00	102.96	EUR	11,828,250.72	4.14
VIVENDI SE	151,713.00	8.41	EUR	1,275,906.33	0.45
WORLDLINE SA - W/I	50,914.00	30.08	EUR	1,531,493.12	0.54
Not traded on a regulated or equivalent market				-	-
ALSTOM SA SCRIP RTS 01/09/2023	67,627.00	-	EUR	-	-
Receivables				16,906.75	0.01
Debts				-60,430.76	-0.02
Deposits				-	-
Other financial accounts				193,289.18	0.07
TOTAL NET ASSETS			EUR	285,498,587.30	100.00

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR INVESTORS IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

### Facilities in the Federal Republic of Germany according to section 306a (1) of the Investment Code

The prospectus, the key information documents, the status and the annual and semi-annual reports may be obtained, free of charge, in hardcopy form at BNP Paribas Asset Management France, 8, rue du Port, 92000 NANTERRE, during normal opening hours.

Applications for the redemptions and conversion of shares may be sent to BNP Paribas 16, boulevard des Italiens 75009 Paris.

All payments to investors, including redemption proceeds and potential distributions may, upon request, be paid through BNP Paribas S.A, Grands Moulins de Pantin – 9, rue du Débarcadère – 93500 Pantin.

The issue, redemption and conversion prices, the net asset value as well as any notices to investors are also available from BNP Paribas S.A, Grands Moulins de Pantin – 9, rue du Débarcadère – 93500 Pantin.

Information and access to procedures and arrangements referred to in Article 15 of Directive 2009/65/EC relating to investors' exercise of their rights can be obtained from BNP Paribas Asset Management France, 8, rue du Port, 92000 NANTERRE.

In addition, the issue and redemption prices are published on <u>www.bnpparibas-am.de</u>.

No shares of EU UCITS will be issued as printed individual certificates.

Any notices to the investors in the Federal Republic of Germany are published in the Federal Gazette (<u>www.bundesanzeiger.de</u>).

In addition, communications to investors in the Federal Republic of Germany will be made available by means of a durable medium (section 167 of the Investment Code) in the following cases:

- suspension of the redemption of the shares,
- termination of the management of the fund or its liquidation,
- any amendments to the company rules which are inconstant with the previous investment principles, which affect material investor rights or which relate to remuneration and reimbursement of expenses that may be paid or made out of the asset pool,
- merger of the fund with one or more other funds and
- the change of the fund into a feeder fund or the modification of a master fund.