

# PROSPECTUS BNP PARIBAS EASY CAC 40® ESG UCITS ETF

**MUTUAL FUND UNDER EUROPEAN DIRECTIVE 2009/65/EC** 

#### I. GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

#### I - FORM OF THE UCITS

NAME: BNP PARIBAS EASY CAC 40® ESG UCITS ETF (the "Fund")

<u>LEGAL FORM AND MEMBER STATE IN WHICH THE UCITS WAS ESTABLISHED</u>: mutual investment fund (FCP) under French law.

LAUNCH DATE AND SCHEDULED TERM: the Fund was launched on 7 March 2005 for a term of 99 years.

#### **FUND OVERVIEW**

INITIAL NET ASSET VALUE	ISIN CODE	ALLOCATION OF DISTRIBUTABLE INCOME	BASE CURRENC Y	Target investors	MINIMUM SUBSCRIPTION AMOUNT (PRIMARY MARKET)	MINIMUM PURCHASE/SALE S AMOUNT (SECONDARY MARKET)	STOCK EXCHANGE (SECONDARY MARKET)
1/100 <sup>th</sup> of the closing level of the CAC 40 Index at the date of creation of the Fund.	FR0010150458	Distribution	EUR	All investors	EUR 2 million or a number of units of the Fund equivalent to this amount, with the exception of BNP Paribas Group companies and authorised participants	One unit	EURONEXT PARIS

#### PLACE WHERE THE LATEST ANNUAL AND INTERIM REPORTS MAY BE OBTAINED

The Fund's Key Investor Information Documents, prospectus and the latest annual and interim reports will be sent within eight business days of receipt of a written request sent to:

BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT France Service Client

8, rue du Port, 92728 Nanterre, France

Postal address: TSA 90007, 92729 Nanterre CEDEX, France

These documents are also available online at: www.bnpparibas-am.com.

If required, additional information can be obtained from:

BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT France Service Client 8, rue du Port, 92728 Nanterre, France Postal address: TSA 90007, 92729 Nanterre CEDEX, France

The AMF website "www.amf-france.org" has additional information on the list of regulatory documents and all provisions relating to investor protection.

#### II - ADMINISTRATIVE AGENTS

MANAGEMENT COMPANY: BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT France

Simplified joint-stock company

Registered office: 1 boulevard Haussmann, 75009

Paris, France

Postal address: TSA 90007 – 92729 Nanterre CEDEX

rance

Portfolio management company authorised by the French financial markets authority on 19 April 1996

under number GP 96002

DEPOSITARY AND CUSTODIAN: BNP PARIBAS

Limited company

Registered office: 16, boulevard des Italiens, 75009

Paris, France

Office address: Grands Moulins de Pantin 9, rue du

Débarcadère 93500 Pantin, France

Credit institution approved by the Autorité de contrôle prudentiel et de résolution (ACPR — French Prudential

Supervision and Resolution Authority)

The duties of the depositary include the safekeeping of assets, control of the regularity of the decisions of the management company and monitoring of the UCI's cash flows. In carrying out its duties and in the event that BNP Paribas maintains commercial relations with the management company (provision of the fund administration service including, for example, the calculation of net asset values) potential conflicts of interest may arise.

The depositary delegates the safekeeping of assets to be kept abroad to local sub-custodians in States where it has no local presence. The remuneration of sub-custodians is levied from the fees paid to the depositary and no additional costs are charged to unitholders for this function. The process for appointing and supervising sub-custodians follows the highest standards of quality, including the management of potential conflicts of interest that may arise during such delegations. The list of sub-custodians is available at the following address: http://securities.bnpparibas.com/solutions/asset-fund-services/depositary-bank-and-trustee-serv.html.

Updated information relating to the foregoing points is sent to the investor upon written request to the management company.

DELEGATED CLEARING HOUSE FOR SUBSCRIPTION AND REDEMPTION

ORDERS: BNP PARIBAS

**DELEGATED ISSUER** 

ACCOUNT: BNP PARIBAS

STATUTORY AUDITOR: PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS AUDIT

63 rue de Villiers

92290 Neuilly-sur-Seine, France

Mr Amaury Couplez

PROMOTER: BNP PARIBAS GROUP COMPANIES

The Fund's units are registered on Euroclear France, and they may therefore be subscribed to or redeemed through financial intermediaries or promoters not

known to the management company.

**ACCOUNTING MANAGEMENT DELEGATED TO: BNP Paribas** 

Limited company

Registered office: 16, boulevard des Italiens, 75009

Paris, France

Office address: Grands Moulins de Pantin 9, rue du Débarcadère, 93500 Pantin, France

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT DELEGATED TO: BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT UK LIMITED

5 Aldermanbury Square, London – United Kingdom Management company authorised by the Financial

**Conduct Authority** 

The delegation of financial management covers the

management of the Fund's residual liquidity.

ADVISER: None

#### **SALES RESTRICTION**

The management company is not registered as an investment adviser in the United States.

The Fund is not registered as an investment vehicle in the United States and its units are not registered pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933; consequently, they may not be offered or sold to "Restricted Persons" as defined below.

Restricted Persons are: (i) any person or entity located in the territory of the United States (including US residents), (ii) any company or other entity governed by the laws of the United States or one of its States, (iii) all United States military personnel or any employee linked to a US department or government agency located outside of the territory of the United States, or (iv) any other person who is considered as a US Person pursuant to Regulation S of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Furthermore, the Fund's units may not be offered or sold to employee benefit plans or entities whose assets are assets of employee benefit plans, whether subject or not to the provisions of the United States Employee Retirement Income Securities Act of 1974, as amended.

#### **III. OPERATING AND MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES**

#### **III.1 - GENERAL FEATURES**

#### **UNIT CHARACTERISTICS**

ISIN CODE: FR0010150458

#### **RIGHTS ATTACHED TO THE UNITS**

Each unitholder has a shared ownership right in the assets of the Fund in proportion to the number of units held.

#### INFORMATION RELATING TO THE MANAGEMENT OF LIABILITIES

As part of its management of the Fund's liabilities, the depositary is responsible for clearing subscription and redemption orders, and for managing the unit issuance account.

#### **TYPE OF UNITS**

The Fund is listed on Euroclear France.

#### **VOTING RIGHTS**

As this is a mutual investment fund, no voting rights are attached to the units; decisions are taken by the management company. However, unitholders will be notified of any changes to the Fund's operating procedures either individually, via the press or by any other means in accordance with AMF instruction no. 2011-19.

#### **FRACTIONING**

The Fund's units are not fractioned.

#### ADMISSION OF UNITS TO A REGULATED MARKET OR MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM

With reference to Article D 214-22-1 of the French Monetary and Financial Code, which stipulates that the shares or units of UCITS may be listed provided that organisations have put in place a mechanism to ensure that the share or unit price does not substantially deviate from their net asset value, the following operating rules, as determined by the companies operating in markets where the Fund's units are admitted to trading, apply to the listing of the Fund's units: reservation thresholds are set by applying a percentage change of 1.5% on both sides of the indicative net asset value (see section "indicative net asset value") of the Fund; these thresholds are published by companies operating in markets in which the Fund's units are admitted to trading and converted to current estimated values according to the variation of the Fund's index.

"Market makers" ensure that the Fund's unit price does not deviate by more than 1.5% on either side from the Fund's indicative net asset value, in order to meet the reservation thresholds set by companies operating in markets in which the Fund's units are admitted to trading (see section "indicative net asset value").

#### **FINANCIAL YEAR END**

Last stock exchange trading day in August.

#### TAX SYSTEM

This Fund is eligible for the French Equity Savings Plan (Plan d'Épargne en Actions – PEA).

Common-law treatment of gains from the sale of transferable securities and rights of ownership applicable to individuals who are French tax residents, namely:

- By default: A French flat-rate tax, or Prélèvement Forfaitaire Unique (PFU), of 30% (12.8% income tax and 17.2% social security contributions).
- On options exercised during tax returns: taxation subject to progressive income tax rates with the possibility, where eligible, to benefit from an allowance for holding periods specified in Article 150-0 D of the French General Tax Code (i.e. 50% for shares held for at least two years and less than eight years, and 65% for shares held for at least eight years), where securities were acquired or subscribed before 1 January 2018. The progressive income tax rate is an overarching option, covering all income, net gains, profits and receivables within the scope of the PFU. Added to this are social security contributions at an overall rate of 17.2%, of which, however, a proportion of CSG (French generalised social contribution) is deductible from total taxable income during the year in which it is paid.

The Fund is not subject to corporation tax. However, distributions and capital gains are taxable when remitted to unitholders.

The tax system applicable to amounts distributed by the Fund and to realised or unrealised capital gains or losses of the Fund depends on the tax provisions applicable to the investor's personal circumstances and/or those in force in the country where the Fund invests. Subject to certain conditions, the holding of the Fund's units via a PEA provides an exemption from tax on gains from the sale of transferable securities.

Investors are advised to pay close attention to all aspects specific to their situation. Investors who have any concerns about their tax situation should consult a tax adviser.

#### **FATCA**

In accordance with the provisions of the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FATCA") applicable from 1 July 2014, when the Fund invests directly or indirectly in US assets, the income from these investments may be subject to 30% withholding tax.

In order to avoid paying the 30% withholding tax, France and the US have concluded an intergovernmental agreement under which non-US financial institutions (foreign financial institutions) undertake to establish a procedure for identifying direct or indirect investors having the status of US taxpayers and to transmit certain information on these investors to the French tax authorities, which will communicate it to the US Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

As a foreign financial institution, the Fund undertakes to comply with FATCA and to take all measures stemming from the aforementioned intergovernmental agreement.

#### INFORMATION RELATING TO THE AUTOMATIC EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

In order to meet its Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) obligations, the management company may be required to gather and disclose information on the Fund's unitholders to third parties, including the tax authorities, in order to transfer it to the jurisdictions concerned. This information may include (but is not limited to) the identity of unitholders and their direct or indirect beneficiaries, ultimate beneficiaries and the persons controlling them. Unitholders will be required to comply with any request made by the management company to provide this information to enable the management company to comply with its reporting obligations.

For further information regarding their specific situation, unitholders should consult an independent tax advisor.

#### **III.2 - SPECIAL PROVISIONS**

#### **UNIT CHARACTERISTICS**

ISIN CODE: FR0010150458

**CLASSIFICATION:** Shares of European Union countries

#### **MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE**

The purpose of the Fund is to replicate the performance of the Euronext CAC 40® ESG Gross Return index ("the Index"), regardless of its growth and decline, by investing in shares selected according to environmental, social and governance (ESG) liability criteria. This replication can be done either completely or in an optimised manner.

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

#### **BENCHMARK INDEX**

The benchmark<sup>1</sup> is the Euronext CAC 40<sup>®</sup> ESG Gross Return index (Bloomberg Code: CACESGGR Index), published in EURO by Euronext Paris SA, dividends reinvested.

The index comprises 40 equities of mainly French companies selected on the basis of sustainability-related criteria, all with the aim of reducing the (weighted²) carbon footprint of the Index compared to its starting universe, the Euronext CAC® Large 60 index. These company securities are subject to an ESG rating (environmental opportunities, pollution and waste, human capital, corporate governance etc.). They are selected and ranked on the basis of their ratings, as well as their efforts to reduce their exposure to coal and unconventional fossil fuels, with a cap that limits a company's maximum weighting within the Index to 10% at each rebalancing date.

Consequently, companies operating in sectors that have a potentially high adverse ESG impact, companies found to be in significant breach of the United Nations Global Compact Principles, and companies involved in serious ESG controversies have been excluded from the Index.

The type of approach implemented here is "Best-in-Universe", which is a type of ESG selection that focuses on top-rated issuers from a non-financial perspective regardless of their industry. This approach permits sectoral biases, as sectors that are generally considered more virtuous will be better represented. The sectoral breakdown is available in the fact sheet published by the index administrator at www.euronext.com.

The Index excludes 20% of the lowest-rated environmental, social and governance securities in relation to its investment universe (the "selectivity" approach).

The non-financial analysis is carried out on all the shares comprising the Index.

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

- 1. The methodology excludes securities belonging to the controversial sectors defined by the Index administrator (controversial weapons, tobacco, conventional weapons, coal etc.) from the initial investment universe (Euronext CAC® Large 60 index).
- 2. The ESG rating (Vigeo Eiris) is used to identify companies that have demonstrated their ability to manage their ESG risks and opportunities.
- 3. To be admitted to the Euronext CAC 40<sup>®</sup> ESG index, the security must also meet the following criteria in addition to the above:
  - Have a good ESG rating. Companies involved in systematic violations of the UN Global Compact receive a poor ESG rating and are excluded from the index.
  - Not generate more than a certain percentage of its income from tobacco distribution, thermal coal production etc. Companies involved in mining thermal coal, oil sands or oil shale, tobacco production etc. are excluded. Information on exclusions can be found in the methodology, which can be downloaded from <a href="https://www.euronext.com">www.euronext.com</a>.

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<sup>1</sup> From 10 March 2005 to 18 June 2021 (exclusive), the Fund sought to replicate the CAC 40® Gross Return index.

<sup>2</sup> The weighted average carbon footprint is defined as the combination of company-level scope 1 and 2 emissions, weighted by the weight of each firm in the index, then aggregated. Scope 3 is not taken into account.

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

No guarantee is given with regard to compliance with certain filters at any time, in particular with regard to maintaining a positive ESG rating between two rebalances. If a company is involved in a controversy between two rebalances of the Index, it will automatically be excluded in the next revision, apart from cases of severe controversy as determined by the rating partner. The security will be withdrawn accordingly five days after the partner's announcement.

In addition to 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 online at <a href="https://www.euronext.com">www.euronext.com</a>.

Euronext N.V. or its subsidiaries hold all ownership rights in the Index. Euronext N.V. or its subsidiaries do not guarantee or approve and are not affected in any way by the issuance and offer 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 terms of the calculation or dissemination of the Index, or in respect of its use in connection with this issue and offer.

Euronext Paris SA is the Index administrator.

In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 (Benchmark Regulation), the European CAC 40<sup>®</sup> ESG index administrator is listed 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 of substantial changes to an index or cessation of the provision of this index.

#### **INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

#### STRATEGY USED TO ACHIEVE THE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE

To achieve its management objective, the Fund invests primarily in shares comprising the benchmark index defined above, respecting the distribution implemented by the latter in the choice of shares. If the composition were to change, the Fund would replicate the new distribution followed by the benchmark index.

However, the manager may use any negotiable financial instruments and techniques that they consider to be economically appropriate for the optimal management of the portfolio (purchases/sales of regulated or OTC financial instruments, subscriptions/redemptions of French or European coordinated UCITS units or shares, and use of forward financial instruments).

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

In the interest of optimally managing the Fund, the manager can use one of the two index replication methods described below.

#### Full replication

The Fund will achieve exposure to shares issued by mainly French large and possibly mid-cap companies that meet the environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria by investing at least 90% of its assets in shares issued by companies included in the Index, and/or equity equivalents, the underlyings of which are issued by companies included in the Index.

#### Optimised replication

The Fund will achieve exposure to shares issued by mainly French large and possibly mid-cap companies that meet the 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 shares or securities equivalent to the shares of issuers included in the Index.

In the event of full or optimised replication, the remaining assets may be invested in shares and securities equivalent to shares other than those specified in the main policy, in debt securities and money market instruments, liquid assets, derivative instruments (futures etc.).

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

Optimised replication will be favoured over full replication when the number of components is too high compared to assets under management, or liquidity will not be uniform between the Index components. While optimisation can be a more cost-effective approach than full replication, it can also lead to an increase in the tracking error since the Fund does not have all the Index components. A model portfolio will thus be constructed, whose close relationship to the index (max. tracking error of 1%) will be constantly monitored and where the 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, a degree of tracking error can be seen due to replication costs.

The tracking error corresponds to the standard deviation of the difference between the Fund's weekly yields and the benchmark index\* over one year.

In a context of full replication, the tracking error is primarily due to transaction costs, differences between income reinvestment policies, tax treatment and the impact of liquid assets.

In an optimised replication context, the tracking error is primarily due to differences in the composition of the Fund and Index, transaction fees, differences between income reinvestment policies, tax treatment 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 on the same day in the composition of the Fund to avoid any performance gaps.

The costs of rebalancing the portfolio will depend on the rotation of the Index and the costs of transactions related to the underlying securities. These costs will have a negative impact on the Fund's performance.

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

The Fund promotes 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) and holds a minimum percentage 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 non-financial ESG characteristics, the following elements are analysed, including, but not limited to: source and quality of ESG data used, legitimacy and expertise of 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, ESG index rating relative to the investment universe concerned.

The objective is to propose an index-linked fund that replicates an index with better non-financial ESG characteristics compared to a parent index or a relevant investment universe (i.e. lower carbon footprint, higher ESG score etc.).

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. BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT's Responsible Business Conduct (RBC) Policy (https://www.bnpparibas-am.com/en/sustainability-documents/) 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 full or optimised replication method, the investment process thus involves investing in securities belonging to the selected index with non-financial ESG characteristics.

Pre-contractual information on the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the Fund is available in the appendix 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 French Equity Savings Plan (Plan d'Épargne en Actions – PEA) and must therefore ensure that at least 75% of its assets are comprised of securities eligible for the PEA.

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

The Fund may invest in equities under the special ratios for index-tracking UCITS, that is to say, up to 20% of its net assets in equities from the same issuing entity, in accordance with the conditions outlined in Article R 214-22 (1) of the French Monetary and Financial Code. When exceptional market conditions warrant it, specifically when certain stocks 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.

When they are purchased, these instruments are given a minimum rating of A-3 (Standard & Poor's) or P-3 (Moody's) or, failing this, a long-term investment grade rating or an internal rating by 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
BASE CURRENCY OF SECURITIES	All currencies
LEVEL OF CURRENCY RISK	None
RANGE OF EXPOSURES CORRESPONDING TO THE GEOGRAPHIC	Eurozone countries: 0% to 110% of net assets
AREA OF THE SECURITIES' ISSUERS	Non-eurozone countries: 0% to 110% of net assets

#### • Units or shares of undertakings for collective investment

The Fund may invest up to 10% of its net assets in units or shares of UCITS, AIFs and investment funds.

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 UCITS, AIFs and investment funds may be managed by the management companies of the BNP Paribas Group.

#### Derivatives

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

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 hedging and management objectives where applicable:

- Futures.
- Options.
- Currency futures.

The Fund will not use total return swaps.

These financial instruments are entered into with counterparties selected by the management company in line with its best execution policy from among those institutions with their registered office located in an OECD or European Union member state referred to in Article R 214-19 of the French Monetary and Financial Code, and who are rated as good quality issuers. These counterparties may be companies related to the management company.

#### Instruments with embedded derivatives

The Fund does not intend 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

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

#### Cash borrowings

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

#### · Temporary sales and purchases of securities

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. Such collateral may include cash, money market instruments, bonds issued or guaranteed by an OECD member, shares, UCITS units offering daily liquidity etc. and is kept in segregated accounts by the depositary.

This collateral will be subject to a discount appropriate to each asset class in accordance with 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 held on deposit, invested in high-quality government bonds, used in reverse repurchase transactions, 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 foregoing, 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 depositary.

#### **RISK PROFILE**

#### **General consideration**

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

The Fund is classified as Shares of 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 show strong downward movements, particularly in the case of investment in mid-cap markets. The latter may experience greater, more significant and more rapid downturns than large-cap markets. If these equity markets fall, the Fund's net asset value may decrease.

#### - Risk associated with the use of derivatives

In order to achieve its management objective, the Fund may trade on OTC or listed derivatives, to cover and/or optimise the performance of its portfolio. Investors should note that the use of derivatives increases the Fund's performance volatility and may cause the portfolio's exposure to differ significantly from that of a simple, direct investment. If this risk occurs, it could cause a drop in the Fund's net asset value.

#### Credit risk

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 drop 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 low-liquidity market situation, could result in significant capital losses if these assets have to be sold. In this case, the net asset value of the Fund may decrease.

#### Volatility risk

The Fund may be exposed to the implied volatility of the equity, rate and foreign exchange markets both upwards and downwards, directly or through derivatives. For example, in the event of a positive investment in volatility, the Fund's net asset value may decrease if there is a decrease in implied volatility.

#### Liquidity risk on a stock exchange

The Fund's stock exchange price may deviate from its indicative net asset value. The liquidity of the Fund's units on a stock market may be affected by any suspension that may be due, including:

- Suspension or termination of the calculation of the Euronext CAC 40<sup>®</sup> ESG Gross Return index.
- Suspension of the market(s) where the components of the Euronext CAC 40<sup>®</sup> ESG Gross Return index are listed.
- The inability of a stock exchange to obtain the indicative net asset value.
- The inability of the Calculating Agent to calculate and disseminate the indicative net asset value.
- A market maker's violation of the rules applicable to this exchange.
- A failure in the computer or electronic systems of this stock exchange or of the market maker(s).

#### Risks associated with collateral management

The management of collateral received under OTC forward financial instruments may involve specific risks such as operational risks or custody risk. As such, the conclusion of these contracts may have a negative effect on the Fund's net asset value.

#### - Sustainability risks

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 also 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. It should also be noted that the proprietary methodologies used to incorporate non-financial criteria may be updated or revised in the event of regulatory changes or updates that may lead, in compliance with the applicable regulations, to an increase or decrease in the classification of products, the indicators used or the set minimum investment commitment levels.

#### Legal risk

Using forward financial instruments may lead to a legal risk related in particular to the execution of contracts.

#### - Ancillary counterparty risk

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

#### **GUARANTEE OR PROTECTION: None.**

#### **TARGET INVESTORS AND TYPICAL INVESTOR PROFILE**

The Fund is open to all investors.

It is aimed at investors seeking long-term capital valuation through financial investment in the equity market of mainly French companies, while offering short-term arbitrage opportunities. Indeed, this Fund is listed continuously on Euronext Paris and is treated as a share. It therefore combines the advantages of a listed security and a UCITS.

The amount that is reasonable for each investor to invest in this Fund depends on their personal situation. In determining this, investors should take account of their personal assets and financial plans, current needs over a minimum five-year period, as well as their willingness to take risks or alternatively to favour a more cautious investment. It is also strongly recommended that investors diversify their investments sufficiently so that they are not exposed solely to the risks of this Fund.

#### **RECOMMENDED MINIMUM INVESTMENT PERIOD:** five years

#### METHODS FOR DETERMINING AND ALLOCATING DISTRIBUTABLE AMOUNTS

Distribution, distributable amounts are distributed partially or fully after each year-end:

Net income is fully distributed each year. The management company reserves the right to accumulate and/or distribute the net realised capital gains, in full or in part, each year.

Interest is recorded using the interest received or accrued method.

#### **DISTRIBUTION FREQUENCY**

Partial or full annual distribution of distributable amounts. In the case of a partial or full distribution, the management company may decide to pay out one or more interim dividends.

#### **UNIT CHARACTERISTICS**

#### SUMMARY TABLE SHOWING THE KEY FEATURES OF THE UNITS

INITIAL NET ASSET VALUE	ISIN CODE	ALLOCATION OF DISTRIBUTABLE INCOME	BASE CURRENC Y	Target investors	MINIMUM SUBSCRIPTION AMOUNT (PRIMARY MARKET)	MINIMUM PURCHASE/SALE S AMOUNT (SECONDARY MARKET)	STOCK EXCHANGE (SECONDARY MARKET)
1/100 <sup>th</sup> of the closing level of the CAC 40 Index at the date of creation of the Fund.	FR0010150458	Distribution	EUR	All investors	EUR 2 million or a number of units of the Fund equivalent to this amount, with the exception of BNP Paribas Group companies and authorised participants	One unit	EURONEXT PARIS

#### SUBSCRIPTION AND REDEMPTION PROCEDURES ON THE PRIMARY MARKET

The management company has the option to suspend or stop subscriptions and redemptions when required by exceptional circumstances and in the best interests of shareholders.

The Fund's units are not fractioned.

#### MINIMUM AMOUNT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS AND REDEMPTIONS IN THE PRIMARY MARKET

Subscriptions and redemptions may only be made for a minimum amount of EUR 2 million, with the exception of BNP Paribas Group companies and authorised participants.

Subscriptions by contribution of financial instruments are authorised subject to prior acceptance by the management company.

#### TERMS OF PAYMENT/DELIVERY OF SUBSCRIPTIONS AND REDEMPTIONS ON THE PRIMARY MARKET

Orders are executed according to the table below:

D: Net asset value calculation date			D+1 business day	Maximum D+5 business days	Maximum D+5 business days	
subso orders	ring of cription s before o.m. (1)	Clearing of redemption orders before 4:30 p.m. (1)	Order execution on D at the latest	Disclosure of net asset value	Settlement of subscriptions	Settlement of redemptions

(1) Unless a specific deadline is agreed with your financial institution.

Requests received on a Saturday and on 31 December of each year are cleared on the next working day.

INSTITUTION WITH DELEGATED RESPONSIBILITY FOR CLEARING SUBSCRIPTIONS AND REDEMPTIONS: BNP Paribas

#### **CONDITIONS OF PURCHASE AND SALE ON THE SECONDARY MARKET**

Fund units acquired on the secondary market cannot generally be resold directly to the Fund. Investors must buy and sell the units on a secondary market with the assistance of an intermediary (e.g. a broker) and can therefore incur costs. In addition, investors may pay more than the current net asset value when they purchase units and receive less than the current net asset value on resale. On the secondary market, the minimum subscription and redemption of EUR 2 million does not apply. Only the usual trading conditions on this secondary market are applied.

When the stock market value of the Fund's units deviates significantly from its indicative net value, or when the Fund's units are subject to a suspension of their listing, investors may be authorised, under the conditions described below, to redeem their units on the primary market directly from the Fund without the minimum size conditions set out in the section "Subscription and redemption fees (applicable only to primary market participants)" applying.

The management company will decide on this type of opening of the primary market and its duration in accordance with the following criteria, the analysis of which will qualify the materiality of any market disruption:

- Verification of the non-occasional nature of the suspension or significant disruption of the secondary market in any stock market.
- The link between market disruption and secondary market operators (such as a failure of all or part of the Market Makers operating in a given market or a fault affecting the operational or IT systems of the stock market in question), excluding, in contrast, any disruptions that may arise due to factors external to the secondary market of the Fund's units, such as an event affecting the liquidity and valuation of all or part of the Benchmark Index components.
- The analysis of any other objective circumstance that may affect the equal treatment and/or interest of the Fund's unitholders.

By way of derogation from the fee provisions mentioned in the section "Subscription and redemption fees (applicable only to primary market participants)", the redemptions of units carried out in this case on the primary market are subject only to a maximum redemption fee of 3% payable to the Fund to cover the transaction costs incurred by the Fund.

For these exceptional cases of opening the primary market, the management company will publish on the website www.bnpparibas-am.com the procedure to be followed by investors wishing to redeem their units on the primary market. The management company will also communicate such procedure to the market company listing the units of the Fund.

#### INITIAL NET ASSET VALUE ON THE PRIMARY MARKET

1/100<sup>th</sup> of the closing level of the CAC 40<sup>®</sup> Gross Return index at the date of creation of the Fund (divided into 6 on 25 May 2018).

#### DATE AND FREQUENCY OF NET ASSET VALUE CALCULATION

Daily. The net asset value is determined on each business day on the Paris Stock Exchange, as long as the hedging of orders placed on the primary or secondary markets is made possible, with the exception of (i) days when the index is not published and (ii) days when the market(s) of the components of the index whose weighting represents a significant proportion of the index (greater than 10%) is/are closed or subject to early closure. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a net asset value is systematically determined on 31 December each year if this is a business day.

#### **INDICATIVE NET ASSET VALUE**

The Calculating Agent calculates and publishes the Fund's indicative net asset value each stock exchange trading day during trading hours.

To calculate the indicative net asset value, the Calculating Agent uses the Euronext CAC 40<sup>®</sup> ESG Gross Return index level available and published on Reuters and Bloomberg.

The stock prices of the units comprising the Euronext CAC 40<sup>®</sup> ESG Gross Return index are used to calculate the Euronext CAC 40<sup>®</sup> ESG Gross Return index level, and therefore to evaluate the indicative net asset value.

If one or more exchanges listing the units included in the index are closed, and if the calculation of the indicative net asset value is rendered impossible, trading of the Fund's units may be suspended.

Reservation thresholds are set by applying a percentage change of 1.5% on both sides of the indicative net asset value, calculated by the Calculating Agent and updated to current estimated values according to the variation of the Euronext CAC  $40^{\circ}$  ESG Gross Return index.

#### **MARKET LISTING**

The Fund's units have been traded on the Euronext Paris market since 10 March 2005.

The management company has the opportunity to request the listing of the Fund's units in other regulated markets.

Financial institutions that have signed a market-making contract concerning the Fund with Euronext undertake to ensure that the exchange price of the Fund's shares does not deviate by more than 1.5% from the instant net asset value calculated and published by Euronext.

The management company may request that the listing of the Fund's units with Euronext be interrupted where exceptional circumstances and the interest of the unitholders so require.

The distribution of the prospectus and the offer or purchase of the Fund's units may be subject to restrictions in some countries. This prospectus is neither an offer nor an act of canvassing at anyone's initiative.

Investors wishing to acquire units of the Fund in the other stock market(s) mentioned in the "Fund Overview" section are encouraged to review the operating rules of the relevant market company, where appropriate, with the assistance of their usual intermediaries for placing orders on these stock markets.

#### **M**ARKET MAKER

The financial institution market maker is BNP Paribas Arbitrage.

The market maker is committed to the market-making for the Fund units as soon as they are admitted for listing. The market maker undertakes, in particular, to carry out the market-making operations under the conditions defined with the market. This obligation is reflected in the provision of a buyer/seller price range.

The market maker is also required to ensure that the stock exchange price does not deviate significantly from the indicative net asset value as described above.

Market-maker obligations are suspended in the event of market difficulties making normal market-making management impossible.

#### **FINANCIAL YEAR END**

The last Paris Stock Exchange trading day in August.

#### **CHARGES AND FEES**

#### SUBSCRIPTION AND REDEMPTION FEES

Subscription fees increase the subscription amount paid by the investor while redemption fees decrease the redemption proceeds paid to the investor. The fees charged by the Fund serve to offset the costs incurred by the Fund when investing or divesting investors' monies. The remaining fees are paid to the management company, the promoter etc.

#### **PRIMARY MARKET**

FEES PAYABLE BY THE INVESTOR, DEDUCTED AT THE TIME OF SUBSCRIPTION AND REDEMPTION	Basis	FUND RATE/SCALE
SUBSCRIPTION FEE NOT PAYABLE TO THE FUND	Net asset value × number of units	For cash subscriptions: Maximum 3%  For subscriptions made through the contribution of financial instruments:  Maximum €10,000
SUBSCRIPTION FEE PAYABLE TO THE FUND	Net asset value × number of units	None
REDEMPTION FEE NOT PAYABLE TO THE FUND	Net asset value × number of units	For redemptions in cash:  Maximum 3%  For redemptions in financial instruments: Maximum €10,000
REDEMPTION FEE PAYABLE TO THE FUND	Net asset value × number of units	None

#### **SECONDARY MARKET**

Neither the purchase nor the sale on the regulated market of the Fund's units will result in the payment of subscription or redemption fees. However, other fees, such as stock exchange and/or intermediation fees, may be levied by financial intermediaries.

#### **MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION FEES**

These fees cover all of the costs invoiced directly to the Fund, except for transaction costs. 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.

Intermediaries are appointed by the management company at the end of a competitive process to assess counterparties or brokers, with which it initiates market operations on behalf of the Fund enabling it to achieve its management objective.

FEES CHARGED TO THE FUND	Basis	RATE/SCALE	
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE FEES EXTERNAL TO THE MANAGEMENT COMPANY INCL. TAX	Net assets	Maximum 0.25% per year incl. tax	
MAXIMUM INDIRECT CHARGES	Net assets	None	
Transaction fees	Deducted from each transaction	None	
PERFORMANCE FEE	Net assets	None	

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON TEMPORARY PURCHASES AND SALES OF SECURITIES**

None.

#### IV. COMMERCIAL INFORMATION

#### **IV.1 - SUBSCRIPTION AND REDEMPTION OF UNITS**

Pursuant to the provisions set out in the prospectus, the subscription and redemption of units in the Fund may be carried out by BNP Paribas.

#### **IV.2 - PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO UNITHOLDERS**

COMMUNICATION OF THE PROSPECTUS, REGULATIONS, KEY INVESTOR INFORMATION DOCUMENT(S) (KIIDS), THE LATEST ANNUAL AND INTERIM DOCUMENTS

The Fund prospectus, regulations, the key investor information document(s) and the latest annual and interim reports will be sent to unitholders within eight business days of receipt of a written request addressed to:

BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT France Service Client 8, rue du Port, 92728 Nanterre, France Postal address: TSA 90007, 92729 Nanterre CEDEX, France

These documents are also available online at www.bnpparibas-am.com.

#### PUBLICATION OF NET ASSET VALUE

The net asset value is available online at www.bnpparibas-am.com.

#### PROVISION OF THE FUND'S MARKETING DOCUMENTATION

The Fund's marketing documentation is available online at www.bnpparibas-am.com.

#### NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES TO THE FUND'S OPERATING PROCEDURES

Unitholders will be notified of any changes to the Fund's operating procedures, either individually, via the press or by any other means in accordance with AMF instruction no. 2011-19.

This information may be provided, where appropriate, through Euroclear France and its affiliated financial intermediaries.

## COMMUNICATION OF THE PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION TO INVESTORS SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF DIRECTIVE 2009/138/EC ("SOLVENCY II DIRECTIVE")

Under the conditions set out in AMF Position 2004-07, the management company may communicate the composition of the Fund's portfolio to unitholders subject to the requirements of the Solvency II Directive, upon expiry of a minimum period of 48 hours after publication of the Fund's net asset value.

## <u>INFORMATION RELATING TO THE SUSTAINABILITY-RELATED APPROACH OF BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT:</u>

Further information and documents on BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT's approach to sustainability are available online at https://www.bnpparibas-am.com/en/sustainability-bnpp-am/.

#### **CLASS ACTIONS POLICY**

In accordance with its policy, the management company:

- Does not participate, in principle, in active class actions (i.e. the management company shall not initiate any proceedings, act as a plaintiff or play an active role in a class action against an issuer).
- May participate in passive class actions in jurisdictions where the management company believes, at its sole discretion, that (i) the class action is sufficiently cost-effective (for example, when the expected income exceeds the foreseeable costs incurred for the proceedings); (ii) the outcome of the class action is sufficiently predictable; and (iii) the relevant data required to evaluate the eligibility of the class action is reasonably available and can be managed in an efficient and sufficiently reliable way.
- Shall transfer all sums received by the management company as part of a class action, net
  of external costs incurred, to the funds involved in the class action concerned.

The management company may modify its class actions policy at any time and may, under special circumstances, diverge from the principles described above.

The policy's principles with regard to class actions applicable to the Fund are available on the management company's website.

#### **VOTING RIGHTS POLICY INFORMATION**

The "voting policy" document may be sent to any unitholder who requests it from:

BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT France Service Client 8, rue du Port, 92728 Nanterre, France

Postal address: TSA 90007, 92729 Nanterre CEDEX, France

#### INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM THE AUTORITÉ DES MARCHÉS FINANCIERS (AMF)

The AMF website "www.amf-france.org" provides additional information about the list of regulatory documents and all of the provisions relating to investor protection.

#### **V. INVESTMENT RULES**

The Fund's investment rules are in line with the provisions of European Directive No. 2009-65 of 13 July 2009.

The Fund may use the exemption ratios set out in Article R 214-11 of the French Monetary and Financial Code. The main financial and technical management instruments used by the Fund are mentioned in the prospectus.

#### VI. OTAL RISK

The total risk is calculated using the commitment method.

#### **VII. ASSET VALUATION AND ACCOUNTING RULES**

#### **VII.1 - RULES FOR ASSET VALUATION**

The Fund complies with the accounting rules prescribed by the regulations in force and, in particular, with the accounting plan for UCITS.

The Fund's accounting currency is the euro.

All financial instruments held in the portfolio are recognised at historical cost, excluding charges.

Securities, futures and options held in the portfolio that are denominated in a foreign currency are converted to 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:

#### - LISTED FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

At stock market value – including accrued coupons (at the day's closing price).

However, financial instruments whose price is not established on the valuation day or whose price has been adjusted, and securities that are not traded on a regulated market, are valued under the responsibility of the management company at their probable trading value.

#### - UCIS

At their last known net asset value or, if unavailable, at their last estimated value.

- Negotiable debt securities and equivalent securities that are not traded in high volumes are valued using an actuarial method at a rate applicable to issues of equivalent securities, to which a differential representing the intrinsic features of the issuer is applied, if appropriate. 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: at the closing price for the day, or failing this, the last known price.

The off-balance sheet valuation is calculated on the basis of its underlying equivalent according to the delta and the price of the underlying asset and, where applicable, 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.

#### - OTC TRANSACTIONS

Futures or options transactions or currency swap transactions entered into in OTC markets and authorised by the regulations applicable to UCITS will be valued at their market value as indicated by the counterparty. This value is controlled by the implementation of the management company's valuation model using valuation tools specific to the product type.

#### - CONTRACTS AMOUNTING TO COLLATERAL

Securities received as collateral are valued on a daily basis at the market price.

#### **VII.2 - ACCOUNTING METHOD**

Interest is recorded using the interest received method.

#### **VIII - REMUNERATION**

The management company's remuneration policy has been designed to avoid conflicts of interest, protect the interests of clients and ensure that there is no incentive for excessive risk-taking.

The management company's remuneration policy implements the following principles: paying for performance, sharing the creation of wealth, aligning the long-term interests of employees and the company, and promoting an element of financial association of employees with risks.

Details of the updated remuneration policy, including, in particular, the persons responsible for allocating remuneration and benefits and a description of how these are calculated, are available online at http://www.bnpparibas-am.com/en/remuneration-policy/. A paper version is also available free of charge on written request to the management company.

PROSPECTUS PUBLICATION DATE: 31 May 2023

## 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 management regulations and the annual and semiannual reports may be obtained, free of charge, in hardcopy form at BNP Paribas Asset Management France S.A.S, 1, boulevard Haussmann, 75009 Paris, France, (AMFR.CLIENTSERVICE@bnpparibas.com), 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 16, boulevard des Italiens 75009 Paris. The issue, redemption and conversion prices, the net asset value as well as any notices to investors are also available from BNP Paribas 16, boulevard des Italiens 75009 Paris.

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, 1, boulevard Haussmann, 75009 Paris, France (AMFR.CLIENTSERVICE@bnpparibas.com).

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

No units 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 (www.bundesanzeiger.de).

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 units,
- 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.

Template pre-contractual disclosure for the financial products referred to in Article 8, paragraphs 1, 2 and 2a, of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 and Article 6, first paragraph, of Regulation (EU) 2020/852

Product name: BNP PARIBAS EASY CAC 40® ESG UCITS ETF

Legal entity identifyier: 969500TSEGX25PM05K84

### **ENVIRONMENTAL AND/OR SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS**

#### Does this financial product have a sustainable investment objective? Yes No It will make a minimum of It promotes Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics and while it does not have sustainable investments with as its objective a sustainable investment, it an environmental objective: will have a minimum proportion of 40% of sustainable investments in economic activities that with an environmental objective in qualify as environmentally economic activities that qualify as sustainable under the EU environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy Taxonomy in economic activities that do with an environmental objective in not qualify as economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable environmentally sustainable under the under the EU Taxonomy **EU Taxonomy** with a social objective It will make a minimum of It promotes E/S characteristics, but will sustainable investments with not make any sustainable investments a social objective: \_\_\_%



Sustainable investment means

an investment in an economic activity

that contributes to an environmental or

investment does not significantly harm

any environmental

or social objective

investee companies

The **EU Taxonomy** is

system laid down in

establishing a list of

**economic activities**. That Regulation does

not include a list of socially sustainable

economic activities.

investments with an

environmentally

a classification

Regulation (EU)

2020/852,

sustainable

Sustainable

environmental objective might be aligned with the Taxonomy or not.

and that the

follow good

governance

practices.

social objective, provided that the

## What environmental and/or social characteristics are promoted by this financial product?

The financial product promotes environmental and social characteristics by assessing underlying investments against Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) criteria using the index provider's ESG methodology. As such, the product is exposed to issuers that demonstrate superior or improving environmental and social practices, while implementing strong corporate governance practises in their sectors of activity.

The investment strategy selects issuers through:

- A 'positive screening' selection based on the 'selectivity' principle. This involves assessing the ESG
  performance of an issuer against a combination of environmental, social and governance factors
  which include but are not limited to:
  - Environmental: Energy efficiency, reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG), treatment of waste



- Social: Respect of human rights and workers' rights, human resources management (workers' health and safety, diversity);
- Governance: Board of Directors independence, managers' remuneration, respect of minority shareholders rights
- The exclusion criteria are applied with regard to issuers that are in violation of international norms and convention, or operate in sensitive sectors as defined by external data providers..

Furthermore, the investment manager promotes better environmental and social outcomes through engagement with issuers and the exercise of voting rights according to the Stewardship policy, where applicable.

The Euronext CAC 40 ® ESG Gross Return Index has been designated as a reference benchmark for the purpose of attaining the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product.

### What sustainability indicators are used to measure the attainment of each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by this financial product?

The following sustainability indicators are used to measure the attainment of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product, and are based on the benchmark methodology:

- The percentage of the financial product's portfolio compliant with the exclusions criteria and the benchmark minimum ESG scores;
- The percentage of the financial product's portfolio covered by ESG analysis (excluding ancillary liquid assets) based on the ESG methodology of the index provider;
- The minimum percentage of reduction in the investment universe of the financial product due to the exclusion of securities with a low ESG score and/or sector exclusions and/or any other extra financial criteria;
- The percentage of the financial product's portfolio invested in 'sustainable investments' as defined in Article 2 (17) of the SFDR regulation.

### What are the objectives of the sustainable investments that the financial product partially intends to make and how does the sustainable investment contribute to such objectives?

The objectives of the sustainable investments made by the financial product are to finance companies that contribute to environmental and/or social objectives through their products and services, as well as their sustainable practices.

The investment manager uses, as of the date of the prospectus, the internal methodology of BNP Paribas Asset Management (BNPP AM) to determine sustainable investments. This proprietary methodology, as defined in the main part of the Prospectus, integrates several criteria into its definition of sustainable investments that are considered to be core components to qualify a company as sustainable. These criteria are complementary to each other. In practice, a company must meet at least one of the criteria described below in order to be considered as contributing to an environmental or social objective:

- 1. A company with an economic activity aligned with the EU Taxonomy objectives;
- 2. A company with an economic activity contributing to one or more United Nations Sustainable Development goals (UN SDG) targets;
- 3. A company operating in high GHG emission sector that is transitioning its business model to align with the objective of maintaining the global temperature rise below 1.5° C;

Sustainability indicators measure how the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product are attained.



4. A company with best in class environmental or social practises compared to its peers within the relevant sector and geographical region.

Green bonds, social bonds and sustainability bonds issued to support specific environmental and/or social projects are also qualified as sustainable investments provided that these debt securities receive an investment recommendation 'POSITIVE' or 'NEUTRAL' from the Sustainability Centre following the issuer and underlying project assessment based on a proprietary Green/Social/Sustainability Bond Assessment methodology.

Companies identified as a sustainable investment should not significantly harm any other environmental or social objectives (the Do No Significant Harm 'DNSH' principle) and should follow good governance practices. BNP Paribas Asset Management (BNPP AM) uses its proprietary methodology to assess all companies against these requirements.

More information on  $\underline{\text{the internal methodology}}$  can be found on the website of the investment manager.

How do the sustainable investments that the financial product partially intends to make, not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective?

Sustainable investments that the financial product partially intends to make should not significantly harm any environmental or social objective (DNSH Principle). In this respect, for these sustainable investments, the investment manager commits to consider principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors by taking into account indicators for adverse impacts as defined in SFDR, and to not invest in companies that do not meet their fundamental obligations in line with the OECD Guidelines and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

How have the indicators for adverse impacts on sustainability factors been taken into account?

The investment manager ensures that throughout its investment process, sustainable investments take into account all of the main indicators for adverse impacts set out in Table 1 of Appendix 1 to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1288 by systematically implementing the pillars of its sustainability approach defined in the BNP Paribas Asset Management Global Sustainability Strategy (GSS) into its investment process and further detailed below; RBC Policy, ESG Integration; Stewardship, Stewardship, the Forward looking vision the '3Es' (Energy transition, Environmental sustainability, Equality & Inclusive Growth).

How are the sustainable investments aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights? Details:

The sustainable investments of the financial product exclude issuers in violation of the UN Global Compact Principles, OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, including the principles and rights set out in the eight fundamental conventions identified in the Declaration of the International Labour Organisation on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and the International Bill of Human Rights. This assessment is conducted within the BNPP AM Sustainability Centre on the basis of internal analysis and information provided by external experts, and in consultation with BNP Paribas Group CSR Team.

Principal adverse impacts are the most significant negative impacts of investment decisions on sustainability factors relating to environmental, social and employee matters, respect for human rights, anticorruption and antibribery matters.



The EU Taxonomy sets out a "do not significant harm" principle by which Taxonomy-aligned investments should not significantly harm EU Taxonomy objectives and is accompanied by specific EU criteria.

The "do no significant harm" principle applies only to those investments underlying the financial product that take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities. The investments underlying the remaining portion of this financial product do not take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities.

Any other sustainable investments must also not significantly harm any environmental or social objectives.



## Does this financial product consider principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors?



Yes

The product considers principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors. For the investment manager to determine which principal adverse impacts are considered and managed or mitigated, the ESG methodology and the statements of the benchmark and/or the index provider are used.

The policy applied to analyse how principal adverse impacts are considered for the financial product is based mainly on the following three pillars:

- 1. Analysis of the integrated exclusion process that leads the investment strategy to eliminate industries and behaviours that present a high risk of adverse impacts in violation of international norms and conventions and issuers that participate in activities presenting an unacceptable risk to society and/or the environment;
- 2. How the ESG scores used throughout the investment process consider in their methodology principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors, and to what extent these scores are used in the investment strategy;
- Engagement and voting policy, if any.

The Stewardship team regularly identifies adverse impacts through ongoing research, collaboration with other long term investors, and dialogue with NGOs and other experts. Engagement with issuers aims to encourage them to improve their environmental, social and governance practises and, therefore, mitigate potential adverse impacts. Voting at Annual General Meetings of companies in which the portfolio is invested aims to promote good governance and advance environmental and social issues.

Based on the above approach, the financial product considers and addresses or mitigates the following principal adverse sustainability impacts:

#### Corporate mandatory indicators:

- 1. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions
- 5. Share of non renewable energy consumption and production
- 6. Energy consumption intensity per high impact climate sector
- 7. Activities negatively affecting biodiversity sensitive areas
- 8. Emissions to water



- 9. Hazardous waste ratio
- 10. Violations of UN Global Compact principles and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises
- 11. Lack of processes and compliance mechanisms to monitor compliance with UN Global Compact principles and OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises
- 12. Unadjusted gender pay gap
- 13. Board gender diversity
- 14. Exposure to controversial weapons (anti personnel mines, cluster munitions, chemical weapons and biological weapons)

#### Corporate voluntary indicators:

#### Environment

4. Investments in companies without carbon emission reduction initiatives

#### Social

4. Lack of a supplier code of conduct

More detailed information on the manner in which principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors are considered can be found in BNPP AM's SFDR disclosure statement.

In addition, information on how the principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors have been considered over the year will be available in the annual report of the financial product.





### What investment strategy does this financial product follow?

In order to achieve its management objective, the financial product replicates an underlying index that takes into account environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria at each stage of its investment process.

For this purpose, the underlying investments of the index are evaluated against environmental, social and governance criteria using the methodology of the index provider.

The binding elements of the investment strategy described in the question below to construct the index portfolio with an improved ESG profile compared to its investment universe are constantly integrated into the methodology of the index that the financial product replicates.

In addition, the investment manager uses the internal methodology for identifying sustainable investments as mentioned in the answer to the question What are the objectives of the sustainable investments that the financial product intends to pursue in particular and how does the investments made contribute to these objectives in order to determine the issuers that contribute to environmental and/or social objectives.

The extra financial strategy of the Index may include methodological limitations such as risk related to ESG investing or index rebalancing.

- What are the binding elements of the investment strategy used to select the investments to attain each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by this financial product?
- The financial product shall comply with the exclusions criteria and minimum ESG scores of the benchmark;
- The financial product shall have at least 90% of its assets (excluding ancillary liquid assets) covered by the ESG analysis based on the ESG methodology of the index provider.

The investment strategy guides investment decisions based on factors such as investment objectives and risk tolerance.



- The investment universe of the financial product will be reduced by at least 20% due to the exclusion of securities with a low ESG score and/or sector based exclusions and/or any other extra financial criteria.
- The financial product shall invest at least 40% of its assets in 'sustainable investments' as defined in Article 2 (17) of the SFDR regulation,. Criteria to qualify an investment as' sustainable investment 'are indicated in the above question' What are the objectives of the sustainable investments that the financial product partially intends to make and does the sustainable investments contribute to such objectives' and the quantitative and qualitative thresholds are mentioned in the main part of the Prospectus.

There is no guarantee that exclusions filters and extra financial criteria are applied at all times. For example, between two index reshuffles, if a company were considered no longer to meet an ESG criterion, it can only be excluded at the next reshuffling, according to the rules of the index provider.

What is the committed minimum rate to reduce the scope of the investments considered prior to the application of that investment strategy?

The investment universe of the financial product will be reduced by at least 20% due to the exclusion of securities with a low ESG score and/or sector based exclusions and/or any other extra financial criteria.

What is the policy to assess good governance practices of the investee companies?

The ESG scoring framework assesses corporate governance, such as sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance, through a set of key performance indicators that consider in particular the board of directors, remuneration, ownership and control, and accounting practices.

Additional information on the Euronext benchmark, its composition, calculation and rules for periodic review, rebalancing and general Euronext indices methodology can be found on <a href="http://www.euronext.com/">http://www.euronext.com/</a>.

### What is the asset allocation planned for this financial product?

At least 90% of the investments of the financial product will be used to attain the promoted environmental or social characteristics (# 1 Aligned with E/S characteristics), in accordance with the binding elements of the investment strategy of the financial product.

For the avoidance of doubt, such a proportion is solely a minimum commitment and the real percentage of the investments of the financial product that attained the promoted environmental or social characteristics will be available in the annual report.

The minimum proportion of sustainable investments (# 1A Sustainable) is 40% of net assets.

The remaining proportion of the investments is mainly used as described below.

Good governance practices include sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance.



Asset allocation describes the share of investments in specific assets.



#1A Sustainable
#1A Sustainable
40%

Social
12%

#1B Other E/S
characteristics
#2 Other

**#1** Aligned with E/S characteristics includes the investments of the financial product used to attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product.

**#2 Other** includes the remaining investments of the financial product which are neither aligned with the environmental or social characteristics, nor are qualified as sustainable investments.

The category **#1 Aligned with E/S characteristics** covers:

- The sub-category **#1A Sustainable** covers sustainable investments with environmental or social objectives.
- The sub-category **#1B Other E/S characteristics** covers investments aligned with the environmental or social characteristics that do not qualify as sustainable investments.
- How does the use of derivatives attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product?

Financial derivative instruments may be used for efficient portfolio management, hedging and/or investment purposes, if applicable. These instruments are not used to attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product.



To what minimum extent are sustainable investments with an environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

The minimum proportion of sustainable investments with an environmental objective that are aligned with the EU Taxonomy is 0%.

Does the financial product invest in fossil gas and/or nuclear energy related activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy¹?



At the date of preparation of this pre contractual information document, the management company does not have the data to indicate whether or not the financial product intends to invest in fossil gas and/or nuclear energy related activities that comply with the EU taxonomy; the box No is therefore checked accordingly.

Taxonomy-aligned

- the share of revenue from green activities of investee companies
- capital expenditure (CapEx) showing the green investments made by investee companies, e.g. for a transition to a green economy.
- operational expenditure (OpEx) reflecting green operational activities of investee companies.

To comply with the EU Taxonomy, the criteria for fossil gas include limitations on emissions and switching to renewable power or low-carbon fuels by the end of 2035. For nuclear energy, the criteria include comprehensive safety and waste management rules.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Fossil gas and/or nuclear related activities will only comply with the EU Taxonomy where they contribute to limiting climate change ("climate change mitigation") and do not significantly harm an EU Taxonomy objective – see explanatory note in the left hand margin. The full criteria for fossil gas and nuclear energy economic activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy are laid down in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1214.



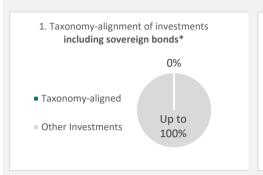
activities are expressed as a share of:turnover reflecting the share of revenue

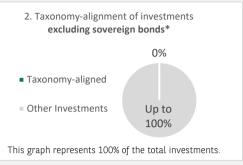
Enabling activities directly enable other activities to make a substantial contribution to an environmental objective.

Transitional activities are activities for which low-carbon alternatives are not yet available and among others have greenhouse gas emission levels corresponding to the best performance.

are
sustainable
investments with an
environmental
objective that do
not take into
account the criteria
for environmentally
sustainable
economic activities
under the EU
Taxonomy.

The two graphs below show in green the minimum percentage of investments that are aligned with the EU Taxonomy. As there is no appropriate methodology to determine the Taxonomy-alignment of sovereign bonds\*, the first graph shows the Taxonomy alignment in relation to all the investments of the financial product including sovereign bonds, while the second graph shows the Taxonomy alignment only in relation to the investments of the financial product other than sovereign bonds.





- \* For the purpose of these graphs, 'sovereign bonds' consist of all sovereign exposures
- What is the minimum share of investments in transitional and enabling activities?

The minimum proportion of investments in transitional and enabling activities within the meaning of the EU Taxonomy is 0% for transitional activities and 0% for enabling activities.



## What is the minimum share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective that are not aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

The minimum share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective that are not aligned with the EU Taxonomy is 13%.

The minimum share is intentionally low as the objective of the investment manager is not to prevent the financial product from investing in activities aligned with the EU Taxonomy.

The Management Company is improving its Taxonomy alignment data collection to ensure the accuracy and suitability of its Taxonomy sustainability related disclosures. In the meantime, the financial product will invest in sustainable investments with an environmental objective that are not aligned with the EU Taxonomy.



#### What is the minimum share of socially sustainable investments?

The minimum proportion of sustainable 'Social' investments is 12%.



What investments are included under "#2 Other", what is their purpose and are there any minimum environmental or social safeguards?

The remaining proportion of the investments may include:

- The proportion of assets that are not used to attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product. These assets are used for investment purposes, or



- instruments which are mainly used for liquidity, efficient portfolio management, and/or hedging purposes, notably cash, deposits and derivatives.

In any case, the investment manager will ensure that those investments are made while maintaining the improvement of the ESG profile of the financial product. In addition, those investments are made in compliance with our internal processes, including the following minimum environmental or social safeguards:

- the risk management policy. The risk management policy comprises procedures as are necessary to enable the management company to assess for each financial product it manages the exposure of that product to market, liquidity, sustainability and counterparty risks
- the RBC policy, where applicable, through the exclusion of companies involved in controversies due to poor practises related to human and labour rights, environment, and corruption, as well as companies operating in sensitive sectors (tobacco, coal, controversial weapons, asbestos,...), as these companies are deemed to be in violation of international norms, or to cause unacceptable harm to society and/or the environment.



Is a specific index designated as a reference benchmark to determine whether this financial product is aligned with the environmental and/or social characteristics that it promotes?

The Euronext CAC 40 ® ESG Gross Return Index has been designated as a reference benchmark for the purpose of attaining the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product.

How is the reference benchmark continuously aligned with each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product?

The sustainability factors considered by the financial product are directly linked to those of the benchmark since the investment objective of the financial product is to replicate the performance of the benchmark, including fluctuations, and to maintain the tracking error between the financial product and the benchmark below 1%.

The benchmark is rule based and therefore continuously applies its methodology, including its environmental or social characteristics.

However, there is no guarantee that extra financial criteria are applied at all times. For example, between two index reshuffles, if a company were considered no longer to meet an ESG criterion, it can only be excluded at the next reshuffling according to the index provider's rules.

How is the alignment of the investment strategy with the methodology of the index ensured on a continuous basis?

The alignment of the investment strategy with the methodology of the index is intrinsic to the investment objective of the financial product to replicate the performance of the index, including fluctuations, and to maintain the tracking error between the financial product and the benchmark below 1%.

How does the designated index differ from a relevant broad market index?

The benchmark index includes environmental or social criteria in its asset allocation methodology, whereas a relevant broad market index does not include this objective and is generally weighted by market capitalisation.

Where can the methodology used for the calculation of the designated index be found?

The methodology used to calculate the benchmark is available at <a href="http://www.euronext.com/">http://www.euronext.com/</a>.

Reference benchmarks are indexes to measure whether the financial product attains the environmental or social characteristics that they promote.





### Where can I find more product specific information online?

More product-specific information can be found on the website: <a href="www.bnpparibas-am.com">www.bnpparibas-am.com</a> after choosing the relevant country and directly in the section "Sustainability-related disclosures" dedicated to the product.



#### **MUTUAL FUND RULES**

#### BNP PARIBAS EASY CAC 40® ESG UCITS ETF

#### <u>PART I</u>

#### **ASSETS AND UNITS**

#### ARTICLE 1 - Co-ownership units

Co-owners' rights are expressed in units, with each unit corresponding to the same fraction of the assets of the Fund or, if applicable, the sub-fund. Each unitholder has a shared ownership right in the assets of the Fund, in proportion to the number of units held.

The term of the Fund is 99 years from its incorporation, except in the event of early dissolution or extension, as provided for in these regulations.

If the Fund is a Fund with sub-funds, each sub-fund issues units representing the assets of the Fund that are allocated to it. In this case, the provisions of these rules applicable to the units of the Fund apply to the units issued to represent the assets of the sub-fund.

The Fund may issue different unit classes, the characteristics and access rules of which are described in the Fund's prospectus.

The different unit classes may:

- Have different policies for allocating income.
- Be denominated in different currencies.
- Incur different management fees.
- Incur different subscription and redemption fees.
- Have a different nominal value.
- Be partially or fully hedged as a matter of course, as defined in the prospectus. This hedging is achieved by means of financial instruments minimising the impact of the hedging transactions on the Fund's other unit classes.
- Be reserved for one or more marketing networks.

The management company's governing body or its Chairman may decide to split the units into the following fractions of units: tenths, hundredths, thousandths or ten-thousandths.

The provisions of the regulations governing the issue and redemption of units are applicable to fractions of units, the value of which will always be proportional to that of the unit they represent. All other provisions of the regulations relating to units apply to unit fractions without the need to specify, except as otherwise provided.

The management company's governing body or its Chairman may unilaterally decide to divide the units by creating new units, which will be allocated to unitholders in exchange for their old units. Units may also be grouped together.

#### ARTICLE 2 - Minimum assets

Units cannot be redeemed if the assets of the Fund or, if applicable, a sub-fund, fall below the threshold established by the regulations. If the assets remain below this amount for thirty days, the management company shall take the steps required to liquidate the Fund in question or carry out one of the transactions mentioned in Article 411-16 of the AMF General Regulations (transfer of the Fund).

#### ARTICLE 3 – Issue and redemption of units

The units are issued at any time at the request of unitholders on the basis of their net asset value plus subscription fees, if any.

Redemptions and subscriptions are carried out in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the prospectus.

Units in the Fund may be listed on a stock exchange in accordance with the regulations in force.

Subscriptions must be fully paid up on the day on which the net asset value is calculated. Payments may be made in cash and/or in the form of a contribution of financial instruments. The management company is entitled to refuse the securities offered and, for this purpose, has seven days from the date of their deposit to communicate its decision. If accepted, the securities contributed are valued in accordance with the rules laid down in Article 4 and the subscription is made on the basis of the first net asset value following acceptance of the securities concerned.

Redemptions may be made in cash.

Redemptions may also be made in kind. If the redemption in kind corresponds to a representative share of the assets of the portfolio, then only a written agreement signed by the outgoing unitholder must be obtained by the UCITS or the management company. Where the redemption in kind does not correspond to a representative share of the portfolio's assets, all unitholders must provide their written agreement authorising the outgoing unitholder to redeem their units against certain specific assets, as defined explicitly in the agreement.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, when the Fund is an ETF, redemptions on the primary market may, with the agreement of the portfolio management company and in compliance with the interests of unitholders, be made in kind under the conditions defined in the Fund prospectus or regulations. Assets are delivered by the delegated issuer under the conditions set out in the Fund prospectus.

In general, redeemed assets are valued according to the rules set out in Article 4 and redemptions in kind are made based on the first net asset valuation following acceptance of the securities concerned. Redemptions are settled by the delegated issuer within five days of the units being valued.

However, if, in exceptional circumstances, redemption requires the prior disposal of assets included in the Fund, this period may be extended, but may not exceed 30 days.

Except in the event of inheritance or inter vivos gifts, the sale or transfer of units between unitholders, or between unitholders and a third party, is equivalent to a redemption followed by a subscription; if it involves a third party, the amount of the sale or transfer must, where applicable, be supplemented by the beneficiary to reach at least the minimum subscription amount required by the prospectus.

In accordance with Article L 214-8-7 of the French Monetary and Financial Code, in exceptional circumstances and when such action is required to protect the interests of unitholders, the management company may temporarily suspend redemption of units by the Fund and the issue of new units.

If the net assets of the Fund (or sub-fund, if applicable) fall below the threshold established by the regulations, no redemptions may be carried out in the Fund in question (or sub-fund, if applicable). Minimum subscription conditions may exist, in accordance with the procedures set out in the Fund's prospectus.

In accordance with the third paragraph of Article L 214-8-7 of the French Monetary and Financial Code, the Fund may fully or partially cease to issue shares temporarily or permanently in situations that objectively require the closure of subscriptions, such as reaching the maximum number of shares issued, or the maximum amount of assets, or the expiry of a specified subscription period. Existing shareholders will be informed by any means of the triggering of this tool, as well as the threshold and the objective situation that led to the decision on the partial or total closure. In the event of a partial closure, this notification by any means will explicitly specify the conditions under which existing shareholders may continue to subscribe for the duration of this partial closure. Shareholders will also be informed by any means of the UCITS' or management company's decision to either end the total or partial closure of subscriptions (once they fall below the trigger threshold) or not to end their closure (in the event of a change to the threshold or a change to the objective situation that led to the application of this tool). A change in the stated objective situation or the triggering threshold of the tool must always be made in the interest of the shareholders. Information by any means will specify the exact reasons for such amendments.

#### ARTICLE 4 - Calculation of the net asset value

The net asset value of the unit is calculated in accordance with the valuation rules set out in the prospectus.

Contributions in kind may only comprise stocks, securities and contracts admissible as UCITS assets. Contributions and redemptions in kind are valued according to the valuation rules governing the calculation of the net asset value.

#### **PART II**

#### **OPERATION OF THE FUND**

#### ARTICLE 5 - The management company

The Fund is managed by the management company in accordance with the Fund's investment strategy.

The management company acts in all circumstances in the exclusive interest of unitholders and has sole authority to exercise the voting rights attached to the securities included in the Fund.

#### ARTICLE 5A – Operating rules

The instruments and deposits eligible to form part of the Fund's assets and the investment rules are described in the prospectus.

#### **ARTICLE 6 – Depositary**

The depositary undertakes the tasks incumbent upon it pursuant to the laws and regulations in force as well as those that are contractually assigned to it by the management company. Specifically, it must ensure that the decisions taken by the management company are lawful. It shall, where appropriate, take any precautionary measures that it deems necessary. In the event of a dispute with the management company, it shall inform the French Financial Markets Authority (AMF).

If the Fund is a feeder AIF, the depositary will have entered into an agreement to exchange information with the depositary of the master UCITS; or, where applicable, if it is also the depositary of the UCITS or master, it will have issued appropriate terms and conditions.

#### ARTICLE 7 – Statutory auditor

A statutory auditor is appointed by the management company's governing body or its Chairman for six financial years, following authorisation by the AMF.

The statutory auditor certifies that the financial statements are true and fair.

The statutory auditor's mandate may be renewed.

The statutory auditor is required to notify the AMF as soon as possible of any fact or decision relating to the Fund that they discover while carrying out an audit, which could:

- 1. Constitute a breach of the legislative or regulatory provisions that apply to the Fund, and which may have a significant impact on the Fund's financial position, income or assets;
- 2. Impair the conditions or continuity of its operation:
- 3. Result in the issuance of reserves or the refusal to certify the accounts.

For the purpose of any conversion, merger or spin-off, assets are valued and exchange ratios determined under the statutory auditor's supervision.

The statutory auditor is responsible for reviewing any contributions or redemptions in kind, except in the case of redemptions in kind for an ETF on the primary market.

The statutory auditor checks the composition of the assets and other information prior to publication.

The statutory auditor's fees are determined by mutual agreement between the auditor and the board of directors or supervisory board of the management company on the basis of a schedule of work indicating all the duties required. The statutory auditor certifies the financial statements serving as the basis for the payment of interim dividends.

If the Fund is a feeder AIF:

- The statutory auditor will have entered into an agreement to exchange information with the statutory auditor of the master UCITS or AIF.
- When the statutory auditor acts for both the feeder AIF and the master UCITS or AIF, they must draw up an appropriate schedule of work.

The statutory auditor's fees are included in the management fees.

#### ARTICLE 8 – The financial statements and the management report

At the end of each financial year, the management company draws up the summary documents and issues a report on the Fund's management and, if applicable, one relating to each sub-fund during the past financial year.

The management company prepares an inventory of the Fund's assets at least every six months, under the supervision of the depositary.

The management company shall make these documents available to unitholders within four months of the end of the financial year and shall inform unitholders of the amount of income to which they are entitled: these documents shall either be sent by post at the specific request of the unitholders, or made available at the management company's premises.

#### **PART III**

#### INCOME ALLOCATION POLICY

#### <u>ARTICLE 9 – Income allocation policy</u>

The net income for the financial year is equal to the amount of the interest, arrears, dividends, premiums and allotments, directors' fees and any other proceeds from the securities constituting the Fund's portfolio, and, if applicable, each sub-fund, plus the income from sums temporarily available and minus the management fees and borrowing costs.

Distributable income is equal to:

- 1) Net profit or loss for the financial year plus the surpluses carried forwards, plus or minus the balance of accrued income
- 2) The capital gains, net of charges, minus capital losses, net of charges, realised during the financial year, plus net capital gains of the same kind recorded during previous financial years which were not accumulated, plus or minus the balance of accrued capital gains.

The management company decides on the allocation of distributable income (income and net realised capital gains). It may also decide to pay interim dividends and/or carry forward the net income and/or net realised capital gains.

The Fund may issue different unit classes, for which the distributable income allocation policy is described in the prospectus.

#### PART IV

#### MERGER - SPLIT - DISSOLUTION - LIQUIDATION

#### ARTICLE 10 - Merger - Split

The management company can either assign, in full or in part, the assets included in the Fund to another UCITS or AIF, or split the Fund into two or more other mutual funds.

These merger or split transactions may only be carried out after the unitholders have been advised of them. They entail the issue of a new certificate specifying the number of units held by each holder.

The provisions of this Article will apply, if applicable, to each sub-fund.

#### <u>ARTICLE 11 – Dissolution – Extension</u>

If the assets of the Fund or, where applicable, of the sub-fund, remain below the amount set out in Article 2 above for 30 days, the management company will inform the AMF and will dissolve the Fund or, where applicable, the sub-fund, except in the event of a merger with another Fund.

The management company may dissolve the Fund or, if applicable, a sub-fund, early; it shall advise the unitholders of its decision and, from that date on, requests for subscription or redemption will no longer be accepted.

The management company will also dissolve the Fund or, where applicable, the sub-fund, in the event of a request for redemption of all units, the termination of the duties of the depositary, if no other depositary has been appointed, or at the end of the term of the Fund, if this term has not been extended.

The management company shall advise the AMF by letter of the dissolution date and procedure agreed. It shall then send the statutory auditor's report to the AMF.

The management company may, in agreement with the depositary, decide to extend a Fund. Its decision must be taken at least three months before the expiry of the term planned for the Fund and must be brought to the attention of the unitholders and the AMF.

#### **ARTICLE 12 – Liquidation**

In the event of dissolution, the management company shall assume the duties of liquidator; failing this, the liquidator is appointed by the court at the request of any interested person. For this purpose, it is vested with the widest powers to liquidate assets, pay off any creditors and distribute the available balance among the unitholders in cash or securities.

The statutory auditor and the depositary shall continue to perform their duties until the end of the liquidation operations.

The assets of the sub-funds are allocated to the respective unitholders of these sub-funds.

#### **PART V**

#### **DISPUTES**

#### ARTICLE 13 - Jurisdiction - Address for service

All disputes relating to the Fund that may arise during the period of its operation, or during its liquidation, either between unitholders or between unitholders and the management company or the depositary, are subject to the jurisdiction of the competent courts.

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