

# iShares ETF III (CH)

Umbrella Fund under Swiss Law of the "Securities Funds" Type

**Prospectus with Integrated Fund Contract** 

November 2024

Distribution in Switzerland, Germany and Liechtenstein

## Part 1: Prospectus

This prospectus with integrated fund contract, the key information document (KID) or equivalent and the most recent annual or semi-annual report (if published after the latest annual report) serve as the basis for all subscriptions of units in the subfunds.

Only the information contained in the prospectus, the key information document (KID) or equivalent and the fund contract will be deemed to be valid. BlackRock Asset Management Schweiz AG as the fund management company, is responsible for the content of this prospectus and declares that, according to their knowledge, the information contained in this prospectus is accurate and no material facts have been omitted.

#### 1 Information on the Umbrella Fund and the Subfunds

#### 1.1 Establishment of the Umbrella Fund and the Subfunds in Switzerland

The Fund Contract of the iShares ETF III (CH) contains the following subfund:

**Bond Index Exchange Traded Funds** 

iShares Core CHF Corporate Bond ETF (CH)

The fund contract was drawn up by BlackRock Asset Management Schweiz AG as fund management company and, with the consent of the State Street Bank International GmbH, Munich, Zurich Branch as custodian bank, submitted to the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority FINMA and approved by FINMA for the first time on 8 November 2024.

The subfund is subject to the usual market fluctuations. Historical performance is no guarantee of the subfund's future returns.

## 1.2 Tax Regulations Relevant to the Subfunds

Reclaims of Withholding Tax by the Funds / Investors

The umbrella fund and the subfunds have no legal personality in Switzerland. They are not subject to tax on income or capital.

The Swiss federal withholding tax deducted from the subfunds' domestic income can be reclaimed in full for the subfunds by the fund management company.

Distributions of income made by the subfunds (to investors domiciled in Switzerland and abroad) are subject to Swiss federal withholding tax (source tax) at 35%. Any capital gains paid on a separate coupon are not subject to withholding tax.

Investors domiciled in Switzerland may reclaim the deducted withholding tax via their tax returns or by submitting a separate refund application.

Investors domiciled outside Switzerland may reclaim withholding tax under the terms of any double taxation treaty between Switzerland and their country of domicile. If no such treaty exists, then the withholding tax may not be reclaimed.

The issuing and redemption of units in the fund are exempt from stamp duty. The trading of units on the secondary market is subject to stamp duty.

Based on the provisions of the directive issued by the Council of the European Union in respect of the taxation of interest income, and under the terms of the agreement reached between Switzerland and the EU as part of bilateral negotiations, Switzerland is obliged to retain tax on certain interest payments made by investment funds and subfunds, in the case of both distributions of income and the sale or redemption of units of funds and subfunds, in respect of natural persons whose tax domicile is in an EU member state. In accordance with this agreement, Swiss collective investment schemes or subfunds which – as is the case with the subfunds in question here – do not meet the requirements for the affidavit procedure and where withholding tax is due on distributions, are not subject to the agreement. Consequently, the Swiss paying agent does not retain savings tax in such cases. A foreign paying agent may, however, retain savings tax.

Furthermore, both earnings and capital gains, whether distributed or reinvested, and depending on the person who holds the units either directly or indirectly, may be subject wholly or in part to a so-called paying agency tax (e.g., compensatory withholding tax, EU savings tax, or Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act FATCA).

This tax information is based on the current legal situation and practice in Switzerland. It is subject to changes in legislation, the decisions of the courts and the decrees and practices of the tax authorities.

Taxation and other tax implications for investors who hold, buy or sell fund units are defined by the tax laws and regulations in the investor's country of domicile. For information on such matters, investors should consult their tax advisor.

The tax status of the umbrella fund and the subfunds is as follows:

#### EU savings tax

The income distributed and/or the interest realized on the sale or redemption of units is not subject in Switzerland to EU savings tax.

## FATCA and other cross border reporting systems

The subfunds are classified as "registered deemed compliant collective investment vehicles (CIV)" within the meaning of the agreement between Switzerland and the United States on cooperation to simplify the implementation of FATCA "Swiss/US IGA". The fund management company (Fondsleitung) is registered with the US tax authorities as registered deemed compliant foreign financial institution ("FFI") pursuant to the US-Swiss Agreement to Improve International Tax Compliance and to Implement FATCA (the "US-Swiss IGA"). The custodian bank is registered with the US tax authorities as a participating foreign financial institution ("pFFI") pursuant to the US-Swiss IGA and pursuant to sections 1471 through 1474 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, including the corresponding rulings. The US-Swiss IGA was entered into with the intention of enabling the Swiss implementation of the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act provisions of the U.S. Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act ("FATCA"), which impose a new reporting regime and potentially a 30% withholding tax on certain payments made from (or attributable to) US sources or in respect of US assets to certain categories of recipient including a non-US financial institution (a "foreign financial institution" or "FFI") that does not comply with the terms of FATCA and is not otherwise exempt. Certain financial institutions ("reporting financial institutions") are required to provide certain information about their US accountholders to the US Internal Revenue Service pursuant to the terms of an FFI Agreement (as defined in the US-Swiss IGA, which has been implemented by Swiss regulations). The umbrella fund will constitute a reporting financial institution for these purposes. Accordingly, the umbrella fund will be required to enter into and comply with the terms of an FFI Agreement (as defined in the US-Swiss IGA), including the requirement to provide certain information about its US investors to the US Internal Revenue Service. It is the intention of the umbrella fund and the fund management company to procure that the umbrella fund complies with the terms of FATCA by entering into and complying with the terms of an FFI Agreement (as defined in the US-Swiss IGA) and all other terms of the reporting system contemplated by the US-Swiss IGA. No assurance can, however, be provided that the umbrella fund would be able to comply with FATCA

and, in the event that it is not able to do so, a 30% withholding tax may be imposed on payments it receives from (or which are attributable to) US sources or in respect of US assets, which may reduce the amounts available to it to make payments to its investors.

Switzerland and a number of other jurisdictions have also announced that they propose to enter into multilateral arrangements modelled on the Common Reporting Standard for Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), pursuant to which certain financial institutions (also described as "reporting financial institutions") will be required to provide certain information to their local tax authorities about accountholders from the jurisdictions which are party to such arrangements (which information will in turn be provided to the relevant tax authorities). If such arrangements are implemented into Swiss law, it is currently expected that the umbrella fund would constitute a reporting financial institution for these purposes.

In light of the above, investors in the umbrella fund will be required to provide certain information to the umbrella fund to comply with the terms of the reporting systems. Please note that the fund management company has determined that US persons are not permitted to own units in the umbrella fund.

#### 1.3 Financial Year

The financial year lasts from 1 June to 31 May (applies to all subfunds).

#### 1.4 Auditor

The auditor is Deloitte AG, Zurich.

#### 1.5 Units

Units will not take the form of actual certificates but will exist purely as book entries.

The subfunds are not currently divided into unit classes. There is only one unit class: class A.

## 1.6 Listing of the Subfunds on SIX Swiss Exchange Ltd

The subfunds' units are, or will be, listed according to the collective investment schemes standard of SIX Swiss Exchange Ltd ("SIX Swiss Exchange") and are thus also referred to as exchange traded funds ("ETF"). The Admission Board of SIX Swiss Exchange has approved the listing. Trading in the fund units on SIX Swiss Exchange is conducted solely in Swiss francs (CHF).

The listing of the units on SIX Swiss Exchange is aimed at providing investors with an additional opportunity for the direct subscription/redemption of units from/by the fund management company or its selling agents, and to facilitate the purchase and sale of the units on a liquid, regulated secondary market, i.e. via the stock exchange. Details regarding the purchase of units on the primary or secondary market are explained below in cipher 1.7.

The complete and up-to-date list of the institution/s nominated by the fund management company in order to assume the functions as market maker for the trading of the units of the subfunds listed on the SIX is available and freely accessible on the website of the SIX: www.six-swiss-exchange.com.

It is possible that further market makers will be appointed in the future. Any other market makers will be disclosed to the FINMA. A market maker is responsible for maintaining a market for the traded fund units and, in this connection, for entering bid and ask prices for the subfunds' units in the SIX Swiss Exchange trading system.

The FINMA has obliged the fund management company to ensure that the spread between the relevant net asset value per unit (calculated on the basis of the net asset value per unit and adjusted to reflect trading-induced changes in the prices of securities included in the benchmark index, i.e. intraday net asset value) and the price at which investors can buy and sell units on SIX Swiss Exchange is kept down to a reasonable level

Under a cooperation agreement between the fund management company, on the one hand, and the market makers, on the other, the latter are obliged, within a certain framework and under normal market conditions, to maintain a market for the fund's units on SIX Swiss Exchange and, in this connection, to enter bid and ask prices for fund units in the SIX Swiss Exchange trading system, which, under normal market conditions, will not exceed a spread of 1% for government bonds with a maturity of three years upwards or of 1% for investment-grade bonds and 0.5% for government bonds with a maturity of less than three years (0.5% or 0.25% respectively on either side of the intraday net asset value) for the Bond Index ETF.

SIX SIS Ltd is responsible for clearing activities.

#### 1.7 Terms for the Issue and Redemption of Subfund Units

Investors have the right to acquire (subscribe) or sell (redeem) fund units on the primary or secondary market. The primary market is where the units are issued and redeemed by the fund management company or its distributors. The conditions described in cipher 1.71 apply in this regard. On the secondary market, the units are bought or sold via the exchange pursuant to the conditions described in cipher 1.7.2.

## 1.7.1 Acquisition and Redemption of Subfund Units on the Primary Market

Subfund units will be issued and redeemed on every bank working day (Monday to Friday). No issues or redemptions will take place on Swiss public holidays (Easter, Whitsun, Christmas (including Christmas Eve), New Year (including 31 December and 1 and 2 January), 1 August, etc.), or on days when the stock exchanges and markets in the main investment countries of a subfund are closed, or when 30% or more of the subfund's investments cannot be valued, or under the exceptional circumstances defined under § 17 prov. 4 of the fund contract.

In the event of a subscription, every Investor may apply to make deposits into the Fund's portfolio instead of making payment in cash ("contribution in kind"). In the event of a termination, every investor may apply to have assets transferred to them instead of payment in cash ("redemption in kind"). The application must be submitted together with the subscription / termination. The fund management company is not obliged to permit contributions and redemptions in kind.

The decision on contributions and redemptions in kind lies with the fund management company alone, and it approves such transactions only if the execution of the transactions is fully in accordance with the investment policy of the umbrella fund or the respective subfund and if the interests of the other investors are not impaired.

The details of contributions and redemptions in kind are governed by § 17 prov. 7 of the fund contract.

Subscription and redemption orders received at the latest by the time stated in the table at the end of the prospectus on a given bank working day (order day) will be processed on the next bank working day on the basis of the net asset value calculated for the order day. The net asset value taken as the basis for the settlement of the order is not known when the order is placed (forward pricing). The net asset value is calculated on the valuation day on the basis of the closing prices on the order day.

The issue and redemption prices are rounded up or down to four places after the decimal point of the unit of account. Payments for units issued or redeemed will be made two bank working days after the order day at the latest (value date max. 2 days).

Units will not take the form of actual certificates but will exist purely as book entries.

The fund management company and the custodian bank may, within the scope of their sales activities, refuse subscription orders and may suspend or limit the sale, distribution or transfer of units to individuals or corporate bodies in particular countries or areas.

#### Directed Cash Dealings

If any investor on the primary market making a cash subscription or redemption wishes to have the underlying securities traded with a particular designated broker (i.e. a directed cash subscription or redemption), that investor would need to specify such instructions in underlying securities with the designated broker. Investors that wish to select a designated broker are required, prior to the transaction in the underlying securities, to contact the relevant portfolio trading desk of the designated broker to arrange the trade.

If an application resulting in a creation is accepted as a directed cash subscription, as part of the investor's settlement obligations, the investor would be responsible for (i) ensuring that the designated broker transfers to the subfund (via the custodian) the relevant underlying securities, and (ii) paying the fees and costs charged by the designated broker for selling the relevant underlying securities to the subfund plus any associated incidental costs (such as standard brokerage charges, commission, taxes and duties, transaction costs (such as execution and any positive or negative slippage costs incurred)), to reflect the cost of execution.

If a dealing request resulting in a redemption is accepted as a directed cash redemption, the investor is responsible for (i) ensuring that the designated broker purchases the relevant underlying securities from the subfund, and (ii) paying the fees and costs charged by the designated broker for purchasing the relevant underlying securities from the subfund plus any associated incidental costs (such as standard brokerage charges, commission, taxes and duties, transaction costs (such as execution and any positive or negative slippage costs incurred)), to reflect the cost of execution.

The fund management company (or delegate) will not be responsible, and shall have no liability, if the execution of the underlying securities with a designated broker and, by extension, an investor's subscription or redemption order, is not carried out due to an omission, error, failed or delayed trade or settlement on the part of the investor or the designated broker. Should an investor or the designated broker to which the investor directed the underlying securities transaction default on, delay settlement of, or change the terms of, any part of the underlying securities transaction, the investor shall bear all associated risks and costs, including costs incurred by the subfund and/or the fund management company (or delegate) as a result of the delay to the underlying securities transaction. In such circumstances, the subfund and the fund management company (or delegate) have the right to transact with another broker and to amend the terms of the investor's subscription or redemption, including the subscription price and/or redemption proceeds, to take into account the default, delay and/or the change to the terms.

The following applies to the subfunds

## **Bond Index Exchange Traded Funds**

#### iShares Core CHF Corporate Bond ETF (CH)

The issue price corresponds to the net asset value calculated on the valuation day, plus any incidental costs (such as standard brokerage charges, commission, taxes and duties, transaction costs (such as execution and any positive or negative slippage costs)) incurred by the corresponding subfund in connection with the investment of the amount paid in, plus the issuing commission. The maximum amounts for the incidental costs and the issuing commission are set out in the table at the end of the prospectus.

The redemption price corresponds to the net asset value calculated on the valuation day, less any incidental costs (such as standard brokerage charges, commission, taxes and duties, transaction costs (such as execution and any positive or negative slippage costs)) incurred by the corresponding subfund in connection with the sale of that portion of investments corresponding to the redeemed unit(s), less the redemption commission. The maximum amounts for the incidental costs and the redemption commission are set out in the table at the end of the prospectus.

The fund management company may on the request of an investor in the primary market charge incidental costs on the basis of a fixed rate ("fixed issue and redemption fees") provided that the investment or sale of the net amount of subscriptions or redemptions received on an order day for which the charges of the incidental costs was chosen to be on a fixed rate basis have no significant negative effect on the subfund's assets ("net" means the difference between the subscription and redemption requests on the relevant order day).

Fixed issue and redemption fees may be set at a different rate for subscriptions and redemptions. The maximum applicable rates for the fixed issue and redemption fees and for the effective incidental costs are shown in the table at the end of the prospectus.

The indicative threshold value of net subscriptions and redemptions that can be executed at a fixed rate of costs, and the rate for fixed issue and redemption fees, are established daily and available from the fund management company on request. Calculation of the indicative threshold value and the rate for fixed issue and redemption fees takes account of the incidental costs that are expected to be incurred on average from the investment or sale of the corresponding portion of the assets on the day in question.

The fund management company has delegated the setting of an indicative threshold value and the rate for fixed issue and redemption fees to BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited, London.

## 1.7.2 Acquisition and Redemption of Units on the Secondary Market

In contrast to subscriptions and redemptions on the primary market, the issuing and redemption commissions set out in § 18 of the fund contract do not apply to the purchase and sale of fund units via the stock exchange. Investors need only bear the customary stock exchange fees for such transactions.

Such transactions are conducted in a similar way to the purchase or sale of equities via SIX Swiss Exchange. The market price of a unit listed or traded on the SIX Swiss Exchange may not reflect the net asset value per unit of an exchange traded fund. The purchase and sale of units takes place at current market prices. The investor will therefore experience substantially greater pricing fluctuations than is the case with the purchase or redemption of units through the fund management company or its selling agents (i.e., on the primary market).

As with the purchase of equities, a limit may also be imposed on buy and sell orders (limit orders).

If the SIX Swiss Exchange - the exchange on which the units are listed - is closed, no trading in the units shall take place.

#### 1.8 Treatment of Income

The income is distributed within four months of the end of the financial year.

## 1.9 Investment Objective, Investment Policy and Investment Restrictions of the Subfunds, and their Use of Derivatives

The investment objective of the subfunds is to match the benchmark indices specified below as closely as possible.

Detailed information on the investment policy and its restrictions, as well as the permitted investment techniques and instruments (in particular derivative financial instruments and their scope) are contained in the fund contract (cf. Part 2, §§ 7–15 of the fund contract).

# 1.9.1 Investment Objective and Investment Policy of the Subfunds iShares Core CHF Corporate Bond ETF (CH)

The aim of this subfund is to replicate the performance of the SBI® Corporate Total Return benchmark index through the use of the optimized sampling approach. In some cases, the subfund may invest in a representative selection of securities from the benchmark index rather than in all the securities in the index. Futures on Swiss franc-denominated bonds issued by the Swiss Confederation may also be used, but shall generally account for only a small portion of the fund assets. In addition, the subfund may also invest in Swiss franc-denominated bonds and other fixed or variable-rate debt instruments and rights which are not contained in the benchmark index. However, their risk properties must be comparable with those of the benchmark index securities and the use of such securities must not result in any deviation from the investment objectives or in any alteration of the investment character of this subfund. Selection is facilitated by a system that takes account of both quantitative factors as well as factors that determine returns. The portfolio may be limited to a representative selection of securities from the benchmark index, or expanded to include securities not contained in the index, owing to the investment restrictions set out below, to other legal or statutory restrictions, to costs and expenses incurred by the subfund, or to the illiquidity of certain securities.

The bonds and any other fixed- or variable-rate debt instruments and rights must have an SBI® composite rating of at least BBB or be deemed by the fund management company to have an equivalent borrower rating. For the assessment of borrower ratings, the SBI® uses the ratings of international rating agencies and – for the Swiss domestic segment – those produced by the Fedafin rating agencies and by selected Swiss banks. For details of the SBI® composite rating please see http://www.six-swiss-exchange.com/indices/bonds/sbi de.html.

iShares Core CHF Corporate Bond ETF (CH) is a subfund of the "securities funds" type.

The subfunds' assets may be concentrated in a smaller number of issuers than those represented in the index, thus leading to an increase in the securities-specific risks. Debt instruments which amount to more than 10% of the volume of the respective issue may not be acquired for the subfund

Including derivatives, the fund management company may invest up to a maximum of 10% of the fund's assets in securities issued by the same issuer.

The primary risks for the subfund are that the income and value of the units are subject to fluctuations arising from the fluctuations in income and value of the stocks contained in the benchmark index. Debt securities and rights are subject to market fluctuations. The value of these investments is influenced by interest rate fluctuations. In addition, debt instruments and rights are exposed to the risk of the borrower defaulting and no longer being able to meet his payment obligations (issuer risk). The use of optimized sampling as well as investing in assets not contained in the benchmark index may result in deviations from the benchmark index.

The SBI® Corporate Total Return reflects the performance, including coupon payments, of the Swiss franc-denominated corporate bonds listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange and meeting the acceptance criteria for the SBI®. The SBI® Corporate Total Return is a subindex of the SBI® and comprises corporate bonds issued by domestic and foreign borrowers with a fixed interest rate. To be included in the index, a bond must also exhibit an SBI® composite rating of at least BBB, a residual term of at least one year and an issue volume of at least CHF 100 million. Each bond contained in the index is weighted in accordance with its market capitalization. Index compositions are periodically updated by the SIX Index Ltd based on the index regulations. For the last available composition of the SBI® and index regulations, as well as other information on the index (e.g., rebalancing frequency), please see www.six-swiss-exchange.com.

## 1.9.2 Possibility to invest more than 35% of the fund assets in publicly guaranteed or issued investments

For certain subfunds as provided for in § 15 of the fund contract, the fund management company may invest up to 100% of the assets in securities or money market instruments from the same issuer provided they are issued or guaranteed by an OECD country, a public law entity from the OECD, or by public international bodies of which Switzerland or a member state of the European Union are members. In this case, and unless otherwise stated in the investment policy in this prospectus and in § 15 of the fund contract for specific subfunds, the respective subfunds must invest in securities or money market instruments from at least six different issues and no more than 30% of the assets of each subfund concerned may be invested in securities or money market instruments of the same issue.

The above-mentioned authorized issuers and/or guarantors include: OECD countries: European Union (EU), Council of Europe, Eurofinanz, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (The World Bank), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Investment Bank, The Inter-American Development Bank, Nordic Development Bank, The Asian Development Bank and African Development Bank

The abovementioned conditions are applicable to the same extent for collateral management purposes in case of deviation from the rule set forth in Art. 52 let. a CISO-FINMA in conjunction with Art. 83 para. 2 CISO (see prov. 1.9.3 and § 10 prov. 5, § 11 prov. 9 and § 12 prov. 4 let. d of the fund contract).

# 1.9.3 Collateral strategy for financial derivative transactions, securities lending transactions and repurchase/reverse repurchase agreements

Collateral transferred in relation to derivatives, securities lending or repurchase transactions must comply with applicable regulations.

Subject to the framework of agreements in place with the relevant counterparty, which may or may not include minimum transfer amounts, it is the intention of the fund management company that any collateral received shall have a value, adjusted in light of the haircut policy, which equals or exceeds the relevant counterparty exposure where appropriate.

Only collateral that meets the following requirements may be accepted:

- a. It is highly liquid and is traded at a transparent price on an exchange or other regulated market open to the public. It can be disposed of at short notice at a price close to the valuation undertaken prior to sale.
- b. It is valued at least on each trading day. Where price volatility is high, suitable conservative haircuts must be applied.

- c. It is not issued by the counterparty or by a company that belongs to or is dependent on the counterparty's group.
- d. The credit quality of the issuer is high.
- e. It is sufficiently diversified in terms of country, markets and issuers with a maximum exposure to a given issuer of 10% of a subfund's net asset value. When a subfund is exposed to different counterparties the different baskets of collateral should be aggregated to calculate the 10% limit of exposure to a single issuer. The exemptions for publicly guaranteed or issued investments pursuant to Art. 83 CISO are reserved (see cipher 1.9.2); and
- f. It is capable of being fully enforced by the fund management company at any time without reference to or approval from the counterparty.

Non- cash collateral cannot be lent, sold, re-invested or pledged.

Cash as collateral may only be used as liquid assets or invested in high-quality government bonds and directly or indirectly in short-term money market instruments or used for the purposes of reverse repurchase agreements.

Re-invested cash collateral should be diversified in accordance with the diversification requirements applicable to non-cash collateral.

The fund management company has implemented a haircut policy in respect of each class of assets received as collateral. A haircut is a discount applied to the value of a collateral asset to account for the fact that its valuation, or liquidity profile, may deteriorate over time. The haircut policy takes account of the characteristics of the relevant asset class, including the credit standing of the issuer of the collateral, the price volatility of the collateral and the results of any stress tests which may be performed in accordance with the collateral management policy.

## 1.9.4 Investment Restrictions of the Subfunds

Detailed information on the subfunds' investment restrictions can be found in the fund contract (see Part 2, § 15).

#### 1.9.5 Securities Lending

For the account of the subfunds, the fund management company may lend all types of securities which are traded on an exchange or other regulated market open to the public. However, it may not lend securities that have been acquired under a reverse repo transaction.

The fund management company may lend the securities in its name and for the account of the subfunds to a borrower (as principal) or appoint an intermediary (as agent) to make the securities at the disposal of the borrower. The fund management company appoints the asset manager, BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited, as the securities lending agent (the "Lending Agent").

The fund management company, or the Lending Agent on its behalf, shall only carry out securities lending transactions with first-class, regulated borrowers or intermediaries which are specialized in transactions of this type, such as banks, brokers and insurance companies, as well as authorized and recognized central counterparties and central securities depositories that guarantee the proper execution of the security lending transactions

If the fund management company, or the Lending Agent on its behalf, must observe a notice period, which may not be more than 7 bank working days, before it can legally dispose of the loaned securities again, it may not lend more than 50% of the eligible holding of a particular security per subfund. However, if the borrower or the intermediary provides the fund management company, or the Lending Agent on its behalf, with a contractual assurance that the latter may legally dispose of the securities lent on the same or next bank working day, the entire holdings of particular instrument type eligible for lending may be lent. There is always such a contractual commitment for securities lending performed by the Lending Agent.

The fund management company, or the Lending Agent on its behalf, shall conclude an agreement with the borrower or intermediary whereby the latter shall pledge or transfer collateral pursuant to Art. 51 CISO-FINMA to the fund management company, or the Lending Agent on its behalf, for the purposes of guaranteeing restitution. The value of the collateral must be appropriate and at all times be at least equal to the market value of the loaned securities. The issuer of the collateral must have a high credit rating and the collateral shall not be issued by the counterparty or a company belonging to or depending of the group of companies of the counterparty. The collateral must be highly liquid, traded at a transparent price on an exchange or other regulated market open to the public and valued at least on every exchange trading day. When managing the collateral, the fund management company and/or its agents must comply with the obligations and requirements pursuant to Art. 52 CISO-FINMA. In particular, they must adequately diversify the collateral in respect of countries, markets and issuers, whereby an appropriate diversification of issuers shall be assumed, if the collateral issued by any single issuer does not account for more than 20% of net asset value of a subfund, subject to exemptions for publicly guaranteed or issued investments pursuant to Art. 83 CISO. Further, in the event of default by the counterparty, the fund management company and/or its agents must be able to obtain at any time the power of disposal and the right for disposal over the collateral received without involving the counterparty or obtaining its consent. The collateral received shall be kept safe with the custodian bank. The collateral received may be held on behalf of the fund management company with a regulated third party depository provided the ownership on the collateral is not transferred and the third party depository is independent of the counterparty.

The borrower or intermediary is liable for ensuring the prompt, unconditional payment of any income accruing during the lending period, as well as for the assertion of other proprietary rights and for the contractually agreed return of securities of the same type, quantity and quality.

The custodian bank shall ensure that the securities lending transactions are handled in a secure manner in line with the agreements and in particular shall monitor compliance with the requirements relating to collateral. Throughout the duration of the lending transactions it shall also be responsible for the administrative duties assigned to it under the custody account regulations and for asserting all rights associated with the loaned securities, provided these have not been ceded under the terms of an applicable framework agreement.

Under the terms of the written agreement between the fund management company and the Lending Agent, the Lending Agent is appointed to manage the securities lending activities of the relevant subfunds and is entitled to share in the revenue earned from such activities. The income earned from securities lending will be allocated between the relevant subfunds and the Lending Agent at normal commercial rates. The Lending Agent's agreed revenue share is currently 37.5% of the total income generated from securities lending. The Lending Agent must meet all costs and expenses associated with securities lending out of this share. The remaining income, 62.5%, will be paid to the relevant subfunds and used in accordance with the relevant investment policy. This revenue share may change, subject to the fund management company being satisfied that any new terms reflect normal commercial rates. Financial information with respect to securities lending for the subfunds will be included in the annual reports and audited financial statements. The fund management company will, at least annually, review the securities lending arrangements and associated costs.

The relative maximum limit for securities lending is 100%. Securities lending is associated with risks. As a result of securities lending, ownership of the securities lent is transferred to the borrower. With the exception of cases in which the fund management company's exposure is covered by collateral, the fund management company assumes the risk that the borrower may go bankrupt, become insolvent, be subject to insolvency proceedings or comparable proceedings, or that the borrower's assets may be seized or blocked (counterparty risk). Securities lending does not affect the market risk and liquidity risk of securities.

## 1.9.6 Repurchase Agreements

For the account of the subfunds, the fund management company may enter into repurchase agreements. Repurchase agreements can be concluded as either "repos" or "reverse repos".

A "repo" is a legally binding transaction whereby one party (the borrower or repo seller) undertakes to temporarily transfer ownership of specific securities to another (the lender or repo buyer) against remuneration, while the lender undertakes to return to the borrower securities of the same type, quantity and quality at the end of the repo term together with any income earned during such term. The price risk associated with the securities shall be borne by the borrower for the duration of the repo transaction.

From the perspective of the counterparty (lender or repo buyer), a "repo" is a "reverse repo". By means of a "reverse repo", the lender acquires securities for investment purposes and at the same time agrees to return securities of the same type, quantity and quality and to transfer all income received during the term of the reverse repurchase agreement.

The fund management company may conclude repurchase agreements in its name and for the account of the subfunds (as principal) or appoint an intermediary (as agent) to conclude repurchase agreements with a counterparty. The fund management company appoints the asset manager, BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited, as the agent (the "Repo Agent").

The fund management company, or the Repo Agent on its behalf, shall only carry out repurchase transactions with first-class, regulated borrowers or intermediaries which are specialized in transactions of this type, such as banks, brokers and insurance companies, as well as authorized and recognized central counterparties and central securities depositories that guarantee the proper execution of the repurchase transactions.

The custodian bank shall ensure that the repurchase agreements are conducted in a secure manner and that the contractual terms are complied with. It shall ensure that fluctuations in the value of the securities used in the repo transactions are daily compensated in cash or securities (mark to market). Throughout the duration of the repurchase agreement, it is also responsible for the administrative duties assigned to it under the custody account regulations and for asserting all rights pertaining to the securities used in the repo transactions, provided these have not been ceded under the terms of an applicable framework agreement.

For repo transactions, the fund management company, or the Repo Agent on its behalf, may use all types of securities which are traded on a stock exchange or other regulated market open to the public. It may not use securities acquired under a reverse repo for repo transactions.

If the fund management company, or the Repo Agent on its behalf, must observe a notice period, which may not be more than 7 bank working days, before it can legally dispose of the securities used in a repo transaction again, it may not lend more than 50% of the particular type of security eligible for repo transactions. However, if the lender provides the fund management company, or the Repo Agent on its behalf, with a contractual assurance that the latter may legally dispose over the securities used in the repo transaction on the same or next bank working day, the entire holdings of a particular type of security eligible for repo transactions may be used.

Concluding repo transactions is deemed to be borrowing pursuant to § 13, unless the money received is used to acquire securities of the same type, quality, creditworthiness and maturity in conjunction with the conclusion of a reverse repo.

With regard to "reverse repos", the fund management company, or the Repo Agent on its behalf, may only acquire collateral pursuant to Art. 51 CISO-FINMA. The issuer of the collateral must have a high credit rating and the collateral shall not be issued by the counterparty or a company belonging to or depending on the group of companies of the counterparty. The collateral must be highly liquid, traded at a transparent price on an exchange or other regulated market open to the public and valued at least on every exchange trading day. When managing the collateral, the fund management company and/or its agents must comply with the obligations and requirements pursuant to Art. 52 CISO-FINMA. In particular, they must adequately diversify the collateral in respect of countries, markets and issuers, whereby an appropriate diversification of issuers shall be assumed, if the collateral issued by any single issuer does not account for more than 20% of net asset value of a subfund, subject to exemptions for publicly guaranteed or issued investments pursuant to Art. 83 CISO. Further, in the event of default by the counterparty, the fund management company and/or its agents must be able to obtain at any time the power of disposal and the right for disposal over the collateral received without involving the counterparty or obtaining its consent. The collateral received shall be kept safe with the custodian bank. The collateral received may be held on behalf of the fund management company with a regulated third party depository provided the ownership on the collateral is not transferred and the third party depository is independent of the counterparty.

Claims arising from "reverse repos" are deemed to be liquid assets pursuant to § 9 and not lending (Kreditgewährung) pursuant to § 13.

The relative maximum limit for repurchase agreements is 100%. Repurchase agreements are associated with risks. The lender bears the risk that the borrower does not fulfil its obligation to repurchase the securities at the agreed price and date. The borrower is exposed to the risk that the lender does not fulfil its obligation to repurchase the securities (counterparty risk). The repurchase agreement does not affect the market risk or the liquidity risk. Repurchase agreements are collateralised by securities whose value may fluctuate due to changes in market conditions, credit risk or other factors. If the value of the collateral falls below the agreed threshold, the lender can demand additional collateral or initiate a margin call to cover losses. If the transferee does not provide additional collateral or fails to honour the margin call, the lender may realise the collateral, which may result in losses if the value of the collateral is insufficient to cover the outstanding obligations.

#### 1.9.7 Use of Derivatives by the Subfunds

The fund management company may use derivatives. However, even under extreme market circumstances, the use of derivatives may not result in a deviation from the investment objectives or a change in the investment character of the subfund.

Commitment I approach is applied for the assessment of risk.

Derivatives form part of the investment strategy and are not used solely to hedge investment positions.

Only basic forms of derivatives may be used, i.e. call or put options, swaps and futures and forward transactions, as described in more detail in the fund contract (cf. § 12), and only as long as the underlying securities are permitted as investments under the investment policy. The derivative transactions may be concluded on either a stock exchange or another regulated market open to the public, or in OTC (over-the-counter) trading. In addition to the market risks, derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, i.e. the risk that the party to the contract fails to meet its obligations and thus causes a financial loss.

Even under extraordinary market circumstances, the use of these instruments may not result in the subfunds' assets being leveraged, neither may they correspond to a short sale.

## 1.10 Net Asset Value

The net asset value of a unit of a subfund is determined by the market value of that subfund's assets, minus all that subfund's liabilities, divided by the number of units of that subfund in circulation. The net asset value shall be rounded up or down to four places after the decimal point of the unit of account. Incidental costs (such as standard brokerage charges, commission, taxes and duties, transaction costs (such as execution and any positive or negative slippage costs)) effectively incurred by a subfund for the purchase and sale of investments in connection with the

investment of the amount paid in, or with the sale of that portion of investments corresponding to the redeemed unit(s), will be charged to that subfund's assets

#### 1.11 Fees and Incidental Costs

Details on the fees and incidental costs for each subfund, together with the issue and redemption commission for each unit class, are set out in the table at the end of the prospectus.

The fees and incidental costs listed under § 19 of the fund contract may also be charged to the subfunds.

The following applies to all subfunds:

Information on the flat fee actually charged is stated in the table at the end of the prospectus and can also be found in the annual and semi-annual reports.

The flat fee payable to the fund management company is used for the administration, asset management and, if applicable, distribution activity of the subfunds as well as for the remuneration of the services performed by the custodian bank such as safekeeping of the fund assets, the handling of payment transactions and other tasks listed under § 4 of the fund contract.

In addition, the following services of third parties are remunerated by this commission, namely: Tax reporting, index and data licenses, iNAV services, publications, audit, external legal advice and tax advice, translations, typesetting and other services.

In addition, rebates and remuneration for certain other services pursuant to the sub-section "Payment of retrocessions and rebates" of the prospectus are paid out of the flat fee of the fund management company.

#### 1.11.1 Total Expense Ratio ("TER")

The coefficient of the total costs charged to the subfunds' assets on an ongoing basis (total expense ratio, TER) was: cf. table at the end of the prospectus.

#### 1.11.2 Payment of retrocessions and rebates

The fund management company, its agents and the custodian bank generally do not pay retrocessions as remuneration for distribution activity in respect of share of the subfunds in or from Switzerland. In the context of the performance of the fund business, in individual cases and at their discretion the fund management company and its agents may pay third parties fees on the basis of written agreements for the performance of specific services, for example, to facilitate joint marketing initiatives, to train and educate clients and client advisers, to report on trading in the secondary market, and to provide access to fund holding data which is otherwise unavailable.

In the case of distribution activity in or from Switzerland, the fund management company and its agents may, upon request, pay rebates directly to investors for the purpose of reducing the fees or costs incurred by the investor in question. Rebates are permitted provided that a) they are paid from fees received by the fund management company and therefore do not represent an additional charge for the assets of the respective subfund; b) they are granted on the basis of objective criteria; and c) all investors who meet these objective criteria and demand rebates are also granted these within the same timeframe and to the same extent.

The objective criteria for the granting of rebates by the fund management company are as follows:

- the level of investment in a collective investment or range of collective investments or other portfolio managed by the fund management company or its agents; and
- the willingness of an investor to provide support during a fund's inception phase.

Upon request of the investor, the fund management company must disclose the relevant amounts of rebates free of charge.

## 1.11.3 Fee-Sharing Agreements and Non-Pecuniary Benefits ("Commission Sharing Agreements" and "Soft Commissions")

The fund management company has not concluded any commission sharing agreements or agreements in respect of "soft commissions".

## 1.11.4 Investments in associated collective investment schemes

No issuing and redemption commission is charged for investments in collective investment schemes that are managed directly or indirectly by the fund management company itself or by a company with which it is related by virtue of common management or control or by way of a significant direct or indirect stake (related target funds).

## 1.12 Access to the Reports

The prospectus with integrated fund contract, the key information document (KID) or equivalent and the latest annual or semi-annual reports may be obtained free of charge from the fund management company, the custodian bank and all selling agents.

The holdings of the subfunds are published daily and can be found under  $\underline{www.ishares.com}.$ 

#### 1.13 Legal Form of the Fund

The umbrella fund is an umbrella fund under Swiss law of the type "securities fund" in accordance with the Federal Act on Collective Investment Schemes of 23 June 2006.

The subfunds are based upon a collective investment agreement (fund contract), under which the fund management company undertakes to provide the investor with a stake in the corresponding subfund in proportion to the units acquired by the said investor, and to manage this subfund in accordance with the provisions of the law and the fund contract. The custodian bank is party to the fund contract in accordance with the tasks conferred upon it by the law and the fund contract.

Investors are only entitled to the assets and income of the subfund in which they have invested. Liabilities that are attributable to an individual subfund will be borne solely by the said subfund.

In accordance with the fund contract, the fund management company is entitled to establish, liquidate or merge unit classes for each subfund at any time, subject to the consent of the custodian bank and the approval of the supervisory authority.

## 1.14 Risk Factors

Risks specific to investing in index-tracking exchange traded funds (ETFs)

#### Index Tracking Risks

While the funds seek to track the performance of their respective Benchmark Indices, whether through a replication or optimising strategy, there is no guarantee that they will achieve perfect tracking and the funds may potentially be subject to tracking error risk, which is the risk that their returns may not track exactly those of their respective Benchmark Indices, from time to time. This tracking error may result from an inability to hold the exact constituents of the Benchmark Index, for example where there are local market trading restrictions, small illiquid components and/or where the Regulations limit exposure to the constituents of the Benchmark Index.

The table below displays the anticipated tracking error, in normal market conditions, of the subfunds against each subfund's Benchmark Index. The anticipated tracking error of a subfund is not an indication of its future performance. The annual and semi-annual reports include the actual realised tracking errors as at the end of the period under review.

Subfund	Anticipated tracking error					
iShares Core CHF Corporate Bond ETF (CH)	Up to 0.2%					

#### Optimising strategy

It may not be practical or cost efficient for certain funds to replicate their respective Benchmark Indices. Where it is not part of a fund's investment policy to replicate its Benchmark Index, such fund may use optimisation techniques to track the performance of their respective Benchmark Indices. Optimisation techniques may include the strategic selection of some (rather than all) of the securities that make up the Benchmark Index, holding securities in proportions that differ from the proportions of the Benchmark Index and/or the use of derivatives to track the performance of certain securities that make up the Benchmark Index. The asset manager may also select securities which are not underlying constituents of the relevant Benchmark Index where such securities provide similar performance (with matching risk profile) to certain securities that make up the relevant Benchmark Index. Optimising funds may potentially be subject to tracking error risk, which is the risk that their returns may not track exactly those of their respective Benchmark Indices.

#### Index-Related Risks

As prescribed by this Prospectus, in order to meet its investment objective, each Fund seeks to achieve a return which corresponds generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the relevant Benchmark Index as published by the index provider. There is no assurance that the index provider will compile the Benchmark Index accurately, or that the Benchmark Index will be determined, composed or calculated accurately. While the index provider does provide descriptions of what the Benchmark Index is designed to achieve, the index provider does not provide any warranty or accept any liability in relation to the quality, accuracy or completeness of data in respect of their indices, and does not guarantee that the Benchmark Index will be in line with their described index methodology. The asset manager's mandate as described in this Prospectus is to manage the funds consistently with the relevant Benchmark Index provided to the asset manager. Consequently, the asset manager does not provide any warranty or guarantee for index provider errors. Errors in respect of the quality, accuracy and completeness of the data may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected for a period of time, particularly where the indices are less commonly used. Therefore gains, losses or costs associated with index provider errors will be borne by the funds and their unitholders. For example, during a period where the Benchmark Index contains incorrect constituents, a Fund tracking such published Benchmark Index would have market exposure to such constituents and would be underexposed to the Benchmark Index's other constituents. As such, errors may result in a negative or positive performance impact to the funds and their unitholders. Unitholders should understand that any gains from index provider errors will be kept by the funds and their unitholders.

Apart from scheduled rebalances, the index provider may carry out additional ad hoc rebalances to the Benchmark Index in order, for example, to correct an error in the selection of index constituents. Where the Benchmark Index of a fund is rebalanced and the fund in turn rebalances its portfolio to bring it in line with its Benchmark Index, any transaction costs (including any capital gains tax and/or transaction taxes) and market exposure arising from such portfolio rebalancing will be borne directly by the fund and its unitholders. Unscheduled rebalances to the Benchmark Indices may also expose the funds to tracking error risk, which is the risk that its returns may not track exactly those of the Benchmark Index. Therefore, errors and additional ad hoc rebalances carried out by the index provider to a Benchmark Index may increase the costs and market exposure risk of the relevant fund.

## Primary / Secondary Market Trading Risk

The units will generally be traded on the main market of the SIX Swiss Stock Exchange and may be listed or traded on one or more other stock exchanges. There can be no certainty that there will be liquidity in the units on any one or more of the stock exchanges or that the market price at which units may be traded on a stock exchange will be the same as the Net Asset Value per units. There can be no guarantee that once the units are listed or traded on a stock exchange they will remain listed or traded on that stock exchange. Costs incurred in connection with trading activities on the primary market may be higher as the fund management company may charge the investor incidental costs incurred by the corresponding subfund in connection with the purchase or sale of that portion of investments corresponding to the subscribed or redeemed unit(s) as well as an issue or redemption commission.

## Counterparty and trading risks

## Counterparty Risk

The fund management company will be exposed to the credit risk of the parties with which it transacts and may also bear the risk of settlement default. Credit risk is the risk that the counterparty to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation or commitment that it has entered into with the fund management company. This would include the counterparties to any derivatives that it enters into. Trading in derivatives which

have not been collateralised gives rise to direct counterparty exposure. The fund management company mitigates much of its credit risk to its derivative counterparties by receiving collateral with a value at least equal to the exposure to each counterparty but, to the extent that any derivative is not fully collateralised, a default by the counterparty may result in a reduction in the value of the Fund. A formal review of each new counterparty is completed and all approved counterparties are monitored and reviewed on an ongoing basis. The fund management company maintains an active oversight of counterparty exposure and the collateral management process.

#### Specific investment risks for all subfunds

#### Sustainability Risks

Sustainability risk is an inclusive term to designate investment risk (probability or uncertainty of occurrence of material losses relative to the expected return of an investment) that relates to environmental, social or governance issues.

Sustainability risk around environmental issues includes, but is not limited to, climate risk, both physical and transition risk. Physical risk arises from the physical effects of climate change, acute or chronic. For example, frequent and severe climate-related events can impact products and services and supply chains. Transition risk whether policy, technology, market or reputation risk arises from the adjustment to a low-carbon economy in order to mitigate climate change. Risks related to social issues can include but are not limited to labour rights and community relations. Governance related risks can include but are not limited to risks around board independence, ownership & control, or audit & tax management. These risks can impact an issuer's operational effectiveness and resilience as well as its public perception, and reputation affecting its profitability and in turn, its capital growth, and ultimately impacting the value of holdings in a subfund.

These are only examples of sustainability risk factors and sustainability risk factors do not solely determine the risk profile of the investment. The relevance, severity, materiality and time horizon of sustainability risk factors and other risks can differ significantly by subfunds.

Sustainability risk can manifest itself through different existing risk types (including, but not limited to, market, liquidity, concentration, credit, asset-liability mismatches etc.). By way of example, a subfund may invest in the equity or debt of an issuer that could face potentially reduced revenues or increased expenditures from physical climate risk (e.g. decreased production capacity due to supply chain perturbations, lower sales due to demand shocks or higher operating or capital costs) or transition risk (e.g. decreased demand for carbon-intensive products and services or increased production costs due to changing input prices). As a result, sustainability risk factors may have a material impact on an investment, may increase the volatility, affect liquidity and may result in a loss to the value of units in a subfund.

The impact of those risks may be higher for subfunds with particular sectoral or geographic concentrations e.g., subfunds with geographical concentration in locations susceptible to adverse weather conditions where the value of the investments in the subfunds may be more susceptible to adverse physical climate events or subfunds with specific sectoral concentrations such as investing in industries or issuers with high carbon intensity or high switching costs associated with the transition to low carbon alternatives, may be more impacted by climate transition risks.

All or a combination of these factors may have an unpredictable impact on the relevant subfund's investments. Under normal market conditions such events could have a material impact on the value of units of the subfund.

Assessments of sustainability risk are specific to the asset class and to the fund's objective. Different asset classes require different data and tools to apply heightened scrutiny, assess materiality, and make meaningful differentiation among issuers and assets. Risks are considered and risk managed concurrently, by prioritizing based on materiality and on the subfund's objective.

While index providers do provide descriptions of what each Benchmark Index is designed to achieve, index providers do not generally provide any warranty or accept any liability in relation to the quality, accuracy or completeness of data in respect of their benchmark indices, nor any guarantee that the published indices will be in line with their described benchmark index methodologies. Errors in respect of the quality, accuracy and completeness of the data may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected for a period of time, in particular where the indices are less commonly used.

The impacts of sustainability risk are likely to develop over time and new sustainability risks may be identified as further data and information regarding sustainability factors and impacts becomes available.

#### Securities Lending Risk

The fund management company participates in a securities lending programme through the asset manager.

The credit risk exposure to a borrower counterparty of a securities lending contract ("Borrower") includes a possible delay, or failure, by a Borrower to return the securities lent when due. In order to mitigate the credit risk exposure to the Borrower, the lending of a fund's securities must be covered by high quality and liquid collateral received by the fund under a title transfer arrangement. Such collateral must maintain an equivalent market value to the fund's securities lent.

The fund's securities may not be segregated from the Borrower's own assets, therefore the fund may have a right to the return of equivalent assets rather than the original securities loaned by the fund to the Borrower. A fund's securities can be lent to counterparties over a period of time.

In the event of a Borrower default, there may be a risk of a delay in receiving collateral, or a possible loss of rights in the collateral. The fund may lose its rights to collateral if a defaulting Borrower becomes insolvent, whereby the fund may gain ownership of the collateral and become an unsecured creditor against the insolvent Borrower.

If a Borrower does not return a fund's securities as agreed, the fund's ability to participate in a corporate action event may be impacted, or the fund may experience losses, if the proceeds received from liquidating the collateral do not at least equal the value of the loaned security at the time the collateral is liquidated. In addition, the fund may also incur greater transaction costs if it must purchase replacement securities. Such an event may also trigger adverse tax consequences for a fund.

There may be instances where a fund's exposure to a borrower is not fully collateralised, if the Borrower does not provide additional collateral when required (for example due to timing issues arising from payment lags). Such failure, combined with a fall in the market value of the collateral below that of the value of the securities lent (for example where collateral is denominated in a currency other than the currency of the securities lent due to movements in foreign exchange rates) may result in a reduction in the value of the fund and thereby a reduction in the value of an investment in the fund. To mitigate these risks, the fund benefits from a collateral shortfall indemnity provided by BlackRock, Inc, whereby the fund is reimbursed by BlackRock Inc. if the value of the collateral received from the Borrower does not cover the value of the securities loaned by the fund

There may be market risks associated with securities lending, market events (for example corporate actions) could cause the fund to lend securities that are trading at a premium due to increased demand, or to recall loaned securities, or to lend less securities, or none at all which could lead to reduced securities lending revenue. If a fund were to lend out securities that are subject to a corporate action, in the event a Borrower does not return a fund's securities as agreed, the fund's ability to participate in a corporate action event may be impacted. In addition, if a fund were to lend out securities that are subject to a corporate action and commits to the Borrower a particular election as determined by the asset manager, the benefit the fund receives in respect of committing to such election may, or may not, be less than the benefit it would have received from making a different election in such corporate action.

Investors should note that a limitation of maximum securities lending levels by a fund, at a time when demand exceeds those maximum levels, may reduce potential income to a fund that is attributable to securities lending.

There may be operational risks associated with securities lending, such as losses resulting from settlement problems or settlement defaults or time gaps between the calculation of risk exposure and the provision of additional collateral. Substitutions of collateral can cause issues with the accounting process.

The fund may also be exposed to legal risk, which is the risk of loss due to the unexpected application of a law or regulation, or because a court declares a contract not legally enforceable. It is possible that the aforementioned, or potential additional government regulation and other developments in the market could adversely affect the fund's ability to terminate existing securities lending agreements, to realise amounts to be received under such agreements, to exercise other default rights, or to restrict transfers of credit support if the borrower and/or its affiliates are subject to certain types of resolution or insolvency proceedings.

## Risks specific to subfunds focusing on specific markets

#### Concentration Risk

If the Benchmark Index of a fund concentrates in a particular country, region, industry, group of industries or sector, that fund may be adversely affected by the performance of those securities and may be subject to price volatility. In addition, a fund that concentrates in a single country, region, industry or group of countries or industries may be more susceptible to any single economic, market, political, sustainability-related or regulatory occurrence affecting that country, region, industry or group of countries or industries.

#### **Investments in Smaller Companies**

The securities of smaller companies tend to be more volatile and less liquid than the securities of large companies. As securities of smaller companies may experience more market price volatility than securities of larger companies, the Net Asset Value of any Funds which invest in smaller companies may reflect this volatility. Smaller companies, as compared with larger companies, may have a shorter history of operations, may not have as great an ability to raise additional capital, may have a less diversified product line making them susceptible to market pressure and may have a smaller public market for their securities.

Investment in smaller companies may involve relatively higher investment costs and accordingly investment in funds which invest in smaller companies should be viewed as a long-term investment. Such funds may however dispose of an investment made by it within a relatively short period of time, for example, to meet requests for redemption of units.

As a result of the above risks, a fund's investments can be adversely affected and the value of your investments may go up or down.

## Risks related to investment in Fixed Income Funds

## Corporate Bonds

A corporate bond fund may invest in corporate bonds issued by companies within a range of credit worthiness if the relevant fund's Benchmark Index does not apply any minimum credit rating requirement to its constituents.

Corporate bonds may be upgraded or downgraded from time to time due to a perceived increase or reduction in the credit worthiness of the companies issuing the bonds.

Where the Benchmark Index of a fund imposes specific credit rating requirements for bonds to be included in the Benchmark Index (e.g. investment grade bonds or non / sub investment grade bonds) and bonds that make up the Benchmark Index are downgraded, upgraded or have their credit ratings withdrawn by the relevant credit rating agencies such that they no longer meet the credit rating requirements of the Benchmark Index, the fund may continue to hold the relevant bonds until such time as these bonds cease to form part of the Fund's Benchmark Index and the fund's position in such bonds can be liquidated. Sub-investment grade bonds are generally riskier investments, involving a higher risk of default by the issuer, than investment grade bonds. A default by the issuer of a bond is likely to result in a reduction in the value of that Fund.

Although a fund may invest in bonds that are traded on the Secondary Market, the Secondary Market for corporate bonds can often be illiquid and therefore it may be difficult to achieve fair value on purchase and sale transactions.

Cash interest rates vary over time. The price of corporate bonds will generally be affected by changing interest rates and credit spread which in turn may affect the value of your investment. Bond prices move inversely to interest rates, so generally speaking the market value of a bond will decrease as interest rates increase. The credit rating of an issuing company will generally affect the yield that can be earned on a bond; the better the credit rating the smaller the yield.

#### Risks specific to use of Derivatives

#### **Derivative Risks**

Each fund may use derivatives for the purposes of efficient portfolio management or, where stated in the investment policy of a fund, for direct investment purposes. Such instruments involve certain special risks and may expose investors to an increased risk of loss. These risks may include credit risk with regard to counterparties with whom the fund trades, the risk of settlement default, lack of liquidity of the derivatives, imperfect tracking between the change in value of the derivatives and the change in value of the underlying asset that the Fund is seeking to track and greater transaction costs than investing in the underlying assets directly.

In accordance with standard industry practice when purchasing derivatives, a fund may be required to secure its obligations to its counterparty. For non-fully funded derivatives, this may involve the placing of initial and/or variation margin assets with the counterparty. For derivatives which require a fund to place initial margin assets with a counterparty, such assets may not be segregated from the counterparty's own assets and, being freely exchangeable and replaceable, the Fund may have a right to the return of equivalent assets rather than the original margin assets deposited with the counterparty. These deposits or assets may exceed the value of the relevant fund's obligations to the counterparty if the counterparty requires excess margin or collateral. In addition, as the terms of an derivatives may provide for one counterparty to provide collateral to the other counterparty to cover the variation margin exposure arising under the derivatives only if a minimum transfer amount is triggered, the fund may have an uncollateralised risk exposure to a counterparty under a derivative up to such minimum transfer amount. A default by the counterparty in such circumstances will result in a reduction in the value of the Fund and thereby a reduction in the value of an investment in the fund

Additional risks associated with investing in derivatives may include a counterparty breaching its obligations to provide collateral, or due to operational issues (such as time gaps between the calculation of risk exposure to a counterparty's provision of additional collateral or substitutions of collateral or the sale of collateral in the event of a default by a counterparty), there may be instances where a fund's credit exposure to its counterparty under a derivative is not fully collateralised but each fund will continue to observe specific set out in this context limits. The use of derivatives may also expose a fund to legal risk, which is the risk of loss due to the unexpected application of a law or regulation, or because a court declares a contract not legally enforceable.

#### Other general risks

#### Operational Risk

The Fund Management Company is exposed to operational risks arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund Management Company's service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or systems failures. The Fund Management Company seeks to reduce these operational risks through controls and procedures and, through its monitoring and oversight of other service providers, also seeks to ensure that such service providers take appropriate precautions to avoid and mitigate risks that could lead to disruptions and operating errors. However, it is not possible for the Fund Management Company and other service providers to identify and address all of the operational risks that may affect a fund or to develop processes and controls to completely eliminate or mitigate their occurrence or effects. A funds' operations (including investment management, securities lending, distribution, collateral management, administration and currency hedging) are carried out by several service providers which are selected based on a rigorous due diligence process. Nevertheless, the Fund Management Company and other service providers may experience disruptions or operating errors such as processing errors or human errors, inadequate or failed internal or external processes, or systems or technology failures, provision or receipt of erroneous or incomplete data, resulting in operational risk which may have a negative effect on the funds' operations and may expose the funds to a risk of loss. This can manifest itself in various ways, including business interruption, poor performance, information systems malfunctions or failures, provision or receipt of erroneous or incomplete data or loss of data, regulatory or contractual breaches, human error, negligent execution, problems in the settlement and accounting process, employee misconduct, fraud or other criminal acts. Investors could experience delays (for example, delays in the processing of subscriptions, switching and redemption of units) or other disruptions. While the Fund Management Company seeks to minimise operational errors as set out above, there may still be failures that could cause losses to a fund and reduce the value of the fund.

#### Liquidity Risk

A fund's investments may be subject to liquidity constraints, which means they may trade less frequently and in small volumes. Securities of certain types, such as bonds, may also be subject to periods of significantly lower liquidity in difficult market conditions. As a result, changes in the value of investments may be more unpredictable. In certain cases, it may not be possible to sell the security at the price at which it has been valued for the purposes of calculating the Net Asset Value of the fund or at a value considered to be fairest. Reduced liquidity of a fund's investments may result in a loss to the value of your investment.

## 1.15 Liquidity Risk Management

The Fund Management Company has implemented an appropriate liquidity risk management to monitor the liquidity of the sub-funds on a monthly basis. The Fund Management Company monitors the liquidity risks of the sub-funds under different scenarios based on defined liquidity thresholds. The monitoring process is designed to filter funds that may have greater exposure to liquidity/redemption risk than other funds. The filtered funds are reviewed by risk managers in more detail. The liquidity screening process is based on up-to-date data and a wide range of liquidity measures are used, including (but not limited to) days to trade, redemption coverage ratio as well as liquidity stress testing. The liquidity risks identified are disclosed in cipher 1.14 "Risk factors".

## 2 Information on the Fund Management Company

## 2.1 General Information on the Fund Management Company

The fund management company of the umbrella fund and subfunds is BlackRock Asset Management Schweiz AG.

The fund management company is a Swiss stock corporation, which was originally registered on 17 June 2005 in the Commercial Register in Canton Geneva as Barclays Global Investors Schweiz AG. The fund management company's registered office was moved to Zurich on 6 December 2006. The fund management company was acquired by BlackRock Inc. on 1 December 2009 and renamed BlackRock Asset Management Schweiz AG. The fund management company has been active in the international fund business since 2014 as the fund management company of the Swiss BlackRock funds.

## 2.2 Additional Information on the Fund Management Company

As at 31 December 2022, the fund management company manages 23 Swiss domiciled collective investment schemes, with assets under management of about USD 17 billion.

The fund management company BlackRock Asset Management Schweiz AG is registered with the US tax authorities as a "registered deemed compliant FFI" within the meaning of the agreement between Switzerland and the United States on cooperation to simplify the implementation of FATCA (Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act) "Swiss/US IGA". Investors should also read the information set out under the heading "FATCA and other cross-border reporting systems", particularly in relation to the consequences of the umbrella fund being unable to comply with the terms of such reporting systems.

Address: BlackRock Asset Management Schweiz AG,

Bahnhofstrasse 39, CH-8001 Zurich www.blackrock.com

## 2.3 Governing bodies

#### **Board of Directors**

Website:

- Mirjam Staub-Bisang, Chair
- Barry O'Dwyer, Vice-Chair
- Dirk Klee, Delegate
- Ellen Bakke Mawdsley, member
- Soren Mose, member

#### **Executive Committee**

- Dirk Klee, CEO
- Birgit Ludwig, COO
- Serge Lauper, member, Investment Management Infrastructure
- Robert Majewski, member, Risk and Quantitative Analysis
- Frank Rosenschon, member, Institutional Client Business
- Holger Schmidt, member, Product Oversight and Governance
- Simon Widmer, member, Legal & Compliance

## 2.4 Subscribed and Paid-in Capital

The fully paid in share capital of the fund management company was CHF 1'000'000 on 31 December 2023, divided into 1'000 registered shares with a value of CHF 1'000 each.

The fund management company is part of the BlackRock Group, of which BlackRock Inc. (listed on a stock exchange in the USA) is the parent company.

## 2.5 Delegation and Sub-delegation of Investment Decisions and Other Specific Tasks

Investment decisions in respect of the following subfund has been delegated to BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited, London:

## iShares Core CHF Corporate Bond ETF (CH)

Further, the fund management company has delegated parts of the fund administration to State Street Bank International GmbH, Munich, Zurich Branch (the "Fund Administration").

## 2.6 Exercising of Membership and Creditors' Rights

The fund management company exercises the memberships' rights (voting rights) and creditors' rights associated with the investments of the subfunds it manages independently and exclusively in the interests of the investors. The fund management company will, upon request, provide the investors with information on exercising of membership and creditors' rights.

In the case of scheduled routine transactions, the fund management company is free to exercise membership and creditors' rights itself or to delegate their exercise to the custodian bank or a third party.

In the case of all other events that might have a lasting impact on the interests of the investors, such as, in particular, the exercise of membership and creditors' rights the fund management company holds as a shareholder or creditor of the custodian bank or another related legal entity, the fund management company will exercise the voting rights itself or issue explicit instructions. In such cases, it may base its actions on information it receives from the custodian bank, the portfolio manager, the company or from proxy advisers and other third parties, or on information it learns from the press.

The fund management company is free to waive the exercise of membership and creditors' rights.

## 3 Information on the Custodian Bank

#### 3.1 General information on the Custodian Bank

The custodian bank is State Street Bank International GmbH, Munich, Zurich Branch, Beethovenstrasse 19, 8027 Zurich, Switzerland. The custodian bank is a bank within the meaning of the Swiss Federal Law on Banks and Savings Banks (Bundesgesetz über die Banken und Sparkassen) and meets the requirements of Art. 72 CISA. The Custodian is a branch of State Street Bank International GmbH, Munich, a bank organized under German law, which is itself an indirect subsidiary of State Street Corporation, Boston (MA). The equity of State Street Bank International GmbH, Munich amounted to EUR 109,368,445.00 as at 31 December 2023.

#### 3.2 Further information on the Custodian Bank

The main activities of State Street Bank International GmbH. Munich. Zurich Branch are:

- Custodian bank for Swiss investment funds,
- Global securities administration for Swiss and foreign institutional clients and investment funds or other open-ended or closed-ended collective investment schemes,
- Paying agent and representative function for Swiss and foreign investment funds,
- Payment transactions for institutional clients,
- Lending business in connection with global securities administration or custodian bank business.

The custodian bank may delegate the safekeeping of the assets of the subfunds to third-party custodians and central securities depositaries in Switzerland and abroad, provided this is in the interests of proper safekeeping. This entails the following risks, among others: settlement risks, i.e. the untimely receipt or delivery of securities, country risk in the event of insolvency and, especially in emerging markets, political risks. In relation to financial instruments, the fund assets may only be transferred to regulated third-party custodians and central securities depositaries. This does not apply to mandatory safekeeping at a location where the transfer to regulated third-party custodians or central securities depositaries is not possible, in particular due to mandatory legal provisions or the modalities of the investment product. The use of third-party custodians and central securities depositaries means that deposited securities are no longer owned solely by the fund management company, which instead becomes only a co-owner. If the third-party custodians and central securities depositaries are not supervised, they are unlikely to meet the organizational requirements applied to Swiss banks. The Custodian Bank is liable for damage or loss caused by its agents unless it is able prove that it exercised the due diligence required in the circumstances in respect of selection, instruction, and monitoring.

The custodian bank is registered with the US tax authorities as a "participating foreign financial institution (pFFI)" within the meaning of the agreement between Switzerland and the United States on cooperation to simplify the implementation of FATCA (Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act) "Swiss/US IGA" and of Section 1471–1474 of the US Internal Revenue Code, including related decrees. The custodian bank is a "Reporting Financial Institution under Model 2 IGA" and the FATCA GIIN number is JR3CY0.99999.SL.756. Investors should also read the information set out under the heading "FATCA and other cross-border reporting systems", particularly in relation to the consequences of the umbrella fund being unable to comply with the terms of such reporting systems.

The custodian bank is part of an international enterprise. In connection with the execution of subscriptions and redemptions and the maintenance of business relations, data and information on clients, their business relation to the custodian bank (including information about the beneficial owner) as well about the business dealings in accordance with applicable laws may be forwarded to group companies of the custodian bank outside Switzerland, to its delegates and agents outside Switzerland, to the fund management company. By subscribing for a unit, the investor agrees that the Fund Management Company and any person acting on behalf of the fund may inspect all information concerning the place of custody and the number of units. These service providers and the fund management company are obliged, to keep and treat the information confidential and to use the received information and data exclusively for the aim, they have been provided to the service providers. The data protection regulations outside Switzerland may deviate from the Swiss regulations and do not meet the standard of Swiss data protection regulations.

#### 4 Information on Third Parties

## 4.1 Paying Agents

The paying agent is: State Street Bank International GmbH, Munich, Zurich Branch, Beethovenstrasse 19, 8027 Zurich.

## 4.2 Distributors

The fund management company is entitled to appoint distributors.

## 4.3 Delegation and Sub-Delegation of Investment Decisions and Other Specific Tasks

Investment decisions in respect of the following subfund has been delegated to BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited, London:

iShares Core CHF Corporate Bond ETF (CH)

BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited, London, is a subsidiary of BlackRock, Inc. It is authorized and regulated in the UK by the Financial Conduct Authority (the "FCA") to carry on investment management business and as such is subject to FCA rules

The precise duties involved are laid down in an asset management agreement between the fund management company and BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited, London.

Further, the fund management company has delegated parts of the fund administration to State Street Bank International GmbH, Munich, Zurich Branch (the "Fund Administration").

A contract concluded between the fund management company and State Street Bank International GmbH, Munich, Zurich Branch regulates the exact execution of the mandate including the delegation of the following tasks: Calculation of the Net Asset Value; determination of the issue and redemption prices; operation of and access to the portfolio compliance system; Net Asset Value validation and reporting; creation of semi-annual and annual reports.

## 5 Further Information

## 5.1 Key Data

Valor cf. table at the end of the prospectus ISIN cf. table at the end of the prospectus Ticker cf. table at the end of the prospectus Accounting currency cf. table at the end of the prospectus

## 5.2 Publication of Official Notices by the Umbrella Fund and Subfunds

Further information on the umbrella fund and the subfunds may be found in the latest annual or semi-annual report. The latest information can also be found on the internet at www.ishares.com.

In the event of a change to the fund contract, a change in the fund management company or the custodian bank or the dissolution of the subfunds, the corresponding notice will be published by the fund management company on the electronic fundinfo platform (www.fundinfo.com).

Prices are published daily on the electronic fundinfo platform (www.fundinfo.com) and possibly also in other Swiss and international newspapers and electronic media.

## 5.3 Information Regarding Distribution Abroad

The subfunds of the umbrella fund were admitted for sale at [•], in the following additional countries: Principality of Liechtenstein and Germany. The fund management company may at any time apply for the fund to be admitted for distribution in other countries.

#### Information Regarding Distribution in the Principality of Liechtenstein

The Representative and Paying Agent in the Principality of Liechtenstein is LGT Bank AG, Herrengasse 12, FL-9490 Vaduz.

The prospectus and fund contract, as well as annual and semi-annual reports in German, are obtainable free of charge from the Representative and Paying Agent in Liechtenstein.

Prices (issue and redemption prices of subfund units) are published on the electronic fundinfo platform (www.fundinfo.com) for each day that units are issued or redeemed.

The place of performance and jurisdiction is Vaduz.

#### Information Regarding Distribution in Germany

The fund management company has notified the Federal Financial Supervisory Authority ("BaFin") of its intention to distribute certain sub-funds in the Federal Republic of Germany in accordance with § 310 of the German Capital Investments Act ("KAGB"). The following information is intended for potential investors in the Federal Republic of Germany by clarifying and supplementing the prospectus with regard to distribution in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Facilities for distribution to private investors in accordance with § 306a KAGB

BlackRock Asset Management Switzerland AG, Bahnhofstrasse 39, 8001 Zurich, Switzerland (the "Fund Management Company") acts as the facility for the fulfilment of the tasks pursuant to § 306a no. 1 to 6 KAGB for the Federal Republic of Germany.

Subscription, payment, redemption and exchange orders from investors for fund shares are processed by the Fund Management Company in accordance with the sales documents specified in § 297 para. 4 sentence 1 KAGB.

The Fund Management Company has established procedures with regard to the umbrella fund and the sub-funds and has taken precautions with regard to the exercise and safeguarding of investor rights in accordance with Art. 15 of Directive 2009/65/EC. For investors in Germany, the Fund Management Company facilitates access to these procedures and precautions and provides information about them.

The prospectus with integrated fund contract, the key information document, the annual and semi-annual reports, the issue and redemption prices and all other information and documents to be published in Switzerland can be accessed free of charge from the Fund Management Company or can be obtained free of charge in paper form.

The Fund Management Company provides investors in Germany with relevant information on the tasks it fulfils as an institution pursuant to § 306a KAGB on a durable data carrier.

The Fund Management Company also acts as a contact point for communication with BaFin.

Price Publications and Other Announcements

The issue and redemption prices as well as all other legally required announcements to investors are published on the Internet under www.fundinfo.com and www.blackrock.com.

In the following cases, investors in Germany are also informed by means of a durable data carrier in accordance with § 167 KAGB (§ 298 para. 2 KAGB):

- suspension of redemption of units in an investment fund;
- termination of the management of an investment fund or its liquidation;
- Changes to the investment conditions that are incompatible with the previous investment principles or changes to material investor rights that are detrimental to investors or changes that are detrimental to investors that affect the remuneration and reimbursement of expenses that can be withdrawn from the investment fund, including the background to the changes and the rights of investors in an understandable manner; in doing so, it must be stated where and also in what way further information can be obtained in this regard;
- Merger of investment funds in the form of merger information to be prepared in accordance with Article 43 of Directive 2009/65/EC;
- Conversion of an investment fund into a feeder fund or the amendment of a master fund in the form of information to be prepared in accordance with Article 64 of Directive 2009/65/EC.

#### 5.4 Sales Restrictions

With respect to the issue and redemption of units of the subfunds outside Switzerland, the regulations valid in the country in question apply. Units of the subfunds may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States. Units of this collective investment scheme may not be offered, sold or delivered to citizens and/or residents of the United States of America and/or persons or entities whose income and/or revenue, irrespective of source, is subject to US income tax, including those deemed to be US persons under Regulation S of the US Securities Act of 1933 and/or the US Commodity Exchange Act, as amended.

## 6 Further Investment Information

## 6.1 Profile of the Typical Investor

The subfunds are suitable for investors with a long-term horizon who are primarily seeking to track the respective benchmark index. They must be prepared to see the net asset value of fund units undergo sharp fluctuations and sustained declines. They are aware of the main risks of an equity investment (Equity Index ETFs) or a bond investment (Bond Index ETFs).

## 6.2 ESG Integration and Investment Stewardship

#### **ESG Integration**

Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) investing, is often conflated or used interchangeably with the term "sustainable investing." BlackRock has identified sustainable investing as being the overall framework and ESG as a data toolkit for identifying and informing BlackRock's solutions. BlackRock has defined ESG Integration as the practice of incorporating material ESG information and sustainability risks into investment decisions in order to enhance risk-adjusted returns. BlackRock recognises the relevance of material ESG information across all asset classes and styles of portfolio management. The asset manager may incorporate sustainability considerations in its investment processes across all investment platforms. ESG information and sustainability risks are included as a consideration in index selection, portfolio review and investment stewardship processes.

The objective of the sub-funds is to provide investors with a return that reflects the return of the relevant Reference Index. A Reference Index may have a sustainability objective or may be designed to avoid certain issuers based on ESG criteria or gain exposure to issuers with better ESG ratings, an ESG theme, or to generate positive environmental or social impact. BlackRock considers the suitability characteristics and risk assessments of the index provider and BlackRock may adapt its investment approach appropriately in line with the sub-fund's investment objective and policy. A Reference Index may also not have explicit sustainability objectives or sustainability requirements. Across all index sub-funds, ESG integration includes:

• Engagement with index providers relating to the Reference Index;

- · Consultation across the industry on ESG considerations;
- Advocacy in relation to transparency and reporting, including methodology criteria and reporting on sustainability-related information;

Investment stewardship activities that are undertaken across all equity funds to advocate for sound corporate governance and business practices in relation to the material ESG factors that are likely to impact long-term financial performance

Where a Reference Index explicitly includes a sustainability objective, BlackRock conducts regular reviews with index providers to ensure the Reference Index retains consistency with its sustainability objectives.

BlackRock discloses portfolio-level ESG and sustainability related data that is publicly available on product pages of the BlackRock website where permitted by law/regulation so current and prospective investors and investment advisors can view sustainability-related information for a sub-fund.

Unless otherwise stated herein and included within a sub-fund's investment objective and investment policy, ESG integration does not change a sub-fund's investment objective or constrain the asset manager's investable universe, and there is no indication that an ESG or impact focused investment strategy or any exclusionary screens will be adopted by a sub-fund. Impact investments are investments made with the intention to generate positive, measurable social and /or environmental impact alongside a financial return. Similarly, ESG integration does not determine the extent to which a sub-fund may be impacted by sustainability risks. Please refer to Sustainability Risks in the risk factors section of this prospectus.

## Consideration of Principal Adverse Impacts ("PAIs")

Portfolio managers have access to a range of data sources, including PAI data, when making decisions on selection of investments. However, whilst BlackRock considers ESG risks for all portfolios and these risks may coincide with environmental or social themes associated with the PAIs, the subfunds do not commit to considering PAIs in driving the selection of their investments.

#### **Taxonomy Regulation**

The investments underlying these subfunds do not take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities as defined under the Taxonomy Regulations (The Taxonomy Regulations means Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2020 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2088).

#### **Investment Stewardship**

BlackRock undertakes investment stewardship engagements and proxy voting with the goal of protecting and enhancing the long-term value of the subfunds' assets for relevant asset classes. In BlackRock's experience, sustainable financial performance and value creation are enhanced by sound governance practices, including risk management oversight, board accountability, and compliance with regulations. BlackRock focuses on board composition, effectiveness and accountability as a top priority. High standards of corporate governance are the foundations of board leadership and oversight. Hence, BlackRock engages to better understand how boards assess their effectiveness and performance, as well as their position on director responsibilities and commitments, turnover and succession planning, crisis management and diversity.

BlackRock takes a long-term perspective in its investment stewardship work informed by two key characteristics of BlackRock's business: the majority of the investors are saving for long-term goals, so BlackRock presumes they are long-term shareholders; and BlackRock offers strategies with varying investment horizons, which means BlackRock has long-term relationships with its investee companies.

For further detail regarding BlackRock's approach to sustainable investing and investment stewardship please refer to the website at www.blackrock.com/corporate/sustainability and https://www.blackrock.com/corporate/about-us/investment-stewardship#our-responsibility.

#### 6.3 Data Protection under the DPA and GDPR

Investors should note that the Fund Management Company may handle their personal data (this includes "personal data" within the meaning of the Federal Act on Data Protection ("DPA") as well as "personal data" within the meaning of the General Data Protection Regulation GDPR of the European Union) or that of individuals connected with an investor's directors, officers, employees and/or beneficial owners. The GDPR privacy notice prepared in respect of the Fund Management Company (the "GDPR Privacy Notice") contains information on the collection, use, disclosure, transfer and processing of personal data under GDPR by the Fund Management Company and sets out the rights of individuals in relation to their personal data held by the Fund Management Company. The GDPR Privacy Notice is available at www.blackrock.com. Requests for further information in relation to the Fund Management Company's use and/or BlackRock's use of Personal Data under GDPR and requests to exercise the rights in relation to Personal Data, as set out in the Privacy Notice, should be addressed to: The Data Protection Officer, BlackRock, 12 Throgmorton Avenue, London, EC2N 2DL.

## 6.4 Detailed Regulations

All further information on the umbrella fund and subfunds, such as the method used for the valuation of the subfunds' assets, a list of all fees and incidental costs charged to the investor and the subfunds, and the appropriation of net income, can be found in detail in the fund contract.

## 7 SIX Index Ltd Indices ("SIX Indices")

SIX Index Ltd Indices ("SIX Indices")

SBI®

SIX Index AG and its licensors ("Licensors") have no relationship to BlackRock Inc., other than the licensing of the above indices and their sub-indices (together the "SIX Indices") and the related trademarks for use in connection with the subfunds.

#### SIX Index Ltd and its Licensors do not:

- sponsor, endorse, sell or promote the subfunds.
- recommend that any person invest in the subfunds or any other securities.
- have any responsibility or liability for or make any decisions about the timing, amount or pricing of the subfunds.
- · have any responsibility or liability for the administration, management or marketing of the subfunds.
- consider the needs of the subfunds or the owners of the subfunds in determining, composing or calculating the SIX Indices or have any obligation to do so.

SIX Index Ltd and its Licensors give no warranty, and exclude any liability (whether in negligence or otherwise), in connection with the subfunds or their performance.

SIX Index Ltd does not assume any contractual relationship with the purchasers of the subfunds or any other third parties. **Specifically**,

- SIX Index Ltd and its Licensors do not give any warranty, express or implied, and exclude any liability for:
  - The results to be obtained by the subfunds, the owner of the subfunds or any other person in connection with the use of the SIX Indices and the data included in the SIX Indices;
  - The accuracy, timeliness, and completeness of the SIX Indices and their data;
  - The merchantability and the fitness for a particular purpose or use of the SIX Indices and their data;
  - The performance of the subfunds generally,
- SIX Index Ltd and its Licensors give no warranty and exclude any liability, for any errors, omissions or interruptions in the SIX Indices
  or its data;
- Under no circumstances will SIX Index Ltd or its Licensors be liable (whether in negligence or otherwise) for any lost profits or indirect, punitive, special or consequential damages or losses, arising as a result of such errors, omissions or interruptions in the SIX Indices or their data or generally in relation to the subfunds, even in circumstances where SIX Index Ltd or its Licensors are aware that such loss or damage may occur.

The licensing Agreement between BlackRock Inc. and SIX Index Ltd is solely for their benefit and not for the benefit of the owners of the subfunds or any other third parties.

# 8 Indicative Net Asset Value ("iNAV")

The indicative net asset value ("iNAV") is the net asset value per unit of the unit class in a subfund calculated on a real time basis (every 15 seconds) during trading hours. The iNAV is intended to provide investors and market participants with a continuous indication of the value of the unit class. The values are usually calculated based on a valuation of the actual subfund portfolio using real-time prices from Tradeweb Markets LLC and other sources.

The fund management company has appointed Tradeweb Markets LLC to calculate and publish the iNAV values of the unit class of the subfunds. iNAV values are disseminated via Tradeweb Markets LLC and are displayed on major market data vendor terminals and relevant exchanges as well as on a wide range of websites that display stock market data.

An iNAV is not, and should not be taken to be, or relied on as being, the value of a unit or the price at which units may be subscribed for or redeemed or purchased or sold. In particular, any iNAV provided for a subfund where the constituents of the benchmark index or investments are not actively traded during the time of publication of such iNAV may not reflect the true value of a unit and may therefore be misleading and should not be relied on. The inability of the fund management company or its service provider to provide an iNAV, on a real-time basis, or for any period of time, will not in itself result in a halt in the trading of the units on a relevant stock exchange, which will be determined by the rules of the relevant stock exchange in the circumstances. Investors should be aware that the calculation and reporting of any iNAV may reflect time delays in the receipt of the prices of the relevant constituent securities in comparison to other calculated values based upon the same constituent securities including, for example, the benchmark index or investments itself or the iNAV of other exchange traded funds based on the same benchmark index or investments. Investors interested in dealing in units on a relevant stock exchange should not rely solely on any iNAV which is made available in making investment decisions but should also consider other market information and relevant economic and other factors (including, where relevant, information based on the benchmark index or investments corresponding to a subfund). None of the fund management company, the custodian bank, and the other service providers shall be liable to any person who relies on the iNAV.

Tradeweb Markets LLC cannot and does not guarantee or represent that the iNAV is always calculated free of errors or will be accurate. Tradeweb Markets LLC accepts no liability for any direct or indirect losses suffered, incurred or arising from any incorrect calculation of the iNAV or from the

use of the iNAV by any person. The iNAV is an indicative value and should not be relied on or used by any person for anything other than as a simple indication of the possible value of the unit of a subfund at that time.

## 1. Summary of the Subfunds and Unit Classes

	Unit clas- ses	Valor	ISIN		ing cur- rency		charged to the subfund 2)	incidental costs	date (days since order	since order day)	relevant valuation	Deadline for daily subscription and redemption of fund units (CET)	invest- ment / min.	Delegation / subdelegation of investment decisions for subfunds	Total expense ratio (TER)		ER)
											day)				31.05.21	31.05.22	31.05.23
iShares Core CHF Corporate Bond ETF (CH)	A	22697681	CH0226976816	CHCORP	CHF	5.0% / 3.0%	0.15%	8.0% / 8.0%	up to 1	up to 2	0	3.00 p.m. <sup>4)</sup>	none	BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited, London	-	-	-

<sup>1)</sup> Fees and incidental costs charged to the investor (excerpt from § 18 of the fund contract): issuing commission accruing to the fund management company, the custodian bank and/or distributors in Switzerland and abroad; redemption commission accruing to the fund management company, the custodian bank and/or distributors in Switzerland and abroad.

Fees and incidental costs charged to the subfunds' assets pursuant to § 19 prov. 1 of the fund contract: flat fee payable to the fund management company for administration, asset management and distribution activity of the subfunds as well as all tasks performed by the custodian bank (such as safekeeping of the fund assets, the handling of payment transactions) and other tasks listed under § 4. The costs set out in § 19 prov. 2 of the fund contract may additionally be charged to the subfund.

The maximum incidental costs include standard brokerage charges, commission, taxes and duties or transaction costs (e.g., execution and any positive or negative slippage costs). When units are issued, the incidental costs incurred by the subfund concerned in connection with the investment of that portion of investments corresponding to the amount paid in will be added to the net asset value. When units are redeemed, the incidental costs incurred by the subfund concerned in connection with the sale of a portion of investments corresponding to the redeemed units will be deducted from the net asset value. For iShares Core CHF Corporate Bond ETF (CH) the fund management company may, on the request of an investor in the primary market, charge incidental costs on the basis of a fixed rate provided that the investment or sale of the net amount of subscriptions or redemptions received on an order day for which the charges of the incidental costs was chosen to be on a fixed rate basis have no significant negative effect on the subfund's assets. In this case calculation of the indicative threshold value and the rate for fixed issue and redemption fees takes account of the incidental costs that are expected to be incurred on average from the investment or sale of the corresponding portion of the assets on the day in question. The relevant provisions are contained in § 18 prov. 3 of the fund contract.

<sup>4)</sup> The deadline for subscriptions/redemptions whereby the investor sells/buys the underlying securities directly (or via a particular designated broker as described in 'directed cash dealings') to/from the respective subfund can be extended to 4.45 pm.

#### Part 2: Fund Contract

## I. Basic Principles

# § 1 Name of the Fund; Name and Registered Office of the Fund Management Company, the Custodian Bank and the Asset Manager

 A contractual umbrella fund of the "Securities Fund" type has been established under the name of iShares ETF III (CH) ("umbrella fund") in accordance with Art. 25 et seq. in conjunction with Art. 53 et seq. and Art. 92 et seq. of the Swiss Federal Act on Collective Investment Schemes of June 23, 2006 (CISA). The umbrella fund contains the following subfund:

Bond Index Exchange Traded Funds iShares Core CHF Corporate Bond ETF (CH)

- 2. The fund management company is BlackRock Asset Management Schweiz AG, Zurich.
- 3. The custodian bank is State Street Bank International GmbH, Munich, Zurich Branch.
- 4. The asset managers is BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited, London, for the subfund.

## II. Rights and Obligations of the Parties to the Contract

## § 2 The Fund Contract

The legal relationship between an investor, and the fund management company and the custodian bank, is governed by the present fund contract and the applicable provisions of the legislation on collective investment schemes.

## § 3 The Fund Management Company

- 1. The fund management company manages the subfunds at its own discretion and in its own name, but for the account of the investors. It decides in particular on the issue of units, the assets and their valuation. It calculates the net asset value of the subfunds and determines the issue and redemption prices of units as well as distributions of income. It exercises all rights associated with the umbrella fund and subfunds.
- 2. The fund management company and its agents are subject to the duties of loyalty, due diligence and disclosure. They act independently and exclusively in the interests of the investors. They implement the organizational measures that are necessary for proper business operations. They shall account for the collective investment schemes managed by them and provide information on all fees and costs charged directly or indirectly to investors as well as on compensation received from third parties, in particular commissions, rebates or other pecuniary advantages.
- 3. The fund management company may delegate investment decisions as well as specific tasks, provided this is in the interests of proper management. It shall commission only persons who have the necessary skills, knowledge and experience for this activity and the required licenses. It shall carefully instruct and supervise the third parties involved.
  - Investment decisions may only be delegated to asset managers that hold the necessary authorization.
  - Investment decisions may not be delegated to the custodian bank or to other companies whose interests may conflict with those of the fund management company or the investors.
  - The fund management company remains responsible for the fulfilment of its supervisory duties and safeguards the interests of the investors when delegating tasks. The fund management company is liable for the actions of persons to whom it has delegated tasks in the same way as for its own actions.
- 4. The fund management company may, with the consent of the custodian bank, submit a change to the present fund contract to the supervisory authority for approval (cf. § 26), and may also establish further subfunds with the approval of the supervisory authority.
- 5. The fund management company can merge the individual subfunds with other subfunds or with other investment funds pursuant to § 24 and can dissolve the umbrella fund or the individual subfunds pursuant to § 25.
- 6. The fund management company is entitled to receive the fees stipulated in §§ 18 and 19. It is further entitled to be released from the liabilities assumed in the proper execution of its tasks, and to be reimbursed for expenses incurred in connection with such liabilities.

## § 4 The Custodian Bank

- 1. The custodian bank is responsible for the safekeeping of the subfunds' assets. It handles the issue and redemption of fund units as well as payments on behalf of the subfunds.
- 2. The custodian bank and its agents are subject to the duties of loyalty, due diligence and disclosure. They act independently and exclusively in the interests of the investors. They implement the organizational measures that are necessary for proper business operations. They shall account for the collective investment schemes managed by them and provide information on all fees and costs charged directly or indirectly to investors as well as on compensation received from third parties, in particular commissions, rebates or other pecuniary advantages.
- The custodian bank is responsible for cash account and safekeeping account management on behalf of the subfunds, but does not have independent access to their assets.
- 4. The custodian bank ensures that in the case of transactions relating to the assets of the subfunds the counter-value is transferred thereto within the usual time limit. It notifies the fund management company if the counter-value is not refunded within the usual time limit and where possible requests reimbursement for the asset item concerned from the counterparty.
- 5. The custodian bank keeps the required records and accounts in such manner that it is at all times able to distinguish between the assets held in safe custody of the individual investment funds.
  - In relation to assets that cannot be placed in safe custody, the custodian bank verifies ownership to the fund management company and keeps a record thereof.
- 6. The custodian bank may delegate the safekeeping of the assets of the subfunds to third-party custodians and central securities depositaries in Switzerland or abroad, provided this is in the interests of efficient safekeeping. It verifies and monitors whether the third-party custodian and central securities depositary:
  - a) possesses an appropriate organizational structure, financial guarantees and the specialist qualifications required given the nature and complexity of the assets entrusted to it;

- b) is subject to regular external audits, thereby ensuring that it possesses the financial instruments;
- c) the assets received from the custodian bank are kept in safe custody in such manner that by means of regular portfolio comparisons they can at all times be clearly identified as belonging to the subfunds' assets;
- d) complies with the provisions applicable to the custodian bank with respect to the performance of the tasks delegated to it and the avoidance of conflicts of interest.

The custodian bank is liable for the damage caused by the agent if it cannot prove that it applied the degree of due diligence with regard to the selection, instruction and monitoring required in the given circumstances. The prospectus contains information on the risks involved in transferring the safekeeping to third-party custodians and central securities depositaries.

Transfers of financial instruments along the lines set out in the previous paragraph may only be made to regulated third-party custodians and central securities depositaries. This does not apply to mandatory safekeeping at a location where the transfer to regulated third-party custodians and central securities depositaries is not possible, in particular due to mandatory legal provisions or the procedural details for the investment product, for example. Safekeeping by non-regulated third-party custodians or central securities depositaries must be disclosed to investors in the prospectus.

- 7. The custodian bank ensures that the fund management company complies with the law and the fund contract. It checks whether the calculation of the net asset value and of the issue and redemption prices of the units as well as the investment decisions are in compliance with the law and the fund contract, and whether the income is appropriated in accordance with the fund contract. The custodian bank is not responsible for the choice of investments which the fund management company makes in accordance with the investment regulations.
- 8. The custodian bank is entitled to receive the fees stipulated in §§ 18 and 19. It is further entitled to be released from the liabilities assumed in the proper execution of its tasks, and to be reimbursed for expenses incurred in connection with such liabilities.
- 9. The custodian bank is not responsible for the safekeeping of the assets of the target funds in which the subfunds invest, unless this task has been delegated to it.

## § 5 The Investor

- 1. Investor eligibility is not subject to any restrictions (except for the sales restrictions described at cipher 5.4 of the prospectus).
- 2. On concluding the contract and making a payment in cash, the investor acquires a claim against the fund management company in respect of a participation in the assets and income of a subfund of the umbrella fund. The investor's claim is evidenced in the form of fund units.
- 3. Investors are obliged only to remit payment for the units of the subfund they subscribe. They shall not be held personally liable for the liabilities of the subfund. Investors are entitled to participate in the assets and income of only that subfund in which they hold units. Liabilities that are attributable to an individual subfund will be borne solely by the said subfund.
- 4. Investors may at any time request that the fund management company supply them with information regarding the basis on which the net asset value per unit is calculated. If investors express an interest in more detailed information on specific business transactions effected by the fund management company, such as the exercising of memberships' rights (voting rights) and creditors' rights, risk management or contributions / redemptions in kind, they must be given such information by the fund management company at any time. The investors may request at the courts of the registered office of the fund management company that the auditors or another expert investigate the matter which requires clarification and furnish the investors with a report.
- 5. The investors may terminate the fund contract on any day and demand that their share in the corresponding subfund be paid out in cash. Instead of payment in cash, at the investor's request and with the consent of the fund management company, a redemption in kind may be made in accordance with the provisions of § 17 prov. 7.
- 6. If requested, the investors are obliged to provide the fund management company and/or the custodian bank and their agents with proof that they comply with or continue to comply with the provisions laid down in the law or the fund contract in respect of participation in a subfund or in a unit class. Furthermore, they are obliged to inform the custodian bank, the fund management company, and their agents immediately once they no longer meet these prerequisites.
- 7. The fund management company in conjunction with the custodian bank must make an enforced redemption of the units of an investor at the current redemption price if:
  - a) this is necessary to safeguard the reputation of the financial market, specifically to combat money laundering;
  - b) the investor no longer meets the statutory or contractual requirements for participation in a subfund.
- 8. The fund management company in conjunction with the custodian bank can also make an enforced redemption of the units of an investor at the current redemption price if:
  - a) the participation of the investor in a subfund is such that it could have a significant detrimental impact on the economic interests of the other investors, in particular if the participation could result in tax disadvantages for the umbrella fund or a subfund in Switzerland or abroad;
  - b) investors have acquired or hold their units in violation of provisions of a law to which they are subject either in Switzerland or abroad, of the present fund contract or the prospectus;
  - c) there is a detrimental impact on the economic interests of the investors, in particular in cases where individual investors seek by way of systematic subscriptions and immediate redemptions to achieve a pecuniary gain by exploiting the time differences between the setting of the closing prices and the valuation of the subfund's assets (market timing).

## § 6 Units and Unit Classes

- 1. The fund management company can establish different unit classes and can also merge or dissolve unit classes for each subfund at any time subject to the consent of the custodian bank and the approval of the supervisory authority. All unit classes embody an entitlement to a share in the undivided assets of the subfund concerned, which are not segmented. This share may differ due to class-specific costs or distributions or due to class-specific earnings, and the various classes may therefore have different net asset values per unit. Class-specific costs are covered by the assets of the subfund as a whole.
- 2. Notification of the establishment, dissolution or merger of unit classes is published in accordance with cipher 5.2 of the prospectus. Only mergers shall be deemed a change to the fund contract pursuant to § 26.
- 3. The various unit classes may differ from one another in terms of their cost structure, reference currency, currency hedging, policy with regard to distribution or reinvestment of income, the minimum investment required and investor eligibility.
  - Fees and costs are only charged to the unit class for which the respective service is performed. Fees and costs that cannot be unequivocally allocated to a unit class shall be charged to the individual unit classes on a pro rata basis in relation to their share of the subfund's assets.
- 4. The subfunds are not currently divided into unit classes. There is only one unit class: class A.

- Units will not take the form of actual certificates but will exist purely as book entries. The investors are not entitled to demand delivery of a registered or bearer unit certificate.
- 6. The custodian bank and the fund management company are obliged to instruct investors who no longer meet the prerequisites for holding a unit class to ensure within 30 calendar days that their units are redeemed pursuant to § 17, transferred to a person who does meet the aforementioned prerequisites, or switched into units of another unit class whose prerequisites they do meet. If an investor fails to comply with this demand, the fund management company must, in cooperation with the custodian bank, make an enforced switch into another unit class of the same subfund or, should this not be possible, enforce the redemption of the units in question pursuant to § 5 prov. 7.

## III. Investment Policy Guidelines

## A Investment Principles

## § 7 Compliance with Investment Regulations

- 1. In selecting the individual investments of each subfund, the fund management company must adhere to the principle of balanced risk diversification and must observe the percentage limits defined below. These percentages relate to the assets of the individual subfunds at market value and must be complied with at all times. The individual subfunds must have fulfilled the terms of the investment restrictions no later than six months after the expiry of the subscription period (launch).
- 2. If the limits are exceeded as a result of market-related changes, the investments must be restored to the permitted level within a reasonable period, taking due account of the investors' interests. If the limits relating to derivatives pursuant to § 12 below are exceeded due to a change in the delta, this is to be rectified within three bank working days at the latest, taking due account of the investors' interests.

## § 8 Investment Policy

- 1. Within the framework of the specific investment policy of each subfund pursuant to prov. 3, the fund management company may invest the assets of the individual subfunds in the following investments (the risks of which must be disclosed in the prospectus):
  - a) Securities issued on a large scale and non-certificated rights with a like function which are traded on a stock exchange or another regulated market open to the public and which embody a participation or debt right or the right to acquire such securities and uncertificated securities by subscription or exchange, such as warrants in particular.
    - Investments in securities from new issues are only permitted if their admission to a stock exchange or another regulated market open to the public is envisaged under the terms of issue. If they have not been admitted to a stock exchange or another regulated market open to the public within a year after their acquisition, these securities must be sold within one month or included under the restriction set down in prov. 1 section g).
  - b) Derivatives, if (i) the underlying securities are securities pursuant to sections a) and b), derivatives pursuant to section b), units in collective investment schemes pursuant to section d), money market instruments pursuant to section e), or financial indices, interest rates, exchange rates, credits or currencies, and (ii) the underlying securities are permitted as investments under the fund contract. Derivatives are either traded on an exchange or other regulated market open to the public, or are traded OTC.
    - OTC transactions are only permitted if (i) the counterparty is a regulated financial intermediary specializing in such transactions, and (ii) the OTC derivatives can be traded daily or a return to the issuer is possible at any time. In addition, it shall be possible for them to be valued in a reliable and transparent manner. Derivatives may be used pursuant to § 12.
  - c) Structured products if (i) they are based on securities pursuant to subparagraph a, derivatives pursuant to subparagraph b, structured products pursuant to subparagraph c, units in collective investment schemes pursuant to subparagraph d, money market instruments pursuant to subparagraph e, financial indices, interest rates, exchange rates, loans or currencies and (ii) the underlying assets are permitted as investments under the fund contract. Structured products are either traded on a stock exchange or another regulated market open to the public or traded OTC.
    - OTC transactions are only permitted if (i) the counterparty is a regulated financial intermediary specializing in such transactions, and (ii) the OTC products can be traded daily or a return to the issuer is possible at any time. In addition, it shall be possible for them to be valued in a reliable and transparent manner.
  - d) Units of other collective investment schemes (target funds), provided that (i) their documents restrict investments for their part in other target funds to a total of 10%; (ii) these target funds are subject to provisions equivalent to those pertaining to securities funds in respect of the purpose, organization, investment policy, investor protection, risk diversification, asset segregation, borrowing, lending, short-selling of securities and money market instruments, the issuing and redemption of fund units and the content of the semi-annual and annual reports; and (iii) these target funds are authorized as collective investment schemes in their country of domicile and are subject there to supervision which is equivalent to that in Switzerland and which serves to protect investors, and that international legal assistance is ensured.
  - e) Money market instruments, provided these are liquid, can be readily valued and are traded on an exchange or other regulated market open to the public; money market instruments which are not traded on an exchange or other regulated market open to the public may only be acquired if the issue or the issuer is subject to provisions regarding creditor or investor protection and if the money market instruments are issued or guaranteed by issuers pursuant to Art. 74(2) Collective Investment Schemes Ordinance (CISO).
  - f) On-call or term deposits with terms to maturity not exceeding twelve months with banks domiciled in Switzerland or in a member state of the European Union or in another country provided that the bank is subject to supervision in this country which is equivalent to the supervision in Switzerland.
  - g) Investments other than those mentioned in sections a) to f) above and investments which do not meet the requirements stated in sections a) to f), up to a maximum total of 10% of the subfund's assets; the following are not permitted: investments in precious metals, precious metals certificates, goods and documents of title to goods as well as true short-selling of investments of all kinds.
- 2. The investment objective and investment policy of the subfund is to replicate the benchmark indices referred to in prov. 3 as closely as possible. The objective will be for the subfunds to exhibit approximately the same statistical characteristics (investment return and volatility) as the index, with the weightings of the securities in the subfund matching the index weightings as closely as possible, provided the index is replicated primarily by way of direct investments in index securities with the exception of the subfund iShares Core CHF Corporate Bond ETF (CH), the weighting is carried out using the optimized sampling approach in accordance with § 8 prov. 3. respectively.
- 3. Investment Policies of the Individual Subfunds:

#### iShares Core CHF Corporate Bond ETF (CH)

The aim of this subfund is to replicate the performance of the SBI® Corporate Total Return benchmark index through the use of the optimized sampling approach. In some cases, the subfund may invest in a representative selection of securities from the benchmark index rather than in

all the securities in the index. In addition, the subfund may also invest in Swiss1 franc-denominated bonds and other fixed or variable-rate debt instruments and rights which are not contained in the benchmark index. Selection is facilitated by a system that takes account of both quantitative factors as well as factors that determine returns. The portfolio may be limited to a representative selection of securities from the benchmark index, or expanded to include securities not contained in the index, owing to the investment restrictions set out below, to other legal or statutory restrictions, to costs and expenses incurred by the subfund, or to the illiquidity of certain securities.

The fund management company

- aa) invests the subfund's assets, subject to bb), cc) and dd), in Swiss franc-denominated corporate bonds and other fixed or variable-rate debt instruments and rights which are contained in the benchmark index;
- bb) may invest the subfund's assets temporarily in Swiss franc-denominated corporate bonds and other fixed or variable-rate debt instruments and rights which are not contained in the benchmark index but where there is a high probability that such securities will be included in the SBI® Corporate Total Return on the basis of its acceptance criteria; investments in accordance with the present section bb) come under cc) below;
- cc) may invest up to 20% of the subfund's assets in Swiss franc-denominated bonds and other fixed or variable-rate debt instruments and rights which are not contained in the benchmark index; however, their risk properties must be comparable with those of the benchmark index securities and the use of such securities must not, therefore, result in any deviation from the investment objectives set out in this fund contract, in the prospectus or in the key information document (KID) or equivalent document, nor may it alter the investment character of this subfund. Investments (including derivatives on these investments) that are dropped from the benchmark index come under the present section cc);
- dd) may in addition to the investments under cc) above invest up to 5% of the subfund's assets in futures on Swiss franc-denominated bonds issued by the Swiss Confederation;
- ee) does not invest the subfund's assets in units of other collective investment schemes (target funds).

In addition, up to a total of 10% of the subfund's assets may be invested by the fund management company in other investments than those listed above under let. aa) to dd) pursuant to § 8 prov. 1.

Investments in accordance with sections aa), bb) and cc) above must have an SBI® composite rating of at least BBB or be deemed by the fund management company to have an equivalent borrower rating. If an investment loses this minimum rating/borrower rating, it must be sold within 90 days while safeguarding the interests of the investors.

4. The fund management company ensures that liquidity management is appropriate to the investments, investment policy, risk diversification, investor group and redemption frequency. The details are disclosed in the prospectus.

## § 9 Liquid Assets

The fund management company may also hold liquid assets for each subfund in an appropriate amount in the accounting currency of the subfund concerned, in any other currency in which investments for the subfund concerned are permitted, and as a minimum in USD, CHF, EUR, and GBP. Liquid assets comprise bank deposits as well as claims from repurchase agreements at sight or on demand with maturities up to twelve months.

## **B** Investment Techniques and Instruments

## § 10 Securities Lending

- 1. For the account of the subfunds, the fund management company may lend all types of securities which are traded on an exchange or other regulated market open to the public. However, it may not lend securities that have been acquired under a reverse repo transaction.
- 2. The fund management company may lend the securities in its name and for the account of the subfunds to a borrower (as principal) or appoint an intermediary (as agent) to make the securities at the disposal of the borrower. The fund management company appoints the asset manager, BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited, as the securities lending agent (the "Lending Agent").
- 3. The fund management company, or the Lending Agent on its behalf, shall only carry out securities lending transactions with first-class, regulated borrowers or intermediaries which are specialized in transactions of this type, such as banks, brokers and insurance companies, as well as authorized and recognized central counterparties and central securities depositories that guarantee the proper execution of the security lending transactions.
- 4. If the fund management company, or the Lending Agent on its behalf, must observe a notice period, which may not be more than 7 bank working days, before it can legally dispose of the loaned securities again, it may not lend more than 50% of the eligible holding of a particular security per subfund. However, if the borrower or the intermediary provides the fund management company, or the Lending Agent on its behalf, with a contractual assurance that the latter may legally dispose of the securities lent on the same or next bank working day, the entire holdings of particular instrument type eligible for lending may be lent. There is always such a contractual commitment for securities lending performed by the Lending Agent.
- 5. The fund management company, or the Lending Agent on its behalf, shall conclude an agreement with the borrower or intermediary whereby the latter shall pledge or transfer collateral pursuant to Art. 51 CISO-FINMA to the fund management company, or the Lending Agent on its behalf, for the purposes of guaranteeing restitution. The value of the collateral must be appropriate and at all times be at least equal to the market value of the loaned securities. The issuer of the collateral must have a high credit rating and the collateral shall not be issued by the counterparty or a company belonging to or depending of the group of companies of the counterparty. The collateral must be highly liquid, traded at a transparent price on an exchange or other regulated market open to the public and valued at least on every exchange trading day. When managing the collateral, the fund management company and/or its agents must comply with the obligations and requirements pursuant to Art. 52 CISO-FINMA. In particular, they must adequately diversify the collateral in respect of countries, markets and issuers, whereby an appropriate diversification of issuers shall be assumed, if the collateral issued by any single issuer does not account for more than 20% of net asset value of a subfund, subject to exemptions for publicly guaranteed or issued investments pursuant to Art. 83 CISO. Further, in the event of default by the counterparty, the fund management company and/or its agents must be able to obtain at any time the power of disposal and the right for disposal over the collateral received without involving the counterparty or obtaining its consent. The collateral received shall be kept safe with the custodian bank. The collateral received may be held on behalf of the fund management company with a regulated third party depository provided the ownership on the collateral is not transferred and the third party depository is independent of the counterparty.
- 6. The borrower or intermediary is liable for ensuring the prompt, unconditional payment of any income accruing during the lending period, as well as for the assertion of other proprietary rights and for the contractually agreed return of securities of the same type, quantity and quality.
- 7. The custodian bank shall ensure that the securities lending transactions are handled in a secure manner in line with the agreements and in particular shall monitor compliance with the requirements relating to collateral. Throughout the duration of the lending transactions it shall also be responsible for the administrative duties assigned to it under the custody account regulations and for asserting all rights associated with the loaned securities, provided these have not been ceded under the terms of an applicable framework agreement.

- 8. Under the terms of the written agreement between the fund management company and the Lending Agent, the Lending Agent is appointed to manage the securities lending activities of the relevant subfunds and is entitled to share in the revenue earned from such activities. The income earned from securities lending will be allocated between the relevant subfunds and the Lending Agent at normal commercial rates. The Lending Agent's agreed revenue share is currently 37.5% of the total income generated from securities lending. The Lending Agent must meet all costs and expenses associated with securities lending out of this share. The remaining income, 62.5%, will be paid to the relevant subfunds and used in accordance with the relevant investment policy. This revenue share may change, subject to the fund management company being satisfied that any new terms reflect normal commercial rates. Financial information with respect to securities lending for the subfunds will be included in the annual reports and audited financial statements. The fund management company will, at least annually, review the securities lending arrangements and associated costs.
- 9. The prospectus contains additional information on the collateral strategy.
- 10. The relative maximum limit for securities lending is 100%. Securities lending is associated with risks. As a result of securities lending, ownership of the securities lent is transferred to the borrower. With the exception of cases in which the fund management company's exposure is covered by collateral, the fund management company assumes the risk that the borrower may go bankrupt, become insolvent, be subject to insolvency proceedings or comparable proceedings, or that the borrower's assets may be seized or blocked (counterparty risk). Securities lending does not affect the market risk and liquidity risk of securities.

## § 11 Securities Repurchase Agreements

- 1. For the account of the subfunds, the fund management company may enter into repurchase agreements. Repurchase agreements can be concluded as either "repos" or "reverse repos".
  - A "repo" is a legally binding transaction whereby one party (the borrower or repo seller) undertakes to temporarily transfer ownership of specific securities to another (the lender or repo buyer) against remuneration, while the lender undertakes to return to the borrower securities of the same type, quantity and quality at the end of the repo term together with any income earned during such term. The price risk associated with the securities shall be borne by the borrower for the duration of the repo transaction.
  - From the perspective of the counterparty (lender or repo buyer), a "repo" is a "reverse repo". By means of a "reverse repo", the lender acquires securities for investment purposes and at the same time agrees to return securities of the same type, quantity and quality and to transfer all income received during the term of the reverse repurchase agreement.
- 2. The fund management company may conclude repurchase agreements in its name and for the account of the subfunds (as principal) or appoint an intermediary (as agent) to conclude repurchase agreements with a counterparty. The fund management company appoints the asset manager, BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited, as the agent (the "Repo Agent").
- 3. The fund management company, or the Repo Agent on its behalf, shall only carry out repurchase transactions with first-class, regulated borrowers or intermediaries which are specialized in transactions of this type, such as banks, brokers and insurance companies, as well as authorized and recognized central counterparties and central securities depositories that guarantee the proper execution of the repurchase transactions.
- 4. The custodian bank shall ensure that the repurchase agreements are conducted in a secure manner and that the contractual terms are complied with. It shall ensure that fluctuations in the value of the securities used in the repo transactions are daily compensated in cash or securities (mark to market). Throughout the duration of the repurchase agreement, it is also responsible for the administrative duties assigned to it under the custody account regulations and for asserting all rights pertaining to the securities used in the repo transactions, provided these have not been ceded under the terms of an applicable framework agreement.
- 5. For repo transactions, the fund management company, or the Repo Agent on its behalf, may use all types of securities which are traded on a stock exchange or other regulated market open to the public. It may not use securities acquired under a reverse repo for repo transactions.
- 6. If the fund management company, or the Repo Agent on its behalf, must observe a notice period, which may not be more than 7 bank working days, before it can legally dispose of the securities used in a repo transaction again, it may not lend more than 50% of the particular type of security eligible for repo transactions. However, if the lender provides the fund management company, or the Repo Agent on its behalf, with a contractual assurance that the latter may legally dispose over the securities used in the repo transaction on the same or next bank working day, the entire holdings of a particular type of security eligible for repo transactions may be used.
- 7. Concluding repo transactions is deemed to be borrowing pursuant to § 13, unless the money received is used to acquire securities of the same type, quality, creditworthiness and maturity in conjunction with the conclusion of a reverse repo.
- 8. With regard to "reverse repos", the fund management company, or the Repo Agent on its behalf, may only acquire collateral pursuant to Art. 51 CISO-FINMA. The issuer of the collateral must have a high credit rating and the collateral shall not be issued by the counterparty or a company belonging to or depending on the group of companies of the counterparty. The collateral must be highly liquid, traded at a transparent price on an exchange or other regulated market open to the public and valued at least on every exchange trading day. When managing the collateral, the fund management company and/or its agents must comply with the obligations and requirements pursuant to Art. 52 CISO-FINMA. In particular, they must adequately diversify the collateral in respect of countries, markets and issuers, whereby an appropriate diversification of issuers shall be assumed, if the collateral issued by any single issuer does not account for more than 20% of net asset value of a subfund, subject to exemptions for publicly guaranteed or issued investments pursuant to Art. 83 CISO. Further, in the event of default by the counterparty, the fund management company and/or its agents must be able to obtain at any time the power of disposal and the right for disposal over the collateral received without involving the counterparty or obtaining its consent. The collateral received shall be kept safe with the custodian bank. The collateral received may be held on behalf of the fund management company with a regulated third party depository provided the ownership on the collateral is not transferred and the third party depository is independent of the counterparty.
- 9. Claims arising from "reverse repos" are deemed to be liquid assets pursuant to § 9 and not lending (Kreditgewährung) pursuant to § 13.
- 10. The prospectus contains additional information on the collateral strategy.
- 11. The relative maximum limit for repurchase agreements is 100%. Repurchase agreements are associated with risks. The lender bears the risk that the borrower does not fulfil its obligation to repurchase the securities at the agreed price and date. The borrower is exposed to the risk that the lender does not fulfil its obligation to repurchase the securities (counterparty risk). The repurchase agreement does not affect the market risk or the liquidity risk. Repurchase agreements are collateralised by securities whose value may fluctuate due to changes in market conditions, credit risk or other factors. If the value of the collateral falls below the agreed threshold, the lender can demand additional collateral or initiate a margin call to cover losses. If the transferee does not provide additional collateral or fails to honour the margin call, the lender may realise the collateral, which may result in losses if the value of the collateral is insufficient to cover the outstanding obligations.

## § 12 Derivatives

- 1. The fund management company may use derivatives. It shall ensure that, even under extreme market circumstances, the financial effect of the use of derivatives does not result in a deviation from the investment objectives set out in the fund contract, the prospectus and in the key information document (KID) or equivalent or that it does not change the investment character of the subfunds. Furthermore, the underlying asset of the derivatives must be permitted as investments according to the present fund contract. In connection with collective investment schemes, derivatives may only be used for currency hedging purposes. The option of hedging market, interest-rate and credit risks in collective investment schemes is reserved provided the risks are clearly identifiable and measurable.
- 2. Commitment Approach I shall be applied for the assessment of risk. The use of derivatives where account is taken of the necessary coverage set out in this paragraph does not result in a leverage effect on the subfunds' assets, nor does it correspond to short selling.
- 2.1. Only basic types of derivative may be used. These comprise:
  - a) Call or put options whose value at expiration is linearly dependent on the positive or negative difference between the market value of the underlying and the strike price and is zero if the difference is preceded by the opposite algebraic sign;
  - b) Swaps whose payments are dependent on the value of the underlying or on an absolute amount in both a linear and a path-independent manner;
  - c) Future and forward transactions whose value is linearly dependent on the value of the underlying.
- 2.2. The financial effect of the derivatives is similar to either a sale (exposure-reducing derivative) or a purchase (exposure-increasing derivative) of an underlying security.
- 2.3.
- a) In the case of exposure-reducing derivatives, the arising obligations subject to sections b) and d) must be covered at all times by the underlyings of the derivative.
- b) Cover with investments other than the underlyings shall be permitted in the case of exposure-reducing derivatives that relate to an index which is
- calculated by an independent external office;
- representative of the investments serving as cover;
- sufficiently well correlated with these investments.
- c) The fund management company must have unrestricted access to these underlyings or investments at all times.
- d) An exposure-reducing derivative can be weighted by the delta in the calculation of the corresponding underlyings.
- 2.4. In the case of exposure increasing derivatives, the equivalent underlying asset of a derivative position must at all times be covered by nearmoney assets in accordance with Art. 34 Abs. 5 CISO-FINMA. In the case of futures, options, swaps and forwards the equivalent underlying asset is determined in accordance to Appendix 1 of CISO-FINMA.
- 2.5 The fund management company must take account of the following rules when offsetting derivative positions:
  - a) Offsetting (*Gegenläufige*) transactions in derivatives of the same underlying as well as offsetting positions in derivatives and in investments of the same underlying may be offset regardless of the expiration of derivatives ("netting"), provided the derivative transaction was concluded solely for the purpose to eliminate the risks related to the acquired derivatives or investments, the key risks are not neglected and the capital requirement (*Anrechnungsbetrag*) of the derivatives is calculated according to Art. 35 CISO-FINMA.
  - b) In case where derivatives in hedging transactions do not refer to the same underlying as the hedged asset, in addition to the rules under let. a) above, the following conditions must be met for offsetting ("Hedging"): The derivative transactions may not be based on an investment strategy which aims for profit. In addition, the derivative must lead to a demonstrable reduction in the risk. The risks of the derivative must be balanced. The derivatives to be offset, underlyings or assets must refer to the same class of financial instruments and the hedging strategy must be effective even under extraordinary market conditions.
  - c) Derivatives, which are used for pure hedging of foreign currency risks and which do not result in a leverage effect, or include additional market risks, can be offset without the requirements as specified under let. b) above for the calculation of total exposure from derivatives.
  - d) Covered hedging transactions through interest rate derivatives are permitted. Convertible bonds can be ignored when calculating the exposure arising from derivatives.
- 3. The fund management company may use both standardized and non-standardized derivatives. It may conclude transactions in derivative financial instruments on an exchange or another regulated market open to the public or in OTC (over-the-counter) trading.
- 4.
- a) The fund management company may conclude OTC transactions only with regulated financial intermediaries specialized in such types of transactions that ensure proper execution of the contract. If the counterparty is not the custodian bank, the former or its guarantor must meet a high credit rating.
- b) It must be possible to reliably and verifiably value an OTC derivative on a daily basis and to sell, liquidate or close out the derivative at market value at any time.
- c) If no market price is available for an OTC- derivative, it must be possible to determine the price at any time by using an appropriate and recognized in practice valuation model, based on the market value of the underlyings from which the derivative was derived. Prior to the conclusion of such derivative contract, specific offers must generally be obtained from at least two potential counterparties, whereby the contract is to be concluded with the counterparty providing the most favorable offer in terms of price. Deviations from this principle are possible for reasons relating to risk diversification, or where other parts of the contract such as credit rating or the range of services offered by the counterparty deem another offer more advantageous overall for the investors. Moreover, provided this is in the best interest of investors, obtaining offers from at least two potential counterparties may exceptionally be omitted. The reasons for this as well as the conclusion of the transaction and pricing shall be documented in a transparent manner.
- d) The fund management company and/or its agents may in connection with OTC-transactions only accept collateral that meets the requirements set out in Art. 51 CISO-FINMA regarding collateral. The issuer of the collateral must have a high credit rating and the collateral shall not be issued by the counterparty or a company belonging to or depending of the group of companies of the counterparty. The collateral must be highly liquid, traded at a transparent price on an exchange or other regulated market open to the public and valued at least on every exchange trading day. When managing the collateral, the fund management company and/or its agents must comply with the obligations and requirements pursuant to Art. 52 CISO-FINMA. In particular, they must adequately diversify the collateral in respect of countries, markets and issuers, whereby an appropriate diversification of issuers shall be assumed, if the collateral issued by any single issuer does not account for more than 20% of net asset value of a subfund, subject to exemptions for publicly guaranteed or issued investments pursuant to Art. 83 CISO. Further, in the event of default by the counterparty, the fund management company and/or its agents must be able to obtain at any time the power of disposal and the right for disposal over the collateral received without involving the counterparty or obtaining its consent. The collateral

received shall be kept safe with the custodian bank. The collateral received may be held on behalf of the fund management company with a regulated third party depository provided the ownership on the collateral is not transferred and the third party depository is independent of the counterparty.

- 5. In respect of compliance with the statutory and contractual investment restrictions (maximum and minimum limits), derivatives shall be taken into account in accordance with the legislation on collective investment schemes.
- 6. The prospectus contains further information on:
  - the importance of derivatives as part of the investment strategy;
  - the effect of the use of derivatives on the risk profile of the respective subfund;
  - the counterparty risks of derivatives;
  - (where applicable) the credit derivatives;
  - the collateral strategy.

## § 13 Taking Up and Extending Loans

- 1. The fund management company may not grant loans for the subfunds' account. Securities lending transactions pursuant to § 10 and securities repurchase agreements taking the form of reverse repos pursuant to § 11 are not deemed to be loans within the meaning of this clause.
- 2. Unless otherwise stipulated by the investment policy of the individual subfunds, the fund management company may for each subfund temporarily borrow the equivalent of up to 10% of the net assets of said subfund. Securities repurchase agreements as repos pursuant to § 11 are deemed to be borrowing within the meaning of this clause unless the funds obtained are used as part of an arbitrage transaction for the acquisition of securities of the same type, quality, credit rating and maturity in connection with a reverse repo.

## § 14 Encumbrance of the Subfunds' Assets

- 1. No more than 25% of any subfund's net assets may be pledged or ownership thereof transferred as collateral by the fund management company at the expense of the subfund concerned.
- 2. The subfunds' assets may not be encumbered with guarantees.

#### C Investment Restrictions

## § 15 Risk Diversification

- 1. The regulations on risk diversification pursuant to § 15 shall include the following:
  - a) investments as per § 8;
  - b) liquid assets as per § 9:
  - c) derivative financial instruments pursuant to § 12, with the exception of index-based derivatives, provided the index is sufficiently diversified, is representative of the market it relates to and is published in an appropriate manner;
  - d) claims against counterparties arising from OTC transactions.

## **Bond Index Exchange Traded Funds**

#### iShares Core CHF Corporate Bond ETF (CH)

The regulations on risk distribution apply to this subfund.

- 2. Companies which are classified as a group under international accounting rules shall be regarded as one issuer.
- 3. This subfund is assigned to the "securities funds" category. The weighting of the assets in accordance with prov. 1 of the present § 15 is based on the use of the optimized sampling approach specified in § 8 prov. 3. In some cases, the subfund may invest in a representative selection of securities from the benchmark index rather than in all the securities in the index. Debt instruments which amount to more than 10% of the volume of the respective issue may not be acquired for the subfunds.
- 4. Including derivatives, the fund management company may invest up to a maximum of 10% of the subfund's assets in securities issued by the same issuer. The total value of the securities of issuers in which more than 5% of the fund's assets are invested may not exceed 40% of the subfund's assets, subject to the provisions in provs. 4 and 6 below.
- 5. In relation to the holding of liquid assets pursuant to § 8 & 9, the fund management company may not invest more than 20% of a subfund's total assets in sight and time deposits with a single bank.
- 6. The fund management company may invest up to a maximum of 5% of the assets of the subfund in OTC transactions with the same counterparty. If the counterparty is a bank domiciled in Switzerland or in a member state of the European Union or another country in which it is subject to supervision equivalent to that in Switzerland, this limit shall be increased to 10% of the assets of the subfund.
  - Where the claims arising from OTC transactions are hedged using collateral in the form of liquid assets pursuant to Art. 50 to 55 CISO-FINMA, such claims are not included in the calculation of counterparty exposure.
- 7. Investments, credit balances and claims with the same issuer and/or borrower pursuant to provs. 4–6 above may not exceed a total of 20% of the subfund's assets, with the exception of the higher limits stated in provs. 12 and 13 below.
- 8. Investments pursuant to prov. 4 above of the same group of companies may not in total exceed 20% of the subfund's assets, with the exception of the higher limits stated in provs. 12 and 13 below.
- 9. The fund management company may not acquire equity securities which in total represent more than 10% of the voting rights or which allow it to exercise a significant influence on the management of an issuer.
- 10. The fund management company may acquire for the subfund's assets no more than 10% of the non-voting equity instruments, debt instruments and/or money market instruments of the same issuer. These restrictions do not apply if the gross amount of the debt instruments or money market instruments cannot be calculated at the time of the acquisition.
- 11. The restrictions in prov. 9 and 10 above do not apply to securities and money market instruments which are issued or guaranteed by a state or a public-law entity in an OECD country or by international organizations with public-law characteristics to which Switzerland or a European Union member state belong.

- 12. The limit in prov. 4 above is increased from 10% to 35% if the securities or money market instruments are issued or guaranteed by an OECD country, by a public-law entity from the OECD, or by an international public-law organization to which Switzerland or a member state of the European Union belongs. The aforementioned securities or money market instruments will not be taken into account in the application of the 40% limit pursuant to prov. 4. However, the individual limits described in points 4 and 6 above may not be accumulated with the existing limit of 35%.
- 13. The limit in prov. 4 above is increased from 10% to 100% if the securities or money market instruments are issued or guaranteed by an OECD country, or by a public-law entity from the OECD, or by an international public-law organization to which Switzerland or a member state of the European Union belongs. In this case, the subfund concerned must invest in securities or money market instruments from at least six different issues; no more than 30% of the assets of the respective subfund concerned may be invested in securities or money market instruments from the same issue. The aforementioned securities or money market instruments will not be taken into account in the application of the 40% limit pursuant to prov. 4.

The above-mentioned authorized issuers and/or guarantors include: OECD countries: European Union (EU), Council of Europe, Eurofinanz, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (The World Bank), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Investment Bank, The Inter-American Development Bank, Nordic Development Bank, The Asian Development Bank and African Development Bank

## IV. Calculation of the Net Asset Value and Issue and Redemption of Units

## § 16 Calculation of the Net Asset Value

- 1. The net asset value of each subfund is calculated in Swiss francs at the market value as of the end of the financial year and for each day on which units are issued or redeemed. The subfund's assets will not be calculated on days when the stock exchanges / markets in the main investment countries of the subfund concerned are closed (e.g., bank and stock exchange holidays).
- 2. Securities traded on a stock exchange or another regulated market open to the public shall be valued at the closing prices of the main market on the order day. Other investments or investments for which no current market value is available shall be valued at the price which would probably be obtained in a diligent sale at the time of the valuation. In such cases, the fund management company shall use appropriate and recognized valuation models and principles to determine the market value.
- 3. The net asset value of a unit of a subfund is determined by the market value of that subfund's assets, minus all that subfund's liabilities, divided by the number of units of that subfund in circulation. It will be rounded up or down to four places after the decimal point of the unit of account.

## § 17 Issue and Redemption of Units

- Subscription and redemption orders for units are accepted up to a certain cut-off time specified in the prospectus on the day the orders are placed. The definitive price of the units for the issues and redemptions is determined in line with the "forward pricing" principal. Details are set out in the prospectus.
- 2. The issue and redemption price of units is based on the net asset value per unit on the valuation day calculated on the basis of the relevant closing prices pursuant to § 16 and as specified further in the table of the prospectus. Incidental costs (such as standard brokerage charges, commission, taxes and duties, transaction costs (such as execution and any positive or negative slippage costs)) effectively incurred by a subfund in connection with the investment of the amount paid in, or with the sale of that portion of investments corresponding to the redeemed unit(s), will be charged to that subfund's assets. When units are issued, the incidental costs incurred by the subfund concerned in connection with the investment of that portion of investments corresponding to the amount paid in will be added to the net asset value. When units are redeemed, the incidental costs incurred by the subfund concerned in connection with the sale of a portion of investments corresponding to the redeemed units will be deducted from the net asset value. The applicable maximum rate is stated in the table at the end of the prospectus. Furthermore, in the case of unit issues, an issuing commission may be added to the net asset value pursuant to § 18 and in the case of unit redemptions, a redemption commission may be deducted from the net asset value pursuant to § 18.
- 3. The fund management company may suspend the issue of units at any time, and may reject applications for the subscription or switching of units
- 4. The fund management company may temporarily and by way of exception defer repayment in respect of units of a subfund in the interests of all investors:
  - a) if a market which is the basis for the valuation of a significant proportion of the assets of the subfund concerned is closed, or if trading on such a market is restricted or suspended;
  - b) in the event of a political, economic, military, monetary or other emergency;
  - c) if, owing to exchange controls or restrictions on other asset transfers, the subfund can no longer transact its business;
  - d) in the event of large-scale redemptions of units of the subfund that could significantly affect the interests of the remaining investors of this subfund.
- 5. The fund management company shall immediately apprise the auditors and the supervisory authority of any decision to suspend redemptions.
- 6. The issue of units of a subfund shall be suspended for as long as the redemption of units of this subfund is delayed on the grounds referred to under prov. 4 a) to c).
- 7. In the event of a subscription, every Investor may apply to make deposits into the Fund's portfolio instead of making payment in cash ("contribution in kind"). In the event of a termination, every investor may apply to have assets transferred to them instead of payment in cash ("redemption in kind"). The application must be submitted together with the subscription / termination. The fund management company is not obliged to permit contributions and redemptions in kind.

The decision on contributions and redemptions in kind lies with the fund management company alone, and it approves such transactions only if the execution of the transactions is fully in accordance with the investment policy of the umbrella fund or the respective subfund and if the interests of the other investors are not impaired.

The costs entailed in connection with contributions or redemptions in kind may not be charged to the fund assets.

In the event of contributions or redemptions in kind, the fund management company draws up a report containing information on the individual assets that have been transferred, the market price of these assets on the transfer date, the number of units issued or redeemed in return, and cash payments made to cover peak equalization. For every contributions or redemption in kind, the custodian bank verifies that the fund management company has complied with its duty of loyalty, and also checks the valuation of the assets transferred and the units issued or redeemed as of the relevant date. Should it have any reservations or complaints, the custodian bank must report these to the audit firm without delay.

Transactions relating to contributions and redemptions in kind must be disclosed in the annual report.

#### V. Fees and Incidental Costs

## § 18 Fees and Incidental Costs Charged to the Investor

- 1. In the case of unit issues, investors will be charged an issuing fee of up to 5% of the net asset value, such fees accruing to the fund management company. This also applies to individual subscriptions made as part of any kind of fund investment program; in such cases, no additional costs incurred for individual instalments may be charged. The currently relevant maximum applicable rate is stated in the prospectus.
- 2. On the redemption of fund units, the investors will be charged a redemption commission accruing to the fund management company of up to 3% of the net asset value of the subfunds. This also applies to redemptions made as part of any kind of fund investment program; in such cases, no additional costs incurred for individual withdrawals may be charged. The currently relevant maximum applicable rate is stated in the prospectus.
- 3. The following applies to the issue and redemption of units in the subfunds:

## **Bond Index Exchange Traded Funds**

#### iShares Core CHF Corporate Bond ETF (CH)

The fund management company shall charge the incidental costs for the purchase and sale of investments (such as standard brokerage charges, commission, taxes and duties, transaction costs (such as execution and any positive or negative slippage costs)) incurred by the subfund through the investment or sale of a portion of the investments as a result of subscriptions or redemptions, this accruing to the assets of the subfund concerned.

The issue price corresponds to the net asset value calculated on the valuation day, plus any incidental costs (such as standard brokerage charges, commission, taxes and duties, transaction costs (such as execution and any positive or negative slippage costs)) incurred by the corresponding subfund in connection with the investment of the amount paid in, plus the issuing commission. The maximum amounts for the incidental costs and the issuing commission are set out in the table at the end of the prospectus.

The redemption price corresponds to the net asset value calculated on the valuation day, less any incidental costs (such as standard brokerage charges, commission, taxes and duties, transaction costs (such as execution and any positive or negative slippage costs)) incurred by the corresponding subfund in connection with the sale of that portion of investments corresponding to the redeemed unit(s), less the redemption commission. The maximum amounts for the incidental costs and the redemption commission are set out in the table at the end of the prospectus.

The fund management company may on the request of an investor in the primary market charge incidental costs on the basis of a fixed rate ("fixed issue and redemption fees") provided that the investment or sale of the net amount of subscriptions or redemptions received on an order day for which the charges of the incidental costs was chosen to be on a fixed rate basis have no significant negative effect on the subfund's assets ("net" means the difference between the subscription and redemption requests on the relevant order day).

Fixed issue and redemption fees may be set at a different rate for subscriptions and redemptions. The maximum applicable rates for the fixed issue and redemption fees and for the effective incidental costs are shown in the table at the end of the prospectus.

The indicative threshold value of net subscriptions and redemptions that can be executed at a fixed rate of costs, and the rate for fixed issue and redemption fees, are established daily and available from the fund management company on request. Calculation of the indicative threshold value and the rate for fixed issue and redemption fees takes account of the incidental costs that are expected to be incurred on average from the investment or sale of the corresponding portion of the assets on the day in question.

The fund management company has delegated the setting of an indicative threshold value and the rate for fixed issue and redemption fees to BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited, London.

4. For the distribution of liquidation proceeds in the event of the subfund's dissolution, investors may be charged a commission of 0.5% of the net asset value of their units.

# § 19 Fees and Incidental Costs Charged to the Subfunds' Assets

- 1. For the administration, asset management and distribution activity in relation to the subfunds as well as all tasks performed by the custodian bank (such as safekeeping of the fund assets, the handling of payment transactions) and other tasks listed under § 4, the fund management company shall charge the subfunds a flat fee not exceeding 1,00% p. a. of the subfund's net assets, to be charged to the fund assets on a pro rata basis every time the net asset value is calculated, and paid out at the end of each quarter.
  - The rate of the flat fee actually charged is stated in the table at the end of the prospectus and can also be found in the annual and semi-annual reports.
- 2. The following fees and incidental costs of the fund management company and the custodian bank are not included in the flat fee and may be charged additionally to the respective subfunds assets:
  - a. costs in connection with the purchase and sale of the investments, including hedging transactions, namely brokerage fees in line with the
    market, commissions, clearing and settlement costs, bank charges, taxes and duties, as well as costs for checking and maintaining quality
    standards for physical investments;
  - b. all costs incurred as a result of extraordinary steps taken by the fund management company, the asset manager of collective investment schemes or the custodian bank to safeguard investors' interests;
  - c. the supervisory authority's fees in relation to the establishment, amendment, liquidation or merger of the umbrella fund or the subfunds;
  - d. the supervisory authority's annual fees;
  - e. the audit firm's fees for annual auditing as well as certification in the case of establishment, amendments, liquidation or mergers of the umbrella fund or the subfunds;

- f. fees for legal and tax advisors in connection with the establishment, amendment, liquidation or merger of the umbrella fund or the subfunds, as well as generally upholding the interests of the umbrella fund or the subfunds and its or their investors;
- g. the cost of publishing the net asset value of the umbrella fund or the subfunds, together with all the costs of providing notices to investors, including translation costs, provided such costs cannot be ascribed to any failure on the part of the fund management company;
- h. the cost of printing and translating legal documents, as well as the umbrella fund's annual and semi-annual reports;
- the cost of any registration of the umbrella fund or the subfunds with a foreign supervisory authority, and specifically the commissions levied by the foreign supervisory authority, translation costs, and remuneration for the representative or paying agent abroad;
- j. costs relating to the exercising of voting rights or creditors' rights by the umbrella fund or the subfunds, including the cost of fees paid to external advisors;
- k. Costs for the registration or renewal of a legal entity identifier with domestic and foreign registration offices;
- I. Costs and fees in connection with the listing of the umbrella fund;
- m. Costs and fees for the purchase and use of data and data licences, insofar as they can be attributed to the umbrella fund and do not constitute research costs;
- n. Costs and fees for the use and verification of independent labels;
- o. Costs and fees associated with intellectual property registered in the name of the umbrella fund and/or a subfund or rights of use (incl. costs and fees associated with index or benchmark licences) of the umbrella fund or subfunds respectively.
- 3. The costs in accordance with point 2(a) (with the exception of the costs of checking and maintaining quality standards for physical assets) are added directly to the cost value or deducted from the sale value.
- 4. The fund management company, its agents and the custodian bank generally do not pay retrocessions as remuneration for distribution activity in respect of fund units in or from Switzerland. They may however use some of its fees to pay for selected services in certain situations. For example, the fund management company may pay third parties to facilitate joint marketing initiatives, to train and educate clients and client advisers, to report on trading in the secondary market, and to provide access to fund holding data which is otherwise unavailable. The prospectus shall contain further information whether and, if applicable, under which further conditions such fees may be paid. Moreover, the fund management company, its agents and the custodian bank may pay rebates pursuant to the provisions of the prospectus in order to reduce the attributable to the investor and charged to the respective subfund's fees and costs.
- 5. If the fund management company acquires units of other collective investment schemes that are managed directly or indirectly by the fund management company itself or a company with which it is related by virtue of common management or control or by way of a significant direct or indirect stake ("related target funds"), no issuing or redemption commissions of the related target funds may be charged to the umbrella fund and subfunds.

#### VI. Financial Statements and Audits

## § 20 Financial Statements

- 1. The accounting currencies of the individual subfunds is Swiss francs (CHF).
- 2. The financial year runs from June 1 until May 31 of the following year.
- 3. The fund management company shall publish an audited annual report for the umbrella fund and subfunds respectively within four months of the end of the financial year.
- 4. The fund management company shall publish a semi-annual report for the umbrella fund and subfunds respectively within two months following the end of the first half of the financial year.
- 5. The investor's right to obtain information under § 5 prov. 4 is reserved.

## § 21 Audits

The auditors shall each year examine whether the fund management company and the custodian bank have acted in compliance with the legal and contractual provisions and if applicable the code of conduct of the Asset Management Association Switzerland (AMAS). The annual report shall contain a short report by the auditors on the published annual financial statements.

## VII. Treatment of Net Income

## § 22

- The net income of the individual subfunds shall be distributed annually to the investors within four months of the end of the financial year in the fund's unit of account, the Swiss franc.
  - The fund management company may make additional interim distributions from the income.
  - Up to 30% of the net income may be carried forward to the new account. If the net income in a financial year, including income carried forward from previous financial years, is less than 1% of the net assets of a subfund and less than CHF 1, USD 1, EUR 1 or JPY 100 per unit (depending on reference currency), a distribution may be waived and the entire net income may be carried forward to the following financial year.
- 2. Capital gains realized on the sale of assets, rights and capital repayments by underlying securities can be distributed by the fund management company or retained for the purpose of reinvestment.

## VIII. Publication of Official Notices by the Umbrella Fund and Subfunds

## § 23

- 1. The medium of publication of the umbrella fund and subfunds is deemed to be the print medium or electronic medium specified in the prospectus. Notification of any change in the medium of publication shall be published in the medium of publication.
- 2. The following information shall in particular be published in the medium of publication: summaries of material amendments to the fund contract, indicating the offices from which the amended wording may be obtained free of charge, any change of fund management company and/or custodian bank, the creation, dissolution or merger of unit classes, as well as the liquidation of the umbrella fund or of the subfunds. Amendments that are required by law that do not affect the rights of investors or are of an exclusively formal nature may be exempted from the duty to publish subject to the approval of the supervisory authority.

- 3. Each time units are issued or redeemed, the fund management company shall publish both the issue and the redemption prices or the net asset value together with a footnote "excluding commissions" in the medium of publication specified in the prospectus. The prices shall be published at least twice per month.
- 4. The prospectus, including the fund contract and the key information document (KID) or equivalent and also the annual and semi-annual reports, may be obtained free of charge from the fund management company, the custodian bank and all distributors.

## IX. Restructuring and Dissolution

## § 24 Mergers

- 1. Subject to the consent of the custodian bank, the fund management company can merge individual subfunds with other subfunds or other investment funds by transferring as of the time of the merger the assets and liabilities of the subfund(s) or fund(s) being acquired to the acquiring subfund or fund. The investors of the subfund(s) or fund(s) being acquired shall receive the corresponding number of units in the acquiring subfund or fund. The subfund(s) or fund(s) being acquired is/are terminated without liquidation when the merger takes place, and the fund contract of the acquiring subfund or fund shall also apply for the subfund(s) or fund(s) being acquired.
- 2. Subfunds and funds may be merged only if:
  - a) provision for this is made in the relevant fund contracts;
  - b) they are managed by the same fund management company;
  - c) the relevant fund contracts are basically identical in terms of the following provisions:
    - the investment policy, investment techniques, risk diversification, as well as the risks associated with the investment
    - the appropriation of net income and capital gains from the sale of assets and rights
    - the type, amount and calculation of all fees, the issue and redemption commission together with the incidental costs for the purchase and sale of the investments (brokerage fees, charges, duties) that may be charged to the assets of the funds or subfunds or to the investors
    - the redemption conditions
    - the duration of the contract and the conditions of dissolution;
  - d) the assets of the funds concerned are valued, the exchange ratio is calculated, and the assets and liabilities are acquired on the same day;
  - e) no costs shall arise as a result for either the funds or subfunds or the investors.
- If the merger is likely to take more than one day, the supervisory authority may approve limited deferment of repayment in respect of the units of the funds or subfunds involved.
- 4. The fund management company must submit the proposed merger together with the merger schedule to the supervisory authority for review at least one month before the planned publication of the intended changes to the fund contract. The merger schedule must contain information on the reasons for the merger, the investment policies of the funds or subfunds involved and any differences between the acquiring fund or subfund and the fund(s) or subfund(s) being acquired, the calculation of the exchange ratio, any differences with regard to fees and any tax implications for the funds or subfunds, as well as a statement from the competent statutory auditors for collective investment schemes.
- 5. The fund management company must publish a notice of the proposed changes to the fund contract pursuant to § 23 prov. 2 and the proposed merger and its timing together with the merger schedule at least two months before the planned date of merger in the medium of publication of the subfunds or funds involved. In this notice, it must inform the investors that they may lodge objections against the proposed changes to the fund contract with the supervisory authority within 30 days of the publication of the notice, or request redemption of their units in cash or in kind according to § 17 prov. 7, respectively.
- 6. The auditors must check directly that the merger is being carried out correctly, and shall submit a report containing their comments in this regard to the fund management company and the supervisory authority.
- 7. The fund management company shall inform the supervisory authority of the conclusion of the merger and shall publish notification of the completion of the merger, the confirmation from the auditors regarding the proper execution of the merger and the exchange ratio without delay in the medium of publication of the funds or subfunds involved.
- 8. The fund management company must make reference to the merger in the next annual report of the acquiring fund or subfund and in the semi-annual report if published prior to the annual report. If the merger does not take place on the last day of the usual financial year, an audited closing statement must be produced for the fund(s) or subfund(s) being acquired.

## § 25 Duration of the Subfunds and Dissolution

- 1. The individual subfunds have been established for an indefinite period.
- 2. The fund management company or the custodian bank may dissolve some or all of the subfunds by terminating the fund contract without notice.
- 3. The subfund may be dissolved by order of the supervisory authority, in particular if at the latest one year after the expiry of the subscription period (launch) or a longer extended period approved by the supervisory authority at the request of the custodian bank and the fund management company it does not have net assets of at least CHF 5 million (or the equivalent).
- 4. The fund management company shall inform the supervisory authority of the dissolution immediately and shall publish notification in the medium of publication.
- 5. Once the fund contract has been terminated, the fund management company may liquidate the subfund forthwith. If the supervisory authority has ordered the dissolution of the subfund, it must be liquidated forthwith. The custodian bank is responsible for the payment of liquidation proceeds to the investors. If the liquidation proceedings are protracted, payment may be made in installments. Prior to the final payment, the fund management company must obtain authorization from the supervisory authority.

## X. Changes to the Fund Contract

## § 26

If changes are made to the present fund contract, or if a change of the fund management company or of the custodian bank is planned, the investors may lodge objections with the supervisory authority within 30 days of the corresponding publication. In this publication, the fund management company informs investors which amendments to the fund contract are covered by FINMA's verification and ascertainment of compliance with the Act. In the event of a change to the fund contract, the investors can also demand the redemption of their units in cash subject to the contractual period of notice. Exceptions in this regard are cases pursuant to § 23 prov. 2 that have been exempted from the duty to publish with the approval of the supervisory authority.

# XI. Applicable Law and Place of Jurisdiction

# § 27

- 1. The umbrella fund and the individual subfunds are subject to Swiss law, in particular the Swiss Federal Act on Collective Investment Schemes of June 23, 2006 (CISA), the Ordinance on Collective Investment Schemes of November 22, 2006 (CISO) and the Ordinance of the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority on Collective Investment Schemes of 27 August 2014 (CISO-FINMA).
  - The court of jurisdiction is the court at the fund management company's registered office.
- 2. When approving the fund contract, FINMA examines all provisions of the fund contract and determines their compliance with the law.
- 3. For the interpretation of the fund contract, the German-language version shall be binding.
- 4. The present fund contract takes effect on 8 November 2024.

