AMENDMENTS TO POLICY STATEMENT TO REGULATION 81-106 RESPECTING INVESTMENT FUND CONTINUOUS DISCLOSURE

Securities Act (R.S.Q., c. V-1.1, s. 274)

- 1. Section 2.1 of Policy Statement to *Regulation 81-106 respecting Investment Fund Continuous Disclosure* is amended by repealing subsection (1).
- 2. The Policy Statement is amended by adding the following section after section 2.5:

"2.5.1 Disclosure of Investment Portfolio

If an investment fund invests substantially all of its assets directly, or indirectly through the use of derivatives, in securities of one other investment fund, the investment fund should provide in the statement of investment portfolio, or the notes to that statement, additional disclosure concerning the holdings of the other investment fund, as available, in order to assist investors in understanding the actual portfolio to which the investment fund is exposed. The CSA is of the view that such disclosure is consistent with the requirements in the Handbook relating to financial instrument disclosure."

- **3.** Section 2.9 of the Policy Statement is repealed.
- **4.** Section 4.1 of the Policy Statement is amended:
 - (1) by replacing the last paragraph of paragraph (1) with the following:

"The choices are intended to provide some flexibility concerning the delivery of continuous disclosure documents to securityholders. An investment fund can use any combination of the delivery options for its securityholders. However, the Regulation specifies that once an investment fund chooses option (b) for a securityholder, it cannot switch back to option (c) for that securityholder at a later date. The purpose of this requirement is to encourage investment funds to obtain standing instructions and to ensure that if a securityholder provides standing instructions, the investment fund will abide by those instructions unless the securityholder specifically changes them."; and

- (2) by replacing, in the French text of paragraph 4, the words "la même société de gestion" with the words "le même gestionnaire".
- **5.** The Policy Statement is amended by replacing the second paragraph of section 4.2 with the following:

""We recognize that different types of investment funds have different access to beneficial owner information (for example, mutual funds are more likely to have beneficial owner information than exchange-traded funds) and that the procedures in Regulation 54-101 may not be efficient for every investment fund. We intend the provisions in Part 5 of the Regulation to provide investment funds with flexibility to communicate directly with the beneficial owners of their securities. If an investment fund has the necessary information to communicate directly with one or more beneficial owners of its securities, it can do so, even though it may need to rely on Regulation 54-101 to communicate with other beneficial owners of its securities."

6. The Policy Statement is amended by adding the following paragraph after section 4.4:

"4.5 Website Disclosure

The Regulation does not specify the length of time that continuous disclosure documents must remain on an investment fund's website. In the CSA's view, the documents should stay on the website for a reasonable length of time, and at least until they are replaced by more current versions."

- 7. Part 9 of the Policy Statement is amended by
- (1) striking out the heading "PUBLICATION OF NET ASSET VALUE PER SECURITY" and substituting the heading "NET ASSET VALUE"; and
 - (2) by adding the following after section 9.1:

"9.2 Fair Value Guidance

Section 14.2 of the Regulation requires an investment fund to calculate its net asset value based on the fair value of the investment fund's assets and liabilities. While investment funds are required to comply with the definition of "fair value" in the Regulation when calculating net asset value, they may also look to the Handbook for guidance on the measurement of fair value. The fair value principles articulated in the Handbook can be applied by investment funds when valuing assets and liabilities.

9.3 Meaning of Fair Value

The Handbook defines fair value as being the amount of the consideration that would be agreed upon in an arm's length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties who are under no compulsion to act. Accordingly, fair value should not reflect the amount that would be received or paid in a forced transaction, involuntary liquidation or distress sale.

9.4 Determination of Fair Value

- (1) A market is generally considered active when quoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry group, pricing service or regulatory agency, and those prices reflect actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis.
- (2) A market is not considered to be active, and prices derived from it may be unreliable for valuation purposes, if, at the time the investment fund begins to calculate its net asset value, any of the following circumstances are present:
- markets on which portfolio securities are principally traded closed several hours earlier (e.g. some foreign markets may close as much as 15 hours before the time the investment fund begins to calculate its net asset value)
 - trading is halted
- events occur that unexpectedly close entire markets (e.g. natural disasters, power blackouts, public disturbances, or similar major events)
 - markets are closed due to scheduled holidays
 - the security is illiquid and trades infrequently.

If an investment fund manager determines that an active market does not exist for a security, the manager should consider whether the last available quoted market price is representative of fair value. If a significant event (i.e. one that may impact the value of the portfolio security) has occurred between the time the last quoted market price was established and the time the investment fund begins to calculate its net asset value, the last quoted market price may not be representative of fair value.

(3) Whether a particular event is a significant event for a security depends on whether the event may affect the value of the security. Generally, significant events fall into one of three categories: (i) issuer specific events – e.g. the resignation of the CEO or an after-hours earnings announcement, (ii) market events – e.g. a natural disaster, a political event, or a significant governmental action like raising interest rates, and (iii) volatility events – e.g. a significant movement in North American equity markets that may directly impact the market prices of securities traded on overseas exchanges.

Whether a market movement is significant is a matter to be determined by the manager through the establishment of tolerance levels which it may choose to base on, for example, a specified intraday and/or interday percentage movement of a specific index, security or basket of securities. In all cases, the appropriate triggers should be determined based on the manager's own due diligence and understanding of the correlations relevant to each investment fund's portfolio.

9.5 Fair Value Techniques

The CSA do not endorse any particular fair value technique as we recognize that this is a constantly evolving process. However, whichever technique is used, it should be applied consistently for a portfolio security throughout the fund complex and reviewed for reasonableness on a regular basis.

9.6 Valuation Policies and Procedures

An investment fund's valuation policy should be approved by the manager's board of directors. The policies and procedures should describe the process for monitoring significant events or other situations that could call into question whether a quoted market price is representative of fair value. They should also describe the methods by which the manager will review and test valuations to evaluate the quality of the prices obtained as well as the general functioning of the valuation process. The manager should also consider whether its valuation process is a conflict of interest matter as defined in *Regulation 81-107 respecting Independent Review Committee for Investment Funds*".

- **8.** Section 10.1 of the Policy Statement is amended by
 - (1) striking out "of all types" in subsection (2); and
 - (2) repealing subsection (4) and substituting the following:

"(4) While brokerage commissions and other portfolio transaction costs are expenses of an investment fund for accounting purposes, they are not included in the MER. These costs are reflected in the trading expense ratio."

- **9.** Appendix B of the Policy Statement is amended by
- (1) striking out the title "CONTACT ADDRESSES FOR FILING OF NOTICES" and substituting the title "CONTACT ADDRESSES";
- (2) in the address for the Alberta Securities Commission, striking out "Attention: Director, Capital Markets" and substituting "Attention: Corporate Finance";

3

(3) striking out the address for the Manitoba Securities Commission and substituting the following:

"Manitoba Securities Commission 500 – 400 St. Mary Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 4K5 Attention: Corporate Finance"; and

- (4) striking out "Securities Commission of Newfoundland and Labrador" and substituting "Newfoundland and Labrador Securities Commission".
- 10. The Policy Statement is amended by replacing, in the French text and wherever they appear, the words "société de gestion", "la société de gestion", "sa société de gestion" and "à la société de gestion" with the words "gestionnaire", "le gestionnaire", "son gestionnaire" and "au gestionnaire", respectively.

6. Marchés des valeurs