Commission Regulation (EU) No 583/2010 of 1 July 2010 implementing Directive 2009/65/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards key investor information and conditions to be met when providing key investor information or the prospectus in a durable medium other than paper or by means of a website (Text with EEA relevance)

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 583/2010

of 1 July 2010

implementing Directive 2009/65/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards key investor information and conditions to be met when providing key investor information or the prospectus in a durable medium other than paper or by means of a website

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Directive 2009/65/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 on the coordination of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities (UCITS)[(1)], and in particular Article 75(4), Article 78(7), and Article 81(2) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Directive 2009/65/EC specifies the main principles that should be followed in preparing and providing key investor information, including requirements concerning its format and presentation, its objectives, the main elements of the information that is to be disclosed, who should deliver the information to whom, and the methods that should be used for such delivery. Details on the content and format have been left to be developed further by means of implementing measures, which should be specific enough to ensure that investors receive the information they need in respect to particular fund structures.

(2) The form of a Regulation is justified as this form alone can ensure that the exhaustive content of key investor information is harmonised. Furthermore, a key investor information document will be more efficient where requirements applicable to it are identical in all Member States. All stakeholders should benefit from a harmonised regime on the form and content of the disclosure, which will ensure that information about investment opportunities in the UCITS' market is consistent and comparable.

(3) In some cases, key investor information can be delivered more effectively when the key investor information document is provided to investors through a website, or where the key investor information document is attached to another document when it is given to the potential investor. In these cases, however, the context in which the key investor information document appears should not undermine the key investor information

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document, or imply that it is an item of promotional literature or that accompanying items of promotional literature are of equal or greater relevance to the retail investor.

(4) It is necessary to ensure that the content of the information is relevant, the organisation of the information is logical and the language appropriate for retail investors. To address these concerns, this Regulation should ensure that the key investor information document is able to engage investors and aid comparisons through its format, presentation and the quality and nature of the language used. This Regulation aims to ensure consistency in the format of the document, including a common running order with identical headings.

(5) This Regulation specifies the content of the information on investment objectives and the investment policy of UCITS so that investors can easily see whether or not a fund is likely to be suitable for their needs. For this reason, the information should indicate whether returns can be expected in the form of capital growth, payment of income, or a combination of both. The description of the investment policy should indicate to the investor what the overall aims of the UCITS are and how these objectives are to be achieved. With regard to the financial instruments in which investments are to be made, only those which may have a material impact on UCITS' performance need to be mentioned, rather than all possible eligible instruments.

(6) This Regulation lays down detailed rules on the presentation of the risk and reward profile of the investment, by requiring use of a synthetic indicator and specifying the content of narrative explanations of the indicator itself and risks which are not captured by the indicator, but which may have a material impact on the risk and reward profile of the UCITS. In applying the rules on the synthetic indicator account should be taken of the methodology for the calculation of the synthetic indicator as developed by competent authorities working within the Committee of European Securities Regulators. The management company should decide on a case-by-case basis which specific risks should be disclosed by analysing the particular characteristics of each fund, bearing in mind the need to avoid over-burdening the document with information that retail investors will find difficult to understand. In addition the narrative explanation of the risk and reward profile should be limited in size in terms of the amount of space it occupies within the key investor information document. It should be possible to have cross-references to the prospectus of the UCITS where full details of its risks are disclosed.

(7) Consistency should be ensured between the explanation of risks in the key investor information document and the management company's internal processes related to risk management, established in accordance with Commission Directive 2010/43/EU of 1 July 2010 implementing Directive 2009/65/EC of the European Parliament and the Council as regards organisational requirements, conflicts of interests, conduct of business, risk management and content of the agreement between a depositary and a management company[(2)]. For instance, so as to ensure consistency, the permanent risk management function should where appropriate be given the opportunity to review and comment on the risk and reward profile section of the key investor information document.

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(8) This Regulation specifies the common format for the presentation and explanation of charges, including relevant warnings, so that investors are appropriately informed about the charges they will have to incur and their proportion to the amount of capital actually invested into the fund. In applying these rules, account should be taken of the work on the methodology for the calculation of charges figures as developed by competent authorities working within the Committee of European Securities Regulators.

(9) The detailed rules on the presentation of information about past performance are based on the requirements for such information in the Directive 2004/39/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 on markets in financial instruments amending Council Directives 85/611/EEC and 93/6/EEC and Directive 2000/12/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Council Directive 93/22/EEC[(3)]. This Regulation supplements the rules of Directive 2004/39/EC by including specific requirements necessary for harmonising the information for the purpose of facilitating comparisons between different key investor information documents. In particular, this Regulation prescribes that only net annual returns shall be shown, through a bar chart format. Certain aspects of the presentation of the bar chart should be regulated, including the limited circumstances in which simulated data might be used.

(10) It should be recognised that cross-referring to information might be useful to the investor but it is essential that the key investor information document should contain all information necessary for the investor to understand the essential elements of the UCITS. If cross-references to sources of information other than the prospectus and periodic reports are used, it should be made clear that the prospectus and periodic reports are the primary sources of additional information for investors, and the cross-references should not downplay their significance.

(11) The key investor information document should be reviewed and revised as appropriate and as frequently as is necessary to ensure that it continues to meet the requirements for key investor information specified in Articles 78(2) and 79(1) of Directive 2009/65/EC. As a matter of good practice, management companies should review the key investor information document before entering into any initiative that is likely to result in a significant number of new investors acquiring units in the fund.

(12) The form or content of key investor information may need to be adjusted to specific cases. Consequently, this Regulation tailors the general rules applicable to all UCITS so as to take into account the specific situation of certain types of UCITS, namely those having different investment compartments or share classes, those with fund of funds structures, those with master-feeder structures, and those that are structured, such as capital protected or comparable UCITS.

(13) With regard to UCITS having different share classes, there should be no obligation to produce a separate key investor information document for every such share class, so long as investors' interests are not compromised. The details of two or more classes may be combined into a single key investor information document only where this can be done without making the document too complicated or crowded. Alternatively, a representative class may be selected, but only in cases where there is sufficient similarity between the classes such that information about the representative class is fair, clear

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and not misleading as regards the represented class. In determining whether the use of a representative class is fair, clear and not misleading, regard should be had to the characteristics of the UCITS, the nature of the differences represented by each class, and the range of choices on offer to each investor or group of investors.

(14) In the case of a fund of funds, the right balance is kept between the information on the UCITS that the investor invests in and its underlying collectives. The key investor information document of a fund of funds should therefore be prepared on the basis that the investor does not wish or need to be informed in detail about the individual features of each of the underlying collectives, which in any case are likely to vary from time to time if the UCITS is being actively managed. However, in order for the key investor information document to deliver effective disclosure of the fund of funds' objective and investment policy, risk factors, and charging structure, the characteristics of its underlying funds should be transparent.

(15) In the case of master-feeder structures, the description of the feeder UCITS' risk and reward profile should not be materially different to that of the corresponding section in the master UCITS' key investor information document so that the feeder can copy information from the key investor information document of the master wherever it is relevant. However, this information should be supplemented by relevant statements or duly adjusted in those cases where ancillary assets held by the feeder might modify the risk profile compared to the master, addressing the risks inherent in these ancillary assets, for instance where derivatives are used. The combined costs of investing in the feeder and the master should be disclosed to investors in the feeder.

(16) With regard to structured UCITS, such as capital protected and other comparable UCITS, the provision of prospective performance scenarios in place of past performance information is required. Prospective performance scenarios involve calculating the expected return of the fund under favourable, adverse, or neutral hypotheses regarding market conditions. These scenarios should be chosen so as to effectively illustrate the full range of possible outcomes according to the formula.

(17) Where the key investor information and the prospectus are to be provided in a durable medium other than paper or by means of a website, additional safety measures are necessary for investor protection reasons, so as to ensure that investors receive information in a form relevant to their needs, and so as to maintain the integrity of the information provided, prevent alterations that undermine its comprehensibility and effectiveness, and avoid manipulation or modification by unauthorised persons. This Regulation contains a reference to rules on durable medium laid down in the Commission Directive 2006/73/EC of 10 August 2006 implementing Directive 2004/39/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards organisational requirements and operating conditions for investment firms and defined terms for the purposes of that Directive[(4)] in order to ensure the equal treatment of investors and a level playing field in financial sectors.

(18) In order to allow management companies and investment companies to adapt to the new requirements contained in this Regulation in an efficient and effective manner, the

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starting date of application of this Regulation should be aligned with the transposition of Directive 2009/65/EC.

(19) The Committee of European Securities Regulators, established by Commission Decision 2009/77/EC[(5)], has been consulted for technical advice.

(20) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the European Securities Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

CHAPTER I

SUBJECT MATTER AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Article 1

Subject matter

This Regulation lays down the detailed rules for the implementation of Articles 75(2), 78(2) to (5) and 81(1) of Directive 2009/65/EC.

Article 2

General principles

1 Requirements laid down in this Regulation shall apply to any management company with regard to each UCITS it manages.

2 This Regulation shall apply to any investment company which has not designated a management company authorised pursuant to Directive 2009/65/EC.

Article 3

Principles regarding the key investor information document

1 This Regulation specifies in an exhaustive manner the form and content of the document containing key investor information (hereinafter referred to as key investor information document). No other information or statements shall be included except where this Regulation states otherwise.

2 The key investor information shall be fair, clear and not misleading.

3 The key investor information document shall be provided in such a way as to ensure that investors are able to distinguish it from other material. In particular, it shall not be presented or delivered in a way that is likely to lead investors to consider it less important than other information about the UCITS and its risks and benefits.