Capital Markets
ELITE GROUP™

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Derivatives risk warning notice

This notice is provided to you as a private client in compliance with the Cayman Islands Monetary Authority Securities Investment Business Law (2003 Revision) and its accompanying Regulations. Private clients are afforded greater protections under this Law and its accompanying Regulations than other clients, and you should ensure that your broker tells you what these are.

This notice does not disclose all of the risks and other significant aspects of derivatives products such as futures, options, and contracts for differences. You should not deal in derivatives unless you understand the nature of the contract you are entering into and the extent of your exposure to risk. You should also be satisfied that the contract is suitable for you in the light of your circumstances and financial position. Certain strategies, such as a “spread” position or a “straddle”, may be as risky as a simple “long” or “short” position.

Whilst derivative instruments can be utilised for the management of investment risk, some investments are unsuitable for many investors. Different instruments involve different levels of exposure to risk, and in deciding whether to trade in such instruments you should be aware of the following points.

1. **Futures.** Transactions in futures involve the obligation to **make, or to take, delivery** of the underlying asset of the contract at a future date, or in some cases to settle your position with cash. They carry a high degree of risk. The “gearing” or “leverage” often obtainable in futures trading means that a small deposit or down payment can lead to large losses as well as gains. It also means that a relatively small market movement can lead to a proportionately much larger movement in the value of your investment, and this can work against you as well as for you. **Futures transactions have a contingent liability**, and you should be aware of the implications of this, in particular the margining requirements, which are set out in paragraph (6) below.

2. **Options.** There are many different types of options with different characteristics subject to different conditions:

   a. Buying options: Buying options involves less risk than selling options because, if the price of the underlying asset moves against you, you can simply allow the option to lapse. The maximum loss is limited to the premium, plus any commission or other transaction charges. However, if you buy a call option on a futures contract and you later exercise the option, you will acquire the future. This will expose you to the risks described under “futures” and “contingent liability transactions”.

   b. Writing options: If you write an option, **the risk involved is considerably greater** than buying options. You may be liable for margin to maintain your position and a loss may be sustained well in excess of any premium received. By writing an option, you accept a legal obligation to purchase or sell the underlying asset if the option is exercised against you, however far the market price has moved away from the exercise price. If you already own the underlying asset which you have contracted to sell (known as “covered call options”) the risk is reduced. If you do not own the underlying asset (known as “uncovered call options”) the risk can be unlimited. Only experienced persons should contemplate writing uncovered options, and then only after securing full details of the applicable conditions and potential risk exposure.

   Certain options markets operate on a margined basis, under which buyers do not pay the full premium on their option at the time they purchase it. In this situation you may subsequently be called upon to pay margin on the option up to the level of your premium. If you fail to do so as required, your position may be closed or liquidated in the same way as a futures position.

3. **Contracts for differences.** Futures and options contracts can also be referred to as a Contract for Differences. These can be options and futures on any index, as well as currency and interest rate swaps. However, unlike other futures and options, these contracts can only be settled in cash. Investing in a contract for differences carries the same risks as investing in a future or an option and you should be aware of these as set out in paragraphs 1 and 2 respectively. Transactions in contracts for differences may also have a contingent liability and you should be aware of the implications of this as set out in the paragraph 6 below.

4. **Off exchange transactions.** It may not always be apparent whether or not a particular derivative is on or off-exchange. Your broker must make it clear to you if you are entering into an off exchange derivative transaction. While some off-exchange markets are highly liquid, transactions in off-exchange or “non transferable” derivatives may involve greater risk than investing in on-exchange derivatives because there is no exchange market on which to close out an open position, i.e. these might be securities that are not readily realisable instruments. It may be impossible to liquidate an existing position, to assess the value of the position arising from an off-exchange transaction or to assess the exposure to risk. Bid and offer prices need not be quoted, and, even where they are, they will be established by dealers in these instruments and consequently it may be difficult to establish what is a fair price.

5. **Foreign markets.** Foreign markets will involve specific market risks. In some cases the risks will be greater. On request, your broker must provide an explanation of the relevant risks and protections (if any) which will operate in any relevant foreign markets, including the extent to which he will accept liability for any default of a foreign broker through whom he deals. The potential for profit or loss from

transactions on foreign markets or in foreign denominated contracts will be affected by fluctuations in foreign exchange rates.

6. **Contingent liability transactions.** Contingent liability transactions that are margined require you to make a series of payments against the purchase price, instead of paying the whole purchase price immediately.

   If you trade in futures, contracts for differences or sell options you may sustain a total loss of the margin you deposit with your broker to establish or maintain a position. If the market moves against you, you may be called upon to pay substantial additional margin at short notice to maintain the position. If you fail to do so within the time required, your position may be liquidated at a loss and you will be liable for any resulting deficit.

   Even if a transaction is not margined, it may still carry an obligation to make further payments in certain circumstances over and above any amount paid when you entered the contract.

   Contingent liability transactions which are not traded on or under the rules of a recognised may expose you to substantially greater risks.

7. **Collateral.** If you deposit collateral as security with your broker, the way in which it will be treated will vary according to the type of transaction and where it is traded. There could be significant differences in the treatment of your collateral depending on whether you are trading on a recognised investment exchange, with the rules of that exchange (and associated clearing house) applying, or trading off exchange. Deposited collateral may lose its identity as your property once dealings on your behalf are undertaken. Even if your dealings should ultimately prove profitable, you may not get back the same assets that you deposited and may have to accept payment in cash. You should ascertain from your broker how your collateral will be dealt with.

8. **Commissions and charges.** Before you begin to trade, you should obtain all the relevant facts relating to the firm's remuneration attributable to any transaction and details of any other charges for which you will be liable. If any charges are not expressed in money terms (but, for example, as a percentage of contract value), you should obtain a clear written explanation, including appropriate examples, to establish what such charges are likely to mean in specific money terms. In the case of futures, when commission is charged as a percentage, it will normally be as a percentage of the total contract value, and not simply as a percentage of your initial payment.

9. **Suspensions of trading.** Under certain trading conditions it may be difficult or impossible to liquidate a position. This may occur, for example, at times of rapid price movement if the price rises or falls in one trading session to such an extent that under the rules of the relevant exchange trading is suspended or restricted. Placing a stop-loss order will not necessarily limit your losses to the intended amounts, because market conditions may make it impossible to execute such an order at the stipulated price.

10. **Clearing house protections.** On many exchanges, the performance of a transaction by your broker (or the third party with whom he is dealing on your behalf) is "guaranteed" by the exchange or its clearing house. However, this guarantee is unlikely in most circumstances to cover you, the client, and may not protect you if your broker or another party defaults on its obligations to you. On request, your broker must explain any protection provided to you under the clearing guarantee applicable to any on-exchange derivatives in which you are dealing. There is no clearing house for off-exchange instruments which are not traded under the rules of a recognised investment exchange.

11. **Insolvency.** Your broker's insolvency or default, or that of any other brokers involved with your transaction, may lead to positions being liquidated or closed out without your consent. In certain circumstances, you may not get back the actual assets that you lodged as collateral and you may have to accept any available payment in cash. On request, your broker must provide an explanation of the extent to which he will accept liability for any insolvency of, or default by, other brokers involved with your transactions.

Name of firm

On duplicate for signature by private client

I/We have read and understood the risk warning notice set out above.

Date

Client signature

Joint account holder signature