# **INFORMATION BROCHURE**

## **ORDER EXECUTION AND ORDER HANDLING POLICY** Valid from 01.02.2022

This document gives you **information on the Bank's order execution and order handling policy and procedures** (the "Policy"). The appendices form part of this Policy and any reference to the latter shall include the appendices.

In this policy we use "we", "the Bank" or "BNP Paribas Fortis" to refer to BNP Paribas Fortis SA/NV and we refer to clients as "you". This policy should be read in conjunction with the Bank's Investment Services General Conditions and Standard Terms and Conditions applicable to the client and any particular investment or ancillary service agreement a client enters into.

By relying on the Bank for order execution services (i.e. from the moment you place an order with or grant a discretionary mandate to the Bank), you agree to the terms of this Policy. We particularly underline the importance of reading it thoroughly prior to your acceptance.

Unless agreed otherwise in writing, when the Bank accepts an order received from you or on your behalf for the purchase or sale of financial instruments, whether initiated by yourself or by the Bank acting within the framework of a discretionary mandate for you, the Bank may, at its discretion either:

- transmit the order to a third-party financial intermediary (often referred to in the market as 'Broker') for execution; or
- execute the order on your behalf. This includes dealing as the client's agent or as principal. The Bank will usually execute your order on its own books and acts therefore as your direct counterpart.

The above mentioned manners of order execution are referred herein as "Order Execution Service(s)".

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#### CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT

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Scope of application

# **SCOPE OF APPLICATION**

- 1. Product scope .
- 2. Clients scope

## 1. Product scope

This Policy applies to Order Execution Services you entrust to the Bank with regard to financial instruments as defined by MiFID II and as identified and accepted by the Bank. A list of accepted classes of financial instruments is mentioned in section "<u>How are your orders executed?</u>" on page 4 of this Policy.

The obligation of the Bank to obtain the best possible result shall not apply amongst other to:

- execution of orders on the primary market related to new issues of debt and equity instruments whether in the context of public or private offers or reverse inquiry;
- spot commodity transactions;
- loans and deposits and
- exercise and assignment of options.

Although spot foreign exchange (FX spot) is not a "financial instrument" under MiFID II, it is in scope of our Best Execution monitoring program. This means that BNP Paribas Fortis must act honestly in the best interest of its clients and take reasonable and explicable margins.

### 2. Clients scope

This Policy concerns all clients of the Bank categorised as "retail clients" or as "professional clients" within the meaning of MiFID II. This policy does not apply to clients categorised as "eligible counterparties" under MiFID II.

Categorisation is undertaken on the basis of objective criteria and in accordance with the prevailing regulations. Each client is informed by the Bank of its client categorisation within the framework of the investment or ancillary services provided.



Best execution

# **BEST EXECUTION**

1.	What is best execution?
2.	Execution venues
3.	Execution factors
	How are your orders executed?
	Limitations and restrictions to best execution
6.	Inducements

## 1. What is best execution?

In accordance with MiFID II an investment firm is required to take all sufficient steps to obtain for clients the best possible result on a consistent basis when executing their orders ("Best Execution").

Best Execution is however a process and not an outcome. We therefore do not guarantee that the best possible result will be obtained in all circumstances for each individual transaction.

When we accept an order for or from you, we execute or transmit it in accordance with your instructions and with this Policy, taking into account the type of financial instrument concerned. The manner to obtain the best possible result may differ on the basis of the type of financial instruments concerned.

## 2. Execution venues

Orders can be executed on different execution venues, either:

- trading venues, namely regulated markets ("RMs"), multilateral trading facilities ("MTFs") and organised trading facilities ("OTFs"); or
- execution venues other than trading venues which include Systematic Internalisers, market makers and other liquidity providers. Such execution venues comprehend amongst other BNP Paribas Fortis (dealing on own account) and third-party financial intermediaries.

The selection of the execution venue for executing the order will principally depend on the type of financial instrument, the Order Execution Service offered by the Bank in relation thereto and the relevant execution factors.

### 3. Execution factors

The execution factors taken into account by the Bank for the execution of client orders are price, costs, speed, likelihood of execution and settlement, size, nature of the order, or any other consideration relevant to the execution of the order.

In order to determine the relative importance of the factors mentioned above, the Bank reserves the right to take into account the following criteria:

- Client segment: the characteristics of the client including the classification of the client as retail or professional client under MiFID;
- Client order: the characteristics of the client order, including where the order involves a Securities Financing Transaction (SFT);
- Financial instruments: the characteristics of the financial instrument that are the subject of that order;
- **Execution venues:** the characteristics of the execution venues to which that order can be directed.

For retail clients under MiFID, the best possible result shall be determined in terms of "total consideration", representing the price paid for the financial instrument and all associated transaction costs incurred by the client. Such costs may include amongst other execution fees, clearing and settlement fees, any other fees paid to third parties involved in the execution of the order, as well as foreign exchange fees charged for transactions in financial instruments which are traded in a currency other than euro.

There might be circumstances where the priority and/or weight of the relevant factors may be altered when the Bank judges that it is not likely that the execution of the orders will lead to the best possible result for the client, e.g. at a time of severe market turbulence, and/or internal or external order system failure. In those circumstances





### INFORMATION BROCHURE: ORDER EXECUTION AND ORDER HANDLING POLICY Best execution

the ability to execute orders on a timely basis, or to execute them as such, will become the prevailing factor. In the event of order system failure, we may not be able to access all of our selected execution venues or third party financial intermediaries either.

<u>Appendix 2</u> sets forth the relevant factors, criteria and their relative importance for a best execution consideration for the relevant financial instrument class and the related Order Execution Service.

### 4. How are your orders executed?

### 4.1. ORDER EXECUTION ON BEHALF OF THE CLIENT

Where the Bank is executing the order on your behalf it takes into account the execution factors and criteria (see section "<u>Execution Factors</u>" on page 3). in order to obtain the best possible result on a consistent basis.

### 4.2. RECEIVING AND TRANSMITTING OF CLIENT ORDERS

Where the Bank relies, for the execution of the order, on a third-party financial intermediary, whether or not an entity of BNP Paribas Group, it shall select such entity which delivers the best possible result for its clients on a consistent basis. The Bank shall ensure that the execution arrangements and policy of such third-party financial intermediary remain compatible with its execution arrangements and shall monitor their consistency with this Policy. The selection of third-party financial intermediaries on which BNP Paribas Fortis usually relies is based, amongst others, on the following criteria:

- Their financial stability and their reliability in executing their duties with care and consistency.
- Their trading capacity (product coverage, market access, order types handling, rapidity of execution, communication protocols used, number of transactions that can be handled, etc.).
- The quality of their execution and related reporting and our ability to monitor their best execution.
- The quality of their post trade processing and related reporting.
- Their flexibility to adapt to or to address the Bank's order handling and execution preferences.
- The costs related to their execution.

- Their compliance with Best Execution obligations and their likelihood to deliver the best results for our clients.
- Where the entity selected is not an investment firm subject to Best Execution obligation under MiFID II, the Bank shall have formal arrangements in place with this entity to achieve MiFID II Best Execution standards.

A main overview of these third-party financial intermediaries is given in <u>Appendix 1</u> of this Policy.



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The following overview describes the related type of Order Execution Service provided by the Bank per class of financial instruments. This overview is not exhaustive and may be amended anytime.

ass of financial struments	Type of order execution services	
	Order execution on behalf of client	Receiving and trans- mitting orders
Bonds	✓	
Money market instruments	✓	
Forward, swaps and other OTC derivatives (incl. Interest rate, currency and equity)	✓	
Securities financing transactions (incl. repurchase agreements, securities lending transactions)	✓	
Structured products	✓	
Listed equities (incl. shares, warrants and depository receipts)		✓
<b>Exchange traded products</b> (incl. exchange traded funds, exchange traded notes, exchange traded commodities)		✓
<b>Derivatives traded on a trading venue</b> (incl. interest rate, currency and equity options and futures)		✓
Warrants, turbos and certificate derivatives		✓
Financial instruments traded on Euronext Expert Market (public auction)	✓	
<ul> <li>Units of collective investment undertakings:</li> <li>In-house funds</li> <li>Third party funds</li> </ul>	V	V

#### 5. Limitations and restrictions to best execution

The Bank may be confronted with circumstances that make it difficult or impossible to obtain the best possible result for the client order and/or that entail a risk of poor outcomes and/or that may influence or limit execution factors, criteria or arrangements for a given order, or where Best Execution is as such not owed to the client. This is more likely to occur in the following, non-exhaustive situations:

**Specific instructions:** Where the Bank accepts a specific instruction from you on how to execute your order or a specific aspect thereof (e.g. selection of a specific execution venue or the request to execute in a specific currency other than what the Bank would normally provide for Best execution or the selection of a specific price limit), the Bank may be prevented from applying its policy and

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the necessary arrangements to achieve the best possible result for you. In such case we will not be obliged to provide you Best Execution to the extent of the specific instructions. We still owe Best Execution on other relevant parts or aspects of the order not covered by such a specific instruction. You may be charged additional costs associated with the specific instruction or the order specifications.

• Legitimate reliance: The application of best execution will be limited to circumstances where there is legitimate reliance on the Bank. Where a client requests the Bank to provide a quote to trade on a bilateral basis (a "Request for Quote" - "RFQ), the application of best execution will depend on the nature and circumstances of the request and whether the client is placing legitimate reliance on BNP Paribas Fortis at the time of the RFQ :





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### Retail clients

For retail clients, it is always assumed that reliance is being placed on BNP Paribas Fortis. Therefore, when we deal on behalf of a retail client or respond to an RFQ from him, we will owe a duty of Best Execution.

#### Professional clients

For professional clients, BNP Paribas Fortis will determine whether a client is placing reliance upon it by considering the complexity of the product, the transparency of the market and the sophistication of the client by taking into account the "Four-Fold Test" guidelines issued by the European Commission:

- Which party initiates the transaction where a client initiates a transaction, this may indicate that the client is placing less reliance on the Bank. For example, where we provide an advice or a recommendation on a particular transaction it may indicate that a client is placing reliance on the Bank. Where a client places an order with the Bank on an unsolicited basis it may be an indicator that the client is not placing reliance upon the Bank. From time to time we may communicate to clients trade ideas, indicative prices as part of general business and general marketing materials but we do not consider this to be initiating transactions;
- Questions of market practice and the existence of a convention to 'shop around' – where there is an established market practice for clients to obtain multiple quotes and they have the ability to or indeed do "shop around" it may be less likely that they are placing legitimate reliance upon the Bank;
- The relative levels of price transparency within a market – where clients have a similar level of transparency to us on market price and liquidity it may be an indicator that they are not placing reliance upon the Bank. Where we have an enhanced level of market transparency it may be more likely that they are placing reliance upon the Bank; and
- The information provided by the Bank and any agreement reached the extent to which any arrangements or agreements between the Bank and the client indicate that the client is placing reliance upon the Bank will inform whether we decide the client is indeed placing legitimate reliance on the Bank.

The factors referenced above are considered holistically on a case by case basis when assessing legitimate reliance.

Reliance does not occur where all the following four conditions are met.

- Market conditions: the execution of orders may also be impacted by prevalent market conditions (including fluctuations in liquidity, volatility or currency), circumstances involving the issuer (including its board of directors, managers, agents or employees), or the financial instruments and their underlying, interruption or suspension of trading, market regulations or rulebook(s) of execution venues, local legislation, market access, market practices, normal trading hours, trading halts and circuit breakers.
- Regulatory reasons and the Bank's policies: the Bank may be prevented from achieving the best possible result as a consequence of an existing law or regulation (e.g. trading obligations under MiFIR) or the entry into force of any new law or regulation or of any change in law or any other provision of mandatory effect or change in the application or official interpretation thereof. The Bank's policies may also affect or restrict the manners in which we can execute your order.
- Force majeure and hardship: an extraordinary event or circumstance beyond the Bank's reasonable control, such as acts of war, terrorist activities, labour disputes, catastrophes, interruption or failure of electricity or communications systems, or unlawful/illegal activity of third parties (e.g. IT virus or hacking, market manipulation, insider dealing, riot) affecting the order handling or execution arrangements with temporary or permanent effect, and/or any other unforeseen circumstances making it difficult or impossible for the Bank to obtain the best possible result for the client order.
- Unwinding a client position: Where the Bank is obliged or entitled to unilaterally unwind a position of a client, for example, where he is in default under a contractual obligation with the Bank or otherwise (e.g. our Investment Services General Conditions), we will not owe best execution.

### 6. Inducements

When executing client orders, the Bank shall not receive any remuneration, discount or non-monetary benefit for routing client orders to a particular execution venue which would infringe any conflicts of interest or inducement requirements under MiFID II.



Order handling

# **ORDER HANDLING**

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	Refusal of an order

The section below provides further information on how orders will be handled, with the overriding objective being to ensure that orders are executed promptly, fairly and sequentially.

## 1. General consideration

Where the Bank receives an order from a client it will verify that the order can be accepted and ensure that it is promptly executed and is accurately recorded and allocated.

Orders received and accepted by the Bank are handled promptly and sequentially unless the characteristics of the order or prevailing market conditions make this impracticable, or the interests of the client require otherwise. Where the Bank or its Custodian has the responsibility for arranging the clearing and settlement of an executed order, it will take reasonable steps to ensure that any client financial instruments or client funds received are promptly and correctly delivered to the account of the appropriate client.

Information in respect of executed or pending client orders will be treated as confidential and all reasonable steps will be taken to ensure that knowledge of any pending orders will not be misused.

The Bank informs retail clients if it becomes aware of any material issues that would prevent it from carrying out their order. The Bank will endeavour to similarly inform professional clients.

### 2. Aggregation and allocation

Aggregation of orders may occur if the following conditions are met:

 It is unlikely that the aggregation of orders and transactions will work overall to the disadvantage of any client whose order is to be aggregated;

- Upon execution any aggregated orders are fairly allocated taking into account the size of the order and price of the fills received;
- Clients whose orders are aggregated shall be treated in a non-discriminatory manner;
- For client orders aggregated with own account orders that have only been partially executed, priority in allocation will be given to the client and will be done in a manner that is not detrimental to the client. However, to the extent that the Bank can demonstrate on reasonable grounds that without aggregating the order with an own account order, the transaction could not have been executed or executed on such favourable terms, then allocation may be made on a basis proportional to the relative size of the client and the Bank's own account order.

Each client should take into account that when its order is aggregated, the effect of such aggregation may work to its disadvantage in relation to a particular order.

## 3. Type of orders

The following order types can be accepted by the Bank, insofar as this is compatible with the laws, regulations and/ or standard market practices where they are executed and with the nature or offering of the financial instruments to which they relate:

• Market order: is an order to buy or sell a financial instrument at the best available price in the market at that moment. However, the price at which a market order will be executed is not guaranteed. The last-traded or published price is not necessarily the price at which a market order will be executed. The Bank shall endeavour to execute the order as soon as reasonably practicable after the order is accepted.



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• Limit order: is an order whereby the client gives a price limit to buy or sell a financial instrument at a specified price or better. A buy limit order can only be executed at the limit price or lower, and a sell limit order can only be executed at the limit price or higher. A limit order can only be executed if the market price reaches the price limit. As such the execution of a limit order is not guaranteed.

Limit orders are valid until the date specified by the client or by default until December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year at the latest. They automatically expire if the limit is not met by then. Clients will need to introduce a new order if necessary.

Limit orders in respect of shares admitted to trading on a trading venue which are not immediately executed under prevailing market conditions will be published by means of placing the order on the relevant trading venue, provided that the trading venue accepts the order or unless the client instructs otherwise.

• Stop order: also referred to as a Stop-loss order, is an order to buy or sell a financial instrument once the price of the financial instrument reaches a specified price, known as the stop price. When the stop price is reached, a stop order becomes a market order. A buy stop order is entered at a stop price above the current market price. A sell stop order is entered at a stop price at a stop price below the current market price.

With stop-loss orders execution takes places when the stop price is reached, but the actual execution price is not guaranteed. The investor should be aware that during volatile market conditions, the execution may be at a significantly different price from the stop price if the market is moving rapidly.

• Stop-limit order: is an order to buy or sell a financial instrument that combines the features of a Stop order and a Limit order. Once the stop price is reached, a stop-limit order becomes a limit order that will be executed at the limit price (or better).

Stop-limit orders have a price limit, but the trade may not be executed as long as the price limit is not reached. Once the stop price is reached the order becomes a limit order. As such the execution of a limit order is not guaranteed.

Some market platforms (e.g. NYSE) no longer accept the execution of stop-loss and stop-limit orders. Yet, given third party financial intermediaries or systematic internalisers still accept these order types, the Bank accepts to receive them upon specific instruction from the client and transmit them to those third party financial intermediaries for execution on a best effort basis.

Unless otherwise agreed, orders (of all types) shall automatically be cancelled as soon as the relevant financial instruments are subject to corporate actions (including but not limited to coupon payment, dividend payment, bonus or subscription right) or a modification of the financial instrument tick size, provided that the Bank has the necessary information in that respect.

### 4. Execution of an order

The execution of a single order can fully or partially take place on one or more execution venues and/or over several timeslots during one or several trading days.

When orders (other than Care Orders) are executed in different tranches, the Bank reports daily and ad minima the average price of the total executed tranches made during the day and their respective execution venues.

For Care Orders, details regarding the different execution tranches may be provided upon request.

### 5. Refusal of an order

The Bank reserves the right to refuse a client order and/ or its execution, in particular in case of internal trading restrictions or the cases as described in the section "Order handling" of the <u>Investment Services General Conditions</u>.

For some financial instruments or execution venues, the Bank may be prevented to accept or process specific instructions.



# **MONITORING AND REPORTING**

1. Ongoing monitoring

Reporting and information.

2.

## 1. Ongoing monitoring

The Bank will monitor the continued effectiveness of this Policy, its order execution arrangements and the quality of the execution obtained in order to identify, and where appropriate correct, any deficiencies thereto:

- For orders in financial instruments, executed or transmitted on behalf of clients, post trade analysis will be conducted to evidence the effectiveness of BNP Paribas Fortis' execution arrangements. This analysis will consider the result achieved for clients in accordance with various benchmarking tools that assess trade execution for the client against the liquidity and pricing levels available on relevant execution venues at the time of the order and throughout the duration of the order.
- In order to check the fairness of price for transactions executed on an RFQ basis, the Bank will benchmark the proposed price against external or internal reference prices. Wherever possible, the Bank will use external prices, from execution venues, Brokers etc., to compare the Banks' price against market prices. Where external data are unavailable or limited in scope or quality, internal reference price data may be used.

Where such internal reference price data are used, additional controls are required to ensure the integrity of these data. Over time the Bank expects the scope and quality of available external reference data to improve and will continuously monitor developments and migrate from internal to external reference prices when appropriate.

For activities where no transaction cost is charged, typically RFQ transactions, BNP Paribas Fortis will apply a margin in the price quoted to cover the costs and risk associated with the transaction. The level of margins added are subject to internal processes and controls designed to ensure that such margins are reasonable and proportionate to the risk taken.

This Policy will be subject to an annual review including an assessment of the execution venues and financial intermediaries used by the Bank. In addition to the annual review, should any material change to the Bank's execution arrangements be identified that affects the Bank's ability to continue to obtain the best possible result for its clients, this will be subject to a separate review process and communicated to clients through an update of the Policy.

### 2. Reporting and information

Upon reasonable and proportionate request the Bank will, clearly and within a reasonable timeframe, provide clients with information about this Policy, its order execution arrangements and how the latter are reviewed.

In terms of reporting obligations under MiFID II, the Bank shall publish on an annual basis (by April 30th at the latest) information about its top five execution venues and the top five financial intermediaries it relies on together with execution quality data obtained, per financial instrument class and per client category, as follows :

- The reporting obligation relating to the top five execution venues and the top five financial intermediaries will give an overview of the volume and number of orders executed, expressed respectively as a percentage of total volume and as a total number of orders.
- The reporting obligation on execution quality data will provide a summary of the analysis and conclusions the Bank draws from its detailed monitoring of execution quality in relation to each class of financial instrument.

This will enable clients to evaluate the Bank's execution practices and compliance with its Policy.

This information is freely accessible for the public on the Bank's website, in electronic format and for a minimum period of 2 years.

The clients may request further details on the Bank's compliance with this Policy in connection with an order that has been accepted by the Bank.





Prior notification and consent

# PRIOR NOTIFICATION AND CONSENT

The client acknowledges having received, read and understood this Policy, which includes, amongst others, information on the execution venues on which client orders are executed by the Bank, the Order Execution Services provided for each type of financial instrument, the impact of its client categorisation on the Bank's execution factors assessment, circumstances in which a client can provide specific instructions, aggregation of orders by the Bank, the monitoring and review process of Order Execution Services and a warning that the Bank may not achieve the best possible result on an individual basis.

Unless agreed otherwise in writing, client orders will be executed by the Bank in accordance with this Policy. A client who transmits an order is considered to accept the Policy.

Unless the client specifically instructs that an order is executed on a trading venue accepted by the Bank, the client explicitly consents that its orders may be executed, in accordance with the Bank's Policy, outside a regulated market, a multilateral trading facility or an organised trading facility (e.g. when the Bank acts as principal or relies on a Systematic Internaliser). In such cases, the client should be aware of the following:

- Transactions will not be subject to the rules of Trading Venues, which are designed to provide for a fair and orderly treatment of orders.
- Transactions will not benefit from any additional but unpublished liquidity, such as hidden limit orders that may be available on Trading Venues.
- Executions will not benefit from additional pre and post trade transparency with regard to the development of prices and liquidity, that has to be published by Trading Venues.
- For transactions executed away from a Trading Venue a settlement risk may be incurred as transactions will be subject to counterparty risk and will not be covered by the relevant clearing and settlement rules of the Trading Venue and relevant Central Counterparty Clearing House.

Any failure to consent with the Bank's Policy or to explicitly consent to execution of orders outside a trading venue may either result in the refusal of client orders or a limitation of Best Execution obligations for Order Execution Services provided by the Bank. The client assumes proper responsibility for all consequences of any such lack of consent.



# **UPDATE OF THE POLICY**

The Bank may be required to update or modify its execution factors and/or arrangements and to adapt this Policy accordingly. Unless otherwise provided for, changes shall have immediate effect.

The Bank shall, as a general rule, make the Policy available on its website <u>www.bnpparibasfortis.be/policies</u>, in BNP Paribas Fortis offices and via your relationship manager. The Bank shall keep its existing clients informed by means of a notification of the main changes to the Policy in accordance with applicable communication means.

Clients need to keep track diligently of the modified policies. A client is considered to accept the latest version of the Policy at the time it transmits any order(s).

# **PRIVACY NOTICE**

The Bank processes your personal data in accordance with the terms of the Privacy Notice of BNP Paribas Fortis SA/NV available on <u>www.bnpparibasfortis.be/privacy</u> and also at your disposal in all branches.



Appendix 1: List of main execution venues and third party financial intermediaries on which the Bank can rely for order execution

# **APPENDIX 1:** List of main execution venues and third party financial intermediaries on which the Bank can rely for order execution

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	1.2. List of main execution venues accepted by the bank	
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3.	Bonds, money market instruments, structured products, securities financing transactions, forward, swaps and	d
	other OTC derivatives	

# 1. Listed equities, exchange traded products and derivatives traded on a trading venue

1.1. LIST OF MAIN THIRD-PARTY FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

The third-party financial intermediaries where the Bank can rely on for the execution of the client orders are:

- BNP Paribas SA
- BNP Paribas SA, London Branch
- BNP Paribas Securities Corp.
- BNP Paribas Securities Services SCA, Luxembourg Branch
- Bank Degroof Petercam SA
- Flow Traders BV
- Exane SA
- ING Bank NV
- KBC Securities NV
- Kepler Cheuvreux SA
- Optiver
- Jane Street

### 1.2. LIST OF MAIN EXECUTION VENUES Accepted by the bank

1.2.1. Listed equitites, exhange traded products and closed end funds

### Regulated Markets ("RMs")

Euronext - Euronext Brussels
Euronext - Expert Market Brussels
Euronext - Euronext Paris
Euronext - Euronext Amsterdam
Euronext - Euronext Lisbon
London Stock Exchange
Deutsche Börse Xetra
Frankfurt Stock Exchange
Stuttgart Stock Exchange
SIX Swiss Exchange
Bolsa de Madrid
Borsa Italiana
Irish Stock Exchange
Athens Stock Exchange
Luxembourg Stock Exchange
Nasdaq OMX Copenhagen
Nasdaq OMX Helsinki
Nasdaq OMX Stockholm
Oslo Børs





Appendix 1: List of main execution venues and third party financial intermediaries on which the Bank can rely for order execution

Regulated	Markets	("RMs")
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- Vienna Stock Exchange Johannesburg Stock Exchange
- Toronto Stock Exchange
- NYSE (New York Stock Exchange)
- NYSE ARCA
- NYSE MKT (American Stock Exchange)
- NASDAQ Stock Market
- Australian Securities Exchange
- Hong Kong Stock Exchange
- Tokyo Stock Exchange Singapore Exchange

### MTF (Multilateral Trading Facilities) and SI (Systematic Internaliser)

- Bats
- Chi-X
- Turquoise
- Virtu Financial Ireland Limited (SI)

### 1.2.2. Warrants, turbos & certificate derivatives

Regulated Markets ("RMs")
Euronext - Euronext Brussels
Euronext - Euronext Paris
Euronext - Euronext Amsterdam
Deutsche Börse Xetra
London Stock Exchange
Borsa Italiana
Nasdaq OMX Stockholm
Oslo Børs
SIX Swiss Exchange
NYSE ARCA

### 1.2.3. Derivatives traded on a trading venue (e.g. Options & Futures)

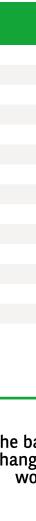
NYSE Euronext Liffe - Brussels NYSE Euronext Liffe - Paris NYSE Euronext Liffe - Amsterdam NYSE Euronext Liffe - London EUREX - Switzerland (FS)
NYSE Euronext Liffe - Amsterdam NYSE Euronext Liffe - London
NYSE Euronext Liffe - London
55
EUREX - Switzerland (FS)
MEFF Rente Variable Madrid
NASDAQ OMX Nordic
IDEM (Italian Derivatives Market)
CME Globex
CBOE

### 1.3. CARE ORDERS

For care orders, some of the Bank's selected third party financial intermediaries offer access to market makers (MM) and to additional execution venues (mainly Systematic Internaliser (SI) and Multilateral Trading Facility (MTF) with dark visibility). Some of them are listed here below:

### 1.3.1. Equities

MTF (Multilateral Trading Facilities) and SI (Systematic Internaliser)
Citadel Securities (Europe) Limited
Exane Limited
Exane BNP Paribas - Systematic Internaliser
Jane Street Financial Ltd
Sun Trading International Limited
Tower Research Capital Europe Limited
CBOE
Goldman Sachs Sigma X
ITG POSIT
Liquidnet Systems
Turquoise
UBS MTF
Swiss Mid
Exane Derivatives
Instinet BlockMatch



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Appendix 1: List of main execution venues and third party financial intermediaries on which the Bank can rely for order execution

MTF (Multilateral Trading Facilities) and SI (Systematic Internaliser)
NASDAQ Nordic@Mid
Aquis Exchange
Posit
LSE Hidden Midpoint
NASDAQ OMX Auction on Demand
Hudson River Trading
XTX markets
Nordic PA

### 1.3.2. Exchange traded Funds

## Market Makers and third party financial intermediaries

Flow Traders BV Jane Street

Optiver

# 2. Units of collective investment undertakings – open end fund

Execution venue: the Fund administrator

### 3. Bonds, money market instruments, structured products, securities financing transactions, forward, swaps and other OTC derivatives

Execution venue: BNP Paribas Fortis SA/NV acting on own account (over-the-counter/Systematic Internaliser)



Appendix 2: Execution factors and criteria

# **APPENDIX 2:** Execution factors and criteria

1.	Receiving and transmitting of client orders	
	1.1. Listed equities, exchange traded products and derivatives traded on a trading venue	
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Per financial instrument class and type of Order Execution Service assigned by the Bank thereto in the section "<u>How are</u> <u>your orders executed?</u>", it has set forth in below subsections the relevant factors, criteria and their relative importance for a best execution consideration.

### 1. Receiving and transmitting of client orders

### 1.1. LISTED EQUITIES, EXCHANGE TRADED PRODUCTS AND DERIVATIVES TRADED ON A TRADING VENUE

This section covers the following financial instruments:

- shares and depository receipts;
- exchange traded products (incl. ETF, ETC and ETN):
- warrants, turbos and certificates;
- derivatives traded on a trading venue (Interest rate, currency and equity options and futures).

For the reception and transmission of client orders, the Bank relies on:

- internal arrangements for the selection of the third party financial intermediaries to which the orders are transmitted (see the section "<u>Receiving and transmitting of client</u> <u>orders</u>") and
- the execution factors that are taken into account (see the section "<u>Execution factors</u>") to achieve the best possible result for its clients on a consistent basis, regardless of the client classification as retail or professional client.

To achieve the best possible result, the Bank first identifies a Market of Reference and subsequently routes the client order to a third-party financial intermediary for execution at the best available price.

### 1.1.1. Regular Client Orders

### Selection of a Market of Reference

For each financial instrument, the Bank selects a Regulated Market where, under normal market circumstances, the best possible result can be achieved on a consistent basis for its clients. This Regulated Market is internally referred to by the Bank as "the Market of Reference" and it represents the default option "Best execution" that the Bank offers to its clients.

This selection takes into account a combination of the following execution factors:

### Price

The Bank aims to obtain on a consistent basis the best possible price by selecting a Market of Reference that offers an acceptable level of market liquidity or where Liquidity Providers are committed to guarantee a minimum level of liquidity.

#### Costs

Costs are all expenses and fees related to the execution of the order which are charged to the client. They include:

 Transaction costs (execution fees, clearing and settlement fees and any other fees paid to financial intermediaries involved in the execution of the order);



Appendix 2: Execution factors and criteria

• Foreign exchange fees that are charged for order execution in a currency other than in euro.

Where possible, the Bank aims to offer a Market of Reference that represents on a consistent basis the lowest costs for its Clients.

If a financial instrument can only be executed on one Regulated Market offered by the Bank, this market will automatically be deemed to be the Market of Reference. This is the case where :

- the financial instrument is only listed in one single Regulated Market that the Bank accepts;
- the execution on more than one Regulated Market is not accepted by the Bank given the currency of the cash account (other than euro) that the client has selected.

If a financial instrument can be executed in more than one Regulated Market accepted by the Bank and those offer an acceptable level of liquidity, the Bank selects the one that generally achieves, on a consistent basis, the best possible results for its clients in terms of total consideration (Price and Costs). Depending on the type of the financial instrument, the Market of Reference is thus defined as follows:

- For listed equities: the Bank considers the "Home Market" of the financial instrument as its Market of Reference provided that it offers an acceptable level of liquidity. The "Home Market" is the Regulated Market where the issuer has requested the first primary listing or admittance to trading for the financial instrument.
- For exchange traded products: the Bank primarily considers a Market of Reference that offers the lowest transaction costs for the client and where the financial instrument is traded in euro. If such market is not available, the Bank will, where possible, consider Regulated Markets where the financial instrument is traded in USD and then in GBP. This order of priority is valid except for an exchange traded product that tracks a GBP denominated index (e.g. FTSE UK) in which case the Bank will prevail Regulated Market trading in GBP over USD.

The defined Market of Reference will determine the cost structure of the transaction applicable to the client.

Where possible, the Bank may, at its own discretion, offer its clients the possibility to execute their order outside the Best execution option. This alternative option is considered as a specific instruction. It shall be noted that specific instruction may prevent the Bank from taking all sufficient measures to obtain the best possible result and may lead to additional costs for its clients.

### Comparison with alternative execution venues

The Bank transmits the order to a third party financial intermediary in accordance with the client instructions and thus communicates the corresponding Regulated Market relevant to such instructions. The third party financial intermediary compares the prices offered by the Regulated Market (RM) and the available Multilateral Trading Facilities (MTF) or Systematic Internaliser (SI).

### Execution where best price is offered

The designated third party financial intermediary executes the order, in accordance with its execution policy, on the execution venue(s) (RM, MTF or SI) that offer(s) the best available price.

### 1.1.2. Care Orders

For Care Orders, the Bank may also consider the impact of the size and the nature of the order, the speed of execution and the market expertise of the third party financial intermediary, but only insofar as they are instrumental in delivering the best possible result on a consistent basis for its clients.

When transmitting the order to the third party financial intermediary, the order will be executed in accordance with an execution strategy selected by the Bank that aims to meet the best balance between the market price impact and the speed and likelihood of execution. The execution strategy may rely on direct market access (DMA), algorithms and smart order routing (SOR).

Based on the execution strategy, the Care Order is generally split into several tranches which are executed by the third party financial intermediary according to its best execution obligation.

In order to benefit from additional liquidity for care orders, The Bank may at its own discretion,

- for equities, transmit such orders to third party financial intermediaries that offer the possibility to execute them on Systematic Internalisers (SI) or Dark MTFs accepted by the Bank.
- for exchange traded products, initiate a Request for Quote (RFQ) with different market makers and accept execution of the order at the best price proposed.





Appendix 2: Execution factors and criteria

# 1.2. UNITS OR SHARES IN COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT UNDERTAKINGS

This section covers the following financial instruments:

#### Open-end Funds

Orders in shares or units of an Open-end Fund are subscriptions and/or redemptions into the fund that are executed at the Net Asset Value of the Fund determined in accordance with the prospectus and applicable laws, regardless of the client classification.

Orders in shares or units of an Open end fund (which can be either in-house funds (managed by BNP Paribas Asset Management) or other third party funds) are received and transmitted to a third party financial intermediary, selected by the Bank, who will direct the order to the Fund administrator appointed by the fund. The third party financial intermediary may be an entity of the BNP Paribas Group.

### Execution Venue: the Fund administrator.

In case shares or units of Open-End funds are directed to a trading venue, the bank shall act in accordance with the processes applicable to listed equities, exchange traded products and derivatives traded on a trading venue.

#### Closed-end Funds

For orders in closed-end funds we act in accordance with the processes described for listed equities, exchange traded products and derivatives traded on a trading venue.

### 2. Order execution on behalf of the client

### 2.1. EXECUTION FACTORS

For orders executed on the instruments listed in this section, the Bank will execute your order in such financial instrument itself (Over-the-counter i.e. traded bilaterally outside a Trading Venue).

When executing an order on behalf of a client or responding to a Request for Quote, the following factors may be relevant for the execution:

### Size of the order

An order will be executed, or a quotation will be provided such that the full size requested by the client can be filled. If, due to market conditions, this is not possible the Bank will communicate this to the client with a view to changing the execution criteria to facilitate partial fills.

### Speed

When a client submits a "Request for Quote" we will prioritise speed of execution over price. Should the client wish to prioritise price over speed an alternate order type may be more appropriate, and the client should communicate this to the Bank when placing the order.

### Price and costs (total consideration)

The Bank seeks to provide a highly competitive service to clients and will respond with a price it considers competitive and fair. The Bank makes extensive use – when available – of the external market prices of similar or related products to estimate the "fair value" of the instrument. These external market prices are then, together with model parameters, used by the Bank's proprietary models to price a range of products. Throughout the trading day the Bank continuously recalibrates these model parameters tracking available markets and ensuring that its prices remain accurate and up to date.

Once the fair value has been determined, the Bank adds an execution spread (brokerage fee); this is an explicit internal cost representing the Banks own remuneration for the liquidity provided. We continuously assess market conditions and adjust the execution spread in line with internal guidelines.

Finally transaction costs if applicable, are added to determine the final (gross) execution price proposed to the client.

These costs and charges are subject to disclosure to the client pursuant to MiFID II.

### Likelihood of execution

The Bank will endeavour to provide a quotation which is valid for a sufficient time window to allow the client to accept if they so desire, notwithstanding a large market move rendering the quote invalid.

### Likelihood of settlement

Before responding with a price, if relevant the Bank will check the availability of credit line(s), central counterparty limits and/or settlement limit and will only respond with a firm price where sufficient limits are available.

# Ability of execution venue to manage the order or quotation request

The Bank is authorised to trade a number of financial instruments within predetermined risk limits; any RFQ on an instrument outside this scope or beyond the risk limit, typically for larger size transactions, may be declined and the client notified accordingly.





Appendix 2: Execution factors and criteria

### The capability to service

Certain illiquid instruments have insufficient demand and/ or supply which might impact substantially the ability of the Bank to execute the order.

### 2.2. TOTAL CONSIDERATION FOR CLIENTS CLASSIFIED AS Retail under mifid

Orders from clients classified as Retail under MiFID are typically on sizes and types of financial instruments that are not constraining the execution so that the prevailing factor is always "Price and costs" (total consideration).

This rule covers all classes of financial instruments available for Retail clients under MiFID (Bonds, Structured Products and certain OTC Derivatives and Money Market instruments).

### 2.3. BONDS AND MONEY MARKET INSTRUMENTS

This annex covers:

- Government bonds
- Mortgage bonds
- Credit bonds
- Structured notes
- Certificates of deposits, commercial paper and treasury bills

For professional clients under MiFID, the following factors may be relevant for the execution. Depending on whether the instrument is liquid or illiquid, the mentioned execution factors will be ranked differently in terms of priority:

#### Liquid instruments

- 1. Size of the order
- 2. Price and costs (total consideration)

#### Illiquid instruments

- 1. Capability to service
- 2. Size of the order
- 3. Price and costs (total consideration)

### 2.4. OTC DERIVATIVES AND STRUCTURED PRODUCTS (Interest rates, inflation, foreign Exchange and equity)

### 2.4.1. OTC Derivatives on Interest Rates, Inflation and Equity

This annex covers:

- Interest rate swaps
- Interest rate options
- Cross currency swaps
- Inflation swaps
- Forward rate agreements
- Swaptions
- Bond options and forwards
- Interest-rate linked structured productsEquity linked structured products
- For professional clients under MiFID, when executing an order on behalf of a client or responding to a Request for Quote, the factors relevant for the execution are ranked in terms of priority as follows:

#### 1. Size of the order

- 2. Speed
- 3. Price and costs (total consideration)
- 4. Likelihood of execution
- 5. Likelihood of settlement
- 6. Ability of the execution venue to manage the quotation request

### 2.4.2. OTC Derivatives on Foreign Exchange (FX)

This annex covers:

- FX forwards
- FX swaps
- FX non deliverable forwards (NDF)
- FX options
- FX linked structured products (e.g. Dual Currency Option Deposit)

For professional clients under MiFID, when executing an order on behalf of a client or responding to a Request for Quote, the factors relevant for the execution are ranked in terms of priority as follows:

- 1. Size of the order
- 2. Speed & Price and costs (total consideration)
- 3. Likelihood of execution
- 4. Likelihood of settlement
- 6. Ability of the execution venue to manage the quotation request



Appendix 2: Execution factors and criteria

### 2.5. SECURITIES FINANCING TRANSACTIONS

This annex covers:

- Repo / Reverse repo transactions
- Securities lending / borrowing transactions
- Buy-sell back / sell-buy back transactions

Execution/ brokerage fees apply. Execution is on a best effort basis, customized to the client's specific requirements (combinations of underlying/dates/currency/ venue). Different balance sheet and regulatory costs apply depending on own positions, venue, trade direction, timing, trade duration, underlying and counterparty.

When executing an order on behalf of a client or responding to a Request for Quote, the factors relevant for the execution are ranked in terms of priority as follows:

- 1. Size of the order
- 2. Speed
- 3. Price and costs (total consideration)
- 4. Likelihood of execution
- 5. Likelihood of settlement
- 6. Ability of the execution venue to manage the quotation request

### 2.6. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS TRADED ON EURONEXT EXPERT MARKET

Euronext Expert Market is a single trading venue where the price formation is determined by public auction. We will directly execute your order(s) on this market.



Appendix 3: Glossary (for information only)

# **APPENDIX 3**: Glossary (for information only)

#### Aggregation

The act of grouping several orders in order to execute them as a single order (or block order).

#### Broker

A financial intermediary that charges fee or commission for executing buys and sells orders through a Trading Venue or Systematic Internalisers.

### Care Order

Care Orders are orders that require a specific treatment. They may deviate from the normal market size, including orders that may have market disturbance effect in a given financial instrument (e.g. due to the order size or the lack of market liquidity of the financial instrument), and for which a particular strategy or follow-up is required.

The Treatment of Care Orders forms part of the service offered to clients of Private Banking and Wealth Management. The decision to handle an order as a Care order can originate from client request(s) and the investor relationship or, in the absence of client instruction, from the Bank's expertise and discretion.

#### Clearing

The process of establishing positions, including the calculation of net obligations, and ensuring that financial instruments, cash, or both, are available to secure the exposures arising from those positions.

#### **Client Classification**

MiFID identifies three different categories of clients, notably retail clients, professional clients, and eligible counterparties (mentioned here in decreasing order of client protection). Each client involved in investment or ancillary services shall be categorised by the Bank under one of those categories prior to the commencement of the(se) service(s).

#### Custodian

A financial institution that safe keeps and administers a client's securities or other financial assets.

### **Execution Arrangements**

Execution Arrangements are the means and procedures that an investment firm employs to obtain the best possible result when executing or transmitting orders or decisions to deal.

### Dark MTF

A multilateral trading facility or a third country trading venue that is not subject to pre trade disclosures (e.g. on volumes or prices of offer and demand), but that grants the possibility, usually only to institutional investors, to buy and sell (equity or fixed income) securities with large (above average) thresholds. These venues and/or the investment company remain subject to regulatory requirements and a supervisory authority.

### Home Market

Also known as the Domestic market of an equity, the Home Market is the trading venue where the issuer has requested the first primary listing or admittance to trading for the Equity.

### Institutional Investors

Institutional Investors are large regulated entities, such as banks, insurance companies, pension funds, hedge funds, mutual funds, investment companies, that buy and sell securities for investment portfolios of their own or on their client's behalf. As a general rule, they possess the knowledge, experience, expertise and financial means to make their own investment decisions and to face the risks that result from them.

### Liquidity Provider

A liquidity provider is a financial intermediary which commits as a market member of a trading venue and deals on own account to provide liquidity in a particular Financial Instrument on that trading venue.

### Multilateral Trading Facility (MTF)

Multi Trading Facility means a multilateral system operated by an investment firm or a market operator which brings together multiple third-party buying and selling interests in financial instruments on a non-discretionary basis.



Appendix 3: Glossary (for information only)

#### Organised Trading Facility (OTF)

Organised Trading Facility means a multilateral system which is not an RM or an MTF and in which multiple third-party buying and selling interests in bonds, structured finance products, emission allowances or derivatives are able to interact in the system in a way that results in a contract. Orders on an OTF are carried out on a discretionary basis.

#### OTC (Over-the-counter)

Over-the-counter transactions are transactions that are traded bilaterally (between two counterparties) outside a Trading Venue.

#### **Partial Execution**

An execution for less than the full amount or quantity of an order. This may involve orders that have been executed for a percentage of the initially transmitted order, regardless whether these orders are broken down in several partial executions (or "tranches") or not.

#### Principal Trading (dealing on own account)

Principal trading occurs when the Bank executes the client order in the financial instrument against its own book and acts therefore as counterparty to the client. This is also called "dealing on own account".

#### **Professional Client under MiFID**

See Client classification

#### **Regulated Market (RM)**

A Regulated Market is defined as a multilateral system operated by and/or managed by a market operator, which brings together multiple third-party buying and selling interests in financial instruments in a way that results in a contract. RMs are characterised by non-discretionary rules for order execution.

#### **Request for Quote (RfQ)**

A Request for Quote is a request for prices submitted by a client with regard to a financial instrument for a particular size, through electronical platforms or any other means of communication. The client may conclude a transaction by accepting the quote(s) received.

#### **Retail Client under MiFID**

See Client classification.

#### **Reverse inquiry**

A reverse inquiry (or enquiry) is where an investor requests the Bank to invest in a new fixed income product (e.g. Bonds) with specific features. The Bank will then find the relevant issuer who can issue such investment product that meets the client's specific needs.

#### Securities Financing Transaction (SFT)

A transaction where securities are used to borrow cash or other securities. They include securities lending, repurchase agreements (repos), and similar collateralised operations.

#### Settlement

The completion of a securities transaction where it is concluded with the aim of discharging the obligations of the parties to that transaction through the transfer of cash or securities, or both.

#### **Specific Instruction**

An instruction in which the client specifies how the order, or a specific part thereof, needs to be executed (e.g. the client selects a specific execution or indicates a limit price).

#### Systematic Internaliser

An investment firm which, on an organised, frequent, systematic and substantial basis, deals on its own account when executing client orders outside a Regulated Market, an MTF or an OTF without operating a multilateral system.

#### **Total Consideration**

The total consideration represents the price paid for the financial instrument and the costs related to execution, which must include all expenses incurred by the client which are directly related to the execution of the order, including brokerage fees, execution fees, margins or spreads, clearing and settlement fees, foreign exchange fees, taxes and any other fees paid to third parties involved in the execution of the order.

#### **Trading Obligations**

BNP Paribas Fortis will ensure that the trades it undertakes in shares admitted to trading on a Regulated Market or traded on a Trading Venue take place on a Regulated Market, MTF or Systematic Internaliser, or an Equivalent Third-country Trading Venue, as appropriate, unless those shares are out of scope for such obligation pursuant to Article 23 MiFIR. BNP Paribas Fortis will ensure that the transactions it concludes with financial counterparties as defined in EMIR and non- financial counterparties exceeding the EMIR clearing thresholds, which are neither intragroup transactions nor transactions covered by the transitional provisions in EMIR,



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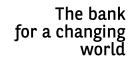
Appendix 3: Glossary (for information only)

in derivatives pertaining to a class of derivatives that has been declared subject to the trading obligation in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 32 MiFIR and listed in the register referred to in Article 34 MiFIR are concluded only on Regulated Markets, MTFs, OTFs or Equivalent Thirdcountry Trading Venues.

#### **Trading venue**

A Trading Venue embraces a regulated market, a MTF or an OTF.

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