



<b>B #:</b>	0979-15
<b>Date:</b>	May 27, 2015
<b>To:</b>	All Participants
<b>Category:</b>	Dividends
<b>From:</b>	International Services
<b>Attention:</b>	Operations, Reorg & Dividend Managers, Partners & Cashiers
<b>Subject:</b>	<b><u>Tax Relief</u></b> – Country: Germany BAYER AG CUSIP: 072730302 <b><u>Record Date:</u> 05/27/2015 <u>Payable Date:</u> 06/08/2015</b> <b><u>CA Web Cut-Off:</u> 07/01/2015 8:00 P.M. EST</b> <b><u>Second CA Web Cut-Off:</u> 07/22/2015 8:00 P.M. EST</b>

Participants can use DTC’s Corporate Actions Web (CA Web) service to certify all or a portion of their position entitled to the applicable withholding tax rate. Participants are urged to consult TaxInfo respectively before certifying their instructions over the CA Web.

Important: Prior to certifying tax withholding instructions, participants are urged to read, understand and comply with the information in the Legal Conditions category found on TaxInfo on the CA Web.

Questions regarding this Important Notice may be directed to GlobeTax 212-747-9100.

**Important Legal Information:** *The Depository Trust Company (“DTC”) does not represent or warrant the accuracy, adequacy, timeliness, completeness or fitness for any particular purpose of the information contained in this communication, which is based in part on information obtained from third parties and not independently verified by DTC and which is provided as is. The information contained in this communication is not intended to be a substitute for obtaining tax advice from an appropriate professional advisor. In providing this communication, DTC shall not be liable for (1) any loss resulting directly or indirectly from mistakes, errors, omissions, interruptions, delays or defects in such communication, unless caused directly by gross negligence or willful misconduct on the part of DTC, and (2) any special, consequential, exemplary, incidental or punitive damages.*

*To ensure compliance with Internal Revenue Service Circular 230, you are hereby notified that: (a) any discussion of federal tax issues contained or referred to herein is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used, for the purpose of avoiding penalties that may be imposed under the Internal Revenue Code; and (b) as a matter of policy, DTC does not provide tax, legal or accounting advice and accordingly, you should consult your own tax, legal and accounting advisor before engaging in any transaction.*

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Non-Confidential



BNY MELLON

**BAYER AG** has announced a cash dividend and BNY Mellon acts as Depository for the Depository Receipt (“DR”) program.

Participants can use DTC’s Corporate Actions Web (“CA Web”) instructions tab to certify all or a portion of their position entitled to the applicable withholding tax rate. Use of these instruction methods will permit entitlement amounts to be paid through DTC. By electing, Participants agree to the Agreements, Fees, Representations and Indemnification below.

On DR Pay Date, all holders will receive this dividend net of the full German statutory withholding tax of 26.375% with the possibility to reclaim post-paydate as outlined in the below table.

DIVIDEND EVENT DETAILS	
COUNTRY OF ISSUANCE	GERMANY
COMPANY	BAYER AG
CUSIP	072730302
DEPOSITARY	BNY MELLON
DR RECORD DATE	27 MAY 2015
DR PAY DATE	08 JUNE 2015
ORDINARY SHARE GROSS DIVIDEND RATE	€ 2.25
RATIO	1 ORD to 1 DR
STATUTORY WHT RATE	26.375%

FEES & DEADLINES					
FILING METHOD	BATCH	PAYMENT METHOD	FEES	MINIMUM FEE PER BENEFICIAL OWNER	FINAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE (ALL TIMES EST)
QUICK REFUND	PRIMARY BATCH	VIA DTC	Up to \$0.010 per DR	\$0	1 JULY 2015; 8:00 P.M.
	SECONDARY BATCH	VIA DTC	Up to \$0.010 per DR	\$0	22 JULY 2015; 8:00 P.M.
	FINAL BATCH	VIA CHECK	Up to \$0.010 per DR	\$25	28 OCTOBER 2015; 8:00 P.M.
LONG FORM	POST-CA WEB PROCESS; ONGOING	VIA CHECK	Up to \$0.015 per DR	\$25 Tax Relief Fee & up to €15 Custodial Fee	19 OCTOBER 2019; 8:00 P.M.

**Agreements, Fees, Representations and Indemnification of Participants and Beneficial Owners**

We hereby acknowledge that this tax relief assistance service is wholly voluntary and discretionary and outside the terms and conditions of any applicable deposit agreement. We hereby accept and agree to pay the fees of BNY Mellon of up to \$0.010 per Depository Receipt for Quick Refund filings or up to \$0.0150 per Depository Receipt for the Long Form (with a minimum of \$25), and any other charges, fees or expenses payable by or due to BNY Mellon or its agents, including any custodian, in connection with the tax reclaim process, or to tax authorities or regulators (which fees, charges or expenses may be deducted from the dividend or any other distribution or by billing or otherwise in BNY Mellon’s discretion). We hereby agree that any such fees, charges or expenses may be due and payable whether or not a successful reduction in rate or reclamation is obtained. We hereby acknowledge that fees paid to BNY Mellon may be shared with its agents and affiliates.

We hereby agree that in addition to statutory and documentation requirements, and the deduction of fees, tax relief benefits will be subject to review and approval, and potential audits by the applicable custodian and applicable tax regulators, and that BNY Mellon is not providing any legal, tax, accounting or other professional advice on these matters and has expressly disclaimed any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from or in reliance hereto. Participants and/or investors should seek advice based upon their own particular circumstances from an independent tax advisor.

We certify that to the best of our knowledge that each of the beneficial owners identified are eligible for the preferential rates as stated and we declare that we have performed all the necessary due diligence to satisfy ourselves as to the accuracy of the information submitted to us by these beneficial owner.

We will be fully liable for any and all claims, penalties and / or interest, including without limitation, any foreign exchange fluctuations associated therewith. BNY Mellon shall not be liable for the failure to secure any tax relief. We expressly agree that BNY Mellon and its agents or affiliates shall not have any liability for, and we shall indemnify, defend and hold each of BNY Mellon and its agents and affiliates harmless from and against, any and all loss, liability, damage, judgment, settlement, fine, penalty, demand, claim, cost or expense (including without limitation fees and expenses of defending itself or enforcing this agreement) arising out of or in connection herewith.

**IMPORTANT TAX VOUCHER INFORMATION**

Due to a change in regulations by the German Federal Central Tax Office (“BZSt”), all reclaim filings on dividends paid after 1 January 2012 require a tax voucher certified by the last domestic paying agent. BNY Mellon will secure these certified tax vouchers on behalf of and in support of claims filed through BNY Mellon. The fees for securing the certified German tax vouchers are included in the Depository Fee for Quick Refunds. **To secure this tax voucher for Long Form reclaims, a separate Custodial Fee will be deducted from the payment received at the USD equivalent of €15 based on the FX rate of the payment.**

## ELIGIBILITY MATRIX (SEE EXHIBITS 4 & 7 FOR DETAILS)

RATE DESCRIPTION	RECLAIM RATE	ELIGIBLE RESIDENTS	DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED
UNFAVORABLE - 26.375%	0.000%	NON-TREATY COUNTRIES	NONE
FAVORABLE - 25%	1.375%	GREECE, ISRAEL	1. AUTHORIZATION LETTER
FAVORABLE - 20%	6.375%	IRAN, THAILAND, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, TURKEY, ZIMBABWE	1. AUTHORIZATION LETTER
FAVORABLE - 15% (CERTAIN U.S. ENTITIES)	11.375%	NATURAL PERSONS	1. AUTHORIZATION LETTER 2. IRS FORM 6166 — TAX YEAR 2015
		ASSOC. WITHOUT INDEPENDENT LEGAL EXISTENCE	1. AUTHORIZATION LETTER 2. IRS FORM 6166 — TAX YEAR 2015 3. EXHIBIT 5 — ZUSATZERKLÄRUNG USA
		LEGAL PERSON / SUPRANATIONAL ORGS.	1. AUTHORIZATION LETTER 2. IRS FORM 6166 — TAX YEAR 2015
		INVESTMENT FUNDS	1. AUTHORIZATION LETTER 2. IRS FORM 6166 — TAX YEAR 2015 3. EXHIBIT 5 — ZUSATZERKLÄRUNG USA
FAVORABLE - 15% NON-U.S.	11.375%	CERTAIN TREATY COUNTRIES (SEE EXHIBIT 7)	1. AUTHORIZATION LETTER
		TAX-TRANSPARENT ENTITIES IN CERTAIN TREATY COUNTRIES (SEE EXHIBIT 7)	1. AUTHORIZATION LETTER 2. EXHIBIT 5 — ZUSATZERKLÄRUNG
FAVORABLE - 10%	16.375%	BOLIVIA, CHINA, GEORGIA, INDIA, MONGOLIA, SYRIA, UKRAINE	1. AUTHORIZATION LETTER
EXEMPT - 0% (CERTAIN U.S. ENTITIES)	26.375%	CHARITIES: 501(c)3	1. AUTHORIZATION LETTER 2. IRS FORM 6166 — TAX YEAR 2015
		PENSIONS & RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS: 401(A); 408(K); 408(A); 408(P); 403(A); 403(B); 457(B);	1. AUTHORIZATION LETTER 2. IRS FORM 6166 — TAX YEAR 2015 3. EXHIBIT 6 — PENSION DECLARATION

Participating in Quick Refund is wholly voluntary and discretionary; however, it is the only way to obtain the reduced withholding tax rate aside from the Long Form filing procedure.

## DESCRIPTION OF VARIOUS DOCUMENTATION

DOCUMENT NAME	DESCRIPTION	EXHIBIT	ORIGINAL / COPY	SIGNATURE REQUIREMENT
BENEFICIARY AUTHORIZATION LETTER	1) Allows Depository Bank to submit application on behalf of the Beneficial Owner and receive the reimbursement amounts 2) Makes necessary declarations of eligibility. 3) Must be signed by duly authorized representative of beneficial owner. May be signed under appropriate power of attorney, provided all supporting documentation is supplied.	2	COPY	BENEFICIAL OWNER
PENSION DECLARATION	For U.S. Pensions & Retirement Accounts only. Certifies that the Beneficial Owner is a U.S. Pension Fund under the meaning of Article 10, paragraph (3) subparagraph (b) of the Double Taxation Treaty between Germany and the United States.	6	COPY	DTC PARTICIPANT
DEPOSITARY COVER LETTER	Lists details of each Beneficial Owner's claim. Must be printed on DTC Participant firm letterhead. Must indemnify BNY Mellon as on the exhibit provided.	1	ORIGINAL	DTC PARTICIPANT
ZUSATZERKLÄRUNG / ZUSATZERKLÄRUNG USA	Required of associations without independent legal existence and investment funds. This form must be completed by a representative of the fund. A listing of the partners and their percentages of ownership is also required for partnerships.	5	COPY	BENEFICIAL OWNER
IRS FORM 6166	U.S. Only. Issued by the Internal Revenue Service, stating the name and Taxpayer Identification Number of the Beneficial Owner. It must be issued for Tax Year 2015.	N/A	ORIGINAL	IRS

## CONTACT DETAILS

<b>PRIMARY CONTACT</b>	<b>SEBASTIAN KREITZ</b>
DOMESTIC PHONE (U.S.)	1-800-915-3536
DOMESTIC FAX (U.S.)	1-800-985-3536
INTERNATIONAL PHONE	1-212-747-9100
INTERNATIONAL FAX	1-212-747-0029
EMAIL ADDRESS	SEBASTIAN_KREITZ@GLOBETAX.COM
COMPANY	GLOBE TAX AS AGENT FOR BNY MELLON
STREET ADDRESS	90 BROAD STREET 16 <sup>TH</sup> FLOOR
CITY/STATE/ZIP	NEW YORK, NY 10004
ADDITIONAL CONTACTS	SEBASTIAN KREITZ
	APRIL RICHLAND

# ESP

powered by **GLOBETAX**

To simplify the transmission of beneficial owner data, BNY Mellon now offers the Electronic Submission Portal ESP powered by GlobeTax. Documentation only needs to be provided upon audit of the BZSt. As described in this notice, all applicable documentation must be at the disposal of the DTC Participant for claims submitted through the ESP system. By using the system, the Participant attests to their ability to comply with the terms of this Important Notice

These claims should be submitted through the below web site, which requires a one-time registration.

<https://esp.globetax.com>

Please contact Mr. SEBASTIAN KREITZ at 1-800-915-3536 if you have any questions about this process.

## ANOMALIES

COUNTRY	DESCRIPTION
ALL	PASS-THROUGH ENTITIES SUCH AS PARTNERSHIPS, TRUSTS, RICS, AND INVESTMENT FUNDS MAY NEED TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION IF REQUESTED BY THE BZSt. THE TOTAL REFUND ELIGIBILITY MAY BE REDUCED DEPENDING ON THE PERCENTAGE OF THE ENTITY HELD BY INVESTORS THAT DO NOT RESIDE IN THE ENTITY'S COUNTRY OF TAX RESIDENCE.
UNITED STATES	NATURAL PERSONS OR INDIVIDUALS MAY NOT PROVIDE POST OFFICE BOXES OR "C/O" ADDRESSES ALONE AS BENEFICIAL OWNER ADDRESS.
UNITED KINGDOM	U.K. PENSION SCHEMES ARE NOW ENTITLED TO A 10% WITHHOLDING TAX RATE, AND 5% FOR SHAREHOLDINGS GREATER THAN 10%. CLAIMS FOR U.K. PENSION SCHEMES CAN ONLY BE FILED VIA THE LONG FORM PROCESS AND REQUIRE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION ISSUED BY HM REVENUE & CUSTOMS WHICH EVIDENCES THEIR STATUS AS A PENSION FUND.
ALL	THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REQUEST CERTIFICATIONS OF TAX RESIDENCY FOR ANY FILER SUBMITTING CLAIMS THROUGH THE QUICK FUNDS PROCESS.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

QUESTION	ANSWER
DO I NEED TO PHYSICALLY SEND ANY DOCUMENTS TO BNY MELLON?	NO, HOWEVER DOCUMENTATION MUST BE AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE DTC PARTICIPANT IN CASE OF AUDIT BY THE BZSt.
WILL I BE PAID THROUGH DTC FOR CLAIMS SUBMITTED THROUGH THE QUICK REFUND PROCESS?	ONLY CLAIMS SUBMITTED BEFORE THE SECONDARY BATCH CUTOFF DATE WILL BE PAID VIA DTC.
WILL I BE PAID THROUGH DTC FOR CLAIMS SUBMITTED THROUGH THE LONG FORM PROCESS?	NO, YOU WILL BE PAID BY CHECK FOR ANY CLAIM SUBMITTED AFTER THE SECONDARY BATCH.
ONCE I SUBMIT A QUICK REFUND CLAIM VIA ESP, HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO BE PAID?	WE ESTIMATE PAYMENT WITHIN 3 MONTHS OF CLAIM SUBMISSION.
MY CLIENT IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION BY THE QUICK REFUND DEADLINE. MAY I STILL SUBMIT THE CLAIM THROUGH ESP?	CLAIMS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED VALID UNTIL ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED.
CAN I SIGN THE AUTHORIZATION ON BEHALF OF MY CLIENT?	NO, ONLY THE ULTIMATE BENEFICIAL OWNER MAY SIGN THE AUTHORIZATION LETTER.
HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE FOR PAYMENT ON LONG FORM CLAIMS?	APPROXIMATELY 7 MONTHS.
AM I REQUIRED TO FILE THROUGH ESP?	NO. IF YOU CANNOT SUBMIT CLIENT DATA THROUGH ESP, YOU CAN STILL USE ESP TO DOWNLOAD RELEVANT DOCUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF YOUR TRADITIONAL RECLAIM.
ARE THE EXHIBITS AVAILABLE IN WORD FORMAT?	YES, YOU MAY REQUEST THESE DOCUMENTS BY EMAILING: SEBASTIAN_KREITZ@GLOBETAX.COM.
DOES THE QUICK REFUND PROCESS HAVE A MINIMUM POSITION PER BENEFICIAL OWNER REQUIREMENT?	ALL CLAIMS SUBMITTED AFTER THE SECONDARY BATCH WILL REQUIRE AT LEAST A \$50.00 RECLAIM PER BENEFICIAL OWNER TO COVER THE COST OF FILING.
DOES THE LONG FORM PROCESS HAVE A MINIMUM POSITION REQUIREMENT PER BENEFICIAL OWNER?	YES, LONG FORM CLAIMS MUST RECLAIM AT LEAST \$50.00 TO COVER THE COST OF FILING.
WILL BNY MELLON ACCEPT CLAIMS FILED DIRECTLY TO THEM BY BENEFICIAL OWNER?	NO. BNY MELLON ONLY ACCEPTS CLAIMS FILED BY THE DTC PARTICIPANT WHO WAS HOLDING THE SECURITIES THROUGH DTC AND ONLY TO THE EXTENT THAT DTC HAS REPORTED THESE HOLDINGS TO US AS VALID RECORD DATE HOLDINGS. BENEFICIAL OWNERS ARE REQUIRED TO FILE THEIR CLAIMS THROUGH THE CUSTODY CHAIN TO THE DTC PARTICIPANT OF RECORD. ALL CLAIMS NOT RECEIVED DIRECTLY FROM THE DTC PARTICIPANT WILL BE RETURNED TO THE BENEFICIAL OWNER.
IS THE PROCESS FOR TAX RELIEF OFFERED BY BNY MELLON AN OPTIONAL PROCESS?	YES, THIS IS A DISCRETIONARY, OPTIONAL SERVICE; HOWEVER, IN THE GERMAN MARKET, THE CUSTODIANS WILL NOT ACCEPT CLAIMS FROM ANYONE EXCEPT THE DEPOSITARY (BNY MELLON) IN ORDER TO ENSURE VALIDATION OF THE RECORD DATE POSITIONS CLAIMED.
IS THIS LONG FORM PROCESS FREE OF CHARGE?	NO. THIS TAX RECLAIM ASSISTANCE SERVICE IS WHOLLY VOLUNTARY AND DISCRETIONARY AND OUTSIDE THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ANY APPLICABLE DEPOSIT AGREEMENT. FEES WILL BE CHARGED FOR THIS ASSISTANCE SERVICE OF UP TO \$0.010 PER DR FOR QUICK REFUND AND \$0.0150 PER DR FOR STANDARD LONG FORM RECLAIMS WITH A MINIMUM OF \$25.00 AND A CUSTODIAL CHARGE UP TO 15 EUR. RECLAIMS RECEIVED POST DEADLINE CANNOT BE ASSURED AND MAY BE SUBJECT TO A PER BENEFICIARY FEE AS WELL AS OTHER CHARGES, FEES OR EXPENSES PAYABLE BY OR DUE TO BNY MELLON OR ITS AGENTS, INCLUDING THE CUSTODIAN OR TAX AUTHORITIES. IN ADDITION, CHARGES MAY APPLY TO ANY LONG FORM CLAIMS REJECTED OR NOT ACCEPTED BY THE CUSTODIAN. FEES PAID TO BNY MELLON MAY BE SHARED WITH ITS AGENTS.

### **All Post-Electronic Reclaims filing long form:**

U.S. residents and non-U.S. residents who have missed the CA WEB election and simplified procedure deadlines may file for a Long Form refund if they submit requisite documentation to BNY Mellon prior to the expiry of the right to claim. Based on their county, that period generally expires four (4) years from the end of the year in which the dividend was paid in the local market. Claims received after the long form deadline will be filed on a best effort basis at the discretion of BNY Mellon.

**Note:** German residents may not participate in the processes described herein.

### **Long Form Documentation Required**

- Exhibit 1 – Depository Cover Letter
- Exhibit 2 – Beneficiary Authorization Letter
- Exhibit 3 – Participant Authorization Letter
- Exhibit 5 – Zusatzklärung / Zusatzklärung USA — Tax-Transparent Entities
- Exhibit 6 – Pension Declaration — U.S. Pensions Only
- Exhibit 8 – Credit Advice / Certificate of Dividend Payment
- IRS Form 6166 for Tax Year 2015— U.S. Resident Beneficial Owners
- IRS Tax Determination Letter — U.S. 501(c)3 Charities Only
- German Tax Form — Non-U.S. Resident Beneficial Owners
- HM Revenue & Customs Certificate of Residency — UK Resident Beneficial Owners
- HM Revenue & Customs Pension Certification — UK Pensions Only

BNY Mellon will not be responsible for the truth or accuracy of any submissions received by it and all Participants and holders, whether or not following the procedures set forth herein or otherwise submitting any information, agree to indemnify and hold harmless BNY Mellon and its agents for any and all losses, liabilities and fees (including reasonable fees and expenses of counsel) incurred by any of them in connection herewith or arising herefrom. BNY Mellon and its agents will be relying upon the truth and accuracy of any and all submissions received by them in connection with the tax relief process and shall hold all participants and DR holders liable and responsible for any losses incurred in connection therewith or arising there from. There is no guarantee that the applicable tax authorities will accept submissions for relief. Neither BNY Mellon nor its agents shall be responsible or liable to any holders of DRs in connection with any matters related to, arising from, or in connection with the tax relief process described herein. See also “**Agreements, Fees, Representations and Indemnification**” above.

All tax information contained in this Important Notice is based on a good faith compilation of information obtained and received from multiple sources. The information is subject to change. Actual deadlines frequently vary from the statutory deadlines because of local market conditions and advanced deadlines set by local agents. To mitigate risk it is strongly advised that DTC Participants file their claims as soon as possible as the depository and/or their agents will not be liable for claims filed less than six months before the specified deadline. In the event that local market rules, whether implemented by a local agent or a Tax Authority, conflict with the information provided in the important notice, either prior to or after publication, the local market rules will prevail.

# EXHIBIT 1

## COVER LETTER REQUIRED FOR GERMAN TAX RECLAIM FILINGS TO BE PREPARED ON THE DTC PARTICIPANT'S LETTERHEAD

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### GlobeTax as agent for BNY Mellon

90 Broad Street, 16th Floor  
New York, NY 10004 – 2205

Attn: Germany

Enclosed please find documents in support of the withholding tax reclaims which we have submitted on behalf of our client(s) who have had excess tax withheld on German DRs. We, <DTC Participant Name>, also identified as DTC participant number <xxxx>, hereby state that each beneficial owner cited below held the respective amount of shares on the DR record date of **27 MAY 2015** for the security **BAYER AG; (CUSIP# 072730302)** and by filing this claim we **acknowledge that we will not file a claim directly with the German Federal Central Tax Office (BZSt) for the holders listed below.**

Below is the list of **Beneficial Owner** holding a total of <Total # DRs Claimed> DRs. The ratio is **1 ORD to 1 DR**. As required, all necessary documents are enclosed.

The information is as follows:

**PLEASE E-MAIL GermanDRs@GLOBETAX.COM AN EXCEL SPREADSHEET OF BREAKDOWN ABOVE IF IT**

	Full Legal Name as it appears on Form 6166 or COR	Street Address	City, State, ZIP Code, Country	Legal Entity Type***	SSN# / TIN#	DRs	ORDs	Reclaim %
1				See Note***				
2								

### CONTAINS MORE THAN 7 BENEFICIAL OWNER.

\*\*\***Note:** This must be one of seven possible choices as defined by the German Tax Authorities. See Exhibit 4 for details.

We hereby agree that this tax reclaim assistance service is wholly voluntary and discretionary and outside the terms and conditions of any applicable deposit agreement. We hereby accept and agree to pay the fees of BNY Mellon of up to \$0.0150 per Depository Receipt for standard Long Form (with a minimum of \$25.00), and any other charges, fees or expenses payable by or due to BNY Mellon or its agents, including any custodian, in connection with the tax reclaim process, or to tax authorities or regulators (which fees, charges or expenses may be deducted from the dividend or any other distribution or by billing or otherwise in BNY Mellon's discretion). We hereby agree that any such fees, charges or expenses may be due and payable whether or not a successful reduction in rate or reclamation is obtained. We hereby acknowledge that fees paid to BNY Mellon may be shared with its agents and affiliates.

We hereby agree that in addition to statutory and documentation requirements and the deduction of fees, tax relief benefits will be subject to review and approval, and potential audits by the applicable custodian and applicable tax regulators, and that BNY Mellon is not providing any legal, tax, accounting or other professional advice on these matters and has expressly disclaimed any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from or in reliance hereto. Participants and/or investors should seek advice based upon their own particular circumstances from an independent tax advisor.

We certify that to the best of our knowledge that each of the beneficial owners identified hereby are eligible for the preferential rates as stated herein and we declare that we have performed all the necessary due diligence to satisfy ourselves as to the accuracy of the information submitted to us by these beneficial owners.

We will be fully liable for any and all claims, penalties and / or interest, including without limitation, any foreign exchange fluctuations associated therewith. BNY Mellon shall not be liable for the failure to secure any tax relief. We expressly agree that BNY Mellon and its agents or affiliates shall not have any liability for, and we shall indemnify, defend and hold each of BNY Mellon and its agents and affiliates harmless from and against, any and all loss, liability, damage, judgment, settlement, fine, penalty, demand, claim, cost or expense (including without limitation fees and expenses of defending itself or enforcing this agreement) arising out of or in connection herewith.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Signature of authorized signatory for DTC Participant]

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Date]

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Name, Title & Phone Number of Authorized DTC Participant Signatory]

PAYMENT ADDRESS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_