Collective Investment Schemes

Chapter 11

Master-feeder arrangements for UCITS schemes



11.1 Introduction

Application

11.1.1

This chapter applies to:

- (1) an authorised fund manager of an AUT, ACS or an ICVC;
- (2) any other director of an ICVC;
- (3) an ICVC; and
- (4) a depositary of an AUT, ACS or ICVC;

where such AUT, ACS or ICVC is a UCITS scheme that is a feeder UCITS or a master UCITS in accordance with ■ COLL 11.1.2 R (Table of application).

11.1.1A G It may be possible for a UCITS scheme to be the feeder UCITS of a master UCITS that is an EEA UCITS scheme. In such a case, the ability of the operator, AFM, depositary, and auditor of the feeder UCITS to comply with the applicable rules may depend upon whether appropriate agreements can be reached with the management company, depositary and auditor of the master UCITS. It is not possible for an EEA UCITS scheme to be a feeder of a master UCITS scheme.

Table of application

11.1.2 R This table belongs to ■ COLL 11.1.1 R

Reference	ICVC	ACD	directors	Authorised fund man- ager of an AUT or ACS	of an ICVC,
11.1.1R	х	Х	х	х	X
11.1.3G	х	Х	Х	х	Х
11.2.1G	х	X	Х	х	
11.2.2R	х	Х	Х	х	
11.3.1R	х	X	х	Х	
11.3.2R	х	X	x	Х	
11.3.3G	х	X	x	Х	
11.3.4G	Х	X	х	х	
11.3.5R	X	x	х	х	

	11.3.6R	Х	х	х	х		
l	11.3.7R	Х	х	х	х		
l	11.3.8R	Х	x	х	х		
l	11.3.9R	Х	x	х	х		
	11.3.11R	х	х	х	x		
l	11.3.12R	Х	х	х	х		
	11.3.13R	Х	х	х	х		
l	11.3.14G	Х	x	Х	x		
l	11.4.1R	Х	x	х	x	Х	
l	11.4.2R					х	
	11.4.3R					х	
l	11.4.4G					х	
l	11.4.5G					Х	
	11.5.6R	Х	х	х	х		
	11.6.1G	Х	х	х	х	Х	
	11.6.2R	Х	x	х	х	Х	
l	11.6.3R	Х	x	х	х		
l	11.6.4R	Х	x	х	х		
	11.6.5R	Х	x	х	x		
	11.6.6R	Х	x	х	x		
l	11.6.7R	Х	x	Х	x		
l	11.6.8G	Х	x	Х	x		
	11.6.9R	Х	x	Х	x		
	11.6.10R	Х	x	Х	x		
l	11.6.11G	Х	x	Х	x		
	11.6.12R	Х	х	Х	х		
	11.6.13R	Х	х	Х	x		
	11 Annex 1R	Х	Х	х	Х		
	11 Annex 2R	х	х	х	х		
I							

Note 1: "x" means "applies", but not every paragraph in every provision referred to will necessarily apply.

Note 2: COLL 11.5 (with the exception of COLL 11.5.6 R) applies to auditors.

Purpose

11.1.3 G

- (1) This chapter sets out:
 - (a) the notification requirements for a *UCITS scheme* to be approved as a *feeder UCITS* under section 283A (Master-feeder structures) of the *Act*; and
 - (b) the requirements which apply to a *feeder UCITS* where its *master UCITS* is wound up, merges with another *UCITS* or is divided into one or more *UCITS*.

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- (2) This chapter also ensures there is a flow of information and documents between a feeder UCITS and its master UCITS. In particular, it allows the authorised fund manager, depositary and auditor of a feeder UCITS to obtain all information and documents necessary to perform their functions.
- (3) COLL 11.5 (Auditors) also imposes requirements on auditors of a master UCITS and a feeder UCITS.
- (4) In this section references to:
 - (a) a UCITS scheme, a feeder UCITS, a master UCITS, or EEA UCITS scheme include the sub-fund of any such scheme and references to winding up a scheme are to be read as also applying to the termination of a sub-fund; and
 - (b) the management company of an EEA UCITS scheme are to the operator of the scheme.



11.2 Approval of a feeder UCITS

Explanation

11.2.1 G

- (1) Section 283A(1) (Master-feeder structures) of the *Act* provides that the *operator* of a *UCITS scheme* may not invest a higher proportion of *scheme property* in *units* of another *UCITS* than is permitted by *rules* made by the *FCA* (which implemented article 55 of the *UCITS Directive*), unless the investment is approved by the *FCA* in accordance with that section.
- (2) The relevant *rule* which implemented article 55(1) of the *UCITS*Directive is COLL 5.2.11 R (9), which provides that not more than 20% in value of a *scheme* is to consist of the *units* of any one *collective* investment scheme.

Application for approval of an investment in a master UCITS

11.2.2 R

- (1) An application for approval of an investment in a *master UCITS* under section 283A of the *Act* must be accompanied by the following documents:
 - (a) the *instrument constituting the fund* of the *feeder UCITS* and of the *master UCITS*;
 - (b) the prospectus and the key investor information referred to in COLL 4.7.2 R (Key investor information) of the feeder UCITS and of the master UCITS;
 - (c) the master-feeder agreement or the internal conduct of business rules in accordance with COLL 11.3.2R (2) (Master-feeder agreement and internal conduct of business rules);
 - (d) where applicable, the information to be provided to *unitholders* in accordance with COLL 4.8.3 R (Information to be provided to Unitholders):
 - (e) if the master UCITS and the feeder UCITS have different depositaries, the information-sharing agreement in accordance with COLL 11.4.1R (2) (Information-sharing agreement between depositaries); and
 - (f) if the master UCITS and the feeder UCITS have different auditors, the information-sharing agreement in accordance with
 COLL 11.5.1 R (Information-sharing agreement between auditors).
- (2) Where the *master UCITS* is an *EEA UCITS scheme*, the application for approval must also be accompanied by an attestation from a *person* acceptable to the *FCA* that the *master UCITS*:

- (a) is an EEA UCITS scheme or a sub-fund of it; and
- (b) fulfils the conditions set out in article 58(3)(b) and (c) of the UCITS Directive.
- (3) The documents referred to in (1) and (2) must be provided in English.

[Note: article 59(3) of the UCITS Directive]



11.3 Co-ordination and information exchange for master and feeder UCITS

Authorised fund manager of a master UCITS: provision of documentation

11.3.1 R

The authorised fund manager of a UCITS scheme that is a master UCITS must provide the management company of its feeder UCITS with all documents and information necessary for the latter to meet its regulatory obligations under the provisions of COLL applicable in respect of a UCITS scheme under this chapter.

[Note: article 60(1) first paragraph first sentence of the UCITS Directive]

11.3.1A R

The authorised fund manager of a UCITS scheme that is a feeder UCITS of a master UCITS which is an EEA UCITS scheme must make a binding arrangement with the management company of the master UCITS to obtain all documents and information necessary to meet its regulatory obligations under the Act.

[Note: article 60(1) first paragraph first sentence of the UCITS Directive]

Master-feeder agreement and internal conduct of business rules

11.3.2 R

- (1) The authorised fund manager of a UCITS scheme that is a feeder UCITS must enter into a master-feeder agreement which, at a minimum, complies with COLL 11 Annex 1 R.
- (2) Where a master UCITS and a feeder UCITS are managed by the same management company, the master-feeder agreement may be replaced by internal conduct of business rules which, at a minimum, comply with COLL 11 Annex 2 R.
- (3) The authorised fund manager of a feeder UCITS must not invest in units of the master UCITS in excess of the limit applicable under COLL 5.2.11 R (9) (Spread: general) (20%) until the period of 30 calendar days referred to in COLL 4.8.3 R (1) (Information to be provided to Unitholders) has elapsed and the following have become effective:
 - (a) the *master-feeder agreement*, or, if applicable under (2), the internal conduct of business rules;

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- (b) the information-sharing agreement of the depositaries in accordance with ■ COLL 11.4.1R (2) (Information-sharing agreement between depositaries); and
- (c) the information-sharing agreement of the auditors in accordance with ■ COLL 11.5.1 R (Information-sharing agreement between auditors).
- (4) An authorised fund manager of a feeder UCITS must make a copy of the master-feeder agreement or, where applicable, the internal conduct of business rules, available to unitholders free of charge on their request.

[Note: article 60(1) first paragraph last sentence, second and third paragraphs, article 61(1) second paragraph, article 62(1) second paragraph and article 64 third paragraph of the UCITS Directive]

G 11.3.3

Where an authorised fund manager of a feeder UCITS enters into a masterfeeder agreement or, if applicable, internal conduct of business rules, with the management company of an EEA UCITS scheme, references in ■ COLL 11 Annex 1 R and ■ COLL 11 Annex 2 R to COLL rules that implemented provisions in the UCITS Directive which are the responsibility of the EEA UCITS scheme's Home State regulator should be read as referring to the corresponding provisions in the laws and regulations of that EEA State.

G 11.3.4

In relation to the requirements in ■ COLL 11 Annex 1 R(3) and ■ Annex 2R(2), where the dealing arrangements between a master UCITS and a feeder UCITS do not differ from those applying to all non-feeder UCITS unitholders of the master UCITS, the master-feeder agreement or the internal conduct of business rules do not have to replicate those standard dealing arrangements, but may cross-refer to the relevant parts of the prospectus of the master

[Note: recital (8) to the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

Law applicable to the master-feeder agreement

11.3.5 R

- (1) Where the feeder UCITS and the master UCITS are UCITS schemes, the master-feeder agreement must provide that the law of a specified part of the *United Kingdom* applies to the agreement and that both parties agree to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of that part of the United Kingdom.
- (2) Where the master UCITS is established in an EEA State, the masterfeeder agreement must provide that the applicable law shall be UK law.

and that both parties agree to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of the UK.

[Note: article 14 of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

11.3.5A

R

(1) Where paragraph (2) applies a master-feeder agreement that is effective prior to IP completion day need not comply with ■ COLL 11.3.5R(2).

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- (2) This paragraph applies where the applicable law of the *master-feeder* agreement was:
 - (a) UK law before IP completion day, and remains so; or
 - (b) the law of the *EEA State* in which the *master UCITS* was established before *IP completion day*, and remains so.

Avoidance of opportunities for market timing

11.3.6 R

- (1) The authorised fund managers of a master UCITS and its feeder UCITS must take appropriate measures to co-ordinate the timing of their net asset value calculation and publication, including the publication of dealing prices, in order to avoid market timing in their units, preventing arbitrage opportunities.
- (2) Where the master UCITS is an EEA UCITS scheme managed by an EEA UCITS management company, the authorised fund manager must coordinate with that management company.

[Note: article 60(2) of the UCITS Directive]

Obligations of the feeder UCITS

11.3.7 R

- (1) An authorised fund manager of a feeder UCITS must monitor effectively the activity of the master UCITS.
- (2) In performing this obligation, the *authorised fund manager* of the *feeder UCITS* may rely on information and *documents* received from the *master UCITS*, or where applicable, the *master UCITS*' *management company, depositary* or auditor, unless there is a reason for doubting their accuracy.

[Note: article 65(1) of the UCITS Directive]

Inducements

11.3.8 R

Where, in connection with an investment in the *units* of the *master UCITS*, a distribution fee, commission or other monetary benefit is received by:

- (1) a feeder UCITS; or
- (2) an authorised fund manager of a feeder UCITS; or
- (3) any person acting on behalf of (1) or (2);

that fee, commission or other monetary benefit must be paid into the scheme property of the feeder UCITS.

[Note: article 65(2) of the UCITS Directive]

Obligations of the master UCITS

11.3.9 R

The authorised fund manager of a master UCITS must immediately inform the FCA of the identity of each feeder UCITS which invests in its units.

[Note: article 66(1) first sentence of the UCITS Directive]

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11.3.10 G [deleted]

- 11.3.11 R
- (1) An authorised fund manager of a master UCITS must not impose any preliminary charge or redemption charge on the feeder UCITS for the issue, sale, redemption or cancellation of units in the master UCITS.
- (2) Where the authorised fund manager of a master UCITS requires any addition to or deduction from the consideration paid on the acquisition or disposal of units by a feeder UCITS which is, or is like, a dilution levy made in accordance with ■ COLL 6.3.8 R (Dilution), it is to be treated as part of the price of the units and not as part of any

[Note: article 66(2) of the UCITS Directive]

11.3.12 R An authorised fund manager of a master UCITS must ensure the timely availability of all information that is required in accordance with its obligations under the regulatory system, the general law and the instrument constituting the fund, to:

- (1) the feeder UCITS (or where applicable its management company);
- (2) the FCA;
- (3) the depositary of the feeder UCITS; and
- (4) the auditor of the feeder UCITS.

[Note: article 66(3) of the UCITS Directive]

Obligations to Unitholders of a master UCITS

11.3.13

The authorised fund manager of a UCITS scheme that operates, or intends to operate, as a master UCITS must:

- (1) not enter into a master-feeder agreement or, where applicable, internal conduct of business rules in accordance with ■ COLL 11.3.2R (2) unless it is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the arrangements with the feeder UCITS will not unfairly prejudice the interests of any other unitholder or class of unitholders in the master UCITS;
- (2) consider, in relation to:
 - (a) each item of information it makes available to the feeder UCITS or its management company; and
 - (b) each matter notified by the depositary of the master UCITS in accordance with ■ COLL 11.4.3 R (Notification of irregularities);

whether it would unfairly prejudice the interests of those unitholders in the master UCITS other than the feeder UCITS by not making that information available to them, or by not informing them of that matter at the same time in an appropriate manner; and

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- (3) in relation to any matter within (2)(b) where it does not notify other *unitholders* at the same time:
 - (a) record the grounds for determining that the interests of those *unitholders* are not unfairly prejudiced by its decision; and
 - (b) inform all *unitholders* of that matter in an appropriate manner and timescale.

11.3.14 G

- (1) The appropriate manner and timescale of notification referred to in COLL 11.3.13R (2) and (3)(b) will depend on the nature and significance of the matter. Consequently, the *authorised fund manager* will need to assess each matter individually.
- (2) An appropriate manner of notification could include sending an immediate notification to the *unitholders*, or arranging for the information to be published on one or more websites where it is reasonable likely to be seen by investors.
- (3) Where COLL 11.3.13R (3)(b) applies, it might be appropriate to include the information in the next long report of the *scheme*.



11.4 **Depositaries**

Information-sharing agreement between depositaries

11.4.1 R

- (1) An authorised fund manager of a feeder UCITS is responsible for communicating to the *depositary* of the *scheme* any information about the master UCITS which is required for the completion of the depositary's regulatory obligations.
- (2) Where a master UCITS and its feeder UCITS have different depositaries, the depositaries must enter into an information-sharing agreement in order to ensure fulfilment of their respective duties.

[Note: article 61(1) first and fourth paragraphs of the UCITS Directive]

Contents of the information-sharing agreement between depositaries

11.4.2

R

- (1) The information-sharing agreement referred to in COLL 11.4.1R (2) must include:
 - (a) identification of the documents and categories of information which are to be routinely shared between both depositaries, and whether that information or those documents are provided by one depositary to the other or made available on request;
 - (b) the manner and timing, including any applicable deadlines, of the transmission of information by the *depositary* of the *master* UCITS to the depositary of the feeder UCITS;
 - (c) the co-ordination of the involvement of both depositaries, to the extent appropriate in view of their respective duties under national law, in relation to operational matters, including:
 - (i) the procedure for calculating the net asset value of each scheme, including any measures appropriate to protect against the activities of market timing in accordance with ■ COLL 11.3.6 R (Avoidance of opportunities for market timing);
 - (ii) the processing of instructions by the feeder UCITS to purchase, subscribe or request the repurchase or redemption of units in the master UCITS, and the settlement of those transactions, including any arrangement to transfer assets in kind:
 - (d) the co-ordination of accounting year-end procedures;

- (e) what details the *depositary* of the *master UCITS* must provide to the *depositary* of the *feeder UCITS* of breaches by the *master UCITS* of the law and the *instrument constituting the fund* and how and when those details will be provided;
- (f) the procedure for handling ad hoc requests for assistance from one *depositary* to the other; and
- (g) identification of particular contingent events which ought to be notified by one *depositary* to the other on an ad hoc basis, and how and when this will be done.
- (2) Where a master-feeder agreement exists in accordance with COLL 11.3.2R (1) (Master-feeder agreement and internal conduct of business rules), the information-sharing agreement between the depositaries must provide that UK law applies to that agreement, and both depositaries agree to the exclusive jurisdiction of the UK courts in relation to that agreement.
- (3) Where the master-feeder agreement has been replaced by internal conduct of business rules in accordance with COLL 11.3.2R (2) (Master-feeder agreement and internal conduct of business rules), the information-sharing agreement between the depositaries must provide that UK law applies to that agreement, and both depositaries agree to the exclusive jurisdiction of the UK courts in relation to that agreement.

[Note: articles 24 and 25 of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

11.4.2A R

- (1) Where paragraph (2) applies, an *information-sharing agreement* between the *depositaries* that is effective prior to *IP completion day* need not comply with COLL 11.4.2R.
- (2) This paragraph applies where the applicable law of the *information* sharing agreement between the depositaries was:
 - (a) UK law before IP completion day, and remains so; or
 - (b) the law of a given *EEA State* before *IP completion day*, and remains so.

Notification of irregularities

11.4.3 R

- (1) Where a *depositary* of a *master UCITS* detects any irregularities with regards to the *scheme* which may have a negative impact on the relevant *feeder UCITS*, the *depositary* must immediately inform:
 - (a) the FCA;
 - (b) the feeder UCITS or, where applicable, its management company; and
 - (c) the depositary of the feeder UCITS.
- (2) The irregularities referred to in (1) include, but are not limited to:
 - (a) errors in the valuation of the *scheme property* performed in accordance with COLL 6.3.3 R (Valuation);

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- (b) errors in transactions for or settlement of the sale, issue, repurchase or redemption of units in the scheme undertaken by the feeder UCITS;
- (c) errors in the payment or capitalisation of income arising from the scheme property, or in the calculation of any related withholding tax:
- (d) breaches of the investment objectives, policy or strategy of the scheme as described in the instrument constituting the fund, the prospectus or the key investor information; and
- (e) breaches of investment and borrowing limits set out in COLL, the instrument constituting the fund, the prospectus or the key investor information.

[Note: article 61(2) of the UCITS Directive and article 26 of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

11.4.4 G

- (1) When notifying the FCA of any irregularities in accordance with ■ COLL 11.4.3R (1), the *depositary* of the *master UCITS* should also inform the depositary of the feeder UCITS how the master UCITS or its authorised fund manager has resolved or proposes to resolve the irregularity.
- (2) Where the depositary of a UCITS scheme that is a feeder UCITS is informed by the depositary of a master UCITS of an irregularity and is not satisfied that the resolution or proposed resolution is in the interests of the *unitholders* of the *scheme*, it should promptly report its view to the authorised fund manager of the scheme, or in the case of an ICVC, the directors.

[Note: recital (16) to the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

Disclosure by a trustee or depositary

G 11.4.5

Section 351A (Disclosure under the UCITS directive) of the Act provides that where a trustee of an AUT or the depositary of an ACS which is a master UCITS or a feeder UCITS, or any person acting on their behalf, makes a disclosure to comply with rules implementing Chapter VIII of the UCITS Directive, that disclosure is not to be taken as a contravention of any duty to which the person making the disclosure is subject. The OEIC Regulations (see regulation 83A) contain corresponding provisions for the depositaries of ICVCs that are feeder UCITS and master UCITS.



11.5 Auditors

Information-sharing agreement between auditors

11.5.1 R

Where a master UCITS and a feeder UCITS have different auditors, those auditors must enter into an information-sharing agreement in order to ensure the fulfilment of their respective duties, including the arrangements taken to comply with ■ COLL 11.5.3 R and ■ COLL 11.5.4 R (Preparation of the audit report).

[Note: article 62(1) first paragraph of the UCITS Directive]

Contents of the information-sharing agreement between auditors

11.5.2 R

- (1) The information-sharing agreement referred to in COLL 11.5.1 R must include:
 - (a) identification of the *documents* and categories of information which are to be routinely shared between both auditors;
 - (b) whether the information or documents referred to in (a) are to be provided by one auditor to the other or made available on request;
 - (c) the manner and timing, including any applicable deadlines, of the transmission of information by the auditor of the *master UCITS* to the auditor of the *feeder UCITS*;
 - (d) the co-ordination of the involvement of each auditor in the accounting year-end procedures for their respective *scheme*;
 - (e) identification of matters that must be treated as irregularities and disclosed in the audit report for the master UCITS for the purposes of COLL 11.5.3R (2);
 - (f) the manner and timing for handling ad hoc requests for assistance from one auditor to the other, including a request for further information on irregularities disclosed in the audit report for the *master UCITS*; and
 - (g) provisions regarding the preparation of the audit reports referred to in ■ COLL 11.5.3 R and ■ COLL 4.5.12 R (Report of the auditor) and the manner and timing for the provision of the audit report for the master UCITS (and drafts of it) to the auditor of the feeder UCITS.
- (2) Where the feeder UCITS and the master UCITS have different accounting year-end dates, the information-sharing agreement must include the manner and timing by which the auditor of the master

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- UCITS is to make the ad hoc report as required by COLL 11.5.4 R and to provide it (and drafts of it) to the auditor of the feeder UCITS.
- (3) Where a master-feeder agreement exists in accordance with ■ COLL 11.3.2R (1) (Master-feeder agreement and internal conduct of business rules), the information-sharing agreement between the auditors must provide that UK law applies to that agreement, and both auditors agree to the exclusive jurisdiction of the UK courts in relation to that agreement.
- (4) Where the master-feeder agreement has been replaced by internal conduct of business rules in accordance with ■ COLL 11.3.2R (2) (Masterfeeder agreement and internal conduct of business rules), the information-sharing agreement between the auditors must provide that UK law applies to that agreement, and both auditors agree to the exclusive jurisdiction of the UK courts in relation to that agreement.

[Note: articles 27 and 28 of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

11.5.2A R

- (1) An information-sharing agreement between the auditors that is effective prior to IP completion day need not comply with ■ COLL 11.5.2R.
- (2) This paragraph applies where the applicable law of the informationsharing agreement between the auditors was:
 - (a) United Kingdom law before IP completion day, and remains so; or
 - (b) the law of a given EEA State before IP completion day, and remains so.

Preparation of the audit report

11.5.3

When preparing its audit report, the auditor of a feeder UCITS must:

- (1) take into account the audit report of the master UCITS; and
- (2) report on any irregularities revealed in the audit report of the master UCITS and their impact on the feeder UCITS.

[Note: article 62(2) first paragraph first sentence and second paragraph of the UCITS Directive

11.5.4 R Where a master UCITS and one or more of its feeder UCITS have different accounting years, the auditor of the master UCITS must make an ad hoc report on the closing date of the accounting year of each feeder UCITS.

[Note: article 62(2) first paragraph second sentence of the UCITS Directive]

Disclosure by an auditor

11.5.5

Section 351A of the Act provides that where an auditor of an AUT or ACS which is a master UCITS or a feeder UCITS, or any person acting on their behalf, makes a disclosure to comply with rules implementing Chapter VIII of the UCITS Directive, that disclosure is not to be taken as a contravention of any duty to which the person making the disclosure is subject. The OEIC Regulations (see regulation 83A) contain corresponding provisions for auditors of ICVCs that are feeder UCITS and master UCITS.

Responsibility of authorised fund managers

11.5.6

R

The authorised fund managers of a master UCITS and a feeder UCITS must ensure that the terms on which auditors of their respective schemes are appointed require each auditor to comply with the rules in this section.

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11.6 Winding up, merger and division of master UCITS

Explanation

11.6.1 G

- (1) Section 258A(1) and (2) and section 261Z(1) and (2) (Winding up or merger of master UCITS) of the Act, provide that where a master UCITS is wound up, for whatever reason, the FCA is to direct the manager and trustee of any AUT or the authorised contractual scheme manager and depositary of any ACS which is a feeder UCITS of the master UCITS to wind up the scheme, unless one of the following conditions is satisfied:
 - (a) the FCA approves under section 283A (Master-feeder structures) of the Act the investment by the feeder UCITS of at least 85% in value of the scheme property in units of another master UCITS; or
 - (b) the FCA approves under section 252A or section 261S (Proposal to convert to a non-feeder UCITS) of the Act an amendment of the trust deed or contractual scheme deed of the feeder UCITS which would enable it to convert into a UCITS scheme which is not a feeder UCITS.
- (2) Section 258A(3) and (4) and section 261Z(3) and (4) of the Act further provide that where a master UCITS merges with another UCITS or is divided into two or more UCITS, the FCA is to direct the manager and trustee of any AUT or the authorised contractual scheme manager and depositary of any ACS which is a feeder UCITS of the master UCITS to wind up the scheme, unless one of the following conditions is satisfied:
 - (a) the FCA approves under section 283A of the Act the investment by the feeder UCITS of at least 85% in value of the scheme property in units of:
 - (i) the master UCITS which results from the merger;
 - (ii) one of the UCITS resulting from the division; or
 - (iii) another UCITS or master UCITS; or
 - (b) the FCA approves under section 252A or section 261S of the Act an amendment of the trust deed or contractual scheme deed of the feeder UCITS which would enable it to convert into a UCITS scheme which is not a feeder UCITS.
- (3) The OEIC Regulations (see regulations 33A and 33B respectively) contain corresponding provisions for feeder UCITS which are structured as ICVCs.

COLL 11/18

Winding up and liquidation of master UCITS: Time limit within which a master UCITS is to be wound up pursuant to FCA direction

11.6.2 R

- (1) The commencement of winding up of a *UCITS scheme* that is a *master UCITS* must take place no sooner than 3 months after a notification is made to its *unitholders* and the *FCA* informing it of the binding decision to wind up the *master UCITS*.
- (2) Paragraph (1) is without prejudice to any provision of the insolvency legislation in force in the *United Kingdom* regarding the compulsory liquidation of *AUTs*, *ACSs* or *ICVCs*.

[Note: article 60(4) last sentence of the UCITS Directive]

Application for approval by a feeder UCITS where a master UCITS is wound up

11.6.3 R

Where the *authorised fund manager* of a *UCITS scheme* that is a *feeder UCITS* is notified that its *master UCITS* is to be wound up, it must submit to the *FCA* the following:

- (1) where the *authorised fund manager* of the *feeder UCITS* intends to invest at least 85% in value of the *scheme property* in *units* of another *master UCITS*:
 - (a) its application for approval under section 283A of the *Act* for that investment;
 - (b) where applicable, its notice under section 251 (Alteration of schemes and changes of manager or trustee) of the Act, section 261Q of the Act (Alteration of contractual schemes and changes of operator or depositary) or regulation 21 (The Authority's approval for certain changes in respect of a company) of the OEIC Regulations of any proposed amendments to its instrument constituting the fund;
 - (c) the amendments to its *prospectus* and its *key investor* information in accordance with COLL 4.2.3 R (1)(b) (Provision and filing of the prospectus) and COLL 4.7.7 R (1) (Revision and filing of key investor information); and
 - (d) the other *documents* required in accordance with COLL 11.2.2 R (Application for approval of an investment in a master UCITS);
- (2) where the *authorised fund manager* of the *feeder UCITS* intends to convert it into a *UCITS scheme* that is not a *feeder UCITS*:
 - (a) its application for approval under section 252A or section 261S of the *Act* or regulation 22A of the *OEIC Regulations* of the proposed amendments to its *instrument constituting the fund*; and
 - (b) the amendments to its *prospectus* and its *key investor information* in accordance with COLL 4.2.3 R (1)(b) and COLL 4.7.7 R (1); and
- (3) where the *authorised fund manager* of the *feeder UCITS* intends to wind up the *scheme*, a notice under section 251 or section 261Q of

the Act or regulation 21 of the OEIC Regulations of a proposal to that effect.

[Note: article 20(1) of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

Timing of applications for approval: winding up of a master **UCITS**

11.6.4 R

- (1) The information in COLL 11.6.3 R must be submitted no later than two months after the date on which the master UCITS has informed the authorised fund manager of the feeder UCITS of the binding decision to be wound up.
- (2) By way of derogation from (1), where the master UCITS has informed the authorised fund manager of the feeder UCITS of the binding decision to be wound up more than five months before the date at which the winding up will start, the authorised fund manager must submit the information to the FCA at the latest three months before the day the winding up will start.

[Note: article 20(1) first sentence and article 20(2) of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2

Application for approval by a feeder UCITS where a master UCITS merges or divides

11.6.5

Where the authorised fund manager of a UCITS scheme that is a feeder UCITS is notified that the master UCITS is to merge with another UCITS scheme or EEA UCITS scheme or divide into two or more such schemes, it must submit to the FCA the following:

- (1) where the authorised fund manager of the feeder UCITS intends it to continue to be a feeder UCITS of the same master UCITS:
 - (a) its application under section 283A of the Act, for approval;
 - (b) where applicable, a notice under section 251 or section 261Q of the Act or regulation 21 of the OEIC Regulations of any proposed amendments to the instrument constituting the fund; and
 - (c) where applicable, the amendments to its *prospectus* and its *key* investor information in accordance with ■ COLL 4.2.3 R (1)(b) and ■ COLL 4.7.7 R (1):
- (2) where the authorised fund manager of the feeder UCITS intends it to become a feeder UCITS of another master UCITS resulting from the proposed merger or division of the master UCITS, or intends the feeder UCITS to invest at least 85% in value of the scheme property in units of another master UCITS not resulting from the merger or division:
 - (a) its application under section 283A of the Act for approval of that investment:
 - (b) where applicable, a notice under section 251 or section 261Q of the Act or regulation 21 of the OEIC Regulations of any proposed amendments to the instrument constituting the fund;

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- (c) the amendments to its *prospectus* and its *key investor information* in accordance with COLL 4.2.3 R (1)(b) and COLL 4.7.7 R (1);
- (d) the other documents required in accordance with COLL 11.2.2 R;
- (3) where the *authorised fund manager* of the *feeder UCITS* intends it to convert into a *UCITS scheme* that is not a *feeder UCITS*:
 - (a) its application for approval under section 252A or section 261S of the *Act* or regulation 22A of the *OEIC Regulations* of the proposed amendments to the *instrument constituting the fund*; and
 - (b) the amendments to its *prospectus* and its *key investor information* in accordance with COLL 4.2.3 R (1)(b) and COLL 4.7.7 R (1); and
- (4) where the *authorised fund manager* of the *feeder UCITS* intends to wind up the *scheme*, a notice under section 251 or section 261Q of the *Act* or regulation 21 of the *OEIC Regulations* of a proposal to that effect.

[Note: article 22(1) of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

Interpretation of COLL 11.6.5R

- 11.6.6 R
- (1) For the purposes of COLL 11.6.5R (1), a feeder UCITS will be considered as continuing to be a feeder UCITS of the same master UCITS where:
 - (a) the *master UCITS* is the *receiving UCITS* in a proposed *UCITS* merger; or
 - (b) the *master UCITS* is to continue materially unchanged as one of the resulting *UCITS schemes* or *EEA UCITS schemes* in a proposed division.
- (2) For the purposes of COLL 11.6.5R (2), a feeder UCITS will be considered as becoming a feeder UCITS of another master UCITS resulting from the merger or division of the master UCITS where:
 - (a) the master UCITS is the merging UCITS and, as a result of the UCITS merger, the feeder UCITS becomes a unitholder of the receiving UCITS; or
 - (b) the feeder UCITS as a result of the division becomes a unitholder of a UCITS scheme or EEA UCITS scheme that is materially different to the master UCITS.

[Note: article 22(2) of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

Timing of applications for approval: merger or division of a master UCITS

11.6.7 R

(1) The information in ■COLL 11.6.5 R must be submitted to the FCA no later than one month after the date on which the authorised fund manager of the feeder UCITS has received the information of the planned merger or division in accordance with regulation 13(6) of the UCITS Regulations 2011.

(2) By way of derogation from (1), where the master UCITS provides the information referred to in, or comparable with, ■ COLL 7.7.10 R (Information to be given to Unitholders) to the authorised fund manager of the feeder UCITS more than four months before the proposed effective date of the merger or division of the *master* UCITS, the authorised fund manager must submit the information to the FCA at least three months before the proposed effective date.

[Note: article 22(1) first sentence and article 22(3) of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2

Repurchase or redemption of units in a master UCITS

11.6.8 G Regulation 12(4) (Right of redemption) of the UCITS Regulations 2011 provides that where a UK master UCITS merges with another scheme, the master UCITS must enable its feeder UCITS to repurchase or redeem all the units of the master UCITS in which they have invested before the consequences of the merger become effective, unless the FCA approves the continued investment by the feeder UCITS in a master UCITS resulting from the merger.

11.6.9 R

- (1) Where:
 - (a) the authorised fund manager of a feeder UCITS has submitted the documents required under ■ COLL 11.6.5R (2) and ■ (3); and
 - (b) does not receive the necessary approvals from the FCA by the business day preceding the last day on which the authorised fund manager of the feeder UCITS can request repurchase or redemption of its units in the master UCITS;
 - the authorised fund manager of the feeder UCITS must exercise the right to repurchase or redeem its units in the master UCITS under regulation 12(4) of the UCITS Regulations 2011.
- (2) The authorised fund manager of the feeder UCITS must also exercise the right in (1) to ensure that the right of its own unitholders to request repurchase or redemption in the feeder UCITS in accordance with ■ COLL 4.8.3 R (1)(d) (Information to be provided to Unitholders) is not affected.
- (3) Before exercising the right in (1), the authorised fund manager of the feeder UCITS must consider any available alternative solutions which may help to avoid or reduce transaction costs or other negative impacts for its own unitholders.
- (4) Where the authorised fund manager of the feeder UCITS requests repurchase or redemption in accordance with (1), it must receive one of the following:
 - (a) the repurchase or redemption proceeds in cash; or
 - (b) some or all of the repurchase or redemption proceeds as a transfer in kind, where the authorised fund manager of the feeder UCITS so wishes and where its instrument constituting the fund and the master-feeder agreement provide for it.

COLL 11/22

(5) Where (4)(b) applies, the *authorised fund manager* of the *feeder UCITS* may realise any part of the transferred assets for cash at any time.

[Note: articles 23(4) and 23(5) of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

Conditions on reinvestment of cash

11.6.10 R

Where:

- (1) the FCA approves an application under sections 283A (Master-feeder structures), 252A or 261S (Proposal to convert to a non-feeder UCITS) of the Act or regulation 22A of the OEIC Regulations that arises as a result of the winding-up, merger or division of the master UCITS (other than an application pursuant to COLL 11.6.5R (1)); and
- (2) the authorised fund manager of the feeder UCITS holds or receives cash in accordance with COLL 11.6.9R (4) or as a result of a winding-up;

the authorised fund manager may not re-invest that cash, except for the purpose of efficient cash management, before the date on which the feeder UCITS invests in units of the master UCITS in accordance with COLL 11.3.2R (3) (Master-feeder agreement and internal conduct of business rules) or in accordance with its new investment objectives and policy.

[Note: article 23(6) of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

11.6.11 G

■ COLL 11.6.10 R gives effect to sections 283A(4), 252A(8) and 261S(8) of the Act and regulation 22A(4) of the OEIC Regulations which require the FCA to impose certain conditions when approving the re-investment of cash received from a master UCITS which has been wound up.

Requirements following approval by the FCA

11.6.12 R

Where the authorised fund manager of a feeder UCITS has submitted the documents required under ■ COLL 11.6.3R (1), ■ COLL 11.6.3R (2), ■ COLL 11.6.5R (1), ■ COLL 11.6.5R (2) or ■ COLL 11.6.5R (3) and has received written notice of any required approvals from the FCA, it must:

- (1) inform the master UCITS of those approvals; and
- (2) in the case of the required approvals received in respect of documents submitted under COLL 11.6.3 R (1) and COLL 11.6.5 R (2), take the necessary measures to comply with the requirements of COLL 4.8.3 R as soon as possible.

[Note: articles 21(2), 21(3), 23(2) and 23(3) of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

Notification by feeder UCITS of intention to be wound up

11.6.13



Where the authorised fund manager of a feeder UCITS gives notice to the FCA under section 251 or section 261Q of the Act or regulation 21 of the OEIC Regulations that it intends to wind up the scheme, it must inform:

- (1) the unitholders of the feeder UCITS; and
- (2) where notice is given under COLL 11.6.5R (4) (Application for approval by a feeder UCITS where a master UCITS merges or divides), the authorised fund manager of the master UCITS;

of its intention without undue delay.

[Note: articles 20(3) and 22(4) of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

COLL 11/24

Contents of the standard master-feeder agreement

This table belongs to the *rule* on the conclusion and prescribed content of a standard *master-feeder* agreement (■ COLL 11.3.2R (1)).

- (1) Provisions related to access to information by a master UCITS and a feeder UCITS:
 - (a) how and when the *master UCITS* provides the *feeder UCITS* with a copy of it *instrument constituting the fund, prospectus* and *key investor information* or any amendment of them:
 - (b) how and when the *master UCITS* informs the *feeder UCITS* of a delegation of investment management and risk management functions to third parties in accordance with COLL 6.6.15AR;
 - (c) where applicable, how and when the *master UCITS* provides the *feeder UCITS* with internal operational documents, such as its risk management process and its compliance reports;
 - (d) what details of breaches by the master UCITS of;
 - (i) the law;
 - (ii) the instrument constituting the fund; and
 - (iii) the master-feeder agreement;

must be notified to the feeder UCITS and the manner and timing thereof;

- (e) where a feeder UCITS uses derivatives for hedging purposes, how and when the master UCITS will provide the feeder UCITS with information about its actual exposure to derivatives to enable the feeder UCITS to calculate its own global exposure as envisaged by COLL 5.8.4 R (Exposure to derivatives); and
- (f) a statement that the *master UCITS* must inform the *feeder UCITS* of any other information-sharing arrangements entered into with third parties and, where applicable, how and when the *master UCITS* makes those other information-sharing arrangements available to the *feeder UCITS*.

[Note: article 8 of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

- (2) Provisions related to the basis of investment and divestment by the feeder UCITS:
 - (a) a statement of which *classes* of *units* of the *master UCITS* are available for investment by the *feeder UCITS*;
 - (b) the charges and expenses to be borne by the *feeder UCITS* and details of any rebate or retrocession of charges or expenses by the *master UCITS*; and
 - (c) where applicable, the terms on which any initial or subsequent transfer of assets in kind may be made from the *feeder UCITS* to the *master UCITS*.

[Note: article 9 of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

- (3) Provisions related to standard dealing arrangements:
 - (a) co-ordination of the frequency and timing of the net asset value calculation process and the publication of prices of *units*;
 - (b) co-ordination of transmission of dealing orders by the *feeder UCITS*, including, where applicable, the role of transfer agents or any other third party;
 - (c) where applicable, any arrangements necessary to take account of the fact that the units of the master UCITS or the feeder UCITS are listed or traded on a secondary market;

- (d) where necessary, appropriate measures to ensure compliance with the requirements in COLL 11.3.6 R (Avoidance of opportunities for market timing);
- where the units of the feeder UCITS and the master UCITS are denominated in dif-(e) ferent currencies, the basis for conversion of dealing orders;
- (f) settlement cycles and payment details for purchases or subscriptions and repurchases or redemptions of units of the master UCITS including, where agreed between the parties, the terms on which the master UCITS may settle redemption requests by a transfer of assets in kind to the feeder UCITS, notably where a master UCITS is wound up, merges with another UCITS scheme or EEA UCITS scheme or divides into two or more such schemes;
- procedures to ensure enquiries and complaints from unitholders are handled ap-(g) propriately; and
- where the instrument constituting the fund and prospectus of the master UCITS (h) give it certain rights or powers in relation to unitholders, and the master UCITS chooses to limit or forego the exercise of all or any such rights and powers in relation to the feeder UCITS, a statement of the terms on which it does so.

[Note: article 10 of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

- (4) Provisions related to events affecting dealing arrangements:
 - the manner and timing of a notification by either the master UCITS or the feeder (a) UCITS of the temporary suspension and resumption of repurchase, redemption, purchase or subscription of its units; and
 - the arrangements for notifying and resolving pricing errors in the master UCITS. (b)

[Note: article 11 of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

- (5)Provisions related to the standard arrangements for the audit report:
 - where the feeder UCITS and the master UCITS have the same accounting years. the co-ordination of the production of their periodic reports; and
 - where the feeder UCITS and the master UCITS have different accounting years, ar-(b) rangements for the feeder UCITS to obtain any necessary information from the master UCITS to enable it to produce its periodic reports on time and which ensure that the auditor of the master UCITS is in a position to produce an ad hoc report on the closing date of the accounting year of the feeder UCITS in accordance with COLL 11.5.4 R (Preparation of the audit report).

[Note: article 12 of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

Provisions related to changes to the standing arrangements: (6)

How and when notice is to be given:

- by the master UCITS of proposed and effective amendments to its instru-(a) ment constituting the fund, prospectus and key investor information, if these details differ from the standard arrangements for notification of unitholders laid down in the instrument constituting the fund or prospectus of the master UCITS;
- (b) by the master UCITS of a planned or proposed winding up, merger or division:
- by either the feeder UCITS or the master UCITS that it has ceased or will (c) cease to meet the qualifying conditions to be a feeder UCITS or a master UCITS respectively;
- by either the feeder UCITS or the master UCITS that it intends to replace (d) its management company, its depositary, its auditor or any third party which is mandated to carry out investment management or risk management functions; and
- by the *master UCITS* of other changes to standing arrangements that it (e) undertakes to provide.

[Note: article 13 of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

Contents of the internal conduct of business rules

This table belongs to the *rule* on the conclusion and prescribed content of the internal conduct of business rules (■ COLL 11.3.2R (2)).

- (1) Provisions related to conflicts of interest
 - (a) The internal conduct of business rules referred to in COLL 11.3.2R (2) must include appropriate measures to mitigate conflicts of interest that may arise between:
 - (i) the feeder UCITS and the master UCITS; or
 - (ii) the feeder UCITS and other unitholders of the master UCITS;

to the extent that these are not sufficiently addressed by the measures applied by the *management company* in order to meet the requirements of the provisions listed in (b).

- (b) The provisions referred to in (a) are:
 - (i) SYSC 10.1.4 R (Types of conflicts);
 - (ii) SYSC 10.1.6 R (Record of conflicts);
 - (iii) SYSC 10.1.10 R (Conflicts policy);
 - (iv) SYSC 10.1.11 R (Contents of policy);
 - (v) SYSC 10.1.17 R (Additional requirements for a management company);
 - (vi) SYSC 10.1.19 R (Structure and organisation of a management company);
 - (vii) SYSC 10.1.20 R (Avoidance of conflicts of interest for a management company);
 - (viii) SYSC 10.1.21 R (Disclosure of conflicts for a management company); and
 - (ix) COLL 6.6A.6 R (Strategies for the exercise of voting rights);

or the equivalent provisions implementing articles 12(1)(b) and 14(1)(d) of the UC-ITS Directive and Chapter III of the UCITS implementing Directive.

[Note: article 15 of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

- (2) Provisions related to the basis of investment and divestment by the feeder UCITS:
 - (a) a statement of which *classes* of *units* of the *master UCITS* are available for investment by the *feeder UCITS*;
 - (b) the charges and expenses to be borne by the *feeder UCITS* and details of any rebate or retrocession of charges or expenses by the *master UCITS*; and
 - (c) where applicable, the terms on which any initial or subsequent transfer of assets in kind may be made from the *feeder UCITS* to the *master UCITS*.

[Note: article 16 of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

- (3) Provisions related to standard dealing arrangements:
 - (a) co-ordination of the frequency and timing of the net asset value calculation process and the publication of prices of *units*;
 - (b) co-ordination of transmission of dealing orders by the *feeder UCITS*, including, where applicable, the role of transfer agents or any other third party;
 - (c) where applicable, any arrangements necessary to take account of the fact that *units* of the *master UCITS* or the *feeder UCITS* are listed or traded on a secondary market;

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- (d) where necessary, appropriate measures to ensure compliance with the requirements in COLL 11.3.6 R (Avoidance of opportunities for market timing);
- where the units of the feeder UCITS and the master UCITS are denominated in dif-(e) ferent currencies, the basis for conversion of dealing orders;
- (f) settlement cycles and payment details for purchases or subscriptions and repurchases or redemptions of units of the master UCITS including, where agreed between the parties, the terms on which the master UCITS may settle redemption requests by a transfer of assets in kind to the feeder UCITS, notably where a master UCITS is wound up, merges with another UCITS scheme or EEA UCITS scheme or divides into two or more such schemes; and
- where the instrument constituting the fund and prospectus of the master UCITS (g) give it certain rights or powers in relation to unitholders, and the master UCITS chooses to limit or forego the exercise of all or any such rights and powers in relation to the feeder UCITS, a statement of the terms on which it does so.

[Note: article 17 of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

- Provisions related to events affecting dealing arrangements:
 - (a) the manner and timing of notification by either the master UCITS or the feeder UC-ITS of the temporary suspension and resumption of repurchase, redemption, purchase or subscription of its units; and
 - (b) the arrangements for notifying and resolving pricing errors in the master UCITS.

[Note: article 18 of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

- (5) Provisions related to the standard arrangements for the audit report:
 - where the feeder UCITS and the master UCITS have the same accounting years, the (a) co-ordination of the production of their periodic reports; and
 - (b) where the feeder UCITS and the master UCITS have different accounting years, arrangements for the feeder UCITS to obtain any necessary information from the master UCITS to enable it to produce its periodic reports on time and which ensure that the auditor of the *master UCITS* is in a position to produce an ad hoc report on the closing date of the accounting year of the feeder UCITS in accordance with COLL 11.5.4 R (Preparation of the audit report).

[Note: article 19 of the UCITS implementing Directive No 2]

Annex 2