

**Association of Global Custodians<sup>1</sup>**  
**Middle East and Africa Focus Committee ("AGC ME&A");**  
**Subject to Supplemental Comments**

Capital Market Authority,  
Manager, Investment Products Development Department,  
PO Box 11642,  
Riyadh,  
Saudi Arabia

**Attention:** Abdullah Mohammed Binghamam

**Re: Association of Global Custodians: Middle East and Africa Committee (AGC ME&A)**

We refer to our letter from August 2016, where we introduced ourselves as a Committee (AGC ME&A) whose intention is to try and address the regional challenges faced by the global cross-border investor community.

From inception, the AGC ME&A have engaged with a number of regulators and exchanges throughout the region, highlighting a number of issues that the investment community have raised through the AGC ME&A.

In our previous letter, we were pleased to note that the CMA was planning to introduce a number of market changes (including the move from a T+0 to a T+2 settlement cycle) for 2017 that would be beneficial to our foreign investor clients.

Since these changes have taken effect, we have noticed a number of further enhancements to the market by the CMA, including importantly a relaxation on the account opening requirements and a noticeable decrease in the number documents required by foreign investors.

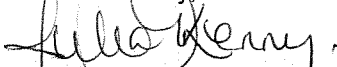
These favourable rule changes by the CMA have had a positive effect on foreign investors resulting in an increase in the number of Qualified Foreign Investors (QFIs) in the market.

The AGC ME&A are grateful to the CMA for the improvements that have been made over the last couple of years in the market - especially the way in which the CMA have listened to the feedback from the local custodians and QFIs alike – and we look forward to your continued cooperation with all market participants in the future.

The AGC ME&A Committee communication details are as follows:

Julia McKenny  
Standard Chartered Bank  
Chairperson of AGC ME&A  
Email: julia.mckenny@sc.com

Yours sincerely,



Prepared by the Middle East and Africa Association of Global Custodian Committee,  
Julia McKenny, Chairperson. 10 April 2018

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<sup>1</sup> The Association of Global Custodians is an informal group of 12 financial institutions that provide securities safekeeping services and asset-servicing functions to primarily institutional cross-border investors worldwide. As a non-partisan advocacy organization, the Association represents members' common interests on regulatory and market structure matters through comment letters, white papers and interaction with legislative and regulatory authorities and financial industry organizations around the globe. The members of the Association of Global Custodians are: BNP Paribas; BNY Mellon; Brown Brothers Harriman & Co; Citibank, N.A.; Deutsche Bank; HSBC Securities Services; JP Morgan; Northern Trust; RBC Investor & Treasury Services; Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken; Standard Chartered Bank; and State Street Bank and Trust Company. For more information visit [www.theagc.com](http://www.theagc.com).