

### **RISK DISCLOSURES**

I.W.G. International Wealth Group Ltd (hereby referred to as the "Company" and/or "IWG", a company incorporated and fully registered and existing under the laws of Cyprus with their head office at; Soboh House, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 377, 28<sup>th</sup> October Street, Neapolis, Limassol, 3107, Cyprus.

### <u>Scope</u>

I.W.G International Wealth Group Ltd (IWG) aims to provide clients with information on the risks associated with financial instruments, in a fair and non-misleading basis. However, it must be noted that this notice cannot and does not disclose or explain all of the risks and other significant aspects involved and associated when dealing in financial instruments.

### General Risk Warning

Clients should not engage in any dealings directly or indirectly in financial instruments unless they have a clear understanding of the risks involved and associated when dealing in financial instruments.

Clients should acknowledge and understand that prior to deciding to deal in financial instruments, they should consider their investment objectives, risk tolerance, financial resources and level of experience on these products.

If Clients do not understand the risks involved and associated when dealing in financial instruments, and/or are not familiar in dealing in financial instruments they should seek independent financial advice. If upon receipt of independent financial advice Clients still do not understand the risks involved and associated when dealing in financial instruments, they should not refrain from trading with the Company.

Clients acknowledge, understand and accept that financial instruments carry a high level of risk, the level of risk depends on the nature of each investment and may not be suitable for all Clients, clients may sustain losses and damages (i.e. possible to lose more than your invested capital) and consequently Clients understand, accept and are willing to undertake such risk.

The value of any investment may go up or down in value, information on past performance does not guarantee future performance, the use of historical data does not constitute a binding or safe forecast as to the future performance.

The Company does not warrant and or guarantee that clients' trades in financial instruments are not or may not become subject to tax and or any other duty for example due to changes in legislation or a client's personal circumstances. Taxes are subject to change without notice. It is the responsibility of clients to make arrangement in regards of any taxes and/or any other duty which may accrue in respect of their trades. The Company does not offer tax advice.



### Some explanations;

## Money Market Securities

- Money Market is market for short-term debt securities with maturity of one year or less and can be 30 days or less. Money Market Securities include certificates of deposit, bankers' acceptance, commercial paper, reports (repurchase agreements) and treasury bills.
- Money Market Securities are generally very safe investments, which return a relatively low interest rate. Bid and ask spreads are relatively small due to the large size and highly liquidity of the market.

# <u>Bonds</u>

- Bonds are debt instruments for a period of more than one year with the purpose of raising capital by borrowing. The central government, states and provinces, cities, corporations and many other types of institutions sell Bonds. Generally, a Bond is a promise to repay the principle along with interest on a specified date (maturity). Some Bonds do not pay interest, but all Bonds require a repayment of principal. Buyers of Bonds do not gain any kind of ownership rights to the issuer, unlike in the case of equities, but have a greater claim on an issuer's income in the case of financial distress. Bonds are categorised according to a variety of factors including tax status, credit quality, issuer type, maturity, callability and secured/unsecured. A Bond might be sold at above or below par (the amount paid out at maturity), but the market price will approach par value as the Bond approaches maturity. A risker bond has to prove a higher payout to compensate for that additional risk.
- Depending on type and characteristics, Bonds can be exposed to various risks. Bonds, like all debt instruments are exposed to the major types of risks particularly credit risk and interest rate risk (fixed income risk). Debt securities may also be subject to the risk of default of the issuer and may also be subject to price volatility, general market liquidity and other economic factors.

### Equity Shares

- An Equity Shares is a unit of ownership interest in a corporation or financial asset. The two main types of shares are common shares and preferred shares. Common shares represent equity ownership in a corporation providing voting rights and entitling the holder to a share of the company's success through dividends and/or capital appreciation. In the event of liquidation, common shareholders have rights to a company's assets only after bondholders, other debt holders, and preferred shareholders have been satisfied. Preferred shares provide for a specific dividend that is paid before any dividends are paid to common stockholders, and which take precedence over common stock in the event of liquidation. Like common stock, preferred shares represent partial ownership in a company, although stock shareholders do not enjoy any of the voting rights of common stockholders. Also, unlike common stock, a preferred share pays a fixed dividend that does not fluctuate, although the company does not have to pay this dividend if it lacks the financial ability to do so.
- Equity shareholders are exposed to all major risks as stated above, especially market risk. When investing in a stock a shareholder is severely exposed to company specific risk.



## **Depository Receipts**

- Depository Receipts are negotiable certificates, typically issued by a bank, representing a specific number of shares in a company traded on a stock exchange, which is local or overseas to the issuer of the receipt. American Depository Receipt (ADR) is issued by a US Bank representing a specific number of shares of a foreign stock traded on a U.S. Stock exchange. A Global Depository Receipt (GDR) is a negotiable certificate held in the bank of one country representing a specific number of shares of stock traded on an exchange of another country.
- > The risks involved relate to both the underlying share and to the bank issuing the receipt.

# Funds and Structured Products

# **Collective Investment Funds**

- A fund is an open-ended fund operated by an investment company. The Fund raises money from the shareholders and invests in a group of assets in accordance with a stated set of objectives, Funds then take the money they raise from the sale of their shares and use it to purchase various investment vehicles, such as stocks, bonds and money market instruments, investors in mutual funds own shares of the fund and in each of its underlying assets. Shareholders are free to sell their shares at any time, although the price of the share in a Fund will fluctuate daily, depending upon the performance of the securities held by the fund. Benefits of Funds include diversification and professional money management. Funds charge fees and often require a minimum investment.
- A Fund is a collective investment scheme and may hold a significant number of investments and may use various strategies each of which could in certain circumstances, magnify losses from adverse market developments. Depending on strategies employed Funds are subject to many of the risks outlined under equities and bonds. In addition, the possibility to realise an investment in a Fund is often limited in accordance with the applicable terms and conditions.

# Exchange Traded Funds

- An Exchange Traded Fund (ETF) is a fund that tracks an index but can be traded like a stock. These funds bundle together the securities that are in an index but they never tract actively managed mutual fund portfolios. Investors can do with an ETF almost anything they can do with normal stocks including short selling, ETFs are traded on stock exchanges and can be bought and sold at any time during trading hours unlike most mutual funds. ETFs are more tax efficient than normal mutual funds since they track indexes, they have very low operating and transaction costs associated with them. There are no sale loads or investment minimums required to purchase an ETF.
- Exchange Traded Funds are exposed to the same risks of the index they track and its components. Generally, because of diversification exchange traded funds are less risky than the individual holdings involved.



## Hedge Funds

A Hedge Fund is a fund which can use aggressive strategies that are unavailable to mutual funds including short selling, leverage, program trading, swaps, arbitrage and derivatives. Hedge Funds can accomplish aggressive investment goals because they are exempt from many of the regulations governing other Mutual Funds. Hedge Funds are considered riskier investments than traditional funds, primarily because they are regulated entities and lack transparency. They are more likely to invest in riskier or illiquid asses and while their strategies aim to maximize returns, if they are not properly hedged, they can also lead to considerable losses.

## Structured Products

- Structured Products represent a wide range of synthetic investments created to meet specific needs that cannot be met from the standardized products in the market. They are usually based on derivatives such as options and futures and investment returns depend on the price of an underlying asset or assets. A typical Structured Product might combine an element of capital protection with a degree of participation in the return from a higher performing, but higher risk underlying asset. The capital protection that is sometimes offered is subject to the investment being held at maturity and to the creditworthiness of the issuer.
- The interest and/or the redemption amount payable in respect of a Structured Product may be linked to the price of an underlying asset and the change in the price of such underlying asset may result in the reduction of the amount of interest and/or the redemption amount payable. Depending on the product in the cases where capital is not guaranteed, the investor may lose part, or all of the amount originally invested. In all cases the legal terms and conditions of a product may contain provisions, which could operate against investors' interest. For example, they may permit early redemption or termination at a time, which is unfavorable to the investor, or they may give the discretion to the issuer of the securities to revise the terms.

# **Description of Principal Risks**

# Credit Risk

Credit Risks is the risk that a fund or other instrument could lose money if the issuer or guarantor if a debt instrument becomes unwilling or unable to make timely principle and/or interest payments, or to otherwise meet its obligations, Securities are subject to varying degrees of credit risk which are sometimes reflected in credit ratings.

# Currency Risk

Currency Risks is the risk that the investment with direct or indirect exposure in foreign currencies will lose value as a result of a possible decline of those currencies relative the domestic currency or the investor's base currency. Foreign currency rate may fluctuate significantly over short periods of time for a number of reasons, including changes in interest rate and imposition of



currency controls or other political developments. In addition, funds may incur transaction costs in connection with conversions between various currencies. Funds may also engage in currency hedging, transactions, which generally involve buying currency forward options or futures contracts. However, not all currency risk may be effectively hedged and in some cases the costs of hedging techniques may outweigh expected benefits.

# Derivatives Risk

> Some funds and other investment vehicles may hold a percentage of assets in derivatives, such as futures and options contracts, in pursuance of their investment objectives. The use of such derivatives may expose the fund to additional risks that would not be subject to if it is invested directly in the securities underlying those derivatives. A fund may use futures contracts and related options for hedging purposes to offset changes in the value of securities held. A fund may also use such derivative instruments to gain exposure to a particular market or instruments, to create a synthetic money market position and for certain other tax-related purposes. There are various risks associated with the use of futures and options contracts. There may an imperfect correlation between the changes in market value of the securities held by the Fund and the prices of futures and options on futures. Due to market conditions there may not always be a liquid secondary market, or a futures contract market and it may not be possible to close out futures contracts at an advantageous time. Trading restrictions or limitations may be imposed by an exchange and government regulations may restrict trading in futures contracts and options because option premiums paid or received are small in relation to the market value of the investment underlying the options buying and selling put and call options can be more speculative than investing directly in securities.

# Structured Notes Risk

Investments in commodity currency and financial liked structured notes entail specific risks, Commodity-linked structured notes provide exposure, which may include long and/or short exposure to the investment returns of 'real assets' (i.e. assets that have tangible properties such as oil, gold and silver) that trade in the commodities underlying the note determines the performance of these notes. Currency and financial-linked structured notes provide exposure to the investment returns of currencies and financial instruments. A highly liquid secondary market may not always exist for structured notes.

# Fixed Income Risk

The Market value of fixed income investments and financial instruments related to those fixed income investments, will change in response to interest rate changes and other factors, such as changes in the effective maturities and credit ratings of fixed income investments. During periods of falling interest rates, the rates of outstanding fixed income securities and related financial instruments generally rise. Conversely, during periods of rising interest rates, the values of such securities and related financial instruments generally decline. In addition, while securities with longer maturities generally tend to produce higher yields, the prices of longer maturity securities are also subject to greater market fluctuations as a result of changes in interest rates. Fixed income investments are also subject to credit risks, which is the possibility that the credit strength of an issuer will weaken and/or an issuer of a debt security will fall to make timely payments of



principle or interest and the security will go into default.

## Liquidity Risk

Liquidity Risks refer to the difficulty purchasing and selling particular investments within a reasonable time at a fair price. To the extent that these are not an established retail market for specific instruments, trading in such instruments may be relatively inactive. In addition, during periods of reduced market liquidity or in the absence of readily available market quotations for particular investments, the ability to assign an accurate daily value to their investments may be difficult.

# Market Risk

Investments in securities and derivates in general are subject to market risks that may cause their prices to fluctuate over time. Such investments may decline in value due to factors affecting securities markets generally, or particular countries, segments, economic sectors, industries or companies within those markets. The value of a security may decline due to general economic conditions which are not specifically related to a particular issue, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions or changes in interest or currency rates.

## Non-diversification risk

Where the funds and other investment instruments are non-diversified, they can invest in the securities of a limited number of issuers. To the extent that a fund invests a significant percentage of its assets in a limited number of issuers, the fund is subject to the risks of investing in those few issuers and may be more susceptible to a single adverse economic or regulatory fund's shares than would occur in a diversified fund.

# Short Sales Risk

- Short Dales are transactions involving the sale of borrowed securities which must later be purchased back to replace those borrowed. The market price of those securities at the time of replacement may be higher or lower than the price at which the securities were initially sold. If the underlying security goes down in price in-between the time a fund sells the security and buys it back the fund will realize a gain on the transaction. Conversely, the underlying security goes up in price during the period the fund will realize a loss on the transaction. Any such loss is increased by the amount of premium or interest that must be paid to the lender of the security.
- Likewise, any gain will be decreased by the amount of premium or interest that must be paid to the lender of the security. Where a fund is also required to segregate other assets on its books to cover its obligation to return the security to the lender it would mean that those other assets may not be available to meet the fund's needs for immediate cash or other liquidity. The fund's investment performance may also suffer if the fund is required to close out a short position earlier than it had intended. This would occur if the securities lender required the fund to deliver the securities the fund borrowed at the commencement of the short sale and the fund was unable to borrow the securities from other securities lender or otherwise obtain the security by other means. In addition, the fund may be subject to expenses related to short sales that are not typically associated with investing in securities directly, such as costs of borrowing and margin



account, maintenance costs associated with the fund's open short positions. These expenses negatively impact the performance of the fund.

# Tracking Error Risk

Tracking Error Risks refer to the risks that a fund or other investment vehicles advisers may not be able to cause the funds' performance to match or correlate to that of the funds benchmark, either on a daily or aggregated basis. Factors such as fund expenses, imperfect correlation between the fund's investments and those of its benchmark, rounding of share process, changes to the benchmark, regulatory policies, high portfolio turnover rate and leverage all contribute to tracking error. The fund which seeks to track its benchmark on a daily basis, is subject to the effects of mathematical compounding which may prevent the fund from correlating with monthly, quarterly, annual or other performance of its benchmark. Tracking error risk may cause the fund's performance to be less than might be expected.

# Other risks

- > Other risks that may impact the price of a financial instrument include;
- Legal Risk, the regulatory environment.
- Political Risk is the risk an investment's return could suffer as a result of political changes or instability in a country. Instability affecting investment returns could stem from a change in government, legislative bodies, other foreign policy makers or military control.
- Operational Risk is the risk of business operations failing due to breakdowns or malfunctions of essential systems and controls, including IT systems and human operations risk changes from industry to industry and is an important consideration to make when looking at potential investment decisions for example industries with lower human interaction are likely to have lover operational risks.

# Volatility of instruments

The price of the financial instruments is derived from the price of the underlying asset which the financial instruments refer to. The financial instruments and the related markets can be highly volatile. That means the prices of the financial instruments' underlying asset may fluctuate rapidly and over wide ranges and may reflect unforeseeable events or changes in conditions none of which can be anticipated and/or controlled either by the Company or the clients. That means that there may be instances where it will be impossible for clients to execute their order(s) at a declared price resulting to losses. Factors and circumstances that can influence and have an impact on the price of financial instruments' underlying asset include among others, changing supply and demand relationships, governmental agricultural, commercial and trade programs and policies, national and international political and economic events and the prevailing psychological characteristics of the relevant marketplace.

### <u>Liquidity</u>

Some of the financial instruments' underlying assets may not become immediately liquid as a result of reduced demand for the underlying instrument and Client may not be able to obtain the information on the value of these or the extent of the associated risks.



## Technical Risk and Communication

Clients acknowledge, understand and accept that the Company cannot be held responsible for the risks of possible financial losses caused as a result of failure, malfunction, interruption, disconnection or malicious actions related to information, communication, electronic and other systems and that Clients bear all responsibility for any such failure.

## Costs and Charges

Clients acknowledge, understand and accept that costs and charges that may influence and affect their profitability. The costs and charges will be either provided by the Company or the product provider/asset that they are interested in.

Trading in financial instruments there are different types of costs that are related and linked to such transactions that may affect the profitability of clients. Such costs amongst others include commissions charged by the Company, bid-offer spreads, daily and overnight financing costs, account management fees etc. These costs can be complex to calculate and may be significant and outweigh the gross profits from a given trade.

The Company does not warrant and/or guarantee that clients' trades in financial instruments are not or may not become subject to tax and/or any other duty for instance because of changes in legislation or because of the client's personal circumstances. It is the responsibility of clients to arrange for settlement of any taxes and/or any other duty which may accrue in respect of their trades.

### Third Party Risks

Clients acknowledge, understand and accept that Companies may transfer clients' money to a third party (e.g. a bank) to hold or control in order to affect a transaction through or with that person in respect of a transaction. The Company bears no responsibility for any acts or omissions of any third party.

### **General Clients Acknowledgements**

Information based on previous or past performance of a Financial Instrument it is not a guarantee for its current and/or future performance. The use of historical data does not constitute a binding or safe forecast as to the corresponding future performance of the Financial Instruments to which the said Information refers.

The value of CFDs and other derivative financial instruments may decrease, and clients acknowledge that they may receive less money than invested/deposited or the value may be subject to high fluctuations and this may result to the invested/deposited capital to become of no value.

When financial instruments are traded in a currency other than the currency of clients' country of residence, any changes in the exchange rates may have a negative effect on its value, price and performance