

## Weekly Pulse

The performance of risk assets stalled in the week ahead of the FOMC meeting. US inflation picked up in February and could prompt the US Federal Reserve (Fed) to maintain policy rates at its March meeting. There were heavy flows into US equities. In fixed income, corporate credit exposures attracted inflows along with euro government debt.

#### **LOWER USD CAN BENEFIT EM EQUITIES**



Source: Amundi, Bloomberg. Data as at 14/03/2024. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

#### **EM EQUITIES: MORE GRANULARITY NEEDED**

- ▶ Emerging market (EM) equities heavily discounted vs developed markets (DM): EM equities valuation and performance stand at multidecade lows vs DM. Market expectations point to strong EPS growth for 2024. This along with a weaker US dollar should prove supportive to the performance of EM equities in the period ahead.
- ▶ Focus on EM ex China and Latin America (LatAm):
  The complexity of China's equity market and uncertainties surrounding the consolidation in the real estate sector boosts the case for a separate allocation to China from the rest of the EM bloc. We find value in other EM engines of growth such as LatAm.

#### Related indices

MSCI Emerging Markets NTR USD

MSCI Emerging Markets ex China Net Return USD

MSCI EM Latin America NTR USD

#### **ECONOMIC SURPRISE MONITOR & EVENT CALENDAR**



Source: Amundi, Bloomberg. Data as at 14/03/2024. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

#### Amundi ETF Investment Strategy



#### ▶ Key events:

- <u>US</u>: FOMC meeting (no change), housing data, current account balance
- <u>Europe</u>: Euro area CPI (F), PMI (P), Germany
   ZEW expectations, IFO expectations
- Asia: Bank of Japan meeting (10bps hike), China industrial production, retail sales, fixed asset investments, loan prime rates

# Summary Key market themes & related exposures 2 Flows 5

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## EM equities: more granularity needed

The prevailing market environment continues to pose significant challenges. Recent high-frequency data point to more resilience in activity than anticipated. This should allow central banks to wait before cutting rates, but a combination of a cooling labour market, decelerating activity, and struggles in the commercial real estate sector may result in a faster pace of policy accommodation. We expect the Fed to cut rates by 100 basis points this year. Lower rates and greater liquidity conditions should also push the US dollar lower.

A weakening US dollar should prove supportive to heavily discounted EM equities. Still, China remains a source of concern and we maintain a neutral stance on the <u>local market</u>. We favour other regions such as LatAm.

#### **EM** equities heavily discounted vs DM

China's underperformance has weighed on the performance of the broad EM bloc over the past year. Weak consumption, a sharp correction in the housing sector, and political tensions with the US are among the factors that

have affected Chinese equities. Some of this is reflected in EM equities' 51% valuation discount (trailing price to book) compared to developed markets, the highest level in over twenty years. Another factor that has weighed on EM equities has been the strength of the US dollar in the last decade. A strong USD often leads to tighter credit conditions (due to USD financing) and serves to drive inflation higher in these economies. A stronger dollar also tends to accentuate periods of correction when EM economies face a decline in activity.

Market expectations point to strong EPS growth for the EM bloc in 2024 (+16.9% YoY vs -10.2% YoY in FY 2023 according to market consensus estimates). This compares to 1.7% YoY EPS growth for developed markets. Despite the recent recovery, the US dollar

#### EM equities valuation stand at multi-decade lows vs DM

MSCI EM vs World price-to-book premium



Source: Bloomberg, Amundi, as at 29/02/2024. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance

should continue on its progressive downtrend, with the Fed expected to start cutting rates in late 1H. These factors could prove supportive to EM equities' performance in the period ahead.

#### Focus on EM ex China and LatAm

We suspect that the outlook for China will remain challenging in the period ahead. Further consolidation in the real estate sector will prevail in the coming months and fiscal accommodation will likely not be sufficient to offset the drag to growth. We believe that longer-term risk-reward may favour domestic Chinese A-share markets (relative to offshore-listed Chinese equities in HK – H-share) amid the gradual escalation of geopolitical risk as well as the enormous domestic liquidity pool to be deployed once confidence recovers.

Those challenges are also reflected in ongoing volatility levels for Chinese equities. Three-year volatility of Chinese equities has been nearly twice the levels seen for the broader EM bloc (27% for MSCI China vs 14% for MSCI EM - calculations are based on weekly data and are annualised). The chart below also shows that Chinese equities' performance has little correlation to other markets. In light of this and taking into account the complexity of the local market that includes various share classes between onshore and offshore listings, there is a robust case for adopting a separate allocation to China from the rest of the EM bloc.



Source: Bloomberg, MSCI, Amundi. Correlation data as at 08/03/2024, other data as at 29/02/2024. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance

Meanwhile, LatAm performed well last year, supported by attractive valuations and better-than-expected GDP growth. Inflation dynamics have also improved in the region, which allowed local central banks to start easing policy rates last summer. Looking ahead, further easing is likely, which should eventually support underlying activity. Despite last year's strong re-rating, 12-month forward PE for MSCI EM LatAm still trade below their 20-year average (9.1x vs 11.9x) and also below those of other EM regions. Local corporates also exhibit higher profitability levels (22% vs 15.5% for MSCI EM).

Overall, there are structural factors at play to support the performance of EM equities, including the growth premium of these economies compared to developed markets. Still, divergences prevail between local markets, such as China, which is more likely to lag other regions in the period ahead. On this basis we are looking for more granularity in an EM allocation and favour ex-China exposures for now.

#### **Related indices**

Index name	Bloomberg tickers	Asset class	Amundi / Lyxor ETF replication
MSCI Emerging Markets NTR USD	NDUEEGF	Equities	Full/ Derivatives
MSCI Emerging Markets ex China Net Return USD	M1CXBRV	Equities	Derivatives
MSCI EM Latin America NTR USD	NDUEEGFL	Equities	Derivatives

Source: Amundi

Please contact your Amundi ETF sales representative if you'd like more information.



### Summary of key exposures (focus of the week in bold)

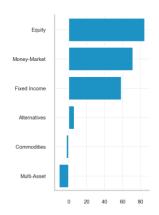
Market theme	Related exposures						
warket trieffie	Equities	Fixed income					
Inflation / growth / policy response	Japan  US Equal-Weight  US Small caps  Global Healthcare/Consumer Staples  Emerging markets/EM LatAm	EUR IG credit  All maturity  EUR government bonds  USD IG Credit  US 7-10 year Treasuries  USD Steepeners					
Volatility	EU High dividend  Quality income  Minimum Volatility	Gold US Treasuries FX hedged					
Portfolio construction	EM ex China + China Global equities – all country Thematics	Aggregate bonds Green bonds					



## Flows: Cross-Asset

#### Funds and ETF flows (US - EU domiciled in EUR)

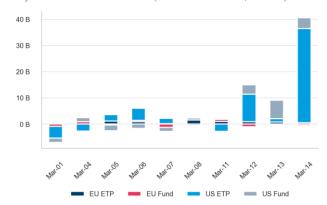
Cumulative flows over 4 weeks Cumulative daily flows between 08/03/2024 and 14/03/2024 in Funds and ETFs (US or EU domiciled, in EUR)



	AUM	1-week cumulative daily flows (EUR M)						
Asset Class	(EUR Tr)		Total	Europe		US		
	(LUK II)	Total	(%)	ETP	Fund	ETP	Fund	
Equity	24.4	62,858	0.26 %	4,800	-1,454	44,608	14,904	
Fixed Income	9.0	7,530	0.08 %	835	1,619	1,825	3,252	
Money-Market	7.0	11,747	0.17 %	153	929	0	10,665	
Commodities	0.3	239	0.09 %	-251	645	-169	14	
Multi-Asset	2.9	-2,206	-0.08 %	-0	-415	1	-1,792	
Alternatives	0.3	2,556	0.80 %	-201	-326	3,062	21	
Others	0.3	1,725	0.60 %	-57	-67	1,792	57	
Total	44.3	84,449	0.19 %	5,279	930	51,120	27,119	

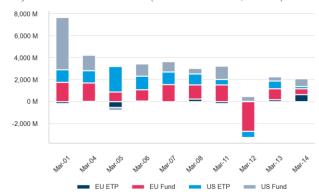
#### **Equity: daily flows**

Daily flows in Funds and ETFs (US - EU domiciled, in EUR)



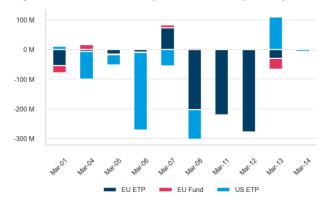
#### Fixed Income: daily flows

Daily flows in Funds and ETFs (US - EU domiciled, in EUR)



#### **Gold: daily flows**

Daily flows in Funds and ETFs (US - EU domiciled, in EUR)



Source: Morningstar, Amundi. Fund flows as at 14/03/2024. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns.

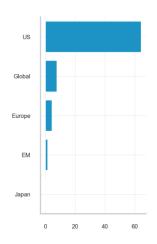
#### Oil: daily flows



## Flows: Equities

#### Funds and ETF flows (US - EU domiciled in EUR)

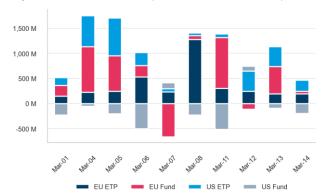
Cumulative flows over 4 weeks Cumulative daily flows between 08/03/2024 and 14/03/2024 in Funds and ETFs (US or EU domiciled, in EUR)



	AUM	1-week cumulative daily flows (EUR M)					
Asset Class	(EUR Bn) Total	Total	Europe		US		
		TUlai	(%)	ETP	Fund	ETP	Fund
Global	5,778	3,983	0.07 %	2,210	1,569	1,137	-932
US	15,039	55,390	0.37 %	1,117	292	38,040	15,941
Europe	1,510	-1,612	-0.11 %	655	-2,264	30	-34
Japan	204	-100	-0.05 %	248	-481	135	-1
EM	1,121	421	0.04 %	492	-253	275	-94
Others	788	4,776	0.61 %	78	-316	4,991	24
Total	24,441	62,858	0.26 %	4,800	-1,454	44,608	14,904

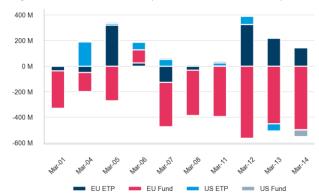
#### **World Equity**

Daily flows in Funds and ETFs (US - EU domiciled, in EUR)



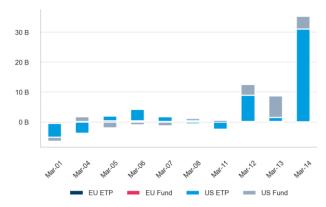
#### **Europe Equity**

Daily flows in Funds and ETFs (US - EU domiciled, in EUR)



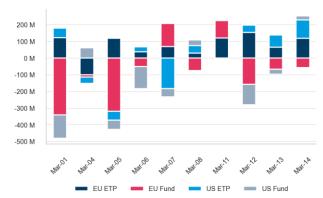
#### **US Equity**

Daily flows in Funds and ETFs (US - EU domiciled, in EUR)



Source: Morningstar, Amundi. Fund flows as at 14/03/2024. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns.

#### **EM Equity**

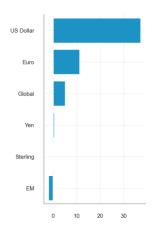




## Flows: Fixed Income

#### Funds and ETF flows (US - EU domiciled in EUR)

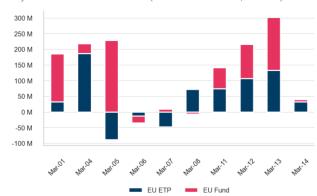
Cumulative flows over 4 weeks Cumulative daily flows between 08/03/2024 and 14/03/2024 in Funds and ETFs (US or EU domiciled, in EUR)



	AUM	1-week cumulative daily flows (EUR M)					
Asset Class	(EUR	Total	Total	Europe		US	
	Bn)	TUlai	(%)	ETP	Fund	ETP	Fund
Global	1,171	-1,588	-0.14 %	255	-1,941	70	29
Euro	912	2,524	0.28 %	789	1,735	0	0
US Dollar	5,500	6,416	0.12 %	239	797	1,782	3,598
Sterling	213	-191	-0.09 %	-114	-77	0	0
Yen	4	58	1.42 %	58	0	0	0
EM	316	-482	-0.15 %	-443	154	-37	-156
Others	915	792	0.09 %	51	950	10	-219
Total	9,032	7,530	0.08 %	835	1,619	1,825	3,252

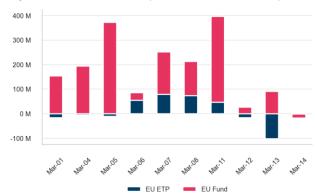
#### Government bonds - EUR sovereigns

Daily flows in Funds and ETFs (US - EU domiciled, in EUR)



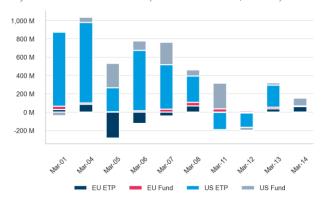
#### **Emerging Market Debt**

Daily flows in Funds and ETFs (US - EU domiciled, in EUR)



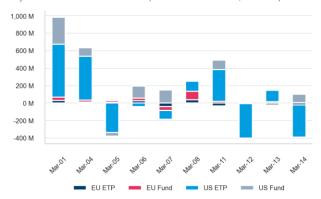
#### **US** corporate bonds – Investment Grade

Daily flows in Funds and ETFs (US - EU domiciled, in EUR)



Source: Morningstar, Amundi. Fund flows as at 14/03/2024. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns.

#### **US corporate bonds – High Yield**

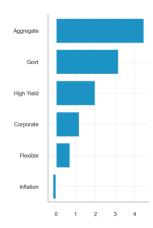




## Flows: EUR Fixed Income

#### Funds and ETF flows (US - EU domiciled in EUR)

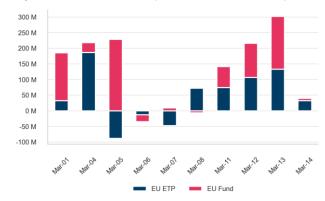
Cumulative flows over 4 weeks Cumulative daily flows between 08/03/2024 and 14/03/2024 in Funds and ETFs (US or EU domiciled, in EUR)



	AUM	1-week cumulative daily flows (EUR M)					
Asset Class	(EUR	Total	Total	Europe		US	
	Bn)	Total	(%)	ETP	Fund	ETP	Fund
Aggregate	329	590	0.18 %	-0	590	0	0
Govt	172	764	0.44 %	418	347	0	0
Inflation	13	-77	-0.61 %	-62	-15	0	0
Corporate	278	621	0.22 %	132	489	0	0
High Yield	63	538	0.85 %	287	251	0	0
Flexible	56	90	0.16 %	14	76	0	0
Others	2	-2	-0.11 %	0	-2	0	0
Total	912	2,524	0.03 %	789	1,735	0	0

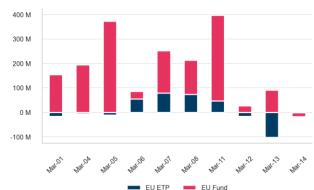
#### **EUR** sovereign bonds

Daily flows in Funds and ETFs (US - EU domiciled, in EUR)



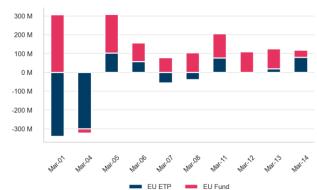
#### **EUR bonds: aggregate**

Daily flows in Funds and ETFs (US - EU domiciled, in EUR)



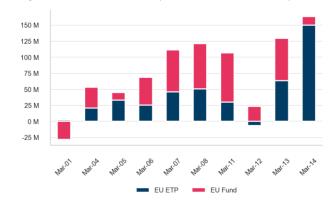
#### **EUR** corporate bonds

Daily flows in Funds and ETFs (US - EU domiciled, in EUR)



Source: Morningstar, Amundi. Fund flows as at 14/03/2024. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns.

#### **EUR high yield bonds**

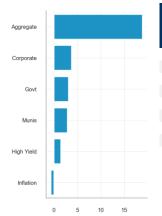




## Flows: USD Fixed Income

#### Flow recap: Funds and ETF flows (US - EU domiciled in EUR)

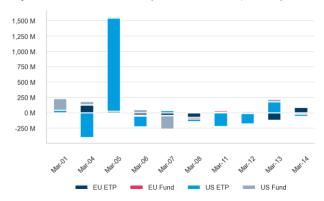
Cumulative flows over 4 weeks Cumulative daily flows between 08/03/2024 and 14/03/2024 in Funds and ETFs (US or EU domiciled, in EUR)



	AUM	1-week cumulative daily flows (EUR M)					
Asset Class	(EUR	I Otal	Total	Europe		US	
	Bn)		(%)	ETP	Fund	ETP	Fund
Aggregate	2,993	3,663	0.12 %	9	65	1,838	1,751
Govt	520	-341	-0.07 %	-78	-45	-296	79
Inflation	207	-131	-0.06 %	53	3	-415	229
Corporate	248	871	0.35 %	150	113	181	426
High Yield	351	148	0.04 %	-18	144	-152	174
Munis	816	278	0.03 %	0	0	33	245
Others	366	1,928	0.53 %	123	517	593	695
Total	5,500	6,416	0.07 %	239	797	1,782	3,598

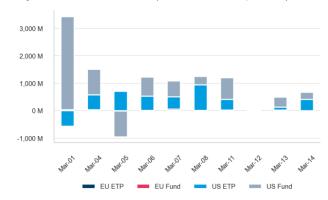
#### **USD** bonds: treasury

Daily flows in Funds and ETFs (US - EU domiciled, in EUR)



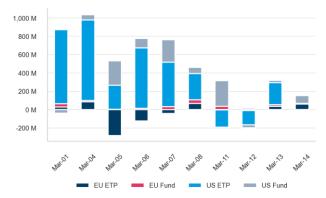
#### **USD** bonds: aggregate

Daily flows in Funds and ETFs (US - EU domiciled, in EUR)



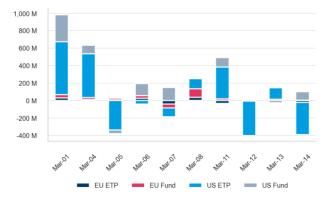
#### **USD** corporate bonds

Daily flows in Funds and ETFs (US - EU domiciled, in EUR)



Source: Morningstar, Amundi. Fund flows as at 14/03/2024. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns.

#### **USD** high yield bonds





#### **Knowing your risk**

It is important for potential investors to evaluate the risks described below and in the fund's Key Investor Document ("KID") and prospectus available on our website <a href="https://www.amundietf.com">www.amundietf.com</a>.

#### **CAPITAL AT RISK**

ETFs are tracking instruments. Their risk profile is similar to a direct investment in the underlying index. Investors' capital is fully at risk and investors may not get back the amount originally invested.

#### **UNDERLYING RISK**

The underlying index of an ETF may be complex and volatile. For example, ETFs exposed to Emerging Markets carry a greater risk of potential loss than investment in Developed Markets as they are exposed to a wide range of unpredictable Emerging Market risks.

#### REPLICATION RISK

The fund's objectives might not be reached due to unexpected events on the underlying markets which will impact the index calculation and the efficient fund replication.

#### **COUNTERPARTY RISK**

Investors are exposed to risks resulting from the use of an OTC swap (over-the-counter) or securities lending with the respective counterparty(-ies). Counterparty(-ies) are credit institution(s) whose name(s) can be found on the fund's website amundietf.com. In line with the UCITS guidelines, the exposure to the counterparty cannot exceed 10% of the total assets of the fund.

#### **CURRENCY RISK**

An ETF may be exposed to currency risk if the ETF is denominated in a currency different to that of the underlying index securities it is tracking. This means that exchange rate fluctuations could have a negative or positive effect on returns.

#### LIQUIDITY RISK

There is a risk associated with the markets to which the ETF is exposed. The price and the value of investments are linked to the liquidity risk of the underlying index components. Investments can go up or down. In addition, on the secondary market liquidity is provided by registered market makers on the respective stock exchange where the ETF is listed. On exchange, liquidity may be limited as a result of a suspension in the underlying market represented by the underlying index tracked by the ETF; a failure in the systems of one of the relevant stock exchanges, or other market-maker systems; or an abnormal trading situation or event.

#### **VOLATILITY RISK**

The ETF is exposed to changes in the volatility patterns of the underlying index relevant markets. The ETF value can change rapidly and unpredictably, and potentially move in a large magnitude, up or down.

#### **CONCENTRATION RISK**

Thematic ETFs select stocks or bonds for their portfolio from the original benchmark index. Where selection rules are extensive, it can lead to a more concentrated portfolio where risk is spread over fewer stocks than the original benchmark.

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Amundi UCITS ETFs are passively-managed index-tracking funds. The Funds are French, Luxembourg or Irish open ended mutual investment funds respectively approved by the French Autorité des Marchés Financiers, the Luxembourg Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier or the Central Bank of Ireland, and authorised for marketing of their units or shares in various European countries (the Marketing Countries) pursuant to the article 93 of the 2009/65/EC Directive.The Funds can be French Fonds Communs de Placement (FCPs) and also be sub-funds of the following umbrella structures: For Amundi ETF:

- Amundi Index Solutions, Luxembourg SICAV, RCS B206810, located 5, allée Scheffer, L-2520, managed by Amundi Luxembourg S.A.
   Amundi ETF ICAV: open-ended umbrella Irish collective asset-management
- Amundi ETF ICAV. Open-ended unbitella mish collective assertificial agential vehicle established under the laws of Ireland and authorized for public distribution by the Central Bank of Ireland. The management company of the Fund is Amundi Ireland Limited, 1 George's Quay Plaza, George's Quay, Dublin 2, D02 V002, Ireland. Amundi Ireland Limited is authorised and regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland

For Lyxor ETF:

- Multi Units France, French SICAV, RCS 441 298 163, located 91-93, boulevard Pasteur, 75015 Paris, France, managed by Amundi Asset Management
- Multi Units Luxembourg, RCS B115129 and Lyxor Index Fund, RCS B117500, both Luxembourg SICAV located 9, rue de Bitbourg, L-1273 Luxembourg, and managed by Amundi Asset Management
- Luxembourg, and managed by Amundi Asset Management
   Lyxor SICAV, Luxembourg SICAV, RCS B140772, located 5, Allée
  Scheffer, L-2520 Luxembourg, managed by Amundi Luxembourg S.A.

Before any subscriptions, the potential investor must read the offering documents (KID and prospectus) of the Funds. The prospectus in French for French UCITS ETFs, and in English for Luxembourg UCITS ETFs and rish UCITS ETFs, and the KID in the local languages of the Marketing Countries are available free of charge on www.amundi.com, www.amundi.ie or www.amundietf.com. They are also available from the headquarters of Amundi Luxembourg S.A. (as the management company of Amundi Index Solutions and Lyxor SICAV), or the headquarters of Amundi Asset Management (as the management company of Amundi ETF French FCPs, Multi Units Luxembourg, Multi Units France and Lyxor Index Fund), or at the headquarters of Amundi Ireland Limited (as the management company of Amundi ETF ICAV). For more information related to the stocks exchanges where the ETF is listed please refer to the fund's webpage on amundieff.com.

Investment in a fund carries a substantial degree of risk (i.e. risks are detailed in the KID and prospectus). Past Performance does not predict future returns. Investment return and the principal value of an investment in funds or other investment product may go up or down and may result in the loss of the amount originally invested. All investors should seek professional advice prior to any investment decision, in order to determine the risks associated with the investment and its suitability.

It is the investor's responsibility to make sure his/her investment is in compliance with the applicable laws she/he depends on, and to check if this investment is matching his/her investment objective with his/her patrimonial situation (including tax aspects).

Please note that the management companies of the Funds may de-notify arrangements made for marketing as regards units/shares of the Fund in a Member State of the EU or the UK in respect of which it has made a notification

A summary of information about investors' rights and collective redress mechanisms can be found in English on the regulatory page at https://about.amundi.com/Metanav-Footer/Footer/Quick-Links/Legal-documentation with respect to Amundi ETFs.

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For Lyxor ETF, the prospectus in English and KID are available on www.amundietf, and for funds of the Lyxor Funds Solutions SICAV from:

- Lyxor Funds Solutions, 5, Allée Scheffer, L-2520 Luxembourg – registered under number B139351 with the RCS of Luxembourg (management company of Lyxor SICAV)

Reservation thresholds are set by applying a percentage variation, indicated in the prospectus of the Funds mentioned in this Document, on either side of the Indicative Net Asset Value or "NAV" of these Funds, published by Euronext Paris SA and updated as estimates during the stock exchange trading session based on the variation in the index of each of the Funds indicated in this document. The Market Maker ensures that the market price of the Funds units does not deviate more than the percentage indicated in the prospectus of the Funds mentioned in this Document, and on the other hand from the net asset value of the UCITS, in order to comply with the reservation thresholds set by Euronext Paris SA.

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For Amundi ETF: For additional information on the Funds, a free prospectus may be requested from Amundi Deutschland GmbH, Arnulfstr. 124-126 80636 Munich, Germany (Tel. +49.89.99.226.0). The regulatory documents of the Funds registered for public distribution in Germany are available free of charge on request, and as printed version, from Marcard, Stein & Co. AG, Ballindamm 36, 20095 Hamburg, Germany.

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For Amundi ETF:

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- Lyxor SICAV, RCS B140772, located 5, Allée Scheffer, L-2520 Luxembourg. Information and documents are available on www.amundi.com or www.amundietf.com. They are also available from the headquarters of Amundi Luxembourg S.A. (as the management company of Amundi Index Solutions and Lyxor SICAV), or the headquarters of Amundi Asset Management (as the management company of French FCPs, Multi Units Luxembourg, Multi Units France and Lyxor Index Fund), or at the headquarters of Amundi Ireland Limited (as the management company of Amundi ETF ICAV).

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and at www.amundietf.com.

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For Amundi ETF and Lyxor ETF: The name and details of the Swedish paying agent are Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB (publ) through its entity Transaction Banking, SEB Merchant Banking, with its principal offices at Kungsträdgårdsgatan 8, SE-106 40 Stockholm, Sweden.

For Amundi ETF: The regulatory documentation of the Funds registered for public marketing in Denmark are available free of charge, as printed copies, from Deloitte Tax & Consulting, established and having its registered office at 20 boulevard Kockelscheuer, L-1821 Luxembourg, which acts as a facilities agent, and at www.amundietf.com

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