

## RISK DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR FOREX TRADING AND MULTI-CURRENCY ACCOUNTS

A. **Overview:** Interactive Brokers Multi-Currency enabled accounts allow IB Customers to trade investment products denominated in different currencies using a single IB account denominated in a "base" currency of the customer's choosing. IB Customers can also use their Multi-Currency enabled accounts to conduct spot foreign exchange transactions in order to manage credits or debits generated by foreign securities, options or futures trading, to convert such credits or debits back into the Customer's base currency, or to hedge or speculate.

B. **General Risk:** Customer understands and acknowledges that buying and selling securities, options, futures and other financial products that are denominated in foreign currencies or traded on foreign markets is inherently risky and requires substantial knowledge and expertise. Customers applying for Interactive Brokers ("IB") Multi-Currency enabled accounts represent that they are aware of and understand the risks involved in trading foreign securities, options, futures and currencies and that they have sufficient financial resources to bear such risks.

C. **Customer Responsibility for Investment Decisions:** Customer acknowledges that IB representatives are not authorized to provide investment, trading or tax advice and therefore will not provide advice or guidance on trading or hedging strategies in the Multi-Currency enabled account. Customers must evaluate carefully whether any particular transaction is appropriate for them in light of their investment experience, financial objectives and needs, financial resources, and other relevant circumstances and whether they have the operational resources in place to monitor the associated risks and contractual obligations over the term of the transaction. In making these assessments, IB strongly recommends that Customers obtain independent business, legal, and accounting advice before entering into any transactions.

D. **Exchange Rate Risk:** Exchange rates between foreign currencies can change rapidly due to a wide range of economic, political and other conditions, exposing the Customer to risk of exchange rate losses in addition to the inherent risk of loss from trading the underlying financial product. If a Customer deposits funds in a currency to trade products denominated in a different currency, Customer's gains or losses on the underlying investment therefore may be affected by changes in the exchange rate between the currencies. If Customer is trading on margin, the impact of currency fluctuation on Customer's gains or losses may be even greater.

E. **Currency Fluctuation:** When Customer uses the spot foreign exchange facility provided by IB to purchase or sell foreign currency, fluctuation in currency exchange rates between the foreign currency and the base currency could cause substantial losses to the Customer, including losses when the Customer converts the foreign currency back into the base currency.

F. **Foreign Currency Exchange Transactions Unregulated:** Although IB is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission as a broker-dealer and registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission as a futures commission merchant, spot foreign currency exchange transactions between Customer and IB are not regulated or overseen by the SEC, the CFTC or any other regulatory agency.

G. **Nature of Foreign Currency Exchange Transactions Between Customer and IB:** When Customer enters into a foreign exchange transaction through IB, Customer will be entering into a privately negotiated transaction with one of IB's affiliates or with a third party bank. In such transactions, IB's affiliate or the third party bank ("the Forex Counterparty") is acting solely in the capacity of an arm's length contractual counterparty in connection with the transaction and not in the capacity of a financial adviser or fiduciary. Customer should be aware that the Forex Counterparty may from time to time have substantial positions in, and may make a market in or otherwise buy or sell instruments similar or economically related to, foreign currency transactions entered into with Customer. The Forex Counterparty may also undertake proprietary trading activities, including hedging transactions related to the initiation or termination of foreign exchange transactions with Customer, that may adversely affect the market price or other factors underlying the foreign currency transaction entered into with Customer and consequently, the value of such transaction.

H. **Trades Not Executed or Cleared by an Exchange:** Foreign exchange transactions executed by Customer through IB are not executed on an exchange and are not cleared by a central clearing organization. Consequently, any foreign currency transaction contract through IB will be an obligation of the Forex Counterparty (as opposed to an obligation of a clearing house as in the case of an exchange-traded contract) and Customer will not be afforded the regulatory and financial protections offered by exchange-traded contracts. Moreover, the prices quoted by IB to Customers for foreign exchange transactions will be determined based on Forex Counterparty quotes and are not determined by a competitive auction as on an exchange market. Prices quoted by IB for foreign currency exchange transactions therefore may not be the most competitive prices available. IB will charge transaction fees as specified by IB for foreign currency exchange transactions. The Forex Counterparty will try to earn a spread profit on these transactions (differential between the bid and ask prices quoted for various currencies).

I. **Other Risks:** There are other risks that relate to trading foreign investment products and trading foreign currencies that cannot be described in detail in this document. Generally, however, foreign securities, options, futures and currency transactions involve exposure to a combination of the following risk factors: market risk, credit risk, settlement risk, liquidity risk, operational risk and legal risk. For example, there can be serious market disruptions if economic or political or other unforeseen events locally or overseas affect the market. In addition to these types of risk there may be other factors such as accounting and tax treatment issues that Customers should consider.