

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Before the

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

**In the Matter of the Application of
Taiwan Futures Exchange Corporation
For Exemption from Registration
as a Derivatives Clearing Organization**

ORDER OF EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION

Taiwan Futures Exchange Corporation (“TAIFEX”) has submitted to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“Commission”), pursuant to Section 5b(h) of the Commodity Exchange Act (“Act”), 7 U.S.C. § 7a-1(h), and Commission Regulation 39.6, § 17 C.F.R. 39.6, an application for exemption from registration as a derivatives clearing organization (“DCO”). Section 5b(h) of the Act permits the Commission to exempt, conditionally or unconditionally, a DCO from registration for the clearing of swaps if the Commission determines that the DCO is subject to comparable, comprehensive supervision and regulation by the appropriate government authority in the home country of the DCO (“Home Country Regulator”).

The Commission has reviewed the application and finds that TAIFEX has demonstrated compliance with those requirements of the Act and applicable Commission regulations with which it must comply to be eligible for an exemption from registration as a DCO.

In light of the foregoing, **IT IS ORDERED**, pursuant to Section 5b(h) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 7a-1(h), that TAIFEX is granted an exemption from registration as a DCO subject to the terms and conditions specified herein:

(1) Cleared Products. TAIFEX is permitted to clear, pursuant to this Order, swaps including, but not limited to, Taiwan dollar (“TWD”)-denominated interest rate swaps and U.S. dollar/TWD non-deliverable forwards.

(2) U.S. Clearing Services Restricted to Proprietary Swap Positions for U.S. Persons. For purposes of this Order, “U.S. person” is defined as set forth in the Commission’s Interpretive Guidance and Policy Statement Regarding Compliance With Certain Swap Regulations, 78 Fed. Reg. 45,292, 45,316–17 (July 26, 2013), as such definition may be amended or superseded by a definition of the term “U.S. person” that is adopted by the Commission with a scope encompassing this Order. TAIFEX must maintain rules that limit swap clearing services for U.S. persons and futures commission merchants (“FCMs”) to the following circumstances:

(a) A U.S. person that is a clearing member of TAIFEX may clear swaps for itself and those persons identified in the Commission’s definition of “proprietary account” set forth in Commission Regulation 1.3;

(b) A non-U.S. person that is a clearing member of TAIFEX may clear swaps for any affiliated U.S. person identified in the definition of “proprietary account” set forth in Commission Regulation 1.3; and

(c) An entity that is registered with the Commission as an FCM may be a clearing member of TAIFEX, or otherwise maintain an account with an affiliated broker that is a clearing member, for the purpose of clearing swaps for itself and those persons identified in the definition of “proprietary account” set forth in Commission Regulation 1.3.

(3) Open Access. TAIFEX must maintain rules with respect to swaps to which one or more of the counterparties is a U.S. person. Such rules must:

(a) Provide that all swaps with the same terms and conditions, as defined by product specifications established under TAIFEX's rules, submitted to TAIFEX for clearing are economically equivalent within TAIFEX and may be offset with each other within TAIFEX, to the extent offsetting is permitted by TAIFEX's rules; and

(b) Provide that there must be non-discriminatory clearing of a swap executed bilaterally or on or subject to the rules of an unaffiliated electronic matching platform or trade execution facility.

(4) Consent to Jurisdiction; Designation of Agent for Service of Process. TAIFEX must consent to jurisdiction in the United States, and must designate, authorize, and identify to the Commission, an agent in the United States who must accept any notice or service of process, pleadings, or other documents, including any summons, complaint, order, subpoena, request for information, or any other written or electronic documentation or correspondence issued by or on behalf of the Commission or the United States Department of Justice to TAIFEX, in connection with any actions or proceedings brought against, or investigations relating to, TAIFEX or any U.S. person or FCM that is a clearing member, or that clears swaps through an affiliated clearing member, of TAIFEX. TAIFEX must promptly inform the Commission of any change in its designated and authorized agent.

(5) Compliance. TAIFEX must comply, and must demonstrate compliance as requested by the Commission, with the requirements of this Order.

(6) Inspection of Books and Records. TAIFEX must make all documents, books, records, reports, and other information related to its operation pursuant to this Order ("Books and Records") open to inspection and copying by any representative of the Commission; and in response to a request by any representative of the Commission, TAIFEX must, promptly and in

the form specified, make the requested Books and Records available and provide them directly to Commission representatives.

(7) Observance of the CPMI-IOSCO Principles for Financial Market Infrastructures (“PFMIs”). On an annual basis, within 60 days following the end of its fiscal year, TAIFEX must provide to the Commission a certification that it continues to observe the PFMIs in all material respects.

(8) Representation of Good Regulatory Standing. On an annual basis, within 60 days following the end of its fiscal year, the Commission must receive from the Home Country Regulator, at TAIFEX’s request, a written representation that TAIFEX is in good regulatory standing. For purposes of this paragraph 8, “good regulatory standing” means that either (a) there has been no finding by the Home Country Regulator of material non-observance of the PFMIs or other relevant home country legal requirements, or (b) there has been a finding by the Home Country Regulator of material non-observance of the PFMIs or other relevant home country legal requirements but any such finding has been or is being resolved to the satisfaction of the Home Country Regulator by means of corrective action taken by TAIFEX.

(9) General Reporting Requirements. TAIFEX shall submit to the Commission the following information, as specified:

(a) A report compiled as of the end of each trading day and submitted to the Commission by 10:00 a.m. U.S. Central time on the following business day, containing:

(i) Initial margin requirements and initial margin on deposit for each U.S. person, with respect to swaps; provided, however, if a clearing member margins on a portfolio basis its own positions and the positions of its affiliates, and either the clearing member or any of its

affiliates is a U.S. person, TAIFEX must report initial margin requirements and initial margin on deposit for all such positions on a combined basis for each such clearing member; and

(ii) Daily variation margin, separately listing the mark-to-market amount collected from or paid to each U.S. person, with respect to swaps; provided, however, if a clearing member margins on a portfolio basis its own positions and the positions of its affiliates, and either the clearing member or any of its affiliates is a U.S. person, TAIFEX must separately list the mark-to-market amount collected from or paid to each such clearing member, on a combined basis;

(b) A report compiled as of the last day of each fiscal quarter of TAIFEX and submitted to the Commission no later than 17 business days after the end of TAIFEX's fiscal quarter, containing the following information:

(i) The aggregate clearing volume of U.S. persons during the fiscal quarter, with respect to swaps. If a clearing member is a U.S. person, the volume figure shall include the transactions of the clearing member and all affiliates. If a clearing member is not a U.S. person, the volume figure shall include only transactions of affiliates that are U.S. persons.

(ii) The average open interest of U.S. persons during the fiscal quarter, with respect to swaps. If a clearing member is a U.S. person, the open interest figure shall include the positions of the clearing member and all affiliates. If a clearing member is not a U.S. person, the open interest figure shall include only positions of affiliates that are U.S. persons.

(iii) A list of U.S. persons and FCMs that are either clearing members or affiliates of any clearing member, with respect to the clearing of swaps, as of the last day of the fiscal quarter;

(c) Prompt notice regarding any change in the home country regulatory regime that is material to TAIFEX's continuing observance of the PFMI's or with any of the requirements set forth in this Order;

(d) As available to TAIFEX, any assessment of TAIFEX's or the Home Country Regulator's observance of the PFMI's, or any portion thereof, by a Home Country Regulator or other national authority, or an international financial institution or international organization;

(e) As available to TAIFEX, any examination report, examination findings, or notification of the commencement of any enforcement or disciplinary action by a Home Country Regulator;

(f) Immediate notice of any change with respect to TAIFEX's licensure, registration, or other authorization to act as a clearing organization in its home country;

(g) In the event of a default by a U.S. person or FCM clearing swaps, with such event of default determined in accordance with TAIFEX's rules, immediate notice of the default including the name of the U.S. person or FCM, a list of the positions held by the U.S. person or FCM, and the amount of the U.S. person's or FCM's financial obligation; and

(h) Notice of action taken against a U.S. person or FCM by TAIFEX, no later than two business days after TAIFEX takes such action against a U.S. person or FCM.

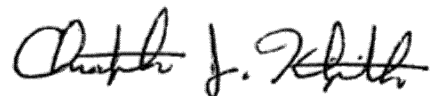
(i) Any other information that the Commission deems necessary, including, but not limited to, information for the purpose of the Commission evaluating TAIFEX's continued eligibility for exemption from registration, reviewing TAIFEX's compliance with any conditions of the exemption, or conducting oversight of U.S. persons and their affiliates, and the swaps that are cleared by such persons through TAIFEX.

(10) Swap Data Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements. If a clearing member clears through TAIFEX a swap that has been reported to a Commission-registered swap data repository (“SDR”) pursuant to Part 45 of the Commission’s regulations, then TAIFEX must report to an SDR, pursuant to this Order, data regarding the two swaps resulting from the novation of the original swap that had been submitted to TAIFEX for clearing. TAIFEX must also report the termination of the swap accepted for clearing by TAIFEX, to the SDR to which the swap was originally reported. In order to avoid duplicative reporting for such transactions, TAIFEX shall have rules that prohibit the Part 45 reporting of the two new swaps by the original counterparties to the original swap.

(11) Reservation of Rights. This Order is based upon the representations made and supporting material provided to the Commission by TAIFEX. In the event of any changes to or omissions in the material facts or circumstances pursuant to which this Order is issued, or for any reason in its own discretion, the Commission may condition, modify, suspend, terminate, or otherwise restrict the terms of this Order, as appropriate and as permitted by law, on its own motion.

Issued in Washington, D.C. this 14th day of February, 2024.

By the Commission



Christopher J. Kirkpatrick
Secretary of the Commission