

Chapter 7

Suspension of dealings and termination of authorised funds

7.6 Schemes of arrangement

Schemes of arrangement: explanation

7.6.1

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- (1) A proposal that an *authorised fund* should be involved in a *scheme of arrangement* is subject to written notice to and approval by the FCA under section 251 of the Act (Alteration of schemes and changes of manager or trustee), section 261Q of the Act (Alteration of contractual schemes and changes of operator or depositary) or regulation 21 of the *OEIC Regulations* (The Authority's approval for certain changes in respect of a company). Effect cannot be given to such a change except in accordance with that section or regulation.
- (2) The *issue of units* in exchange for assets as part of an approved *scheme of arrangement* is subject to:
 - () ■ COLL 6.2.5 R and ■ COLL 6.2.6 R (Issue and cancellation of units);
 - () ■ COLL 6.2.15 R (In specie issue and redemption); and
 - () ■ COLL 7.6.2 R (Scheme of arrangement: requirements).
- (3) ■ COLL 7.6.2 R (3) to ■ (6) apply to a *domestic UCITS merger* and *cross-border UCITS merger*. Arrangements constituting any such merger are in addition subject to the requirements of ■ COLL 7.7 (UCITS mergers), implementing the requirements of the *UCITS Directive*.

Schemes of arrangement: requirements

7.6.2

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- (1) If a *scheme of arrangement* is entered into in relation to an *authorised fund* ("transferor fund") or a *sub-fund* of a *scheme* which is an *umbrella* ("transferor sub-fund"), an *authorised fund manager* must ensure that the *unitholders* of the transferor fund or *sub-fund* do not become *unitholders* of *units* in a *collective investment scheme* other than a *regulated collective investment scheme*.
- (2) For a *UCITS scheme* or a *sub-fund* of a *UCITS scheme*, (1) applies as if the reference to a *regulated collective investment scheme* also excludes any *recognised scheme* other than a *scheme* recognised under section 264 of the Act (Schemes constituted in other EEA States).
- (3) Where, for the purpose of a *scheme of arrangement*, it is proposed that *scheme property* of an *authorised fund* should become the property of another *regulated collective investment scheme* or *sub-fund* of a *regulated collective investment scheme*, the proposal must not be implemented without the sanction of an *extraordinary*

resolution of the unitholders in the authorised fund, unless (4) applies.

- (4) Where, for the purposes of a *scheme of arrangement*, it is proposed that *scheme property* attributable to a *sub-fund* of an *umbrella* should become the property of another *regulated collective investment scheme* or of another *sub-fund* of a *regulated collective investment scheme* (whether or not of that *umbrella*), the proposal must not be implemented without the sanction of:
 - (a) an *extraordinary resolution* of the *unitholders* in the *sub-fund* of that *umbrella*; and
 - (b) (unless implementation of the *scheme of arrangement* is not likely to result in any material prejudice to the interests of the *unitholders* in any other *sub-fund* of that *umbrella*) an *extraordinary resolution* of the *unitholders* of *units* in that *umbrella*.
- (5) If it is proposed that an *authorised fund* or *sub-fund* of an *umbrella* should receive property (other than its first property) as a result of a *scheme of arrangement* (or an arrangement equivalent to a *scheme of arrangement*) which is entered into by some other *collective investment scheme* or *sub-fund*, or by a *body corporate*, the proposal must not be implemented without the sanction of an *extraordinary resolution* of the *unitholders* in the *authorised fund* or (as the case may be) of the *class* or *classes* of *units* related to the *sub-fund* unless (6) applies.
- (6) This paragraph (6) applies if the *directors* of the *ICVC* or the *authorised fund manager* and *depository* of the *AUT* or *ACS* agree that the receipt of the property concerned for the account of the *ICVC*, *AUT* or *ACS*:
 - (a) is not likely to result in any material prejudice to the interests of the *unitholders* of the *authorised fund*;
 - (b) is consistent with the objectives of the *authorised fund* or *sub-fund*; and
 - (c) could be effected without any breach of a *rule* in
 - COLL 5(Investment and borrowing powers).