

foreign exchange committee



Minutes of the Operations Managers Working Group (“OMWG”) Meeting, March 11, 2021

Meeting was held via teleconference

OMWG Members:

James Wallin	Alliance Bernstein
Paul Trotti	Barclays
Louis Rosato	Blackrock
Laura Coward	BMO
Alfred Pollock	Citigroup
Daniel Lennon (Chair)	CLS
Susan Page	Credit Suisse
Brittany Panzino	Eaton Vance
Nicholas Picini	HSBC
Matthew Smith	JP Morgan
Marcellus Fisher	PIMCO
Anthony Ghibesi	Standard Chartered
Richard Maling	Statestreet
Claudia Cassinari	SWIFT
Leah Genone	SWIFT
Lisa Mahon Lynch	Wellington
Tahir Mahmood	Wells Fargo
Sherine Shah	XTX

Federal Reserve Bank of New York (“FRBNY”)

Thomas Noone
Kathy Ramirez (Secretary)
Geza Sardi
Sanja Peros

Other Participants:

Kelly Roberts	Federal Reserve Board of Governors
Chris Vogel (FXC Chair)	TD Securities

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Annual Antitrust Reminder

The group reviewed the Antitrust Guidelines for Members of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York's Advisory and Sponsored Groups. A copy of the guidelines may be found in the FXC website.

CLS Update

Members and global nostro communities have performed very well in 2020 with the number of member incidents and pay in delays tracking comparable to previous years. Overall daily average volume settled in 2020 is 2.75 million sides (2 sides to a trade), while total value settled is 5.852 trillion USD equivalent. January 2021 volumes and values are up 7% and 10%, respectively. February values are up 9% vs Feb 2020, however, volumes are down 6% compared to February last year. CLS staffing and performance continue to be effective. Currently, staffing is split 70% remotely and 30% in the office.

FXC Update

The FXC discussed updates from the recent Global Foreign Exchange (GFXC) meeting with members providing their thoughts on working groups' progress on Anonymous Trading, Disclosures, Buy-side outreach, and Algorithmic Trading. The FXC also solicited members' input for topics they would like to discuss in future meetings. Lastly, the group went over their markets discussion, focusing on fiscal policy developments and FX volatility.

SWIFT

The FX standards release is set for November 2021. The changes that were postponed in 2020 due to the pandemic will be part of the 2021 release.

SWIFT continues to focus on ISO 20022. It has published technical information on the transaction management platform on its website. Additionally, SWIFT is due to publish a thought leadership paper in digital currencies in the coming months.

Recap of bilateral meetings with members

The OMWG chair and secretary held bilateral meetings with its members to get feedback on how well the OMWG is addressing members' needs and interests. Overall, COVID 19 return to work discussions have been very helpful and informative. CLS, FXC, FMLG and SWIFT updates have been well received.

For future topics, members expressed interest in:

- Increase focus on SWIFT standards;
- Input from industry platforms to discuss topics on improving STP, confirmations, reporting and other operational challenges;
- CLS process for onboarding a new currency;

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FXC

- Walkthrough of an FX trade lifecycle from a buy and sell side lens to get a better understanding of why each side does things a certain way and the impact these processes have on each other; and lastly
- Robotics, cyber security, digital assets / digital currency.

Administrative Matters

The next OMWG meeting will be on May 27, 2021.