

### Repurchase Agreement Guidelines

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#### Outline

- Definition
- Key Terms to Note
- Purpose
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- Scope of the Guidelines
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#### What is a Repurchase Agreement Transaction?

A Repurchase Agreement or 'Repo' is the sale of a security with a commitment by the seller to buy the same security back from the purchaser at a specified price at a designated date in the future" ~ Securities lending and repurchase agreements by Fabozzi, F.

### **Key Terms to Note**

- Collateral securities/underlying securities Assets upon which the Repo transaction is based.
- Margin the amount of cash or securities that must be set aside by the seller before he enters into the repo transaction.
- Mark to Market the process of valuing the underlying securities based on current market prices.

## Background

2006 -Study of Repo Market

Discussions held with SDATT – 2010/2011

Initial Guidelines approved and released – May 2010 Present

## **Purpose of the Guidelines**

- To provide a regulatory framework for the Repo industry.
- To assist the Commission in ensuring orderly, fair and equitable dealings in the Repo market.
- To foster investor confidence and to promote growth and development in the market.

#### Value of Repo Transactions in Millions of TT\$ by Currency: July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011



Source: Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange



#### Number of Repo Transactions: July 1, 2010-June 30<sup>th</sup> 2011

Non-Institutional Institutional



## Scope of the Guidelines

- Drafted to regulate Repo transactions excluding those Repo transactions that occur between the CBTT and licensed financial institutions.
- Guidelines do not apply to Repo transactions conducted outside of Trinidad & Tobago.
- The Guidelines recognize two (2) categories of investors:
  - 1. Institutional Investors
  - 2. Non Institutional Investors

#### Institutional Investors

- Banks, Non-Bank Financial Institutions, Insurance companies, Development banks, trust companies, or mortgage companies;
- Securities Companies, Dealers, Underwriters, Registered Mutual Funds;
- Government entities; and
- Companies with at least TT\$10 million of Net Financial Assets

## Non Institutional Investors

- Repo buyers or Repo sellers other than Institutional Investors.
- The Guidelines provide a greater level of protection for Non Institutional Investors in terms of the following:
  - Collateral Securities
  - Custodial Arrangements
  - Margin Requirements
  - Disclosure Requirements

#### Non Institutional Investors (Cont'd)

- Can choose to be treated as Institutional Investors.
- This requires meeting certain criteria:
  - Providing assurance to the Repo seller, in writing, that he is capable of making his own investment decisions;
  - Proving that he has net Financial Assets of no less than TT\$10 million;
  - The Repo Seller giving the Non-Institutional Investor a clear warning of the protections that they may lose; and
  - Stating in writing to the Repo Seller that he is aware of the consequences of being treated as an Institutional Investor.

### **Collateral Securities**

- Non Institutional Investors
  - GORTT Treasury Bills and Notes
  - Bonds issued or Guaranteed by GORTT (local issues)
  - Corporate Bonds listed on the TTSE
- Institutional Investors .
- All collateral securities used in Repo Transactions must <u>NOW</u> be registered with the TTSEC.

# Registration

- Securities Companies wishing to carry on the business as a Repo Seller must have at least TT\$15 million in capital
  - One (1) year grace period for existing Repo Sellers
- Each Repo transaction no longer needs to be registered with the TTSEC.
- Repo sellers are no longer required to submit a prospectus for each Repo transaction to the TTSEC.

## **Custody and Custodian**

- All Repo transactions are <u>NOW</u> required to involve a third party custodian.
- TTCD is identified as the Custodian of choice for Non Institutional Investors.
- Foreign securities used in Repo Transactions must be held under the custodianship of an entity that is regulated by securities/banking regulator.
- A list of approved foreign jurisdictions is <u>NOW</u> included in the Guidelines.

# Margin

- Margin requirements must be applied to all Repo transactions.
- Repo Transactions with <u>Institutional Investors</u> are now subject to a minimum margin requirement of 2%.
- Repo transactions are now required to be marked to market at <u>MINIMUM</u> on a quarterly basis.
- Margin call obligations are now required to be settled no later than T+5 days.

#### Minimum Margin requirements for <u>Non Institutional Investors</u>:

| Residual<br>Maturity    | Margins             |              |
|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
|                         | Sovereign<br>Issues | Other Issues |
| Up to 1 yr              | 1%                  | 2%           |
| Over 1 yr to<br>3 yrs   | 3%                  | 3%           |
| Over 3 yrs<br>to 5 yrs  | 4%                  | 7%           |
| Over 7 yrs<br>to 11 yrs | 4.5%                | 7.5%         |
| Over 11 yrs             | 4.5-6.0%            | 7.5-9.0%     |

### Master Repurchase Agreement

- Repos must be constituted by an MRA.
- Guidelines identify the minimum areas that the MRA must address. E.g:
  - Description of the nature of the security and the risk;
  - Provision for quarterly Mark to market of transactions;
  - Provision for appropriate Initial Margin and for Maintenance of the Margin;
  - Specification of the custody arrangements regarding the collateral;
  - Specification of the rights and obligations of the Buyer and Seller.

#### Reporting Requirements for Repo Sellers

- Includes the submission of Quarterly Reports containing:
  - Total investments and total Repos;
  - Number of Repo clients categorized according to Institutional and Non Institutional Investors;
  - Declaration of compliance with the Guidelines signed by the CEO and two (2) directors; and
  - A list of assets sold under the Repo Agreements at current values and the total of such assets;
- Submission of a disclosure statement, policies and procedures for Repo operations, term sheet and marketing material.

## **Guidance on Marketing Material**

- Marketing Material used in Repo transactions should:
  - Clearly state that the transaction is a Repo transaction;
  - Clearly state that the funds invested in the transaction are not deposits and are not covered by the DIC;
  - Include a description of the significant risks involved in the transactions;
  - Include a summary of the rights and obligations of both the Repo Buyer and Seller; and
  - Include a glossary of all technical terms related to Repo transactions.

## **Operational Requirements**

- Operational Requirements of Repo Sellers include:
  - Development and Implementation of documented polices and procedures for Repo operations;
  - Monitoring compliance and maintenance of a compliance log;
  - Maintenance of adequate records of Repo securities and the specific assignment of each Repo transaction.

#### Overview of Repo Transaction as per Guidelines



#### **Future Developments**

- Effective Date of the Guidelines three (3) months from the date of issuance of the Guidelines;
- Implementation period of three (3) months from the date of issuance is provided to Repo Sellers to comply with the Guidelines
  - Capital Requirements one (1) year from the issuance of the Guidelines
- Framework to facilitate local custodians other than the TTCD;
- Risk Based Capital Requirement; and
- Review of Guidelines periodically

#### The End

## Thank you for your attention Questions

