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Dear Sir/Madam

Consultation Paper 162: Consultation on proposed amendments to the Central Bank Alternative Investment Fund Rulebook (AIF Rulebook)

We are writing to you in response to your Consultation Paper 162: Consultation on proposed amendments to the Central Bank Alternative Investment Fund Rulebook (AIF Rulebook) ("**CP 162**").

The Maples Group is a market leader in the provision of legal, fiduciary, fund, regulatory and compliance and entity formation and management services, with expertise across a range of jurisdictions, sectors and disciplines. With 15 offices in key jurisdictions around the world, we believe that our global presence and client base give us a unique perspective on the Irish funds sector compared to other leading financial services centres. We have over 2,700 staff globally, over 500 of whom are based in Ireland. We provide Irish legal services via our law firm, Maples and Calder (Ireland) LLP, which is actively involved in all areas of the Irish investment funds, asset management and financial services sectors, advising Irish and international clients on legal, regulatory and tax issues. In addition, we have affiliated entities which provide fiduciary services, fund administration services, regulatory and compliance, and entity formation and management services in Ireland (including Central Bank of Ireland authorised fund administrator and AIFM/UCITS management company).

We have reviewed the responses to CP 162 submitted by Irish Funds and wish to express our support for the submissions made in that response.

We also support the proposed improvements to Ireland's private and alternative funds sector. Ensuring we have a market-leading range of products, a robust and sophisticated regulatory framework and taxation regime will help maintain and grow Ireland's role as a global centre of excellence in financial services. This aligns with Ireland's support for the aims of the EU's Savings and Investments Union ("**SIU**") and ensuring the competitiveness of the EU. Providing citizens with access to long-term investments and returns can grow household wealth and help plan for retirement. Furthermore, investing in private and alternative funds (including ELTIFs and AIFs) can help channel EU citizens' savings to support the real economy, European businesses and sectors such as infrastructure and sustainable finance.

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Yours faithfully

Maples and Calder (Ireland) LLP

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