

## PROSPECTUS

### I – GENERAL FEATURES

#### I.1. Fund's form

<b>Name:</b>	<b>LAZARD DIVIDENDES MIN VAR</b>
<b>Legal form:</b>	French open-end investment ( <i>Fonds Commun de Placement</i> – FCP) incorporated under the laws of France
<b>Inception date – term</b>	This Fund was created on April 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2008 for a period of 99 years.
<b>Fund overview:</b>	

Units	ISIN codes	Allocation of distributable income	Base currency	Eligible investors	Minimum initial subscription	NAV at inception
C	FR0010586024	Allocation of net income: accumulation  Allocation of net realised capital gains: accumulation	Euro	All subscribers	One unit	€200
D	FR0010588327	Allocation of net income: distribution  Allocation of net realised capital gains: accumulation and/or distribution and/or retention	Euro	All subscribers	One unit	€200
RD	FR0012413219	Allocation of net income: distribution  Allocation of net realised capital gains: accumulation and/or distribution and/or retained	Euro	All subscribers	One unit	€200
RC	FR0013135555	Allocation of net income: accumulation  Allocation of net realised capital gains: accumulation	Euro	All subscribers	One unit	€200

The difference between the C and D units and the RC and RD units is that the C and D units are mainly intended to be distributed directly by the management company to private clients, while the RC and RD units are mainly intended to be distributed by partners of the management company or by third-party management companies.

The Fund's prospectus, latest annual and periodic reports, the composition of assets and Lazard Frères Gestion SAS's standards regarding the exercise of voting rights, as well as the report on the exercise of voting rights, will be sent out within eight working days upon written request to:

**Lazard Frères Gestion SAS**  
25, Rue de Courcelles – 75008 Paris, France

The prospectus is also available at [www.lazardfreresgestion.fr](http://www.lazardfreresgestion.fr)

**Designated contact:**

Client Services – Monday to Friday  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Tel.: + 33 (0)1.44.13.01.79  
where further information may be obtained if necessary.

## I.2. Service providers

<b>Management company</b>	<p><b>LAZARD FRERES GESTION SAS</b>  25, Rue de Courcelles – 75008 Paris, France  Management company incorporated under French law authorised by the French financial markets regulator (<i>Autorité des Marchés Financiers</i> – AMF) on December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2004, no. GP 04 0000 68</p>
<b>Custodian:</b>	<p><b>LAZARD FRERES BANQUE</b>  121, Boulevard Haussmann – 75008 Paris, France  Credit institution authorised by the French Credit Institutions and Investment Firms Committee (<i>Comité des Etablissements de Crédit et des Entreprises d'Investissement</i> – CECEI) under no. 30748</p> <p>The custodian's functions, as set out in the applicable regulations, include safeguarding of the assets, ensuring the legality of decisions taken by the management company and monitoring of cash flow related to the Funds.</p> <p><u>Sub-delegation:</u>  A description of the functions of delegated custody agents, a list of the custody and sub-custody agents of Lazard Frères Banque, and information on conflicts of interest that may arise in relation to these agents are available on the Lazard Frères Banque website: <a href="http://lazardfreresbanque.fr">http://lazardfreresbanque.fr</a></p> <p>Investors may obtain updated information on request.</p> <p>The custodian operates independently of the investment management company.</p>
<b>Administration:</b>	<p><b>LAZARD FRERES GESTION SAS</b>  25, Rue de Courcelles – 75008 Paris, France</p>
<b>Accounting management (by delegation):</b>	<p><b>CACEIS FUND ADMINISTRATION</b>  Registered offices: 1-3, Place Valhubert – 75013 Paris, France</p>
<b>Delegated agent for the centralisation of subscription and redemption orders:</b>	<p>➤ <b>CACEIS BANK:</b> 1-3, Place Valhubert – 75013 Paris, France  The management company has delegated management of the Fund's liabilities to CACEIS Bank, which is therefore responsible for centralising and processing subscription and redemption orders for the Fund's units</p> <p>➤ <b>LAZARD FRÈRES BANQUE</b>, on behalf of clients for whom it provides custody account-keeping services  121, Bld Haussmann – 75008 Paris, France</p>
<b>Delegated registrar of units or shares:</b>	<p><b>CACEIS BANK</b>  1-3, Place Valhubert – 75013 Paris</p>
<b>Statutory auditor:</b>	<p><b>PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS AUDIT</b>  Represented by Frédéric Sellam  63, Rue de Villiers  92200 Neuilly sur Seine, France</p>

## II – OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT

### II.1 – General features

<b>Features of the units:</b>	
<b>- ISIN codes:</b>	C units: FR0010586024 D units: FR0010588327 RD units: FR0012413219 RC units: FR0013135555
<b>- Rights attached to the Fund's units:</b>	Each unitholder has an ownership right in the Fund's assets in proportion to the number of units owned.
<b>- Voting rights:</b>	No voting rights are attached to the units since decisions are taken by the management company.
<b>- Form of the units:</b>	Bearer or administered registered at the unitholder's discretion. The Fund is listed with Euroclear France.
<b>- Fractional or whole units:</b>	Subscriptions and/or redemptions may be made in thousandths of units.
<b>- Financial year end:</b>	Last trading day in June.
<b>- First financial year end:</b>	Last trading day in June 2009.
<b>- Taxation:</b>	<p>Unitholders are liable for tax on any dividends that the management company pays as well as on capital gains or losses. The tax treatment of sums distributed by the management company or of the Fund's unrealised or realised capital gains or losses depends on the tax rules applicable to the particular circumstances of each investor and/or the Fund's investment jurisdiction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>For non-French residents:</b> withholding tax is payable by the subscriber.</li> <li>➤ <b>For French residents:</b> The Fund is an eligible investment for a French equity savings plan (<i>Plan d'Epargne en Actions – PEA</i>)</li> </ul>

## II.2 – Other specifications

- <b>Classification:</b>	<b>EUROZONE COUNTRY EQUITIES</b>
- <b>Investment objective:</b>	The Fund seeks to achieve a higher return (net of charges) than the Euro Stoxx (net dividends reinvested) based on closing prices, over the five-year recommended investment period, while aiming for lower volatility than the Euro Stoxx.
- <b>Benchmark:</b>	The Euro Stoxx is a weighted index comprising large, mid and small cap Eurozone companies. Therefore, no benchmarks are representative of the investment policy and, furthermore, the use of benchmarks could cause misunderstanding on the part of investors. However, performance may be compared against the Euro Stoxx (net dividends reinvested) based on closing prices, over the recommended investment horizon.

### 1 – Strategies used

The investment strategy is discretionary and operates on the principle of diversifying exposure through active portfolio management according to economic, financial and stock market expectations.

The strategy is based on exposure to the shares of companies of all market capitalisations with one or more of the following features:

- the capacity to generate positive operating cash flows after investment
- a balance sheet structure with little or no debt or a net cash position
- significant distribution of income or the ability to do so
- the opportunity to sell assets and return the proceeds to shareholders
- a weighted average return of the companies in the Fund above the average for listed companies in the Eurozone
- an active share buy-back policy
- a stable dividend policy

Accordingly, the strategy applied is based on the following:

- Identifying companies.
- Verifying that performance through financial analysis and by examining the strategic underpinnings of performance.
- Selecting the stocks of these companies
- Building a portfolio, mainly within the Eurozone but with no other geographical or sectoral restrictions.

The portfolio is constructed with the goal of reducing its ex-ante volatility by over 25% relative to its benchmark. To do this, the manager performs a quantitative analysis of each portfolio security's marginal contribution to volatility, using internal tools. The manager also introduces a qualitative stock selection filter. However, the volatility reduction objective is a relative target and the Fund remains exposed to equity market volatility. Similarly, the objective does not guarantee a reduction in ex-post volatility and there are no constraints to that effect.

The focus on achieving the optimum ratio between the company's economic performance and valuation may result in wide divergences between the Fund's performance and its sector and/or country mix and those of the underlying asset class, i.e. Eurozone equities.

## 2 – Assets (excluding embedded derivatives)

---

### Equities:

The Fund is constantly exposed to equity markets to at least 90% of net assets, including an investment of at least 75% of net assets in Eurozone equity markets.

### Debt securities and money market instruments:

- Bonds to a maximum of 10% of net assets.
- French and foreign negotiable debt securities of all ratings (mainly French treasury bills and BTAN medium-term treasury notes) to a maximum of 10% of net assets.

### UCIs:

French UCIs to a maximum of 10% of net assets, including money-market and short-term money market UCIs.

Investment is solely in UCIs that in turn invest less than 10% of their assets in other UCIs.

All these UCIs are managed by the management company.

## 3 – Derivatives

---

- **Types of markets:**
  - ☒ regulated
  - ☒ organised
  - ☒ OTC
- **The manager intends to seek exposure to:**
  - ☒ equities
  - ☐ interest rates
  - ☐ currencies
  - ☐ credit
  - ☐ other
- **Types of transactions – all transactions must be limited to achieving the investment objective:**
  - ☒ hedging
  - ☐ exposure
  - ☐ arbitrage
  - ☐ other
- **Type of instruments used:**
  - ☒ **futures:**
    - ☒ equity and equity indices
    - ☐ interest rates
    - ☐ currency:
  - ☒ **options:**
    - ☒ equity and equity indices
    - ☐ interest rates
    - ☐ currency
  - ☐ **swaps:**
    - ☐ equity swaps
    - ☐ interest rate swaps
    - ☐ currency swaps

- ☐ **currency forwards**
- ☐ **credit derivatives**
  - ☐ credit default swaps
- ☐ **other.**

- **Strategy of use of derivatives to achieve the investment objective:**
  - ☒ general hedging of the portfolio
  - ☐ creating synthetic exposure to assets and risks
  - ☐ increasing exposure to the market without leverage
  - ☐ maximum permitted and sought
  - ☐ other strategy

#### **4 – Securities with embedded derivatives**

---

The manager may invest in all securities with embedded derivatives permitted under the management company's business plan, including warrants and subscription rights.

Within this framework, the manager may take positions with a view to hedging the portfolio against and/or exposing it to particular business sectors, geographic regions, shares (all capitalisation types), stocks and similar securities in order to achieve the investment objective.

Total investments in securities with embedded derivatives may not exceed 10% of net assets.

#### **5 – Deposits**

---

Up to 10% of the Fund's assets may be held in deposits.

#### **6 – Cash borrowings**

---

The Fund may borrow cash within the limit of 10% of its assets to meet specific cash requirements related to its operating needs.

#### **7 – Temporary purchases and sales of securities**

---

None.

#### **8 – Information on financial guarantees**

---

In connection with over-the-counter derivative transactions, and in accordance with Position paper 2013-06 issued by the French financial markets regulator (*Autorité des Marchés Financiers* – AMF), the Fund may receive collateral in the form of securities (such as bonds or other securities issued or guaranteed by a State or issued by international financing agencies and bonds or securities issued by high quality corporate issuers), or cash.

Any cash collateral received is reinvested in accordance with the applicable rules.

All such assets must be from high-quality issuers that are not an entity of the counterparty or its group, and must be liquid and diversified with low volatility.

Discounts may be applied to the collateral received; they take into account the quality of credit and the price volatility of the securities.

*Your money will be mainly invested in financial instruments selected by the management company. These instruments will be exposed to market trends and fluctuations.*

- **Risk of capital loss:**

The Fund does not provide any guarantees or capital protection. It is therefore possible that you may not recover the full amount of your initial investment.

- **Risk associated with managing and allocating discretionary assets:**

The Fund's performance depends on both the securities and UCIs that the portfolio manager chooses and on the portfolio manager's allocation of assets. There is a risk that the manager may not select the best-performing securities and UCIs or choose the optimal asset allocation between markets.

- **Equity risk:**

Investors are exposed to equity risk. Fluctuations in share prices may have a negative impact on the Fund's net asset value. The Fund's NAV may decrease during periods in which equity markets are falling.

In addition, the volume of small- and mid-cap stocks listed on the stock exchange is relatively small and downward market movements tend to be more pronounced and faster than for large caps. The Fund's NAV may therefore decline rapidly and significantly.

- **Counterparty risk:**

This is the risk associated with the Fund's use of OTC forward financial instruments. These transactions, entered into with one or more counterparties, potentially expose the Fund to a risk of failure of any such counterparty, which may lead to default in payment and cause the Fund's NAV to fall.

- **Interest rate risk:**

Interest rate risk is the risk of a change in interest rates, which has an impact on the bond markets, such as the tendency for bond prices to move in the opposite direction to interest rates. If interest rates rise, the Fund's net asset value may fall.

- **Credit risk:**

Credit risk is the risk that the issuer of a bond may default, which could decrease the Fund's net asset value. Even in cases where the issuer has not defaulted, changes in credit spreads could give rise to a negative performance.

The decrease in NAV may be even greater if the Fund is invested in non-rated or speculative/high-yield debt.

- **Foreign exchange risk (ancillary):**

The Fund may invest in securities and UCIs that are themselves permitted to purchase stocks denominated in currencies other than the euro. The value of the assets of such UCIs may fall if exchange rates fluctuate, which may lead to a fall in the Fund's NAV.



## 10 – Guarantee or protection

---

None.

## 11 – Eligible subscribers and typical investor profile

---

Any subscriber seeking exposure to equity risk. Subscribers are strongly advised to diversify their investments sufficiently to avoid exposure solely to the risks of this Fund.

### Information on US investors:

The Fund is not registered as an investment vehicle in the United States and its units are not and will not be registered under the Securities Act of 1933 and, therefore, they may not be offered or sold in the United States to Restricted Persons, as defined hereafter.

A Restricted Person is (i) any person or entity located in the United States (including US residents), (ii) any corporation or any other entity subject to the laws of the United States or any state thereof, (iii) any US military personnel or any employee of a US government department or agency located outside the United States, or (iv) any other person that would be considered a US Person under Regulation S of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

### FATCA:

Pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (“FATCA”) applicable as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014, if the Fund invests directly or indirectly in US assets, the capital and income arising from such investments may be subject to withholding tax of 30%.

To avoid paying the 30% withholding tax, France and the United States have entered into an intergovernmental agreement under which non-US financial institutions (“foreign financial institutions”) agree to institute procedures for identifying direct or indirect investors who qualify as US taxpayers and to provide certain information about these investors to the French tax authorities, which will disclose said information to the US tax authority, the Internal Revenue Service.

As a foreign financial institution, the Fund undertakes to comply with the FATCA and to take all appropriate measures pursuant to the aforementioned intergovernmental agreement.

***The amount that it is reasonable to invest in this Fund depends on each investor's personal circumstances. To determine this, investors should take account of their personal financial situation, current needs and the recommended investment period, and should also consider their ability to assume risk or whether they prefer instead to opt for a more cautious investment.***

**Recommended investment period:** minimum five years.

## 12 – Allocation of distributable income

---

Distributable income consists of:

- 1) net income plus retained earnings, plus or minus the balance of the revenue adjustment account.

Net income for the financial year is equal to the amount of interest, arrears, dividends, bonuses and prizes, directors' fees and all income generated by the securities that make up the Fund's portfolio, plus income generated by temporary cash holdings, minus management fees and borrowing costs.

- 2) realised capital gains, net of charges, minus realised capital losses, net of charges, recognised for the financial year, plus any net capital gains of the same kind recognised over previous years that have not been distributed or accumulated, plus or minus the balance of the capital gains adjustment account.

The amounts referred to in 1) and 2) may be accumulated and/or distributed and/or retained independently of each other, in whole or in part.

**C and RC units:** All distributable income is accumulated in full, with the exception of those amounts subject to compulsory distribution by law.

**For D and RD units,** distributable income is equal to net income as defined above plus or minus the balance of the revenue adjustment account for the relevant unit class for the past financial year and retained earnings.

Net income is distributed in full and the allocation of net realised capital gains is decided each year by the management company.

### 13 – Frequency of distribution

---

Dividends are paid out annually to holders of D and RD units. Interim dividends may be paid.

### 14 – Features of the units (base currency, division of units, etc.)

---

C, D, RC and RD units are denominated in euros. Subscriptions and/or redemptions may be made in thousandths of units.

### 15 – Terms and conditions of subscription and redemption

---

Subscription and redemption orders are accepted in amount and/or in units.

#### **Calculation of net asset value (NAV):**

Date and frequency of NAV calculation

- Valuation day (D) = the NAV is calculated every day except Saturdays and Sundays, public holidays in France and days on which the Paris stock exchange is closed for trading.
- NAV calculation and publication date = business day following the valuation day, i.e. (D+1).

#### **Where/how NAV is published or made available:**

NAV is notified daily online at:

[www.lazardfreresgestion.fr](http://www.lazardfreresgestion.fr).

and displayed in the management company's offices.

#### **Address of the institutions designated to receive subscription and redemption orders:**

- **CACEIS BANK:** 1-3, Place Valhubert – 75013 Paris, France

Investors are reminded that orders transmitted to distributors other than the institution referred to above must take into consideration the fact that the cut-off time for the processing of orders applies to the said distributors vis-à-vis CACEIS Bank.

Consequently, such distributors may apply their own cut-off time, which may be earlier than the cut-off time indicated above, in order to take into account the time required to transmit orders to CACEIS Bank.

- **LAZARD FRÈRES BANQUE**, on behalf of clients for whom it provides custody account-keeping services

**Processing, execution and settlement of orders:**

Subscription and redemption orders processed before 11 a.m. on each NAV valuation day D will be executed on the basis of the NAV of valuation date D. This NAV is calculated on the business day following the valuation day, i.e. D+1.

Initial subscriptions may not be for less than one unit.

Subscription settlement date: Two business days following the valuation date (D+2 business days).

Redemption settlement date: Two business days following the valuation date (D+2 business days).

➤ **Tax impact of switching from an investment in C units to an investment in D units and vice versa**

Units of one category may be exchanged for units of another category by:

- redeeming the units in the class held. For tax and accounting purposes this constitutes a disposal of securities;
- subscribing for units in the chosen class.

Subscriptions preceded by a redemption received from the same unitholder on the same day for the same number of units at the same NAV may be executed.

## 16 – Fees and expenses

▪ **Subscription and redemption fees:**

Subscription and redemption fees are added to the subscription price paid by the investor or deducted from the redemption price paid. The fees earned by the Fund are used to cover the charges that it incurs in investing or divesting the assets entrusted to it. The remaining fees are paid to the management company and/or the distributor, etc.

<i><b>Charges payable by the investor at the time of subscriptions and redemptions (C, D, RC and RD units)</b></i>	<i><b>Basis</b></i>	<i><b>Rate</b></i>
<b>Subscription fees not retained by the Fund</b>	NAV x number of units	Maximum 4% incl. taxes
<b>Subscription fees retained by the Fund</b>	n/a	None
<b>Redemption fees not retained by the Fund</b>	n/a	None
<b>Redemption fees retained by the Fund</b>	n/a	None

<i><b>Expenses charged to the Fund</b></i>	<i><b>Basis</b></i>	<i><b>Rate</b></i>
<b>Financial management fees:</b>	Net assets	<b>C and D units:</b> Maximum 1,080% incl. taxes

		<b>RC and RD units:</b> Maximum 2,180% incl. taxes	
<b>Administrative fees external to the management company</b>	Net assets	<b>C, D, RC and RD units:</b> Maximum 0,020% incl. taxes	
<b>Turnover commission (incl. taxes)</b> (0% to 100% received by the management company and 0% to 100% received by the custodian)	Maximum charge on each transaction	<b>Equities, debt securities, foreign exchange</b>	0% to 0,20%, incl. taxes
		<b>Futures and other transactions</b>	€0 to €450 incl. taxes per contract
<b>Performance fees:</b>	n/a	None	

Only the contributions payable for the management of the UCI pursuant to Article L. 621-5-3 II 3° d) of the French Monetary and Financial Code (*Code monétaire et financier*) and any exceptional legal costs related to debt recovery are outside the scope of the three blocks of charges referred to above.

Repurchase agreements are executed at market prices.

With the exception of brokerage fees and accounting management costs, all of the charges referred to above are levied as part of the joint venture arrangement between Lazard Frères Banque and Lazard Frères Gestion SAS which since 1995 has enabled them to pool their financial control, administration, securities custody and execution resources.

All revenue resulting from efficient portfolio management techniques, net of direct and indirect operating costs, is allocated to the Fund. All costs and expenses related to these management techniques are assumed by the Fund.

For further information, unitholders may refer to the management report.

## 17 – Outline of the intermediary selection procedure

The selection of intermediaries used in equity fund management is a result of:

- requests from managers to add new brokers
- a financial analysis of the broker's accounts, carried out externally.

These intermediaries are used exclusively in terms of inflows relating to equities. Lazard Frères Gestion's Broker Committee ratifies all decisions to authorise new intermediaries.

At least twice yearly, the equity investment team holds a Broker Committee meeting to evaluate the services of its intermediaries, by reviewing four key criteria:

- research
- services offered
- la quality of execution
- level of commissions

Information about the use of investment decision-making support and order execution services (SADIE) can be found on the management company's website ([www.lazardfreresgestion.fr](http://www.lazardfreresgestion.fr)).

## III - SALES AND MARKETING INFORMATION

<b>Publication of information about the Fund:</b>	<b>Lazard Frères Gestion SAS</b> 25, Rue de Courcelles – 75008 Paris, France <b>Customer Relations</b>  + 33 (0)1 44 13 01 79
---	---

#### **Availability of commercial documentation on the Fund:**

The commercial documentation related to the Fund shall be made available to the unitholders at the registered office of Lazard Frères Gestion SAS, 25 rue de Courcelles, 75008 Paris, France.

Information regarding environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) issues is available on the management company's website ([www.lazardfreresgestion.fr](http://www.lazardfreresgestion.fr)) and will be included in the Fund's annual report.

The management company may send, directly or indirectly, information on the composition of the Fund's assets to the Fund's unitholders for purposes related solely to unitholders' regulatory obligations. This information will be sent, where applicable, within a period not less than 48 hours after publication of the NAV.

### **IV – INVESTMENT RULES**

The Fund's investment rules are laid down in the regulatory section of the French Monetary and Financial Code.

### **V – AGGREGATE RISK**

The Fund's aggregate risk is calculated using the commitment method.

## 1 – Asset valuation rules

### 1.1. Financial instruments and securities traded on a regulated market are valued at their market price.

#### ▪ Marketable securities:

- **Shares and similar securities** are valued on the basis of the last known price on their main market.

If applicable, prices are translated into euros using the exchange rate prevailing in Paris on the valuation day (as published by WM Closing).

- **Bonds and similar financial instruments** are valued on the basis of the average of the closing prices gathered from several contributors.

Financial instruments whose prices have not been determined on the valuation day or whose prices have been adjusted are valued at their probable trading price under the responsibility of the management company. These estimates and their supporting documentation will be provided to the statutory auditor during audits.

However, the following instruments are valued using the following specific methods:

#### ▪ Negotiable debt securities:

- **Negotiable debt securities with a residual maturity of more than three months :**  
Negotiable debt securities traded in large volumes are valued at market price. In the absence of significant trading volumes, these securities are valued using an actuarial method, with a benchmark rate plus, where applicable, a margin representative of the issuer's intrinsic features.

Benchmark rate	
Negotiable debt securities in euros	Negotiable debt securities in other currencies
Euribor, OISs and BTFs - 3 – 6 – 9 – 12 months BTANs - 18 months, 2 – 3 – 4 – 5 years	Official key rates in the relevant countries

- **Negotiable debt securities with a residual maturity of three months or less:**  
Negotiable debt securities with a residual maturity of three months or less are valued using the straight-line method. However, this method would not be applied if any of these securities were particularly sensitive to market movements.

#### ▪ UCIs:

Units or shares of UCIs are valued at the last known net asset value.

Units or shares of UCIs for which net asset values are published monthly may be valued on the basis of interim net asset values calculated from estimated prices.

- **Temporary purchases and sales of securities**

- Securities purchased under repurchase agreements are valued at their contract price using an actuarial method with a benchmark rate (overnight Eonia, one- or two-week interbank rates, one- to 12-month Euribor) corresponding to the term of the contract.
- Securities sold under repurchase agreements continue to be valued at their market price. Liabilities on securities sold under repurchase agreements are calculated using the same method as that used for securities purchased under repurchase agreements.

- **Futures and options**

- Futures and options are valued on the basis of intraday trading prices the timing of which is based on that of the valuation of the underlying assets.

Positions taken on the futures or options markets and over the counter are valued at their market price or at the value of the equivalent underlying asset.

## **1.2. Financial instruments and securities not traded on a regulated market**

All of the Fund's securities are traded on regulated markets.

## **1.3. Valuation methods for off-balance sheet commitments**

- Off-balance sheet transactions are valued at the commitment value.
- The commitment value for futures contracts is equal to the price (in the Fund's currency) multiplied by the number of contracts multiplied by the face value.
- The commitment value for options is equal to the price of the underlying security (in the Fund's currency) multiplied by the number of contracts multiplied by the delta multiplied by the face value of the underlying security.
- The commitment value for swaps is equal to the face value of the contract (in the Fund's currency).

## **2 – Accounting policies**

The Fund complies with the accounting rules prescribed by current regulations, in particular the accounting standards applicable to UCIs.

The financial statements are presented in accordance with statutory provisions on the preparation and publication of financial statements of undertaking in collective investments in transferable securities.

- **Income from fixed-income securities**

- Income from fixed-income securities is recorded on the basis of accrued interest.

- **Management fees**

- Management fees are calculated on each valuation day.

- The annual management fee rate is applied to gross assets (net assets before deduction of the day's management fees) using the following formula:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} & \text{Gross assets} & \\ \times & \text{operating fee rate} & \\ \times & \frac{\text{no. of days between the calculated NAV and the previous NAV}}{365 \text{ (or 366 in a leap year)}} & \end{array}$$

- This amount is then allocated to the Fund's income statement and paid in full to the management company.
- The management company pays the Fund's operating fees including for:
  - . financial management;
  - . administration and accounting;
  - . custody services;
  - . other operating fees;
  - . statutory auditors' fees;
  - . legal notices (Balo, Petites Affiches, etc.) if applicable.

These fees do not include transaction charges.

#### ▪ **Transaction charges**

Transactions are recorded excluding charges.

#### ▪ **Retrocessions received on management fees or entry charges**

The method used to calculate retrocession amounts is set out in the sales and marketing agreements.

- If the amount is significant, a provision is recognised in account 619.
- The final amount is recognised upon settlement of invoices after reversal of any provisions.



# FUND REGULATIONS

## LAZARD DIVIDENDES MIN VAR

### TITLE I

#### ASSETS AND UNITS

##### Article 1 - CO-OWNERSHIP UNITS

Co-ownership rights are expressed in units, where each unit corresponds to any single fraction of the Fund's assets. Each unitholder has an ownership right in the assets of the Fund in proportion to the number of units owned.

The Fund's term is 99 years, commencing from April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008, except in the event that the Fund is dissolved before the end of the term or extended pursuant to these regulations.

Unit classes:

The features of the different unit classes and their eligibility requirements are set out in the Fund's prospectus.

The different unit classes may:

- apply different dividend policies (distribution or accumulation);
- be denominated in different currencies;
- be subject to different management fees;
- be subject to different subscription and redemption fees;
- have a different par value;
- be systematically hedged, in full or in part, against risk as set out in the prospectus. This hedging is achieved through financial instruments that reduce to a minimum the impact of hedge transactions on the Fund's other unit classes.
- be reserved to one or more distribution networks.

Possibility of combining or splitting units.

The units may be sub-divided, upon the decision of the management company, into hundredths or thousandths of units, referred to as fractional units.

The provisions hereof governing the issue and redemption of units shall apply to fractional units, the value of which shall always be proportional to the value of the unit they represent. Unless otherwise stipulated, all other provisions hereof relating to units shall automatically apply to fractional units. At the sole discretion of the management company, the units may be split by creating new units to be allocated to unitholders in exchange for existing units.

##### Article 2 - MINIMUM AMOUNT OF ASSETS

Units may not be redeemed if the assets are less than 300 000 (three hundred thousand) euros. When the assets remain under this level for thirty days, the management company shall take all necessary measures to dissolve the Fund concerned or to undertake one of the operations mentioned in Article 411-16 of the General Regulation of the French financial markets regulator (*Autorité des Marchés Financiers* – AMF) (UCITS transfer).

### **Article 3 - ISSUE AND REDEMPTION OF UNITS**

Units may be issued at any time upon request of unitholders on the basis of the net asset value plus subscription fees, if any.

Redemptions and subscriptions shall be made under the conditions and in accordance with the procedures set out in the prospectus.

Units of open-end investment funds may be listed for trading, in accordance with applicable regulations.

Subscriptions must be fully paid-up as of the date of the calculation of the net asset value. They may be undertaken in cash and/or by contribution of financial instruments. The management company is entitled to refuse the instruments proposed and, to that end, has seven days in which to give its decision. In the event that the instruments are accepted, they are valued according to the rules set out in Article 4, and subscription is undertaken using the first net asset value following acceptance of the instruments in question.

Redemptions are undertaken entirely in cash, unless the Fund is dissolved and unitholders have agreed to be paid in securities. They are paid by the custodian within at most five days of the unit's valuation day.

Under exceptional circumstances, however, where reimbursement requires the prior disposal of assets held in the fund, this period may be extended up to a maximum of 30 days.

With the exception of inherited or gifted units, the sale or transfer of units between unitholders or between unitholders and third parties is deemed to be a redemption followed by a subscription. If the beneficiary of the sale or transfer is a third party, the beneficiary must add the amount necessary, if any, to increase the total to the minimum subscription amount indicated in the Prospectus.

Pursuant to Article L. 214-8-7 of the French Monetary and Financial Code (*Code monétaire et financier*), redemption by the Fund of its units, and the issue of new units, may be temporarily suspended by the management company in exceptional circumstances and if required in the interests of unitholders.

No units may be redeemed if the net assets of the Fund are less than the regulatory amount.

### **Article 4 - CALCULATION OF NET ASSET VALUE**

The net asset value of units is calculated according to the valuation rules set out in the prospectus.

Contributions in kind may consist only of securities, stocks or contracts that are eligible to form the assets of UCITS; they are valued according to the valuation rules used to calculate the net asset value.

## **TITLE II**

### **FUND OPERATION**

#### **Article 5 - MANAGEMENT COMPANY**

The management company is responsible for managing the Fund in accordance with the orientation stated for the Fund.

In all circumstances, the management company shall act in the sole interest of the unitholders and is solely authorised to exercise the voting rights attached to the securities held by the Fund.

#### **Article 5a - OPERATING RULES**

The instruments and deposits eligible for inclusion in the Fund as well as the investment rules are shown in the prospectus.

#### **Article 5b – ADMISSION TO TRADING ON A REGULATED MARKET AND/OR A MULTILATERAL TRADING FACILITY**

The units may be admitted to trading on a regulated market and/or a multilateral trading facility, in accordance with applicable regulations. If the Fund whose units are admitted for trading on a regulated market has an investment objective based on an index, it must have set up a system to ensure that the price of its units does not deviate significantly from its net asset value.

#### **Article 6 - CUSTODIAN**

The custodian performs the tasks for which it is responsible under the legal and regulatory provisions in force as well as those entrusted to it contractually by the management company. It shall take any protective measures it considers appropriate.

In the event of a dispute with the management company, it shall inform the AMF.

#### **Article 7 - STATUTORY AUDITOR**

A statutory auditor is appointed by the management company's governance body for a term of six financial years, following AMF approval.

The statutory auditor shall certify that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the company.

The statutory auditor's term may be renewed.

The statutory auditor has a duty to report promptly to the AMF any fact or decision concerning the Fund of which he has become aware in the course of his duties and which is liable to:

- 1° Constitute a breach of the laws or regulations that apply to that fund and that is likely to have significant effects on its financial situation, profits or assets;
- 2° Affect the conditions or the continuity of its operations;
- 3° Lead to the expression of reservations or the refusal to certify the accounts.

The statutory auditor shall oversee the valuation of assets and the calculation of exchange ratios used in the event of a conversion, merger or split.

The statutory auditor shall assess any contribution in kind under his own responsibility.

He shall verify the accuracy of the composition of assets and other information prior to publication.

The statutory auditor's fees shall be set by mutual agreement between the statutory auditor and the management company's board of directors or executive board on the basis of a work schedule setting out the procedures deemed necessary. His fees are included in the management fees.

The statutory auditor shall certify the positions used as the basis for the distribution of interim dividends.

## **Article 8 - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND MANAGEMENT REPORT**

At the close of each financial year, the management company shall prepare the financial statements and a report on the management of the Fund during the year just ended.

The management company shall draw up an inventory of the Fund's assets at least every six months and under the control of the custodian.

The management company shall make these documents available to unitholders within four months of the end of the financial year and shall inform them of the amount of income to which they are entitled. These documents shall be either sent by post, at the request of unitholders, or made available to them at the management company's premises.

## **TITLE III**

### **Article 9 - ALLOCATION OF DISTRIBUTABLE INCOME**

Distributable income consists of:

- 1) net income plus retained earnings, plus or minus the balance of the revenue adjustment account. Net income for the financial year is equal to the amount of interest, arrears, dividends, bonuses and prizes, directors' fees and all income generated by the securities that make up the Fund's portfolio, plus income generated by temporary cash holdings, minus management fees and borrowing costs.
- 2) realised capital gains, net of charges, minus realised capital losses, net of charges, recognised for the financial year, plus any net capital gains of the same kind recognised over previous years that have not been distributed or accumulated, plus or minus the balance of the capital gains adjustment account.

The amounts referred to in 1) and 2) may be accumulated and/or distributed and/or retained independently of each other, in whole or in part.

**C and RC units:** All distributable income is accumulated in full, with the exception of those amounts subject to compulsory distribution by law.

**For D and RD units,** distributable income is equal to net income as defined above plus or minus the balance of the revenue adjustment account for the relevant unit class for the past financial year and retained earnings.

Net income is distributed in full and the allocation of net realised capital gains is decided each year by the management company.

## **TITLE IV**

### **MERGER - SPLIT - WINDING-UP - LIQUIDATION**

#### **Article 10 - MERGER - SPLIT**

The management company may either contribute the assets of the Fund, in whole or in part, to another UCI it manages, or split the Fund into two or more open-end funds.

These merger or split transactions may only be undertaken after the unitholders have been informed. They shall give rise to a new certificate specifying the number of units held by each unitholder.

#### **Article 11 - WINDING-UP - EXTENSION**

If the assets of the Fund remain less than the amount set forth in Article 2 above for 30 days, the management company shall inform the AMF thereof and either merge the Fund with another open-end investment fund (FCP) or dissolve the Fund.

The management company may dissolve the Fund prior to its termination date; in this case, it shall inform unitholders of its decision and from then on subscriptions and redemptions shall no longer be accepted.

The management company shall also dissolve the Fund if it receives redemption applications for all units, if the custodian ceases to discharge its responsibilities and no other custodian is designated or if at the end of the Fund's duration, its termination date has not been extended.

The management company shall inform the AMF by letter of the chosen date and dissolution procedure. It shall then send the statutory auditors' report to the AMF.

A Fund's extension may be decided by the management company with the custodian's agreement. Its decision must be taken at least three months before the Fund's planned duration and communicated to the unitholders and the AMF.

## **Article 12 - LIQUIDATION**

In the event that the Fund is dissolved, the management company shall be responsible for liquidation transactions; otherwise, the liquidator shall be appointed by the court at the request of any interested party. In this regard, they shall be granted the widest possible powers to sell assets, pay creditors, if any, and divide the remaining balance among unitholders in cash or in securities.

The statutory auditor and custodian shall continue to perform their duties until the end of the liquidation transactions.

## **TITLE V**

### **SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

#### **Article 13 - JURISDICTION - ADDRESS FOR SERVICE**

All disputes relative to the Fund that may arise during its lifetime or at the time of liquidation, be they disputes between unitholders, or between unitholders and the management company or the custodian shall be submitted to the courts of competent jurisdiction.

\*\*\*

*Document last updated: March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018*