Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and a	asterisks.		OMB Number: 3235-0045 Estimated average burden hours per response
WASHIN	DEXCHANGE COMMISSION GTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4	File No. Amendment No. (req. for	* SR - 2019 - * 090 Amendments *)
Filing by The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934			
Initial * Amendment * Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) * 5	Section 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
Pilot     Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *     Date Expires *	I 19	Bb-4(f)(1)         Image: 19b-4(f)(4)           Bb-4(f)(2)         Image: 19b-4(f)(5)           Bb-4(f)(3)         Image: 19b-4(f)(6)	
Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010       Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934         Section 806(e)(1) *       Section 806(e)(2) *       Section 3C(b)(2) *         Image: Comparison of the securities of the securities exchange Act of 1934       Section 3C(b)(2) *			
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document			
Description Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). Proposed rule change to adopt new Nasdaq Rule 5704 to list and trade shares of securities issued by an exchange -traded fund, as well as amendments to Nasdaq Rule 4120 and Nasdaq Rule 5615, and to discontinue the quarterly reports currently required with respect to Managed Fund Shares under Nasdaq Rule 5735(b).			
Contact Information Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action.			
First Name * Jonathan	Last Name * Cayne		
Title * Principal Associate General Counsel			
E-mail * Jonathan.Cayne@nasdaq.com			
Telephone * (301) 978-8493 Fax			
Signature Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.			
(Title *)			
Date 11/08/2019	Executive Vice President an	d Chief Legal Officer	
By John A. Zecca			
(Name *) NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.	john.zecca@na	asdaq.com	

OMB APPROVAL

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549		
For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website.		
Form 19b-4 Information *       Add     Remove       View	The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act.	
Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change * Add Remove View	The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)	
Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies * Add Remove View	The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change, security-based swap submission, or advance notice being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)	
Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications         Add       Remove       View         Exhibit Sent As Paper Document	Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G.	
Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire         Add       Remove       View         Exhibit Sent As Paper Document	Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is referred to by the proposed rule change.	
Exhibit 4 - Marked CopiesAddRemoveView	The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working.	
Add     Remove     View	The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be considered part of the proposed rule change.	
Partial Amendment       Add     Remove       View	If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.	

#### SR-NASDAQ-2019-090

Page 3 of 59

## 1. <u>Text of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq" or "Exchange"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposed rule change to adopt new Nasdaq Rule 5704 to list and trade shares of securities issued by an exchange-traded fund as defined herein, as well as amendments to Nasdaq Rule 4120 (Limit Up-Limit Down Plan and Trading Halts) and Nasdaq Rule 5615 (Exemptions from Certain Corporate Governance Requirements), and to discontinue the quarterly reports currently required with respect to Managed Fund Shares under Nasdaq Rule 5735(b).

The Exchange requests that the Commission approve the proposed rule change on an accelerated basis so that it may become operative as soon as practicable, particularly given that Rule 6c-11 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, becomes effective on December 23, 2019.

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u> is attached as <u>Exhibit 1</u>. The text of the proposed rule change is attached as <u>Exhibit 5</u>.

- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

## 2. <u>Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization</u>

The proposed rule change was approved by the Board of Directors of the

Exchange on September 25, 2016. No other action is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

Questions and comments on the proposed rule change may be directed to:

Jonathan F. Cayne Principal Associate General Counsel Nasdaq, Inc. 301 978 8493

## 3. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

a. <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange proposes Nasdaq Rule 5704 to establish generic listing standards that permit the listing and trading of shares ("Exchange Traded Fund Shares") of exchange-traded funds ("ETFs" as defined below) that meet the criteria established by the Commissions in its adoption of Rule 6c-11<sup>3</sup> ("Rule 6c-11") under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (1940 Act"), to operate without obtaining an exemptive order from the SEC under the 1940 Act.<sup>4</sup> This will help to accomplish the SEC's goal in adopting Rule 6c-11 to allow such ETFs to come directly to market without the cost and delay of obtaining exemptive relief while still protecting the interests

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Specifically, Rule 6c-11 applies to open-end funds that (i) issue and redeem creation units to and from authorized participants in exchange for a basket of securities and other assets (and any cash balancing amount), and (ii) whose shares are listed on a national securities exchange and trade at market-determined prices. Rule 6c-11 does not apply to leveraged, inverse, non-transparent, share classes, or exchange-traded funds structured as unit investment trusts.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;u>See</u> Release Nos. 33-10695; IC-33646; File No. S7-15-18 (Exchange-Traded Funds) (September 25, 2019), 84 FR 57162 (October 24, 2019) ("Adopting Release").

Page 5 of 59

of investors and other market participants. Rule 6c-11 will provide exemptions applicable to both index-based and transparent actively managed ETFs. Rule 6c-11 will enhance the regulatory framework through streamlining existing procedures and reducing the costs and time frames associated with bringing ETFs to market. This, in turn, will also serve to enhance competition among ETF issuers and ultimately reduce investor costs.<sup>5</sup>

Nasdaq believes that the proposed generic listing rules for Exchange Traded Fund Shares, described below, will facilitate efficient procedures for ETFs that are permitted to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11. The Exchange also believes that proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704 is consistent with, and will further, the Commission's goals in adopting Rule 6c-11. Exchange Traded Fund Shares that are permitted to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 will be permitted to be listed and traded on the Exchange without a prior Commission approval order or notice of effectiveness pursuant to Section 19(b) of the Act. This will significantly reduce the time frame and costs associated with bringing Exchange Traded Fund Shares to market, which, in turn, will promote competition among issuers of Exchange Traded Fund Shares, to the benefit of investors.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The SEC said in the Adopting Release that Rule 6c-11 "will modernize the regulatory framework for ETFs to reflect our more than two decades of experience with these investment products. The rule is designed to further important Commission objectives, including establishing a consistent, transparent, and efficient regulatory framework for ETFs and facilitating greater competition and innovation among ETFs." <u>See</u> Adopting Release at 57163. The SEC also said that in reference to the impact of Rule 6c-11 that: "We believe rule 6c-11 will establish a regulatory framework that: (1) Reduces the expense and delay currently associated with forming and operating certain ETFs unable to rely on existing orders; and (2) creates a level playing field for ETFs that can rely on the rule. As such, the rule will enable increased product competition among certain ETF providers, which can lead to lower fees for investors, encourage financial innovation, and increase investor choice in the ETF market." <u>See</u> Adopting Release at 57204.

The Exchange also proposes to amend Nasdaq Rule 4120 (Limit Up-Limit Down Plan and Trading Halts) and Nasdaq Rule 5615 (Exemptions from Certain Corporate Governance Requirements), and to discontinue the quarterly reports currently required with respect to Managed Fund Shares under Nasdaq Rule 5735(b).

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704 will enable ETFs, whether index-based or actively managed, to qualify for listing and trading on the Exchange both on an initial and continued basis by meeting and maintaining compliance with the criteria set forth in Rule 6c-11.<sup>6</sup> The specific provisions of proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704 are presented below, as well as amendments to Nasdaq Rule 4120 (Limit Up-Limit Down Plan and Trading Halts) and Nasdaq Rule 5615 (Exemptions from Certain Corporate Governance Requirements), which would be necessitated by adoption of the proposed rule. Additionally, the proposed rule change to discontinue the quarterly reports currently required with respect to Managed Fund Shares under Nasdaq Rule 5735(b) is also discussed below.

#### Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704

Proposed Definitions.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(a)(1)(A), which defines the term "Derivative Securities Product" to mean a security that meets the definition of "derivative securities product" in Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act. Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(a)(1)(B) defines the term "Exchange Traded Fund" ("ETF") as having the same meaning as the term

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Rule 6c-11 becomes effective on December 23, 2019. Subject to approval of this proposed rule change, Exchange Traded Fund Shares that are permitted to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 will be eligible for listing and trading on Nasdaq under proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704 after that date.

Page 7 of 59

"exchange-traded fund" is defined in Rule 6c-11.<sup>7</sup> In the case of an Exchange Traded Fund that is not currently listed on a national securities exchange, the portion of the definition found in Rule 6c-11 requiring such listing will become applicable if the Exchange Traded Fund is listed on a national securities exchange.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(a)(1)(C) defines the term "Exchange Traded Fund Share" as having the same meaning as the term is defined as having in Rule  $6c-11.^{8}$ 

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(a)(1)(D) defines the term "Reporting Authority" in respect of a particular series of Exchange Traded Fund Share means Nasdaq, a whollyowned subsidiary of Nasdaq, or an institution or reporting service designated by Nasdaq or its subsidiary as the official source for calculating and reporting information relating to such series, including, but not limited to, any current index or portfolio value; the current value of the portfolio of any securities required to be deposited in connection with issuance of Exchange Traded Fund Shares; the amount of any dividend equivalent payment or cash distribution to holders of Exchange Traded Fund Shares, net asset value, and other information relating to the issuance, redemption or trading of Exchange Traded Fund Shares. The definition also notes that it does not imply that an institution or reporting service that is the source for calculating and reporting information relating to Exchange Traded Fund Shares must be designated by Nasdaq; the term "Reporting

<sup>8</sup> Rule 6c-11(a)(1) defines "exchange-traded fund share" as a share of stock issued by an exchange-traded fund.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Rule 6c-11(a)(1) defines "exchange-traded fund" as a registered open-end management company: (i) That issues (and redeems) creation units to (and from) authorized participants in exchange for a basket and a cash balancing amount if any; and (ii) Whose shares are listed on a national securities exchange and traded at market-determined prices. The terms "authorized participant," "basket" and "creation unit" are defined in Rule 6c-11(a).

Authority" does not refer to an institution or reporting service not so designated.

Initial and Continued Listing. Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b) states that Nasdaq may approve a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares for listing and trading pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act, provided it is eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 and is in compliance with the requirements of Rule 6c-11(c) on an initial and continued listing basis.<sup>9</sup> The requirements of Nasdaq Rule 5704 must also be satisfied on an initial

(ii) The exchange-traded fund's current net asset value per share, market price, and premium or discount, each as of the end of the prior business day;

(iii) A table showing the number of days the exchange-traded fund's shares traded at a premium or discount during the most recently completed calendar year and the most recently completed calendar quarters since that year (or the life of the exchange-traded fund, if shorter);

(iv) A line graph showing exchange-traded fund share premiums or discounts for the most recently completed calendar year and the most recently completed calendar quarters since that year (or the life of the exchange-traded fund, if shorter);

(v) The exchange-traded fund's median bid-ask spread, expressed as a percentage rounded to the nearest hundredth (and computed in a manner described in Rule 6c-11(c)(v)(A) through (D)); and

(vi) If the exchange-traded fund's premium or discount is greater than 2% for more than seven consecutive trading days, a statement that the exchange-traded fund's premium or discount, as applicable, was greater than 2% and a discussion of the factors that are reasonably believed to have materially contributed to the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Rule 6c-11(c) sets forth certain conditions applicable to exchange-traded funds, and specifies the information required to be disclosed prominently on the fund's website free of charge, including the following:

<sup>(</sup>i) before the opening of regular trading on the primary listing exchange of the exchange-traded fund shares, the estimated cash balancing amount (if any) and the following information (as applicable) for each portfolio holding that will form the basis of the next calculation of current net asset value per share: (A) Ticker symbol; (B) CUSIP or other identifier; (C) Description of holding; (D) Quantity of each security or other asset held; and (E) Percentage weight of the holding in the portfolio;

Page 9 of 59

and continued listing basis.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(1) says that for a Derivative Securities Product listed under this rule, it does not need to separately meet either the initial or continued listing requirements of any other Exchange rules. For example, an ETF that satisfies the requirements of Rule 6c-11 and therefore is listed pursuant to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704 and is also, for example, an Index Fund Share, would not need to separately meet the initial or continued listing requirements of Nasdaq Rule 5705(b).

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(2), except for paragraph (A) below which only applies on an initial listing basis, such securities must also satisfy the follow criteria on an initial and continued listing basis:

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(2)(A) states that for each series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares, Nasdaq will establish a minimum number of Exchange Traded Fund Shares required to be outstanding at the time of commencement of trading on Nasdaq.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(2)(B) sets for the requirements regarding index calculation and dissemination that must be satisfied on both an initial and continued listing basis. Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(2)(i) states that if the underlying index is maintained by a broker-dealer or fund advisor, the broker-dealer or fund advisor will erect and maintain a "fire wall" around the personnel who have access to information concerning changes and adjustments to the index and the index will be calculated by a

premium or discount, which must be maintained on the website for at least one year thereafter.

Rule 6c-11(c)(4) provides that the exchange-traded fund may not seek, directly or indirectly, to provide investment returns that correspond to the performance of a market index by a specified multiple, or to provide investment returns that have an inverse relationship to the performance of a market index, over a predetermined period of time.

Page 10 of 59

third party who is not a broker-dealer or fund advisor. Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(2)(ii) states that any advisory committee, supervisory board, or similar entity that advises a Reporting Authority or that makes decisions on the index composition, methodology and related matters, must implement and maintain, or be subject to, procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material non-public information regarding the applicable index.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(2)(C) states that regular market session trading will occur between 9:30 a.m. and either 4:00 p.m. or 4:15 p.m. for each series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares, as specified by Nasdaq. In addition, Nasdaq may designate a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares for trading during a pre-market session beginning at 4:00 a.m. and/or a post-market session ending at 8:00 p.m.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(2)(D) states that Nasdaq may list and trade a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares based on one or more foreign or domestic indexes or portfolios. Each series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares based on each particular index or portfolio, or combination thereof, will be designated as a separate series and will be identified by a unique symbol. The components that are included in an index or portfolio on which a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares is based will be selected by such person, which may be Nasdaq or an agent or wholly-owned subsidiary thereof, as will have authorized use of such index or portfolio. Such index or portfolio may be revised from time to time as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to maintain the quality and character of the index or portfolio.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(2)(E) states that Nasdaq will obtain a representation from the ETF that the net asset value per share for each series of Exchange

Page 11 of 59

Traded Fund Shares will be calculated daily and will be made available to all market participants at the same time.

Proposed Nasdag Rule 5704(b)(3) sets forth the circumstances under which Nasdaq will consider the suspension of trading and removal in, and will initiate delisting proceedings under the Rule 5800 Series of, a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares. These circumstances will include the following: (i) Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(3)(A)states that if the series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares is no longer eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 or if any of the other requirements set forth in this rule are not continuously maintained; (ii) Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(3)(B) states that if, following the initial twelve month period after commencement of trading on Nasdaq of the series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares, there are fewer than 50 beneficial holders of such series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares; (iii) Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(3)(C) states that if the value of the index or portfolio of securities on which the series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares is based is no longer calculated or available or an interruption to the dissemination persists past the trading day in which it occurred or the index or portfolio on which the series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares is based is replaced with a new index or portfolio, unless the new index or portfolio meets the requirements of this Rule 5705(b) for listing either pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act (including the filing of a Form 19b-4(e) with the Commission) or by Commission approval of a filing pursuant to Section 19(b) of the Act; (iv) Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(c)(3)(D) states that if Nasdaq files separate proposals under Section 19(b) of the Act, any of the statements or representations regarding (a) the index composition; (b) the description of the portfolio; (c) limitations on portfolio holdings or reference assets; (d)

Page 12 of 59

dissemination and availability of the index or intraday indicative values; or (e) the applicability of Nasdaq listing rules specified in such proposals are not continuously maintained as referenced in subsection (h) of this rule; and (v) Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(c)(3)(E) state that if such other event will occur or condition exists which in the opinion of Nasdaq, makes further dealings on Nasdaq inadvisable.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(c) states that Nasdaq will maintain written surveillance procedures for Exchange Traded Fund Shares.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(d) states that upon termination of an ETF, Nasdaq requires that each series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares issued in connection with such entity be removed from listing.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(e) states that Nasdaq requires that members provide to all purchasers of a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of such securities, in a form prepared by the open-end management investment company issuing such securities, not later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in such series is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, members will include such a written description with any sales material relating to an ETF that is provided to customers or the public. Any other written materials provided by a member to customers or the public making specific reference to an Exchange Traded Fund Shares as an investment vehicle must include a statement in substantially the following form: "A circular describing the terms and characteristics of [a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares] has been prepared by the [open-end management investment company name] and is available from your broker or Nasdaq. It is recommended that you obtain and review such circular before purchasing [a series of

Page 13 of 59

Exchange Traded Fund Shares]. In addition, upon request you may obtain from your broker a prospectus for [a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares]."

Additionally, a member carrying an omnibus account for a non-member brokerdealer is required to inform such non-member that execution of an order to purchase a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares for such omnibus account will be deemed to constitute agreement by the non-member to make such written description available to its customers on the same terms as are directly applicable to members and member organizations under this rule. Upon request of a customer, a Member shall also provide a prospectus for the particular series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(f) states that neither Nasdaq, the Reporting Authority, nor any agent of Nasdaq will have any liability for damages, claims, losses or expenses caused by any errors, omissions, or delays in calculating or disseminating any current index or portfolio value, the current value of the portfolio of securities required to be deposited to the open-end management investment company in connection with issuance of a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares; the amount of any dividend equivalent payment or cash distribution to holders of a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares; net asset value; or other information relating to the purchase, redemption or trading of a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares, resulting from any negligent act or omission by Nasdaq, the Reporting Authority or any agent of Nasdaq, or any act, condition or cause beyond the reasonable control of Nasdaq, its agent, or the Reporting Authority, including, but not limited to, an act of God; fire; flood; extraordinary weather conditions; war; insurrection; riot; strike; accident; action of government; communications or power failure; equipment or software malfunction; or any error,

Page 14 of 59

omission or delay in the reports of transactions in one or more underlying securities.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(g) states that Nasdaq may approve a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares for listing and trading pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act that is not eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 provided the series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares satisfies the requirements of Rule 5705(b) or Rule 5735, as applicable, and the ETF has received an exemptive relief order under the 1940 Act.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(h) states that Nasdaq may submit a rule filing pursuant to Section 19(b) of the Act to permit the listing and trading of a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares that is not eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 and does not satisfy the requirements of Rule 5705(b) or Rule 5735, as applicable. Any of the statements or representations regarding (a) the index composition; (b) the description of the portfolio; (c) limitations on portfolio holdings or reference assets; (d) dissemination and availability of the index or intraday indicative values; or (e) the applicability of Nasdaq listing rules specified in such proposals constitute continued listing standards.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(i) states that a Derivative Securities Product that has previously been approved for listing on the Exchange pursuant to the generic listing requirements specified in Rule 5705(b) or Rule 5735(b)(1), or pursuant to a proposed rule change filed and approved or subject to a notice of effectiveness by the Commission, will be deemed to be considered approved for listing under this Rule if such Derivative Securities Product is both (1) permitted to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 under the 1940 Act, and (2) the prior exemptive relief under the 1940 Act for such Derivative Securities Product has been rescinded. At such time, the continued listing requirements applicable to such previously-listed Derivative Securities Products will be those specified in paragraph (b) of this Rule. Any requirements for listing as specified in Rule 5705(b) or 5735(b)(1), or an approval order or notice of effectiveness of a separate proposed rule change that differ from the requirements of this Rule will no longer be applicable to such Derivative Securities Products.

### Amendments to Nasdaq Rule 4120. Limit Up-Limit Down Plan and Trading Halts

The Exchange proposes to amend Nasdaq Rule 4120 to include Exchange Traded Fund Shares within the definition of "Derivative Securities Product" as defined in Nasdaq Rule 4120(b)(4)(A). This will ensure the applicability of trading halts to the trading of Exchange Traded Fund Shares on Nasdaq pursuant to unlisted trading privileges.

## Amendments to Nasdaq Rule 5615. Exemptions from Certain Corporate Governance Requirements

The Exchange also proposes to amend the definition of "Derivative Securities" in Nasdaq Rule 5615 to incorporate to incorporate Exchange Traded Fund Shares so Rule 5615 and its exemptions from certain corporate governance requirements are applicable to Exchange Traded Fund Shares.

## Proposed Discontinuance of Quarterly Reporting Obligation for Managed Fund Shares

On September 23, 2016, the SEC approved Nasdaq Rule 5735(b)(1), adopting generic listing standards for Managed Fund Shares.<sup>10</sup> In proposing that rule, Nasdaq represented that it would provide the Commission staff with a report each calendar quarter about issues of Managed Fund Shares listed under that rule.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> <u>See</u> Exchange Act Release No. 78918 (September 23, 2016), 81 FR 67033 (September 29, 2016) (SR-NASDAQ-2016-104).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> <u>See Exchange Act Release No. 78616 (August 18, 2016), 81 FR 57968 at 57973</u> (August 24, 2016) ("the Exchange will provide the Commission staff with a report each calendar quarter that includes the following information for issues of

Nasdaq believes such quarterly reports are no longer necessary in light of the requirements set forth in Rule 6c-11(d). As a result, the Exchange proposes to discontinue such reporting going forward. Rule 6c-11(d) includes specific ongoing reporting requirements for ETFs, such as written agreements between an authorized participant and a fund allowing purchase or redemption of creation units, information regarding the baskets exchanged with authorized participants, and the identity of authorized participants transacting with a fund.<sup>12</sup> This information will be sufficient for the SEC's examination staff to determine compliance with Rule 6c-11 and the applicable federal securities laws.<sup>13</sup>

Managed Fund Shares listed during such calendar quarter under Rule 5735(b)(1): (1) Trading symbol and date of listing on the Exchange; (2) the number of active authorized participants and a description of any failure of an issue of Managed Fund Shares or of an authorized participant to deliver shares, cash, or cash and financial instruments in connection with creation or redemption orders; and (3) a description of any failure of an issue of Managed Fund Shares to comply with Nasdaq Rule 5735").

- 12 Rule 6c-11(d), which sets forth recordkeeping requirements applicable to exchange-traded funds, provides that the exchange-traded fund must maintain and preserve for a period of not less than five years, the first two years in an easily accessible place: (1) All written agreements (or copies thereof) between an authorized participant and the exchange-traded fund or one of its service providers that allows the authorized participant to place orders for the purchase or redemption of creation units; (2) For each basket exchanged with an authorized participant, records setting forth: (i) The ticker symbol, CUSIP or other identifier, description of holding, quantity of each holding, and percentage weight of each holding composing the basket exchanged for creation units; (ii) If applicable, identification of the basket as a custom basket and a record stating that the custom basket complies with policies and procedures that the exchange-traded fund adopted pursuant to paragraph (c)(3) of Rule 6c-11; (iii) Cash balancing amount (if any); and (iv) Identity of authorized participant transacting with the exchange traded fund.
- <sup>13</sup> In the Adopting Release, the SEC stated, "requiring ETFs to maintain records regarding each basket exchanged with authorized participants will provide our examination staff with a basis to understand how baskets are being used by ETFs, particularly with respect to custom baskets. In order to provide our examination

Page 17 of 59

Nasdaq believes that the quarterly reports as currently are duplicative of the new Rule 6c-11(d) requirements. To avoid unnecessary overlap and potential inconsistency, as well as to avoid unnecessary, duplicative burdens on authorized participants and their firms in providing and maintaining information regarding creation and redemption activity, the Exchange proposes to discontinue the filing of quarterly reports with respect to Managed Fund Shares under Nasdaq Rule 5735(b).

#### b. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>14</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>15</sup> in particular, because it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanisms of, a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The proposed rule change is designed to perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest because it would facilitate the listing and trading of additional Exchange Traded Fund Shares, which would enhance competition among market participants, to the benefit of investors and the

staff with detailed information regarding basket composition, however, we have modified rule 6c-11 to require the ticker symbol, CUSIP or other identifier, description of holding, quantity of each holding, and percentage weight of each holding composing the basket exchanged for creation units as part of the basket records, instead of the name and quantities of each position as proposed. We believe that this additional information will better enable our examination staff to evaluate compliance with the rule and other applicable provisions of the federal securities laws." See Adopting Release at 57195

<sup>14</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>15</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

Page 18 of 59

marketplace.

The generic listing rules in proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704, as described above, will facilitate efficient procedures for listing ETFs that are permitted to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 and are consistent with and will further the SEC's goals in adopting Rule 6c-11. Additionally, by allowing Exchange Traded Fund Shares to be listed and traded on the Exchange without a prior SEC approval order or notice of effectiveness pursuant to Section 19(b) of the Act, proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704 will significantly reduce the time frame and costs associated with bringing Exchange Traded Fund Shares to market, thereby promoting market competition among issuers of these securities, to the benefit of the investors. Also, the proposed change would fulfill the intended objective of Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act by permitting Exchange Traded Fund Shares that satisfy the proposed listing standards to be listed and traded without separate SEC approval.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(a)(1)(A), which defines the term "Derivative Securities Product" to mean a security that meets the definition of "derivative securities product" in Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act will increase the clarity of the Nasdaq rules to the benefit of investors and the marketplace.

With respect to both proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(a)(1)(B), which defines the term "Exchange Traded Fund", and proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(a)(1)(C), which defines the term "Exchange Traded Fund Share", the Exchange believes these definitions will increase the clarity to the benefit of investors and the marketplace. Additionally, these terms mirror the definitions as set forth in Rule 6c-11.<sup>16</sup>

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(a)(1)(D), which defines the term

16

See Adopting Release at 57178 and at 57234, respectively.

Page 19 of 59

"Reporting Authority", the Exchange believes that defining the term generally consistent with how it is defined in Nasdaq Rule 5705<sup>17</sup> and Nasdaq Rule 5735<sup>18</sup> will increase the clarity to the benefit of investors and the marketplace.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b), Exchange Traded Fund Shares will be listed and traded on the Exchange subject to the requirement that each series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares is eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11<sup>19</sup> and must satisfy the requirements of this Rule on an initial and continued listing basis. This requirement will ensure that Exchange-listed Exchange Traded Fund Shares continue to operate in a manner that fully complies with the portfolio transparency requirements of Rule 6c-11(c). This will also ensure that Exchange Traded Fund Shares listed and traded on the Exchange in accordance with Nasdaq Rule 5704 on an initial and continued listing basis will serve to perfect the mechanisms of, a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b) and subparagraphs (1) - (6) thereunder (with the exception that subparagraph (1) only applies on an initial listing basis),<sup>20</sup> the Exchange believes it is to the benefit of investors and the marketplace that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> See Nasdaq Rule 5705(b)(1)(C).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> See Nasdaq Rule 5735(c)(4),

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Rule 6c-11(c) sets forth certain conditions applicable to ETFs, including information required to be disclosed on the ETF's website.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(1) - (6) covers: (i) establishing a minimum number of Exchange Traded Fund Shares required to be outstanding at the time of commencement of trading on Nasdaq (only applicable on an initial listing basis); (ii) written surveillance procedures for ETFs; (iii) index calculation and dissemination and "fire walls" around the personnel who have access to information concerning changes and adjustments to the index; (iv) regular market session trading; (v) the listing and trading of ETFs based on one or more foreign

Page 20 of 59

Nasdaq may approve an ETF for listing and trading pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act. The approval is also contingent on the ETF being eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 and satisfies the requirements of the rule on an initial and continued listing basis. Nasdaq will monitor for compliance with the continued listing requirements. If the ETF is not in compliance with the applicable listing requirements, the Exchange will commence delisting procedures under proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(3). The Exchange believes that this will help to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices.

The Exchange believes this also fulfills the intended objective of Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act by allowing Exchange Traded Fund Shares to be listed and traded without requiring separate Commission approval and this will provide investors with additional investment choices that they may choose to invest in.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(c), the Exchange will implement written surveillance procedures for Exchange Traded Fund Shares and represents that its surveillance procedures are adequate to properly monitor such trading in all trading sessions and to deter and detect violations of Nasdaq rules. Specifically, the Exchange intends to utilize its existing surveillance procedures applicable to derivative products, which will include Exchange Traded Fund Shares, to monitor trading in the Exchange Traded Fund Shares (additional surveillance processes and procedures are described infra). These surveillance procedures promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanisms of, a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

or domestic indexes or portfolios; and (vi) Nasdaq will obtain a representation from the ETF that the net asset value per share for the ETF will be calculated daily and will be made available to all market participants at the same time.

Page 21 of 59

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(d), which states that upon termination of an ETF that Nasdaq will remove from listing the Exchange Traded Fund Shares issued in connection with such entity. The Exchange believes that adopting language similar to language already included in Nasdaq Rule 5705(b)(9)(B)f. and in Nasdaq Rule 5735(d)(2)(E) makes for consistency among Nasdaq's rules and benefits investors and the marketplace by making clear rules that lessen potential confusion.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(e), which states that Nasdaq requires that members provide to all purchasers of Exchange Traded Fund Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of such securities and a written description with any sales material relating to an ETF that is provided to customers or the public, the Exchange believes that requiring similar written disclosure to that already required under Nasdaq Rule 5705(b)(2) and Nasdaq Rule 5735(f) makes for consistency among Nasdaq's rules and benefits investors and the marketplace by making clear rules that lessen potential confusion.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(f), which sets forth the limitation of liability applicable to Nasdaq, the Reporting Authority, or any agent of Nasdaq, the Exchange believes that requiring similar written disclosure to that already required under Nasdaq Rule 5707(b)(11) and Nasdaq Rule 5735(e) makes for consistency among Nasdaq's rules and benefits investors and the marketplace by reducing potential confusion.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(g), which states that Nasdaq may approve an ETF for listing and trading pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act that is not eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 provided the ETF satisfies the requirements

Page 22 of 59

of Rule 5705(b) or Rule 5735, as applicable, the Exchange believes will benefit of investors and the marketplace by providing them with additional investment products that qualify as Index Fund Shares or Managed Fund Shares that they may choose to invest in.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(h), which allows Nasdaq to submit a rule filing pursuant to Section 19(b) of the Act to permit the listing and trading of an ETF that is not eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 and does not satisfy the requirements of Rule 5705(b) or Rule 5735, as applicable, the Exchange believes will benefit of investors and the marketplace by providing them with innovative additional investment products that do not qualify as Exchange Traded Fund Shares, Index Fund Shares or Managed Fund Shares but that investors and the marketplace may choose to invest in.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(i), which states that a Derivative Securities Product that has previously been approved for listing on the Exchange pursuant to the generic listing requirements specified in Rule 5705(b) or Rule 5735(b)(1), or pursuant to a proposed rule change filed and approved or subject to a notice of effectiveness by the Commission, will be deemed to be considered approved for listing under this Rule if such Derivative Securities Product is both (1) permitted to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 under the 1940 Act, and (2) the prior exemptive relief under the 1940 Act for such Derivative Securities Product has been rescinded, the Exchange believes makes for consistency among Nasdaq's rules and benefits investors and the marketplace by making clear rules that lessen potential confusion. The Exchange believes the rest of proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(i), which states any requirements for listing as specified in Rule 5705(b) or 5735(b)(1), or an approval order or notice of

Page 23 of 59

effectiveness of a separate proposed rule change that differ from the requirements of this Rule will no longer be applicable to such Derivative Securities Products will streamline the listing process for such securities, consistent with the regulatory framework adopted in Rule 6c-11 under the 1940 Act..

The Exchange believes that proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704, as well as amendments to Nasdaq Rules 4120 and 5615 will facilitate the listing and trading of additional types of exchange-traded products that will enhance competition among market participants, to the benefit of investors and the marketplace.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704 and related amendments to other Nasdaq rules are also designed to protect investors and the public interest because Exchange Traded Fund Shares listed and traded pursuant to Rule 5704 and that rely on the conditions and requirements of Rule 6c-11 will continue to be subject to the full panoply of Exchange rules and procedures that currently govern the trading of equity securities on the Exchange.<sup>21</sup>

Nasdaq believes that the proposed rule change is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices. The Exchange has in place written surveillance procedures that are adequate to properly monitor trading in the Exchange Traded Fund Shares in all trading sessions and to deter and detect violations of Exchange rules and applicable federal securities laws. The surveillance procedures for monitoring compliance with Rule 6c-11 will be consistent with the manner in which the Exchange conducts its trading surveillance for ETFs. The Exchange will also require that issuers of Exchange Traded Fund Shares listed under the Nasdaq Rule 5704 must notify the

21

See note 4 above, Adopting Release at 57171.

#### SR-NASDAQ-2019-090

Page 24 of 59

Exchange regarding instances of non-compliance. Additionally, the Exchange will require periodic certifications from the issuer that it has maintained compliance with Rule 6c-11. Nasdaq will also check the ETF's website on a periodic basis for the inclusion of proper disclosure in compliance with Rule 6c-11.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule changes enumerated above that seek to incorporate Rule 6c-11 into Nasdaq's rules will promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanisms of, a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. As the SEC noted in its Adopting Release, Rule 6c-11 may to allow ETFs to operate are in the public interest and consistent with the protection of investors and the purposes fairly intended by the policy and provisions of the Act,<sup>22</sup> as well as lead to increased capital formation particularly in the form of an increased demand for ETFs.<sup>23</sup>

The Exchange believes that the discontinuance of quarterly reports currently required for Managed Fund Shares under Nasdaq Rule 5735(b) are no longer necessary in light of the requirements of Rule 6c-11(d).<sup>24</sup> promotes just and equitable principles of trade, removes impediments to, and perfects the mechanisms of, a free and open market and a national market system by eliminating a requirement no longer necessary or of benefit to the Commission

As discussed above, Rule 6c-11(d) includes specific ongoing reporting requirements for exchange-traded funds, including written agreements between an

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> <u>Id.</u> at 57166.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> <u>Id.</u> at 57220.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> <u>See note 12 supra.</u>

Page 25 of 59

authorized participant and a fund allowing purchase or redemption of creation units, information regarding the baskets exchanged with authorized participants, and the identity of authorized participants transacting with a fund. The SEC has stated that the information required by Rule 6c-11(d) will provide the SEC's examination staff with information to determine compliance with Rule 6c-11 and applicable federal securities laws.

As a result, Nasdaq believes it should discontinue the filing of quarterly reports with respect to Managed Fund Shares under Nasdaq Rule 5735(b). This will avoid unnecessary overlap and potential inconsistency between the quarterly reports and the reporting requirements of Rule 6c-11(d). It will also avoid unnecessary, duplicative burdens on authorized participants and their firms in providing and maintaining information regarding creation and redemption activity.

For the above reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with the requirements of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act.

#### 4. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended. Rather, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change would facilitate the listing and trading of Exchange Traded Fund Shares and result in a significantly more efficient process surrounding the listing and trading of ETFs, which will enhance competition among market participants, to the benefit of investors and the marketplace.

The Exchange believes that this would reduce the time frame for bringing ETFs to market, thereby reducing the burdens on issuers and other market participants and promoting competition. In turn, the Exchange believes that the proposed change would make the process for listing Exchange Traded Fund Shares more competitive by applying uniform listing standards with respect to Exchange Traded Fund Shares.

5. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule</u> <u>Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

No written comments were either solicited or received.

- <u>Extension of Time Period for Commission Action</u> Nott applicable.
- 7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated</u> <u>Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)</u>

The Exchange believes that the foregoing proposed rule change should receive accelerated effectiveness pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act.<sup>25</sup> The Exchange requests that the Commission approve the proposed rule change on an accelerated basis so that it may become operative as soon as practicable, particularly given that Rule 6c-11 becomes effective on December 23, 2019.

The Exchange believes that its rule change proposal is appropriate for approving on an accelerated basis because it will enhance the regulatory framework through streamlining existing procedures and reducing the costs and time frames associated with bringing ETFs to market. This, in turn, will also serve to enhance competition among ETF issuers and ultimately reduce investor costs. Nasdaq will maintain written surveillance procedures that are adequate to properly monitor trading in the Exchange Traded Fund Shares in all trading sessions and to deter and detect violations of Exchange rules and applicable federal securities laws. The proposed rule change will

<sup>25</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest and is consistent

with, and will further, the SEC's goals in adopting Rule 6c-11.

For the foregoing reasons, this rule filing qualifies for accelerated approval under

Rule 19(b)(2).

8. <u>Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization</u> or of the Commission

Not applicable.

- Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act Not applicable.
- 10. <u>Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and</u> <u>Settlement Supervision Act</u>

Not applicable.

- 11. <u>Exhibits</u>
  - 1. Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>.
  - 5. Text of the proposed rule change.

## **EXHIBIT 1**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2019-090)

November \_\_\_\_, 2019

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change to Create Nasdaq Rule 5704 and Other Related Amendments

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup>, and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on November 8, 2019, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III, below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

### I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the</u> <u>Proposed Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to adopt new Nasdaq Rule 5704 to list and trade shares of securities issued by an exchange-traded fund as defined herein, as well as amendments to Nasdaq Rule 4120 (Limit Up-Limit Down Plan and Trading Halts) and Nasdaq Rule 5615 (Exemptions from Certain Corporate Governance Requirements), and to discontinue the quarterly reports currently required with respect to Managed Fund Shares under Nasdaq Rule 5735(b).

The Exchange requests that the Commission approve the proposed rule change on an accelerated basis so that it may become operative as soon as practicable, particularly

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

given that Rule 6c-11 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, becomes effective on December 23, 2019.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at <u>http://nasdaq.cchwallstreet.com</u>, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

### II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

# A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u> <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

1. <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange proposes Nasdaq Rule 5704 to establish generic listing standards that permit the listing and trading of shares ("Exchange Traded Fund Shares") of exchange-traded funds ("ETFs" as defined below) that meet the criteria established by the Commissions in its adoption of Rule 6c-11<sup>3</sup> ("Rule 6c-11") under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (1940 Act"), to operate without obtaining an

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Specifically, Rule 6c-11 applies to open-end funds that (i) issue and redeem creation units to and from authorized participants in exchange for a basket of securities and other assets (and any cash balancing amount), and (ii) whose shares are listed on a national securities exchange and trade at market-determined prices. Rule 6c-11 does not apply to leveraged, inverse, non-transparent, share classes, or exchange-traded funds structured as unit investment trusts.

Page 30 of 59

exemptive order from the SEC under the 1940 Act.<sup>4</sup> This will help to accomplish the SEC's goal in adopting Rule 6c-11 to allow such ETFs to come directly to market without the cost and delay of obtaining exemptive relief while still protecting the interests of investors and other market participants. Rule 6c-11 will provide exemptions applicable to both index-based and transparent actively managed ETFs. Rule 6c-11 will enhance the regulatory framework through streamlining existing procedures and reducing the costs and time frames associated with bringing ETFs to market. This, in turn, will also serve to enhance competition among ETF issuers and ultimately reduce investor costs.<sup>5</sup>

Nasdaq believes that the proposed generic listing rules for Exchange Traded Fund Shares, described below, will facilitate efficient procedures for ETFs that are permitted to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11. The Exchange also believes that proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704 is consistent with, and will further, the Commission's goals in adopting Rule 6c-11. Exchange Traded Fund Shares that are permitted to operate in reliance on Rule

 <sup>&</sup>lt;u>See</u> Release Nos. 33-10695; IC-33646; File No. S7-15-18 (Exchange-Traded Funds) (September 25, 2019), 84 FR 57162 (October 24, 2019) ("Adopting Release").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The SEC said in the Adopting Release that Rule 6c-11 "will modernize the regulatory framework for ETFs to reflect our more than two decades of experience with these investment products. The rule is designed to further important Commission objectives, including establishing a consistent, transparent, and efficient regulatory framework for ETFs and facilitating greater competition and innovation among ETFs." <u>See</u> Adopting Release at 57163. The SEC also said that in reference to the impact of Rule 6c-11 that: "We believe rule 6c-11 will establish a regulatory framework that: (1) Reduces the expense and delay currently associated with forming and operating certain ETFs unable to rely on existing orders; and (2) creates a level playing field for ETFs that can rely on the rule. As such, the rule will enable increased product competition among certain ETF providers, which can lead to lower fees for investors, encourage financial innovation, and increase investor choice in the ETF market." <u>See</u> Adopting Release at 57204.

Page 31 of 59

6c-11 will be permitted to be listed and traded on the Exchange without a prior Commission approval order or notice of effectiveness pursuant to Section 19(b) of the Act. This will significantly reduce the time frame and costs associated with bringing Exchange Traded Fund Shares to market, which, in turn, will promote competition among issuers of Exchange Traded Fund Shares, to the benefit of investors.

The Exchange also proposes to amend Nasdaq Rule 4120 (Limit Up-Limit Down Plan and Trading Halts) and Nasdaq Rule 5615 (Exemptions from Certain Corporate Governance Requirements), and to discontinue the quarterly reports currently required with respect to Managed Fund Shares under Nasdaq Rule 5735(b).

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704 will enable ETFs, whether index-based or actively managed, to qualify for listing and trading on the Exchange both on an initial and continued basis by meeting and maintaining compliance with the criteria set forth in Rule 6c-11.<sup>6</sup> The specific provisions of proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704 are presented below, as well as amendments to Nasdaq Rule 4120 (Limit Up-Limit Down Plan and Trading Halts) and Nasdaq Rule 5615 (Exemptions from Certain Corporate Governance Requirements), which would be necessitated by adoption of the proposed rule. Additionally, the proposed rule change to discontinue the quarterly reports currently required with respect to Managed Fund Shares under Nasdaq Rule 5735(b) is also discussed below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Rule 6c-11 becomes effective on December 23, 2019. Subject to approval of this proposed rule change, Exchange Traded Fund Shares that are permitted to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 will be eligible for listing and trading on Nasdaq under proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704 after that date.

Page 32 of 59

### Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704

### Proposed Definitions.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(a)(1)(A), which defines the term "Derivative Securities Product" to mean a security that meets the definition of "derivative securities product" in Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act. Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(a)(1)(B) defines the term "Exchange Traded Fund" ("ETF") as having the same meaning as the term "exchange-traded fund" is defined in Rule 6c-11.<sup>7</sup> In the case of an Exchange Traded Fund that is not currently listed on a national securities exchange, the portion of the definition found in Rule 6c-11 requiring such listing will become applicable if the Exchange Traded Fund is listed on a national securities exchange.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(a)(1)(C) defines the term "Exchange Traded Fund Share" as having the same meaning as the term is defined as having in Rule  $6c-11.^{8}$ 

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(a)(1)(D) defines the term "Reporting Authority" in respect of a particular series of Exchange Traded Fund Share means Nasdaq, a whollyowned subsidiary of Nasdaq, or an institution or reporting service designated by Nasdaq or its subsidiary as the official source for calculating and reporting information relating to such series, including, but not limited to, any current index or portfolio value; the current value of the portfolio of any securities required to be deposited in connection with

<sup>8</sup> Rule 6c-11(a)(1) defines "exchange-traded fund share" as a share of stock issued by an exchange-traded fund.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Rule 6c-11(a)(1) defines "exchange-traded fund" as a registered open-end management company: (i) That issues (and redeems) creation units to (and from) authorized participants in exchange for a basket and a cash balancing amount if any; and (ii) Whose shares are listed on a national securities exchange and traded at market-determined prices. The terms "authorized participant," "basket" and "creation unit" are defined in Rule 6c-11(a).

Page 33 of 59

issuance of Exchange Traded Fund Shares; the amount of any dividend equivalent payment or cash distribution to holders of Exchange Traded Fund Shares, net asset value, and other information relating to the issuance, redemption or trading of Exchange Traded Fund Shares. The definition also notes that it does not imply that an institution or reporting service that is the source for calculating and reporting information relating to Exchange Traded Fund Shares must be designated by Nasdaq; the term "Reporting Authority" does not refer to an institution or reporting service not so designated.

Initial and Continued Listing. Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b) states that Nasdaq may approve a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares for listing and trading pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act, provided it is eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 and is in compliance with the requirements of Rule 6c-11(c) on an initial and continued listing basis.<sup>9</sup> The requirements of Nasdaq Rule 5704 must also be satisfied on an initial

(ii) The exchange-traded fund's current net asset value per share, market price, and premium or discount, each as of the end of the prior business day;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Rule 6c-11(c) sets forth certain conditions applicable to exchange-traded funds, and specifies the information required to be disclosed prominently on the fund's website free of charge, including the following:

<sup>(</sup>i) before the opening of regular trading on the primary listing exchange of the exchange-traded fund shares, the estimated cash balancing amount (if any) and the following information (as applicable) for each portfolio holding that will form the basis of the next calculation of current net asset value per share: (A) Ticker symbol; (B) CUSIP or other identifier; (C) Description of holding; (D) Quantity of each security or other asset held; and (E) Percentage weight of the holding in the portfolio;

<sup>(</sup>iii) A table showing the number of days the exchange-traded fund's shares traded at a premium or discount during the most recently completed calendar year and the most recently completed calendar quarters since that year (or the life of the exchange-traded fund, if shorter);

<sup>(</sup>iv) A line graph showing exchange-traded fund share premiums or discounts for the most recently completed calendar year and the most recently completed

Page 34 of 59

and continued listing basis.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(1) says that for a Derivative Securities Product listed under this rule, it does not need to separately meet either the initial or continued listing requirements of any other Exchange rules. For example, an ETF that satisfies the requirements of Rule 6c-11 and therefore is listed pursuant to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704 and is also, for example, an Index Fund Share, would not need to separately meet the initial or continued listing requirements of Nasdaq Rule 5705(b).

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(2), except for paragraph (A) below which only applies on an initial listing basis, such securities must also satisfy the follow criteria on an initial and continued listing basis:

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(2)(A) states that for each series of Exchange

Traded Fund Shares, Nasdaq will establish a minimum number of Exchange Traded Fund

Shares required to be outstanding at the time of commencement of trading on Nasdaq.

calendar quarters since that year (or the life of the exchange-traded fund, if shorter);

(v) The exchange-traded fund's median bid-ask spread, expressed as a percentage rounded to the nearest hundredth (and computed in a manner described in Rule 6c-11(c)(v)(A) through (D)); and

(vi) If the exchange-traded fund's premium or discount is greater than 2% for more than seven consecutive trading days, a statement that the exchange-traded fund's premium or discount, as applicable, was greater than 2% and a discussion of the factors that are reasonably believed to have materially contributed to the premium or discount, which must be maintained on the website for at least one year thereafter.

Rule 6c-11(c)(4) provides that the exchange-traded fund may not seek, directly or indirectly, to provide investment returns that correspond to the performance of a market index by a specified multiple, or to provide investment returns that have an inverse relationship to the performance of a market index, over a predetermined period of time.

Page 35 of 59

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(2)(B) sets for the requirements regarding index calculation and dissemination that must be satisfied on both an initial and continued listing basis. Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(2)(i) states that if the underlying index is maintained by a broker-dealer or fund advisor, the broker-dealer or fund advisor will erect and maintain a "fire wall" around the personnel who have access to information concerning changes and adjustments to the index and the index will be calculated by a third party who is not a broker-dealer or fund advisor. Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(2)(ii) states that any advisory committee, supervisory board, or similar entity that advises a Reporting Authority or that makes decisions on the index composition, methodology and related matters, must implement and maintain, or be subject to, procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material non-public information regarding the applicable index.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(2)(C) states that regular market session trading will occur between 9:30 a.m. and either 4:00 p.m. or 4:15 p.m. for each series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares, as specified by Nasdaq. In addition, Nasdaq may designate a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares for trading during a pre-market session beginning at 4:00 a.m. and/or a post-market session ending at 8:00 p.m.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(2)(D) states that Nasdaq may list and trade a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares based on one or more foreign or domestic indexes or portfolios. Each series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares based on each particular index or portfolio, or combination thereof, will be designated as a separate series and will be identified by a unique symbol. The components that are included in an index or portfolio on which a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares is based will be

Page 36 of 59

selected by such person, which may be Nasdaq or an agent or wholly-owned subsidiary thereof, as will have authorized use of such index or portfolio. Such index or portfolio may be revised from time to time as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to maintain the quality and character of the index or portfolio.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(2)(E) states that Nasdaq will obtain a representation from the ETF that the net asset value per share for each series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares will be calculated daily and will be made available to all market participants at the same time.

Proposed Nasdag Rule 5704(b)(3) sets forth the circumstances under which Nasdaq will consider the suspension of trading and removal in, and will initiate delisting proceedings under the Rule 5800 Series of, a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares. These circumstances will include the following: (i) Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(3)(A)states that if the series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares is no longer eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 or if any of the other requirements set forth in this rule are not continuously maintained; (ii) Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(3)(B) states that if, following the initial twelve month period after commencement of trading on Nasdaq of the series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares, there are fewer than 50 beneficial holders of such series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares; (iii) Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(3)(C) states that if the value of the index or portfolio of securities on which the series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares is based is no longer calculated or available or an interruption to the dissemination persists past the trading day in which it occurred or the index or portfolio on which the series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares is based is replaced with a new index or portfolio, unless the new index or portfolio meets the

Page 37 of 59

requirements of this Rule 5705(b) for listing either pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act (including the filing of a Form 19b-4(e) with the Commission) or by Commission approval of a filing pursuant to Section 19(b) of the Act; (iv) Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(c)(3)(D) states that if Nasdaq files separate proposals under Section 19(b) of the Act, any of the statements or representations regarding (a) the index composition; (b) the description of the portfolio; (c) limitations on portfolio holdings or reference assets; (d) dissemination and availability of the index or intraday indicative values; or (e) the applicability of Nasdaq listing rules specified in such proposals are not continuously maintained as referenced in subsection (h) of this rule; and (v) Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(c)(3)(E) state that if such other event will occur or condition exists which in the opinion of Nasdaq, makes further dealings on Nasdaq inadvisable.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(c) states that Nasdaq will maintain written surveillance procedures for Exchange Traded Fund Shares.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(d) states that upon termination of an ETF, Nasdaq requires that each series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares issued in connection with such entity be removed from listing.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(e) states that Nasdaq requires that members provide to all purchasers of a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of such securities, in a form prepared by the open-end management investment company issuing such securities, not later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in such series is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, members will include such a written description with any sales material relating to an ETF that is provided to customers or the public. Any other written materials

#### SR-NASDAQ-2019-090

Page 38 of 59

provided by a member to customers or the public making specific reference to an Exchange Traded Fund Shares as an investment vehicle must include a statement in substantially the following form: "A circular describing the terms and characteristics of [a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares] has been prepared by the [open-end management investment company name] and is available from your broker or Nasdaq. It is recommended that you obtain and review such circular before purchasing [a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares]. In addition, upon request you may obtain from your broker a prospectus for [a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares]."

Additionally, a member carrying an omnibus account for a non-member brokerdealer is required to inform such non-member that execution of an order to purchase a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares for such omnibus account will be deemed to constitute agreement by the non-member to make such written description available to its customers on the same terms as are directly applicable to members and member organizations under this rule. Upon request of a customer, a Member shall also provide a prospectus for the particular series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(f) states that neither Nasdaq, the Reporting Authority, nor any agent of Nasdaq will have any liability for damages, claims, losses or expenses caused by any errors, omissions, or delays in calculating or disseminating any current index or portfolio value, the current value of the portfolio of securities required to be deposited to the open-end management investment company in connection with issuance of a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares; the amount of any dividend equivalent payment or cash distribution to holders of a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares; net asset value; or other information relating to the purchase, redemption or

Page 39 of 59

trading of a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares, resulting from any negligent act or omission by Nasdaq, the Reporting Authority or any agent of Nasdaq, or any act, condition or cause beyond the reasonable control of Nasdaq, its agent, or the Reporting Authority, including, but not limited to, an act of God; fire; flood; extraordinary weather conditions; war; insurrection; riot; strike; accident; action of government; communications or power failure; equipment or software malfunction; or any error, omission or delay in the reports of transactions in one or more underlying securities.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(g) states that Nasdaq may approve a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares for listing and trading pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act that is not eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 provided the series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares satisfies the requirements of Rule 5705(b) or Rule 5735, as applicable, and the ETF has received an exemptive relief order under the 1940 Act.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(h) states that Nasdaq may submit a rule filing pursuant to Section 19(b) of the Act to permit the listing and trading of a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares that is not eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 and does not satisfy the requirements of Rule 5705(b) or Rule 5735, as applicable. Any of the statements or representations regarding (a) the index composition; (b) the description of the portfolio; (c) limitations on portfolio holdings or reference assets; (d) dissemination and availability of the index or intraday indicative values; or (e) the applicability of Nasdaq listing rules specified in such proposals constitute continued listing standards.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(i) states that a Derivative Securities Product that has previously been approved for listing on the Exchange pursuant to the generic listing requirements specified in Rule 5705(b) or Rule 5735(b)(1), or pursuant to a proposed rule

Page 40 of 59

change filed and approved or subject to a notice of effectiveness by the Commission, will be deemed to be considered approved for listing under this Rule if such Derivative Securities Product is both (1) permitted to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 under the 1940 Act, and (2) the prior exemptive relief under the 1940 Act for such Derivative Securities Product has been rescinded. At such time, the continued listing requirements applicable to such previously-listed Derivative Securities Products will be those specified in paragraph (b) of this Rule. Any requirements for listing as specified in Rule 5705(b) or 5735(b)(1), or an approval order or notice of effectiveness of a separate proposed rule change that differ from the requirements of this Rule will no longer be applicable to such Derivative Securities Products.

#### Amendments to Nasdaq Rule 4120. Limit Up-Limit Down Plan and Trading Halts

The Exchange proposes to amend Nasdaq Rule 4120 to include Exchange Traded Fund Shares within the definition of "Derivative Securities Product" as defined in Nasdaq Rule 4120(b)(4)(A). This will ensure the applicability of trading halts to the trading of Exchange Traded Fund Shares on Nasdaq pursuant to unlisted trading privileges.

### Amendments to Nasdaq Rule 5615. Exemptions from Certain Corporate Governance Requirements

The Exchange also proposes to amend the definition of "Derivative Securities" in Nasdaq Rule 5615 to incorporate to incorporate Exchange Traded Fund Shares so Rule 5615 and its exemptions from certain corporate governance requirements are applicable to Exchange Traded Fund Shares.

### Proposed Discontinuance of Quarterly Reporting Obligation for Managed Fund Shares

On September 23, 2016, the SEC approved Nasdaq Rule 5735(b)(1), adopting

generic listing standards for Managed Fund Shares.<sup>10</sup> In proposing that rule, Nasdaq represented that it would provide the Commission staff with a report each calendar quarter about issues of Managed Fund Shares listed under that rule.<sup>11</sup>

Nasdaq believes such quarterly reports are no longer necessary in light of the requirements set forth in Rule 6c-11(d). As a result, the Exchange proposes to discontinue such reporting going forward. Rule 6c-11(d) includes specific ongoing reporting requirements for ETFs, such as written agreements between an authorized participant and a fund allowing purchase or redemption of creation units, information regarding the baskets exchanged with authorized participants, and the identity of authorized participants transacting with a fund.<sup>12</sup> This information will be sufficient for

 <sup>&</sup>lt;u>See</u> Exchange Act Release No. 78918 (September 23, 2016), 81 FR 67033 (September 29, 2016) (SR-NASDAQ-2016-104).

See Exchange Act Release No. 78616 (August 18, 2016), 81 FR 57968 at 57973 (August 24, 2016) ("the Exchange will provide the Commission staff with a report each calendar quarter that includes the following information for issues of Managed Fund Shares listed during such calendar quarter under Rule 5735(b)(1): (1) Trading symbol and date of listing on the Exchange; (2) the number of active authorized participants and a description of any failure of an issue of Managed Fund Shares or of an authorized participant to deliver shares, cash, or cash and financial instruments in connection with creation or redemption orders; and (3) a description of any failure of an issue of Managed Fund Shares to comply with Nasdaq Rule 5735").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Rule 6c-11(d), which sets forth recordkeeping requirements applicable to exchange-traded funds, provides that that the exchange-traded fund must maintain and preserve for a period of not less than five years, the first two years in an easily accessible place: (1) All written agreements (or copies thereof) between an authorized participant and the exchange-traded fund or one of its service providers that allows the authorized participant to place orders for the purchase or redemption of creation units; (2) For each basket exchanged with an authorized participant, records setting forth: (i) The ticker symbol, CUSIP or other identifier, description of holding, quantity of each holding, and percentage weight of each holding composing the basket exchanged for creation units; (ii) If applicable, identification of the basket as a custom basket and a record stating that the custom basket complies with policies and procedures that the exchange-traded fund

the SEC's examination staff to determine compliance with Rule 6c-11 and the applicable federal securities laws.<sup>13</sup>

Nasdaq believes that the quarterly reports as currently are duplicative of the new Rule 6c-11(d) requirements. To avoid unnecessary overlap and potential inconsistency, as well as to avoid unnecessary, duplicative burdens on authorized participants and their firms in providing and maintaining information regarding creation and redemption activity, the Exchange proposes to discontinue the filing of quarterly reports with respect to Managed Fund Shares under Nasdaq Rule 5735(b).

### 2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the

Act,<sup>14</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>15</sup> in particular,

because it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to

promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to, and perfect the

adopted pursuant to paragraph (c)(3) of Rule 6c-11; (iii) Cash balancing amount (if any); and (iv) Identity of authorized participant transacting with the exchange traded fund.

<sup>13</sup> In the Adopting Release, the SEC stated, "requiring ETFs to maintain records regarding each basket exchanged with authorized participants will provide our examination staff with a basis to understand how baskets are being used by ETFs, particularly with respect to custom baskets. In order to provide our examination staff with detailed information regarding basket composition, however, we have modified rule 6c-11 to require the ticker symbol, CUSIP or other identifier, description of holding, quantity of each holding, and percentage weight of each holding composing the basket exchanged for creation units as part of the basket records, instead of the name and quantities of each position as proposed. We believe that this additional information will better enable our examination staff to evaluate compliance with the rule and other applicable provisions of the federal securities laws." See Adopting Release at 57195

<sup>14</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>15</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

Page 43 of 59

mechanisms of, a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The proposed rule change is designed to perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest because it would facilitate the listing and trading of additional Exchange Traded Fund Shares, which would enhance competition among market participants, to the benefit of investors and the marketplace.

The generic listing rules in proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704, as described above, will facilitate efficient procedures for listing ETFs that are permitted to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 and are consistent with and will further the SEC's goals in adopting Rule 6c-11. Additionally, by allowing Exchange Traded Fund Shares to be listed and traded on the Exchange without a prior SEC approval order or notice of effectiveness pursuant to Section 19(b) of the Act, proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704 will significantly reduce the time frame and costs associated with bringing Exchange Traded Fund Shares to market, thereby promoting market competition among issuers of these securities, to the benefit of the investors. Also, the proposed change would fulfill the intended objective of Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act by permitting Exchange Traded Fund Shares that satisfy the proposed listing standards to be listed and traded without separate SEC approval.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(a)(1)(A), which defines the term "Derivative Securities Product" to mean a security that meets the definition of "derivative securities product" in Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act will increase the clarity of the Nasdaq rules to the benefit of investors and the marketplace.

With respect to both proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(a)(1)(B), which defines the term

Page 44 of 59

"Exchange Traded Fund", and proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(a)(1)(C), which defines the term "Exchange Traded Fund Share", the Exchange believes these definitions will increase the clarity to the benefit of investors and the marketplace. Additionally, these terms mirror the definitions as set forth in Rule 6c-11.<sup>16</sup>

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(a)(1)(D), which defines the term "Reporting Authority", the Exchange believes that defining the term generally consistent with how it is defined in Nasdaq Rule  $5705^{17}$  and Nasdaq Rule  $5735^{18}$  will increase the clarity to the benefit of investors and the marketplace.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b), Exchange Traded Fund Shares will be listed and traded on the Exchange subject to the requirement that each series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares is eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11<sup>19</sup> and must satisfy the requirements of this Rule on an initial and continued listing basis. This requirement will ensure that Exchange-listed Exchange Traded Fund Shares continue to operate in a manner that fully complies with the portfolio transparency requirements of Rule 6c-11(c). This will also ensure that Exchange Traded Fund Shares listed and traded on the Exchange in accordance with Nasdaq Rule 5704 on an initial and continued listing basis will serve to perfect the mechanisms of, a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b) and subparagraphs (1) - (6)

<sup>16</sup> <u>See</u> Adopting Release at 57178 and at 57234, respectively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> See Nasdaq Rule 5705(b)(1)(C).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> See Nasdaq Rule 5735(c)(4),

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Rule 6c-11(c) sets forth certain conditions applicable to ETFs, including information required to be disclosed on the ETF's website.

Page 45 of 59

thereunder (with the exception that subparagraph (1) only applies on an initial listing basis),<sup>20</sup> the Exchange believes it is to the benefit of investors and the marketplace that Nasdaq may approve an ETF for listing and trading pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act. The approval is also contingent on the ETF being eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 and satisfies the requirements of the rule on an initial and continued listing basis. Nasdaq will monitor for compliance with the continued listing requirements. If the ETF is not in compliance with the applicable listing requirements, the Exchange will commence delisting procedures under proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(3). The Exchange believes that this will help to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices.

The Exchange believes this also fulfills the intended objective of Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act by allowing Exchange Traded Fund Shares to be listed and traded without requiring separate Commission approval and this will provide investors with additional investment choices that they may choose to invest in.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(c), the Exchange will implement written surveillance procedures for Exchange Traded Fund Shares and represents that its surveillance procedures are adequate to properly monitor such trading in all trading sessions and to deter and detect violations of Nasdaq rules. Specifically, the Exchange intends to utilize its existing surveillance procedures applicable to derivative products,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(b)(1) - (6) covers: (i) establishing a minimum number of Exchange Traded Fund Shares required to be outstanding at the time of commencement of trading on Nasdaq (only applicable on an initial listing basis); (ii) written surveillance procedures for ETFs; (iii) index calculation and dissemination and "fire walls" around the personnel who have access to information concerning changes and adjustments to the index; (iv) regular market session trading; (v) the listing and trading of ETFs based on one or more foreign or domestic indexes or portfolios; and (vi) Nasdaq will obtain a representation from the ETF that the net asset value per share for the ETF will be calculated daily and will be made available to all market participants at the same time.

#### SR-NASDAQ-2019-090

Page 46 of 59

which will include Exchange Traded Fund Shares, to monitor trading in the Exchange Traded Fund Shares (additional surveillance processes and procedures are described infra). These surveillance procedures promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanisms of, a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(d), which states that upon termination of an ETF that Nasdaq will remove from listing the Exchange Traded Fund Shares issued in connection with such entity. The Exchange believes that adopting language similar to language already included in Nasdaq Rule 5705(b)(9)(B)f. and in Nasdaq Rule 5735(d)(2)(E) makes for consistency among Nasdaq's rules and benefits investors and the marketplace by making clear rules that lessen potential confusion.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(e), which states that Nasdaq requires that members provide to all purchasers of Exchange Traded Fund Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of such securities and a written description with any sales material relating to an ETF that is provided to customers or the public, the Exchange believes that requiring similar written disclosure to that already required under Nasdaq Rule 5705(b)(2) and Nasdaq Rule 5735(f) makes for consistency among Nasdaq's rules and benefits investors and the marketplace by making clear rules that lessen potential confusion.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(f), which sets forth the limitation of liability applicable to Nasdaq, the Reporting Authority, or any agent of Nasdaq, the Exchange believes that requiring similar written disclosure to that already required under Nasdaq Rule 5707(b)(11) and Nasdaq Rule 5735(e) makes for consistency among

Page 47 of 59

Nasdaq's rules and benefits investors and the marketplace by reducing potential confusion.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(g), which states that Nasdaq may approve an ETF for listing and trading pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e) under the Act that is not eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 provided the ETF satisfies the requirements of Rule 5705(b) or Rule 5735, as applicable, the Exchange believes will benefit of investors and the marketplace by providing them with additional investment products that qualify as Index Fund Shares or Managed Fund Shares that they may choose to invest in.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(h), which allows Nasdaq to submit a rule filing pursuant to Section 19(b) of the Act to permit the listing and trading of an ETF that is not eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 and does not satisfy the requirements of Rule 5705(b) or Rule 5735, as applicable, the Exchange believes will benefit of investors and the marketplace by providing them with innovative additional investment products that do not qualify as Exchange Traded Fund Shares, Index Fund Shares or Managed Fund Shares but that investors and the marketplace may choose to invest in.

With respect to proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(i), which states that a Derivative Securities Product that has previously been approved for listing on the Exchange pursuant to the generic listing requirements specified in Rule 5705(b) or Rule 5735(b)(1), or pursuant to a proposed rule change filed and approved or subject to a notice of effectiveness by the Commission, will be deemed to be considered approved for listing under this Rule if such Derivative Securities Product is both (1) permitted to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 under the 1940 Act, and (2) the prior exemptive relief under the SR-NASDAQ-2019-090

Page 48 of 59

1940 Act for such Derivative Securities Product has been rescinded, the Exchange believes makes for consistency among Nasdaq's rules and benefits investors and the marketplace by making clear rules that lessen potential confusion. The Exchange believes the rest of proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704(i), which states any requirements for listing as specified in Rule 5705(b) or 5735(b)(1), or an approval order or notice of effectiveness of a separate proposed rule change that differ from the requirements of this Rule will no longer be applicable to such Derivative Securities Products will streamline the listing process for such securities, consistent with the regulatory framework adopted in Rule 6c-11 under the 1940 Act..

The Exchange believes that proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704, as well as amendments to Nasdaq Rules 4120 and 5615 will facilitate the listing and trading of additional types of exchange-traded products that will enhance competition among market participants, to the benefit of investors and the marketplace.

Proposed Nasdaq Rule 5704 and related amendments to other Nasdaq rules are also designed to protect investors and the public interest because Exchange Traded Fund Shares listed and traded pursuant to Rule 5704 and that rely on the conditions and requirements of Rule 6c-11 will continue to be subject to the full panoply of Exchange rules and procedures that currently govern the trading of equity securities on the Exchange.<sup>21</sup>

Nasdaq believes that the proposed rule change is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices. The Exchange has in place written surveillance procedures that are adequate to properly monitor trading in the Exchange Traded Fund

21

See note 4 above, Adopting Release at 57171.

Page 49 of 59

Shares in all trading sessions and to deter and detect violations of Exchange rules and applicable federal securities laws. The surveillance procedures for monitoring compliance with Rule 6c-11will be consistent with the manner in which the Exchange conducts its trading surveillance for ETFs. The Exchange will also require that issuers of Exchange Traded Fund Shares listed under the Nasdaq Rule 5704 must notify the Exchange regarding instances of non-compliance. Additionally, the Exchange will require periodic certifications from the issuer that it has maintained compliance with Rule 6c-11. Nasdaq will also check the ETF's website on a periodic basis for the inclusion of proper disclosure in compliance with Rule 6c-11.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule changes enumerated above that seek to incorporate Rule 6c-11 into Nasdaq's rules will promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanisms of, a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. As the SEC noted in its Adopting Release, Rule 6c-11 may to allow ETFs to operate are in the public interest and consistent with the protection of investors and the purposes fairly intended by the policy and provisions of the Act,<sup>22</sup> as well as lead to increased capital formation particularly in the form of an increased demand for ETFs.<sup>23</sup>

The Exchange believes that the discontinuance of quarterly reports currently required for Managed Fund Shares under Nasdaq Rule 5735(b) are no longer necessary in light of the requirements of Rule 6c-11(d).<sup>24</sup> promotes just and equitable principles of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> <u>Id.</u> at 57166.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> <u>Id.</u> at 57220.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> <u>See note 12 supra.</u>

Page 50 of 59

trade, removes impediments to, and perfects the mechanisms of, a free and open market and a national market system by eliminating a requirement no longer necessary or of benefit to the Commission

As discussed above, Rule 6c-11(d) includes specific ongoing reporting requirements for exchange-traded funds, including written agreements between an authorized participant and a fund allowing purchase or redemption of creation units, information regarding the baskets exchanged with authorized participants, and the identity of authorized participants transacting with a fund. The SEC has stated that the information required by Rule 6c-11(d) will provide the SEC's examination staff with information to determine compliance with Rule 6c-11 and applicable federal securities laws.

As a result, Nasdaq believes it should discontinue the filing of quarterly reports with respect to Managed Fund Shares under Nasdaq Rule 5735(b). This will avoid unnecessary overlap and potential inconsistency between the quarterly reports and the reporting requirements of Rule 6c-11(d). It will also avoid unnecessary, duplicative burdens on authorized participants and their firms in providing and maintaining information regarding creation and redemption activity.

For the above reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with the requirements of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act.

#### B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended. Rather, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change would facilitate the listing and trading of Exchange Traded Fund Shares and result in a significantly more efficient process surrounding the listing and trading of ETFs, which will enhance competition among market participants, to the benefit of investors and the marketplace.

The Exchange believes that this would reduce the time frame for bringing ETFs to market, thereby reducing the burdens on issuers and other market participants and promoting competition. In turn, the Exchange believes that the proposed change would make the process for listing Exchange Traded Fund Shares more competitive by applying uniform listing standards with respect to Exchange Traded Fund Shares.

### C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

No written comments were either solicited or received.

### III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the Exchange consents, the Commission shall: (a) by order approve or disapprove such proposed rule change, or (b) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

#### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

#### Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-NASDAQ-2019-090 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NASDAQ-2019-090. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site

#### (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml).

Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NASDAQ-2019-090 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>25</sup>

Jill M. Peterson Assistant Secretary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

# **EXHIBIT 5**

Deleted text is [bracketed]. New text is <u>underlined</u>.

# The Nasdaq Stock Market Rules

\* \* \* \* \*

# 4120. Limit Up-Limit Down Plan and Trading Halts

(a) No Change.

(b) Trading Halts for Trading of Certain Derivative Securities Products on Nasdaq Pursuant to Unlisted Trading Privileges

(1) - (3) No Change.

(4) Definitions. For purposes of this Rule:

(A) Derivative Securities Product means a series of <u>Exchange Traded Fund Shares</u>, Portfolio Depository Receipts, Index Fund Shares, Managed Fund Shares, NextShares, or Trust Issued Receipts (as defined in Rules <u>5704</u>, 5705, 5735, 5745, and 5720, respectively), a series of Commodity-Related Securities (as defined in Rule 4630), securities representing interests in unit investment trusts or investment companies, Index-Linked Exchangeable Notes, Equity Gold Shares, Trust Certificates, Commodity-Based Trust Shares, Currency Trust Shares, Commodity Index Trust Shares, Commodity Futures Trust Shares, Partnership Units, Trust Units, Managed Trust Securities, or Currency Warrants (as defined in Rule 5711(a) - (k)), or any other UTP Derivative Security (as defined in Rule 5740).

(B) - (E) No Change.

\* \* \* \* \*

# 5615. Exemptions from Certain Corporate Governance Requirements

\* \* \* \* \*

(a) Exemptions to the Corporate Governance Requirements

(1) - (5) No Change.

(6) Issuers of Non- Voting Preferred Securities, Debt Securities and Derivative Securities

(A) No Change.

(B) For the purposes of this Rule 5600 Series only, the term "Derivative Securities" is defined as the following: Exchange Traded Fund[s] <u>Shares (Rule 5704), [</u>consisting of ]Portfolio Depository Receipts and Index Fund Shares (Rule 5705); Equity Index-Linked Securities (Rule 5710(k)(i)), Commodity-Linked Securities (Rule 5710(k)(ii)), Fixed

Income Index-Linked Securities (5710(k)(iii)), Futures-Linked Securities (5710(k)(iv)), Multifactor Index-Linked Securities (5710(k)(v)), Index-Linked Exchangeable Notes (Rule 5711(a)), Equity Gold Shares (Rule 5711(b)), Trust Certificates (Rule 5711(c)), Commodity-Based Trust Shares (Rule 5711(d)), Currency Trust Shares (Rule 5711(e)), Commodity Index Trust Shares (Rule 5711(f)), Commodity Futures Trust Shares (Rule 5711(g)), Partnership Units (Rule 5711(h)), Managed Trust Securities (Rule 5711(j)), SEEDS (Rule 5715), Trust Issued Receipts (Rule 5720), Managed Fund Shares (Rule 5735), and NextShares (Rule 5745). Derivative Securities are subject to certain exemptions to the Rule 5600 Series as described in Rule 5615(a)(6).

(b) - (c) No Change.

\* \* \* \* \*

## 5704. Exchange Traded Fund Shares

(a) Exchange Traded Fund Shares

(1) Definitions. For the purpose of this rule, the following terms shall have the meaning herein specified:

(A) Derivative Securities Product. For the purposes of this rule, the term "Derivative Securities Product" means a security that meets the definition of "derivative securities product" in Rule 19b-4(e) under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934.

(B) Exchange Traded Funds. For the purposes of this rule, the term "Exchange Traded Fund" has the same meaning as the term "exchange-traded fund" found in Rule 6c-11 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("Rule 6c-11"). In the case of an Exchange Traded Fund that is not currently listed on a national securities exchange, the portion of the definition found in Rule 6c-11 requiring such listing will become applicable if the Exchange Traded Fund is listed on a national securities exchange.

(C) Exchange Traded Fund Share. For the purposes of this rule, the term "Exchange Traded Fund Share" has the same meaning as found in Rule 6c-11.

(D) Reporting Authority. The term "Reporting Authority" in respect of a particular series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares means Nasdaq, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Nasdaq, or an institution or reporting service designated by Nasdaq or its subsidiary as the official source for calculating and reporting information relating to such series, including, but not limited to, any current index or portfolio value; the current value of the portfolio of any securities required to be deposited in connection with issuance of Exchange Traded Fund Shares; the amount of any dividend equivalent payment or cash distribution to holders of Exchange Traded Fund Shares, net asset value, and other information relating to the issuance, redemption or trading of Exchange Traded Fund Shares.

Nothing in this paragraph shall imply that an institution or reporting service that is the source for calculating and reporting information relating to Exchange Traded Fund

Shares must be designated by Nasdaq; the term "Reporting Authority" shall not refer to an institution or reporting service not so designated.

(b) Nasdaq may approve a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares for listing and trading pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, provided each series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares is eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 and must satisfy the requirements of this Rule on an initial and continued listing basis.

(1) A Derivative Securities Product listed under this Rule does not need to separately meet either the initial or continued listing requirements of any other Exchange rules.

(2) Initial and Continued Listing. The requirements of Rule 6c-11 must be satisfied on an initial and continued listing basis. Except for paragraph (A) below, such securities must also satisfy the follow criteria on an initial and continued listing basis:

(A) Initial Shares Outstanding. For each series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares, Nasdaq will establish a minimum number of Exchange Traded Fund Shares required to be outstanding at the time of commencement of trading on Nasdaq.

(B) Index Calculation and Dissemination. All requirements set forth in this paragraph must be satisfied on both an initial and continued listing basis.

(i) If the underlying index is maintained by a broker-dealer or fund advisor, the brokerdealer or fund advisor shall erect and maintain a "fire wall" around the personnel who have access to information concerning changes and adjustments to the index and the index shall be calculated by a third party who is not a broker-dealer or fund advisor.

(ii) Any advisory committee, supervisory board, or similar entity that advises a Reporting Authority or that makes decisions on the index composition, methodology and related matters, must implement and maintain, or be subject to, procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material non-public information regarding the applicable index.

(C) Regular market session trading will occur between 9:30 a.m. and either 4:00 p.m. or 4:15 p.m. for each series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares, as specified by Nasdaq. In addition, Nasdaq may designate a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares for trading during a pre-market session beginning at 4:00 a.m. and/or a post-market session ending at 8:00 p.m.

(D) Nasdaq may list and trade a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares based on one or more foreign or domestic indexes or portfolios. Each series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares based on each particular index or portfolio, or combination thereof, shall be designated as a separate series and shall be identified by a unique symbol. The components that are included in an index or portfolio on which a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares is based shall be selected by such person, which may be Nasdaq or an agent or wholly-owned subsidiary thereof, as shall have authorized use of such index or portfolio. Such index or portfolio may be revised from time to time as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to maintain the quality and character of the index or portfolio.

(E) Nasdaq will obtain a representation from the Exchange Traded Fund that the net asset value per share for each series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares will be calculated daily and will be made available to all market participants at the same time.

(3) Suspension of trading and removal. Nasdaq will consider the suspension of trading in, and will initiate delisting proceedings under the Rule 5800 Series of, a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares under any of the following circumstances:

(A) if the series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares is no longer eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 or if any of the other requirements set forth in this rule are not continuously maintained;

(B) if, following the initial twelve month period after commencement of trading on Nasdaq of a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares, there are fewer than 50 beneficial holders of such series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares;

(C) if the value of the index or portfolio of securities on which the series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares is based is no longer calculated or available or an interruption to the dissemination persists past the trading day in which it occurred or the index or portfolio on which the series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares is based is replaced with a new index or portfolio, unless the new index or portfolio meets the requirements of this Rule 5705(b) for listing either pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (including the filing of a Form 19b-4(e) with the Commission) or by Commission approval of a filing pursuant to Section 19(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934;

(D) if Nasdaq files separate proposals under Section 19(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, any of the statements or representations regarding (a) the index composition; (b) the description of the portfolio; (c) limitations on portfolio holdings or reference assets; (d) dissemination and availability of the index or intraday indicative values; or (e) the applicability of Nasdaq listing rules specified in such proposals are not continuously maintained as referenced in subsection (h) of this rule;

(E) if such other event shall occur or condition exists which in the opinion of Nasdaq, makes further dealings on Nasdaq inadvisable.

(c) Surveillance Procedures. Nasdaq will implement and maintain written surveillance procedures for Exchange Traded Fund Shares.

(d) Termination. Upon termination of an Exchange Traded Fund, Nasdaq requires that each series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares issued in connection with such entity be removed from listing.

(e) Nasdaq requires that Members provide to all purchasers of a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of such securities, in a form prepared by the open-end management investment company issuing such securities, not later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in such series is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, Members shall include such a written description with any sales material relating to an Exchange Traded Fund that is provided to customers or the public. Any other written materials provided by a Member to customers or the public making specific reference to a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares as an investment vehicle must include a statement in substantially the following form: "A circular describing the terms and characteristics of [a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares] has been prepared by the [open-end management investment company name] and is available from your broker or Nasdaq. It is recommended that you obtain and review such circular before purchasing [a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares]. In addition, upon request you may obtain from your broker a prospectus for [a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares]."

A Member carrying an omnibus account for a non-Member broker-dealer is required to inform such non-Member that execution of an order to purchase a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares for such omnibus account will be deemed to constitute agreement by the non-Member to make such written description available to its customers on the same terms as are directly applicable to Members and member organizations under this rule.

Upon request of a customer, a Member shall also provide a prospectus for the particular series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares.

(f) Neither Nasdaq, the Reporting Authority, nor any agent of Nasdaq shall have any liability for damages, claims, losses or expenses caused by any errors, omissions, or delays in calculating or disseminating any current index or portfolio value, the current value of the portfolio of securities required to be deposited to the open-end management investment company in connection with issuance of a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares; the amount of any dividend equivalent payment or cash distribution to holders of a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares; net asset value; or other information relating to the purchase, redemption or trading of a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares, resulting from any negligent act or omission by Nasdaq, the Reporting Authority or any agent of Nasdaq, or any act, condition or cause beyond the reasonable control of Nasdaq, its agent, or the Reporting Authority, including, but not limited to, an act of God; fire; flood; extraordinary weather conditions; war; insurrection; riot; strike; accident; action of government; communications or power failure; equipment or software malfunction; or any error, omission or delay in the reports of transactions in one or more underlying securities.

(g) Nasdaq may approve a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares for listing and trading pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that is not eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 provided the series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares satisfies the requirements of Rule 5705(b) or Rule 5735, as applicable, and the Exchange Traded Fund has received an exemptive relief order under the Investment Company Act of 1940.

(h) Nasdaq may submit a rule filing pursuant to Section 19(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to permit the listing and trading of a series of Exchange Traded Fund Shares that is not eligible to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 and does not satisfy the requirements of Rule 5705(b) or Rule 5735, as applicable. Any of the statements or representations regarding (a) the index composition; (b) the description of the portfolio; (c) limitations on portfolio holdings or reference assets; (d) dissemination and availability of the index or intraday indicative values; or (e) the applicability of Nasdaq listing rules specified in such proposals constitute continued listing standards.

(i) A Derivative Securities Product that has previously been approved for listing on the Exchange pursuant to the generic listing requirements specified in Rule 5705(b) or Rule 5735(b)(1), or pursuant to a proposed rule change filed and approved or subject to a notice of effectiveness by the Commission, will be deemed to be considered approved for listing under this Rule if such Derivative Securities Product is both (1) permitted to operate in reliance on Rule 6c-11 under the 1940 Act, and (2) the prior exemptive relief under the 1940 Act for such Derivative Securities Product has been rescinded. At such time, the continued listing requirements applicable to such previously-listed Derivative Securities Products will be those specified in paragraph (b) of this Rule. Any requirements for listing as specified in Rule 5705(b) or 5735(b)(1), or an approval order or notice of effectiveness of a separate proposed rule change that differ from the requirements of this Rule will no longer be applicable to such Derivative Securities Products.

\* \* \* \* \*