

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT

United States District Court
District of Connecticut
FILED AT BRIDGEPORT
5/20/2015
Robert D. Tabor
By: [Signature] Deputy Clerk

----- X
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA :
v. :
BARCLAYS PLC, :
Defendant. :
----- X

Criminal No.

Filed:

Violation: 15 U.S.C. § 1

3:15CR77(SRW)

PLEA AGREEMENT

The United States of America and Barclays PLC ("defendant"), a financial services holding company organized and existing under the laws of England and Wales, hereby enter into the following Plea Agreement pursuant to Rule 11(c)(1)(C) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure ("Fed. R. Crim. P."):

RIGHTS OF DEFENDANT

1. The defendant understands its rights:
 - (a) to be represented by an attorney;
 - (b) to be charged by Indictment;
 - (c) as a corporation organized and existing under the laws of England and Wales, to decline to accept service of the Summons in this case, and to contest the jurisdiction of the United States to prosecute this case against it in the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut, and to contest venue in that District;
 - (d) to plead not guilty to any criminal charge brought against it;

(e) to have a trial by jury, at which it would be presumed not guilty of the charge and the United States would have to prove every essential element of the charged offense beyond a reasonable doubt for it to be found guilty;

(f) to confront and cross-examine witnesses against it and to subpoena witnesses in its defense at trial;

(g) to appeal its conviction if it is found guilty; and

(h) to appeal the imposition of sentence against it.

**AGREEMENT TO PLEAD GUILTY
AND WAIVE CERTAIN RIGHTS**

2. The defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives the rights set out in Paragraph 1(b)-(g) above. The defendant also knowingly and voluntarily waives the right to file any appeal, any collateral attack, or any other writ or motion, including but not limited to an appeal under 18 U.S.C. § 3742, that challenges the sentence imposed by the Court if that sentence is consistent with or below the Recommended Sentence in Paragraph 12 of this Plea Agreement, regardless of how the sentence is determined by the Court. This agreement does not affect the rights or obligations of the United States as set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3742(b)-(c). Nothing in this paragraph, however, will act as a bar to the defendant perfecting any legal remedies it may otherwise have on appeal or collateral attack respecting claims of ineffective assistance of counsel or prosecutorial misconduct. The defendant agrees that there is currently no known evidence of ineffective assistance of counsel or prosecutorial misconduct. Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 7(b), the defendant will waive indictment and plead guilty to a one-count Information to be filed in the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut. The Information will charge that the defendant and its co-conspirators entered into and engaged in a combination and

conspiracy to fix, stabilize, maintain, increase or decrease the price of, and rig bids and offers for, the euro/U.S. dollar (“EUR/USD”) currency pair exchanged in the foreign currency exchange spot market (“FX Spot Market”), which began at least as early as December 2007 and continued until at least January 2013, by agreeing to eliminate competition in the purchase and sale of the EUR/USD currency pair in the United States and elsewhere, in violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1. The Information will further charge that the defendant knowingly joined and participated in the conspiracy from at least as early as December 2007 until at least August 2012.

3. The defendant will plead guilty to the criminal charge described in Paragraph 2 above pursuant to the terms of this Plea Agreement and will make a factual admission of guilt to the Court in accordance with Fed. R. Crim. P. 11, as set forth in Paragraph 4 below.

FACTUAL BASIS FOR OFFENSE CHARGED

4. Had this case gone to trial, the United States would have presented evidence sufficient to prove the following facts:

(a) For purposes of this Plea Agreement, the “Relevant Period” is that period from at least as early as December 2007 and continuing until at least January 2013.

(b) The FX Spot Market is a global market in which participants buy and sell currencies. In the FX Spot Market, currencies are traded against one another in pairs. The EUR/USD currency pair is the most traded currency pair by volume, with a worldwide trading volume that can exceed \$500 billion per day, in a market involving the exchange of currencies valued at approximately \$2 trillion a day during the Relevant Period.

(c) The FX Spot Market is an over-the-counter market and, as such, is decentralized and requires financial institutions to act as dealers willing to buy or sell a currency. Dealers, also known throughout the FX Spot Market as market makers, therefore play a critical role in ensuring the continued functioning of the market.

(d) During the Relevant Period, the defendant and certain of its Related Entities, as defined in Paragraph 17 of this Plea Agreement, employing more than 5,000 individuals worldwide, acted as a dealer, in the United States and elsewhere, for currency traded in the FX Spot Market.

(e) A dealer in the FX Spot Market quotes prices at which the dealer stands ready to buy or sell the currency. These price quotes are expressed as units of a given currency, known as the “counter” currency, which would be required to purchase one unit of a “base” currency, which is often the U.S. dollar and so reflects an “exchange rate” between the currencies. Dealers generally provide price quotes to four decimal points, with the final digit known as a “percentage in point” or “pip.” A dealer may provide price quotes to potential customers in the form of a “bid/ask spread,” which represents the difference between the price at which the dealer is willing to buy the currency from the customer (the “bid”) and the price at which the dealer is willing to sell the currency to the customer (the “ask”). A dealer may quote a spread, or may provide just the bid to a potential customer inquiring about selling currency or just the ask to a potential customer inquiring about buying currency.

(f) A customer wishing to trade currency may transact with a dealer by placing an order through the dealer’s internal, proprietary electronic trading platform or by contacting the dealer’s salesperson to obtain a quote. When a customer accepts a

dealer's quote, that dealer now bears the risk for any change in the currency's price that may occur before the dealer is able to trade with other dealers in the "interdealer market" to fill the order by buying the currency the dealer has agreed to sell to the customer, or by selling the currency the dealer has agreed to buy from the customer. A dealer may also take and execute orders from customers such as "fix orders," which are orders to trade at a subsequently determined "fix rate." When a dealer accepts a fix order from a customer, the dealer agrees to fill the order at a rate to be determined at a subsequent fix time based on trading in the interdealer market. Two such "fixes" used to determine a fix rate are the European Central Bank fix, which occurs each trading day at 2:15 PM (CET) and the World Markets/Reuters fix, which occurs each trading day at 4:00 PM (GMT).

(g) During the Relevant Period, the defendant and its corporate co-conspirators, which were also financial services firms acting as dealers in the FX Spot Market, entered into and engaged in a conspiracy to fix, stabilize, maintain, increase or decrease the price of, and rig bids and offers for, the EUR/USD currency pair exchanged in the FX Spot Market by agreeing to eliminate competition in the purchase and sale of the EUR/USD currency pair in the United States and elsewhere. The defendant, through two of its EUR/USD traders, participated in the conspiracy from at least as early as December 2007 and continuing until at least August 2012.

(h) In furtherance of the conspiracy, the defendant and its co-conspirators engaged in communications, including near daily conversations, some of which were in code, in an exclusive electronic chat room, which chat room participants, as well as others in the FX Spot Market, referred to as "The Cartel" or "The Mafia." Participation in this electronic chat room was limited to specific EUR/USD traders, each of whom was

employed, at certain times, by a co-conspirator dealer in the FX Spot Market. The defendant participated in this electronic chat room through one of its EUR/USD traders from December 2007 until July 2011, and through a second EUR/USD trader from December 2011 until August 2012.

(i) The defendant and its co-conspirators carried out the conspiracy to eliminate competition in the purchase and sale of the EUR/USD currency pair by various means and methods including, in certain instances, by: (i) coordinating the trading of the EUR/USD currency pair in connection with European Central Bank and World Markets/Reuters benchmark currency “fixes” which occurred at 2:15 PM (CET) and 4:00 PM (GMT) each trading day; and (ii) refraining from certain trading behavior, by withholding bids and offers, when one conspirator held an open risk position, so that the price of the currency traded would not move in a direction adverse to the conspirator with an open risk position.

(j) During the Relevant Period, the defendant and its co-conspirators purchased and sold substantial quantities of the EUR/USD currency pair in a continuous and uninterrupted flow of interstate and U.S. import trade and commerce to customers and counterparties located in U.S. states other than the U.S. states or foreign countries in which the defendant agreed to purchase or sell these currencies. The business activities of the defendant and its co-conspirators in connection with the purchase and sale of the EUR/USD currency pair, were the subject of this conspiracy and were within the flow of, and substantially affected, interstate and U.S. import trade and commerce. The conspiracy had a direct effect on trade and commerce within the United States, as well as

on U.S. import trade and commerce, and was carried out, in part, within the United States.

(k) Acts in furtherance of the charged offense were carried out within the District of Connecticut and elsewhere.

ELEMENTS OF THE OFFENSE

5. The elements of the charged offense are that:

- (a) the conspiracy described in the Information existed at or about the time alleged;
- (b) the defendant knowingly became a member of the conspiracy; and
- (c) the conspiracy described in the Information either substantially affected interstate and U.S. import commerce in goods or services or occurred within the flow of interstate and U.S. import commerce in goods and services.

POSSIBLE MAXIMUM SENTENCE

6. The defendant understands that the statutory maximum penalty which may be imposed against it upon conviction for a violation of Section One of the Sherman Antitrust Act is a fine in an amount equal to the greatest of:

- (a) \$100 million (15 U.S.C. § 1);
- (b) twice the gross pecuniary gain the conspirators derived from the crime (18 U.S.C. § 3571(c) and (d)); or
- (c) twice the gross pecuniary loss caused to the victims of the crime by the conspirators (18 U.S.C. § 3571(c) and (d)).

7. In addition, the defendant understands that:

(a) pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3561(c)(1), the Court may impose a term of probation of at least one year, but not more than five years;

(b) pursuant to § 8B1.1 of the United States Sentencing Guidelines (“U.S.S.G.,” “Sentencing Guidelines,” or “Guidelines”) or 18 U.S.C. § 3563(b)(2) or 3663(a)(3), the Court may order it to pay restitution to the victims of the offense charged; and

(c) pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3013(a)(2)(B), the Court is required to order the defendant to pay a \$400 special assessment upon conviction for the charged crime.

SENTENCING GUIDELINES

8. The defendant understands that the Sentencing Guidelines are advisory, not mandatory, but that the Court must consider, in determining and imposing sentence, the Guidelines Manual in effect on the date of sentencing unless that Manual provides for greater punishment than the Manual in effect on the last date that the offense of conviction was committed, in which case the Court must consider the Guidelines Manual in effect on the last date that the offense of conviction was committed. The parties agree there is no *ex post facto* issue under the November 1, 2014 Guidelines Manual. The Court must also consider the other factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. §§ 3553(a), 3572(a), in determining and imposing sentence. The defendant understands that the Guidelines determinations will be made by the Court by a preponderance of the evidence standard. The defendant understands that although the Court is not ultimately bound to impose a sentence within the applicable Guidelines range, its sentence must be reasonable based upon consideration of all relevant sentencing factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. §§ 3553(a), 3572(a).

**EFFECT OF CONDUCT ON DEFENDANT'S
NON-PROSECUTION AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES**

9. On June 26, 2012, the defendant entered into a non-prosecution agreement with the Criminal Division, Fraud Section of the United States Department of Justice related to the defendant's submissions of benchmark interest rates, including the London InterBank Offered Rate (known as LIBOR) (the "NPA"). The defendant was the first to cooperate in a meaningful way in the United States' investigation of LIBOR misconduct, and was the first to resolve the LIBOR investigation with the United States.

10. The NPA had a two-year term, and prohibited the defendant from committing any United States crime during that term. All of the defendant's conduct described in this Plea Agreement constituted a United States crime, and some of that conduct occurred during the pendency of the NPA.

11. The United States and the defendant agree that defendant will pay an additional penalty of \$60 million, separate and apart from the criminal fine attributable to the conduct described in Paragraph 4. This penalty is based on the defendant committing criminal conduct that violated the NPA. The defendant agrees to pay the full penalty amount to the United States Treasury within 5 days of the execution of this Plea Agreement. The defendant agrees that no tax deduction will be sought in connection with this payment. The defendant agrees that it could be declared in breach of its NPA and prosecuted based on the conduct described in Paragraphs 4 and 16. The United States is exercising its discretion not to declare a breach and prosecute the defendant for the conduct covered by the NPA based on the following considerations: the defendant is entering into a guilty plea as described herein for the conduct described in Paragraph 4, is paying an accompanying fine of \$650 million, has cooperated and has agreed to

specific remediation with respect to the conduct described in paragraphs 4 and 16, and has paid a penalty, and had collateral consequences, as a result of its NPA.

SENTENCING AGREEMENT

12. Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(c)(1)(C) and subject to the full, truthful, and continuing cooperation of the defendant and its Related Entities, as defined in Paragraphs 17 and 18 of this Plea Agreement, the United States and the defendant agree that the appropriate disposition of this case is, and agree to recommend jointly that the Court impose, a sentence requiring the defendant to pay to the United States a criminal fine of \$650 million, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3571(d), payable in full before the fifteenth (15th) day after the date of judgment, no order of restitution, and a term of probation of 3 years (the “Recommended Sentence”). The Recommended Sentence is separate and apart from the agreed-upon LIBOR penalty of \$60 million referred to in Paragraph 11 above. The parties agree not to seek at the sentencing hearing any sentence outside of the Guidelines range nor any Guidelines adjustment for any reason that is not set forth in this Plea Agreement. The parties further agree that the Recommended Sentence set forth in this Plea Agreement is reasonable.

(a) The defendant understands that the Court will order it to pay a \$400 special assessment, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3013(a)(2)(B), in addition to any fine imposed.

(b) In light of the availability of civil causes of action, which potentially provide for a recovery of a multiple of actual damages, the Recommended Sentence does not include a restitution order for the offense charged in the Information.

(c) The United States and the defendant agree that the Court shall order a term of probation, which should include at least the following conditions, the violation of which is subject to 18 U.S.C. § 3565:

(i) The defendant shall not commit another crime in violation of the federal laws of the United States or engage in the conduct set forth in Paragraph 4(g)-(i) above during the term of probation. On a date not later than that on which the defendant pleads guilty (currently scheduled for Wednesday, May 20, 2015), the defendant shall prominently post on its website a retrospective disclosure (“Disclosure Notice”) of its conduct set forth in Paragraph 16 in the form agreed to by the Department (a copy of the Disclosure Notice is attached as Attachment C hereto), and shall maintain the Disclosure Notice on its website during the term of probation. The defendant shall make best efforts to send the Disclosure Notice not later than thirty (30) days after the defendant pleads guilty to its spot FX customers and counterparties, other than customers and counterparties who the defendant can establish solely engaged in buying or selling foreign currency through the defendant’s consumer bank units and not the defendant’s spot FX sales or trading staff.

(ii) The defendant shall notify the probation officer upon learning of the commencement of any federal criminal investigation in which the defendant is a target, or federal criminal prosecution against it.

(iii) The defendant shall implement and shall continue to implement a compliance program designed to prevent and detect the conduct set forth in Paragraph 4 (g)-(i) above and, absent appropriate disclosure, the conduct in Paragraph 16 below throughout its operations including those of its affiliates and subsidiaries and provide an

annual report to the probation officer and the United States on its progress in implementing the program, commencing on a schedule agreed to by the parties.

(iv) The defendant shall further strengthen its compliance and internal controls as required by the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, the United Kingdom Financial Conduct Authority, and any other regulatory or enforcement agencies that have addressed the conduct set forth in Paragraph 4 (g)-(i) above and Paragraph 16 below, and report to the probation officer and the United States, upon request, regarding its remediation and implementation of any compliance program and internal controls, policies, and procedures that relate to the conduct described in Paragraph 4 (g)-(i) above and Paragraph 16 below. This strengthening, remediation, and implementation shall include, but will not be limited to, thorough reviews of the activities and decision-making by employees of the defendant's legal and compliance functions with respect to the historical conduct described in Paragraphs 4 (g)-(i). In order to assess the defendant's stated commitment to ongoing remediation efforts, the defendant shall promptly report all its remediation efforts as to the above individuals, and all reasons for them, to the United States. Moreover, the defendant agrees that it has no objection to any regulatory agencies providing to the United States any information or reports generated by such agencies or by the defendant relating to conduct described in Paragraph 4 (g)-(i) above or Paragraph 16 below. Such information and reports will likely include proprietary, financial, confidential, and competitive business information, and public disclosure of the information and reports could discourage cooperation, impede pending or potential government investigations, and thus undermine the objective of the United States in obtaining such reports. For these reasons, among others, the information and reports and

the contents thereof are intended to remain and shall remain nonpublic, except as otherwise agreed to by the parties in writing, or except to the extent that the United States determines in its sole discretion that disclosure would be in furtherance of the United States' discharge of its duties and responsibilities or is otherwise required by law.

(v) The defendant understands that during the term of probation it shall: (1) report to the Antitrust Division all credible information regarding criminal violations of U.S. antitrust laws by the defendant or any of its employees as to which the defendant's Board of Directors, management (that is, all supervisors within the bank), or legal and compliance personnel are aware; and (2) report to the Criminal Division, Fraud Section all credible information regarding criminal violations of U.S. law concerning fraud, including securities or commodities fraud by the defendant or any of its employees as to which the defendant's Board of Directors, management (that is, all supervisors within the bank), or legal and compliance personnel are aware.

(vi) The defendant shall bring to the Antitrust Division's attention all federal criminal investigations in which the defendant is identified as a subject or a target, and all administrative or regulatory proceedings or civil actions brought by any federal or state governmental authority in the United States against the defendant or its employees, to the extent that such investigations, proceedings or actions allege facts that could form the basis of a criminal violation of U.S. antitrust laws, and the defendant shall also bring to the Criminal Division, Fraud Section's attention all federal criminal or regulatory investigations in which the defendant is identified as a subject or a target, and all administrative or regulatory proceedings or civil actions brought by any federal governmental authority in the United States against the defendant or its employees, to the

extent such investigations, proceedings or actions allege violations of U.S. law concerning fraud, including securities or commodities fraud.

(d) The parties agree that the term and conditions of probation imposed by the Court will not void this Plea Agreement.

(e) The defendant intends to file an application for a prohibited transaction exemption with the United States Department of Labor ("Department of Labor") requesting that the defendant, its subsidiaries, and affiliates be allowed to continue to be qualified as a Qualified Professional Asset Manager pursuant to Prohibited Transactions Exemption 84-14. The defendant will seek such exemption in an expeditious manner and will provide all information requested of it by the Department of Labor in a timely manner. The decision regarding whether or not to grant an exemption, temporary or otherwise, is committed to the Department of Labor, and the United States takes no position on whether or not an exemption should be granted; however, if requested, the United States will advise the Department of Labor of the fact, manner, and extent of the cooperation of the defendant and its Related Entities, as defined in Paragraphs 17 and 18 of this Plea Agreement, and the relevant facts regarding the charged conduct. If the Department of Labor denies the exemption, or takes any other action adverse to the defendant, the defendant may not withdraw its plea or otherwise be released from any of its obligations under this Plea Agreement. The United States agrees that it will support a motion or request by the defendant that sentencing in this matter be adjourned until the Department of Labor has issued a ruling on the defendant's request for an exemption, temporary or otherwise, so long as the defendant is proceeding with the Department of Labor in an expeditious manner. To the extent that this Plea Agreement triggers other

regulatory exclusions, disqualifications or penalties, the United States likewise agrees that, if requested, it will advise the appropriate officials of any governmental agency considering such action, or any waiver or exemption therefrom, of the fact, manner, and extent of the cooperation of the defendant and its Related Entities and the relevant facts regarding the charged conduct as a matter for that agency to consider before determining what action, if any, to take.

(f) The United States contends that had this case gone to trial, the United States would have presented evidence to prove that the gain derived from or the loss resulting from the charged offense is sufficient to justify the Recommended Sentence set forth in Paragraph 12 of this Plea Agreement, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3571(d). For purposes of this plea and sentencing only, the defendant waives its right to contest this calculation.

(g) The defendant agrees to waive its right to the issuance of a Presentence Investigation Report pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 32 and the defendant and the United States agree that the information contained in this Plea Agreement and the Information may be sufficient to enable the Court to meaningfully exercise its sentencing authority under 18 U.S.C. § 3553, pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 32(c)(1)(A)(ii). Except as set forth in this Plea Agreement, the parties reserve all other rights to make sentencing recommendations and to respond to motions and arguments by the opposition.

13. The United States and the defendant agree that the applicable Guidelines fine range exceeds the fine contained in the Recommended Sentence set forth in Paragraph 12 of this Plea Agreement. The parties agree that they will request the Court to impose the Recommended Sentence set forth in Paragraph 12 of this Plea Agreement in consideration of the Guidelines fine

range and other factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. §§ 3553(a), 3572(a). Subject to the full, truthful, and continuing cooperation of the defendant and its Related Entities, as defined in Paragraphs 17 and 18 of this Plea Agreement, and prior to sentencing in this case, the United States agrees that it will make a motion, pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 8C4.1 for a downward departure from the Guidelines fine range because of the defendant's and its Related Entities' substantial assistance in the United States' investigation and prosecution of violations of federal criminal law in the FX Spot Market. The parties further agree that the Recommended Sentence is sufficient, but not greater than necessary to comply with the purposes set forth in 18 U.S.C. §§ 3553(a), 3572(a), in considering, among other factors, the substantial improvements to the defendant's compliance and remediation program to prevent recurrence of the charged offense.

14. Subject to the full, truthful, and continuing cooperation of the defendant and its Related Entities, as defined in Paragraphs 17 and 18 of this Plea Agreement, and prior to sentencing in the case, the United States will fully advise the Court of the fact, manner, and extent of the defendant's and its Related Entities' cooperation, and their commitment to prospective cooperation with the United States' investigation and prosecutions of violations of federal criminal law in the FX Spot Market, all material facts relating to the defendant's involvement in the charged offense and all other relevant conduct.

15. The United States and the defendant understand that the Court retains complete discretion to accept or reject the Recommended Sentence provided for in Paragraph 12 of this Plea Agreement.

(a) If the Court does not accept the Recommended Sentence, the United States and the defendant agree that this Plea Agreement, except for Paragraph 15(b) below, will be rendered void.

(b) If the Court does not accept the Recommended Sentence, the defendant will be free to withdraw its guilty plea (Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(c)(5) and (d)). If the defendant withdraws its plea of guilty, this Plea Agreement, the guilty plea, and any statement made in the course of any proceedings under Fed. R. Crim. P. 11 regarding the guilty plea or this Plea Agreement, or made in the course of plea discussions with an attorney for the United States, will not be admissible against the defendant in any criminal or civil proceeding, except as otherwise provided in Federal Rule of Evidence 410. In addition, the defendant agrees that, if it withdraws its guilty plea pursuant to this subparagraph of the Plea Agreement, the statute of limitations period for any offense referred to in Paragraph 19 of this Plea Agreement, and any conduct covered by the NPA, will be tolled for the period between the date of signature of this Plea Agreement and the date the defendant withdrew its guilty plea or for a period of sixty (60) days after the date of signature of this Plea Agreement, whichever period is greater. In addition, the defendant agrees that in the event it withdraws its guilty plea pursuant to this subparagraph of this Plea Agreement, the United States is free to exercise its discretion under the terms of the NPA to declare the defendant in breach of the NPA based on the conduct described in Paragraphs 4 and 16 (subparts i – iii) herein, and prosecute the defendant for the conduct covered by the NPA.

OTHER RELEVANT CONDUCT

16. In addition to its participation in a conspiracy to fix, stabilize, maintain, increase or decrease the price of, and rig bids and offers for, the EUR/USD currency pair exchanged in the FX Spot Market, the defendant, through its currency traders and sales staff, also engaged in other currency trading and sales practices in conducting FX Spot Market transactions with

customers via telephone, email, and/or electronic chat, to wit: (i) intentionally working customers' limit orders one or more levels, or "pips," away from the price confirmed with the customer; (ii) including sales markup, through the use of live hand signals, to prices given to customers that communicated with sales staff on open phone lines; (iii) accepting limit orders from customers and then informing those customers that their orders could not be filled, in whole or in part, when in fact the defendant was able to fill the order but decided not to do so because the defendant expected it would be more profitable not to do so; and (iv) disclosing non-public information regarding the identity and trading activity of the defendant's customers to other banks or other market participants, in order to generate revenue for the defendant at the expense of its customers.

DEFENDANT'S COOPERATION

17. The defendant and its Related Entities as defined below shall cooperate fully and truthfully with the United States in the investigation and prosecution of this matter, involving: (a) the purchase and sale of the EUR/USD currency pair, or any other currency pair, in the FX Spot Market, or any foreign exchange forward, foreign exchange option or other foreign exchange derivative, or other financial product (to the extent disclosed to the United States); (b) the conduct set forth in Paragraph 16 of this Plea Agreement; and (c) any litigation or other proceedings arising or resulting from such investigation to which the United States is a party. Such investigation and prosecution includes, but is not limited to, an investigation, prosecution, litigation, or other proceeding regarding obstruction of, the making of a false statement or declaration in, the commission of perjury or subornation of perjury in, the commission of contempt in, or conspiracy to commit such conduct or offenses in, an investigation and prosecution. The defendant's Related Entities for purposes of this Plea Agreement are entities in

which the defendant had, indirectly or directly, a greater than 50% ownership interest as of the date of signature of this Plea Agreement, including but not limited to Barclays Bank PLC and Barclays Capital Services Ltd. The full, truthful, and continuing cooperation of the defendant and its Related Entities shall include, but not be limited to:

(a) producing to the United States all documents, factual information, and other materials, wherever located, not protected under the attorney-client privilege or work product doctrine, in the possession, custody, or control of the defendant or any of its Related Entities, that are requested by the United States; and

(b) using its best efforts to secure the full, truthful, and continuing cooperation of the current or former directors, officers and employees of the defendant and its Related Entities as may be requested by the United States, including making these persons available in the United States and at other mutually agreed-upon locations, at the defendant's expense, for interviews and the provision of testimony in grand jury, trial, and other judicial proceedings. This obligation includes, but is not limited to, sworn testimony before grand juries or in trials, as well as interviews with law enforcement and regulatory authorities. Cooperation under this paragraph shall include identification of witnesses who, to the knowledge of the defendant, may have material information regarding the matters under investigation.

18. For the duration of any term of probation ordered by the Court, the defendant also shall cooperate fully with the United States and any other law enforcement authority or government agency designated by the United States, in a manner consistent with applicable law and regulations, with regard to all investigations identified in Attachment A (filed under seal) to this Plea Agreement. The defendant shall, to the extent consistent with the foregoing, truthfully

disclose to the United States all factual information not protected by a valid claim of attorney-client privilege or work product doctrine protection with respect to the activities, that are the subject of the investigations identified in Attachment A, of the defendant and its Related Entities. This obligation of truthful disclosure includes the obligation of the defendant to provide to the United States, upon request, any non-privileged or non-protected document, record, or other tangible evidence about which the aforementioned authorities and agencies shall inquire of the defendant, subject to the direction of the United States.

19. Subject to the full, truthful, and continuing cooperation of the defendant and its Related Entities, as defined in Paragraphs 17 and 18 of this Plea Agreement, and upon the Court's acceptance of the guilty plea called for by this Plea Agreement and the imposition of the Recommended Sentence, the United States agrees that it will not bring further criminal charges, whether under Title 15 or Title 18, or other federal criminal statutes, against the defendant or any of its Related Entities:

(a) for any combination and conspiracy occurring before the date of signature of this Plea Agreement to fix, stabilize, maintain, increase or decrease the price of, and rig bids and offers for, the EUR/USD currency pair, or any other currency pair exchanged in the FX Spot Market, or any foreign exchange forward, foreign exchange option or other foreign exchange derivative, or other financial product (to the extent such financial product was disclosed to the United States, but excluding the investigation identified in Attachment B (filed under seal) to this Plea Agreement), and

(b) for the conduct specifically identified in Paragraph 16 of this Plea Agreement that the defendant disclosed to the United States and that occurred between January 1, 2009 and the date of signature of this Plea Agreement.

(c) The nonprosecution terms of Paragraph 19 of this Plea Agreement do not extend to any other product, activity, service or market of the defendant, and do not apply to (i) any acts of subornation of perjury (18 U.S.C. § 1622), making a false statement (18 U.S.C. § 1001), obstruction of justice (18 U.S.C. § 1503, *et seq*), contempt (18 U.S.C. §§ 401-402), or conspiracy to commit such offenses; (ii) civil matters of any kind; (iii) any violation of the federal tax or securities laws or conspiracy to commit such offenses; or (iv) any crime of violence.

REPRESENTATION BY COUNSEL

20. The defendant has been represented by counsel and is fully satisfied that its attorneys have provided competent legal representation. The defendant has thoroughly reviewed this Plea Agreement and acknowledges that counsel has advised it of the nature of the charge, any possible defenses to the charge, and the nature and range of possible sentences.

VOLUNTARY PLEA

21. The defendant's decision to enter into this Plea Agreement and to tender a plea of guilty is freely and voluntarily made and is not the result of force, threats, assurances, promises, or representations other than the representations contained in this Plea Agreement. The United States has made no promises or representations to the defendant as to whether the Court will accept or reject the recommendations contained within this Plea Agreement.

VIOLATION OF PLEA AGREEMENT

22. The defendant agrees that, should the United States determine in good faith, during the period that any investigation or prosecution covered by Paragraph 17 is pending, or during the period covered by Paragraph 18, that the defendant or any of its Related Entities has failed to provide full, truthful, and continuing cooperation, as defined in Paragraphs 17 and 18 of

this Plea Agreement respectively, or has otherwise violated any provision of this Plea Agreement, except for the conditions of probation set forth in Paragraphs 12(c)(i)-(vi), the violations of which are subject to 18 U.S.C. § 3565, the United States will notify counsel for the defendant in writing by personal or overnight delivery, email, or facsimile transmission and may also notify counsel by telephone of its intention to void any of its obligations under this Plea Agreement (except its obligations under this paragraph), and the defendant and its Related Entities will be subject to prosecution for any federal crime of which the United States has knowledge including, but not limited to, the substantive offenses relating to the investigation resulting in this Plea Agreement, as well as the conduct covered by the NPA. The defendant agrees that, in the event that the United States is released from its obligations under this Plea Agreement and brings criminal charges against the defendant or its Related Entities for any offense referred to in Paragraph 19 of this Plea Agreement, the statute of limitations period for such offense will be tolled for the period between the date of signature of this Plea Agreement and six (6) months after the date the United States gave notice of its intent to void its obligations under this Plea Agreement. In addition, the defendant agrees that in the event of a violation of the Plea Agreement, the United States is free to exercise its discretion under the terms of the NPA to declare the defendant in breach of the NPA based on the conduct described in Paragraphs 4 and 16 (subparts i-iii) herein, and prosecute the defendant for the conduct covered by the NPA.

23. The defendant understands and agrees that in any further prosecution of it or its Related Entities resulting from the release of the United States from its obligations under this Plea Agreement, because of the defendant's or its Related Entities' violation of this Plea Agreement, any documents, statements, information, testimony, or evidence provided by it, its

Related Entities, or current or former directors, officers, or employees of it or its Related Entities to attorneys or agents of the United States, federal grand juries or courts, and any leads derived therefrom, may be used against it or its Related Entities. In addition, the defendant unconditionally waives its right to challenge the use of such evidence in any such further prosecution, notwithstanding the protections of Federal Rule of Evidence 410.

ENTIRETY OF AGREEMENT

24. This Plea Agreement, Attachment A, Attachment B, and Attachment C constitute the entire agreement between the United States and the defendant concerning the disposition of the criminal charge in this case. This Plea Agreement cannot be modified except in writing, signed by the United States, the defendant and the defendant's counsel.

25. The undersigned is authorized to enter this Plea Agreement on behalf of the defendant as evidenced by the Resolution of the Board of Directors of the defendant attached to, and incorporated by reference in, this Plea Agreement.

26. The undersigned attorneys for the United States have been authorized by the Attorney General of the United States to enter this Plea Agreement on behalf of the United States.

27. A facsimile or PDF signature will be deemed an original signature for the purpose of executing this Plea Agreement. Multiple signature pages are authorized for the purpose of executing this Plea Agreement.

[REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

AGREED:

FOR BARCLAYS PLC:

Date: _____

By: _____

Matthew S. Fitzwater, Esq.
Americas Head of Litigation, Investigations
and Enforcement

Date: _____

By: _____

David H. Braff, Esq.
Yvonne S. Quinn, Esq.
Karen P. Seymour, Esq.
Alexander J. Willscher, Esq.
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, ANTITRUST DIVISION:

JEFFREY D. MARTINO
Chief, New York Office
Antitrust Division
United States Department of Justice

Date: 5/20/15

By: _____

Joseph Muoio, Trial Attorney
Bryan C. Bughman, Trial Attorney
Eric L. Schleef, Trial Attorney
Carrie A. Syme, Trial Attorney
George S. Baranko, Trial Attorney
Carsten M. Reichel, Trial Attorney

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, CRIMINAL DIVISION, FRAUD SECTION:

ANDREW WEISSMANN
Chief, Fraud Section
Criminal Division
United States Department of Justice

Date: 5/20/15

By: _____

Daniel A. Braun, Deputy Chief
Benjamin D. Singer, Deputy Chief
Albert B. Stieglitz, Jr., Assistant Chief
L. Rush Atkinson, Trial Attorney
Anna G. Kaminska, Trial Attorney
Sarah M. Hall, Trial Attorney

AGREED:

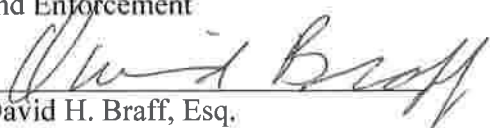
FOR BARCLAYS PLC:

Date: 5/19/15

By: 

Matthew S. Fitzwater, Esq.
Americas Head of Litigation, Investigations
and Enforcement

Date: 5/19/15

By: 

David H. Braff, Esq.
Yvonne S. Quinn, Esq.
Karen P. Seymour, Esq.
Alexander J. Willscher, Esq.
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

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Chief, New York Office
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FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, CRIMINAL DIVISION, FRAUD SECTION:

ANDREW WEISSMANN
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Criminal Division
United States Department of Justice

Date: _____

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Albert B. Stieglitz, Jr., Assistant Chief
L. Rush Atkinson, Trial Attorney
Anna G. Kaminska, Trial Attorney
Sarah M. Hall, Trial Attorney

BARCLAYS PLC
LIMITED CERTIFICATE OF CORPORATE RESOLUTION

I, Lawrence Dickinson, do hereby certify that I am the Corporate Secretary of Barclays PLC, a corporation duly organised and existing under the laws of the United Kingdom, and that the following is a complete and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of Barclays PLC at a meeting held on 12 May 2015 at which a quorum was present and resolved as follows:

To ensure that the Board was able to respond quickly to changing circumstances, it was proposed that the Board authorise a Committee comprising any two Directors and the Group General Counsel to jointly consider and, if thought fit, approve the final Settlements and Settlement Documents in relation to Project Buchanan and Project Willis.

Accordingly, after full and careful consideration of (i) the updates received by the Board regarding Project Buchanan and Project Willis and (ii) the draft Settlement Documents, taking account of the matters discussed at this meeting and the matters previously discussed by the Board, the Directors having considered their duties under the Companies Act 2006 and concluding that it was most likely to promote the success of the Company for the benefit of its members as a whole, IT WAS RESOLVED that:

- In order that the Board be able to respond quickly to changing circumstances, but noting that the current view of the Board is to approve the Settlements and the Settlement Documents, a Committee be and hereby is established to oversee the finalisation of and approve the settlements; and

- the Committee be vested with the full authority of the Board to consider and, if thought fit in light of the circumstances then pertaining, approve, execute and do or procure to be executed and done all acts it may be necessary or desirable to have approved, executed or done in connection with Project Buchanan and Project Willis, including, without limitation, to:

- determine in its absolute discretion the final terms of the Settlements and the Settlement Documents following full and careful consideration;

- authorise any person to plead guilty to a violation of the United States Sherman Act by Barclays PLC or Barclays Bank PLC;
- instruct the payment of any fines payable in connection with or arising from the Settlements, at such times and in such amounts as the Committee, in its sole discretion; may deem necessary or desirable;
- supervise the compilation, drafting and settling the terms of all documents including without limitation any announcement to be entered into, published, issued, despatched or released in connection with the Settlements and any revision thereof and any regulatory or similar application in connection therewith as the Committee deems appropriate (the Documents). The Committee is authorised to execute or authorise the publication, issue, despatch or release of such of the Documents as it may deem appropriate and to determine into which jurisdictions any Documents should be sent;
- approve all matters in relation to the Settlements and take all steps and to do all acts and things as the Committee, in its sole discretion, may deem necessary or desirable in connection with or arising from the Settlements (and any revision thereof) and the execution and implementation thereof; and
- delegate any of its powers to any one or more persons acting severally or jointly.

I further certify that the aforesaid resolution has not been amended or revoked in any respect and remains in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have executed this Certification on this 19th day of May, 2015.

By: 

Lawrence Dickinson
Corporate Secretary
Barclays PLC

BARCLAYS PLC
LIMITED CERTIFICATE OF CORPORATE RESOLUTION

I, Lawrence Dickinson, do hereby certify that I am the Corporate Secretary of Barclays PLC, a corporation duly organised and existing under the laws of the United Kingdom, and that the following is a complete and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Committee of the Board of Directors of Barclays PLC at a meeting held on 19 May 2015 at which a quorum was present and resolved as follows:

1. Authority of the Committee

The Committee noted that the Boards of Barclays PLC and Barclays Bank PLC (the "Barclays Boards") had resolved on 12 May 2015 to appoint a committee comprising, as a minimum, any two Directors of Barclays PLC and Barclays Bank PLC and the Barclays Group General Counsel.

The Barclays Boards have agreed, in principle, that they wish to enter into the various settlements relating to Project Buchanan and Project Willis ("The Settlements") and this Committee is vested with full authority to approve, execute or to do anything necessary to settle the final terms of the agreements with each of the authorities in relation to The Settlements and to:

1. authorise any person to plead guilty on behalf of Barclays PLC to a violation of the US Sherman Act ("the Plea");
2. instruct the payment of fines and finalise and approve any other documents and public statements in relation to The Settlements; and
3. delegate any of its powers.

2. Approval of The Settlements and the Regulatory Announcement

It was noted that The Settlements did not include the electronic trading issues which are also being investigated by the US department of Justice ("DOJ"), the New York Department of Financial Services ("DFS"), and others. Having reviewed the final drafts of the following agreements which together constitute the "Settlement Agreements" with the relevant authorities:

- a) The Warning Notice and settlement agreement of the Financial Conduct Authority;
- b) The Plea Agreement of the DOJ;
- c) The Cease & Desist Order of The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System;
- d) The Offers of Settlement and Orders relating to both Project Buchanan and Project Willis from The Commodity Futures Trading Commission; and

e) The Consent Order of the DFS,

the Committee reviewed the Settlement Agreements and resolved to approve each of the Settlement Agreements on behalf of Barclays PLC and Barclays Bank PLC. The Committee also considered the draft regulatory announcement (the "Announcement") and resolved to approve that it be issued as soon as possible after The Settlements have been announced by the relevant authorities.

3. Execution of documentation and delegation of authority

The Committee resolved that any one Director of Barclays PLC and Barclays Bank PLC, or the Company Secretary or General Counsel of Barclays PLC and Barclays Bank PLC be authorised to sign the Settlement Agreements and any associated or required documentation and be authorised to execute, issue or publish any other documents necessary to give effect to The Settlements including without limitation the Announcement and the Plea, to issue instructions for the payment of the fines arising from The Settlements, to take any other actions necessary to give effect to The Settlement Agreements and the Plea and to authorise Matthew Fitzwater or any Barclays Managing Director or external legal adviser to do any of the foregoing. The Committee also authorised the signatory to make such minor amendments to each or any of the foregoing documents as may be necessary or appropriate.

I further certify that the aforesaid resolution has not been amended or revoked in any respect and remains in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have executed this Certification on this 19th day of May 2015.

By:



Lawrence Dickinson
Corporate Secretary
Barclays PLC

ATTACHMENT C
DISCLOSURE NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to disclose certain practices of Barclays PLC and its affiliates (together, “Barclays” or the “Firm”) when it acted as a dealer, on a principal basis, in the spot foreign exchange (“FX”) markets. We want to ensure that there are no ambiguities or misunderstandings regarding those practices.

To begin, conduct by certain individuals has fallen short of the Firm’s expectations. The conduct underlying the criminal antitrust charge by the Department of Justice is unacceptable. Moreover, as described in our settlement this month with the U.K. Financial Conduct Authority relating to our spot FX business, in certain instances during the period 2008 to 2013, certain employees intentionally disclosed information relating to the identity of clients or the nature of clients’ activities to third parties in order to generate revenue for the Firm. This also was contrary to the Firm’s policies, unacceptable, and wrong. The Firm does not tolerate such conduct and already has committed significant resources in strengthening its controls surrounding our FX business.

The Firm has engaged in other practices on occasion, including:

- We added markup to price quotes using hand signals. Specifically, when obtaining price quotes for bids or offers from the Firm, certain clients requested to be placed on open telephone lines, meaning the client could hear pricing not only from a salesperson, but also from the trader who would be executing the client’s order. In certain instances, certain of our salespeople used hand signals to indicate to the trader to add markup to the price being quoted to the client on the open telephone line, so as to avoid informing the client listening on the phone of the markup and/or the amount of the markup. For example, prior to agreement between the client and the Firm to transact for the purchase of €100, a salesperson would, in certain instances, indicate with hand signals that the trader should add two pips of markup in providing a specific price to the client (e.g., a EURUSD rate of 1.1202, rather than 1.1200) in order to earn the Firm markup in connection with the prospective transaction.
- We have, without informing clients, worked limit orders at levels (i.e., prices) better than the limit order price so that we would earn a spread or markup in connection with our execution of such orders. This practice could have impacted clients in the following ways: (1) clients’ limit orders would be filled at a time later than when the Firm could have obtained currency in the market at the limit orders’ prices, and (2) clients’ limit orders would not be filled at all, even though the Firm had or could have obtained currency in the market at the limit orders’ prices. For example, if we accepted an order to purchase €100 at a limit of 1.1200 EURUSD, we might choose to try to purchase the currency at a EURUSD rate of 1.1199 or better so that, when we sought in turn to fill the client’s order at the order price (i.e., 1.1200), we would make a spread or markup of 1 pip or better on the transaction. If the Firm were unable to obtain the currency at the 1.1199 price, the clients’ order may not be filled as a result of our choice to make this spread or markup.

- We made decisions not to fill clients' limit orders at all, or to fill them only in part, in order to profit from a spread or markup in connection with our execution of such orders. For example, if we accepted a limit order to purchase €100 at a EURUSD rate of 1.1200, we would in certain instances only partially fill the order (*e.g.*, €70) even when we had obtained (or might have been able to obtain) the full €100 at a EURUSD rate of 1.1200 or better in the marketplace. We did so because of other anticipated client demand, liquidity, a decision by the Firm to keep inventory at a more advantageous price to the Firm, or for other reasons. In doing so, we did not inform our clients as to our reasons for not filling the entirety of their orders.

ATTACHMENT A

SEALED

ATTACHMENT B

SEALED