# LONDON & COLONIAL SUITABILITY CLAUSES

#### MULTI-PLATFORM INTERNATIONAL OPEN PENSION

This document contains sample clauses to assist Financial Advisers in completing individual client suitability letters and is not intended to be used as a suitability letter in itself. London & Colonial cannot accept liability for any action taken by any individual or firm as a result of the contents of this document. Whilst we have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this material we cannot accept responsibility for these clauses meeting your own regulatory requirements. If you have doubts, you should take advice from your Compliance Dept.

#### London & Colonial Profile

The London & Colonial (L&C) group of companies is an independent, privately owned pension provider, specialising in trust based self invested pensions and pension annuities. Established 25 years ago, it has businesses based within the UK and Gibraltar, and has developed some of the most pioneering and innovative pension products available in today's market place. Further details about L&C are available in their Corporate Brochure, which can be found on their website www.londoncolonial.com.

# Trusteeship and Administration

London & Colonial (Trustee Services) Limited acts as trustee of the Multi-Platform International Open Pension, with London & Colonial (Administration Services 3) Ltd being responsible for its administration. Both these companies are registered in Gibraltar, and are wholly owned subsidiaries of London & Colonial Holdings Ltd.

### **Investor Protection**

London & Colonial (Trustee Services) Ltd is licensed and regulated by the Gibraltar Financial Services Commission (FSC), which is a similar body to the UK's Financial Conduct Authority. The FSC draws its powers directly from the Gibraltar Parliament, and those powers are broadly similar to those of the FCA.

If, for any reason, either of the above London & Colonial companies were to stop trading, the services that they provide would be carried out by replacement trustees and administrators.

## Service Standards

London & Colonial are committed to providing high levels of service on all of their products. They have specific timescales associated with each stage of their administration process and they will always try to work within those timescales whenever possible.

# Multi-Platform International Open Pension

The Multi-Platform International Open Pension (MPIOP) is a Gibraltar based self invested personal pension (SIPP), which was launched by L&C in 2013. The MPIOP is a Qualifying Recognised Overseas Pension Scheme (QROPS) and is administered in accordance with Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) rules and regulations for such schemes. It offers you a wide range of investment opportunities and a choice of benefits at retirement. The minimum initial investment in the plan is £25,000.

# Multi-Platform International Open Pension Structure

The plan has been designed to be as flexible as possible, allowing you to choose which features are appropriate to your needs and to make changes as, and when, required by your changing circumstances. It is a competitively priced product, and full details of the charges are set out in the Schedule of Fees.

## **Investment Choice**

The MPIOP gives you access to London & Colonial's panel of investment providers, whose details can be found on the London & Colonial website at www.londoncolonial.com.

Permitted investments that can be held include: - quoted shares and fixed interest securities, unit trusts, open-ended investment companies and other forms of collective investments. Cash deposits are also acceptable. Full details of all of the permitted and prohibited investments are set out in the Multi-Platform International Open Pension Permitted Investments fact sheet. A copy of this can also be found on their website.

Investments can be held in UK Sterling, Euros or US Dollars.

Please note that the range of investment choices available to you under the plan may be restricted by your choice of Investment Provider.

# **Investment Management**

The MPIOP provides you with the flexibility and choice of who will manage the investments held within your pension portfolio. You can choose to manage the investments yourself or you can nominate an investment adviser or a Discretionary Fund Manager to act on your behalf.

### **Contributions and Transfers**

The plan accepts personal, employer and third party contributions, all of which can be paid annually, half-yearly, quarterly or monthly. You can also pay single contributions if you wish.

Transfers can be accepted from UK Registered Pension Schemes, as well as other Qualifying Recognised Overseas Pension Schemes. Contributions and Transfers can be paid in cash and / or on an 'in-specie' basis.

Should you wish to transfer your pension fund away from L&C into a UK Registered Pension Scheme, or an alternative Qualifying Recognised Overseas Pension Scheme, then this can be done at any time.

#### Pension Benefits

When you wish to take benefits from your QROPS, the MPIOP offers you a choice of retirement options. Benefits can be taken at any time from age 55 onwards. In cases of serious ill health, HMRC may permit benefits to be taken earlier than this age. Under current Gibraltar rules, benefits must be taken by age 75.

Benefit options include Phased Retirement (taking benefits in stages), a tax free lump sum, taking flexible income directly from your pension fund using Income Drawdown or buying a Pension Annuity using the Open Market Option. This last option will give you access to the most competitive annuity rates in the marketplace.

### **Death Benefits**

Upon your death, the value of your pension fund can be used to provide benefits in the form of a lump sum benefit and / or a pension income.

Lump sum benefits can be paid to your family, dependents or other nominated beneficiaries. Lump sum benefits are not taxed in Gibraltar, but may be taxed in the local jurisdiction, where the beneficiary is resident.

Pension income can only be paid to beneficiaries who are defined as a dependent of yours. Dependent's Pensions are taxed at 2.5% in Gibraltar, and may also be taxed in the local jurisdiction, where the dependent is resident.

International Open Pension Product Details

Full details of the Multi-Platform International Open Pension (QROPS) can be found in the Key Features Document, Permitted Investments sheet and Schedule of Fees, all of which are available on the L&C website at www.londoncolonial.com.