

# Change in the General Conditions

On the following pages you will find our new General Conditions. We have made extensive changes to these to accommodate current legal and regulatory developments and changed requirements and risks and to reflect existing business practices. Many changes are purely editorial.

**We would like to draw your attention in particular to the following provisions:**

- 2 Verification of authorization and due-diligence obligations
- 4 Communication from the Bank and errors in transmission
- 7 Right of lien and offset
- 8 Conditions, taxes, and charges
- 12 Limitation of services, liquidation (new)
- 15 Compliance with legal and regulatory requirements (new)
- 16 Data protection and banking secrecy
- 19 Applicable law and place of jurisdiction

A comparison of the former and new version can be found on our website at [www.cler.ch/new-GC](http://www.cler.ch/new-GC)

Please read the new provisions carefully, as they will supersede the former versions immediately unless you object to them within one month.

**Do you have any questions?**

Please contact us Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the number 0800 88 99 66.

# General Conditions

## 2019 Version

These conditions serve to govern clearly the relationship between the client and the Bank. Special agreements remain reserved. Certain categories of business are subject to the Bank's special regulations as well as to established rules of banking practice.

For ease of comprehension, the masculine form is used throughout these conditions; these references are intended to include also female clients of the Bank.

**In case of differences between the German and English version of this document the German version shall prevail.**

### 1. Power of disposition

Instructions pertaining to authorized signatures communicated to the Bank shall be valid until explicit communication of change and regardless of any other entries in the Commercial Register or public announcements. Accounts or custody accounts for which multiple persons are authorized can be disposed of only by the authorized persons jointly.

### 2. Verification of authorization and due-diligence obligations

The Bank will exercise the verification of authorization with the customary due diligence.

Damages or other disadvantages resulting from the failure to recognize inadequate proof of identify, especially such arising from signature and document forgeries or the manipulation of electronic transmissions, shall be borne by the client, provided that the Bank has exercised the verification of authorization with the customary due diligence.

In particular, the Bank is not obligated to compare information and instructions transmitted to the Bank by the client or an agent to other information and instructions from the client.

The client is obligated to store his banking documentation securely so that unauthorized persons cannot access the information contained therein. If he issues instructions, the client will take all safety precautions that reduce the risk of fraud. He will keep electronic means of authentication (incl. passwords and codes) secret, store them separately from each other, and follow any safety recommendations from the Bank regarding electronic services/products in order to prevent misuse. If the client determines any irregularities, he will notify the Bank immedi-

ately. The client will be responsible for damage resulting from a breach of these due-diligence obligations.

The Bank will take reasonable measures to detect and prevent fraud. If it infringes the customary due diligence in doing so, it will assume the damage incurred.

If damages or other disadvantages are incurred without the Bank or the client having infringed their due diligence, then the party into whose area of influence the action causing the damage was placed shall be responsible. The Bank is not responsible for damages or other disadvantages arising from errors in transmission, technical disruptions, and illegal intervention in the client's hardware/software.

The Bank is authorized at any time in the course of interaction with the client and his authorized agents to take measures for verification of authorization. The client will be responsible for damages resulting from any delays caused by such measures.

### 3. Insufficient capacity to act

The client will notify the Bank immediately in writing in case of insufficient capacity to act on the part of his authorized agents or other third parties acting on his behalf. If he fails to do so, or if the incapacity to act is on the part of the client himself, he will be responsible for the damage resulting from insufficient capacity to act, provided that the Bank, its employees, or agents have not infringed the customary due diligence.

### 4. Communication from the Bank and errors in transmission

The Bank is authorized to communicate by surface mail, telephone, electronic channels (e.g., email, fax, SMS, online banking, mobile apps, and other electronic communications channels), as well as other transmission and transport means, to the contact data used in connection with the Bank or provided explicitly to the Bank by the client or his authorized agents.

The client is obligated to keep the Bank informed of updates to the information provided regarding himself or his authorized agents, such as name, address, place of residence, email address, phone number, etc.

Communications from the Bank shall be deemed to have been delivered in a legally effective manner if sent in accordance with the latest contact data provided by the

client or otherwise deposited according to the instruction from the client.

The date on the copies or mailing lists held in physical or electronic format by the Bank shall be considered the mailing date.

The Bank may make legally relevant information, conditions, and documents available to the clients, as well as meet its obligations of information, disclosure, and publication (e.g., contained in financial market regulations governing investor protection and transparency), by means of publication on the Internet (at [www.cler.ch](http://www.cler.ch)).

The Bank will exercise the customary due diligence in the use of postal services, telephone, electronic or other means of forwarding or transport. It shall be responsible for damages specifically from loss, delays, irregularities, duplication, or technical disruptions and business interruptions, if it has infringed the customary due diligence. If the Bank has exercised the customary due diligence, then the customer shall be responsible for these damages.

## 5. Complaints

Complaints from a client relating to the execution, non-execution, or incorrect execution of orders or objections to communications must be lodged immediately, and no later than the deadline specified by the Bank.

If documents or communications that the client expects (e.g. account or custody account statements, trading statements) are not received, the client must notify the Bank immediately.

Account and custody account statements must be contested within one month after being sent by the Bank.

If no complaints are duly lodged, the execution or non-execution and the relevant communications and statements shall be deemed to have been approved.

In any case the client is responsible for damages arising from a delay in the lodging of a complaint.

## 6. Execution of orders

If the client issues one or multiple orders that exceed his available balance or the loan granted to him, the Bank may determine at its own discretion, without regard to the date or time of receipt, which instructions should be executed in part or in full.

If damage is incurred as a result of non-execution insufficient or late execution of orders (excluding stock market orders), the Bank shall be liable only for the loss of interest.

In cases involving the risk of more extensive damage, the client must draw the Bank's attention to this risk in advance; otherwise he shall be responsible for the damage.

## 7. Right of lien and offset

The Bank has a right of lien on all the client's assets and on all assets it holds for the client's account, either at its own premises or elsewhere, and a right of offset relating to all receivables for all existing or future claims, irrespective of the due date or currency or whether these claims are specifically secured.

This right of lien and offset applies also for any indemnification or exemption claims of the Bank, particularly if they are asserted in connection with transactions executed for the client or assets held for the client by third parties (including issuers, liquidators, trustees, receivers, institutions, and authorities).

If the client is in arrears with his obligations, the Bank may, at its discretion, including in terms of the sequence, liquidate the pledged items either by enforcement or freely, or to initiate proceedings against the client for distraint or bankruptcy, in accordance with the right of lien.

## 8. Conditions, taxes, and charges

Agreed or customary conditions (interest, fees [including balance fees], commissions, and charges) and taxes will be charged to the client promptly, monthly, quarterly, semiannually or annually, at the discretion of the Bank. If multiple persons are named on the account, these shall bear liability jointly and severally.

The current conditions and other charges are based on available fee schedules and product data sheets. Changes are possible at any time, specifically in case of changes in money market conditions or the costs and reevaluation of business risks, through adjustment of the lists and product data sheets. The client will be advised of the changes in advance by appropriate means.

Changes or new conditions shall be deemed to have been approved if the client does not terminate the affected product or the affected service within 30 days from communication. Notice or withdrawal periods according to separate conditions or agreements shall remain in effect.

For services not included in a fee schedule or product data sheet that are performed by the Bank on the client's instructions or are presumed to be in the client's interest and that can usually only be performed for a fee, the Bank may determine the amount of said fee at its own discretion.

Any taxes and charges that are imposed at or by the Bank in connection with the client's relationship to the Bank or that the Bank must collect due to Swiss or foreign law, international agreements, or contractual agreements with

foreign entities (e.g. 30% withholding tax in accordance with the U.S. Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, or FATCA), as well as charges incurred at the Bank, shall be charged or passed on to the client.

### **9. Foreign currencies**

Bank assets that correspond to the client's foreign currency assets shall be invested in the same currency either in or outside the country of the currency in question in the name of the Bank but at the expense and risk of the client. The client shall bear the proportionate share equivalent to his balance of the risk affecting the total investment, particularly from statutory or official restrictions and taxes and other charges in all affected countries.

The client may dispose of funds in foreign currencies by sale or transfer. Other methods require the approval of the Bank.

In the absence of instructions stipulating otherwise, the Bank is entitled to credit or debit foreign currency amounts in Swiss francs – and namely at the exchange rate of the date of receipt or processing – unless the client holds an account in the relevant foreign currency. If the client holds accounts only in other currencies, the Bank may credit or debit the amount in one of these currencies at its discretion.

### **10. Bills of exchange, cheques, and similar instruments**

The Bank is entitled to debit the client's account with bills of exchange, cheques, or similar instruments previously credited or discounted in the event of their non-payment. This applies also if previously paid cheques are subsequently determined to be stolen or otherwise lost, forged, or defective. Pending the payment of any balance resulting, however, the Bank retains a claim to payment of the total amount of the bill of exchange, cheque, or similar instrument, including ancillary claims, against all obligors associated with said instruments.

### **11. Termination of the business relationship**

The client and the Bank may at any time discontinue existing business relationships with immediate effect or at a later date. In particular, the Bank can cancel credit limits at any time and declare their balances due for immediate payment, subject to separate agreements and terms of cancellation in effect for specific products.

### **12. Limitation of services, liquidation**

In order to comply with legal, regulatory, or contractual requirements, to adhere to the customary due diligence, or to assure irreproachable business conduct, the Bank may limit services to the client, either partly or completely. This applies irrespective of supplemental rules governing individual bank services. In particular, the Bank may block the account and custody account relationship, the execution of orders of any type (e.g., orders for deposits

or payments, for transfers or assignment of balances, securities, and other assets, or for offset), as well as generally refuse to accept assets or balances.

In the event of a termination or if stored assets or balances can no longer be stored by the Bank due to legal, regulatory, product-specific or other reasons, the client shall be obligated to advise the Bank if requested as to where these assets and balances should be transferred.

If, after a reasonable period set by the Bank due to termination of the business relationship or limitation of services, the client fails to advise the Bank as to where the assets and balances held by the Bank should be transferred, the Bank may physically deliver or liquidate the assets. The Bank may deposit, with discharging effect, the proceeds and remaining balance of the client to the location designated by the judge or in the form of a cheque to the client's last known delivery address.

### **13. Holidays**

In all business transactions with the Bank, Saturdays are treated the same as an official public holiday.

### **14. Outsourcing of specific Bank activities**

In accordance with the relevant regulations, the Bank may delegate specific services to third parties either wholly or in part. This concerns mainly payments, administration of securities, handling commercial transactions, information technology, legal advice, supervision and internal controls, asset management, invoicing, loan processing and risk management, data management and storage, printing and mailing of bank documents, and product and sales management. Within the scope of outsourcing, it may be necessary to transmit data to third parties. All service providers are bound to appropriate confidentiality requirements.

### **15. Compliance with legal and regulatory requirements**

The client is responsible for compliance with legal requirements applicable to him as well as to other persons involved in the bank relationship or the assets (including tax laws and disclosure and reporting obligations). He shall adhere to the legal requirements applicable to him at all times. On request of the Bank, the client will document that he and other persons involved in the relationship have complied with the respective applicable regulations.

### **16. Data protection and banking secrecy**

Governing bodies, employees, and agents of the Bank are subject to legal obligations regarding the protection and confidentiality of data relating to the business relationship with the client.

The Bank stores and processes such data and data from third-party sources and may create profiles from such data. These profiles are used by the Bank mainly to inform

and advise the client about products and services and for purposes of market research, marketing, and risk management.

The Bank publishes the basic principles regarding the processing of personal data and any updates on the Internet at [www.cler.ch/datenschutz](http://www.cler.ch/datenschutz) (in German, Italian or French only).

The obligation of the Bank to preserve banking secrecy does not apply in the event of legal or regulatory obligations of disclosure or reporting by the Bank, in case of consent by the client, or in the presence of other legal justifications, such as in particular the safeguarding of legitimate interests of the Bank. This applies in particular in connection with:

- Services performed by the Bank for the client, such as account and custody account management or processing of payments, securities, currency, and other client transactions (which may have international connection; further information on this subject is available at [www.swissbanking.org](http://www.swissbanking.org));
- Impending or initiated proceedings against the Bank by the client or other persons involved with the banking relationship or the assets either domestically or abroad (including as third party);
- Securing and enforcement, domestically or abroad, of claims or other rights in respect of the client and exercise of securities furnished for the client;
- Objections of the client or other persons involved with the banking relationship or the assets against the Bank in public, to the media, or to authorities;
- Provision of comprehensive and efficient customer service and information regarding services offered by group companies, as well as compliance and other risk management reasons within the group relating to group companies in Switzerland.

### 17. Dormancy

The client is obligated to take necessary measures to prevent the business relationships existing between him and the Bank from becoming dormant in accordance with the pertinent regulations. In particular, the client is obligated to notify the Bank promptly of any change of address or name (e.g., due to marriage).

The client acknowledges that the Bank is obligated to report the business relationship to a central reporting office as soon as the relationship has become dormant.

In addition to the conditions and other charges according to the schedule of fees/product data sheets, which continue to apply in the case of dormancy, the Bank is entitled to debit to the client a special charge plus compensation for all expenses incurred in connection with the dormancy.

### 18. Amendments to the General Conditions

The Bank may amend the General Conditions at any time. The changes will be communicated to the client in advance by appropriate means and shall be deemed to have been approved if not contested within one month.

### 19. Applicable law and place of jurisdiction

All legal relationships between the client and the Bank are subject to **Swiss law exclusively**. The place of performance, place of debt collection for clients with a foreign domicile, and **the sole place of jurisdiction for all disputes shall be Basel**. The Bank shall be entitled to initiate legal proceedings against the client at the competent court of his domicile or at any other competent court; Swiss law shall, however, remain applicable.

Mandatory provisions as to the place of jurisdiction under Swiss law shall take precedence.