#### A) Introduction

As part of the Capital Market Authority's ("CMA") strategic objectives to develop the capital market and enhance the confidence of the participants in the Capital Market, and based on the Capital Market Law issued by Royal Decree No. (M/30) Dated 2/6/1424 H, the CMA Board issued its Resolution to publish the Draft Amendments to the Market Conduct Regulations ("Draft Amendments") for public consultation for a period of (30) calendar days ending on 13/4/1442H corresponding to 28/11/2020G.

#### B) Objectives of the Draft Amendments and its main elements:

The Draft Amendments aim to enhance the protection of investors in securities from unfair or unsound practices that involve fraud, deceit, or manipulation. It also aims to further develop the Capital Market's statutory environment and promote Market stability, develop sufficient procedures to minimize risks associated with securities transactions, guarantee protection for investors, and enhance confidence in the Capital Market. Moreover, this comes in line with the international best practices and standards to support the market's growth and prosperity.

The main elements of the Draft Amendments are:

- a) Develop the provisions regulating the prohibition of behavior or practices involving manipulation or deceit, by clarifying that the scope of such behavior or practices shall include promoting the purchase of a security for the purpose of selling that security or promoting the sale of a security for the purpose of purchasing that security.
- b) Develop the provisions regulating the prohibition of insider trading and disclosure of insider information for the purpose of including front running trades. The information related to the orders entered or, that will be entered, on a security will be considered, when the other criteria stated in part 3 of the Draft Amendments are fulfilled, as insider information upon which the Capital Market Law prohibits trading. This prohibition applies to, for example, but not limited to, a director, senior executive or employee of a capital market institution, and authorised signatory or agent over the accounts of natural or legal persons from both the public and private sectors.

#### C) Receiving public views

The CMA, with full gratitude, would receive the opinions and comments of relevant and interested persons, through the prescribed form via the following email (Laws.Regulations@cma.org.sa).

All comments will be taken into full consideration for the purpose of finalising the Draft Amendments.





#### D) Proposed amendments to the Market Conduct Regulations compared with the current provisions:

		Market Conduct Regulations	
	Current Provisions	Provisions after Proposed Amendments	Aim of the Proposed Amendment <sup>1</sup>
1	Article 2: Prohibition of manipulative and deceptive acts or practices  a. It is prohibited for any person to engage in or participate in any manipulative or deceptive acts or practices in connection with an order or transaction in a security, if the person knows or has reasonable grounds to know the nature of the act or practice.  b. It is prohibited for any person to, directly or indirectly, enter an order or execute a trade in a security for the purpose of creating any of the following:  1) a false or misleading impression of trading activity or interest in the purchase or sale of the security; or  2) an artificial bid price, ask price or trade price for the security or any related security.	<ul> <li>deceptive acts or practices</li> <li>a. It is prohibited for any person to engage in or participate in any manipulative or deceptive acts or practices in connection with an order or transaction in a security, if the person knows or has reasonable grounds to know the nature of the act or practice.</li> <li>b. It is prohibited for any person to, directly or indirectly, enter an order or execute a trade in a security for the purpose of creating any of the following: <ol> <li>a false or misleading impression of trading activity or interest in the purchase or sale of the security; or</li> <li>an artificial bid price, ask price or trade price for the security or any</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	The proposed amendment aims to clarify the applicability of the prohibition of engaging in, or participating in, any manipulative or deceptive acts or practices to entering an order or executing a trade on a security using any technical tools, such as entering orders automatically based on pre-defined instructions or calculations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Note: This section illustrates the aim of the proposed amendments to the Market Conduct Regulations, and it may not prejudice, replace or interpret the provisions of the Market Conduct Regulations.

	Market Conduct Regulations			
	<b>Current Provisions</b>	Provisions after Proposed Amendments	Aim of the Proposed Amendment <sup>1</sup>	
	Article 3: Manipulative and deceptive acts or practices  a. The following actions shall be among	Article 3: Manipulative and deceptive acts or practices  a. The following actions shall be among those	The proposed amendment aims to clarify a number of prohibited behaviors, by including in this Article	
	those considered as manipulative or deceptive acts or practices:  1) making a fictitious trade; or 2) effecting a trade in a security that	considered as manipulative or deceptive acts or practices:  1) making a fictitious trade; 2) promoting the purchase of a security for	the behavior of promoting the purchase of a security for the purpose of selling that security or arranging for another person to sell it, or	
	b. The following acts shall be among those considered as manipulative or deceptive acts or practices when committed for the	the purpose of selling that security, or arraigning for another person to sell it; or  3) promoting the sale of a security for the purpose of purchasing that security, or arranging for another person to purchase	promoting the sale of a security for the purpose of purchasing that security or arranging for another person to purchase it. Besides the behavior of entering an order or	
2	purpose of creating a false or misleading impression of trading activity in a security or interest in the purchase or sale of the security, or for the purpose of creating an artificial bid price, ask price or trade price	b. The following acts shall be among those considered as manipulative or deceptive acts or practices when committed for the purpose of creating a false or misleading impression of	orders for the purchase or sale of a security in order to effect a high or low opening sale price, ask price or bid price, or for the purpose of affecting the price of another	
	for a security:  5) entering an order or orders for the purchase or sale of a security in order to:  * establish a predetermined sale price, ask price or bid price;  * effect a high or low closing sale price, ask price or bid price;  * maintain the sale price, ask price or bid price within a predetermined range; or	trading activity in a security or interest in the purchase or sale of the security, or for the purpose of creating an artificial bid price, ask price or trade price for a security:  1) effecting a trade in a security that involves no change in its beneficial ownership;  6) entering an order or orders for the purchase or sale of a security in order to:  * establish a predetermined sale price, ask price or bid price;	security. The proposed amendment also aims to set out exceptions in the Market Conduct Regulations to the violation of paragraph (a) of Article 49 of the Capital Market Law, with regard to a company buying-back its own shares, if such is in accordance with the provisions of the Regulatory Rules and Procedures issued pursuant to the Companies Law relating to Listed Joint Stock Companies, a price	

Market Conduct Regulations			
Current Provisions		<b>Provisions after Proposed Amendments</b>	Aim of the Proposed Amendment <sup>1</sup>
* entering an order or a series of orders for a security that are not intended to be executed.	<u>(</u>	shares, if such is in accordance with the provisions of the Instructions on the	stabilisation manager buying the shares, if such is in accordance with the provisions of the Instructions on the Price Stabilisation Mechanism in Initial Public Offerings, and a market maker selling or buying securities, if such is in accordance with any rules, regulations or procedures that the Authority or the Exchange issue.
	3	Price Stabilisation Mechanism in Initial Public Offerings; or a market maker selling or buying	
		securities, if such is in accordance with any rules, regulations or procedures that the Authority or the Exchange issue.	

		Market Conduct Regulations	
	Current Provisions	Provisions after Proposed Amendments	Aim of the Proposed Amendment <sup>1</sup>
3	Article 4: Disclosure of inside information and insider trading defined  b. For greater certainty, insider means any of the following:  1) a director, a senior executive or an employee of the issuer of a security related to inside information;  2) a person who obtains inside information through a family relationship, including from any person related to the person who obtains the information;  3) a person who obtains inside information through a business relationship, including obtaining the information:  * from the issuer of a security related to inside information;  * from any person who has a business relationship with the person who obtains the information; or  * from any person who is a business associate of the person who obtains the information;	the following:  1) a director, a senior executive or an employee of the issuer of a security related to inside information;  2) a director, a senior executive or an employee of a capital market institution related to the inside information.  3) an authorised signatory or an agent over an account related to the inside information.  4) a person who obtains inside information through a family relationship, including from any person related to the person who obtains the information;  5) a person who obtains inside information through a business relationship, including obtaining the information:  * from the issuer of a security related to inside information;  * from a capital market institution related to the	The proposed amendment aims for the concept of an insider to include; a director, a senior executive or an employee of a capital market institution, and an authorised signatory or an agent over an investment account. In addition, the proposed amendment aims for the concept of inside information to include the orders entered or to be entered to a security.
	* from any person who is a business associate of the person who obtains the	* from the issuer of a security related to inside information;  * from a capital market	

	Market Conduct Regulations	
Current Provisions	Provisions after Proposed Amendments	Aim of the Proposed Amendment <sup>1</sup>
relationship, including obtaining the information:  * from the issuer of a security related to inside information; or  * from any person who has a contractual relationship with the person who obtains the information.  c. For greater certainty, inside information means information that fulfils the following:  1) information that relates to a security;  2) that has not been disclosed to the general public, and that is not otherwise available to the general public; and  3) that a normal person would realise that, in view of the nature and content of the information, disclosing it or making it available to the public would have a material effect on the price or value of the security.	* from a person who owns an account related to the inside information;  * from any person who has a business relationship with the person who obtains the information; or  * from any person who is a business associate of the person who obtains the information;  a person who obtains inside information through a contractual relationship, including obtaining the information:  * from the issuer of a security related to inside information;  * from a capital market institution related to the inside information;  * from a person who owns an account related to the inside information; or  * from any person who has a contractual relationship with	
	information. c. For greater certainty, inside information	
	relationship, including obtaining the information:  * from the issuer of a security related to inside information; or  * from any person who has a contractual relationship with the person who obtains the information.  c. For greater certainty, inside information means information that fulfils the following:  1) information that relates to a security;  2) that has not been disclosed to the general public, and that is not otherwise available to the general public; and  3) that a normal person would realise that, in view of the nature and content of the information, disclosing it or making it available to the public would have a material effect on the price or value of the	relationship, including obtaining the information:  * from the issuer of a security related to inside information; or  * from a person who owns an account related to the inside information; or  * from any person who has a contractual relationship with the person who obtains the information obtains the information that fulfils the following:  1) information that relates to a security;  2) that has not been disclosed to the general public; and that a normal person would realise that, in view of the nature and content of the information, disclosing it or making it available to the public would have a material effect on the price or value of the security.  Provisions after Proposed Amendments   * from a person who owns an account related to the inside information:  * from any person who has a business relationship with the person who obtains the information; or from any person who obtains the information through a contractual relationship, including obtaining the information:  * from a person who owns an account related to the inside information; or related to inside information;  * from a person who owns an account related to the inside information; or from any person who obtains the information;  * from a person who owns an account related to the inside information; or from any person who obtains the information; or from a person who owns an account related to the inside information; or from aperson who has a contractual relationship, with the person who obtains the information; or from aperson who has a contractual relationship with the person who obtains the information; or from aperson who has a contractual relationship with the person who obtains the information; or from any person who has a contractual relationship with the person who obtains the information; or from any person who has a contractual relationship with the person who obtains the information; or from any person who obtains the information; or from any person who is a business associate of the person who obtains inside information; or from any p

		Market Conduct Regulations	
	<b>Current Provisions</b>	Provisions after Proposed Amendments	Aim of the Proposed
			Amendment <sup>1</sup>
		1) information that relates to a security,	
		or orders entered or to be entered to	
		<u>it;</u>	
		2) that has not been disclosed to the	
		general public, and that is not	
		otherwise available to the general	
		public; and	
		3) that a normal person would realise	
		that, in view of the nature and content	
		of the information, disclosing it or	
		making it available to the public	
		would have a material effect on the	
	Article 5: Prohibition of disclosure of inside	price or value of the security.  Article 5: Prohibition of disclosure of inside	The proposed amondment sime to
	information	information	The proposed amendment aims to prohibit the disclosure of inside
	a. An insider is prohibited from disclosing	a. An insider is prohibited from disclosing any	information by a person who is not an
	any inside information to any other person	inside information to any other person when	insider, regardless of the means
	when he knows or should have known that	he knows or should have known that it is	through which he obtained that
	it is possible that such other person may	possible that such other person may trade in	information.
	trade in the security related to the inside	the security related to the inside information.	It also aims to set out an exception in
١,	information.	b. A person who is not insider is prohibited	the Market Conduct Regulations to
4	b. A person who is not insider is prohibited	from disclosing to any other person any	the provisions related to the
	from disclosing to any other person any	inside information obtained in whatever	disclosure of inside information, for
	inside information obtained from an	manner, when he knows or should have	the purpose of allowing capital
	insider, when he knows or should have	known that it is possible that such other	market institutions to disclose clients'
	known that it is possible that such other	person to whom the disclosure has been	orders in relation to negotiated
	person to whom the disclosure has been	made may trade in the security related to the	transaction, provided that such
	made may trade in the security related to	inside information.	disclosure is in the client's interest to
	the inside information.		effect the transaction, and that

		Market Conduct Regulations	
	Current Provisions	Provisions after Proposed Amendments	Aim of the Proposed Amendment <sup>1</sup>
		<ul> <li>Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph (a) of this Article, a capital market institution and a registered person may disclose the client's orders for the purpose of negotiating a transaction for such client, provided the following: <ol> <li>the disclosure is in the client's interest to effect the transaction.</li> <li>the client's prior written approval has been obtained.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	client's prior written approval has been obtained.
	<ul> <li>a. An insider is prohibited from engaging in insider trading.</li> <li>b. A person who is not insider is prohibited from engaging in insider trading if he obtains the inside information from another person and he knows or should have known, that the information is inside information.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>a. An insider is prohibited from engaging in insider trading.</li> <li>b. A person who is not insider is prohibited from engaging in insider trading where he knows or should have known, that the information is inside information.</li> </ul>	The proposed amendment aims to prohibit the person who is not an insider from engageing in insider trading, without conditioning that the inside information is obtained from another person.
•	Article 7: Prohibition of untrue statements  A person is prohibited from making an untrue statement of material fact verbally or in writing or from failing to make a statement required to be made under the Capital Market Law, the Implementing Regulations, or the rules of the Exchange or the Depositary Center, if the statement is made, or the person fails to make the required statement, for the purpose of influencing	Article 7: Prohibition of untrue statements  A person is prohibited from making an untrue statement of material fact verbally or in writing or from failing to make a statement required to be made under the Capital Market Law, the Implementing Regulations, or the rules of the Exchange or the Depositary Center, including the financial information, if the statement is made, or the person fails to make the required statement, for the purpose	The proposed amendment aims to emphasise that the untrue statements and the statements required to be made referred to in this Article shall include the financial information, including the information contained in the financial statements.  Also, the proposed amendment aims to clarify the applicability of this Article if the statement being made,

		Market Conduct Regulations	
	<b>Current Provisions</b>	<b>Provisions after Proposed Amendments</b>	Aim of the Proposed Amendment <sup>1</sup>
	the price or value of a security, inducing another person to purchase or sell a security, or inducing him to exercise or refrain from exercising rights under a security.	of influencing the price or value of a security, inducing another person to purchase or sell a security, or inducing him to exercise or refrain from exercising rights under a security, or any other manipulative or deceptive purpose.	or the person failing to make the required statement, is for any other manipulative or deceptive purpose.
7	<ul> <li>Article 8: Rumours</li> <li>a. A person is prohibited from circulating, directly or indirectly, an untrue statement of material fact or a statement of opinion for the purpose of influencing the price or value of a security or for any manipulative purpose.</li> <li>b. The prohibition in paragraph (a) applies to a statement made by the person who circulates the statement or to a statement made by another person.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Article 8: Rumours <ul> <li>a. A person is prohibited from circulating, directly or indirectly, an untrue statement of material fact or a statement of opinion for the purpose of influencing the price or value of a security or for any manipulative or deceptive purpose.</li> <li>b. The prohibition in paragraph (a) applies to a statement made by the person who circulates the statement or to a statement made by another person.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	The proposed amendment aims to clarify the applicability of this Article if the circulation of the incorrect statement is for any other manipulative or deceptive purpose.
8	Article 11: Conduct in case of market manipulation and insider trading by clients  a. An authorised person or a registered person must not accept or execute a client order if any of them has reasonable grounds to believe that the client:  1) is engaging in market manipulation or insider trading;  2) would be engaging in market manipulation or insider trading in another market if these Regulations applied to that market; or	<ul> <li>Article 11: Conduct in case of market manipulation and insider trading by clients</li> <li>a. A capital market institution or a registered person must not accept or execute a client order if any of them has reasonable grounds to believe that the client: <ol> <li>is engaging in market manipulation or insider trading;</li> <li>would be engaging in market manipulation or insider trading in another market if these Regulations applied to that market; or</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	The proposed amendment aims to clarify the obligation of the capital market institution and the registered person in the matter of reporting any client's order after accepting or executing that order where the capital market institution or the registered person has reasonable grounds to believe the client is in violation of the Capital Market Law, the Implementing Regulations or the Exchange's Rules, without prejudice to the obligation of the capital market

		Market Conduct Regulations	
	Current Provisions	<b>Provisions after Proposed Amendments</b>	Aim of the Proposed Amendment <sup>1</sup>
	3) would be considered in breach of the law, regulations or rules applicable in the relevant market.  b. Where an authorised person or registered person has decided not to accept or execute an order under paragraph (a) of this Article, he must document the circumstances of and reasons for his decision in writing and the authorised person must notify the Authority of the decision within three days.  c. An authorised person must retain the records in relation to any decision under this Article for ten years from the date of	<ul> <li>3) would be considered in breach of the law, regulations or rules applicable in the relevant market.</li> <li>b. Where a capital market institution or registered person has decided not to accept or execute an order under paragraph (a) of this Article, he must document the circumstances of and reasons for his decision in writing and the capital market institution must notify the Authority of the decision within three days.</li> <li>c. Without prejudice to the provisions of this Article, if a capital market institution or a registered person accepts or executes a client's order, then became aware of reasonable grounds</li> </ul>	institution and the registered person, in accordance with this Article, prior to accepting or executing an order of a client in violation.
	the decision.	to believe the client is in violation of the Capital Market Law, the Implementing Regulations or the Exchange's Rules, the capital market institution must notify the Authority of such within 3 days from the date of becoming aware of these grounds.  d. A capital market institution must retain the records in relation to any decision under this Article for ten years from the date of the decision.	
	Article 12: Clients priority and front running trades	Article 12: Clients priority  A capital market institution or a registered	The proposed amendment aims to transfer regulating front
9	a. <u>An authorised person</u> or a registered person must execute client orders for	person must execute client orders for a security before executing any order on the	running trades to be included in the provisions of (Part 3) of the
	a security before executing any order	same security for his own account.	Market Conduct Regulations,

		Market Conduct Regulations	
	Current Provisions	Provisions after Proposed Amendments	Aim of the Proposed
		•	Amendment <sup>1</sup>
	on the same security for his own		which resulted in considering
	account.		front running trades as insider
<u>b.</u>	An authorised person, a registered person		trading.
	and any associated person are prohibited		
	from dealing in any security for their own		
	benefit, or for the benefit of another client,		
	or for the benefit of an account which they		
	have an interest in, including any account		
	which they have a discretion on, if such		
	dealing is on the basis of prior knowledge		
	that a client order has been or will be		
	entered on the same security.		
<u>c.</u>	Persons referred to in paragraph (a) of this		
	Article are porhibited from disclosing to		
	any other person any information related to		
	clients orders that have been entered or		
	will be entered, when they know or should		
	have known that it is possible that such		
	other person may trade in the security		
	related to that information.		
<u>d.</u>	Any person that obtains through an		
	authorised person or a registered person		
	information related to client orders that		
	have been or will be entered is prohibited		
	from dealing in the security related to such		
	information., if such dealing is for the		
	purpose of benefiting from potential		
	material effect of those orders on the price		
	of that security.		

		Market Conduct Regulations	
	Current Provisions	Provisions after Proposed Amendments	Aim of the Proposed Amendment <sup>1</sup>
<u>e.</u>	Any person authorised to deal with the		
	account of a legal person is prohibited		
	from dealing in any particular security for		
	his own benefit, or for the benefit of an		
	account which he has an interest in, if such		
	dealing is for the purpose of benefiting		
	from potential material effect of that legal		
	person's account orders that have been or		
	will be entered on the price of that security.		
<u>f.</u>	Any person authorised to deal with the		
	account of a legal person is prohibited		
	from disclosing to any other person any		
	information related to that account orders		
	that have been or will be entered, when he		
	knows or should have known that it is		
	possible that such other person may trade		
	in the security related to that information.		
<u>g.</u>	Any person that obtains from to deal in any		
	particular security on the basis of		
	information obtained from a person		
	authorsied to deal with the account of a		
	legal person related to this account orders		
	that have been or will be entered, if such		
	dealing is for the purpose of benefiting		
	from potential material effect of those		
	orders on the price of that security.		
<u>h.</u>	For the purposes of this Article:		
	1) "Associated person" means in		
	relation to an authorised person:		

	Market Conduct Regulations	
Current Provisions	Provisions after Proposed Amendments	Aim of the Proposed Amendment <sup>1</sup>
- Any director, partner,		
employee, or any person that		
is (directly or indirectly)		
controlled by that person; or		
controls (directly or		
indirectly) that person.		
- any company which is its		
subsidiary or parent or fellow		
subsidiary of the parent.		
<u>-</u> any company whose directors		
are accustomed to act in		
accordance with the		
authorised person's directions		
or instructions.		
<u>-</u> any company in the capital of		
which the authorised person		
is directly or indirectly		
<u>interested so that it is able:</u>		
• <u>to exercise or control</u>		
the exercise of 30%		
or more of the votes		
at the general		
meeting on all, or		
substantially all		
matters; or		
• <u>to appoint or remove</u>		
directors holding a		
majority of voting		
rights at board		

Market Conduct Regulations				
<b>Current Provisions</b>	Provisions after Proposed Amendments	Aim of the Proposed Amendment <sup>1</sup>		
meetings on all, or substantially all matters.  2) "Associated person" means in relation to a registered person:  that person's spouse or minor children (together "members of his family").  any company in whose equity shares the registered person or any member or members (taken together) of his family are directly or indirectly interested so that they are able:  to exercise or control	Provisions after Proposed Amendments	Aim of the Proposed Amendment <sup>1</sup>		
the exercise of 30% or more of the votes at the general meeting on all, or substantially all matters; or  to appoint or remove directors holding a majority of voting rights at board meetings on all, or substantially all matters.				

	Market Conduct Regulations				
	<b>Current Provisions</b>	Provisions after Proposed Amendments	Aim of the Proposed		
			Amendment <sup>1</sup>		
	Article 20: Liability for acts of others	Part 6: Liability for acts of others	The proposed amendment aims		
	Where a person is found to have violated the		to add further clarification to the		
	provisions of the Capital Market Law or the	Article 20: Liability for acts of others	scope of Article 20 of the Market		
	Implementing Regulations on market	Where a person is found to have violated the	Conduct Regulations by		
	manipulation, insider trading or untrue statements	provisions of the Capital Market Law or the	proposing to transfer it to a		
	while acting on behalf of another person and at the	Implementing Regulations on market manipulation,	separate part entitled (Liability		
	direction of the person on whose behalf the	insider trading or untrue statements while acting on	for acts of others).		
10	relevant act is carried out, that other person is	behalf of another person and at the direction of the			
	liable and is subject to any sanctions to which the	person on whose behalf the relevant act is carried out,			
	person carrying out the relevant acts is subject	that other person is liable and is subject to any			
	unless the person on whose behalf the act is carried	sanctions to which the person carrying out the			
	out:	relevant acts is subject unless the person on whose			
	1) took reasonable steps to prevent	behalf the act is carried out:			
	the violation of the provisions of	1) took reasonable steps to prevent the			
	the Capital Market Law and its	violation of the provisions of the			
	Implementing Regulations; and	Capital Market Law and its			
	2) did not authorise the acts in	Implementing Regulations; and			
	question.	2) did not authorise the acts in question.			