



The following provides a collection of relevant publications for transition to new reference rates related to the following currencies: USD, Euro, Japanese Yen, British Pound, Swiss Franc, Australian Dollar, Singapore Dollar, HK Dollar, Brazilian Real, Canadian Dollar, Mexican Peso, South African Rand, China/SHIBOR and Indonesia/JIBOR.\*

## September 2020

### GFMA, ASIFMA, AFME, SIFMA

#### [ASIFMA Virtual Event \(in collaboration with VBMA\) on the IBOR Transition in Vietnam \(October 20, 2020\)](#)

As part of its “IBOR Transition Series: A Local Market Perspective,” ASIFMA will be hosting a virtual event in collaboration with VBMA focusing on the IBOR transition in Vietnam. Further details and registration are available on the ASIFMA event [page](#).

#### [ASIFMA Virtual Event on the IBOR Transition in Thailand \(October 6, 2020\)](#)

As part of its “IBOR Transition Series: A Local Market Perspective,” ASIFMA will be hosting a virtual event focusing on the IBOR transition in Thailand. Further details and registration are available on the ASIFMA event [page](#).

#### [SIFMA C&L Virtual Forum Hosts Two Sessions on LIBOR Transition \(September 23-24, 2020\)](#)

Two LIBOR focused sessions were included as part of SIFMA’s C&L Virtual Forum. The first was a presentation on “Broker-Dealer Issues & Considerations Relating to LIBOR Cessation” by Marlon Paz from Mayer Brown. The Second was a discussion on “An AI Enabled Holistic Solution to LIBOR Repapering” sponsored by QuisLex. Speakers for this session included Chase D’Agostino from QuisLex, Christopher Schell from Davis Polk & Wardwell, Marcy Cohen from ING Americas, and Jason Pugh from D2 Legal Technology. Full event details are available on the [event page](#) and the program of events is available [here](#).

#### [ASIFMA Virtual Event on the IBOR Transition in India \(September 22, 2020\)](#)

As part of the ASIFMA Webinar Series on IBOR Transition, ASIFMA, in collaboration with FIMMDA and IBA, held a webinar on 22 September to discuss IBOR transition’s impact on India’s banking sector. The agenda included 1) Keynote speech by Dimple Bhandia, General Manager of RBI 2) Impact of LIBOR Transition on Indian Banking Industry and Key Considerations for a Smooth Transition 3) Benchmark Presentation 4) Product Presentations 5) Data and Infrastructure Preparedness: Practical Challenges of IBOR Transition and 6) Banking Panel on Implementation/Conduct Issues. The full recording can be viewed [here](#).

#### [ASIFMA Virtual Event on the IBOR Transition in Malaysia \(September 18, 2020\)](#)

As part of the ASIFMA Webinar Series on IBOR Transition, ASIFMA, in collaboration with Financial Markets Association Malaysia, held a webinar on 18 September to discuss IBOR transition's impact on Malaysia's banking sector. The agenda included 1) Keynote speech by Aznan Abdul Aziz, Assistant Governor of Bank Negara, on Preparing for LIBOR Transition 2) Impact of IBOR Transition on the Local Banking Market 3) Product Presentations 4) LIBOR Transition Data and Infrastructure Viewpoint 5) Banking Panel on Implementation Issues and 6) Local Accounting Issues: Fair Value, Value Transfer, Hedge Accounting and Modifications. The full recording can be viewed [here](#).

### **[SIFMA Hosts Webinar on how to Prepare for the Transition to Alternative Reference Rates \(September 16, 2020\)](#)**

On Wednesday, 16 September, this SIFMA webinar discussed how operations professionals need to prepare for the transition to alternative reference rates. The webinar discussed how firms should be able to adapt to instruments using new rates such as the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR), implement fallbacks, update internal systems and models, and review and execute new agreements. Speakers included Chris Killian from SIFMA, John Boyle from EY, Jeff Huther from the Federal Reserve Board, Cynthia Meyn from Reverence Capital Partners, and Calvin Zunn from RBC.

## **Global**

### **[ISDA Submits Letter to the OSSG on Timeline for Amendments and Protocol \(September 23, 2020\)](#)**

The International Swaps and Derivatives Association (ISDA) submitted a letter to the Financial Stability Board Official Sector Steering Group (OSSG) regarding the timing of the ISDA IBOR Fallbacks Protocol. The letter notes that regarding the updated protocol, ISDA awaits a business review letter from the US Department of Justice (DOJ), that there will be a 2-week "escrow" adherence window, that the protocol will be held open for about 3 months, and that it will not become effective until the second half of January at the earliest.

### **[IASB Releases Phase 2 Amendments to IFRS Standards Impacted by IBOR Transition \(August 2020\)](#)**

The International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) published the [project summary](#) for its project, "Interest Rate Benchmark Reform – Phase 2." This project included amendments to IFRS 9 (Financial Instruments), IAS 39 (Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement), IFRS 7 (Financial Instruments: Disclosures), IFRS 4 (Insurance Contracts), and IFRS 16 (Leases).

## **NORTH AMERICA**

### **USD**

#### **[ARRC Publishes Newsletter \(August 2020 – September 2020\)](#)**

The Alternative Reference Rates Committee (ARRC) published its latest newsletter for August 2020 – September 2020. The newsletter provides an update from ARRC on global IBOR transition topics with an added focus on the US market. Previous versions of the Newsletter can be found at the ARRC [site](#).

### **[Michael Held Delivers Speech on the State of the LIBOR Transition \(September 29, 2020\)](#)**

Michael Held, Executive Vice President and General Counsel at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York (FRBNY), delivered a speech at the IMN Virtual Investors' Conference on LIBOR. The speech included a look ahead to the steps needed for the transition from LIBOR. The speech also included background on potential legislation to ease the transition, an update on the upcoming new ISDA protocol, and an overview on the role of the official sector in eliminating uncertainty.

### **[GNMA Announces it will End Pooling LIBOR ARMS \(September 21, 2020\)](#)**

Ginnie Mae (GNMA) announced it will stop accepting the delivery of loans for securitization into any pool type comprised of loans with any interest in term based on LIBOR starting after 1 January 2021.

### **[ARRC Publishes Addendum to its Recommendations for Voluntary Compensation for Swaptions Impacted by the CCP Discounting Transition to SOFR \(September 11, 2020\)](#)**

The Alternative Reference Rates Committee (ARRC) published an addendum to its recommendations that a voluntary exchange of cash compensation take place between counterparties to legacy swaptions referencing USD LIBOR and that counterparties specify to an agreed discount rate referencing SOFR for new swaptions expiring after 16 October 2020.

### **[ARRC Announces RFP for the Publication of Forward-Looking SOFR Term Rates \(September 10, 2020\)](#)**

The Alternative Reference Rates Committee (ARRC) released a Request for Proposals (RFP) searching for an administrator to publish forward-looking Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) term rates. The development of SOFR term rates is the final step in the ARRC's Paced Transition Plan. The deadline for responses is 31 October 2020.

### **[ARRC Sends Letter to IRS and UST Requesting Guidance Regarding Financial Contract Discount Rate Transition \(September 4, 2020\)](#)**

The Alternative Reference Rates Committee (ARRC) submitted a letter to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and Department of the Treasury (UST) requesting guidance concerning the transition to SOFR discounting with respect to a vast number of existing financial contracts that currently use the effective federal funds rate (EFFR) as the discount rate.

### **[ARRC Publishes Updated Version of its Recommended Best Practices \(September 3, 2020\)](#)**

The Alternative Reference Rates Committee (ARRC) published an updated version of its recommended Best Practices. These aim to clarify timelines and interim milestones for a smooth transition away from USD LIBOR to SOFR. These were initially published in May 2020.

### **[ARRC Announces RFP for the Administration of Recommended Spread Adjustments and Spread-Adjusted SOFR Rates to Facilitate Contractual Fallbacks \(September 2, 2020\)](#)**

The Alternative Reference Rates Committee (ARRC) released a Request for Proposals (RFP) searching for one or more firms to publish daily indicative spreads and, after a trigger event has occurred, static spreads and spread-adjusted fallback rates for cash products that transition

away from USD LIBOR. The spread-adjusted fallback rates used will be based on the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) and will be designed for use in legacy contracts using the ARRC's recommended hardwired fallback language, and other instances where spread-adjusted rates are needed. The deadline for submission is 16 October 2020.

### **[CFTC Announces Additional Relief to Market Participants Transitioning from LIBOR \(August 31, 2020\)](#)**

The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) announced that its Division of Swap Dealer and Intermediary Oversight, Division of Market Oversight, and Division of Clearing and Risk have each issued revised no-action letters to provide additional relief to swap dealers and other market participants relating to the transition from swaps that reference IBORs to swaps that reference alternative reference rates. [Staff Letter No. 20-23](#) provides relief to swap dealers from registration de minimis requirements, uncleared swap margin rules, business conduct requirements, confirmation, documentation, and reconciliations requirements, and certain other eligibility requirements. [Staff Letter No. 20-24](#) provides time-limited relief from the trade execution requirement and [Staff Letter No. 20-25](#) provides time-limited relief from the swap clearing requirements and related exceptions and exemptions.

## **EUROPE**

### **GBP**

### **[FCA and BoE Encourage Adoption of New Quoting Conventions for Inter-Dealer Swap Trading \(September 28, 2020\)](#)**

The Financial Conduct Authority and Bank of England published a statement encouraging liquidity providers in the sterling swaps market to adopt new quoting conventions for inter-dealer trading based on SONIA starting 27 October 2020. The proposal has been endorsed by the Working Group on Sterling Risk-Free Reference Rates (UK RFRWG) and has been added to its [updated priorities roadmap for 2020-2021](#).

### **[UK RFRWG's Accounting Task Force Submits Response to Proposed IASB Amendments \(September 28, 2020\)](#)**

The Accounting Task Force of the Working Group on Sterling Risk-Free Reference Rates (UK RFRWG) submitted a draft endorsement to the Financial Reporting Council's invitation to comment on the International Accounting Standard Board's (IASB) [Interest Rate Benchmark Reform – Phase 2](#) amendments (see Global section for more details). The amendments are to IFRS 9, IAS 39, IFRS 7, IFRS 4, and IFRS 16.

### **[BoE Publishes Overview on Why Firms Need to Accelerate the Transition from LIBOR \(September 21, 2020\)](#)**

As part of its "Bank Overground" series, the Bank of England (BoE) published a report titled "Why do firms need to accelerate the transition from LIBOR benchmarks?" The report finds that "market volatility in response to COVID-19 further highlighted LIBOR's weakness as an interest rate benchmark and made it clear that firms must move away from LIBOR before the end of 2021."

### **[UK RFRWG Sends Letter to ICE Benchmark Administration on Supporting Transition in Non-Linear Derivatives \(September 18, 2020\)](#)**

The Working Group on Sterling Risk-Free Reference Rates (UK RFRWG) sent a letter to the ICE Benchmark Administration (IBA) to highlight areas of interest in the derivatives market and request updates on the expected status of IBA's GBP LIBOR ICE Swap Rate in the event that GBP LIBOR ceases or becomes unrepresentative. The UK RFRWG seeks to better understand IBA's plans so that it may better assess the potential impact for legacy non-linear derivatives and identify options to promote a smooth and orderly transition in this market.

### **[UK RFRWG Hosts Webinar on Preparation for the LIBOR Transition \(September 18, 2020\)](#)**

The Working Group on Sterling Risk-Free Reference Rates (UK RFRWG) hosted a webinar to raise awareness of LIBOR cessation amongst the corporate sector and actions needed to prepare for the use of alternative reference rates. As part of the webinar, Andrew Hauser, Executive Director for Markets at the Bank of England (BoE), delivered a speech explaining why companies need to act now to transition from LIBOR to SONIA. A transcript of the speech is available [here](#).

### **[UK RFRWG Issues Recommendation on Conventions for Referencing Compounded in Arrears SONIA in the Sterling Loan Market \(September 1, 2020\)](#)**

The Working Group on Sterling Risk-Free Reference Rates (UK RFRWG) released recommendations on standard market conventions for sterling loans based on compounded in arrears Sonia. The release included a [recommendation statement](#), [supporting slides](#), [worked examples](#), and [survey results](#).

### **[UK RFRWG Publishes Updated Priorities and Roadmap for 2020-2021 \(September 2020\)](#)**

The Working Group on Sterling Risk-Free Reference Rates (UK RFRWG) published an updated version of its priorities and roadmap for 2020-2021. The updated version includes the recommended [adoption of new quoting conventions for inter-dealer swap trading](#) (see related update above)

### **[UK RFRWG Publishes Materials to Support Firms in Preparing for the Transition Away from LIBOR \(September 2020\)](#)**

The Working Group on Sterling Risk-Free Reference Rates (UK RFRWG) published a set of materials to support firms preparing for the transition away from LIBOR ahead of the end-2021 deadline. The materials include a [reference paper](#) on the active transition of GBP LIBOR referencing loans, a [reference paper](#) on the active transition of GBP LIBOR referencing bonds, and a [recommendation](#) of credit adjustment spread methodology for fallbacks in cash market products referencing GBP LIBOR.

### **[UK RFRWG Publishes August Newsletter \(August 2020\)](#)**

The UK RFRWG released its newsletter for August 2020. The newsletter provides an update from the Working Group regarding RFR transition in the GBP market with a focus on market developments, official sector updates, key liquidity indicators and key milestone dates. Previous editions of the Newsletter can be found on the Bank of England [site](#).

## **[BoE Financial Stability Report Reiterates the Importance of Transitioning from LIBOR to Alternative Reference Rates Before End-2021 \(August 2020\)](#)**

In its August Financial Stability Report, the Bank of England's (BoE) Financial Policy Committee (FPC) re-emphasized that firms end reliance on LIBOR benchmarks before end-2021. Additionally, it includes a status update on the progress of the transition strategy to-date, as well as an overview of the progress expected from the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) and Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) moving forward. Details can be found in Box 10 of the report starting on page 85.

## **APAC**

### **HK**

## **[TMA to Hold Webinar on the Latest Updates of TMA's Financial Benchmarks \(October 13, 2020\)](#)**

The Hong Kong Treasury Markets Association (TMA) will be hosting a webinar titled "Latest Updates of TMA's Financial Benchmarks." Event topics include an update of IOSCO's assurance review on TMA's administered benchmarks, an update on the EU Benchmarks Regulation (EU BMR), an update on LIBOR discontinuation and discussion on preparation, and an update on recent developments relating to alternative nearly risk-free rates including IBOR fallbacks.

### **SGD**

## **SC-STS Holds Web Conference on Tax and Accounting (September 16, 2020)**

The Steering Committee for SOR Transition to SORA (SC-STS) held a web conference titled "SOR Transition to SORA: Masterclass on Tax & Accounting." The full video replay of the event and event materials can be found on the SC-STS [events page](#).

## **[Jacqueline Loh, Managing Director of MAS, Gives Keynote Speech: "Act Now to Transition to SORA" \(September 9, 2020\)](#)**

In a keynote speech at the Association of Banks in Singapore's (ABS) Roundtable Session on SGD Interest Rate Landscape Changes, Jacqueline Loh, Managing Director of the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS), urged market participants to transition from SOR to SORA. Additionally, the speech provided background information on the transition in Singapore, as well as an overview of the global transition to alternative reference rates. The full video replay of the event and keynote speeches can be found on the SC-STS [events page](#).

## **[Samuel Tsien, Chairman of the SC-STS, Gives Keynote Speech on SGD Interest Rate Landscape Changes \(September 9, 2020\)](#)**

Samuel Tsien, Chairman of the Steering Committee for SOR Transition to SORA (SC-STS), gave a keynote speech at the Association of Banks in Singapore's (ABS) Roundtable Session on SGD Interest Rate Landscape Changes. The speech provided background on the formation of the SC-STS, an update on its work to date, and an overview of its workplan moving forward. The full video replay of the event and keynote speeches can be found on the SC-STS [events page](#).

### **SC-STS Summarizes Role of Fallback Rate Arrangements for SOR Derivatives (September 1, 2020)**

The Steering Committee for SOR Transition to SORA (SC-STS) published an overview of the role of fallback rate arrangements for SOR derivatives. As part of the outline, SC-STS announced that SOR “will only be published for about three years following the fallback trigger, after which time Fallback Rate (SOR) is expected to be permanently discontinued.”

### **SC-STS Publishes Updated Transition Roadmap (September 2020)**

The Steering Committee for SOR Transition to SORA (SC-STS) published an updated version of their transition roadmap and key priorities. The updated version can be found [here](#).

\*All information collected and provided for this report is publicly available