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# **BlackRock Strategic Funds**

Registered office: 49, avenue, J.F.Kennedy, L-1855 Luxembourg, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg R.C.S. Luxembourg B 127481

12 November 2021

Dear Shareholder

The board of directors (the "Directors") of BlackRock Strategic Funds (the "Company") is writing to advise you of changes that will be made to certain Funds of the Company.

Unless otherwise indicated, the changes set out in this letter will take effect from 15 December 2021 (the "Effective Date") and this letter forms notice to Shareholders of the facts set out below.

Terms not defined herein shall have the same meaning as set out in the Prospectus currently in force (available at www.blackrockinternational.com).

### London Interbank Offered Rate and other Interbank Offered Rates

The London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) is used in the calculation of interest and other payments under many loans, derivatives, bonds and other financial transactions, both in the UK and abroad and across currencies. LIBOR is present throughout the financial system and serves as an interest rate benchmark for hundreds of trillions of dollars of financial instruments, being used as both performance and risk benchmarks.

The UK Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), the regulator of the LIBOR administrator who publishes the rate, announced in July 2017 that it will no longer compel banks to submit to LIBOR after year end 2021.

Alternative Reference Rates ("ARRs") have been identified across five major currencies: USD Secured Overnight Financing Rate (USD SOFR), GBP Sterling Overnight Index Average (GBP SONIA), Euro Short Term Rate (EUR ESTR), JPY Tokyo Overnight Average Rate (JPY TONA), CHF Swiss Average Rate Overnight (CHF SARON) as recommended replacement rates in each respective currency. The FCA requires a transition from LIBOR to global ARRs for all investment instruments before the end of 2021.

The funds as shown in Appendix 1 (the "LIBOR Funds") are currently benchmarked to LIBOR related rates and are therefore required to change. From the Effective Date, "the Benchmark Use" statement relating to the LIBOR Funds will be changed to adopt appropriate ARRs (or other suitable replacement rates as shown in Appendix 1).

The changes are not expected to change the risk profile of the LIBOR Funds and are not expected to have a material impact on your investment.

Except as disclosed below, the amendments described in this letter will not result in any change in the fees and expenses borne by the LIBOR Funds and/or its shareholders. The associated fees and expenses will be paid by the Management Company out of the Annual Service Charge charged to the LIBOR Funds. The changes will not materially prejudice the rights or interests of the shareholders of the LIBOR Funds

#### Performance Fees

From the Effective Date, those LIBOR Funds which apply a Performance Fee as shown in Appendix 1, will also transition to a replacement benchmark rate for the purposes of Performance Fee calculation (and accordingly for the purposes of their "Benchmark Use" statement.

Where a LIBOR Fund operates a Performance Fee, it is proposed that a spread adjustment is added to each ARR to ensure the hurdle level is set at a level comparable to the IBOR it replaces (with the exception of EURIBOR). The Directors have determined that this approach is in the best interests of Shareholders as compounding a near risk free rate over a period of time does not account for the credit risk or liquidity risk that an interbank offered rate, such as LIBOR, contains as a result of its formation.

The Spread figures are various numerical rates set by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association ("ISDA") according to each IBOR time horizon to account for the credit risk premium discussed above. The Spread figures that have been determined by ISDA shall remain fixed and are not expected to change. The spread figures, as relevant to each LIBOR Fund, shall be disclosed in the Prospectus from the Effective Date.

BlackRock published "The Endgame: Benchmark Reform and Transition from IBORs" on 30 June 2021 that provides further detail with respect to BlackRock's IBOR transition process and global interest rate reform generally. The document is available at: www.blackrock.com/corporate/literature/whitepaper/libor-viewpoint-benchmark-reform-transition-from-ibors.pdf

BlackRock neither seeks to, nor believes, it will benefit as a result of the replacement of the performance fee benchmark rates and the changes are intended to maintain the financial position of unitholders. The Performance Fee calculation period shall not be amended as a result of the changes outlined in this section.

### Action to be taken by you

Shareholders are not required to take any action in relation to the changes described in this letter. If, however, you do not agree with the changes described in this letter you may redeem your Shares free of any redemption charges at any time prior to the Effective Date, in accordance with the provisions of the Prospectus. If you have any questions regarding the redemption process please contact your local representative or the Investor Services Team (see details below).

Redemption proceeds will be paid to Shareholders within three Business Days of the relevant Dealing Day, provided that the relevant documents (as described in the Prospectus) have been received. Any redemption of your shares may affect your tax position and you should consult your own professional advisers as to the implications of disposing of shares under the laws of the jurisdictions in which you may be subject to tax.

#### **General Information**

Any further communication in relation to the contents of this letter, if required, shall be made via the relevant product pages on the BlackRock website.

Updated versions of the Singapore offering documents (including the Prospectus and product highlights sheets) will be available to download from our website (www.blackrock.com/sg) free of charge in due course after the Effective Date. Copies of the Company's articles of incorporation are available for inspection at the office of the Company's Singapore Representative during normal Singapore business hours, and copies of annual and semi-annual reports are also available from our website and free of charge upon request from the Singapore Representative (see details below).

The Directors accept responsibility for the contents of this letter. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the Directors (who have taken all reasonable care to ensure that this is the case) the information contained in this letter is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the impact of such information.

If you would like any further information or have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the Company's Singapore Representative, BlackRock (Singapore) Limited, at #18-01 Twenty Anson, 20 Anson Road Singapore 079912 or by telephone on +65 6411-3000.

Yours faithfully

Denise Voss Chairwoman

### Appendix 1

### **LIBOR Funds**

No.	Fund	Current BM	Replacement BM	Performance Fee [Y/N]
1	BlackRock Americas Diversified Equity Absolute Return Fund*	LIBOR 3 Month	3 Month SOFR compounded in arrears + Spread	Y
2	BlackRock UK Equity Absolute Return Fund	LIBOR 3 Month GBP	3 Month SONIA compounded in arrears + Spread	Y
3	BlackRock Emerging Markets Absolute Return Fund	LIBOR 3 Month	3 Month SOFR compounded in arrears + Spread	Y
4	BlackRock Global Equity Absolute Return Fund	LIBOR 3 Month	3 Month SOFR compounded in arrears + Spread	Y
5	BlackRock Asia Pacific Diversified Equity Absolute Return Fund	LIBOR 3 Month	3 Month SOFR compounded in arrears + Spread	Y
6	BlackRock Asia Pacific Absolute Return Fund	LIBOR 3 Month	3 Month SOFR compounded in arrears + Spread	Y
7	BlackRock Emerging Companies Absolute Return Fund*	LIBOR 3 Month (GBP)	3 Month SONIA compounded in arrears + Spread	Y
8	BlackRock Style Advantage Fund	LIBOR 3 Month	3 Month SOFR compounded in arrears + Spread	Y
9	BlackRock Style Advantage Screened Fund	LIBOR 3 Month	3 Month SOFR compounded in arrears + Spread	Y
10	BlackRock Emerging Markets Flexi Dynamic Bond Fund	LIBOR 3 Month	3 Month SOFR compounded in arrears	N
11	BlackRock European Absolute Return Fund	3 Month Euro LIBOR	3 Month EURIBOR	Y
12	BlackRock Dynamic Diversified Growth Fund	Euro Overnight Index Average	ESTR Overnight	N
13	BlackRock Fixed Income Strategies Fund	Euro Overnight Index Average	ESTR Overnight	N
14	BlackRock Fixed Income Credit Strategies Fund	Euro Overnight Index Average	ESTR Overnight	N

### Notes:

# Compounded in arrears

Compounding in arrears is a methodology that compounds daily values of the overnight rate throughout the relevant term period (i.e. 3 Months).

# **Euro Short Term Rate (ESTR)**

ESTR is an interest rate benchmark that reflects the overnight borrowing costs of banks within the eurozone. The rate is calculated and published by the European Central Bank ECB.

The main difference between ESTR and LIBID/LIBOR is that ESTR is based on actual transactional data in the eurozone, while LIBID/LIBOR is based on estimates provided by banks.

### Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR)

SOFR is the overnight interest rate for US dollar denominated loans and derivatives established as an alternative to LIBID/LIBOR. The rate is calculated and published by the New York Federal Reserve.

The main difference between SOFR and LIBID/LIBOR is that SOFR is based on actual transactional data in the US treasuries market, while LIBID/LIBOR is based on estimates provided by banks.

### Sterling Over Night Index Average (SONIA)

SONIA is the overnight interest rate for GBP denominated loans and derivatives established as an alternative to LIBID/LIBOR. The rate is calculated and published by the Bank of England.

The main difference between SONIA and LIBID/LIBOR is that SONIA is based on actual transactional data in the US treasuries market, while LIBID/LIBOR is based on estimates provided by banks

Only the LIBOR Funds marked with \* may be offered to the public in Singapore.

# Appendix 2

# **ISINs**

No.	Fund	ISINs
1	BlackRock Americas Diversified Equity Absolute Return Fund+	LU0765562458* LU1323999489 LU1238068321* LU1266592614 LU1653088168 LU0784324112* LU0849781678 LU0725892466* LU0725892466* LU0725892383* LU1791183780 LU0840974975* LU1873114208 LU1246651910* LU1238068594*
2	BlackRock UK Equity Absolute Return Fund	LU1808491226 LU1640626351 LU1495981976 LU1495982198 LU1430596343 LU1430596426 LU1430596772 LU1430596855 LU1495982784 LU1430596186 LU1430596699 LU1430596699 LU1430596939 LU1567864464
3	BlackRock Emerging Markets Absolute Return Fund	LU0965649881 LU0997362594 LU1033658300 LU1033658136 LU0863014311 LU1033658722 LU1061270184 LU0995223301 LU1063391988 LU0944773521 LU0852332542 LU0852336535 LU0852339042
4	BlackRock Global Equity Absolute Return Fund	LU1908247569 LU1908247643 LU1908247726 LU1908247999 LU1908248021 LU1908248294 LU1908248377 LU2310089425 LU1919855590 LU1919855673 LU1919855756
5	BlackRock Asia Pacific Diversified Equity Absolute Return Fund	LU1586024074 LU1593227850 LU1508157978 LU1508158430 LU1508158190 LU1508158513 LU1508158273 LU1508158356 LU1508158604

No.	Fund	ISINs
6	BlackRock Asia Pacific Absolute Return Fund	LU1495982271 LU1417813836 LU1417813919 LU1417814057 LU1417814131 LU1417814214 LU1417814305 LU1417814487 LU1417814560 LU1513020419 LU1495982438 LU1495982511 LU1495982602
7	BlackRock Emerging Companies Absolute Return Fund+	LU2379649341 LU2402058403* LU2066748497 LU2252211383* LU1884804383 LU1861218136* LU1861218219 LU1861218300 LU1861218482 LU1861218565* LU1861218995* LU1861219027 LU1861219704 LU1861219290 LU1861219373* LU1861219613* LU1861219613* LU1861219886 LU1861219456 LU1990957067* LU1990978147* LU1991003358*
8	BlackRock Style Advantage Fund	LU1781817777 LU1532729727 LU1469409517 LU1640626609 LU1373035150 LU1373035234 LU1373035317 LU1352905993 LU1352905993 LU1352906298 LU1352906371 LU1352906454 LU1363273480 LU1640627169 LU1363273308 LU1394251976 LU1640627243 LU1352906025 LU1423753034 LU1485749367 LU1485749367 LU1484781551 LU1706559660 LU1609299281 LU1718790519
9	BlackRock Style Advantage Screened Fund	LU1859541614 LU1859541705 LU1859541887 LU1859541960 LU1859542000 LU1859542182

No.	Fund	ISINs
		LU1859542265 LU1859542349 LU1919855087 LU1919855160 LU2050411508
10	BlackRock Emerging Markets Flexi Dynamic Bond Fund	LU1435395550 LU1072451542 LU0949128572 LU0949128499 LU1093538335 LU1308276671 LU1722863567 LU1118028742 LU1814255391 LU0997362164 LU1648246756 LU1648247721 LU1567862849 LU1567863144 LU1781817264 LU0940382277 LU1572169453 LU0949128266 LU2008561636 LU0949128143 LU1728553345 LU1715606080 LU1800013283 LU1072457747 LU0946833604 LU1418627409
11	BlackRock European Absolute Return Fund	LU1706559587 LU0411704413 LU0414668557 LU0414666189 LU0414665884 LU0776931064 LU0748867792 LU2213651438 LU2231577342 LU0802637750 LU0827970921
12	BlackRock Dynamic Diversified Growth Fund	LU0724654230 LU1992118031 LU0496817981 LU0496819334 LU0572146941 LU0586680109 LU0586678897 LU1355424828 LU0871610134 LU2008561552 LU2079411406
13	BlackRock Fixed Income Strategies Fund	LU1040967272 LU1117534401 LU1200840038 LU1117534666 LU1090193134 LU1090193647 LU1090194454 LU1046547540 LU1948809105 LU1046547201 LU1046548191 LU0589446532 LU2008562287 LU1728038651

No.	Fund	ISINs
		LU1129992720 LU1193909402 LU0544632515 LU0438336264 LU04383366421 LU0438336694 LU0438336777 LU1260044430
14	BlackRock Fixed Income Credit Strategies Fund	LU1965316372 LU1965316539 LU1965316612 LU1965316703 LU1965316885 LU1965316968 LU1965317008 LU2054448746

### Notes:

- Only the share classes marked with \* may be offered to the public in Singapore.
- Only the LIBOR Funds marked with + may be offered to the public in Singapore.