

# Interim report and unaudited financial statements

iShares Physical Metals plc

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Disclaimers

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### Board of Directors<sup>1</sup>

Michael Griffin (Chairman) (Irish) Kevin O'Brien (Irish) Laura Callanan (Irish)<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>All Directors are non-executive. <sup>2</sup>Employee of the BlackRock Group.

## Administrator

State Street Bank and Trust Company 1 Lincoln Street Boston MA 02111 USA

Registrar State Street Fund Services (Ireland) Limited 78 Sir John Rogerson's Quay Dublin 2 Ireland

## **Company Secretary**

Sanne Corporate Administration Services Ireland Limited Fourth Floor 76 Baggot Street Lower Dublin 2 Ireland

# Arranger, Adviser and Collateral Manager

BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited 12 Throgmorton Avenue London EC2N 2DL United Kingdom

# Trustee

State Street Custodial Services (Ireland) Limited 78 Sir John Rogerson's Quay Dublin 2 Ireland

# **Custodian and Trading Counterparty**

JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A., London Branch 125 London Wall London EC2Y 5AJ United Kingdom

#### **Registered Office**

iShares Physical Metals plc 200 Capital Dock 79 Sir Rogerson's Quay Dublin 2 D02 RK57 Ireland

#### **Currency Manager and Trading Counterparty**

State Street Bank and Trust Company, London Branch 20 Churchill Place Canary Wharf London E14 5EU England

## Legal Adviser to the Company

in respect of Irish Law: William Fry 2 Grand Canal Square Dublin 2 Ireland

#### Legal Adviser to the Arranger and Adviser

in respect of English Law: Linklaters LLP One Silk Street London EC2Y 8HQ United Kingdom

## Independent Auditor

Ernst &Young Block 1 Harcourt Centre Harcourt Street Dublin 2 Ireland

# **Paying Agent**

Citibank N.A., London Branch Citigroup Centre 25 Canada Square Canary Wharf London E14 5LB England

## BACKGROUND

iShares Physical Metals public limited company (the "Company") was incorporated in Ireland under registration number 494646 on 7 February 2011 with limited liability and is organised under the laws of Ireland as a Public Limited Company ("plc") pursuant to the Companies Act, 2014 (the "Companies Act"). It has been established as a special purpose vehicle for the purpose of issuing asset backed securities. The Company is taxable as a securitisation company pursuant to section 110 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997. Profits arising to the Company are taxable at a rate of 25 per cent.

#### **Principal activities**

The Company has established a secured precious metal linked securities programme (the "Programme") under which secured precious metal linked debt securities ("ETC Securities"), backed by physical holdings of the relevant precious metal, may be issued from time to time. The series of ETC Securities (the "Series") which may be issued under the Programme are iShares Physical Gold ETC, iShares Physical Gold EUR Hedged ETC, iShares Physical Gold GBP Hedged ETC, iShares Physical Silver ETC, iShares Physical Palladium ETC. Each Series provides exposure to a different metal indicated by the name of that Series.

The ETC Securities constitute secured, limited recourse obligations of the Company, issued in the form of debt securities and are issued in Series. The ETC Securities are backed by fully-allocated physical holdings of the relevant precious metal custodied in secured vaults. The ETC Securities are undated (have no final maturity date) and are non-interest bearing. The prevailing market price at which the ETC securities trade on the secondary market may deviate from the daily value of the ETC securities and may not accurately reflect the price of the precious metal underlying the ETC securities. Each ETC Security of a Series has a metal entitlement (the "Metal Entitlement") expressed as an amount in weight (in troy or fine troy ounces) of the relevant metal linked to such Series. This Metal Entitlement starts at a predetermined initial Metal Entitlement for the relevant Series and is reduced daily by the Total Expense Ratio (the "TER") (in metal) for the Series.

Only registered broker-dealers "Authorised Participants" may subscribe and request buy-backs of ETC Securities with the Company and except in certain limited circumstances, these subscriptions and buy-backs can only be carried out in specie. During the life of the ETC Securities, Securityholders, who are not authorised, can buy and sell the ETC Securities on each exchange on which the ETC Securities are listed at the then prevailing market price, through financial intermediaries. References to a "Securityholder" or a "holder" of Securities shall, where the context requires or permits, be construed to mean a person in whose name such Securities are for the time being registered in the register of Securityholders in respect of the Series (or if joint holders appear in the register, the first named thereof) and a holder of beneficial or indirect interests in Securities (including those arising from holding CDIs), except where the references relate to (a) any right to receive payments or Metal in respect of the Securities, the right to which shall be vested, as against the Issuer, solely in the registered holder of such Securities whose name is registered in the Register, and (b) any right to attend, vote at and/or convene meetings of Securityholders.

The term "Arranger and Adviser" is used to represent BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited.

#### Changes to the Company

On 22 May 2022, a new Prospectus was issued by the Company to reflect the launch of two new Series, iShares Physical Gold EUR Hedged ETC and iShares Physical Gold GBP Hedged ETC.

On 5 July 2022, iShares Physical Gold EUR Hedged ETC and iShares Physical Gold GBP Hedged ETC Series commenced trading.

On 31 July 2022, Barry O'Dwyer resigned as a non-executive Director.

On 1 August 2022, Laura Callanan was appointed as a non-executive Director.

## **BACKGROUND** (continued)

#### **Outbreak of COVID-19**

The coronavirus outbreak has had a profound impact on all aspects of society in recent years. While there is a growing consensus in developed economies that the worst of the impact is now over, there is an expectation that travel restrictions, enhanced health screenings at ports of entry and elsewhere, disruption of and delays in healthcare service preparation and delivery, cancellations, supply chain disruptions, and lower consumer demand will create ongoing challenges. While widescale vaccination programmes are now in place in many countries and are having a positive effect, the impact of COVID-19 continues to adversely affect the economies of many nations across the globe and this impact may be greater where vaccination rates are lower, such as in certain emerging markets. Although it is difficult to make timing predictions, it is expected that the economic effects of COVID-19 will continue to be felt for a period after the virus itself has moved from being pandemic to endemic in nature, and this in turn may continue to impact investments held by each Series.

The Manager has assessed the impact of market conditions arising from the COVID-19 outbreak on the Series' ability to meet their investment objectives. Based on the latest available information, the Series continue to be managed in line with their investment objectives, with no disruption to the operations of the Series and the publication of net asset values.

#### **Russia-Ukraine conflict**

Certain financial markets have fallen due primarily to geo-political tensions arising from Russia's incursion into Ukraine and the impact of the subsequent range of sanctions, regulations and other measures which impaired normal trading in Russian securities. The Board of Directors of the Company ("the Board") and the Manager continue to monitor investment performance in line with the Series' investment objectives, and the operations of the Series and the publication of net asset values are continuing.

# **ETC Securities details**

The following Series of ETC Securities were in operation at 31 October 2022. The Series are priced daily, based on the metal reference price source in the table below:

Series	Metal reference price source
iShares Physical Gold ETC	London Bullion Market Association – Gold Price
iShares Physical Gold EUR Hedged ETC	London Bullion Market Association – Gold Price
iShares Physical Gold GBP Hedged ETC	London Bullion Market Association – Gold Price
iShares Physical Silver ETC	London Bullion Market Association – Silver Price
iShares Physical Platinum ETC	London Platinum and Palladium Market – Platinum Price
iShares Physical Palladium ETC	London Platinum and Palladium Market – Palladium Price

#### Stock exchange listings

The Company maintains a standard debt listing on the London Stock Exchange ("LSE"). The original Series first listed on the LSE on 11 April 2011. iShares Physical Gold ETC first listed on Bolsa Mexicana de Valores on 23 November 2020 and on Deutsche Börse Xetra on 16 July 2021. iShares Physical Gold EUR Hedged ETC first listed on Deutsche Börse Xetra on 7 July 2022. iShares Physical Gold GBP Hedged ETC first listed on the LSE on 7 July 2022.

# Total Expense Ratio ("TER")

Each Series pays an "all in one" operational fee to the Arranger and Adviser, which accrues at a rate per annum equal to the TER. The Arranger and Adviser uses this fee to pay the agreed fees of other service providers of the Company. The TER is the rate set out below for each Series and is applied to the Metal Entitlement on a daily basis to determine a daily deduction of an amount of metal from the Metal Entitlement. These rates are the maximum fee rates as at 31 October 2022:

# **BACKGROUND** (continued)

# Total Expense Ratio ("TER") (continued)

Series	TER %
iShares Physical Gold ETC	0.12
iShares Physical Gold EUR Hedged ETC	0.25
iShares Physical Gold GBP Hedged ETC	0.25
iShares Physical Silver ETC	0.20
iShares Physical Platinum ETC	0.20
iShares Physical Palladium ETC	0.20

#### HALF YEARLY MANAGEMENT REPORT ARRANGER AND ADVISER'S REPORT Objective

The objective of the Company is for the value of the ETC Securities to reflect, at any given time, the price of the Metal Entitlement underlying such ETC Securities at that time, less fees and expenses and for the hedged Series any gains/losses on forward foreign exchange contracts.

#### Series performance\*

The performance of the Series for the financial period under review is shown below:

Series	Series* return for the financial period ended 31/10/2022 %	Benchmark return for the financial period ended 31/10/2022 %	Series* return for the financial year ended 30/04/2022 %	Benchmark return for the financial year ended 30/04/2022 %	Series* return for the financial period ended 31/10/2021 %	Benchmark return for financial period ended 31/10/2021 %
iShares Physical Gold ETC	(14.30)	(14.25)	7.98	8.13	0.01	0.08
iShares Physical Gold EUR Hedged ETC**	(8.65)	(8.57)	-	-	-	-
iShares Physical Gold GBP Hedged ETC**	(8.26)	(8.17)	-	-	-	-
iShares Physical Silver ETC	(18.34)	(18.26)	(9.57)	(9.39)	(7.30)	(7.21)
iShares Physical Platinum ETC	0.22	0.32	(23.63)	(23.48)	(17.24)	(17.16)
iShares Physical Palladium ETC	(20.54)	(20.46)	(22.60)	(22.44)	(33.91)	(33.85)

\*Series performance returns are shown net of fees and expenses (TER).

\*\*Series commenced trading during the financial period, thus no returns shown for previous financial year/period. Returns are shown from launch date to the end of the financial period.

#### Arranger and Adviser's review

Interim review covering the financial period from 1 May 2022 to 31 October 2022.

#### Market review

#### **iShares Physical Gold ETC**

The price of gold depreciated approximately 14% amid rising interest rates and moderating inflation, ending the Company's six-month review period at a price of United States (the "US") \$1,639.00 per Troy Ounce. The price of gold is driven by multiple forces, including supply from mining operations and recycling; demand from jewellery, investment, and technology; and the value of the US dollar. Some investors perceive gold within the financial system as a hedge against risks such as inflationary growth or sudden, deflationary disruptions in growth.

Gold prices dropped sharply as the United States Federal Reserve Bank (the "Fed") increased its efforts to curtail inflation by raising the federal funds rate at each of its four meetings during the Company's review period to end at a range of 3.00%–3.25%. The Fed noted in its September 2022 meeting that inflation remained elevated amid robust job growth and low unemployment. In order to achieve its goal of 2% long-run inflation, the Fed stated it anticipates making additional increases to the federal funds target rate. Because precious metals do not bear interest or pay dividends, their relative attractiveness as stores of value generally decrease as interest rates rise.

Since gold is priced in US dollars, the rising US dollar made gold more expensive for most of the world and drove gold prices lower. Late in the Company's review period, the British pound fell to a record low against the US dollar, the euro weakened to a 20-year low relative to the US dollar, while the Japanese yen dropped to its lowest level in more than 30 years.

# HALF YEARLY MANAGEMENT REPORT

# ARRANGER AND ADVISER'S REPORT (continued)

Arranger and Adviser's review (continued)

# Market review (continued)

# iShares Physical Gold ETC (continued)

Gold demand increased during the Company's review period, returning to levels last reached before the coronavirus pandemic began, led by stronger jewellery consumption, record purchases from central banks, and increased bar and coin investment. That offset weaker investment demand, including increased outflows from Exchange Traded Funds ("ETFs") that invest in physical gold and fewer purchases for use in technology applications.

Easing coronavirus-related restrictions led to increased demand for gold jewellery in India and China, countries that accounted for more than half of global demand. Investment demand for gold increased, particularly for gold bars and coins, as investors sought a refuge from high rates of inflation. However, rising interest rates and the strengthening US dollar led to increased outflows from ETFs, particularly in funds based in North America and Europe. Gold demand from global central banks continued to grow during the Company's review period, rising to record levels in the third quarter of 2022, more than double the previous record quarterly level, led by Turkey, Uzbekistan, and Qatar. Industrial companies decreased their demand for gold as consumer spending weakened sharply, particularly in the third quarter, traditionally the strongest period for demand from the electronics sector. US restrictions on chip and electronic equipment exports to China also weakened gold demand.

Total global supply of gold increased during the Company's review period, driven by stronger mine production, offsetting decreased gold recycling. Gold mining production during the first nine months of 2022 climbed to near the record highs set in 2018, with Central and South America leading the industry growth.

#### **iShares Physical Silver ETC**

The price of silver declined sharply during the Company's six-month review period, ending at approximately US \$19.17 an ounce, representing a decrease of approximately 18% as a slowing global economic outlook weakened demand for use in some industrial applications, while rising interest rates diminished silver's investment allure.

While silver, like other precious metals, is considered a store of value, its price is more volatile due to its use as an industrial metal. Approximately 60% of silver consumption is from industrial demand for a wide range of applications, including solar panels, computers, cell phones, vehicles, appliances, and photographic equipment. Rising inflation rates and borrowing costs reduced consumer spending on many goods, including electronics, which use silver extensively as it has the best conductivity of any metal. Silver demand particularly dropped in the US and China, where the weakening economic outlook decreased industrial activity. A prolonged shortage of semiconductors, used in a variety of electronic applications in vehicles, forced automakers to reduce vehicle manufacturing, decreasing the industry's demand for many materials including silver. Conversely, higher energy prices and geopolitical pressures increased orders for solar panels, one of the key drivers of silver demand. The European Union undertook efforts during the Company's review period to reduce its reliance on fossil fuels from Russia in the wake of the invasion of Ukraine, including increasing the use of silver-intensive solar panels.

Investment demand for silver decreased during the Company's review period as central banks increased interest rates to combat growing inflation. The Fed raised the federal funds rate at each of its four meetings during the Company's review period to end at a range of 3.00%–3.25%. The Fed noted in its September 2022 meeting that inflation remained elevated amid robust job growth and low unemployment. Because precious metals do not bear interest or pay dividends, their relative attractiveness as stores of value generally decrease as interest rates rise.

The strengthening US dollar also added to downward pressure on the price of silver, which is priced in US dollars, making the metal more expensive for most of the world. Late in the Company's review period, the British pound fell to a record low against the US dollar, the euro weakened to a 20-year low relative to the US dollar, while the Japanese yen dropped to its lowest level in more than 30 years.

The weakening economic outlook led to increased outflows from ETFs that invest in physical silver. However, investment in silver in India, the world's largest market for the metal, rose significantly in 2022.

# HALF YEARLY MANAGEMENT REPORT

# ARRANGER AND ADVISER'S REPORT (continued)

Arranger and Adviser's review (continued)

# Market review (continued)

# iShares Physical Silver ETC (continued)

The global supply of silver is forecast to rise this year, with an increase in silver recycling and higher output from silver mines. Increased silver mining output in Mexico is forecast to counter decreased output from Peru, where protests over increasing costs of living have curtailed productivity, and Russia, where the war with Ukraine led a major western mining company to suspend and ultimately sell its operations.

#### **iShares Physical Platinum ETC**

The price of platinum ended the Company's six-month review period essentially unchanged at US \$935.00 an ounce, as weakening demand for the precious metal coincided with supply disruptions. Prices climbed above US \$1,030 an ounce early in the Company's review period amid reports of growing demand exceeding limited supplies. However, prices declined as global economies weakened and interest rates rose.

Russia's February 2022 invasion of Ukraine led to geopolitical and supply uncertainties for platinum as Russia is one of the world's largest providers of the precious metal. In May 2022, Britain, the world's second largest importer of platinum, announced new tariffs on platinum imports from Russia and Belarus following the invasion of Ukraine.

Demand for platinum is primarily driven by the automobile industry. A global shortage of microchips, used extensively in automobiles, forced automakers to limit vehicle production, which curtailed demand for many materials, including platinum. Along with palladium and rhodium, platinum is used for the manufacturing of catalytic converters, which use precious metals to convert toxic substances from internal combustion engine exhaust into carbon dioxide and water vapor. The relatively high price of palladium combined with an uncertain supply from Russia, which accounts for about 40% of the world's palladium production, led automotive manufacturers to accelerate efforts to shift from palladium to platinum in order to save money.

Industrial demand for platinum by the chemical and glass sectors could decline in 2022 from record levels in 2021, according to a prominent trade group, as the weakening global economic outlook countered growing demand for the metal for use in green technologies. The US Inflation Reduction Act, passed in August 2022, promoted new climate change initiatives that increase the use of platinum, providing a potential boost to long-term demand.

Investment demand for platinum weakened as rising interest rates and the strengthening US dollar led to increased outflows from ETFs that invest in physical platinum. Because precious metals do not bear interest or pay dividends, their relative attractiveness as stores of value generally weakens when interest rates rise, and other stores of value such as bonds offer higher yields. ETF outflows countered increased investment in platinum bars and coins, particularly in the US where the weakening economic outlook led investors to buy perceived safe hard assets.

Jewellery demand for platinum grew, particularly in North America and Europe where easing coronavirus-related restrictions led to more weddings. Jewellery demand in China weakened early in the Company's review period but gradually strengthened as coronavirus-related disruptions eased, and favourable prices increased demand.

On the supply side, power outages in South Africa and floods in North America decreased mining production of platinum, while supplies from Russia remained uncertain as industrial users sought alternative sources amid the ongoing war in Ukraine. The supply of platinum recovered from recycled vehicles declined as lower production levels of new autos and trucks forced consumers to keep their used vehicles longer and led to lower scrappage rates for used vehicles. Coronavirus-related disruptions in China weakened the amount of platinum recycled from scrap jewellery, while platinum recovered from electronic waste remained at flat levels. Elevated imports of platinum into China kept supplies for the metal tight.

#### **iShares Physical Palladium ETC**

The price of palladium declined approximately 20% during the Company's six-month review period to end at US \$1,839.00 an ounce. Prices for palladium, which in addition to being a precious metal is also used in industrial applications, fell amid fears of a global economic slowdown following coronavirus-related restrictions in China and rising interest rates in the US.

# HALF YEARLY MANAGEMENT REPORT

# ARRANGER AND ADVISER'S REPORT (continued)

Arranger and Adviser's review (continued)

Market review (continued)

# iShares Physical Palladium ETC (continued)

Russia's February 2022 invasion of Ukraine led to geopolitical and supply uncertainties for palladium during the Company's review period, as Russia accounts for about 40% of the world's production. While Western sanctions against Russia excluded palladium, many global precious metals traders still prioritized finding alternate sources. For example, the United Kingdom, the world's largest importer of palladium, imposed increased tariffs on palladium imported from Russia. Consequently, some Russian palladium producers re-routed supply networks towards eastern markets such as Asia, reducing supply concerns and logistical challenges. In addition, UK sanctions against a Russian oligarch who owns one of the world's largest producers of palladium briefly sent prices higher in June 2022.

The automobile industry accounts for more than 80% of the world's demand for palladium and depends on palladium, platinum, and rhodium for the manufacturing of catalytic converters to convert toxic substances from engine exhaust into carbon dioxide and water vapor. Given the uncertain palladium supply from Russia, the automobile industry increased efforts to shift to using more platinum instead of palladium in catalytic converter production. A global shortage of microchips, used extensively in automobiles for a variety of applications, forced automakers to limit vehicle production, which curtailed demand for many materials including palladium.

Investment demand for palladium weakened as rising interest rates and the strengthening US dollar led to increased outflows from "ETFs that invest in physical palladium. Because precious metals do not bear interest or pay dividends, their relative attractiveness as stores of value generally weakens when interest rates rise, and other stores of value such as bonds offer higher yields.

Palladium is priced in US dollars and became less attractive during the Company's review period as the value of the US dollar strengthened relative to many other currencies. By late in the Company's review period, the British pound fell to a record low against the US dollar, the euro weakened to a 20-year low relative to the US dollar, while the Japanese yen dropped to its lowest level in more than 30 years.

On the supply side, palladium mined in South Africa, which accounts for approximately 40% of the world's production, forecast slightly weaker volume for 2022, slightly offset by an increase in Russian production. An impasse in union negotiations at South African mines raised investor concerns of potential supply disruptions and increased palladium prices late in the Company's review period. Flooding in Montana forced US palladium mines to cut production, while forecasts for continued weaker palladium prices deterred investment in new mining operations. The supply of palladium recovered from recycled vehicles declined as the lower production levels of new autos and trucks forced consumers to keep their used vehicles longer and led to lower scrappage rates for used vehicles.

BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited November 2022

## STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### Responsibility Statement, in accordance with the Transparency Directive

Each of the Directors, whose names and functions are listed on page 1 of this report confirm that, to the best of their knowledge and belief:

- the unaudited financial statements, prepared in accordance with IFRS, give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Company at 31 October 2022 and its statement of comprehensive income for the period then ended;
- the Arranger and Adviser's Report contained in the interim report includes a fair review of the development and performance of the business and the position of the Company. A description of the principal risks and uncertainties that the Company faces is provided in the Arranger and Adviser's Report and note 2 of the unaudited financial statements;.

On behalf of the Board of Directors

Michael Griffin Director

13 December 2022

Kevin O'Brien Director

13 December 2022

## STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (UNAUDITED) For the financial period ended 31 October 2022

	Notes	Financial period ended 31 October 2022 \$	Financial year ended 30 April 2022 \$	Financial period ended 31 October 2021 \$
Other income	5,6	-	500	-
Net (losses)/gains on physical metals at fair value	6	(2,513,505,118)	805,302,822	(96,441,100)
Net gains/(losses) on ETC Securities at fair value	6	2,522,929,168	(785,103,677)	107,208,711
Net gains on foreign exchange on other instruments	6	84,830	-	-
Net operating income		9,508,880	20,199,645	10,767,611
Operating expenses	6	(9,508,880)	(20,199,145)	(10,767,611)
Net profit for the financial period/year before tax		-	500	-
Taxation	8	-	(125)	-
Total comprehensive income for the financial				
period/year		-	375	-

There are no recognised gains or losses arising in the financial period/year other than those dealt with in the statement of comprehensive income. In arriving at the results of the financial period/year, all amounts relate to continuing operations. The accompanying notes form an integral part of these unaudited financial statements.

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY (UNAUDITED)

For the financial period ended 31 October 2022

	Share Capital \$	Revenue Reserves \$	Total Equity \$
Balance as at 30 April 2021	56,413	184	56,597
Total comprehensive income for the financial period	-	-	-
Balance as at 31 October 2021	56,413	184	56,597
Total comprehensive income for the financial year	-	375	375
Balance as at 30 April 2022	56,413	559	56,972
Total comprehensive income for the financial period	-	-	-
Balance as at 31 October 2022	56,413	559	56,972

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these unaudited financial statements.

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (UNAUDITED)

As at 31 October 2022

	Notes	31 October 2022 \$	30 April 2022 \$	31 October 2021 \$
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents		57,185	57,097	56,722
Physical metals at fair value	10	13,478,245,312	18,410,883,851	13,060,163,753
Total current assets		13,478,302,497	18,410,940,948	13,060,220,475
EQUITY				
Share Capital	9	(56,413)	(56,413)	(56,413)
Revenue reserves		(559)	(559)	(184)
Total equity		(56,972)	(56,972)	(56,597)
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Payables	12	(1,420,215)	(1,770,941)	(1,618,122)
Corporation tax payable	8	(125)	(125)	(125)
ETC Securities at fair value	11	(13,476,825,070)	(18,409,112,910)	(13,058,545,631)
Unrealised loss on open foreign currency exchange contracts	4	(115)	-	-
Total current liabilities		(13,478,245,525)	(18,410,883,976)	(13,060,163,878)
Total equity and liabilities		(13,478,302,497)	(18,410,940,948)	(13,060,220,475)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these unaudited financial statements.

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (UNAUDITED) For the financial period ended 31 October 2022

Financial Financial period period ended Financial year ended 31 October ended 31 October 30 April 2022 2022 2021 \$ \$ Cash flows from operating activities Total comprehensive income for the financial period/year 500 Adjustments to reconcile total comprehensive income to net cash from operating activities: Net losses/(gains) on physical metals at fair value 2.513.505.118 (805,302,822) 96.441.100 Net (gains)/losses on ETC securities at fair value (2,522,929,168)785,103,677 (107, 208, 711)Net gains on foreign exchange on other instruments (84, 830)(9,508,880)(20, 199, 145)(10,767,611)(112,693) (Decrease)/Increase in Payables (350, 726)40,126 Cash used for operating activities (9,859,606) (20, 159, 019)(10,880,304)9,859,694 20,159,019 10,880,304 Proceeds from disposal of Physical Metals Taxation -(125)Net cash from operating activities 88 375 Net increase in cash and cash equivalents 88 375 Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of the financial period/year 57,097 56,722 56,722 Cash and cash equivalents, end of the financial period/year 57,185 57,097 56,722 Non-cash transactions during the period/year include: **Physical Metals Additions** (1,859,013,222) (8,662,378,704) (2,251,571,222) Physical Metals Disposals 4,268,388,250 4,825,244,713 2,872,692,122 ETC Securities issued 1,859,013,222 8,662,378,704 2,251,571,222 ETC Securities redeemed (4,268,388,250)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these unaudited financial statements.

(4,825,244,713)

(2,872,692,122)

## NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY

For the financial period ended 31 October 2022

#### 1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies and estimation techniques are consistent with those applied to the previous annual financial statements. During the period, the Company issued currency hedged securities and as a result entered into forward currency contracts.

## 1.1 Financial derivative and other specific instruments

#### 1.1.1 Forward currency contracts

A forward currency contract is an agreement, in the OTC market, between two parties to buy or sell a certain underlying currency at a certain date in the future, at a specified price.

## 1.1.2 Currency hedged securities

The terms of Currency Hedged Securities incorporate a currency hedging mechanism that seeks to reduce the exposure of such Currency Hedged Securities to exchange rate fluctuations between the currency in which the Currency Hedged Securities are denominated (i.e. the Series Currency) and the currency in which the relevant Metal underlying such Currency Hedged Securities is denominated (i.e. the Metal Currency). This is achieved by the Issuer replicating the effect of a notional forward sale of the Metal Currency and purchase of the Series Currency.

## 1.2 Foreign currency

## 1.2.1 Transactions and balances

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into the functional currency of each Series at the foreign currency exchange rate in effect at the date of the transaction.

Foreign currency assets and liabilities, including investments, are translated at the exchange rate prevailing at the reporting date.

The foreign exchange gain or loss based on the translation of the investments, as well as the gain or loss arising on the translation of other assets and liabilities, is included in the statement of comprehensive income.

#### 1.3 Statement of compliance

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standards 34, Interim Financial Reporting, issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB").

These interim financial statements are unaudited. The statutory auditor's report in the Company's annual audited financial statements for the financial year ended 30 April 2022 was unqualified.

#### 1.4 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Company's accounting policies. The estimates and associated judgements are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources.

Actual results may differ from these estimates. Management makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the actual results.

#### 1.5 New standards, amendments and interpretations effective for the financial period

There are no new standards, amendments or interpretations issued and effective for the financial period beginning 1 May 2022 that have a significant impact on the Company's financial position, performance or disclosures in its financial statements.

## NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.6 New standards and amendments to standards that are relevant to the Company but are not yet effective and have not been early adopted by the Company

There are no new standards and amendments to standards, that are relevant to the Company but are not yet effective and have not yet been early adopted by the Company which are considered to be applicable to the financial statements of the Company.

## 2. Financial instruments and risks

The Company's activities expose it to the various types of risk which are associated with the relevant precious metal, ETC Securities and the markets in which it operates. The following information is not intended to be a comprehensive summary of all risks and investors should refer to the prospectus for a more detailed discussion of the risks inherent in investing in the Company.

The Board review half yearly investment performance reports and receive half yearly presentations from the Arranger and Adviser covering the Company's performance and risk profile during the financial period. The Board has appointed the Arranger and Adviser to act on behalf of the Company under the terms and conditions of the ETC Securities and the Company's transaction documents.

The Board consider the following risks to be the principal risks and uncertainties facing the Company for the forthcoming six months:

# 2.1 Market price of the ETC Securities and physical metals

Market risk arises mainly from uncertainty about future values of the relevant precious metal which is influenced by price movements. It represents the potential loss that each Series may suffer through holding market positions in the face of market movements. The market price at which the ETC Securities trade on any stock exchange on which the Securities are listed may not reflect accurately the price of the Metal underlying the ETC Securities.

Physical metals are generally more volatile than most other asset classes, making investments in physical metals riskier and more complex than other investments. The performance of a physical metal is dependent upon various factors, including (without limitation) supply and demand, liquidity, natural disasters, direct investment costs, location, changes in tax rates, financial markets and changes in laws, regulations and the activities of governmental or regulatory bodies.

# 2.1.1 Market risk arising from market price of the ETC Securities and physical metals

Other price risk is the risk that the fair value of physical metals or ETC Securities will fluctuate because of changes in market prices whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the metals, the individual ETC Securities or its issuer, or factors affecting similar assets or ETC Securities traded in the market. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issue, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Company and market prices of its investments.

Securityholders are exposed to market risk arising from market price of the ETC Securities and physical metals arising from its holding of physical metals. The movements in the prices of these holdings result in movements in the performance of the ETC Securities. The value of ETC Securities will be affected by movements in the market price of the metal to which a particular Series is linked and in the case of currency hedging securities movements in the EUR/USD or GBP/USD exchange rate.

The market price of each Series of ETC Securities will be affected by a number of factors, including, but not limited to:

- (i) the value and volatility of the physical metal referenced by the relevant Series of ETC Securities;
- (ii) the value and volatility of metals in general;
- (iii) market perception, interest rates, yields and foreign exchange rates;
- (iv) the creditworthiness of, among others, the Custodian, any applicable Sub-Custodian, the Administrator, the Registrar, the Authorised Participants and each Metal Counterparty (JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A.) and, in respect to the currency hedged securities only, the Trading Counterparties; and

#### NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

#### 2. Financial instruments and risks (continued)

## 2.1 Market price of the ETC Securities and physical metals (continued)

2.1.1 Market risk arising from market price of the ETC Securities and physical metals (continued)

(v) liquidity in the ETC Securities on the secondary market.

The Company does not consider market risk to be a significant risk to the Company as any fluctuation in the value of the physical metal will ultimately be borne by the Securityholders of the relevant Series. Therefore, assuming all other variables remain constant any increase/(decrease) in the market price of the physical metals would have an equal increase/(decrease) on the value of the ETC Securities issued in the relevant Series. A hypothetical 1% increase in the market price of the physical metals would have an increase of \$134,782,453 (30 April 2022: \$184,108,839, 31 October 2021: \$130,601,638) on the value of the ETC Securities issued. A hypothetical 1% decrease in the market price of the physical metals would have an equal but opposite impact on the value of the ETC Securities issued in the relevant Series.

The Series offer investors instant, easily-accessible and flexible exposure to the movement in spot prices of the relevant physical metal. Each Series' performance is correlated to its benchmark. The correlation of the Series' performance against the benchmark is a metric monitored by key management personnel.

# 2.1.2 Market risk arising from foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of assets will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates.

## **Currency Hedging**

The price of metal is quoted in US dollars. If a series of securities is denominated in a currency other than US dollars, the issuer will hedge the currency exposure between US dollars and the series currency. Consequently, the metal entitlement in respect of such securities will include a currency hedging component. Such securities are "Currency Hedged Securities". The formula for calculating the metal entitlement in respect of Currency Hedged Securities will reflect the effect of a rolling currency hedge generally entered into on each business day. Such currency hedge typically involves the notional forward sale of US dollars and purchase of the relevant series currency and is designed to reduce the exposure of the price of the metal to exchange rate fluctuations between such currencies. However, there may be a cost for entering into such hedges and such hedges may not fully eliminate exchange rate risks or fluctuations and, depending on movements in exchange rates, such currency hedging might have a negative impact on the value of the relevant securities.

#### Exposure to foreign currency risk

iShares Physical Gold EUR Hedged ETC and iShares Physical Gold GBP Hedged ETC may invest in financial instruments denominated in currencies other than its functional currency. Consequently, each Series is exposed, directly and/or indirectly, to risks that the exchange rate of its functional currency relative to other currencies may change in a manner which has an adverse effect on the value of the portion of each Series assets which are denominated in currencies other than its own currency.

#### Management of foreign currency risk

iShares Physical Gold EUR Hedged ETC and iShares Physical Gold GBP Hedged ETC engage in foreign currency hedging to minimise the effect of currency movements between the currencies of the investments held by the Series and the Series functional currency.

The Manager monitors foreign currency risk exposure against pre-determined tolerances and determines when a currency hedge should be reset and the gain or loss arising from such hedge reinvested or settled, while taking into consideration the frequency and associated transaction and reinvestment costs of resetting the currency hedge.

# 2.1.3 Market risk arising from interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value of the ETC Securities will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates.

#### NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

#### 2. Financial instruments and risks (continued)

## 2.1 Market price of the ETC Securities and physical metals (continued)

#### 2.1.3 Market risk arising from interest rate risk (continued)

Changes in exchange rates and interest rates may have a positive or negative impact on the price, demand, production costs, direct investment costs of precious metals and the returns from investments in precious metals are therefore influenced by and may be correlated to these factors. The Company has deemed the effect of these valuation fluctuations insignificant. As a result, the Company is not subject to significant interest rate risk.

## 2.2 Counterparty credit risk

Counterparty credit risk is the risk that the counterparty to a transaction will fail to fulfil an obligation or commitment that it has entered into with the Company.

The Company is exposed to counterparty credit risk from the parties with which it trades and will bear the risk of settlement default from transactions involving its holdings of physical metals, its transactions with Metal Counterparties (such metal counterparties which, from time to time, are party to a Metal Sale Agreement with the Issuer providing for the purchase of Metal from the Issuer in respect of a Series of Securities, and any successor or replacement thereto) in order to meet its monthly TER and any potential buy-back requests.

The Company's Custodian is JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A., London Branch (the "Custodian"). The Company's ability to meet its obligations with respect to the ETC Securities is dependent upon the performance of the Custodian of its obligations under the relevant Custody Agreement (means the custody agreement dated on or about 22 March 2011 entered into by the Issuer, the Custodian and the Adviser and any other parties thereto as amended, supplemented, novated or replaced from time to time). Secured Property (metal held in allocated accounts in the Custodial network) in respect of each Series is held by the Custodian and/or with a Sub-Custodian who has entered into a Sub-Custodian Agreement (means an agreement between the Custodian and a Sub-Custodian pursuant to which the Sub-Custodian is appointed to act as sub-custodian in connection with the duties and obligations of the Custodian under the Custody Agreement as amended, supplemented, novated or replaced from time to time) with the Custodian. Consequently, the Securityholders are relying on the creditworthiness of the Custodian and/or any relevant Sub-Custodian. The physical metals are segregated from the assets of the Custodian and Sub-Custodian into allocated accounts, with ownership rights remaining with the Company.

During the financial period, the Custodian appointed Malca-Amit (U.K.) Limited as a Sub-Custodian in relation to silver, a credit rating for the Sub-Custodian is not available.

Securityholders will be at risk if the Custodian or any relevant Sub-Custodian does not, in practice, maintain such a segregation. In order to mitigate the risk of the Custodian and/or any Sub-Custodian not segregating and/or allocating underlying metal, the Custody Agreement provides that the Custodian will maintain a list setting out the vault location and serial identification numbers of all bars, plates or ingots of underlying metal held by the Custodian and any Sub-Custodian for the benefit of the Company in the allocated account(s) and will update this list on at least a daily basis.

Furthermore the Company's risk exposure to the Custodian and Sub-Custodian is reduced as it issues ETC Securities only after the metal representing the subscription settlement amount has been deposited to the allocated accounts. While the Company has put in place an arrangement to minimise the holding of metal in unallocated accounts, there may be short periods of time during which underlying metal may pass through unallocated accounts. Bankruptcy or insolvency of the Custodian or Sub-Custodian may cause the Company's rights with respect to its physical metals to be delayed or limited.

To mitigate the Company's exposure to the Custodian and Sub-Custodian, the Arranger and Adviser employs specific procedures to ensure that the Custodian is a reputable institution and that the counterparty credit risk is acceptable to the Company. The Company only transacts with Custodians that are regulated entities subject to prudential supervision, or with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

## NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

## 2. Financial instruments and risks (continued)

## 2.2 Counterparty credit risk (continued)

The physical metals are held by the Custodian or relevant Sub-Custodian in its vault premises. The Custodian and Sub-Custodian have no obligation to maintain insurance specific to the Company or specific only to the physical metal held for the Company against theft, damage or loss, however insurance is maintained in connection with the Custodian's business including in support of its obligations to the Company under the Custodian Agreement.

There is a risk that the physical metal could be lost, stolen or damaged and the Company would not be able to satisfy its obligations in respect of the ETC Securities. In such an event the Company may, with the consent of the Trustee and the Arranger and Adviser, adjust the Metal Entitlement of each Security of the relevant Series to the extent necessary to reflect such damage or loss.

The long term credit rating of the Custodian is A+ (30 April 2022: A+, 31 October 2021: A+) (Standard and Poor's rating).

Currency hedging trades entered into in order to hedge currency risks in respect of Currency Hedged Securities are not collateralised. Accordingly, Currency Hedged Securities have uncollateralised exposure to any Trading Counterparties with whom such currency hedging trades are entered into. In relation to Currency Hedged Securities, any gain for the Issuer resulting from a currency hedging trade is reinvested in the relevant metal by the collateral manager on behalf of the Issuer which, in turn, is reflected in the metal entitlement in respect of the business day on which such gain is realised. However, as the metal relating to the trade will not be delivered by the Trading Counterparty to the Issuer's custody account until the relevant settlement date, the Issuer might at times hold an amount of metal that is less than the aggregate metal entitlement, there is a risk that the Issuer may not be able to satisfy its obligations in respect of the relevant Currency Hedged Securities in full. There is also a risk that, due to shortages in the market, the Trading Counterparty might be unable to source the relevant metal in the market to transfer to the Issuer in circumstances where the Issuer the amount of the relevant metal required to settle the relevant metal trade may lead to the early redemption of the relevant Currency Hedged Securities and may also result in the Issuer not being able to pay the early redemption amount in respect of each security in full. Therefore, security holders of Currency Hedged Securities are exposed to the creditworthiness of the Trading Counterparty in full. Therefore, security holders of Currency Hedged Securities are exposed to the creditworthiness of the Trading Counterparties.

The initial Trading Counterparty in respect of currency hedging trades is State Street Bank and Trust Company, London Branch. The Issuer may enter into metal trades and/or currency hedging trades with further Trading Counterparties from time to time.

The long term credit rating of the Trading Counterparty is AA- (30 April 2022: AA-, 31 October 2021: AA-) (Standard and Poor's rating).

Counterparty credit risk is monitored and managed by BlackRock Risk and Quantitative Analysis ("RQA") Counterparty & Concentration Risk Team. The team is headed by BlackRock's Chief Counterparty Credit Officer who reports to the Global Head of RQA. Credit authority resides with the Chief Counterparty Credit Officer and selected team members to whom specific credit authority has been delegated.

As such, counterparty approvals may be granted by the Chief Counterparty Credit Officer, or by identified RQA Credit Risk Officers who have been formally delegated authority by the Chief Counterparty Credit Officer as deemed appropriate.

The BlackRock RQA Counterparty & Concentration Risk Team completes a formal review of each new counterparty, monitors and reviews all approved counterparties on an ongoing basis and maintains an active oversight of counterparty exposures.

The Company has appointed State Street Bank and Trust Company to provide services relating to the establishment and operation of a cash account in respect of each Series of ETC Securities and the Company cash account which will hold the share capital and any potential profit of the Company. The Company will be exposed to the counterparty credit risk of State Street Bank and Trust Company in respect of the cash held by same. In the event of the insolvency or bankruptcy of State Street Bank and Trust Company, the Company will be treated as a general creditor.

## NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

## 2. Financial instruments and risks (continued)

## 2.2 Counterparty credit risk (continued)

The long term credit rating of the parent company of State Street Bank and Trust Company, State Street Corporation is A (30 April 2022: A, 31 October 2021: A) (Standard and Poor's rating).

There were no past due or impaired assets as of 31 October 2022, 30 April 2022 or 31 October 2021.

## 2.3 Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company will encounter difficulties in meeting obligations associated with its ETC Securities.

The Company does not have a significant exposure to liquidity risk due to the buy-back of ETC Securities being settled in transfers of physical metal except in certain limited circumstances. The additions and disposals of physical metals are primarily non-cash transactions of the Company as they are carried out in-specie, excluding the disposal of physical metals in relation to the payment of the TER for each Series.

The Authorised Participant of a Series may request that the Company buy-back ETC Securities of a Series. ETC Securities bought back from Authorised Participants may be subject to a buy-back fee and will be settled by physical delivery of an amount of the relevant metal equal to the product of the Metal Entitlement as at the relevant buy-back trade date and the aggregate number of ETC Securities to be repurchased.

In limited circumstances (such as when there are no Authorised Participants in respect of a Series), the Company may, in its sole discretion, by issuing a Non-Authorised Participant Buy-Back Notice, allow Securityholders who are not Authorised Participants to request that the Company buy-back ETC Securities in respect of the relevant Series.

ETC Securities bought back from each Non-Authorised Participant Securityholder may be subject to a buy-back fee and will be for a cash amount in US Dollars equal to the sale proceeds of the Metal Entitlement as at the relevant buy-back trade date. The Company will be exposed to the liquidity risk of meeting these buy-backs and will need to sell the metal at prevailing market prices to meet liquidity demands.

Not all markets in physical metals are liquid and able to quickly and adequately react to changes in supply and demand. The fact that there are relatively few market participants in the physical metals markets means that speculative investments can have negative consequences and may distort prices and market liquidity.

The Company may not be able to sell the full Metal Entitlement for the ETC Securities in one day and may need to sell such metal over a series of days. For these reasons, buy-back proceeds (in cash) for cash buy-backs are likely to take longer to be paid out than buy-back proceeds (in metal) for physical metal buy-backs.

The Company's liquidity risk is managed by the Arranger and Adviser in accordance with established policies and procedures in place.

#### 3. Fair value hierarchy

The Company is required to classify fair value measurements using a fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of inputs used in making the measurements.

The fair value hierarchy has the following levels:

Level 1 - Quoted market price in an active market for an identical instrument.

A financial instrument is regarded as quoted in an active market if quoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry group, pricing service, or regulatory agency, and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis.

## NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

#### 3. Fair value hierarchy (continued)

Level 2 – Valuation techniques used to price securities based on observable inputs. This category includes instruments valued using: quoted market prices in active markets for similar instruments; quoted prices for similar instruments in markets that are considered less than active; or other valuation techniques where all significant inputs are directly or indirectly observable from market data.

Valuation techniques used for non-standardised financial instruments include the use of comparable recent arm's length transactions, reference to other instruments that are substantially the same, discounted cash flow analysis, option pricing models and other valuation techniques commonly used by market participants making the maximum use of market inputs and relying as little as possible on Company-specific inputs.

Level 3 – Valuation techniques using significant unobservable inputs. This category includes all instruments where the valuation technique includes inputs not based on observable data and the unobservable inputs could have a significant impact on the instrument's valuation.

This category also includes instruments that are valued based on quoted prices for similar instruments where significant unobservable adjustments or assumptions are required to reflect differences between the instruments and instruments for which there is no active market.

The level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement is categorised in its entirety is determined on the basis of the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. For this purpose, the significance of an input is assessed against the fair value measurement in its entirety. If a fair value measurement uses observable inputs that require significant adjustment based on unobservable inputs, that measurement is a level 3 measurement. Assessing the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgement, considering factors specific to the asset or liability.

The determination of what constitutes 'observable' requires significant judgement by the Arranger and Adviser. The Arranger and Adviser considers observable data to be that market data that is readily available, regularly distributed or updated, reliable and verifiable, not proprietary, and provided by independent sources that are actively involved in the relevant market.

# 3.1 Fair value of physical metals

Physical metals are deemed to be classified as level 1, as they are valued using a listed price. The fair value of physical metal as at the reporting date is determined by reference to prices published by London Bullion Market Association ("LBMA"), for Gold and Silver and the London Platinum and Palladium Market ("LPPM"), in respect of Platinum and Palladium.

#### 3.2 Fair value of ETC securities and valuation techniques used

ETC Securities issued by the Company in relation to each Series are classified within level 2. The fair value of the ETC Securities issued is determined by reference to the exchange quoted value of the underlying secured physical metal holdings and adjusted for the TER payable to the Arranger and Adviser. This valuation technique represents the price of the ETC Securities at which Authorised Participants subscribe and request buy-backs of ETC Securities directly with the Company. There are no significant unobservable inputs to this valuation technique.

# 3.3 Forward currency contracts

Forwards currency contracts are deemed to be classified as level 2. They are valued based on the present value of future cashflows based on the forward exchange rates at the balance sheet date.

# 3.4 Transfers between level 2 and level 3 and changes in valuation techniques

There were no transfers between levels for ETC Securities during the financial period. The Company did not hold any Level 3 securities throughout the financial period or at 31 October 2022, 30 April 2022 or 31 October 2021. There were also no changes made to any of the valuation techniques applied as at 31 October 2022 (30 April 2022: Nil, 31 October 2021: Nil).

Transfers between levels are deemed to have occurred when the pricing source for a particular security has changed which triggers a change in level as defined under IFRS 13 'Fair Value Measurement'.

# NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

# 4. Open foreign currency exchange contracts

Currency	Amount Purchased	Currency	Amount Sold	Underlying Exposure \$	Maturity date	Unrealised gain/(loss) \$
Forward currency of	contracts (30 April 2022: Nil)					
EUR	3,759,065	USD	3,724,959	17,654	03/11/2022	(34)
GBP	6,941,532	USD	7,986,171	34,408	03/11/2022	(80)
USD	44,225	EUR	44,630	35,308	03/11/2022	(-)
USD	90,875	GBP	78,989	68,818	03/11/2022	(1)
Total unrealised losses on forward currency contracts					ward currency contracts	(115)
Net unrealised losses on forward currency contracts					ward currency contracts	(115)

# 5. Other income

	Financial period ended 31 October 2022 \$	Financial year ended 30 April 2022 \$	Financial period ended 31 October 2021 \$
Other income	-	500	-
Total	-	500	-

# 6. Gains and losses per Series

# Financial period ended 31 October 2022

	iShares Physical Gold ETC	iShares Physical Gold EUR Hedged ETC*	iShares Physical Gold GBP Hedged ETC*	iShares Physical Silver ETC	iShares Physical Platinum ETC
	\$	€	£	\$	\$
Other income	-	-	-	-	-
Net losses on physical metal at fair value	(2,403,208,772)	(148,684)	(388,237)	(102,176,927)	(1,088,973)
Net gains on ETC securities at fair value	2,412,115,581	274,963	213,570	102,632,522	1,202,397
Net (losses)/gains on foreign exchange on other instruments	-	(123,768)	177,572	-	-
Net operating income	8,906,809	2,511	2,905	455,595	113,424
Operating expenses:					
TER	(8,906,809)	(2,511)	(2,905)	(455,595)	(113,424)
Net profit for the financial period before tax	-	-	-	-	-

\*Series commenced trading during the financial period.

# NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

## 6. Gains and losses per Series (continued)

	iShares Physical Palladium ETC	Company Total
	\$	\$
Other income	-	-
Net losses on physical metal at fair value	(6,417,604)	(2,513,505,118)
Net gains on ETC securities at fair value	6,444,645	2,522,929,168
Net (losses)/gains on foreign exchange on other instruments	-	84,830
Net operating income	27,041	9,508,880
Operating expenses:		
TER	(27,041)	(9,508,880)
Net profit for the financial period before tax	-	-

# Financial year ended 30 April 2022

	iShares Physical Gold ETC	iShares Physical Silver ETC	iShares Physical Platinum ETC	iShares Physical Palladium ETC	Company Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other income	125	125	125	125	500
Net gains/(losses) on physical metal at fair value	926,566,591	(73,692,608)	(41,598,831)	(5,972,330)	805,302,822
Net (losses)/gains on ETC securities at fair value	(908,021,860)	74,993,942	41,900,723	6,023,518	(785,103,677)
Net (losses)/gains on foreign exchange on other instruments	-	-	-	-	-
Net operating income	18,544,856	1,301,459	302,017	51,313	20,199,645
Operating expenses:					
TER	(18,544,731)	(1,301,334)	(301,892)	(51,188)	(20,199,145)
Net profit for the financial year before tax	125	125	125	125	500

## NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

## 6. Gains and losses per Series (continued)

#### Financial period ended 31 October 2021

	iShares Physical Gold ETC	iShares Physical Silver ETC	iShares Physical Platinum ETC	iShares Physical Palladium ETC	Company Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other income	-	-	-	-	-
Net gains/(losses) on physical metal at fair value	2,934,355	(56,937,834)	(32,501,535)	(9,936,086)	(96,441,100)
Net gains on ETC securities at fair value	6,977,899	57,616,179	32,654,785	9,959,848	107,208,711
Net (losses)/gains on foreign exchange on other instruments	-	-	-	-	-
Net operating income	9,912,254	678,345	153,250	23,762	10,767,611
Operating expenses:					
TER	(9,912,254)	(678,345)	(153,250)	(23,762)	(10,767,611)
Net profit for the financial period before tax	-	-	-	-	-

## 7. Total Expense Ratio (the "TER")

Fees earned by the Arranger and Adviser during the financial period and balances outstanding as at 31 October 2022 are disclosed in note 6 and note 12 respectively.

Each Series pays an "all in one" operational fee to the Arranger and Adviser, which accrues at a rate per annum equal to the TER. The Arranger and Adviser uses this fee to pay the agreed fees of other service providers of the Company.

The TER is applied to the Metal Entitlement on a daily basis to determine a daily deduction of an amount of metal from the Metal Entitlement.

Fees and expenses payable on a monthly basis by the Company to the Arranger and Adviser will be paid out of the relevant Series of ETC Securities by way of the sale of metal. The amount of metal to be sold is a predetermined amount based on the Metal Entitlements of the ETC Securities of each Series.

The TER may be varied by the Company at the request of the Arranger and Adviser and in the case of an increase, 30 calendar days notice will be given to Securityholders of such series in accordance with Condition 18 (Terms and Conditions of the Securities section of the prospectus).

Save as disclosed above, no commissions, discounts, brokerages or other special terms have been granted or are payable by the Company in connection with the issue of ETC Securities or sale of any metal of the Company.

#### 8. Taxation

The Company will be taxable as a securitisation company pursuant to Section 110 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 (the "TCA"). All expenses that are not capital in nature and are for the purposes of the Company's activities will be deductible from income in order to determine taxable profits.

# NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

# 8. Taxation (continued)

The Company is a qualifying company within the meaning of Section 110 of the TCA. As such, the profits are chargeable to corporation tax under Case III of Schedule D at a rate of 25%.

	Financial period ended 31 October 2022 \$	Financial year ended 30 April 2022 \$	Financial period ended 31 October 2021 \$
Net profit for the financial period/year before tax	-	500	-
Corporation tax rate	-	25%	-
Taxation charge	-	(125)	-

There was no corporation tax charged during the financial period ended 31 October 2022 or 31 October 2021 as there was no profit for these financial periods. Corporation tax payable of \$125 relating to year end 30 April 2022 remains payable as at 31 October 2022.

# 9. Share capital

The authorised share capital of the Company is  $\in$ 100,000 divided into 100,000 ordinary shares of  $\in$ 1 each, of which  $\in$ 40,000 divided into 40,000 ordinary shares of  $\in$ 1 each have been issued. All of the issued shares are fully paid up and are held by or to the order of Wilmington Trust SP Services (Dublin) Limited (the "Share Trustee"). The Share Trustee holds them on trust for charitable purposes to the value of  $\in$ 40,000 (\$56,413) (30 April 2022:  $\in$ 40,000 (\$56,413), 31 October 2021:  $\in$ 40,000 (\$56,413)).

# 10. Physical metals at fair value

The following tables summarise the activity in metal bullion during the financial period/year:

# 31 October 2022

ETC	Gold Fine Troy Ounces* iShares Physical Gold ETC	Gold Fine Troy Ounces* iShares Physical Gold EUR Hedged ETC**	Gold Fine Troy Ounces* iShares Physical Gold GBP Hedged ETC**	Silver Troy Ounces iShares Physical Silver ETC
Balance at the beginning of financial period	9,233,688	-	-	25,752,031
Metal Contributed***	1,019,782	2,234	4,790	1,616,884
Metal Distributed****	(2,363,534)	-	-	(5,649,482)
Metal Sold****	(5,196)	-	1	(23,685)
Balance at the end of financial period	7,884,740	2,234	4,791	21,695,748

\* All metal amounts are measured in troy ounces except for gold which is measured in fine troy ounces. Metal amounts are rounded to whole numbers. \*\* Series commenced trading during the financial period.

Series commenced trading during the fill

\*\*\* Subscriptions in-specie \*\*\*\* Redemptions in-specie

\*\*\*\*\* Metal sold in relation to settlement of TER

## NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

#### 10. Physical metals at fair value (continued)

ETC	Platinum Troy Ounces iShares Physical Platinum ETC	Palladium Troy Ounces iShares Physical Palladium ETC
Balance at the beginning of financial period	139,229	12,625
Metal Contributed**	8,710	2,113
Metal Distributed***	(36,997)	(1,526)
Metal Sold****	(127)	(13)
Balance at the end of financial period	110,815	13,199

\* All metal amounts are measured in troy ounces except for gold which is measured in fine troy ounces. Metal amounts are rounded to whole numbers. \*\* Subscriptions in-specie

\*\*\* Redemptions in-specie

\*\*\*\* Metal sold in relation to settlement of TER

#### 31 October 2022

Physical metals at fair value	Series	Troy Ounces*	Price per Troy Ounce	Fair Value Series currency	Fair Value \$
Gold	iShares Physical Gold ETC	7,884,740	1,639.00	12,923,069,548	12,923,069,548
Gold	iShares Physical Gold EUR Hedged ETC	2,234	1,655.41	3,694,898	3,652,037
Gold	iShares Physical Gold GBP Hedged ETC	4.791	1.426.38	6.826.169	7.859.303
Silver	iShares Physical Silver ETC	21,695,748	19.17	415,796,140	415,796,140
Platinum	iShares Physical Platinum ETC	110,815	935.00	103,594,426	103,594,426
Palladium	iShares Physical Palladium ETC	13,199	1,839.00	24,273,858	24,273,858
Total					13,478,245,312

\* All metal amounts are measured in troy ounces except for gold which is measured in fine troy ounces. Metal amounts are rounded to whole numbers. Valuations disclosed are based on the unrounded metal amounts.

#### 30 April 2022

	Gold Fine Troy Ounces*	Silver Troy Ounces	Platinum Troy Ounces	Palladium Troy Ounces
Balance at the beginning of financial year	7,310,834	25,654,778	144,047	8,838
Metal Contributed**	4,374,901	12,364,091	61,008	6,433
Metal Distributed***	(2,441,914)	(12,213,218)	(65,533)	(2,625)
Metal Sold****	(10,133)	(53,620)	(293)	(21)
Balance at the end of financial year	9,233,688	25,752,031	139,229	12,625

\* All metal amounts are measured in troy ounces except for gold which is measured in fine troy ounces. Metal amounts are rounded to whole numbers. Valuations disclosed are based on the unrounded metal amounts.

\*\* Subscriptions in-specie

\*\*\* Redemptions in-specie

\*\*\*\* Metal sold in relation to settlement of TER

## NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

#### 10. Physical metals at fair value (continued)

30 April 2022

Physical metals at fair value	Troy Ounces*	Price per Troy Ounce \$	Fair Value \$
Gold	9,233,688	1,911.30	17,648,177,294
Silver	25,752,031	23.45	603,756,376
Platinum	139,229	932.00	129,761,160
Palladium	12,625	2,312.00	29,189,021
Total			18,410,883,851

\* All metal amounts are measured in troy ounces except for gold which is measured in fine troy ounces. Metal amounts are rounded to whole numbers. Valuations disclosed are based on the unrounded metal amounts.

#### 31 October 2021

	Gold Fine Troy Ounces*	Silver Troy Ounces	Platinum Troy Ounces	Palladium Troy Ounces
Balance at the beginning of financial period	7,310,834	25,654,778	144,047	8,838
Metal Contributed**	1,151,493	5,418,762	20,375	2,509
Metal Distributed***	(1,516,742)	(5,070,137)	(27,014)	(735)
Metal Sold****	(5,529)	(26,982)	(146)	(10)
Balance at the end of financial period	6,940,056	25,976,421	137,262	10,602

\* All metal amounts are measured in troy ounces except for gold which is measured in fine troy ounces. Metal amounts are rounded to whole numbers. Valuations disclosed are based on the unrounded metal amounts.

\*\* Subscriptions in-specie

\*\*\* Redemptions in-specie

\*\*\*\* Metal sold in relation to settlement of TER

# 31 October 2021

Physical metals at fair value	Troy Ounces*	Price per Troy Ounce \$	Fair Value \$
Gold	6,940,056	1,769.15	12,277,066,166
Silver	25,976,421	24.01	623,693,873
Platinum	137,262	1,009.00	138,497,252
Palladium	10,602	1,972.00	20,906,462
Total			13,060,163,753

\* All metal amounts are measured in troy ounces except for gold which is measured in fine troy ounces. Metal amounts are rounded to whole numbers. Valuations disclosed are based on the unrounded metal amounts.

## NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

#### 11. ETC securities at fair value

The following table summarises activity in the ETC Securities of each Series during the financial period/year:

## 31 October 2022

	iShares Physical Gold No. of Securities	iShares Physical Gold EUR Hedged ETC* No. of Securities	iShares Physical Gold GBP Hedged ETC* No. of Securities	iShares Physical Silver No. of Securities
Balance at the beginning of financial period	473,559,522	-	-	26,831,597
ETC Securities issued**	52,320,919	117,469	251,838	1,685,600
ETC Securities redeemed**	(121,260,628)	-	-	(5,889,250)
Balance at the end of financial period	404,619,813	117,469	251,838	22,627,947

\*Series commenced trading during the financial period, hence no comparative data is available. \*\*ETC Securities trades are carried out in specie

	iShares Physical Platinum No. of Securities	iShares Physical Palladium No. of Securities
Balance at the beginning of financial period	9,667,349	438,307
ETC Securities issued**	605,000	73,400
ETC Securities redeemed**	(2,570,200)	(53,000)
Balance at the end of financial period	7,702,149	458,707

\*\*ETC Securities trades are carried out in specie

	Currency	No. of Securities	Price per Security*	Fair Value Series currency	Fair Value* \$
iShares Physical Gold ETC	USD	404,619,813	31.9356	(12,921,745,181)	(12,921,745,181)
iShares Physical Gold EUR Hedged ETC	EUR	117,469	31.4475	(3,694,111)	(3,651,259)
iShares Physical Gold GBP Hedged ETC	GBP	251,838	27.0997	(6,824,732)	(7,857,648)
iShares Physical Silver ETC	USD	22,627,947	18.3723	(415,724,980)	(415,724,980)
iShares Physical Platinum ETC	USD	7,702,149	13.4501	(103,576,540)	(103,576,540)
iShares Physical Palladium ETC	USD	458,707	52.9084	(24,269,462)	(24,269,462)
Total					(13,476,825,070)

\*Price per security is rounded to 4 decimal places. Valuations disclosed are based on the unrounded price per security.

# NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

# 11. ETC securities at fair value (continued)

# 30 April 2022

	iShares Physical Gold No. of Securities	iShares Physical Silver No. of Securities	iShares Physical Platinum No. of Securities	iShares Physical Palladium No. of Securities
Balance at the beginning of financial year	374,423,667	26,676,853	9,981,973	306,196
ETC Securities issued*	224,296,116	12,872,372	4,232,876	223,200
ETC Securities redeemed*	(125,160,261)	(12,717,628)	(4,547,500)	(91,089)
Balance at the end of financial year	473,559,522	26,831,597	9,667,349	438,307

\*ETC Securities trades are carried out in specie

	No. of Securities	Price per Security* \$	Fair Value* \$
iShares Physical Gold ETC	473,559,522	37.2640	(17,646,527,921)
iShares Physical Silver ETC	26,831,597	22.4981	(603,660,296)
iShares Physical Platinum ETC	9,667,349	13.4205	(129,740,348)
iShares Physical Palladium ETC	438,307	66.5843	(29,184,345)
Total			(18,409,112,910)

\*Price per security is rounded to 4 decimal places. Valuations disclosed are based on the unrounded price per security.

#### 31 October 2021

	iShares Physical Gold No. of Securities	iShares Physical Silver No. of Securities	iShares Physical Platinum No. of Securities	iShares Physical Palladium No. of Securities
Balance at the beginning of financial period	374,423,667	26,676,853	9,981,973	306,196
ETC Securities issued*	58,997,202	5,638,200	1,412,800	87,000
ETC Securities redeemed*	(77,719,837)	(5,276,774)	(1,873,500)	(25,500)
Balance at the end of financial period	355,701,032	27,038,279	9,521,273	367,696

\*ETC Securities trades are carried out in specie

	No. of Securities	Price per Security* \$	Fair Value* \$
iShares Physical Gold ETC	355,701,032	34.5136	(12,275,574,670)
iShares Physical Silver ETC	27,038,279	23.0633	(623,592,085)
iShares Physical Platinum ETC	9,521,273	14.5438	(138,475,661)
iShares Physical Palladium ETC	367,696	56.8492	(20,903,215)
Total			(13,058,545,631)

\*Price per security is rounded to 4 decimal places. Valuations disclosed are based on the unrounded price per security.

## NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

#### 12. Payables

	31 October 2022 \$	30 April 2022 \$	31 October 2021 \$
iShares Physical Gold ETC	(1,324,368)	(1,649,373)	(1,491,496)
iShares Physical Gold EUR Hedged ETC*	(769)	-	-
iShares Physical Gold GBP Hedged ETC*	(1,635)	-	-
iShares Physical Silver ETC	(71,160)	(96,080)	(101,788)
iShares Physical Platinum ETC	(17,886)	(20,812)	(21,591)
iShares Physical Palladium ETC	(4,397)	(4,676)	(3,247)
Total	(1,420,215)	(1,770,941)	(1,618,122)

\*Series commenced trading during the financial period, hence no comparative data is available.

#### 13. Commitments and contingent liabilities

There were no significant commitments or contingent liabilities at the financial period ended 31 October 2022 (30 April 2022: Nil, 31 October 2021: Nil).

#### 14. Exchange rates

The rates of exchange as at 31 October 2022, 30 April 2022 and 31 October 2021 were:

	31 October 2022	30 April 2022	30 October 2021
EUR1 = USD	0.9884	1.0550	1.1572
GBP1 = USD	1.1514	-	-

The average rates of exchange as at 31 October 2022, 30 April 2022 and 31 October 2021 were:

	31 October 2022	30 April 2022	31 October 2021
EUR1 = USD	1.0193	-	-
GBP1 = USD	1.1882	-	-

## 15. Employees of the Company

The Company had no employees during the financial periods ended 31 October 2022 or 31 October 2021 or the financial year ended 30 April 2022. The Directors are all non-executive.

## 16. Related parties

Parties are considered to be related if one party has the ability to control the other party or is able to exercise significant influence over the other party, in making financial or operational decisions.

The following entities are disclosed as related parties to the Company during the financial period ended 31 October 2022 and 30 April 2022:

Board of Directors of the Company	
Arranger and Adviser:	BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited

The ultimate holding Company of the Arranger and Adviser is BlackRock, Inc. a company incorporated in Delaware USA.

## NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

#### 16. Related parties (continued)

The Directors as at 31 October 2022 are presented in the table below:

Director	Employee of the BlackRock Group	Director of BlackRock affiliates and/or other funds managed by BlackRock
Michael Griffin	No	No
Kevin O'Brien	No	Yes
Laura Callanan	Yes	Yes

Fees earned by the Arranger and Adviser during the financial period and balances outstanding as at 31 October 2022 and 30 April 2022 are disclosed in note 6 and note 12 respectively.

#### Holdings in other funds managed by BlackRock/BlackRock affiliates

As at 31 October 2022 and 30 April 2022, the Series did not hold any investments in funds managed by BlackRock, Inc. or investments that are BlackRock affiliates.

All related party transactions were carried out at arm's length in the ordinary course of business. The terms and returns received by the related parties in making the ETC investments were no more favourable than those received by other investors investing into the same share class.

No provisions have been recognised by the Company against amounts due from related parties at the financial period end date (30 April 2022: Nil, 31 October 2021: Nil).

No amounts have been written off in the financial period in respect of amounts due to or from related parties (30 April 2022: Nil, 31 October 2021: Nil).

No commitments secured or unsecured or guarantees have been entered into with related parties during the financial period (30 April 2022: Nil, 31 October 2021: Nil).

#### 17. Subsequent events

There have been no events subsequent to the financial period end, which, in the opinion of the Directors of the Company, may have had a material impact on the financial statements for the financial period ended 31 October 2022.

#### 18. Approval date

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 13 December 2022.

#### DISCLAIMERS

#### **Regulatory Information**

BlackRock Advisors (UK) Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority ('FCA'), registered office at 12 Throgmorton Avenue, London, EC2N 2DL, England, Tel +44 (0)20 7743 3000. For your protection, calls are usually recorded. iShares Physical Metals public limited company (the "Company") was incorporated in Ireland under registration number 494646 on 7 February 2011 with limited liability and is organised under the laws of Ireland as a Public Limited Company ("plc") pursuant to the Companies Act. It has been established as a special purpose vehicle for the purpose of issuing asset backed securities. The Prospectus has been drawn up in accordance with the Prospectus Regulation (EU) 2017/1129/EC and approved by the Central Bank of Ireland, as competent authority under the Prospectus Directive.

#### **Risk Warnings**

Investment in the products mentioned in this document may not be suitable for all investors and involve a significant degree of risk. Investors should read carefully and ensure they understand the Risk Factors in the Prospectus. Past performance is not a guide to future performance and should not be the sole factor of consideration when selecting a product. The price of the investments may go up or down and the investor may not get back the amount invested. Your income is not fixed and may fluctuate. The securities are priced in US Dollars and the value of the investment in other currencies will be affected by exchange rate movements. We remind you that the levels and bases of, and reliefs from, taxation can change.

The ETC Securities are limited recourse obligations which are payable solely out of the underlying secured property. If the secured property is insufficient any outstanding claims will remain unpaid.

Precious metal prices are generally more volatile than most other asset classes, making investments riskier and more complex than other investments.

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