

# NB Distressed Debt Investment Fund Limited

**2024 ANNUAL REPORT** 

Audited Consolidated Financial Statements For The Year Ended 31 December 2024

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### **Features**

# NB Distressed Debt Investment Fund Limited (the "Company")

The Company is a closed-ended investment company incorporated and registered in Guernsey on 20 April 2010 with registration number 51774. The Company is governed under the provisions of the Companies (Guernsey) Law, 2008 (as amended) (the "Law"), and the Registered Collective Investment Scheme Rules and Guidance 2021 issued by the Guernsey Financial Services Commission ("GFSC"). It is a non-cellular company limited by shares and has been declared by the GFSC to be a registered closed-ended collective investment scheme. The Company trades on the Specialist Fund Segment ("SFS") of the London Stock Exchange ("LSE").

The Company is a member of the Association of Investment Companies (the "AIC") and is classified within the Debt – Loans & Bonds Category.

#### **Investment Objective**

The Company's primary objective is to provide investors with attractive risk-adjusted returns through long-biased, opportunistic exposure to stressed, distressed and special situation credit-related investments while seeking to limit downside risk by, amongst other things, focusing on senior and senior secured debt with both collateral and structural protection.

# Alternative Investment Fund Manager ("AIFM") and Manager

Investment management services are provided to the Company by Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC (the "AIFM") and Neuberger Berman Europe Limited (the "Manager"), collectively the "Investment Manager". The AIFM is responsible for risk management and discretionary management of the Company's Portfolio and the Manager provides, amongst other things, certain administrative services to the Company.

#### **Share Capital**

As at 31 December 2024 the Company's share capital comprised the following:

#### Ordinary Share Class ("NBDD")

15,382,770 Ordinary Shares, none of which were held in treasury.

#### Extended Life Share Class ("NBDX")

38,731,819 Extended Life Shares, none of which were held in treasury.

#### New Global Share Class ("NBDG")

25,123,440 New Global Shares, none of which were held in treasury.

For the purposes of efficient portfolio management, the Company has established a number of wholly-owned subsidiaries domiciled in Luxembourg. All references to the Company in this document refer to the Company together with its wholly-owned subsidiaries.

#### **Non-Mainstream Pooled Investments**

The Company currently conducts its affairs so that the shares issued by the Company can be recommended by Independent Financial Advisers to ordinary retail investors in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authority's ("FCA") rules in relation to non-mainstream pooled investment ("NMPI") products and intends to continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

The Company's shares are excluded from the FCA's restrictions which apply to NMPI products.

#### **Company Numbers**

#### **Ordinary Shares**

LSE ISIN code: GG00BDFZ6F78 Bloomberg code: NBDD: LN

#### **Extended Life Shares**

LSE ISIN code: GG00BPNZ1C58 Bloomberg code: NBDX:LN

#### New Global Shares

LSE ISIN code: GG00BTLMK410 Bloomberg code: NBDG:LN

#### **Legal Entity Identifier**

YRFO7WKOU3V511VFX790

#### Website

www.nbddif.com

<sup>1</sup> In addition the Company has two Class A Shares in issue. Further information is provided in the Capital Structure section of this report on page 3.

### Capital Structure

The Company's share capital consists of three different share classes, all of which are in the harvest period: the Ordinary Share Class; the Extended Life Share Class; and the New Global Share Class. These share classes each have different capital return profiles and, in one instance a different geographical remit. In addition, the Company has two Class A Shares in issue. While the Company's share classes are all now in harvest, returning capital to shareholders, the Company's corporate umbrella itself has an indefinite life to allow for flexibility for the Company to add new share classes if demand, market opportunities and shareholder approval supported such a move, although the Company has no current plans to create new share classes. Each share class is considered in turn below.

#### **Ordinary Share Class**

NBDD was established at the Company's launch on 10 June 2010 with a remit to invest in the global distressed debt market with a focus on North America. The investment period of NBDD expired on 10 June 2013.

Voting rights: Yes Denomination: **US** Dollars

Hedging: Portfolio hedged to US Dollars

Authorised share capital: Unlimited Par value: Nil

#### **Extended Life Share Class**

A vote was held at a class meeting of NBDD shareholders on 8 April 2013 where the majority of shareholders voted in favour of a proposed

Following this meeting and with the NBDD shareholders' approval of the extension, on 9 April 2013 a new Class, NBDX, was created and the NBDX Shares were issued to 72% of initial NBDD investors who elected to convert their NBDD Shares to NBDX Shares. NBDX had a remit to invest in the global distressed debt market with a focus on North America. The investment period of NBDX expired on 31 March 2015.

Voting rights: Denomination: **US** Dollars

Portfolio hedged to US Dollars Hedging:

Authorised share capital: Unlimited Par value: Nil

#### **New Global Share Class**

NBDG was created on 4 March 2014 and had a remit to invest in the global distressed market with a focus on Europe and North America. The investment period of NBDG expired on 31 March 2017.

Voting rights: Yes

Denomination: Pound Sterling Hedging: Unhedged portfolio

Authorised share capital: Unlimited Par value: Nil

#### Class A Shares

The Class A Shares are held by a trustee pursuant to a purpose trust established under Guernsey law. Under the terms of the Trust Deed the Trustee holds the Class A Shares for the purpose of exercising the right to receive notice of general meetings of the Company but the Trustee shall only have the right to attend and vote at general meetings of the Company when there are no other Shares of the Company in issue.

Voting rights: Nο US Dollars Denomination:

Authorised share capital: 10,000 Class A Shares

US Dollar \$1 Par value:

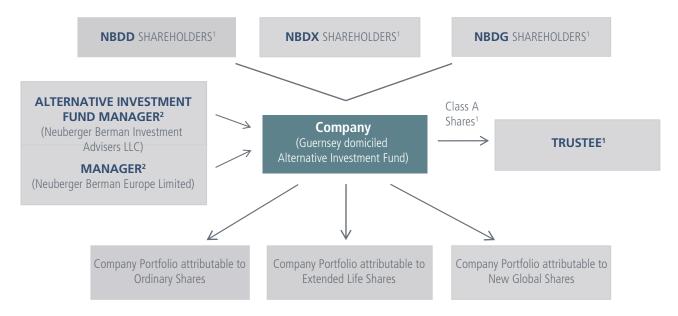
### **Business Model**

#### **Principal Activities and Structure**

The principal activity of the Company is to carry out business as an investment company. The Directors do not envisage any changes in this activity for the foreseeable future.

The chart below sets out the ownership, organisational and investment structure of the Company.

#### INVESTMENT STRUCTURE OF THE COMPANY



- 1 Further information on the Company's capital structure can be found on page 3.
- 2 Further information on the Company's investment management arrangements can be found on page 28.

#### **Investment Objective**

The Company's primary objective is to provide investors with attractive risk-adjusted returns through long-biased, opportunistic exposure to stressed, distressed and special situation credit-related investments while seeking to limit downside risk by, amongst other things, focusing on senior and senior secured debt with both collateral and structural protection.

#### **Investment Policy**

The investment period of each share class has expired. During the investment period, the Investment Manager sought, in accordance with the Investment Policy, to identify mis-priced or otherwise overlooked securities or assets that had the potential to produce attractive absolute returns while seeking to limit downside risk through collateral and structured protection where possible.

The Ordinary Shares, Extended Life Shares and New Global Shares (collectively the "Portfolios") are biased toward stressed and distressed debt securities secured by hard asset collateral in accordance with the Investment Policy. When investing on behalf of the Company, the Investment Manager focused on companies with significant tangible assets which were judged likely to maintain long-term value through a restructuring. The Investment Manager avoided "asset-light" companies, as their values tend to depreciate in distressed scenarios, and also aimed to concentrate on companies with stressed balance sheets whose low implied enterprise value multiples, often calculated using currently depressed cash flows, offered a discount to comparable market valuations.

#### What is Distressed Debt?

Distressed debt generally refers to the financial obligations of a company that is either already in default, under bankruptcy protection, or in distress and heading toward default. Distressed debt often trades at a significant discount to its par value and may present investors with compelling opportunities to profit if there is a recovery in the business. Typically, when a company experiences financial distress or files for bankruptcy protection, the original debt holders often sell their debt securities or claims to a new set of investors at a discount. These investors often try to influence the process by which the issuer restructures its obligations or implements a plan to turn around its operations. These investors may also inject new capital into a distressed company in the form of debt or equity in order to prevent the company from going into liquidation or to aid the company in carrying out a restructuring plan. Investors in distressed debt typically must not only assess the issuer's ability to improve its operations but also whether the restructuring process is likely to result in a meaningful recovery to the investors' class of claims.

Distressed debt can be performing or non-performing. Performing debt is defined as debt that maintains its contractual obligations relating to interest and/or principal payments and can be debt that has yet to default or even debt that is under bankruptcy protection. Non-performing debt is defined as debt that does not continue to meet its financial obligations.

There are several different strategies related to investing in distressed debt. These strategies differ mainly in the types of securities that investors purchase, the life of a fund and its investment period, and a fund's expected returns. Four strategic categories include: (i) senior/senior secured debt strategies; (ii) control/private equity strategies; (iii) junior debt strategies; and (iv) capital structure arbitrage strategies. During the investment periods of the Portfolios, the Investment Manager focused on implementing a senior/senior secured debt strategy in which it invested primarily in secured debt with strong collateral value and structural protection. The Investment Manager has also invested in control positions and non-control positions with the objective of acquiring a blocking position on behalf of the Portfolios.

Investing in secured debt at the top of the capital structure is, in the opinion of the Investment Manager, towards the more conservative end of the distressed debt strategy risk spectrum due to the support from the value of the underlying collateral. Additionally, secured debt holders often have the ability to foreclose on the assets securing their claim and to drive the restructuring process. The typical holding period for investments in this type of strategy is at least six months and can be more than three years.

## Business Model (continued)

#### Typical Life Cycle of a Distressed Debt Investment

#### **IDENTIFY DISTRESSED OPPORTUNITY AND INITIATE INVESTMENT**

- Identify Senior Secured debt secured by hard assets which maintain value during restructuring process
- Understand creditor group makeup and motivations of different constituencies

#### **RESTRUCTURE COMPANY**

- Enter negotiations with various creditor classes
- Assess value allocation to various creditor classes
- Consider pre-packaged bankruptcies versus "Chapter 11" court-based formal bankruptcy process¹

#### **COMPANY EMERGES FROM BANKRUPTCY**

- Fund capital expenditures necessary for future profitability
- Optimise capital structure for return to profitability
- Implement business model for return to profitability



#### **EXIT INVESTMENTS**

- Company returns to profitability and creates value for equity
- Sale of the company to a strategic buyer
- Effect a dividend recapitalisation
- Liquidate the company to recover the original investment

Further information on the Company's investment process can be found in the Company's most recent prospectuses which are available on the Company's website at www.nbddif.com under the "Investor Information" tab.

<sup>1</sup> Negotiations can take place within bankruptcy or creditors can negotiate with the company to agree on a pre-packaged bankruptcy whereby the plan of reorganisation is negotiated before the company files for bankruptcy protection (this has become more common).

#### **Distributions to Shareholders**

#### Income

In order to benefit from an exemption to the United Kingdom ("UK") offshore fund rules, all income from the Company's Portfolio (after deduction of reasonable expenses) must be paid to investors. To meet this requirement the Company will pay out by way of dividend, in respect of each share class, all net income received on investments of the Company attributable to such share class, as appropriate.

It is not anticipated that income from the Portfolios will be material and therefore any income distributions by way of dividend will be on an ad-hoc basis. However, the Company monitors the need to distribute such income annually (less allowable expenses under the NMPI rules) in order to continue to be excluded from the FCA's restrictions which apply to non-mainstream investment products. The exact amount of such income distribution by way of dividend in respect of any class of shares will be variable depending on the amounts of income received by the Company attributable to such share class and will only be paid in accordance with applicable law at the relevant time, including the Companies (Guernsey) Law, 2008 (as amended) (the "Law") and, in particular, will be subject to the Company passing the solvency test contained in the Law at the relevant time. The amount of income distributions by way of dividend paid in respect of one class of shares may be different from that of another class.

#### **Capital**

Following the expiry of the Portfolios' investment periods, the capital proceeds attributable to the corresponding share class as determined by the Directors and in accordance with the articles of incorporation (the "Articles"), will, at such times and in such amounts as the Directors shall in their absolute discretion determine, be distributed to shareholders of that class pro rata to their respective holdings of the relevant shares.

Any capital return will only be made by the Company in accordance with the Articles of the Company and applicable law at the relevant time, including the Law (and, in particular, will be subject to the Company passing the solvency test contained in the Law at the relevant time).

Towards the end of the Portfolios' respective harvest periods, a residual amount will be retained in accordance with regulatory requirements until such time as the relevant share class may be liquidated or its assets otherwise disposed of at the discretion of the Board.

#### Gearing

The Company will not employ leverage or gearing for investment purposes. The Company may, from time to time, use borrowings for share buybacks and short-term liquidity purposes, including bridging purposes, prior to the sale of investments. Save for such bridging borrowings the Directors will restrict borrowing, with respect to each share class, to an amount not exceeding 10 percent of the NAV of the share class at the time of drawdown.

The Company does not currently have any borrowings. Derivatives may be used for the purposes of efficient portfolio management and to hedge risk within the Portfolios. In addition, from time to time the Company may also invest in such derivatives for investment purposes.

# Financial Highlights

#### **Key Figures**

| AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024                            | ORDINARY<br>SHARE CLASS | EXTENDED LIFE<br>SHARE CLASS | NEW GLOBAL<br>SHARE CLASS <sup>1</sup> | AGGREGATED |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------------|--|------------|
| Net Asset Value ("NAV") (\$ millions)             | 11.6                    | 35.9                         | 16.0                                   | 63.5       |
| NAV per Share (\$)                                | 0.7557                  | 0.9271                       | 0.6354                                 | _          |
| Share Price (\$)                                  | 0.6200                  | 0.7000                       | 0.4008                                 | _          |
| NAV per Share (£)                                 | _                       | _                            | 0.5073                                 | _          |
| Share Price (£)                                   | _                       | _                            | 0.3200                                 | _          |
| Premium /(Discount) to NAV per Share              | (17.96%)                | (24.50%)                     | (36.93%)                               | _          |
| Portfolio of Distressed Investments (\$ millions) | 6.3                     | 15.2                         | 15.2                                   | 36.7       |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents (\$ millions)           | 4.9                     | 20.3                         | 0.2                                    | 25.4       |
| Total Expense Ratio ("TER") <sup>2</sup>          | 1.43%                   | 1.45%                        | 2.34%                                  | _          |
| Ongoing Charges³                                  | 1.37%                   | 1.38%                        | 2.28%                                  |            |

| Net Asset Value ("NAV") (\$ millions)       12.4       45.6       22.         NAV per Share (\$)       0.8071       1.0312       0.795.         Share Price (\$)       0.6900       0.5300       0.395. | L<br>S <sup>1</sup> AGGREGATED |
|---|--------------------------------|
|   | 1 80.1                         |
| Share Price (\$)         0.6900         0.5300         0.395  | 4 –                            |
|   | 2 –                            |
| NAV per Share (£) – 0.6239  | 9 –                            |
| Share Price (£) – – 0.3   | 1 –                            |
| Premium /(Discount) to NAV per Share (14.51%) (48.60%) (50.32%)   | (ó) –                          |
| Portfolio of Distressed Investments (\$ millions) 7.4 32.0 21.  | 5 60.9                         |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents (\$ millions) 4.3 11.9 0.3  | 3 16.5                         |
| Total Expense Ratio ("TER") <sup>2</sup> 1.28% 1.38% 2.21%  | ,<br>o –                       |
| Ongoing Charges³         1.22%         1.31%         2.17%  | о́ –                           |

<sup>1</sup> Stated in US Dollars, the £ price as at 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023 converted to US Dollars using respective year end exchange rates.

<sup>2</sup> The TERs represent the operating expenses, as required by US Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("US GAAP"), expressed as a percentage of average net

<sup>3</sup> In the year to 31 December 2024, the Company's Ongoing Charges were 1.62%. This figure is based on an expense figure for the year to 31 December 2024 of \$1,263,616. This figure, which has been prepared in accordance with AIC guidance represents the Company's operating expenses, excluding finance costs payable, expressed as a percentage of average net assets. Effective 18 March 2021, the Investment Manager had waived its entitlement to all fees from the Company. The Ongoing Charges by share class are disclosed above.

### Summary of Value in Excess of Original Capital Invested

|   | ORDINARY         | EXTENDED LIFE    | NEW GLOBAL      |
|---|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024                                  | SHARE CLASS (\$) | SHARE CLASS (\$) | SHARE CLASS (£) |
| Original Capital Invested                               | (124,500,202)    | (359,359,794)    | (110,785,785)   |
| Total Capital Distributions                             | 129,627,394      | 299,562,041      | 52,938,252      |
| Total Income Distributions <sup>1</sup>                 | 3,166,835        | 21,349,930       | 5,682,362       |
| Distributions as % of Original Capital                  | 107%             | 89%              | 53%             |
| Total Buybacks  | _                | 12,112,379       | 10,924,963      |
| NAV   | 11,624,114       | 35,907,610       | 12,746,359      |
| Total of NAV Plus Capital and Income Returned ("Value") | 144,418,343      | 368,931,960      | 82,291,936      |
| Value in Excess of Original Capital Invested            | 19,918,141       | 9,572,166        | (28,493,849)    |
| Value as % of Original Capital Invested                 | 116%             | 103%             | 74%             |

| AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023                                  | ORDINARY<br>SHARE CLASS (\$) | EXTENDED LIFE SHARE CLASS (\$) | NEW GLOBAL<br>SHARE CLASS (£) |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Original Capital Invested                               | (124,500,202)                | (359,359,794)                  | (110,785,785)                 |
| Total Capital Distributions                             | 129,627,394                  | 294,070,076                    | 51,444,766                    |
| Total Income Distributions <sup>1</sup>                 | 3,166,835                    | 20,695,255                     | 5,070,285                     |
| Distributions as % of Original Capital                  | 107%                         | 88%                            | 51%                           |
| Total Buybacks  | _                            | 12,112,379                     | 10,924,963                    |
| NAV   | 12,415,231                   | 45,614,485                     | 17,358,035                    |
| Total of NAV Plus Capital and Income Returned ("Value") | 145,209,460                  | 372,492,195                    | 84,798,049                    |
| Value in Excess of Original Capital Invested            | 20,709,258                   | 13,132,401                     | (25,987,736)                  |
| Value as % of Original Capital Invested                 | 117%                         | 104%                           | 77%                           |

<sup>1</sup> By way of dividend.

### Chairman's Statement



I am pleased to be able to report that, after a difficult period, progress has been made in realising assets as demonstrated by the returns of capital that have been made. Two assets were exited since the year end but, because of the requirement to holdback, a distribution could only be made to the holders of Global class

I am optimistic that further progress can be made in the coming months and it is our expectation to make substantial realisation of asses of all classes prior to allow for the liquidation of classes thus allowing us to release the cash that has to be held back. This is likely to be a combination of a final redemption prior to liquidation followed by distributions made by the appointed Liquidator. We will continue to report exits and

cash receipts by way of market announcements.

#### **Company Performance**

As at 31 December 2024, the Company had returned a total of \$132.8m or 107% of NBDD investors' original capital of \$124.5m, \$333.0m or 93% of NBDX investors' original capital of \$359.4m and £69.5m or 63% of NBDG investors' original capital of £110.8m. Currently we are in what we hope to be the final stages of harvesting a number of investments and we will keep investors informed as they occur. It is our intention to fully harvest NBDD during the coming months, subject to market conditions. The Board continues to monitor all costs to ensure that they are appropriate as we are conscious that shareholders may be concerned about the impact of costs on a reducing portfolio during the harvest period. We would therefore remind shareholders that with effect from 18 March 2021 our investment manager agreed to waive all future fees.

#### Annual General Meeting ("AGM") Results

While all of the resolutions tabled at our Annual General Meeting held on 26 June 2024 were passed I would note the significant number of votes against buybacks. As previously mentioned the Board does not expect to carry out any buybacks preferring to make all returns of capital via share redemptions. However, your Board thought it prudent to keep this option open lest an unexpected situation arose where a buyback would be extremely advantageous to the remaining shareholders. Following the vote, a similar resolution will not be placed before the next AGM. My own re-election also received some opposition which is easily understood given my unanticipated extended tenure. I am grateful that my Board colleagues remain supportive of my continuing in office and that this view was supported by over 80% of the votes cast. I look forward to continuing to work with all my colleagues to secure the earliest possible winding up of our Company.

#### **Board Composition, Independence and Diversity**

Due to the expected wind up of the fund it is not considered appropriate or practical to refresh the board at present and we believe the results of the relevant AGM resolutions endorse this approach.

#### **Distributions**

During 2024, we made further progress on the realisation of assets. Following the receipt of proceeds from a return of capital of an Oil & Gas investment the Board resolved on 7 November 2024 to make capital distributions of \$0.1242 and £0.0537 per share in respect of the NBDX and NBDG classes respectively. These distributions were made by a compulsory pro rata redemption of shares held as at 26 November 2024 with payment being made on 10 December 2024.

The Board was also pleased to announce an income distribution by way of dividend which was paid on 9 December 2024.

We will continue to put our income distribution policy to a shareholder vote at each annual general meeting. I would like to remind shareholders that such distributions occur on an ad-hoc basis and are not expected to be either material or equal for each share class.

#### Outlook

Since I commenced drafting this statement we have seen political developments that have caused great uncertainty in global markets and it is difficult to foresee how these will pan out and the degree to which they will, yet again, delay the return of capital. However, our goal continues to be to commence the winding up of your Company in the coming months in order to release funds to shareholders, even if this means that they will have a residual asset that is a receivable rather than a listed security.

It had long been our expectation that the Ordinary class of shares would be the first to commence the final wind-up process followed by the Extended share class and then the New Global share class but we will retain the option to consolidate this approach into a single event if we believe that to be in the best interest of shareholders.

As is normally the case with investment companies, as opposed to those with commercial undertakings, this does not currently have any material impact on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern or to remain viable. However, the whole process must be managed in a way that ensures compliance with UK regulations. This means that the final 10% of the total return (NAV plus cumulative distributions) in respect of any class of participating shares in the Company will be returned to shareholders with a final compulsory redemption of all of the outstanding shares of that class. The Global class will continue to distribute until its net assets are reduced to approximately £8m. The cash associated with these share classes may, in some instances, need to remain in underlying corporate vehicles while tax and other matters relating to those vehicles are concluded. We will keep investors appraised of developments in respect of the remaining assets.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank our longstanding shareholders for your support of our Company. We look forward to updating you further on investment realisations throughout this year.

#### John Hallam

Chairman

29 April 2025

## Investment Manager's Report

#### **Ordinary Share Class**

#### **Summary**

The NAV per share decreased by 6.37% for the year ended 31 December, 2024 primarily due to a lower value in a containers & packaging investment that reported weaker earnings and a reduction in the surface transport asset.

#### Portfolio Update

NBDD ended the year with a NAV per share of \$0.7557 compared to \$0.8071 at end of 2023. At 31 December 2024, 50% of NBDD's NAV was invested in distressed assets, and \$4m in US Government securities which represented a further 50% of NAV, with a minimal amount cash net of payables (see table below). Cash balances will continue to increase as assets are realised, subject to variations in collateral cash, but as noted previously cannot be distributed until the final liquidation of the share class. The portfolio consisted of 3 issuers across five sectors. The largest sector concentrations were in surface transportation, containers & packaging and commercial mortgage and lodging and casinos.

#### **CASH ANALYSIS**

| Total available cash | \$1.7m   |
|----------------------|----------|
| Other payables       | (\$0.1m) |
| Collateral cash      | (\$3.1m) |
| Balance Sheet – Cash | \$4.9m   |
| Balance Sheet – Cash | \$4      |

#### Significant Price Movement during 2024 (more than 1% of NBDD NAV or approximately \$120,000)

| INDUSTRY               | INSTRUMENT        | (US DOLLARS MILLIONS) | COMMENT       |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Containers & packaging | Private Equity    | (0.7)                 | Earnings miss |
| Surface Transport      | Total Return Swap | (0.4)                 | Delayed exit  |

TOTAL BETLIEN

#### **Exits**

During the year, we had two exits. The total number of exits since inception in NBDD is 53, with a total return of \$29.3m.

#### **Distributions**

To date, \$132.8m or 107% of original capital has been distributed to investors in the form of capital distributions via redemptions and income dividends. Total value to investors including NAV and all distributions paid is \$144.4m (116% of original capital). For regulatory reasons, the final 10% of the total return (NAV plus cumulative distributions) in respect of any class of participating shares in NBDDIF will be returned to shareholders with a final compulsory redemption of all of the outstanding shares of that class. The next distribution for NBDD will be the final distribution to shareholders and will wind down the share class. Our current expectation is to wind down the share class during the coming months. We will continue to update investors as we gain clarity on the realisations.

#### **Extended Life Share Class**

#### **Summary**

The NAV per share decreased by 10.1% for the year ended 31 December, 2024. The reduction to NAV was the result of weaker earnings in a container and packaging investment, a delayed exit in a surface transport asset, an exit that occurred at a lower than expect value in a surface transport asset, offset partially by an exit in an oil and gas investment above NAV.

#### **Extended Life Share Class (continued)**

#### **Portfolio Update**

NBDX ended the year with a NAV per share of \$0.9271 compared to \$1.0312 at end of 2023. At 31 December 2024, 61% of NBDX's NAV was invested in distressed assets, and \$2m in US Government securities which represented a further 39% of NAV with a minimal amount of cash net of payables (see table below). Cash balances will continue to increase as assets are realised, subject to variations in collateral cash, but as noted previously not all cash can be distributed until the final liquidation of the share class. The NAV per share increase during the year was principally driven by an increase in value of a packaging investment and two surface transport investments, offset by a decrease in value of an automobile components investment. The NBDX portfolio consists of 6 issuers across 5 sectors. The largest sector concentrations were in surface transportation, commercial mortgage, containers & packaging, lodging & casinos.

#### **CASH ANALYSIS**

| Other payables       | (\$0.2m) |
|----------------------|----------|
| Collateral cash      | (\$6.6m) |
| Balance Sheet – Cash | \$18.9m  |

#### Significant Price Movements during 2024 (more than 1% of NBDX NAV or \$360,000)

| INDUSTRY               | INSTRUMENT            | TOTAL RETURN (USD MILLIONS) | COMMENT  |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Oil & Gas              | Private Equity        | 0.6                         | Sale above NAV                                   |
| Commercial Mortgage    | Bank Debt Investments | (0.4)                       | Indications of interest below NAV, adjusted mark |
| Surface Transport      | Total Return Swap     | (2.2)                       | Delayed exit                                     |
| Surface Transport      | Bank Debt Investments | (1.2)                       | Exit in 1Q'25, adjusted mark                     |
| Containers & Packaging | Private Equity        | (1.8)                       | Earnings miss                                    |

#### **Exits**

In 2024 we had two exits. This brought the total number of exits since inception in NBDX to 73 with total return of \$37.8m.

During 2024 NBDX made distributions of \$6.1m. The total distributions to date (dividends, redemptions and buy-backs) amount to \$333m or 93% of original capital. Total value to investors including NAV and all distributions paid is \$368.9m or 103% of original capital. For regulatory reasons, the final 10% of total return in respect of any class of participating shares in NBDDIF will be returned to shareholders with the final compulsory redemption of all of the outstanding shares of that class. Our current expectation is to wind down the share class during the coming year. We will continue to update investors as we gain clarity on the realisations.

#### **New Global Share Class**

#### Summary

The NAV per share decreased by 18.68% for the year ended 31 December 2024 primarily due to reduced value in our commercial mortgage and surface transportation assets ahead of expected exits in 1Q'25 at lower values.

#### Portfolio Update

NBDG ended the year with a NAV per share of £0.5073 compared to £0.6239 at the end of 2023. At 31 December 2024, 99% of NBDG's NAV was invested in distressed assets with 1% of cash net of payables (see table below). NAV per share decreased during the year primarily due to currency fluctuation and to a reduction in value of a surface transport investment and a commercial mortgage investment, offset by an increase in value of a surface transport investment. The portfolio consisted of 4 issuers across 5 sectors. The largest sector concentrations were in lodging & casinos, commercial mortgage, surface transportation and oil & gas.

## Investment Manager's Report (continued)

#### **New Global Share Class (continued)**

#### **CASH ANALYSIS**

| Total available cash | \$0.1m   |  |
|----------------------|----------|--|
| Other payables       | (\$0.1m) |  |
| Balance Sheet – Cash | \$0.2m   |  |

#### Significant Price Movements during 2024 (more than 1% of NBDG NAV or £130,000)

| INDUSTRY            | INSTRUMENT            | TOTAL RETURN<br>(GBP MILLIONS) | COMMENT  |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Oil & Gas           | Private Equity        | 0.2                            | Sale above NAV                                   |
| Commercial Mortgage | Bank Debt Investments | (0.3)                          | Indications of interest below NAV, adjusted mark |
| Surface Transport   | Bank Debt Investments | (0.9)                          | Exit in 1Q'25, adjusted mark                     |

#### **Exits**

During 2024 there was one exit. The total number of exits since inception is 33 with a total return of £ (10.4m). Detailed descriptions of the exit are at the end of this report.

#### Distributions

During 2024, there were distributions of £2.2m. The total distributions to date (dividends, redemptions, and buy-backs) have been £69.5m or 62.8% of original capital. Total value to investors including NAV and all distributions paid is £82.3m or 74% of original capital. For regulatory reasons, the final 10% of total return in respect of any class of participating shares in NBDDIF will be returned to shareholders with the final compulsory redemption of all the outstanding shares of that class. Our current expectation is to wind down the share class during the coming year. We will continue to update investors as we gain clarity on the realisations.

#### **Summary of Exits across all Share Classes**

Exits experienced from inception to date were as follows:

NBDD 53 exits with a total return of \$29.3m, IRR1 of 8% and ROR of 16%

NBDX 73 exits with a total return of \$37.8m, IRR1 of 2% and ROR of 7%

NBDG 33 exits with a total return of £ (10.4) m, IRR1 of (8)% and ROR of (8)%

The annualised internal rate of return ("IRR") is computed based on the actual dates of the cash flows of the security (purchases, sales, interest and principal pay downs), calculated in the base currency of each portfolio. The Rate of Return ("ROR") represents the change in value of the security (capital appreciation, depreciation, and income) as a percentage of the purchase amount. The purchase amount can include multiple purchases. Total Return represents the inception to date gain/loss on an investment.

### Exit A3 (Exit 33 for NBDG, Exit 52 for NBDD Exit 72 for NBDX)

| EXIT A3 | EXIT | CASH<br>INVESTED<br>(MILLIONS) | CASH<br>RECEIVED<br>(MILLIONS) | TOTAL<br>RETURN<br>(MILLIONS) | IRR     | ROR     | MONTHS<br>HELD |
|---------|------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|---------|----------------|
| NBDX    | 72   | \$36.8                         | \$15.1                         | (\$21.7)                      | (44.4)% | (59.0)% | 131            |
| NBDD    | 52   | \$7.1                          | \$2.4                          | (\$4.7)                       | (55.2)% | (66.3)% | 131            |
| NBDG    | 33   | £12.2                          | £3.9                           | (£8.2)                        | (46.2)% | (67.6)% | 120            |

### Exit A4 (Exit 73 for NBDX and Exit 53 for NBDD)

|         |      | CASH       | CASH       | TOTAL      |       |       |        |
|---------|------|------------|------------|------------|-------|-------|--------|
|         |      | INVESTED   | RECEIVED   | RETURN     |       |       | MONTHS |
| EXIT A4 | EXIT | (MILLIONS) | (MILLIONS) | (MILLIONS) | IRR   | ROR   | HELD   |
| NBDX    | 73   | \$20.0     | \$2.5      | (\$17.5)   | 20.3% | 86.5% | 131    |
| NBDD    | 53   | \$1.6      | \$0.2      | (\$1.4)    | 19.8% | 874%  | 131    |

Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC

**Neuberger Berman Europe Limited** 

29 April 2025

29 April 2025

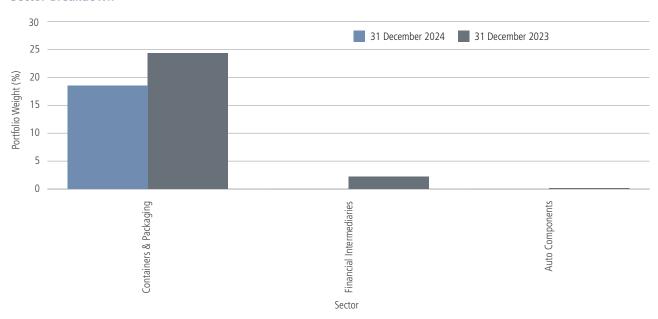
### Portfolio Information

#### **Ordinary Share Class**

#### TOP 31 HOLDINGS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

| HOLDING | SECTOR                 | PURCHASED<br>INSTRUMENT | STATUS     | COUNTRY    | % OF<br>NAV | PRIMARY ASSET                     |
|---------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1       | Surface Transport      | Trade Claim             | Defaulted  | Brazil     | 26%         | Municipal Claim                   |
| 2       | Containers & Packaging | Post-Reorg Equity       | Post-Reorg | Luxembourg | 16%         | Manufacturing Plant and Equipment |
| 3       | Containers & Packaging | Post-Reorg Equity       | Post-Reorg | Luxembourg | 2%          | Manufacturing Plant and Equipment |
| Total   |                        |                         |            |            | 44%         |                                   |

#### Sector Breakdown<sup>3</sup>

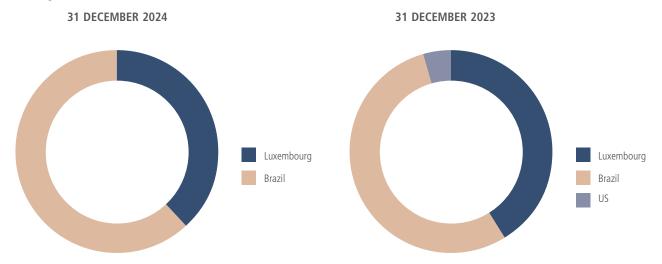


<sup>1</sup> Ordinary Share Class holds three investments by issuer.

<sup>2</sup> As at 31 December 2024 collateral pledged is included in the Surface Transport Market Value.

<sup>3</sup> Categorisations determined by Neuberger Berman; percentages determined by Neuberger Berman and U.S Bank Global Fund Services (Guernsey) Limited/U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (Ireland) Limited as Administrator/Sub-Administrator to the Company. Surface Transport — Trade Claims have not been included in the Sector breakdown chart.

### **Ordinary Share Class (continued)** Country Breakdown<sup>4,5</sup>



<sup>4</sup> Categorisations determined by Neuberger Berman and percentages determined by the Administrator, as a percentage of the net asset values as at 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023.

<sup>5</sup> As at 31 December 2024 collateral pledged is included in the Brazil Market Value.

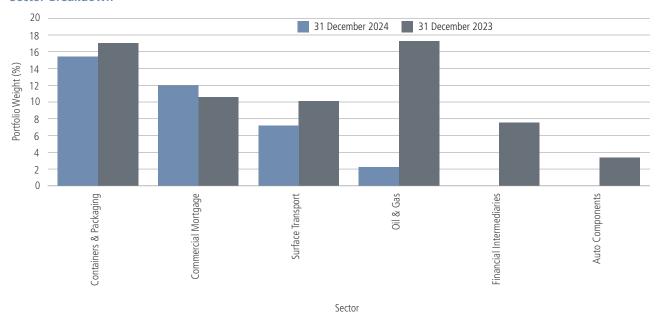
# Portfolio Information (continued)

#### **Extended Life Share Class**

#### TOP 61 HOLDINGS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

| HOLDING | SECTOR                 | PURCHASED<br>INSTRUMENT | STATUS     | COUNTRY     | % OF<br>NAV | PRIMARY ASSET                     |
|---------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1       | Surface Transport      | Trade Claim             | Defaulted  | Brazil      | 22%         | Municipal Claim                   |
| 2       | Containers & Packaging | Post-Reorg Equity       | Post-Reorg | Luxembourg  | 13%         | Manufacturing Plant and Equipment |
| 3       | Commercial Mortgage    | Secured Loan            | Defaulted  | Netherlands | 12%         | Commercial Real Estate            |
| 4       | Surface Transport      | Secured Loan            | Defaulted  | Spain       | 7%          | Concession                        |
| 5       | Oil & Gas              | Post-Reorg Equity       | Post-Reorg | US          | 2%          | Ethanol Plant                     |
| 6       | Containers & Packaging | Post-Reorg Equity       | Post-Reorg | Luxembourg  | 2%          | Manufacturing Plant and Equipment |
| Total   |                        |                         |            |             | 58%         |                                   |

#### Sector Breakdown<sup>3</sup>

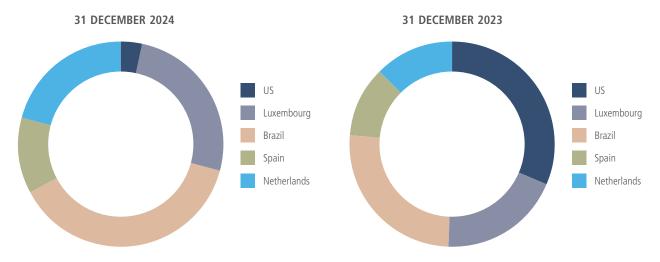


<sup>1</sup> Extended Share Class holds six investments by issuer.

<sup>2</sup> As at 31 December 2024 collateral pledged is included in the Surface Transport Market Value.

<sup>3</sup> Categorisations determined by Neuberger Berman; percentages determined by Neuberger Berman and U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (Guernsey) Limited/U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (Ireland) as Administrator/Sub-Administrator to the Company. Surface Transport — Trade Claims have not been included in the Sector breakdown chart.

### **Extended Life Share Class (continued)** Country Breakdown<sup>4,5</sup>



<sup>4</sup> Categorisations determined by Neuberger Berman and percentages determined by the Administrator, as a percentage of the net asset values as at 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023.

<sup>5</sup> As at 31 December 2024 collateral pledged is included in the Brazil Market Value.

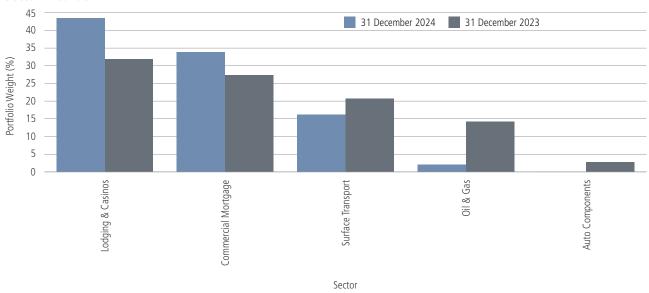
# Portfolio Information (continued)

#### **New Global Share Class**

### TOP 41 HOLDINGS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

| HOLDING | SECTOR                 | PURCHASED<br>INSTRUMENT         | STATUS     | COUNTRY     | % OF<br>NAV | PRIMARY ASSET          |
|---------|------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------|
| 1       | Lodging & Casino       | Secured Loan/<br>Private Equity | Current    | Spain       | 46%         | Hotel/Casino           |
| 2       | Commercial Mortgage    | Secured Loan                    | Defaulted  | Netherlands | 35%         | Commercial Real Estate |
| 3       | Surface Transportation | Secured Loan                    | Defaulted  | Spain       | 17%         | Legal Claim            |
| 4       | Oil & Gas              | Private Equity                  | Post-Reorg | US          | 2%          | Ethanol Plant          |
| Total   |                        |                                 |            |             | 100%        |                        |

#### Sector Breakdown<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Global Share Class holds four investments by issuer.

<sup>2</sup> Categorisations determined by Neuberger Berman; percentages determined by Neuberger Berman and U.S Bank Global Fund Services (Guernsey) Limited/U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (Ireland) Limited as Administrator/Sub-Administrator to the Company.

### **New Global Share Class (continued)** Country Breakdown<sup>3</sup>



<sup>3</sup> Categorisations determined by Neuberger Berman and percentages determined by the Administrator, as a percentage of the net asset values as at 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023.

### Strategic Report

Since 31 March 2017, the Portfolios have all been in their respective harvest period. As such this strategic report is presented in the context of the current positioning of the Portfolios in their lifecycle. The Company's corporate umbrella itself has an indefinite life to allow for flexibility for the Company to add new share classes if demand, market opportunities and shareholder approval supported such a move, although the Company has no current plans to create new share classes and the focus is on placing the Company into liquidation.

#### **Principal and Emerging Risks and Risk Management**

The Board is responsible for the Company's system of internal financial and operating controls and for reviewing its effectiveness. The Board uses the Company's risk matrix as its core element in establishing the Company's system of internal financial and reporting controls. The Board has carried out a robust assessment of the Company's emerging and principal risks and uncertainties including those that would threaten its business model, future performance, solvency or liquidity. The principal risks, which have been identified, and the steps taken by the Board to mitigate these areas are as follows:

**RISK MITIGATION** 

#### **Investment Activity and Performance**

An unsuccessful investment strategy may result in underperformance against the Company's objectives. This might be due to the skills of the Investment Manager falling short in its selection of sectors or issues in which to invest and its management of the restructurings/reorganisations which can ensure their success.

The Board has managed these risks by ensuring a diversification of investments, although the level of diversification will diminish as the respective Portfolios liquidate their positions during their harvest periods. Please see "Principal Risks Specific to Harvest Periods" below. The Investment Manager operates in accordance with the investment limits and restrictions policy set out in the Company's Investment Policy and Objectives and as further determined by the Board. The Directors review the limits and restrictions on a regular basis and the Administrator monitors adherence to the limits and restrictions every month and will notify any breaches to the Board. The Investment Manager provides the Board with management information including performance data and reports, and the Corporate Broker provides shareholder analyses. The Directors monitor the implementation and results of the investment process with the Investment Manager at each Board meeting and monitor risk factors in respect of the Portfolios. Investment strategy is reviewed at each meeting.

#### **Principal Risks Associated with Harvest Periods**

There can be a significant period between the date the Company makes an investment and the date that any gain or loss on such investment is realised. Further, towards the end of the Portfolios' respective harvest periods, a residual amount is required to be retained for each share class in accordance with regulatory requirements until such time that all assets can be liquidated and returned to shareholders.

As capital is returned through compulsory partial redemptions and buybacks, the number of assets and shares in a Portfolio will diminish which in turn may lead to an increased TER and reduced liquidity in a Portfolio's shares.

The Board has ensured that the Investment Manager has operated in accordance with the investment limits and restrictions policy set out in the Company's Investment Policy and Objectives, although it acknowledges that the diversification of Portfolio investments will diminish as the Portfolios liquidate their positions and return capital to shareholders. The Board also receives regular updates on the status of the Portfolios' investments and anticipated realisation dates.

The Board monitors the Company's expenses on a regular basis and ensures that contracts with the Investment Manager and other service providers are at competitive rates. The Board also notes that the Company's key expenses, the management fee, was waived with effect from 18 March 2021.

The Company retains the services of its broker, Jefferies International Limited to, amongst other things, enhance liquidity in the underlying

#### Principal and Emerging Risks and Risk Management (continued)

**MITIGATION** 

#### Level of Premium or Discount

A discount or premium to NAV can occur for a variety of reasons, including market conditions and the extent to which investors undervalue the management activities of the Investment Manager or discount its valuation methodology and judgement.

While the Directors may seek to mitigate any discount or premium to NAV per share through discount management mechanisms, such as buybacks or share issuance, there can be no guarantee that they will do so or that such mechanisms will be successful and the Directors accept no responsibility for any failure of any such strategy to effect a reduction in any discount or premium. Buy backs have been ceased with the focus moving to returning capital to shareholders via compulsory redemptions.

#### **Market Price Risk**

Market price risk is the potential for changes in the value of an investment or Portfolio. The market value of investments may vary because of a number of factors including, but not limited to, the financial condition of the underlying borrowers, the industry in which a borrower operates, general economic or political conditions, interest rates, the condition of the debt trading markets and certain other financial markets, developments or trends in any particular industry and changes in prevailing interest rates.

Further details on market price risk are provided in Note 4 on page 83.

The Board has, over the Investment Periods of the various share classes, ensured that the Investment Manager has operated in accordance with the Company's investment guidelines. The Directors monitor the status of the Portfolio investments with the Investment Manager at each quarterly Board meeting and monitor risk factors in respect of the Portfolios.

#### Fair Valuation of Illiquid Assets

With respect to investments that do not have a readily ascertainable market quotation in an active market, the Investment Manager will value such investments at fair value and such valuations will be inherently uncertain. Because of the inherent uncertainty and subjectivity in determining the fair value of investments that do not have a readily ascertainable market quotation in an active market, the fair value of the Company's investments as determined in good faith by the Investment Manager may differ significantly from the values that would have been used had a ready market existed for such investments. The reliability of the NAV calculations published by the Company will be impacted accordingly.

With respect to investments held in the Company's Portfolios that do not have a readily available market quotation, such as unquoted investments or investments which are listed but deemed to be illiquid, the Investment Manager values such investments at fair value on each NAV calculation date in accordance with its customary valuation methods, policies and procedures. Further information on the Company's valuation process can be found in Note 2(g) under "Investment transactions, investment income/expenses and valuation", and Note 2(f), "Fair Value of Financial Instruments", of the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements (the "Financial Statements").

The Board monitors, reviews and challenges the Company's fair valued assets on a regular basis to ensure compliance with the agreed methodology. The Board reviews the Investment Manager's internal review process.

## Strategic Report (continued)

#### Principal and Emerging Risks and Risk Management (continued)

**MITIGATION** 

#### Accounting, Legal and Regulatory

The Company must comply with the provisions of the Law, and since its shares trade on the SFS, the Company is required to comply with the FCA's Disclosure Guidance and Transparency Rules ("DTRs"). A breach of the legislation could result in the Company and/or the Directors being fined or subject to criminal proceedings and the suspension of the Company's shares to trading on the SFS.

The Board relies on the Company Secretary and the Company's advisers to ensure adherence to the Guernsey legislation and the DTRs. The Investment Manager, Company Secretary and the Administrator, are contracted to provide investment, company secretarial, administration and accounting services through qualified professionals.

#### Operational

Disruption to, or the failure of, either the Investment Manager's or the Administrator's accounting, dealings or payment systems, or the records of the custodian could lead to a loss of assets and prevent the accurate reporting or monitoring of the Company's financial position.

Details of how the Board monitors the services provided by the Investment Manager and the Administrator, and the key elements designed to provide effective internal controls are explained further in the internal controls section of the Corporate Governance Report which is set out on pages 35 to 42.

#### **Emerging Risks**

The Board undertakes a quarterly assessment of all risks on a forward-looking basis, and in discussion with the Investment Manager identifies emerging risks in addition to assessing expected changes to existing risks as discussed above. The Board assesses the likelihood and impact of emerging risks. The Board will discuss and agree appropriate mitigation or management of emerging risks as relevant to those emerging risks. Examples of emerging risks that have been identified over the course of the past three years included the continuing effects of climate related risks, the issuance of new regulations and changing geopolitical risks. Emerging risks are managed through discussion of the likelihood and impact at each quarterly Board meeting. Should an emerging risk be determined to have any potential impact on the Company, appropriate mitigating measures and controls are agreed.

In 2019, the Board identified activism relating to climate change as an emerging risk and since then has closely monitored regulatory and other developments in this area. The UN's latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report will be considered by the Board when undertaking Company related business.

#### **Going Concern**

The Company's principal activities are set out on page 4. The financial position of the Company is set out on page 60. In addition, note 4 to the Financial Statements includes the Company's objectives, policies and processes for managing its capital, its financial risk management and its exposures to credit risk and liquidity risk.

The Directors have undertaken a rigorous review of the Company's ability to continue as a going concern including reviewing the on-going cash flows and the level of cash balances, the likely liquidity of investments and any income deriving from those investments as of the reporting date as well as taking into consideration the impact of emerging risks and have determined that the Company has adequate financial resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due. The Directors therefore have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the twelve months from the date these accounts are signed and the foreseeable future notwithstanding the focus on moving towards liquidation. Thus, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the Financial Statements and confirm that they have been prepared in accordance with Guidance on the Going Concern Basis of Accounting and Reporting on Solvency and Liquidity Risks, published by the FRC.

The going concern statement required by the AIC Corporate Governance Code (the "AIC Code") last updated in August 2024 is set out in the "Directors' Responsibilities Statement" on page 54.

#### **Viability Statement**

In accordance with provision 8.2 paragraph 36 of the AIC Code, the Directors have assessed the future prospects of the Company. In making their assessment the Directors have considered the Company's status as an investment entity, its investment objectives, the principal and emerging risks it faces, its current position and the time period over which its assets are likely to be realised.

In their assessment of the viability of the Company over the forthcoming twelve months, being the expected time to realisation of the final assets of the share classes of the Company, the Directors have carried out a robust assessment of the emerging risks, principal risks and uncertainties the Company faces, as detailed on pages 83 and 84. These risks include the timing of asset realisations during the Portfolios' harvest periods, the Company's income and expenditure projections, and the expected cash flows arising in particular from capital distributions to shareholders. The Directors noted that such distributions may be restricted if the interest and dividend income generated in the Portfolios is not sufficient to meet operational expenses.

As part of their review, the Directors carried out a series of stress tests under different scenarios which assumed a significant fall in income and asset levels and a corresponding increase in expenses and were satisfied with the results of this analysis. The Directors have performed a quantitative and qualitative analysis that included the Company's income and expenditure projections and the fact that the Company's investments can be expected to be sold, within a reasonable timeframe, to meet future funding requirements if necessary. As part of this assessment, the Directors reviewed a series of stress test scenarios carried out by the Investment Manager, which included an assumption of a significant 70% fall in income and no reduction in expenses, and were satisfied that the Company would continue to be viable financially.

The Directors have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the Company will be able to continue in operation and meet its liabilities as they fall due over the remaining life of each of its three share classes, which the Directors consider to be the twelve month period from the signing date of these financial statements. However, the Directors noted that the prospects for the Company, which has an indefinite life, are subject to change should the Company add new share classes to its structure before the existing Portfolios' assets are fully realised although this is highly unlikely.

#### **Key Performance Indicators**

In order to measure the success of the Company in meeting its objectives and to evaluate the performance of the Investment Manager, the Directors take into account the following performance indicators:

- Returns and NAV At each meeting the Board reviews the NAV, income and share price of each share class. To assist in this review the Board considers formal reports from both the Investment Manager and brokers which assess the performance of the asset class and look at trading activity. The Investment Manager also provides an in-depth analysis of the holdings within the Portfolios.
- Discount/premium to NAV At each Board meeting, the Board monitors the level of the Company's discount or premium to NAV per share class and reviews the average discount/premium for other debt-orientated investment companies. The Company publishes a NAV per share on a daily basis through the official newswire of the London Stock Exchange.
- Ongoing Charges In the year to 31 December 2024, the Company's Ongoing Charges were 1.62%. This figure is based on an annual expense figure for the year of \$1,263,616. This figure, which has been prepared in accordance with AIC guidance represents the Company's operating expenses, excluding finance costs payable, expressed as a percentage of average net assets. The Ongoing Charges by share class are disclosed on page 8.
- Total Expense Ratio ("TER") In the year to 31 December 2024, the Company's TER was 1.69%. This figure is based on an annual expense figure for the year of \$1,314,130. This figure which has been prepared in accordance with the U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("US GAAP") methodology, represents the annual percentage reduction in shareholder returns as a result of recurring operational expenses. The TERs by share class are disclosed on page 8.

# Strategic Report (continued)

#### Alternative Performance Measures ("APMs")

Alternative Performance Measures ("APMs") included in the Annual Financial Report and Financial Statements which require further clarification have been considered by the Board. An APM is defined as a financial measure of historical or future financial performance, financial position, or cash flows, other than a financial measure defined or specified in the applicable financial reporting framework. APMs may not have a standard meaning prescribed by US GAAP and therefore may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other entities. APMs included in the Annual Report and Financial Statements are deemed to be as follows:

| ALTERNATIVE<br>PERFORMANCE<br>MEASURES | PURPOSE AND/OR DESCRIPTION   | CALCULATION   |
|--|--|---|
| Internal Rate of Return<br>("IRR")     | The IRR is calculated by first calculating the net present value (NPV), being (Today's value of the expected future cash flows) - (Today's value of invested cash). The IRR is a determination of what discount rate would cause the net present value (NPV) of an investment to be \$0.   |   |
| Rate of Return ("ROR")                 | The RoR is the net gain or loss on an investment over a specified time period, expressed as a percentage of the investment's initial cost.   | It is calculated by taking the difference<br>between the current (or expected) value and<br>original value, divided by original value and<br>multiplied by 100. |
|  |  | Opening NAV per share (A) Closing NAV per share (B) Rate of Return = (B-A)/A  |
| Total Expense Ratio ("TER")            | The TER is Management fees and all other operating expenses expressed as a percentage of average net assets during the year.   | Annualised charges (A) Average undiluted net asset value in the period (B) Total Expense Ratio (%) = (A)/(B)  |
| On-going charges                       | On-going Charges are calculated to the AIC Methodology, which is a measure, expressed as a percentage of NAV, of the regular, recurring costs of the Company. "On-going charges are those expenses of a type which are likely to recur in the foreseeable future, whether charged to capital or revenue, and which relate to the operation of Company, excluding the costs of acquisition/disposal of investments, financing charges and gains/losses arising on investments. Ongoing charges are based on costs incurred in the year as being the best estimate of future costs". | Ongoing charges (%) = (A)/(B) Annualised ongoing charges (A) Average undiluted net asset value in the period (B)  |

| ALTERNATIVE<br>PERFORMANCE<br>MEASURES   | PURPOSE AND/OR DESCRIPTION  | CALCULATION  |
|--|---|--|
| Net Asset Value per share<br>("NAV")     | The NAV per share represents the net assets attributable to equity shareholders divided by the number of shares in issue, excluding any shares held in treasury.  |  |
|  | The NAV per Ordinary Share is published daily. This APM relates to past performance and is used to assess performance.  |  |
| Total Return                             | Total return is expressed as a percentage of the amount invested and represents the amount of value our investors earn from a security over a specific period.  | Original Investment cost (A) Current Investments value (B) Total Return = (B–A)/A  |
| Ratio of Total Value to original capital | Ratio of Total Value to original capital is a total of NAV plus capital returned to investors expressed as a percentage of the original amount invested since inception.  | Total Capital Distributions (A) Total Income Distributions (B) Total Buybacks (C) Current NAV (D) Total of NAV Plus Capital Returned, where (E) = A+B+C+D Original Capital Invested (F) Ratio of Total Value to original capital (%) = E/F   |
| (Discount) or Premium to<br>NAV          | The share price of an Investment Company is derived from buyers and sellers trading their shares on the stock market. This price is not identical to the NAV. If the share price is lower than the NAV per share, the shares are trading at a discount. This could indicate that there are more sellers than buyers. Shares trading at a price above the NAV per share, are said to be at a premium. This is expressed as a percentage. | NAV per share (NBDD) (A)  Share price per share (NBDD) (B)  NBDD (Discount) or Premium = (B–A)/A  NAV per share (NBDX) (A)  Share price per share (NBDX) (B)  NBDX (Discount) or Premium = (B–A)/A  NAV per share (NBDG) (A)  Share price per share (NBDG) (B)  NBDG (Discount) or Premium = (B–A)/A |

## Strategic Report (continued)

#### **Management Arrangements**

#### **Investment Management Agreement**

On 17 July 2014, the Company, the Manager and the AIFM made certain classificatory amendments to their contractual arrangements for the purposes of compliance with the European Commission's Directive on Alternative Investment Fund Managers (the "AIFM Directive"). The Sub-Investment Management Agreement was terminated on 17 July 2014 and Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC, which was the Sub-Investment Manager, was appointed as the AIFM per the amended and restated Investment Management ("IMA") dated 17 July 2014. The IMA was further amended and restated on 31 December 2017. Under this agreement, the AIFM is responsible for risk management and dayto-day discretionary management of the Company's Portfolios (including un-invested cash). The risk management and discretionary portfolio management functions are performed independently of each other within the AIFM structure. The AIFM is not required to, and generally will not, submit individual investment decisions for approval by the Board. The Manager, Neuberger Berman Europe Limited, was appointed under the same IMA to provide, amongst other things, certain administrative services to the Company. Please refer to Note 6 on page 86 for details of fee entitlement.

The IMA can be terminated either by the Company on one hand or the Investment Manager on the other, but in certain circumstances, the Company would be required to pay compensation to the Investment Manager of six months' management charges. No compensation is payable if notice of termination of more than six months is given. Effective 1 October 2020 the Investment Manager waived its fee on cash in relation to the NBDD share class. Effective 18 March 2021, the Investment Manager waived its entitlement to all fees from the Company.

#### **Administration and Custody Agreement**

Effective 1 March 2015, the Company entered into an Administration and Sub-Administration Agreement with U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (Guernsey) Limited ("USBG") and U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (Ireland) Limited ("USBI") a wholly-owned subsidiary of USBG. Under the terms of the agreement, Sub-Administration services are delegated to USBI (the "Sub-Administrator"). US Bank National Association (the "Custodian") was appointed custodian to the Company effective 1 March 2015. See Note 6 on page 86 and 87 for details of fee entitlement.

On 1 June 2018 the Company entered into an Amendment to the Administration and Sub-Administration agreement to reflect the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 ("GDPR") and the Data Protection (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2017, as amended from time to time.

#### **Company Secretarial and Registrar Arrangements**

Effective 20 June 2017, company secretarial services are provided by Suntera (Guernsey) Limited (formerly named Carey Commercial Limited). Registrar services are provided by MUFG Corporate Markets (UK) Limited (formerly named Link Market Services (Guernsey) Limited).

See Note 6 on page 86 and 87 for details of fee entitlement.

#### **Related Party Transactions**

The relationships with the Investment Manager and Directors are the only related party transactions currently in place. Other than fees payable in the ordinary course of business there have been no material transactions with these related parties which have affected the financial position or performance of the Company in the financial year.

For information on performance fees and Directors' fees please refer to Note 6 on page 86.

For and on behalf of the Board,

John Hallam Chairman

29 April 2025

**Christopher Legge** 

Director

29 April 2025

### **Directors**

#### John Hallam (Chairman)



John Hallam is a fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and qualified as an accountant in 1971. Previously, Mr Hallam was a partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers and retired in 1999 after 27 years with the firm in Guernsey and in other countries. He is a director of a number of financial services companies. Mr Hallam served for many years as a member and latterly chairman of the GFSC, from which he retired in 2006.

Michael J. Holmberg



Michael J. Holmberg, Managing Director of Neuberger Berman, joined the NB Group in 2009. Mr Holmberg is the head of distressed portfolio management. Prior to joining NB Group, Mr Holmberg founded Newberry Capital Management LLC in 2006 and before that he founded and managed Ritchie Capital Management's Special Credit Opportunities Group. He was also a managing director at Strategic Value Partners and Moore Strategic Value Partners. He began investing in distressed and credit-oriented strategies as a portfolio manager at Continental Bank/Bank of America, where he established the bank's global proprietary capital account. Mr Holmberg received a BA in economics from Kenyon College and an MBA from the University of Chicago.

#### **Christopher Legge** (Chairman of the Audit Committee)



Chris Legge is a Guernsey resident and worked for Ernst & Young in Guernsey from 1983 to 2003. Having joined the firm as an audit manager in 1983, he was appointed a partner in 1986 and managing partner in 1998. From 1990 to 1998, he was head of Audit and Accountancy and was responsible for the audits of a number of banking, insurance, investment fund, property fund and other financial services clients. He also had responsibility for the firm's training, quality control and compliance functions. He was appointed managing partner for the Channel Islands region in 2000 and merged the business with Ernst & Young LLP in the United Kingdom. He retired from Ernst & Young in 2003. Chris currently holds a number of non-executive directorships in the financial services sector. He is an FCA and holds a BA (Hons) in Economics from the University of Manchester.

Stephen Vakil (Chairman of the Management Engagement Committee and Chairman of the Remuneration Committee and Senior Independent Director)



After graduating with a BSc in economics from Bath University in 1983, Stephen Vakil joined L Messel & Co and moved to Chase Manhattan in 1987 to focus on private client portfolio management. In 1989, he left to join Foster & Braithwaite where he established the research function and subsequently became a director. Following Foster & Braithwaite's merger with Quilter Goodison to form Quilter & Co in 1996, Mr Vakil was given responsibility for the London investment teams, the research department and marketing function. He was made a managing director in 2001. Having played a key role in a number of corporate transactions, Mr Vakil left Quilter Cheviot in 2013. He is an Associate of the Society of Investment Professionals.

### Directors' Report

The Directors present their report and Financial Statements of the Company and their report for the year ended 31 December 2024.

#### **Share Capital**

The number of shares in issue at 31 December 2024 was as follows:

**Ordinary Shares** 15,382,770 Extended Life Shares 38,731,819 New Global Shares 25,123,440

#### **Share Buybacks**

At the Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the Company held on 26 June 2024, the Directors were granted the general authority to purchase in the market up to 14.99% of the Ordinary Shares, 14.99% of the Extended Life Shares and 14.99% of the New Global Shares in issue (as at 26 June 2024). The latest authority will expire at the AGM to be held on 30 June 2025. Pursuant to this authority, and subject to the Law and the discretion of the Directors, the Company may purchase shares of any of its classes in the market on an ongoing basis with a view to addressing any imbalance between the supply of and demand for such shares, thereby increasing the NAV per share of the shares and assisting in controlling the share price discount to NAV per share.

There were no buybacks of the Company's Shares in 2024 as on 16 November 2020 the Company announced in its quarterly Factsheet that the share buyback programme had been discontinued. The buyback programme was intended to narrow the discount, if any, during the investment period. At this point of the harvest period, the priority, based on investor feedback, is the return of capital. The Directors intend to seek annual renewal of this authority from Shareholders to retain flexibility.

#### **Distributions**

The Company will, from time to time, pay out income distributions by way of dividend in respect of each share class in accordance with the Company's dividend policy as set out below. In addition, any capital proceeds attributable to a share class (as determined by the Directors in accordance with the Articles), will, at such times and in such amounts as the Directors shall in their absolute discretion determine, be distributed to shareholders of that class pro rata to their respective holdings of the relevant shares. Further information on the Company's income and capital distribution policies can be found on page 7.

#### **Dividend Policy**

As set out in the Company's Prospectus, the Company will pay out in respect of each class of shares an income distribution by way of dividend, comprising all net income received on investments of the Company attributable to such class of shares. It is not anticipated that income from the portfolio will be material and therefore any dividends may be on an ad-hoc basis. It is a requirement of an exception to the United Kingdom offshore fund rules that all income from the Company's Portfolio (after deduction of reasonable expenses) is to be paid to investors. This policy should ensure that this requirement will be met. The exact amount of such dividend in respect of any class of Shares will be variable depending on the amounts of income received by the Company attributable to such class of Shares and will only be made available in accordance with applicable law at the relevant time, including the Law (and, in particular, will be subject to the Company passing the solvency test contained in the Law at the relevant time). Furthermore, the amount of dividends paid in respect of one class of shares may be different from that of another class. This policy will be put to a shareholder vote by way of separate resolution at each AGM.

#### Distributions made during the year

The following distributions were made:

#### Income distribution by way of dividend

|                  | ORDINARY SHARE CLASS |           | EXTENDED LIFE SHARE CLASS |           |            | NEW GLOBAL SHARE CLASS |          |            |           |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------|---------------------------|-----------|------------|------------------------|----------|------------|-----------|
|                  | DISTRI-              |           |                           | DISTRI-   |            |                        | DISTRI-  |            |           |
|                  | BUTION               | NUMBER    | PER SHARE                 | BUTION    | NUMBER     | PER SHARE              | BUTION   | NUMBER     | PER SHARE |
| DATE             | AMOUNT               | OF SHARES | AMOUNT                    | AMOUNT    | OF SHARES  | AMOUNT                 | AMOUNT   | OF SHARES  | AMOUNT    |
| 21 November 2024 | _                    | _         | _                         | \$654,675 | 44,234,786 | \$0.0148               | £612,077 | 27,821,694 | £0.022    |

#### Capital distributions by way of a compulsory partial redemption

|                  | ORDINARY SHARE CLASS        |                     | EXTENDED LIFE SHARE CLASS |                             |                     | NEW GLOBAL SHARE CLASS |                             |                     |                     |
|------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| DATE             | DISTRI-<br>BUTION<br>AMOUNT | NUMBER<br>OF SHARES | PER SHARE                 | DISTRI-<br>BUTION<br>AMOUNT | NUMBER<br>OF SHARES | PER SHARE              | DISTRI-<br>BUTION<br>AMOUNT | NUMBER<br>OF SHARES | PER SHARE<br>AMOUNT |
| 26 November 2024 | _                           | _                   | -                         | \$5,491,965                 | 5,502,971           | \$0.9980               | £1,493,485                  | 2,698,258           | £0.5535             |

#### **Substantial Share Interests**

Based upon information deemed to be reliable as provided by the Company's registrar as at 31 March 2025, the following shareholders owned 5% or more of the issued shares of the Company. DEDCEMENCE

| SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS               | NO. OF ORDINARY<br>SHARES | NO. OF EXTENDED<br>LIFE SHARES | NO. OF NEW<br>GLOBAL SHARES | PERCENTAGE<br>OF SHARE<br>CLASS (%) |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| THE BANK OF NEW YORK (NOMINEES)        | 13,115,065                |                                |                             | 85.26                               |
| LIMITED UKREITS ACCT                   |                           | 1,135,200                      |                             | 2.93                                |
| STATE STREET NOMINEES LIMITED          |                           | 6,363,446                      |                             | 16.43                               |
| OM05 ACCT                              |                           |                                | 6,810,312                   | 29.93                               |
| NORTRUST NOMINEES LIMITED GSYA ACCT    |                           | 8,230,598                      |                             | 21.25                               |
|  |                           |                                | 2,716,629                   | 11.94                               |
| STATE STREET NOMINEES LIMITED OM04 AC  | CT                        | 2,304,260                      |                             | 5.95                                |
|  |                           |                                | 3,109,194                   | 13.67                               |
| THE BANK OF NEW YORK (NOMINEES) LIMIT  | ED 884,309                |                                |                             | 5.75                                |
| 672938 ACCT                            |                           | 1,719,840                      |                             | 4.44                                |
|  |                           |                                | 1,567,366                   | 6.89                                |
| VIDACOS NOMINEES LIMITED 158765 ACCT   | 394,487                   |                                |                             | 2.56                                |
|  |                           | 1,675,745                      |                             | 4.33                                |
|  |                           |                                | 1,581,884                   | 6.95                                |
| J P MORGAN SECURITIES LLC CLIENTSK ACC | T                         | 2,961,775                      |                             | 7.65                                |
|  |                           |                                | 583,877                     | 2.57                                |
| HSBC GLOBAL CUSTODY NOMINEE (UK)       |                           | 3,474,614                      |                             | 8.97                                |
| LIMITED 487757 ACCT                    |                           |                                | 110,330                     | 0.48                                |
| ROCK (NOMINEES) LIMITED CSHGROSS ACC   | Γ                         | 1,370,008                      |                             | 3.54                                |
|  |                           |                                | 1,290,409                   | 5.67                                |
| HSBC GLOBAL CUSTODY NOMINEE (UK)       |                           |                                |                             |                                     |
| LIMITED 898873 ACCT                    |                           |                                | 1,969,781                   | 8.66                                |
| LYNCHWOOD NOMINEES LIMITED 2006420     | ACCT 6,196                |                                |                             | 0.04                                |
|  |                           | 2,907,465                      |                             | 7.51                                |
|  |                           |                                | 14,927                      | 0.07                                |

Note: shareholdings may be greater than 5% in the share class but may not be 5% in aggregate of the Company's issued share capital.

## Directors' Report (continued)

#### **Notifications of Shareholdings**

In the year to 31 December 2024 the Company has been notified in accordance with Chapter 5 of the DTR (which covers the acquisition and disposal of major shareholdings and voting rights), of the following voting rights as a shareholder of the Company. When more than one notification has been received from any shareholder, only the latest notification is shown. For non-UK issuers, the thresholds prescribed under DTR 5.1.2 for notification of holdings commence at 5%. Class A shares do not hold voting rights.

| SHAREHOLDER        | NUMBER OF SHARES | VOTING RIGHTS (%) |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| M&G Plc            | 15,593,253       | 19.67%            |
| Alliance Witan Plc | 13,007,692       | 14.88%            |

Since the year end 31 December 2024 to the date of this report, there have been two notifications received by the Company.

| DATE <sup>1</sup> | SHAREHOLDER                         | NUMBER OF SHARES | PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL VOTING RIGHTS (%) |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 05 March 2025     | 1729 Capital Ltd — Res Privata N.V. | 4,331,552        | 5.47                                  |
| 06 March 2025     | Nortrust Nominees Limited           | 11,230,598       | 14.17                                 |

#### Directorship in Public Companies (as at 31 December 2024)

| COMPANY NAMES                                      | EXCHANGE(S)                               |
|--|---|
| Mr John Hallam                                     |   |
| NB Distressed Debt Investment Fund Limited         | SFS, London                               |
| Ruffer Illiquid Multi Strategies Fund 2015 Limited | The International Stock Exchange ("TISE") |
| Mr Michael Holmberg                                |   |
| NB Distressed Debt Investment Fund Limited         | SFS, London                               |
| Mr Christopher Legge                               |   |
| NB Distressed Debt Investment Fund Limited         | SFS, London                               |
| Mr Stephen Vakil                                   |   |
| NB Distressed Debt Investment Fund Limited         | SFS, London                               |
| Portfolio REIT PLC                                 | TISE                                      |
|  |   |

#### **Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy**

The Board of the Company has a zero-tolerance approach to instances of bribery and corruption. Accordingly, it expressly prohibits any Director or associated persons, when acting on behalf of the Company, from accepting, soliciting, paying, offering or promising to pay or authorise any payment, public or private, in the United Kingdom or abroad to secure any improper benefit for them or for the Company. The Investment Manager has also adopted a zero-tolerance approach to instances of bribery and corruption.

The Board insists on strict observance with these same standards by its service providers in their activities for the Company and continues to refine its process in this regard. The Company's policy is available on its website at www.nbddif.com/corporate\_governance.html

#### **Climate Change**

In 2019, the Board identified concerns relating to climate change as an emerging risk and since then has closely monitored regulatory and other developments in this area. The Board is conscious of its own impact on the environment, despite being an investment company with no employees, and has committed, on a going forward basis, to offset its carbon-emissions arising from the air travel by the members of the Board undertaking Company related business. In addition, the Board makes extensive use of teleconferencing facilities thus limiting the amount of travel, all board papers are produced and hosted digitally via a dedicated board web-portal and the Company makes relevant enquiries to our key service providers during face-to-face meetings about their initiatives and attitudes to climate change.

#### **Criminal Facilitation of Tax Evasion Policy**

The Board of the Company has a zero-tolerance commitment to preventing persons associated with it from engaging in criminal facilitation of tax evasion. The Board has satisfied itself in relation to its key service providers that they have reasonable provisions in place to prevent the criminal facilitation of tax evasion by their own associated persons and will not work with service providers who do not demonstrate the same zero tolerance commitment to preventing persons associated with it from engaging in criminal facilitation of tax evasion. The Company's policy is available on its website at www.nbddif.com/corporate\_governance.html.

#### **Employee Engagement & Business Relationships**

The Company conducts its core activities through third-party service providers and does not have any employees. The Board recognises the benefits of fostering strong business relationships with its key service providers and seeks to ensure each is committed to the performance of their respective duties to a high standard and, where practicable, that each provider is motivated to adding value within their sphere of activity. Details on the Board's approach to service provider engagement and performance review are contained in the Management Engagement Committee Report.

#### **Employees and Socially Responsible Investment**

The Company has a management contract with the Investment Manager. It has no employees and all of its Directors are non-executive, with day-to-day activities being carried out by third parties. There are therefore no disclosures to be made in respect of employees. The Company's main activities are carried out by Neuberger Berman, which is a signatory of the Principles of Responsible Investment and has an ongoing commitment to strengthening and refining its environmental, social and governance approach. An overview of Neuberger Berman's Principles for Responsible Investment is detailed on its website at www.nb.com/pages/public/en-gb/principles-for-responsible-investment.aspx.

#### **Gender Metrics**

The current Board members are male. More information on the Board's consideration of diversity is given in the Corporate Governance Report on page 38.

#### **General Data Protection Regulation**

The Company takes privacy and security of your information seriously and will only use such personal information as set out in the Company's privacy notice which can be found on the Company's website at: https://www.nbddif.com/pdf/NB\_Privacy\_Notice\_2021.pdf.

#### **Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

The Company has no significant greenhouse gas emissions to report from its operations for the year to 31 December 2024, nor does it have responsibility for any other emissions producing sources.

## Directors' Report (continued)

#### The Modern Slavery Act 2015 ("MSA")

The MSA requires companies to prepare a slavery and human trafficking statement for each financial year of the organisation. As the Company has no employees and does not supply goods or services, the MSA does not directly apply to it. The MSA requirements more appropriately relate to the Investment Manager which is a signatory of the Principles of Responsible Investment (please see "Employees and Socially Responsible Investment" above) which include social factors such as working conditions, including slavery and child labour. The MSA of the Investment Manager is available on its website at NB.com.

#### **Disclosure of Information to Auditors**

The Directors who were members of the Board at the time of approving this report are listed on page 29. Each of those Directors confirms that:

- to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, there is no information relevant to the preparation of their report of which the auditors are unaware; and
- he or she has taken all steps a director might reasonably be expected to have taken to be aware of relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information.

For and on behalf of the Board

John Hallam **Christopher Legge** Chairman Director 29 April 2025 29 April 2025

### Corporate Governance Report

#### **Applicable Corporate Governance Codes**

As the Company is listed on the SFS it is only required to follow the GFSC code of corporate governance (the "Code"), applicable to Guernsey companies. However, the Board has chosen to follow the AIC Code published in February 2013 and last amended in August 2024 (the "AIC Code"). The AIC Code addresses all the principles set out in the Code as well as setting out additional principles and recommendations on issues that are of specific relevance to the Company.

On 1 January 2012, the GFSC's "Finance Sector Code of Corporate Governance" came into effect and was last amended in July 2023. The GFSC has stated in its Code that companies which report against the UK Corporate Governance Code (the "UK Code") or the AIC Code are deemed to meet their Code, and need take no further action.

The Board of the Company has considered the principles and recommendations of the AIC Code.

The Board considers that reporting against the principles and recommendations of the AIC Code will provide more relevant information to shareholders. Copies of the AIC Code can be found at www.theaic.co.uk.

#### **Corporate Governance Statement**

Throughout the year ended 31 December 2024 the Company has complied with the recommendations of the AIC Code, except where explanations have been provided.

The Directors believe that this Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements, presents a fair, balanced and understandable assessment of the Company's position and prospects, and provides the information necessary for shareholders to assess the Company's performance, business model and strategy.

The Company complies with the corporate governance statement requirements pursuant to the FCA's DTRs by virtue of the information included in the Corporate Governance section of the Annual Report together with information contained in the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report.

#### **Our Governance Framework**

Chairman: John Hallam

#### Responsibilities:

The leadership, operation and governance of the Board, ensuring effectiveness, and setting the agenda for the Board.

More details are provided on pages 36 to 42.

Senior Independent Director: Stephen Vakil

#### Responsibilities:

The Senior Independent Director's ("SID") role is to work closely with the chairman, acting as a sounding board and providing support, acting as an intermediary for other directors as and when necessary. The SID is available to shareholders and other non-executives to address any concerns or issues they feel have not been adequately dealt with through the usual channels of communication (i.e. through the chairman, other directors or Investment Management executives). The SID is also responsible, along with the non-executive Directors, for review of the chairman's performance and carrying out succession planning for the chairman's role as deemed appropriate. The SID is available to attend meetings with all shareholders to obtain a balanced understanding of their issues and concerns. A memo is available on the Company's website https://www.nbddif.com/pdf/Memorandum\_on\_the\_Duties\_of\_the\_26\_August\_2020.pdf.

# Corporate Governance Report (continued)

#### The Board members of NB Distressed Debt Investment Fund Limited

John Hallam (Chairman) – independent non-executive Director

Christopher Legge and Stephen Vakil – independent non-executive Directors

Michael Holmberg – non-executive Director

#### Responsibilities:

Overall conduct of the Company's business and setting the Company's strategy.

More details are provided below.

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

#### Members:

Christopher Legge (Chairman)

Stephen Vakil

#### Responsibilities:

The provision of effective governance over the appropriateness of the Company's financial reporting including the adequacy of related disclosures, the performance of the external auditor, and the management of the Company's systems of internal controls and business risks.

More details are provided on pages 43 to 46.

#### MANAGEMENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

#### Members:

Stephen Vakil (Chairman)

John Hallam

Christopher Legge

#### Responsibilities:

To review the performance of all service providers (including the Investment Manager).

More details are provided on pages 47 to 48.

#### REMUNERATION COMMITTEE

#### Members:

Stephen Vakil (Chairman)

John Hallam

Christopher Legge

#### Responsibilities:

To review the on-going appropriateness and relevance of the

remuneration policy.

More details are provided on page 50.

#### INSIDE INFORMATION COMMITTEE

#### Members:

John Hallam (Chairman) Michael Holmberg Christopher Legge Stephen Vakil

#### Responsibilities:

To identify inside information and monitor the disclosure and control of inside information.

More details are provided on page 49.

#### **Board Independence and Composition**

The biographical details of the Directors holding office at the date of this report are listed on page 29 and demonstrate a breadth of investment, accounting and professional experience.

As of 31 December 2024 John Hallam had served on the Board for over thirteen years, the Board remains satisfied that John Hallam continues to exercise independent judgement, and that retaining the depth of knowledge of the Company held by John is in the best interests of the Company as a whole, given the current position of the Company. Mr Hallam was re-elected to the Board at the 2024 AGM with 81.63% of the votes cast being in favour and expects to stand for re-election at the next AGM.

John Hallam, Christopher Legge and Stephen Vakil are considered independent from the Investment Manager. Michael Holmberg is deemed not independent as he is employed by a Neuberger Berman group company.

The Board believes that Mr Holmberg brings a significant amount of experience and expertise to the Board; however, as a non-independent Director, Mr Holmberg does not sit on the Audit Committee, Remuneration Committee or the Management Engagement Committee and is not involved in any matters discussed by the Board concerning the evaluation of the performance of the Investment Manager.

The Directors review their independence annually.

The Company Secretary through its representative acts as Secretary to the Board and Committees and in doing so it:

- assists the Chairman in ensuring that all Directors have full and timely access to all relevant documentation;
- will organise induction of new Directors; and
- is responsible for ensuring that the correct Board procedures are followed and advises the Board on corporate governance matters.

#### **Directors' Appointment**

No Director has a service contract with the Company. Directors have agreed letters of appointment with the Company, copies of which are available for review by shareholders at the Registered Office and will be available at the 2025 AGM. The length of service of each Director is shown in the Directors' Remuneration Report on pages 51 to 53. Any Director may resign in writing to the Board at any time.

The Board has formal, rigorous and transparent procedures for the appointment of additional directors. Candidates are identified and selected on merit against objective criteria and with due regard to the benefits of diversity on the Board, including gender. The Board undertakes a broad search which includes obtaining lists of potential candidates from a variety of sources leading to agreed short-lists. Interviews are then held with potential candidates. The skills, experience and time availability of each candidate is considered by the Board with due regard to the skills and experience necessary to replace those lost by retirements or otherwise considered desirable to strengthen the Board. Short-listed candidates are invited to meet the Chairman and the Investment Manager and feedback is provided to the Board prior to selection.

In accordance with the AIC Code all current Directors will offer themselves for re-election at each AGM of the Company; John Hallam, Michael Holmberg, Christopher Legge and Stephen Vakil were re-elected as Directors at the AGM on 26 June 2024. The names and biographies of the Directors holding office at the date of this report are listed on page 29.

#### Tenure of Non-Executive Directors

The Board has adopted a policy on tenure that is considered appropriate for an investment company. Mr Hallam has served as a director of the Company for over thirteen years. The Board does not believe that length of service, by itself, leads to a closer relationship with the Investment Manager or necessarily affects a Director's independence. The Board has sought to appoint Directors with past and current experience of various areas relevant to the Company's business. The Board agreed to adopt an amended tenure and succession policy in February 2018 which is reflective of the Board's belief that it is not in the best interests of shareholders to replenish the Board at the current time when the long-term outlook of the umbrella of the Company is unknown, save for the appointment of directors to fill a key vacant position with due regard to the skills and experience necessary to replace those lost by Directors' retirements.

Directors are expected to devote such time as is necessary to enable them to discharge their duties. Other business relationships, including those that conflict or may potentially conflict with the interests of the Company, are taken into account when appointing Board members and are monitored on a regular basis.

## Corporate Governance Report (continued)

#### **Re-election of Directors**

John Hallam, Michael Holmberg, Christopher Legge and Stephen Vakil have confirmed their intention to submit themselves for re-election at the next AGM.

The Board recognises that the Portfolios are now in their harvest periods and, as such, it believes that it is in the best interests of shareholders and the Company to maintain the current Board composition for the time being in order to benefit from the Directors' technical knowledge and experience of managing the Company's affairs as the assets continue to wind down. The Board confirmed that the contributions made by the Directors offering themselves for re-election at the next AGM continue to be effective and that the Company should support their re-election.

The dates of appointment of all Directors are provided in the Directors' Remuneration Committee Report on page 53.

#### **Board Diversity**

The Board considers that its members have a balance of skills and experience which are relevant to the Company. The Board notes the Davies Report, Hampton-Alexander Review and the Parker Review, and believes in the value and importance of diversity in the boardroom but it does not consider it is appropriate or in the interests of the Company and its shareholders particularly given current circumstances to set prescriptive targets for gender, ethnicity, nationality or any other criterion of representation on the Board. At 31 December 2024, the Board members were male. The Board continues to focus on encouraging diversity of business skills and experience, recognising that directors with diverse skills sets, capabilities and experience gained from different backgrounds enhances the Board but has no current plans to refresh the Board.

#### **Board Responsibilities**

The Board reviews all aspects of the Company's affairs including the setting and monitoring of investment strategy and the review of investment performance. With the Portfolios now in their harvest periods, the Investment Manager takes decisions as to the sale of individual investments, in line with the investment policy and strategy set by the Board. The Investment Manager together with the Company Secretary and Administrator also ensures that all Directors receive, in a timely manner, all relevant management, regulatory and financial information relating to the Company and its portfolio of investments. Representatives of the Investment Manager attend each Board meeting, enabling the Directors to question any matters of concern or seek clarification on certain issues. Matters specifically reserved for decision by the full Board have been defined and a procedure adopted for Directors in the furtherance of their duties to take independent professional advice at the expense of the Company. This is available on the Company's website www.nbddif.com.

#### **Conflict of Interests**

Directors are required to disclose all actual and potential conflicts of interest to the Board as they arise and the Board may impose restrictions or refuse to authorise conflicts if deemed appropriate. The Directors have undertaken to notify the Company Secretary as soon as they become aware of any new potential conflicts of interest that would need to be approved by the Board. Only Directors who have no material interest in the matter being considered will be able to participate in the Board approval process.

It has also been agreed that the Directors will advise the Chairman and the Company Secretary in advance of any proposed external appointment.

None of the Directors had a material interest in any contract, which is significant to the Company's business during the year ended 31 December 2024, except Michael Holmberg, being an employee of the Neuberger Berman Group of which the Investment Manager is part of.

The Directors' Remuneration Report on pages 51 to 53 provides information on the remuneration and interests of the Directors.

#### **Performance Evaluation**

The performance of the Board, its Committees and the Directors, including the Chairman, was reviewed by the Board on 12 November 2024, by means of an internal questionnaire. The Company Secretary collated the results of the questionnaires and the consolidated results were reviewed and discussed by the Board and by the Remuneration Committee. The Chairman reviewed each individual Director's contribution.

The 2024 evaluation concluded that:

- the performance of the Board, its committees, the Chairman and each of the Directors continues to be effective;
- Mr Hallam, Mr Legge and Mr Vakil are unanimously considered independent; .
- all current Directors should be proposed for re-election at the next AGM; and
- the Board was considered to have an appropriate mix of skills and experience.

The Board intends to conduct another internal board evaluation in November 2025, and will continue to review its procedures, its effectiveness and development in the year ahead.

The Directors noted that all three share classes were currently in harvest phase and agreed that, due to the position of the Company, it was not beneficial or necessary to incur the costs of an externally facilitated external evaluation. The Directors agreed that in the unlikely event that Company's life were to be extended, further consideration would be given to an externally facilitated evaluation and therefore agreed to keep this position under review.

The Remuneration Committee (excluding John Hallam) led by the Chairman of the Remuneration Committee reviewed the Chairman. It was agreed that the Chairman was well-regarded by the other Board members and that he provided excellent depth of knowledge of the Company. In addition, the Chairman has actively offered himself to meet with shareholders over the year.

#### **Induction/Information and Professional Development**

Directors are provided, on a regular basis, with key information on the Company's policies, regulatory requirements and its internal controls. Regulatory and legislative changes affecting Directors' responsibilities are advised to the Board as they arise along with changes to best practice by, amongst others, the Company Secretary and the Auditor. Advisers to the Company also prepare reports for the Board from time to time on relevant topics and issues. In addition, Directors attend relevant seminars and events to allow them continually to refresh their skills and knowledge and keep up with changes within the investment company industry. The Chairman reviewed the training and development needs of each Director during the annual Board evaluation process. The Chairman confirmed that all directors actively kept up to date with industry developments and issues.

#### **Independent Advice**

The Board recognises that there may be occasions when one or more of the Directors feels it is necessary to take independent legal advice at the Company's expense. A procedure is set out in the Directors' letters of appointment to enable them to do so.

#### **Indemnities**

To the extent permitted by the Law, the Company's Articles provide an indemnity for the Directors against any liability except such (if any) as they shall incur by or through their own breach of trust, breach of duty or negligence. Each Director has an Instrument of Indemnity with the Company.

During the year, the Company has maintained insurance cover for its Directors and Officers under a Directors' and Officers' liability insurance policy.

## Corporate Governance Report (continued)

#### Relationship with the Investment Manager, Company Secretary, Administrator and Sub-Administrator

All of the Company's management and administration functions are delegated to external parties including the management of the investment Portfolios, the custodial services (including the safeguarding of assets), the registration services and the day-to-day company secretarial, administration and accounting services. Each of these contracts was entered into after full and proper consideration by the Board of the quality and cost of services offered, including the control systems in operation in so far as they relate to the affairs of the Company. The Management Engagement Committee is responsible for the oversight of service providers.

The Board receives and considers reports regularly from the Investment Manager and ad hoc reports and information are supplied to the Board as required. With the Portfolios now in their harvest periods, the Investment Manager takes decisions as to the sale of individual investments. The Investment Manager, Company Secretary, Administrator and Sub-Administrator also ensure that all Directors receive, in a timely manner, all relevant management, regulatory and financial information. Representatives of the Investment Manager, Administrator and Sub-Administrator attend each Board meeting enabling the Directors to probe further into matters of concern.

The Directors have access to the advice and service of the corporate Company Secretary through its appointed representative who is responsible to the Board for ensuring that Board procedures are followed and that applicable rules and regulations are complied with. The Board, the Investment Manager, Company Secretary, the Administrator and Sub-Administrator operate in a supportive, co-operative and open environment.

#### **Shareholder Engagement**

The Board believes that the maintenance of good relations with shareholders is important for the long-term prospects of the Company. It has, since admission, sought engagement with investors. Where appropriate, the Chairman, and other Directors are available for discussion about governance and strategy with major shareholders and the Chairman ensures communication of shareholders' views to the Board. The Board receives feedback on the views of shareholders from its Corporate Broker ("Broker") and the Investment Manager, and shareholders are welcome to contact the Directors at any time via the Company Secretary by email at: NB.Distressed@suntera.com.

The Directors believe that the AGM provides an appropriate forum for shareholders to communicate with the Board and encourages participation. There is an opportunity for individual shareholders to question the Chairman of the Board, the Audit Committee, Management Engagement Committee, Remuneration Committee and Inside Information Committee at the AGM. The Board also welcomes the opportunity to meet with investors on a one-to-one basis, upon request.

The Board assesses the results of AGMs and will consider whether there is a significant number of votes not lodged in favour of a resolution. Where the Board considers that a significant number of votes have not been lodged in favour of a resolution, an immediate announcement will be made and further disclosures will be made in the next Annual Report. The Broker and the Investment Manager will seek feedback from investors. In addition to this the Broker and the Investment Manager will provide the Board with feedback that has been received from investors about the performance of the Company and the Investment Manager.

#### **Key Stakeholder Groups**

The Company identifies its key stakeholder groups as follows:

#### **Shareholders**

All Board decisions are made with the Company's success in mind, which is ultimately for the long-term benefit of our shareholders.

#### **Service Providers**

Our service providers' relationships are vital to our overall success, so as a Board we carefully consider the selection of, and engagement and continued relationship with our key service providers being the Investment Manager, Administrator, Custodian, Broker, Legal Advisers, Registrar, Auditor and Company Secretary.

The Board recognises the benefits of fostering strong business relationships with its key service providers and seeks to ensure each is committed to the performance of their respective duties to a high standard and, where practicable, that each provider is motivated to adding value within their sphere of activity.

The Board has delegated various duties to external parties including the management of the investment portfolio, the custodial services (including the safequarding of assets), the registration services and the day-to-day company secretarial, administration and accounting services. Each of these contracts was entered into after full and proper consideration by the Board of the quality and cost of services offered, including the control systems in operation in so far as they relate to the affairs of the Company.

The Board continues to have regular face-to-face meetings with all key service providers.

#### Stakeholders and Section 172

Whilst only directly applicable to UK domiciled companies, the intention of the AIC Code is that matters set out in section 172 of the UK Companies Act, 2006 are reported. The following disclosures offer some insight into how the Board uses its meetings as a mechanism for discharging its duties under Provision 5 of the AIC Code, including the breadth of matters it discussed and debated during the year and the key stakeholder groups that were central to those discussions. The Board's commitment to maintaining the high-standards of corporate governance recommended in the AIC Code, combined with the directors' duties enshrined in Company law, the constitutive documents, the Disclosure Guidance and Transparency Rules, and Market Abuse Regulation, ensures that shareholders are provided with frequent and comprehensive information concerning the Company and its activities via the Company's website and Regulatory Information Service ("RIS") announcements on the LSE such as the guarterly factsheets.

Each Board meeting follows a carefully tailored agenda agreed in advance by the Board and Company Secretary. A typical meeting will comprise reports on current financial and operational performance from the Administrator, market update from the Broker, portfolio performance from the Investment Manager, with regulatory and governance updates from the Company Secretary and where required, a detailed deep dive into an area of particular strategic importance or concern. Through oversight and control, we have in place suitable policies to ensure the Company maintains high standards of business conduct, treats customers fairly, and employ high standards of corporate governance.

Whilst the primary duty of the Directors is owed to the Company as a whole, the Board considers as part of its decision-making process the interests of all stakeholders. Particular consideration being given to the continued alignment between the activities of the Company and those that contribute to delivering the Board's strategy, which include the Investment Manager, Administrator, and the Company Secretary.

The Annual Report, Key Information Documents and guarterly fact sheets are available to provide shareholders with a clear understanding of the Company's activities and its results. This information is supplemented by the daily calculation and publication via a Regulatory Information Service of the net asset value of the Company's Ordinary Shares, Extended Life Shares and New Global Shares. All documents issued by the Company can be viewed on the Company's website at www.nbddif.com.

The Board respects and welcomes the views of all stakeholders. Any queries or areas of concern regarding the Company's operations can be raised with the Company Secretary.

#### 2025 AGM

The 2025 AGM will be held in Guernsey on 30 June 2025. The notice for the AGM will set out the ordinary and special resolutions to be proposed at the meeting. Separate resolutions are proposed for each substantive issue. Shareholders wishing to lodge questions in advance of the meeting and specifically related to the resolutions proposed are invited to do so by writing to the Company Secretary at the address given on page 90.

Voting on all resolutions at the AGM will be on a poll. The proxy votes cast, including details of votes withheld are disclosed to those in attendance at the meeting and the results are published on the Company's website and announced via a Regulatory Information Service. Where a significant number of votes have been lodged against a proposed resolution (being greater than 20%), in accordance with the AIC Code published in February 2019, it is the Board's policy that the Board will identify those shareholders and further understand their views to address the concerns of the Company's shareholders. At the 2024 AGM a significant number of votes (42%) were cast against the resolution authorising the Company to make market acquisitions of its own shares. As it was not expected that this power would be used other than in exceptional circumstances it was not considered necessary to seek feedback and this will not be proposed again.

### Corporate Governance Report (continued)

#### **Board Meetings**

The Board meets at least four times a year. Certain matters are considered at all Board meetings including Portfolio composition and asset realisation strategy, capital repayments and income distributions by way of dividend, NAV and share price performance and associated matters such as asset allocation, risks, strategy, marketing and investor relations, peer group information and industry issues. Consideration is also given to administration and corporate governance matters, where applicable reports are received from Board committees.

Directors unable to attend a board meeting are provided with the board papers and can discuss issues arising in an informal meeting with the Chairman or another non-executive Director.

The Chairman is responsible for ensuring the Directors receive complete information in a timely manner concerning all matters which require consideration by the Board. Through the Board's ongoing shareholder engagement and the reports produced by each key service provider, the Directors are satisfied that sufficient information is provided so as to ensure such matters are taken into consideration as part of the Board's decision-making process.

#### Attendance at scheduled meetings of the Board and its committees in the 2024 financial year

|                                    | BOARD | AUDIT<br>COMMITTEE | MANAGEMENT<br>ENGAGEMENT<br>COMMITTEE | REMUNERATION<br>COMMITTEE | INSIDE INFORMATION COMMITTEE |
|------------------------------------|-------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Number of meetings during the year | 4     | 4                  | 1                                     | 1                         | 1                            |
| John Hallam                        | 4     | N/A                | 1                                     | 1                         | 1                            |
| Christopher Legge                  | 4     | 4                  | 1                                     | 1                         | 1                            |
| Michael Holmberg                   | 4     | N/A                | N/A                                   | N/A                       | N/A                          |
| Stephen Vakil                      | 4     | 4                  | 1                                     | 1                         | 1                            |

In addition to these meetings, 5 ad-hoc board and board committee meetings were held during the year for various matters, primarily of an administrative nature. These meetings were attended by those Directors available at the time.

#### **Board Committees**

The Board has established an Audit Committee, Management Engagement Committee, Remuneration Committee and an Inside Information Committee with defined terms of reference and duties. Further details of these committees can be found in their reports on pages 43 to 50. The terms of reference for each committee can be found on the Company's website at www.nbddif.com.

The Board feels that due to the size and structure of the Company, establishing a Nomination Committee is unnecessary and that the Board as a whole will consider matters relating to appointment of Directors.

For and on behalf of the Board

John Hallam **Christopher Legge** Chairman Director 29 April 2025 29 April 2025

## Audit Committee Report

#### Membership

Christopher Legge – Chairman (Independent non-executive Director) Stephen Vakil (Senior Independent non-executive Director)

#### **Key Objectives**

The Audit Committee aims to ensure effective governance over the appropriateness of the Company's financial reporting including the adequacy of related disclosures, the performance of the external auditor, and the management of the Company's systems of internal controls and business risks.

#### Responsibilities

- reviewing the Company's financial results announcements and Financial Statements and monitoring compliance with relevant statutory and listing requirements;
- reporting to the Board on the appropriateness of the Company's accounting policies and practices including critical accounting policies and
- advising the Board on whether the Audit Committee believes the Annual Report and Financial Statements, taken as a whole, is fair, balanced and understandable and provides the information necessary for shareholders to assess the Company's performance, business model and
- overseeing the relationship with the external auditor;
- considering the financial and other implications of the independence of the auditors arising from any non-audit services to be provided by the auditor:
- reviewing the effectiveness of the Company's risk management framework, taking into account the reports on the internal controls of the Company's service providers;
- considering the nature and extent of the significant risks the Company faces in achieving its strategic objectives; and
- compiling a report on the Audit Committee's activities to be included in the Company's Annual Report.

#### **Audit Committee Meetings**

The Audit Committee meets at least three times a year with only its members and the Audit Committee Secretary having the right to attend. However, other Directors and representatives of the Investment Manager and Administrator will be invited to attend such meetings on a regular basis and other non-members may be invited to attend all or part of the meeting as and when appropriate and necessary. The Company's independent auditor, KPMG Channel Islands Limited ("KPMG"), is also invited on a regular basis.

The Audit Committee determines, in conjunction with KPMG, whether it is necessary for it to meet the auditors without the Investment Manager or other service providers being present.

#### Main Activities during the year

The Audit Committee assisted the Board in carrying out its responsibilities in relation to financial reporting requirements, risk management and the assessment of internal controls. It also manages the Company's relationship with the external auditor. Meetings of the Committee generally take place prior to a Company Board meeting. The Audit Committee reports to the Board as part of a separate agenda item on its activities and matters of particular relevance to Board members in the conduct of their work.

The Board requested that the Audit Committee advise them on whether it believes the Annual Report, taken as a whole, is fair, balanced and understandable and provides the information necessary for shareholders to assess the Company's performance, business model and strategy and the Audit Committee confirmed this to be the case.

## Audit Committee Report (continued)

The Audit Committee's terms of reference were updated during the year and can be found on the Company's website www.nbddif.com.

At its four meetings during the year, the Committee focused on:

#### **Financial Reporting**

The primary role of the Audit Committee in relation to financial reporting is to review with the Investment Manager, Administrator and the external auditor the appropriateness of the Annual Financial Statements concentrating on, amongst other matters:

- the quality and acceptability of accounting policies and practices;
- the clarity of the disclosures and compliance with financial reporting standards and relevant financial and governance reporting requirements;
- material areas in which significant judgements have been applied or there has been discussion with the external auditor;
- the viability of the Company, taking into account the principal and emerging risks it faces;
- whether the Annual Report and Financial Statements, taken as a whole, is fair, balanced and understandable and provides the information necessary for shareholders to assess the Company's performance, business model and strategy; and
- any correspondence from regulators in relation to financial reporting.

To aid its review, the Audit Committee considered reports from the Investment Manager, Administrator, Sub-Administrator, Company Secretary and also reports from the external auditor on the outcomes of their half-year review and annual audit.

The members of the Audit Committee had meetings with KPMG, where their findings in respect of both the Interim Review and the Annual Audit were reported.

#### Significant Issues

In relation to the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024, the significant issue considered by the Audit Committee was the valuation of the Company's investments.

The Committee received a report from the Investment Manager on the valuation of the Portfolios and on the assumptions used in valuing the Portfolios. It analysed the investment Portfolios of the Company in terms of investment mix, fair value hierarchy and valuation and held detailed discussions with the Investment Manager regarding the methodology and procedures used in valuing the Portfolios.

The Committee discussed in depth with KPMG their approach to testing the appropriateness and robustness of the valuation methodology applied by the Investment Manager to the Company's Portfolios. KPMG did not report any significant differences between the valuations used by the Company and the results of the work performed during their testing process. Based on their above review and analysis the Audit Committee confirmed that it is satisfied with the valuation of the investments.

#### Internal Controls and Risk Management

The Audit Committee has established a process for identifying, evaluating and managing any major risks faced by the Company. The process is subject to regular review by the Board and accords with the AIC Code.

The Audit Committee has overall responsibility for the Company's system of internal financial and operating controls and for reviewing its effectiveness. However, such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate risks of failure to achieve the Company's business objectives and can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The Board has undertaken a full review of the Company's business risks, which have been analysed and recorded in a risk matrix, which is updated regularly and is formally reviewed at each quarterly Board meeting. The Board receives, each quarter, a formal report from the Investment Manager which details the steps taken to monitor and manage the areas of risk including those that are not directly the responsibility of the Investment Manager and which reports the details of any known internal control failures.

The Company itself does not have an internal audit function, but instead relies on the internal audit functions and departments of the Investment Manager. The Committee was satisfied that this function provided significant control to help mitigate the risks to the Company.

In addition, the Audit Committee annually receives and reviews Internal Controls reports from independent sources, in respect of the Administrator, Sub-Administrator, Registrar, Custodian and Investment Manager.

The Investment Manager has established an internal control framework to provide reasonable but not absolute assurance on the effectiveness of the internal controls operated on behalf of its clients. The effectiveness of the internal controls is assessed by the Investment Manager's compliance and risk department on an ongoing basis.

The Board's assessment of the Company's principal risks is set out on pages 83 to 84.

By means of the procedures set out above, the Audit Committee confirms that it has reviewed the effectiveness of the Company's system of internal controls for the year ended 31 December 2024 and to the date of approval of this Annual Report and that no concerns have been noted.

#### **External Audit**

The effectiveness of the external audit process is dependent on appropriate audit risk identification at the start of the audit cycle. The Audit Committee received a detailed audit plan from KPMG, identifying their assessment of these significant risks. For the 2024 financial year the significant risk identified was in relation to the valuation of investments. This risk is tracked through the year and the Committee has considered the work done by the auditor to challenge management's assumptions and estimates around these areas. The Committee has assessed the effectiveness of the audit process in addressing these matters through the reports received from KPMG at both the half-year and year end. In addition, the Committee has sought feedback from the Investment Manager, the Administrator and Sub-administrator on the effectiveness of the audit process. For the 2024 financial year the Committee is satisfied that there had been appropriate focus and challenge on the primary areas of audit risk and assessed the quality of the audit process to be appropriate.

The Audit Committee considers the re-appointment of the external auditor, including the rotation of the audit partner, and assesses their independence on an annual basis. The external auditor is required to rotate the audit partner responsible for the Company audit every five years. Andy Salisbury, KPMG audit director, took over the role as lead audit engagement partner for the year ended 31 December 2024.

KPMG has been the Company's external auditor since its stock exchange listing in 2010 (14 years). The Company has not formally tendered the audit since then. The Audit Committee would normally consider putting the Company's audit out to tender at least every ten years (with the maximum duration of a continuous audit engagement being twenty years) and has given consideration to doing so this coming year. However it concluded that, given the current expectation of the wind down of the Company share classes, it was not in the best interests of the Company to do so. In its assessment of the independence of the auditor, the Audit Committee receives details of any relationships between the Company and KPMG that may have a bearing on their independence and receives confirmation from them that they are independent of the Company.

The Audit Committee approved the fees for audit services for 2024 after a review of the level and nature of work to be performed. The Board was satisfied that the fees were appropriate for the scope of the work required.

#### **Non-Audit Services**

To safeguard the objectivity and independence of the external auditor from becoming compromised, the Audit Committee has a policy governing the engagement of the external auditor to provide non-audit services. The Committee made amendments to this policy in April 2023 and follows the certain provisions of the FRC's Revised Ethical Standard 2019 relating to non-audit services as it applies to public interest entities. The Audit Committee must be advised by the commissioning entity/person, and by the audit firm, of all assignments undertaken by the external auditors that fall within the pre-approved categories as soon as practicable.

All non-audit services require prior approval by the Audit Committee. In respect of each calendar year the Audit Committee monitors the provision of non-audit services by receiving at least half yearly a list of the non-audit services provided (and expected to be provided) by the external auditor in that calendar year, and the fees involved, so that the Audit Committee can consider the impact on auditors' objectivity. The Audit Committee's policy on the Independence of External Auditor (including the provision of non-audit services) is available on its website at www.nbddif.com.

#### Auditor's Remuneration

|  | 31 DECEMBER 2024 |
|--|------------------|
|  | £                |
| Audit (Guernsey)   | 200,400          |
| Audit related services (review of interim report) (Guernsey) | 40,900           |
| Total  | 241,300          |

# Audit Committee Report (continued)

#### Appointment and Independence

The Audit Committee has therefore recommended to the Board that, should the Company not be placed into liquidation beforehand, KPMG be reappointed as external auditor for the year ended 31 December 2025, and to authorise the Directors to determine their remuneration. Accordingly, a resolution proposing the reappointment of KPMG as the Company's auditor will be put to the shareholders at the next AGM.

There are no contractual obligations restricting the Committee's choice of external auditor and the Company does not indemnify the external

The Committee's activities formed part of the Board evaluation performed in the year. Details of this process can be found under "Performance evaluation" on page 39. The Committee was satisfied that it had undertaken its duties efficiently and effectively.

#### Andrew J. Salisbury

29 April 2025

On behalf of the Audit Committee

### Management Engagement Committee Report

#### Membership

Stephen Vakil – Chairman (Senior Independent non-executive Director)

John Hallam (Chairman of the Company and Independent non-executive Director)

Christopher Legge (Independent non-executive Director)

#### **Key Objectives**

To review performance of all service providers (including the Investment Manager).

#### Responsibilities

- To review annually the performance, relationships and contractual terms of all service providers (including the Investment Manager);
- Review and make recommendations on any proposed amendment to the Investment Manager Agreement ("IMA");
- To review the performance of, and contractual arrangements with the Investment Manager including:
  - Monitor and evaluate the Investment Manager's performance and, if necessary, provide appropriate guidance;
  - To consider whether an independent appraisal of the Investment Manager's services should be made;
  - To review the level and method of remuneration and notice period, using peer group comparisons (where available); and
  - To ensure that the Investment Manager has a sound system of risk management and internal controls and that these are maintained to safeguard shareholders' investment and the Company's assets.

#### **Committee Meetings**

Only members of the Management Engagement Committee and the Secretary have the right to attend Committee meetings. However, representatives of the Investment Manager and Administrator may be invited by the Committee to attend meetings as and when appropriate.

#### Main Activities during the year

The Management Engagement Committee met once during the year and reviewed performance, standard and value for money of the Company's service providers and the Investment Manager. The Management Engagement Committee reviewed the contractual terms, disaster recovery and business continuity arrangements, information security arrangements, details of anti-bribery and corruption policies, anti-facilitation of tax evasion policies, and the level of professional indemnity insurance of all service providers as at 12 November 2024, including the Investment Manager.

The Management Engagement Committee reviewed the Terms of Reference for the Committee and considered that they remained appropriate.

#### Continued Appointment of the Investment Manager and Other Service Providers

The Board reviews investment performance at each Board meeting and the performance of the Company's service providers are reviewed annually as part of the Management Engagement Committee's annual review.

Taking into consideration supplementary guidance issued by the AIC in 2020 which described certain measures by which investment companies may assess the relationship with the manager, as in previous years the Board undertook an enhanced qualitative assessment of the performance of the Investment Manager. The feedback from this assessment confirmed that the Investment Manager's focus remained on the performance of their core duties, and that there existed a high level of congruence between the duties of the Investment Manager and the objectives of the Company. The Board does not consider it necessary to obtain an independent appraisal of the Investment Manager's services.

# Management Engagement Committee Report (continued)

#### Continued Appointment of the Investment Manager and Other Service Providers (continued)

As a result of the 2024 annual review it is the opinion of the Directors that the continued appointment of the current service providers, including the Investment Manager, on the terms agreed is in the best interests of the Company's shareholders as a whole. The Investment Manager has extensive investment management resources and wide experience in managing portfolios of distressed investments.

#### Stephen Vakil

On behalf of the Management Engagement Committee

# Inside Information Committee Report

#### Membership

John Hallam (Chairman of the Company and Independent non-executive Director)

Michael Holmberg (non-executive Director)

Christopher Legge (Independent non-executive Director) Stephen Vakil (Senior Independent non-executive Director)

#### **Key Objectives**

To identify inside information and monitor the disclosure and control of inside information.

#### Responsibilities

- Identify inside information as it arises;
- Review and prepare project insider lists as required; and
- Consider the need to announce or to delay the announcement of inside information.

#### **Committee Meetings**

Only members of the Inside Information Committee and the Secretary have the right to attend Inside Information Committee meetings. However, representatives of the Investment Manager and Administrator may be invited by the Inside Information Committee to attend meetings as and when appropriate.

#### Main Activities During the year

The Inside Information Committee met on 14 March 2024 and the Inside Information Committee reviewed its Terms of Reference, the Company's policies and procedures for inside information and personal dealing. There was no update made on the Inside Information Committee's terms of reference in 2024 and it was agreed that the policies and procedures remained relevant and accurate.

There were no delays to the disclosure of information during the year.

#### John Hallam

On behalf of the Inside Information Committee

### Remuneration Committee Report

#### Membership

Stephen Vakil – Chairman (Senior Independent non-executive Director)

John Hallam (Chairman of the Company and Independent non-executive Director)

Christopher Legge (Independent non-executive Director)

#### **Key Objectives**

To review the ongoing appropriateness and relevance of the Company's remuneration policy.

#### Responsibilities

- Determine the remuneration of the Directors;
- Prepare an Annual Report on Directors' remuneration;
- Consider the need to appoint external remuneration consultants; and
- Oversee the performance evaluation of the Board; its committees and individual directors.

#### **Committee Meetings**

Only members of the Remuneration Committee and the Secretary have the right to attend Remuneration Committee meetings. However, representatives of the Investment Manager and Administrator may be invited by the Remuneration Committee to attend meetings as and when appropriate.

#### Main Activities During the year

The Remuneration Committee met once during the year and reviewed the Directors' remuneration. The Remuneration Committee's terms of reference were updated during the year and can be found on the Company's website www.nbddif.com.

The Remuneration Committee considered the Directors' Remuneration and agreed that the current policy remained appropriate.

A detailed Directors' Remuneration report to shareholders from the Remuneration Committee is contained on pages 51 to 53.

#### Stephen Vakil

On behalf of the Remuneration Committee

# Directors' Remuneration Report

#### **Annual Statement**

The following report describes how the Board has applied the principles relating to Directors' remuneration. An ordinary resolution to ratify this report will be proposed at the AGM to be held on 30 June 2025.

#### **Directors' Fees**

The Company paid the following fees to the Directors for the year ended 31 December 2024. These fees have remained unchanged since 2014.

|                               |  | TOTAL BOARD FEES | TOTAL BOARD FEES |
|-------------------------------|--|------------------|------------------|
|                               | ROLE   | (\$)             | (£)              |
| John Hallam                   | Chairman   | 60,000           | 10,000           |
| Michael Holmberg <sup>1</sup> | non-executive Director                                       | _                | _                |
| Christopher Legge             | non-executive Director and Chairman of the Audit Committee   | 50,000           | 10,000           |
| Stephen Vakil                 | non-executive Director, Chairman of the Remuneration Committ | ee               |                  |
|                               | and Chairman of Management Engagement Committee              | 45,000           | 10,000           |
| Total                         |  | 155,000          | 30,000           |

The Company paid the following fees to the Directors for the year ended 31 December 2023:

|                               |  | TOTAL BOARD FEES | TOTAL BOARD FEES |
|-------------------------------|--|------------------|------------------|
|                               | ROLE   | (\$)             | (£)              |
| John Hallam                   | Chairman   | 60,000           | 10,000           |
| Michael Holmberg <sup>1</sup> | non-executive Director                                       | _                | _                |
| Christopher Legge             | non-executive Director and Chairman of the Audit Committee   | 50,000           | 10,000           |
| Stephen Vakil                 | non-executive Director, Chairman of the Remuneration Committ | tee              |                  |
|                               | and Chairman of Management Engagement Committee              | 45,000           | 10,000           |
| Total                         |  | 155,000          | 30,000           |
|                               |  |                  |                  |

<sup>1</sup> Michael Holmberg has waived his right to Director fees.

No other remuneration was paid or payable by the Company during the year to any of the Directors (2023: \$Nil).

#### **Remuneration Policy**

The determination of the Directors' fees is a matter dealt with by the Board. The Board considers the remuneration policy annually to ensure that it remains appropriately positioned. The Board reviewed the fees paid to the boards of similar investment companies. No Director is involved in decisions relating to his or her own remuneration.

No Director has a service contract with the Company and Director appointments may be terminated at any time with no compensation payable at termination.

The Company's policy is for the Directors to be remunerated in the form of fees, payable quarterly in arrears. No Director has any entitlement to a pension and the Company has not awarded any share options or long-term performance incentives to any of the Directors. No element of the Directors' remuneration is performance related.

# Directors' Remuneration Report (continued)

Directors are authorised to claim reasonable expenses from the Company in relation to the performance of their duties. The Company's policy is that the fees payable to the Directors should reflect the time spent by the Board on the Company's affairs and the responsibilities borne by the Directors and should be sufficient to enable high calibre candidates to be recruited. The policy is for the Chairman of the Board and Chairman of the Audit Committee to be paid a higher fee than the other Directors in recognition of their more onerous roles and additional time spent performing their duties. The Board may amend the level of remuneration paid within the limits of the Company's Articles. In 2017, the remuneration policy needed to be reviewed by attributing the company as a whole to the individual share classes. The aggregate remuneration for each director has not changed since 2014.

The remuneration policy reflects the changing status of the Company as the existing Portfolios are realised as follows:

|                          | COMPANY FEE<br>(USD) | NBDD FEE<br>(USD) | NBDX FEE<br>(USD) | NBDG FEE<br>(GBP) | TOTAL<br>(USD) | TOTAL<br>(GBP) |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Chairman                 | 40,000               | 10,000            | 10,000            | 10,000            | 60,000         | 10,000         |
| Audit Committee Chairman | 30,000               | 10,000            | 10,000            | 10,000            | 50,000         | 10,000         |
| Other Directors          | 25,000               | 10,000            | 10,000            | 10,000            | 45,000         | 10,000         |

#### **Directors' Fees Policy**

| OBJECTIVE   | OPERATION  | MAXIMUM POTENTIAL VALUE                                  | PERFORMANCE<br>METRICS USED   |
|---|--|--|---|
| To recognise time spent and the responsibilities borne and to attract high calibre candidates who have the necessary experience and skills. | Directors' fees are set by the Board.  Annual fees are paid quarterly in arrears.                        | Current fee levels are shown in the remuneration report. | Directors are not remunerated based on performance and are not eligible to participate in any performance related |
|   | Fees are reviewed annually and against those for Directors in companies of similar scale and complexity. | arr  | arrangements.   |
|   | Fees were last reviewed on 12 November 2024.   |  |   |
|   | Directors do not receive benefits and do not participate in any incentive or pension plans.              |  |   |

#### Service Contracts and Policy on Payment of Loss of Office

The Directors' appointments are not subject to any duration or limitation. Any Director may resign in writing at any time. Directors' appointments are reviewed during the annual Board evaluation. No Director has a service contract with the Company. Directors have agreed letters of appointment with the Company.

As detailed on page 37, all of the independent non-executive Directors are re-elected at the first AGM after their appointment and are then subject to annual re-election. The names and biographies of the Directors holding offices at the date of this report are listed on page 29.

#### **Dates of Directors' Letters of Appointment**

Copies of the Directors' letters of appointment are available for inspection by shareholders at the Company's Registered Office and will be available at the AGM. The dates of their letter of appointments are shown below.

|                   | DATE OF LETTER OF APPOINTMENT             |
|-------------------|---|
| John Hallam       | 20 April 2010 (amended on 8 May 2018)     |
| Michael Holmberg  | 20 April 2010 (amended on 22 August 2018) |
| Stephen Vakil     | 5 February 2016 (amended on 8 May 2018)   |
| Christopher Legge | 12 April 2018                             |

#### **Directors' Interests**

The Company has not set any requirements or guidelines for Directors to own shares in the Company. The beneficial interests of the Directors and their connected persons in the Company's shares at 31 December 2024 are shown in the table below:

| DIRECTOR          | NO. OF ORDINARY<br>SHARES | NO. OF EXTENDED LIFE SHARES | NO. OF NEW<br>GLOBAL SHARES | TOTAL NO.<br>OF SHARES |
|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| John Hallam       | _                         | 35,468                      | 30,216                      | 65,684                 |
| Michael Holmberg  | -                         | 15,661                      | 31,590                      | 47,251                 |
| Christopher Legge | _                         | _                           | _                           | _                      |
| Stephen Vakil     | -                         | _                           | 16,482                      | 16,482                 |

#### **Advisors to the Remuneration Committee**

The Remuneration Committee has not sought the paid advice or professional services by any outside person in respect of its consideration of the Directors' remuneration. The Remuneration Committee sought input from Neuberger Berman Europe Limited ("NBEL") and the Brokers during its deliberations of the remuneration policy.

#### Stephen Vakil

On behalf of the Remuneration Committee

# Directors' Responsibilities Statement in respect of the Annual Report and the Financial Statements

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and applicable law.

Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of its profit or loss for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable, relevant and reliable;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- assess the Group's or the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and
- use the going concern basis of accounting unless liquidation is imminent.

The directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that its financial statements comply with the Companies (Guernsey) Law, 2008. They are responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The directors of the Company have elected to prepare consolidated financial statements for the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024 as the parent of the Group in accordance with Section 244(5) of the Law.

The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Company's website. Legislation in Guernsey governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. The directors who hold office at the date of approval of this Director's Report confirm that so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditor is unaware, and that each Director has taken all the steps they ought to have taken as a director to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditor is aware of that information.

#### Responsibility statement of the directors in respect of the Annual Report

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge:

- the financial statements, prepared in accordance with the applicable set of accounting standards, give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the Group; and
- the Annual Report includes a fair review of the development and performance of the business and the position of the issuer, together with a description of the principal risks and uncertainties that they face.

We consider the Annual Report and accounts, taken as a whole, is fair, balanced and understandable and provides the information necessary for shareholders to assess the Group's position and performance, business model and strategy.

John Hallam Chairman 29 April 2025 Christopher Legge
Director
29 April 2025

# Independent Auditor's Report

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF NB DISTRESSED DEBT INVESTMENT FUND LIMITED

#### Our opinion is unmodified

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of NB Distressed Debt Investment Fund Limited (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (together, the "Group"), which comprise the consolidated statement of assets and liabilities including the consolidated condensed schedule of investments as at 31 December 2024, the consolidated statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes, comprising significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2023, and of the Group's financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended;
- are prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles; and
- comply with the Companies (Guernsey) Law, 2008.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities are described below. We have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities under, and are independent of the Company and Group in accordance with, UK ethical requirements including the FRC Ethical Standard as required by the Crown Dependencies' Audit Rules and Guidance. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is a sufficient and appropriate basis for our opinion.

#### Key audit matters: our assessment of the risks of material misstatement

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements and include the most significant assessed risks of material misstatement (whether or not due to fraud) identified by us, including those which had the greatest effect on: the overall audit strategy; the allocation of resources in the audit; and directing the efforts of the engagement team. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the consolidated financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters. In arriving at our audit opinion above, the key audit matter was as follows (unchanged from 2023):

# Independent Auditor's Report (continued)

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF NB DISTRESSED DEBT INVESTMENT FUND LIMITED (CONTINUED)

#### The risk

#### Our response

#### Valuation of Investments, at fair value ("Investments")

\$36,677,885 (2023: \$60,883,590)

Refer to the Audit Committee Report on page 44, the Consolidated Condensed Schedule of Investments on page 54, Note 2 Summary of Accounting Policies, and Note 2(f) Fair Value of Financial Instruments.

#### **Basis:**

The Group's investment portfolio is carried at fair value in accordance with US generally accepted accounting principles. It represents a significant proportion (58% (2023: 76%)), and is the principal driver, of the Group's net asset

The Group's holdings in quoted and unquoted equity and debt investments, representing 31% of the fair value of investments, are valued at their bid price using broker quotes (including use of single broker quotes) or third party pricing service providers (the "Price Quotes").

Where no Price Quotes are available or they may not be representative of fair value, the Group will utilise the resources of the Investment Manager to augment its own fair value analysis to determine the most appropriate fair value for such investments (the "Internally Generated Valuations"). 69% of the fair value of Investments were valued using Internally Generated Valuations.

#### Risk:

The valuation of the Group's investments is considered a significant area of our audit, given that it represents the majority of the net assets of the Group.

The valuation risk for both the Internally Generated Valuations and single broker quoted investment valuations incorporate both a risk of fraud and error given the significance of estimates and judgments that may be involved in the determination of fair value.

#### Our audit procedures included:

#### Control evaluation:

We assessed and evaluated the design and implementation of the control in place over the valuation of investments.

#### Challenging managements' assumptions and inputs including use of KPMG valuation specialists:

For Investments where market quotes were available, we obtained prices from third party data sources and pricing vendors.

For Internally Generated Valuations and single broker quoted investments, we performed, as applicable, the following procedures with the support of our KPMG valuation specialists:

- We obtained and read the fair valuation memoranda prepared by the Investment Manager, including their fair value analysis to corroborate broker prices against relevant market metrics and valuation methods;
- We assessed the appropriateness of the valuation approach and methodology applied to each investment and where relevant, derived an independent reference price;
- We compared the assumptions used in the valuations to observable market data or supporting documentation;
- We corroborated significant inputs used to supporting documentation;
- We considered market transactions in close proximity to the year end and assessed their appropriateness as being representative of fair value; and
- We assessed the effect of the investee entity's financial performance upon the fair value.

#### Assessing disclosures:

We considered the Group's disclosures (Note 2(c)) in relation to the use of estimates and judgements regarding the valuation of investments and the Group's investment valuation policies (Note 2(f)) adopted and fair value disclosures.

#### Our application of materiality and an overview of the scope of our audit

Materiality for the consolidated financial statements as a whole was set at \$1,300,000, determined with reference to a benchmark of group net assets of \$63,495,265 of which it represents approximately 2.0% (2023: 2.0%).

In line with our audit methodology, our procedures on individual account balances and disclosures were performed to a lower threshold, performance materiality, so as to reduce to an acceptable level the risk that individually immaterial misstatements in individual account balances add up to a material amount across the financial statements as a whole. Performance materiality for the Group was set at 75% (2023: 75%) of materiality for the financial statements as a whole, which equates to \$975,000. We applied this percentage in our determination of performance materiality because we did not identify any factors indicating an elevated level of risk.

We reported to the Audit Committee any corrected or uncorrected identified misstatements exceeding \$65,000, in addition to other identified misstatements that warranted reporting on qualitative grounds.

Our audit of the Group was undertaken to the materiality level specified above, which has informed our identification of significant risks of material misstatement and the associated audit procedures performed in those areas as detailed above.

The group team performed the audit of the Group as if it was a single aggregated set of financial information. The audit was performed using the materiality level set out above and covered 100% of total Group net increase in net assets resulting from operations and total Group assets and liabilities.

#### Going concern

The directors have prepared the consolidated financial statements on the going concern basis as they do not intend to liquidate the Group or the Company or to cease their operations, and as they have concluded that the Group and the Company's financial position means that this is realistic. They have also concluded that there are no material uncertainties that could have cast significant doubt over their ability to continue as a going concern for at least a year from the date of approval of the consolidated financial statements (the "going concern period").

In our evaluation of the directors' conclusions, we considered the inherent risks to the Group and the Company's business model and analysed how those risks might affect the Group and the Company's financial resources or ability to continue operations over the going concern period. The risks that we considered most likely to affect the Group and the Company's financial resources or ability to continue operations over this period was availability of capital to meet operating costs and other financial commitments.

We considered whether this risk could plausibly affect the liquidity in the going concern period by comparing severe, but plausible downside scenarios that could arise from this risk against the level of available financial resources indicated by the Company's financial forecasts.

We considered whether the going concern disclosure in note 2(a) to the financial statements gives a full and accurate description of the directors' assessment of going concern.

Our conclusions based on this work:

- we consider that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements is
- we have not identified, and concur with the directors' assessment that there is not, a material uncertainty related to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Group and the Company's ability to continue as a going concern for the going concern period; and
- we found the going concern disclosure in the notes to the consolidated financial statements to be acceptable.

However, as we cannot predict all future events or conditions and as subsequent events may result in outcomes that are inconsistent with judgements that were reasonable at the time they were made, the above conclusions are not a quarantee that the Group and the Company will continue in operation.

# Independent Auditor's Report (continued)

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF NB DISTRESSED DEBT INVESTMENT FUND LIMITED (CONTINUED)

# Fraud and breaches of laws and regulations – ability to detect Identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement due to fraud

To identify risks of material misstatement due to fraud ("fraud risks") we assessed events or conditions that could indicate an incentive or pressure to commit fraud or provide an opportunity to commit fraud. Our risk assessment procedures included:

- enquiring of management as to the Group's policies and procedures to prevent and detect fraud as well as enquiring whether management have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- using analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships.

As required by auditing standards, and taking into account possible incentives or pressures to misstate performance and our overall knowledge of the control environment, we perform procedures to address the risk of management override of controls, in particular the risk that management may be in a position to make inappropriate accounting entries, and the risk of bias in accounting estimates such as valuation of single broker quoted investments and Internally Generated Valuations.

On this audit we do not believe there is a fraud risk related to revenue recognition because the Group's revenue streams are simple in nature with respect to accounting policy choice, and are easily verifiable to external data sources or agreements with little or no requirement for estimation from management. We did not identify any additional fraud risks.

We performed procedures including:

- identifying journal entries and other adjustments to test based on risk criteria and comparing any identified entries to supporting documentation;
- incorporating an element of unpredictability in our audit procedures; and
- assessing significant accounting estimates for bias.

Further detail in respect of valuation of single broker quoted investments and Internally Generated Valuations is set out in the key audit matter section of in this report.

#### Identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement due to non-compliance with laws and regulations

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the consolidated financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience and through discussion with management (as required by auditing standards), and from inspection of the Group's regulatory and legal correspondence, and discussed with management the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations. As the Group is regulated, our assessment of risks involved gaining an understanding of the control environment including the entity's procedures for complying with regulatory requirements.

The Group is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the consolidated financial statements including financial reporting legislation and taxation legislation and we assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

The Group is subject to other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the consolidated financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines or litigation or impacts on the Group and the Company's ability to operate. We identified financial services regulation as being the area most likely to have such an effect, recognising the regulated nature of the Group's activities and its legal form. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Therefore if a breach of operational regulations is not disclosed to us or evident from relevant correspondence, an audit will not detect that breach.

#### Context of the ability of the audit to detect fraud or breaches of law or regulation

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the consolidated financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the consolidated financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it.

In addition, as with any audit, there remains a higher risk of non-detection of fraud, as this may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. Our audit procedures are designed to detect material misstatement. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance or fraud and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

#### Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report but does not include the consolidated financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the consolidated financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### We have nothing to report on other matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies (Guernsey) Law, 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the Company has not kept proper accounting records; or
- the consolidated financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief are necessary for the purpose of our audit.

#### Respective responsibilities

#### Directors' responsibilities

As explained more fully in their statement set out on page 54, the directors are responsible for: the preparation of the consolidated financial statements including being satisfied that they give a true and fair view; such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; assessing the Group and Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and using the going concern basis of accounting unless liquidation is imminent.

#### Auditor's responsibilities

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue our opinion in an auditor's report. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not quarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the consolidated financial statements.

A fuller description of our responsibilities is provided on the FRC's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities.

#### The purpose of this report and restrictions on its use by persons other than the Company's members, as a body

This report is made solely to the Company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 262 of the Companies (Guernsey) Law, 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### Andrew J. Salisbury

For and on behalf of KPMG Channel Islands Limited Chartered Accountants and Recognised Auditors Guernsey

## Consolidated Statement of Assets and Liabilities

| AC AT 2 | 1 DECEMBED   | 2024 AND 24 | DECEMBER   | 2022        |
|---------|--------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| AS AL 3 | I DECEIVIBER | 2024 AND 31 | DECEIVIBER | <b>ZUZ3</b> |

| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS EXCEPT WHERE STATED OTHERWISE)                                     | 31 DECEMBER 2024 | 31 DECEMBER 2023 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Assets  |                  |                  |
| Investments, at fair value (2024: cost of \$60,011,510; 2023: cost of \$90,284,529)         | 36,677,885       | 60,883,590       |
| Forward currency contracts, at fair value   | 2,459,931        | 18,235           |
| Total return swaps, at fair value (2024: cost of \$Nil, 2023: cost of \$Nil)                | -                | 3,648,201        |
| Cash and cash equivalents   | 14,403,459       | 4,809,578        |
| Restricted Cash:  |                  |                  |
| Forward currency contracts Collateral   | _                | 790,000          |
| Total return swap Collateral  | 10,970,000       | 10,970,000       |
|   | 64,511,275       | 81,119,604       |
| Other assets  |                  |                  |
| Interest receivables  | 763,745          | 691,898          |
| Withholding tax receivable  | _                | 251,051          |
| Other receivables and prepayments   | 53,065           | 57,691           |
| Total assets  | 65,328,085       | 82,120,244       |
| Liabilities   |                  |                  |
| Forward currency contracts, at fair value   | 11,319           | 1,545,570        |
| Accrued expenses and other liabilities  | 375,288          | 395,627          |
| Credit default swap, at fair value (2024: cost of \$61,957; 2023: cost of \$19,860)         | 19,525           | 21,309           |
| Total return swaps, at fair value (2024: cost of \$Nil, 2023: cost of \$Nil)                | 126,689          | _                |
| Due to broker   | 1,300,000        | _                |
| Total liabilities   | 1,832,820        | 1,962,506        |
| Net assets  | 63,495,265       | 80,157,738       |
| Net assets attributable to Ordinary Shares (shares 2024: 15,382,770; 2023: 15,382,770)      | 11,624,114       | 12,415,231       |
| Net asset value per Ordinary Share  | 0.7557           | 0.8071           |
| Net assets attributable to Extended Life Shares (shares 2024: 38,731,819; 2023: 44,234,790) | 35,907,610       | 45,614,485       |
| Net asset value per Extended Life Share   | 0.9271           | 1.0312           |
| Net assets attributable to New Global Shares (shares 2024: 25,123,440; 2023: 27,821,698)    | £12,746,359      | £17,358,035      |
| Net asset value per New Global Share  | £0.5073          | £0.6239          |
| Net assets attributable to New Global Shares (USD equivalent)                               | 15,963,541       | 22,128,022       |
| Net asset value per New Global Share (USD equivalent)                                       | 0.6354           | 0.7954           |

The Financial Statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 29 April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

John HallamChristopher LeggeChairmanDirector

# Consolidated Statement of Operations

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 AND 31 DECEMBER 2023

| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS) 31   | DECEMBER 2024  | 31 DECEMBER 2023 |
|--|----------------|------------------|
| Income   |                |                  |
| Interest income  | 3,112,539      | 2,899,273        |
|  | 3,112,539      | 2,899,273        |
| Expenses   |                |                  |
| Professional and other expenses  | 517,253        | 531,886          |
| Audit fee  | 305,193        | 316,352          |
| Directors' fees and expenses   | 192,157        | 193,450          |
| Company secretary fee  | 114,400        | 116,888          |
| Administration fee   | 86,775         | 87,547           |
| D&O insurance fee  | 69,940         | 105,471          |
| Loan administration and custody fees   | 28,412         | 30,743           |
|  | 1,314,130      | 1,382,337        |
| Net investment income  | 1,798,409      | 1,516,936        |
| Realised and unrealised (loss)/gain from investments and foreign exchange transaction                                  | ns             |                  |
| Net realised loss on investments, credit default swap, total return swap and forward currency transactions             | (15,957,036)   | (92,697)         |
| Net change in unrealised gain on investments, credit default swap, total return swap and forward currency transactions | 6,291,633      | 1,542,286        |
| Realised and unrealised (loss)/gain from investments and foreign exchange transaction                                  | ns (9,665,403) | 1,449,589        |
| Net (decrease)/increase in net assets resulting from operations  | (7,866,994)    | 2,966,525        |

# Consolidated Statement of Changes in Net Assets

|  | 31 DECEMBER        | 31 DECEMBER             | 31 DECEMBER          |                    |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
|  | 2024               | 2024                    | 2024                 | 31 DECEMBER        |
| FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024  | ORDINARY<br>SHARES | EXTENDED LIFE<br>SHARES | NEW GLOBAL<br>SHARES | 2024<br>AGGREGATED |
| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)  |                    |                         |                      |                    |
| Net assets at the beginning of the year  | 12,415,231         | 45,614,485              | 22,128,022           | 80,157,738         |
| Net investment income  | 10.160             | 773,862                 | 1,014,387            | 1,798,409          |
|  | 10,100             | 775,002                 | 1,014,507            | 1,730,403          |
| Net realised loss on investments, credit default swap and forward currency transactions                    | (1,009,363)        | (14,426,978)            | (520,695)            | (15,957,036)       |
| Net change in unrealised gain/(loss) on investments,   |                    |                         |                      |                    |
| credit default swap and forward currency transactions  | 208,086            | 10,092,881              | (4,009,334)          | 6,291,633          |
| Dividends  | _                  | (654,675)               | (772,349)            | (1,427,024)        |
| Shares redeemed during the year  | _                  | (5,491,965)             | (1,876,490)          | (7,368,455)        |
| Net assets at the end of the year  | 11,624,114         | 35,907,610              | 15,963,541           | 63,495,265         |
|  | 31 DECEMBER        | 31 DECEMBER             | 31 DECEMBER          |                    |
|  | 2023               | 2023                    | 2023                 | 31 DECEMBER        |
| FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  | ORDINARY           | EXTENDED LIFE           | <b>NEW GLOBAL</b>    | 2023               |
| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)  | SHARES             | SHARES                  | SHARES               | AGGREGATED         |
| Net assets at the beginning of the year  | 11,890,321         | 58,477,990              | 24,778,428           | 95,146,739         |
| Net investment income  | 21,599             | 711,561                 | 783,776              | 1,516,936          |
| Net realised (loss)/gain on investments, credit default swap and forward currency transactions             | (229,535)          | 726,939                 | (590,101)            | (92,697)           |
| ·  | (229,555)          | 720,939                 | (590,101)            | (92,097)           |
| Net change in unrealised gain/(loss) on investments, credit default swap and forward currency transactions | 732,846            | 955,658                 | (146,218)            | 1,542,286          |
| Shares redeemed during the year  | _                  | (15,257,663)            | (2,697,863)          | (17,955,526)       |
| Net assets at the end of the year  | 12,415,231         | 45,614,485              | 22,128,022           | 80,157,738         |

## Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

| FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 | DECEMBER 2024 AND | 31 DECEMBER 2023 |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|

| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)  | 31 DECEMBER 2024 | 31 DECEMBER 2023 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities:  |                  |                  |
| Net (decrease)/increase in net assets resulting from operations  | (7,866,994)      | 2,966,525        |
| Adjustment to reconcile net (decrease)/increase in net assets resulting from operations to net cash flow provided by operations: |                  |                  |
| Net realised loss on investments, credit default swap, total return swap and forward currency transactions                       | 15,957,036       | 92,697           |
| Net change in unrealised gain on investments, credit default swap, total return swap and forward currency transactions           | (6,291,633)      | (1,542,286)      |
| Accretion of discount on loans and bonds   | 56,771           | 91,550           |
| Changes in due to broker   | 1,300,000        | -                |
| Changes in interest receivable   | (71,847)         | (95,874)         |
| Changes in receivables for investments sold  | -                | 498,514          |
| Changes in other receivables and prepayments   | 4,626            | 14,613           |
| Changes in withholding tax receivable  | 251,051          | 194,711          |
| Changes in accrued expenses and other liabilities  | (20,340)         | 112,978          |
| Cash received on settled forward currency contracts and spot currency contracts  | (34,386)         | (1,975,089)      |
| Payment in kind interest   | (2,405,907)      | (1,965,980)      |
| Purchase of investments <sup>1</sup>   | 121,400          | (317,725)        |
| Sale of investments <sup>1</sup>   | 16,638,399       | 16,634,461       |
| Net cash provided by operating activities  | 17,638,176       | 14,709,095       |
| Cash flows from financing activities:  |                  |                  |
| Shares redeemed during the year  | (7,368,455)      | (17,955,526)     |
| Dividend paid  | (1,427,024)      | _                |
| Net cash used in from financing activities   | (8,795,479)      | (17,955,526)     |
| Net increase/(decrease) in cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash  | 8,842,697        | (3,246,431)      |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year   | 4,809,578        | 8,733,589        |
| Restricted cash at the beginning of the year   | 11,760,000       | 11,060,000       |
| Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents   | (38,816)         | 22,420           |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year   | 14,403,459       | 4,809,578        |
| Restricted cash at the end of the year   | 10,970,000       | 11,760,000       |

#### Supplemental cash flow information

There were no reorganisations requiring disclosure for the year ended 31 December 2024 (31 December 2023: None).

<sup>1</sup> Included in these figures is \$2,405,907 (2023: \$1,965,980) of non-cash transactions. These arose due to the repricing and restructuring of certain investments during the year.

# Consolidated Condensed Schedule of Investments (by financial instrument)

| AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024 (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS) | COST       | FAIR VALUE | ORDINARY<br>SHARES<br>(%)¹ | EXTENDED<br>LIFE SHARES<br>(%)¹ | NEW<br>GLOBAL<br>SHARES<br>(%)¹ | TOTAL<br>COMPANY<br>(%)¹ |
|--|------------|------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Portfolio of Distressed Investments              |            |            |                            |                                 |                                 |                          |
| Bank Debt Investments                            | 47,834,123 | 21,784,252 | 0.00                       | 19.18                           | 93.33                           | 34.31                    |
| Private Equity                                   | 4,907,312  | 8,837,916  | 18.51                      | 17.71                           | 2.04                            | 13.92                    |
| Short term Investments                           |            |            |                            |                                 |                                 |                          |
| US Treasury Bills                                | 7,270,075  | 6,055,717  | 35.29                      | 5.44                            | 0.00                            | 9.54                     |
| Total Investments                                | 60,011,510 | 36,677,885 | 53.80                      | 42.33                           | 95.37                           | 57.77                    |
| Portfolio per share class                        |            |            |                            |                                 |                                 |                          |
| Ordinary Shares                                  | 5,459,638  | 6,254,171  | 53.80                      | _                               | _                               | 9.85                     |
| Extended Life Shares                             | 22,446,527 | 15,199,913 | _                          | 42.33                           |                                 | 23.94                    |
| New Global Shares                                | 32,105,345 | 15,223,801 | _                          | _                               | 95.37                           | 23.98                    |
|  | 60,011,510 | 36,677,885 | 53.80                      | 42.33                           | 95.37                           | 57.77                    |
| Credit Default Swap                              |            |            |                            |                                 |                                 |                          |
| Ordinary Shares                                  | (17,367)   | (5,473)    | (0.05)                     | _                               | _                               | (0.01)                   |
| Extended Life Shares                             | (44,590)   | (14,052)   | _                          | (0.04)                          | _                               | (0.02)                   |
|  | (61,957)   | (19,525)   | (0.05)                     | (0.04)                          | _                               | (0.03)                   |
| Forward Currency Contracts                       |            |            |                            |                                 |                                 |                          |
| Assets   |            |            |                            |                                 |                                 |                          |
| Ordinary Shares                                  | _          | 549,259    | 4.73                       | _                               | _                               | 0.87                     |
| Extended Life Shares                             | _          | 1,910,672  | _                          | 5.32                            | _                               | 3.01                     |
|  | _          | 2,459,931  | 4.73                       | 5.32                            | _                               | 3.88                     |
| Liabilities                                      |            |            |                            |                                 |                                 |                          |
| Ordinary Shares                                  | _          | (4,289)    | (0.04)                     | _                               | _                               | (0.01)                   |
| Extended Life Shares                             | _          | (7,030)    | _                          | (0.02)                          | _                               | (0.01)                   |
|  | _          | (11,319)   | (0.04)                     | (0.02)                          | _                               | (0.02)                   |
| Total Return Swap <sup>2</sup>                   |            |            |                            |                                 |                                 |                          |
| Ordinary Shares                                  | _          | (35,412)   | (0.30)                     |                                 | _                               | (0.06)                   |
| Extended Life Shares                             | _          | (91,277)   | _                          | (0.26)                          | _                               | (0.14)                   |
|  |            | (126,689)  | (0.30)                     | (0.26)                          | _                               | (0.20)                   |

<sup>1</sup> This is the Fair Value expressed as a percentage of total Ordinary Share NAV, Extended Life Share NAV, New Global Share NAV and Company NAV.

<sup>2</sup> The trade claim was structured through a fully funded total return swap with a major US financial institution. See Note 3.

# Consolidated Condensed Schedule of Investments (by financial instrument)

| AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023              |            |             | ORDINARY<br>SHARES | EXTENDED<br>LIFE SHARES | NEW<br>GLOBAL<br>SHARES | TOTAL<br>COMPANY |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)           | COST       | FAIR VALUE  | (%)1               | (%)¹                    | (%)1                    | (%)1             |
| Portfolio of Distressed Investments |            |             |                    |                         |                         |                  |
| Bank Debt Investments               | 45,428,216 | 27,125,693  | _                  | 20.66                   | 79.99                   | 33.83            |
| Private Equity                      | 17,788,091 | 23,948,613  | 24.4               | 37.62                   | 17.00                   | 29.88            |
| Private Note                        | 19,741,373 | 3,724,142   | 2.22               | 7.56                    | _                       | 4.65             |
| Short term Investments              |            |             |                    |                         |                         |                  |
| US Treasury Bills                   | 7,326,847  | 6,085,142   | 33.20              | 4.30                    | _                       | 7.59             |
| Total Investments                   | 90,284,527 | 60,883,590  | 59.82              | 70.14                   | 96.99                   | 75.95            |
| Portfolio per share class           |            |             |                    |                         |                         |                  |
| Ordinary Shares                     | 6,993,271  | 7,426,240   | 59.82              | _                       | _                       | 9.26             |
| Extended Life Shares                | 48,959,822 | 31,996,330  | _                  | 70.14                   | _                       | 39.92            |
| New Global Shares                   | 34,331,434 | 21,461,020  | _                  | _                       | 96.99                   | 26.77            |
|                                     | 90,284,527 | 60,883,590  | 59.82              | 70.14                   | 96.99                   | 75.95            |
| Credit Default Swap                 |            |             |                    |                         |                         |                  |
| Ordinary Shares                     | (5,567)    | (5,973)     | (0.05)             | _                       | _                       | (0.01)           |
| Extended Life Shares                | (14,293)   | (15,336)    | _                  | (0.03)                  | _                       | (0.01)           |
|                                     | (19,860)   | (21,309)    | (0.05)             | (0.03)                  | _                       | (0.02)           |
| Forward Currency Contracts          |            |             |                    |                         |                         |                  |
| Assets                              |            |             |                    |                         |                         |                  |
| Ordinary Shares                     | _          | 3,808       | 0.03               | _                       | _                       | _                |
| Extended Life Shares                | _          | 14,427      | _                  | 0.03                    | _                       | 0.02             |
|                                     | _          | 18,235      | 0.03               | 0.03                    | _                       | 0.02             |
| Liabilities                         |            |             |                    |                         |                         |                  |
| Ordinary Shares                     | _          | (348,550)   | (2.81)             | _                       | _                       | (0.44)           |
| Extended Life Shares                | _          | (1,197,020) | _                  | (2.63)                  | _                       | (1.49)           |
|                                     | -          | (1,545,570) | (2.81)             | (2.63)                  | -                       | (1.93)           |
| Total Return Swap <sup>2</sup>      |            |             |                    |                         |                         |                  |
| Ordinary Shares                     | _          | 1,018,720   | 8.21               | _                       | _                       | 1.27             |
| Extended Life Shares                | _          | 2,629,481   | _                  | 5.76                    | _                       | 3.28             |
|                                     | -          | 3,648,201   | 8.21               | 5.76                    | -                       | 4.55             |

<sup>1</sup> This is the Fair Value expressed as a percentage of total Ordinary Share NAV, Extended Life Share NAV, New Global Share NAV and Company NAV.

<sup>2</sup> The trade claim was structured through a fully funded total return swap with a major US financial institution. See Note 3.

# Consolidated Condensed Schedule of Investments

#### Investments with the following issuers comprised greater than 5% of Total Company NAV

| AS AT 31 DECEMBER 20 (EXPRESSED IN   | 024              |                           |            |            | FAIR       | ORDINARY<br>SHARES | EXTENDED<br>LIFE<br>SHARES | NEW<br>GLOBAL<br>SHARES | TOTAL<br>COMPANY |
|--|------------------|---------------------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| US DOLLARS)  | COUNTRY          | INDUSTRY                  | NOMINAL    | COST       | VALUE      | (%) <sup>1</sup>   | (%)¹                       | (%)¹                    | (%) <sup>1</sup> |
| Investments at fair valu   | ie               |                           |            |            |            |                    |                            |                         |                  |
| AB Zwolle Term Loan<br>4.36% 5/31/2025<br>(Bank Debt Investments)                              | Netherlands      | Commercial<br>Mortgage    | 21,413,112 | 15,194,276 | 9,691,940  | -                  | 11.61                      | 33.80                   | 14.91            |
| Package Holdings 1<br>(Private Equity)   | Luxembourg       | Containers<br>& Packaging | 11,108,610 | -          | 6,762,594  | 15.69              | 13.17                      | _                       | 10.40            |
| Package Holdings 6<br>(Private Equity)   | Luxembourg       | Containers<br>& Packaging | 2,948,481  | 1,893,980  | 937,623    | 2.18               | 1.83                       | _                       | 1.44             |
| TP Ferro Concesionaria,<br>S.A EUR Term Loan 25%<br>6/1/2025<br>(Bank Debt Investments)        | Spain            | Surface<br>Transport      | 18,787,735 | 18,531,522 | 3,890,940  | -                  | 5.28                       | 12.14                   | 5.99             |
| TP Ferro Concesionaria,<br>S.A 2017 EUR Term Loan<br>B 25% 6/1/2025<br>(Bank Debt Investments) | Spain            | Surface<br>Transport      | 755,816    | 842,679    | 156,529    | -                  | 0.21                       | 0.49                    | 0.24             |
| TP Ferro PIK 5C 7/23<br>(Bank Debt Investments)  | Spain            | Surface<br>Transport      | 462,210    | 462,210    | 92,442     | _                  | 0.12                       | 0.29                    | 0.14             |
| TP Ferro Concesionaria,<br>S.A 2017 USD Term<br>Loan A 25% 6/1/2025<br>(Bank Debt Investments) | Spain            | Surface<br>Transport      | 3,753,886  | 3,753,886  | 750,777    | -                  | 1.01                       | 2.35                    | 1.15             |
| TP Ferro Concesionaria,<br>S.A 2017 USD Term Loan<br>C 25% 6/1/2025<br>(Bank Debt Investments) | Spain            | Surface<br>Transport      | 326,958    | 326,958    | 65,392     | -                  | 0.09                       | 0.20                    | 0.10             |
| TP Ferro PIK 5A 25%<br>6/1/2025<br>(Bank Debt Investments)                                     | Spain            | Surface<br>Transport      | 665,658    | 665,658    | 133,132    | -                  | 0.18                       | 0.42                    | 0.20             |
| TP Ferro PIK 5B 25%<br>6/1/2026<br>(Bank Debt Investments)                                     | Spain            | Surface<br>Transport      | 379,839    | 379,839    | 75,968     | -                  | 0.10                       | 0.24                    | 0.12             |
| Hotel Puerta America<br>PIK T/L EUR<br>(Bank Debt Investments)                                 | Spain            | Lodging &<br>Casinos      | 4,178,566  | 4,599,106  | 4,184,118  | -                  | -                          | 26.21                   | 6.44             |
| Hotel Puerta America PIK<br>Addon EUR<br>(Bank Debt Investments)                               | Spain            | Lodging &<br>Casinos      | 1,649,372  | 1,796,090  | 1,651,563  | -                  | -                          | 10.35                   | 2.54             |
| Hotel Puerta America<br>PIK PPL EUR<br>(Bank Debt Investments)                                 | Spain            | Lodging &<br>Casinos      | 1,090,003  | 1,281,898  | 1,091,451  | -                  | -                          | 6.84                    | 1.68             |
| Hotel Puerta America<br>(Private Equity)   | Spain            | Lodging & Casi            | nos 934    | 3,013,333  | -          | -                  | _                          | _                       | -                |
| US Treasury N/B 1.500%<br>02/15/30<br>(US Treasury Bills)                                      | United<br>States | United<br>States          | 6,975,000  | 7,270,075  | 6,055,717  | 34.05              | 5.28                       | -                       | 9.32             |
|  |                  |                           |            | 60,011,510 | 35,540,186 | 51.92              | 38.88                      | 93.33                   | 54.67            |

<sup>1</sup> This is the Fair Value expressed as a percentage of total Ordinary Share NAV, Extended Life Share NAV, New Global Share NAV and Company NAV.

# Consolidated Condensed Schedule of Investments

#### Investments with the following issuers comprised greater than 5% of Total Company NAV

| AS AT 31 DECEMBER 20 (EXPRESSED IN   | )23              |                           |            |            | FAIR       | ORDINARY<br>SHARES | EXTENDED<br>LIFE<br>SHARES | NEW<br>GLOBAL<br>SHARES | TOTAL<br>COMPANY |
|--|------------------|---------------------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| US DOLLARS)  | COUNTRY          | INDUSTRY                  | NOMINAL    | COST       | VALUE      | (%)¹               | (%) <sup>1</sup>           | (%)¹                    | (%)¹             |
| Investments at fair valu   | ie               |                           |            |            |            |                    |                            |                         |                  |
| White Energy Holding<br> Company LLC<br>(Private Equity)                                       | United<br>States | Oil & Gas                 | 367        | 9,174,989  | 11,010,000 | -                  | 17.23                      | 14.24                   | 13.74            |
| AB Zwolle T/L<br>EUR 01/06/2020<br>(Bank Debt Investments)                                     | Netherlands      | Commercial<br>Mortgage    | 20,223,504 | 14,595,720 | 10,879,528 | -                  | 10.57                      | 27.37                   | 13.57            |
| Package Holdings 1<br>(Private Note)   | Luxembourg       | Containers<br>& Packaging | 11,108,610 | -          | 9,473,309  | 21.32              | 14.96                      | -                       | 11.82            |
| Package Holdings 6<br>(Private Note)   | Luxembourg       | Containers<br>& Packaging | 2,948,481  | 1,893,980  | 1,313,564  | 2.97               | 6.38                       | _                       | 1.64             |
| TP Ferro Concesionaria<br>T/L 1L 31/03/2016<br>(Bank Debt Investments)                         | Spain            | Surface<br>Transport      | 18,787,735 | 18,531,522 | 4,150,774  | -                  | 4.57                       | 9.35                    | 5.18             |
| TP Ferro Concesionaria<br>TP Ferro T/L-A (First-Lien)<br>(Bank Debt Investments)               | Spain            | Surface<br>Transport      | 2,945,545  | 2,945,545  | 2,945,545  | -                  | 3.23                       | 6.66                    | 3.67             |
| TP Ferro Concesionaria<br>TP Ferro 1L T/L-B EUR<br>(First-Lien) EUR<br>(Bank Debt Investments) | Spain            | Surface<br>Transport      | 593,063    | 666,784    | 655,127    | -                  | 0.72                       | 1.48                    | 0.82             |
| TP Ferro PIK 5A 4/20<br>(Bank Debt Investments)  | Spain            | Surface<br>Transport      | 522,319    | 522,319    | 522,319    | _                  | 0.57                       | 1.18                    | 0.65             |
| TP Ferro PIK 5C 7/23<br>(Bank Debt Investments)  | Spain            | Surface<br>Transport      | 361,262    | 361,262    | 361,262    | 1.00               | 0.40                       | 0.82                    | 0.45             |
| TP Ferro PIK 5B 7/22<br>(Bank Debt Investments)  | Spain            | Surface<br>Transport      | 298,046    | 298,046    | 298,046    | -                  | 0.33                       | 0.67                    | 0.37             |
| TP Ferro Concesionaria<br>TP Ferro 1L T/L-C<br>(First-Lien)<br>(Bank Debt Investments)         | Spain            | Surface<br>Transport      | 256,553    | 256,553    | 256,553    | -                  | 0.28                       | 0.58                    | 0.32             |
| Hotel Puerta America PIK<br>T/L 7.25% 1/9/27 EUR<br>(Bank Debt Investments)                    | Spain            | Lodging &<br>Casinos      | 3,901,657  | 4,293,218  | 4,215,146  | -                  | -                          | 19.05                   | 5.26             |
| Hotel Puerta America<br>PIK Add on 7.25%<br>1/9/27 EUR<br>(Bank Debt Investments)              | Spain            | Lodging &<br>Casinos      | 1,540,070  | 1,675,349  | 1,663,811  | -                  | -                          | 7.52                    | 2.08             |
| Hotel Puerta America<br>T/L Profit Participation<br>(EUR PIK)<br>(Bank Debt Investments)       | Spain            | Lodging &<br>Casinos      | 1,090,003  | 1,281,898  | 1,177,582  | -                  | -                          | 5.32                    | 1.47             |
| US Treasury N/B 1.500%<br>02/15/30<br>(US Treasury Bills)                                      | United<br>States | United<br>States          | 6,975,000  | 7,326,847  | 6,085,143  | 33.20              | 4.30                       | _                       | 7.59             |
|  |                  |                           |            | 63,824,032 | 55,007,709 | 58.49              | 63.54                      | 94.24                   | 68.63            |

<sup>1</sup> This is the Fair Value expressed as a percentage of total Ordinary Share NAV, Extended Life Share NAV, New Global Share NAV and Company NAV.

# Consolidated Condensed Schedule of Investments (by geography)

|                                     |            |            |          |             | NEW    |         |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|----------|-------------|--------|---------|
|                                     |            |            | ORDINARY | EXTENDED    | GLOBAL | TOTAL   |
| AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024              |            |            | SHARES   | LIFE SHARES | SHARES | COMPANY |
| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)           | COST       | FAIR VALUE | (%)¹     | (%)¹        | (%)¹   | (%)1    |
| Geographic diversity of Portfolios  |            |            |          |             |        |         |
| Portfolio of Distressed Investments |            |            |          |             |        |         |
| Luxembourg                          | 1,893,980  | 7,700,216  | 18.51    | 15.45       | _      | 12.13   |
| Netherlands                         | 15,194,275 | 9,691,940  | _        | 11.97       | 33.80  | 15.26   |
| Spain                               | 35,653,180 | 12,092,312 | _        | 7.21        | 59.53  | 19.05   |
| United States                       | _          | 1,137,700  | -        | 2.26        | 2.04   | 1.79    |
| Short term Investments (US Treasury | Bills)     |            |          |             |        |         |
| United States                       | 7,270,075  | 6,055,717  | 35.29    | 5.44        | _      | 9.54    |
|                                     | 60,011,510 | 36,677,885 | 53.80    | 42.33       | 95.37  | 57.77   |

<sup>1</sup> This is the Fair Value expressed as a percentage of total Ordinary Share NAV, Extended Life Share NAV, New Global Share NAV and Company NAV.

# Consolidated Condensed Schedule of Investments (by geography)

|                                     |            |            |          |             | NEW    |         |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|----------|-------------|--------|---------|
|                                     |            |            | ORDINARY | EXTENDED    | GLOBAL | TOTAL   |
| AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023              |            |            | SHARES   | LIFE SHARES | SHARES | COMPANY |
| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)           | COST       | FAIR VALUE | (%)¹     | (%)¹        | (%)¹   | (%)¹    |
| Geographic diversity of Portfolios  |            |            |          |             |        |         |
| Portfolio of Distressed Investments |            |            |          |             |        |         |
| Luxembourg                          | 1,893,980  | 10,786,873 | 24.28    | 17.04       | _      | 13.46   |
| Netherlands                         | 14,595,720 | 10,879,528 | _        | 10.57       | 27.37  | 13.57   |
| Spain                               | 33,845,829 | 16,246,165 | _        | 10.09       | 52.62  | 20.27   |
| United States                       | 32,622,153 | 16,885,882 | 2.34     | 28.14       | 17     | 21.06   |
| Short term Investments (US Treasury | Bills)     |            |          |             |        |         |
| United States                       | 7,326,847  | 6,085,142  | 33.2     | 4.3         | _      | 7.59    |
|                                     | 90,284,529 | 60,883,590 | 59.82    | 70.14       | 96.99  | 75.95   |

<sup>1</sup> This is the Fair Value expressed as a percentage of total Ordinary Share NAV, Extended Life Share NAV, New Global Share NAV and Company NAV.

# Consolidated Condensed Schedule of Investments (by sector)

|            |  |   |  | NEW  |   |
|------------|--|---|--|--|---|
|            |  | ORDINARY  | <b>EXTENDED</b>  | GLOBAL   | TOTAL   |
|            |  | SHARES  | LIFE SHARES  | SHARES   | COMPANY   |
| COST       | FAIR VALUE   | <b>(%)</b> ¹  | (%)¹   | (%)1   | (%)1  |
|            |  |   |  |  |   |
|            |  |   |  |  |   |
| 15,194,275 | 9,691,940  | _   | 11.97  | 33.80  | 15.27   |
| 1,893,980  | 7,700,217  | 18.51   | 15.45  | _  | 12.13   |
| 10,690,426 | 6,927,131  | _   | _  | 43.39  | 10.91   |
| _          | 1,137,700  | _   | 2.26   | 2.04   | 1.79  |
| 24,962,754 | 5,165,180  | _   | 7.21   | 16.14  | 8.13  |
|            |  |   |  |  |   |
| 7,270,075  | 6,055,717  | 35.29   | 5.44   | _  | 9.54  |
| 60,011,510 | 36,677,885   | 53.80   | 42.33  | 95.37  | 57.77   |
|            | 15,194,275<br>1,893,980<br>10,690,426<br>—<br>24,962,754 | 15,194,275 9,691,940<br>1,893,980 7,700,217<br>10,690,426 6,927,131<br>- 1,137,700<br>24,962,754 5,165,180<br>7,270,075 6,055,717 | COST FAIR VALUE (%)¹  15,194,275 9,691,940 - 1,893,980 7,700,217 18.51  10,690,426 6,927,131 1,137,700 - 24,962,754 5,165,180 -  7,270,075 6,055,717 35.29 | COST         FAIR VALUE         SHARES (%)¹         LIFE SHARES (%)¹           15,194,275         9,691,940         —         11.97           1,893,980         7,700,217         18.51         15.45           10,690,426         6,927,131         —         —           —         1,137,700         —         2.26           24,962,754         5,165,180         —         7.21           7,270,075         6,055,717         35.29         5.44 | COST         FAIR VALUE         ORDINARY SHARES (%)¹         EXTENDED LIFE SHARES (%)¹         GLOBAL SHARES SHARES (%)¹           15,194,275         9,691,940         —         11.97         33.80           1,893,980         7,700,217         18.51         15.45         —           10,690,426         6,927,131         —         —         43.39           —         1,137,700         —         2.26         2.04           24,962,754         5,165,180         —         7.21         16.14           7,270,075         6,055,717         35.29         5.44         — |

<sup>1</sup> This is the Fair Value expressed as a percentage of total Ordinary Share NAV, Extended Life Share NAV, New Global Share NAV and Company NAV.

# Consolidated Condensed Schedule of Investments (by sector)

|                                     |            |            |              |             | NEW    |         |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|--------------|-------------|--------|---------|
|                                     |            |            | ORDINARY     | EXTENDED    | GLOBAL | TOTAL   |
| AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023              |            |            | SHARES       | LIFE SHARES | SHARES | COMPANY |
| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)           | COST       | FAIR VALUE | <b>(%)</b> ¹ | (%)¹        | (%)1   | (%)1    |
| Industry diversity of Portfolios    |            |            |              |             |        |         |
| Portfolio of Distressed Investments |            |            |              |             |        |         |
| Auto Components                     | 3,705,793  | 2,151,740  | 0.11         | 3.35        | 2.76   | 2.68    |
| Commercial Mortgage                 | 14,595,720 | 10,879,528 | _            | 10.57       | 27.37  | 13.57   |
| Containers and Packaging            | 1,893,980  | 10,786,873 | 24.28        | 17.04       | _      | 13.46   |
| Financial Intermediaries            | 19,741,371 | 3,724,142  | 2.23         | 7.56        | _      | 4.65    |
| Lodging & Casinos                   | 10,263,797 | 7,056,540  | _            | _           | 31.89  | 8.80    |
| Oil & Gas                           | 9,174,989  | 11,010,000 | _            | 17.23       | 14.24  | 13.74   |
| Surface Transport                   | 23,582,032 | 9,189,625  | _            | 10.09       | 20.73  | 11.46   |
| Short term Investments              |            |            |              |             |        |         |
| US Treasury Bills                   | 7,326,847  | 6,085,142  | 33.20        | 4.30        | _      | 7.59    |
|                                     | 90,284,529 | 60,883,590 | 59.82        | 70.14       | 96.99  | 75.95   |

<sup>1</sup> This is the Fair Value expressed as a percentage of total Ordinary Share NAV, Extended Life Share NAV, New Global Share NAV and Company NAV.

# Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

#### NOTE 1 - ORGANISATION AND DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS

NB Distressed Debt Investment Fund Limited (the "Company") is a closed-ended investment company registered and incorporated in Guernsey under the provisions of the Companies (Guernsey) Law, 2008 (as amended) (the "Companies Law") with registration number 51774. The Company's shares are traded on the Specialist Fund Segment ("SFS") of the London Stock Exchange ("LSE"). All share classes are in the harvest period.

The Company's objective is to provide investors with attractive risk-adjusted returns through long-biased, opportunistic stressed, distressed and special situation credit-related investments while seeking to limit downside risk by, amongst other things, focusing on senior and senior secured debt with both collateral and structural protection.

The Company's share capital is denominated in US Dollars for Ordinary Shares and Extended Life Shares and Pounds Sterling for New Global Shares.

#### **NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **Basis of Preparation**

The accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements ("Financial Statements") give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and return and have been prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("US GAAP") and Companies Law and are expressed in US Dollars. All adjustments considered necessary for the fair presentation of the financial statements, for the year presented, have been included.

The Company is regarded as an Investment Company and follows the accounting and reporting guidance in Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") and Financial Services — Investment Companies Topic 946: Amendments to the Scope, Measurement, and Disclosure Requirements (Topic 946). Accordingly, the Company reflects its investments on the Consolidated Statement of Assets and Liabilities at their estimated fair values, with unrealised gains and losses resulting from changes in fair value reflected in net change in unrealised gain/(loss) on investments, credit default swap, total return swap and forward currency transactions in the Consolidated Statement of Operations.

The Board recognises that the Portfolios (the Ordinary Share Class; the Extended Life Share Class; and the New Global Share Class) are now in their harvest periods. The Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the twelve months from the date these accounts are signed and the foreseeable future. Thus, they continue to prepare the Financial Statements on a going concern basis, as liquidation is not imminent.

### Principles of Consolidation

The Financial Statements include the results of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, whose accounting policies are consistent with those of the Company. The Financial Statements include full consolidation of any owned subsidiaries, except where the effect on the Company's financial position and results of operations are immaterial. Transactions between the Company and the subsidiaries have been eliminated on consolidation.

Wholly-owned subsidiaries, London Lux Masterco 1 S.a.r.l., London Lux Debtco 1 S.a.r.l. and London Lux Propco 1 S.a.r.l. are incorporated in Luxembourg.

#### Use of Estimates (c)

The preparation of these Financial Statements in conformity with US GAAP requires that the Directors make estimates and assumptions (as mentioned in detail in note 2 (f) below) that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of income and expenses during the reporting year.

Actual results could differ significantly from these estimates.

### Cash and Cash Equivalents and Restricted Cash

The Company holds cash and cash equivalents in US Dollar and non-US Dollar denominated currencies with original maturities of less than 90 days that are both readily convertible to known amounts of cash. As at 31 December 2024, the Company has cash balances in various currencies equating to \$25,373,459 (Cost: \$25,392,830) (31 December 2023: \$16,569,578 (Cost: \$16,566,075) including cash and cash equivalents of \$14,403,459 (31 December 2023: \$4,809,578) as well as restricted cash of \$10,970,000 (31 December 2023: \$11,760,000). Restricted cash of \$10,970,000 (31 December 2023: \$10,970,000) is collateral for the total return swap positions and restricted cash of \$Nil (31 December 2023: \$790,000) is collateral for forward currency contracts.

#### (e) Foreign Currency Translation

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currency are translated into US Dollars at the currency exchange rates on the date of valuation. On initial recognition, foreign currency sales and purchases transactions are recorded and translated at the spot exchange rate at the transaction date and for all other transactions, the average rate is applied. Non-monetary assets and liabilities are translated at the historic exchange rate.

The Company does not separate the changes relating to currency exchange rates from those relating to changes in fair value of the investments. These fluctuations are included in the net realised gain(loss) and net change in unrealised gain/(loss) on investments, credit default swap, total return swap and forward currency transactions in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

#### **Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

The fair value of the Company's assets and liabilities that qualify as financial instruments under FASB ASC 825, Financial Instruments, approximate the carrying amounts presented in the Consolidated Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Fair value prices are estimates made at a discrete point in time, based on relevant market data, information about the financial instruments, and other factors.

The Company follows guidance in ASC 820, Fair Value Measurement ("ASC 820"), where fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Fair value is determined using available market information and appropriate valuation methodologies. Estimates of fair value of financial instruments without quoted market prices are subjective in nature and involve various assumptions and estimates that are matters of judgement. Accordingly, fair values are not necessarily indicative of the amounts that will be ultimately realised on disposal of financial instruments. The use of different market assumptions and/or estimation methodologies may have a material effect on estimated fair value

The following estimates and assumptions were used as at 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023 to estimate the fair value of each class of financial instruments:

- Cash and cash equivalents The carrying value reasonably approximates fair value due to the short-term nature of these instruments.
- Quoted investments are valued according to their bid price at the close of the relevant reporting date. Investments in private securities are priced at the bid price using a pricing service for private loans. If a price cannot be ascertained from the above sources, the Company will seek bid prices from third party broker/dealer quotes for the investments.
- In cases where no third-party price is available, or where the Investment Manager determines that the provided price is not an accurate representation of the fair value of the investment (e.g. level 3 investments included overleaf), the Investment Manager determines the valuation based on its fair valuation policy. Further information on valuations is provided in Note 2 (g), "Investment transactions, investment income/expenses and valuation", on page 77.
- Forward currency contracts are revalued using the forward exchange rate prevailing at the Consolidated Statement of Assets and Liabilities date.
- Total Return Swaps are priced using mark to market prices provided by a third-party broker.
- Credit Return Swaps are priced using a pricing service provided by Markit Partners.

Fair value measurements are determined within a framework that establishes a three-tier hierarchy which maximises the use of observable market data and minimises the use of unobservable inputs to establish a classification of fair value measurements for disclosure purposes.

Inputs refer broadly to the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, including assumptions about risk, such as the risk inherent in a particular valuation technique used to measure fair value using a pricing model and/or the risk inherent in the inputs for the valuation technique. Inputs may be observable or unobservable.

Observable inputs reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability based on market data obtained from sources independent of the Company. Unobservable inputs reflect the Company's own assumptions about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability based on the information available. The inputs or methodology used for valuing assets or liabilities may not be an indication of the risks associated with investing in those assets or liabilities.

## NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### Fair Value of Financial Instruments (continued)

ASC 820 classifies the inputs used to measure these fair values into the following hierarchy:

- Level 1: Quoted prices are available in active markets for identical investments as of the reporting date.
- Level 2: Pricing inputs are other than quoted prices in active markets, which are either directly or indirectly observable as of the reporting date, and fair value is determined through the use of models or other valuation methodologies.
- Level 3: Pricing inputs are unobservable for the investment and include situations where there is little, if any, market activity for the investment. The inputs used in the determination of the fair value require significant management judgement or estimation.

In all cases, the level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement in its entirety falls has been determined based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The Company's assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgement and considers factors specific to each investment.

The following is a summary of the levels within the fair value hierarchy in which the Company invests:

#### FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)  | LEVEL 1            | LEVEL 2                      | LEVEL 3   | TOTAL  |
|--|--------------------|------------------------------|---|--|
| Bank Debt Investments  | _                  | _                            | 21,784,252  | 21,784,252   |
| Private Equity   | _                  | _                            | 8,837,916   | 8,837,916  |
| US Treasury Bills  | 6,055,717          | _                            | _   | 6,055,717  |
| Investments at fair value  | 6,055,717          | _                            | 30,622,168  | 36,677,885   |
| Credit Default Swap  | _                  | (19,525)                     | _   | (19,525)   |
| Total Return Swap  | _                  | _                            | (126,689)   | (126,689)  |
| Forward Currency Contracts - Assets  | _                  | 2,459,931                    | _   | 2,459,931  |
| Forward Currency Contracts - Liabilities   | _                  | (11,319)                     | _   | (11,319)   |
| Total investments that are accounted for at fair value   | 6,055,717          | 2,429,087                    | 30,495,479  | 38,980,283   |
| FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AS AT 31 DECE  | MBER 2023          |                              |   |  |
|  |                    |                              |   |  |
| FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AS AT 31 DECE<br>(EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)   | LEVEL 1            | LEVEL 2                      | LEVEL 3   | TOTAL  |
|  |                    | LEVEL 2                      | <b>LEVEL 3</b> 27,125,693                                       | <b>TOTAL</b> 27,125,693  |
| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)  | LEVEL 1            |                              |   |  |
| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)  Bank Debt Investments   | LEVEL 1            |                              | 27,125,693  | 27,125,693   |
| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)  Bank Debt Investments  Private Equity   | LEVEL 1            |                              | 27,125,693<br>23,948,613  | 27,125,693<br>23,948,613   |
| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)  Bank Debt Investments  Private Equity  Private Note   | LEVEL 1            | -<br>-<br>-                  | 27,125,693<br>23,948,613  | 27,125,693<br>23,948,613<br>3,724,142  |
| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)  Bank Debt Investments  Private Equity  Private Note  US Treasury Bills  | LEVEL 1  6,085,142 | -<br>-<br>-<br>-             | 27,125,693<br>23,948,613<br>3,724,142                           | 27,125,693<br>23,948,613<br>3,724,142<br>6,085,142   |
| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)  Bank Debt Investments  Private Equity  Private Note  US Treasury Bills  Investments at fair value   | LEVEL 1  6,085,142 | -<br>-<br>-<br>-             | 27,125,693<br>23,948,613<br>3,724,142                           | 27,125,693<br>23,948,613<br>3,724,142<br>6,085,142<br><b>60,883,590</b>                          |
| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)  Bank Debt Investments  Private Equity  Private Note  US Treasury Bills  Investments at fair value  Credit Default Swap                    | LEVEL 1  6,085,142 | -<br>-<br>-<br>-             | 27,125,693<br>23,948,613<br>3,724,142<br>–<br><b>54,798,448</b> | 27,125,693<br>23,948,613<br>3,724,142<br>6,085,142<br><b>60,883,590</b><br>(21,309)              |
| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)  Bank Debt Investments  Private Equity  Private Note  US Treasury Bills  Investments at fair value  Credit Default Swap  Total Return Swap | LEVEL 1  6,085,142 | -<br>-<br>-<br>-<br>(21,309) | 27,125,693<br>23,948,613<br>3,724,142<br>–<br><b>54,798,448</b> | 27,125,693<br>23,948,613<br>3,724,142<br>6,085,142<br><b>60,883,590</b><br>(21,309)<br>3,648,201 |

The following table summarises the significant unobservable inputs the Company used to value its investments categorised within Level 3 as at 31 December 2024. The table is not intended to be all-inclusive but instead captures the significant unobservable inputs relevant to our determination of fair values.

| TYPE                  | SECTOR                 | FAIR VALUE (\$) | PRIMARY<br>VALUATION<br>TECHNIQUE | SIGNIFICANT<br>UNOBSERVABLE<br>INPUTS | RANGE INPUT |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Bank Debt Investments | Commercial Mortgage    | 9,691,939       | Market Comparatives               | Discount Rate                         | 10%         |
| Bank Debt Investments | Lodging & Casinos      | 6,927,132       | Market Comparatives               | Discount Rate                         | 15%         |
| Bank Debt Investments | Surface Transport      | 5,165,180       | Market Information                | Unadjusted Broker Quote               | N/A         |
| Private Equity        | Containers & Packaging | 7,700,217       | Market Comparatives               | EBITDA Multiple                       | 10.75X      |
| Private Equity        | Oil & Gas              | 1,137,700       | Market Information                | Unadjusted Broker Quote               | N/A         |
| Total Return Swap     | Surface Transport      | (126,689)       | Market Information                | Unadjusted Broker Quote               | N/A         |
| Total                 |                        | 30,495,479      |                                   |                                       |             |

The following table summarises the significant unobservable inputs the Company used to value its investments categorised within Level 3 as at 31 December 2023. The table is not intended to be all-inclusive but instead captures the significant unobservable inputs relevant to our determination of fair values.

| TYPE                  | SECTOR                   | FAIR VALUE (\$) | PRIMARY<br>VALUATION<br>TECHNIQUE | SIGNIFICANT<br>UNOBSERVABLE<br>INPUTS | RANGE INPUT |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Bank Debt Investments | Commercial Mortgage      | 10,879,528      | Market Comparatives               | Discount Rate                         | 10%         |
| Bank Debt Investments | Lodging & Casinos        | 7,056,540       | Market Comparatives               | Discount Rate                         | 15%         |
| Bank Debt Investments | Surface Transport        | 9,189,625       | Market Information                | Unadjusted Broker Quote               | N/A         |
| Private Equity        | Auto Components          | 2,151,740       | Market Information                | EBITDA Multiple                       | 4.5X        |
| Private Equity        | Containers & Packaging   | 10,786,873      | Market Comparatives               | EBITDA Multiple                       | 10.75X      |
| Private Equity        | Oil & Gas                | 11,010,000      | Market Information                | Unadjusted Broker Quote               | N/A         |
| Private Note          | Financial Intermediaries | 3,724,142       | Market Information                | Unadjusted Broker Quote               | N/A         |
| Total Return Swap     | Surface Transport        | 3,648,201       | Market Information                | Unadjusted Broker Quote               | N/A         |
| Total                 |                          | 58,446,649      |                                   |                                       |             |

Changes in any of the above inputs may positively or adversely impact the fair value of the relevant investments.

Level 3 assets are valued using single bid-side broker quotes or by good faith methods of the Investment Manager. For single broker quotes the Investment Manager uses unobservable inputs to assess the reasonableness of the broker quote. For good faith valuations, the Investment Manager directly uses unobservable inputs to produce valuations. The significant unobservable inputs used in Level 3 assets as at 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023 are outlined in the tables above.

These inputs vary by asset class. For example, real estate asset valuations may utilise discounted cash flow models using an appropriate discount rate. Other assets may be valued based on analysis of the liquidation of the underlying assets. In general, increases/(decreases) to per unit valuation inputs will result in increases/(decreases) to investment value.

Similarly, increases/(decreases) of asset realisation inputs (liquidation estimate, letter of intent, etc.) will also result in increases/(decreases) in value. In situations where discounted cash flow models are used, increasing/(decreasing) discount rates or increasing/(decreasing) weighted average life, in isolation, will generally result in (decreased)/increased valuations.

### NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### Fair Value of Financial Instruments (continued)

The following is a reconciliation of opening and closing balances of assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis using Level 3 inputs:

| Change in unrealised (loss)/gain on investments included in Audited Consolidated Statement of Operation for Level 3 investments held as at 31 December 2024 | d (7,747,348) | (2,229,916)  | (3,774,890) | 16,017,231   | 2,265,077    |
|---|---------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Balance, 31 December 2024   | 21,784,252    | 8,837,916    | (126,689)   | _            | 30,495,479   |
| Unrealised (loss)/gain on investments   | (7,747,348)   | (2,229,916)  | (3,774,890) | 16,017,231   | 2,265,077    |
| Realised loss on sale of investments  | _             | (1,789,836)  | _           | (14,261,195) | (16,051,031) |
| Sales and distributions   | _             | (11,090,945) | _           | (5,480,178)  | (16,571,123) |
| Purchases (includes purchases-in-kind)  | 2,405,907     | _            | _           | _            | 2,405,907    |
| Balance, 31 December 2023   | 27,125,693    | 23,948,613   | 3,648,201   | 3,724,142    | 58,446,649   |
| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)   | INVESTMENTS   | EQUITY       | CLAIM       | NOTE         | TOTAL        |
| 31 DECEMBER 2024  | BANK DEBT     | PRIVATE      | TRADE       | PRIVATE      |              |
| FOR THE YEAR ENDED  |               |              |             |              |              |

The Company's policy is to recognise transfers into and out of Level 3 as of the actual date of the event or change in circumstances that caused the transfer. During the year the Company had no transfers out of Level 3 into Level 2 of fair value amounting to \$Nil. The Company had no transfers across fair value amounting levels during the year.

The following is a reconciliation of opening and closing balances of assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis using Level 3 inputs:

| Change in unrealised gain/(loss) on investments included in Audited Consolidated Statement of Operation for Level 3 investments held as at 31 December 2023 | (98,561)    | (553,444)  | 2,089,781 | (3,920,612) | (2,482,836) |
|---|-------------|------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| Balance, 31 December 2023   | 27,125,693  | 23,948,613 | 3,648,201 | 3,724,142   | 58,446,649  |
| Transfers from Level 2 into Level 3   | _           | 11,010,000 | _         | _           | 11,010,000  |
| Unrealised gain/(loss) on investments   | 42,291      | (553,444)  | 2,089,781 | (3,920,612) | (2,341,984) |
| Realised gain on sale of investments  | (70,506)    | _          | _         | 3,794,178   | 3,723,672   |
| Sales and distributions   | (2,508,112) | _          | _         | (4,511,654) | (7,019,766) |
| Purchases (includes purchases-in-kind)  | 2,303,563   | _          | _         | _           | 2,303,563   |
| Balance, 31 December 2022   | 27,358,457  | 13,492,057 | 1,558,420 | 8,362,230   | 50,771,164  |
| (EXPRESSED IN US DOLLARS)   | INVESTMENTS | EQUITY     | CLAIM     | NOTE        | TOTAL       |
| FOR THE YEAR ENDED<br>31 DECEMBER 2023  | BANK DEBT   | PRIVATE    | TRADE     | PRIVATE     |             |

The Company's policy is to recognise transfers into and out of Level 3 as of the actual date of the event or change in circumstances that caused the transfer. During the year the Company had no transfers out of Level 3 into Level 2 of fair value amounting to \$Nil. The Company had one transfer out of Level 2 into Level 3 of fair value amounting to \$11,010,000 as only a single broker quote was observable.

#### (g) Investment transactions, investment income/expenses and valuation

Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade-date basis. Upon sale or maturity, the difference between the consideration received and the cost of the investment is recognised as a realised gain or loss under Net realised gain/(loss) on investments, credit default swap, total return swap and forward currency transactions in the Consolidated Statement of Operations. The cost is determined based on the specific identification method. All transactions relating to the restructuring of current investments are recorded at the date of such restructuring. The difference between the fair value of the new consideration received and the cost of the original investment is recognised as a realised gain or loss. Unrealised gains and losses on an investment are the difference between the cost if purchased during the year or fair value at the previous year end and the fair value at the current year end. Unrealised gains and losses are included under Net change in unrealised (loss)/gain on investments, credit default swap, warrants and forward currency transactions in the Consolidated Statement of Operations.

For the year ended 31 December 2024, \$56,771 (31 December 2023: \$91,550) was recorded to reflect accretion of discount on loans and bonds during the year and is included as Interest Income in the Consolidated Statement of Operations.

Interest earned on debt instruments is accounted for, net of applicable withholding taxes and it is recognised as income over the terms of the loans and bonds. Discounts received or premiums paid in connection with the acquisition of loans and bonds are amortised into interest income using the effective daily interest method over the contractual life of the related loan and bond. If a loan is repaid prior to maturity, the recognition of the fees and costs is accelerated as appropriate. The Company raises a provision when the collection of interest is deemed doubtful. Dividend income is recognised on the ex-dividend date net of withholding tax.

Payment-in-kind ("PIK") interest is computed at the contractual rate specified in the loan agreement for any portion of the interest which may be added to the principal balance of a loan rather than paid in cash by the obligator on the scheduled interest payment date. PIK interest is periodically added to the principal balance of the loan and recorded as interest income. The Investment Manager places a receivable on non-accrual status when the collection of principal or interest is deemed doubtful. The amount of interest income recorded, plus initial costs of underlying PIK interest is reviewed periodically to ensure that these do not exceed fair value of those assets.

The Company carries investments on its Consolidated Statement of Assets and Liabilities at fair value in accordance with US GAAP, with changes in fair value recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Operations in each reporting period. Fair value is defined as the price that would be received on the sale of an asset or paid to transfer a liability (i.e. the "exit price") in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Quoted investments are valued according to their bid price at the close of the relevant reporting date. Investments in private securities are priced at the bid price using a pricing service for private loans.

If a price cannot be ascertained from the above sources the Company will seek bid prices from third party broker/dealer quotes for the investments. The Investment Manager believes that bid price is the best estimate of fair value and is in line with the valuation policy adopted by the Company.

In cases where no third party price is available, or where the Investment Manager determines that the provided price is not an accurate representation of the fair value of the investment, the Administrator will value such investments with the input of the Investment Manager who will determine the valuation based on its fair valuation policy. As part of the investment fair valuation policy, the Investment Manager prepares a fair valuation memorandum for each such investment presenting the methodology and assumptions used to derive the price. This analysis is presented to the Investment Manager's Valuation Committee for approval.

The following criteria are considered when applicable:

- The valuation of other securities by the same issuer for which market quotations are available;
- The reasons for absence of market quotations;
- The soundness of the security, its interest yield, the date of maturity, the credit standing of the issue and the current general interest
- Any recent sales prices and/or bid and ask quotations for the security;
- The value of similar securities of issuers in the same or similar industries for which market quotations are available;
- The economic outlook of the industry;
- The issuer's position in the industry;
- The financial statements of the issuer; and
- The nature and duration of any restriction on disposition of the security.

#### NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### **Derivative Contracts**

The Company may, from time to time, hold derivative financial instruments for the purposes of managing foreign currency exposure and to provide a measure of protection against defaults of corporate or sovereign issuers. These derivatives are measured at fair value in conformity with US GAAP with changes in fair value recognised under Realised and unrealised (loss)/gain from investments and foreign exchange in the Consolidated Statement of Operations in each reporting period.

As part of the Company's investment strategy, the Company enters into over-the-counter ("OTC") derivative contracts which may include forward currency contracts, credit default swaps and total return swaps.

Forward currency contracts are valued at the prevailing forward exchange rate of the underlying currencies on the reporting date and the value recorded in the financial statements represents net unrealised gain and loss on forwards as at 31 December. Forward contracts are generally categorised in Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

The credit default swap has been entered into on the OTC market. The fair value of the credit default swap contract is derived using a pricing service provided by Markit Partners. Markit Partners use a pricing model that is widely accepted by marketplace participants. Their pricing model takes into account multiple inputs including specific contract terms, interest rate yield curves, interest rates, credit curves, recovery rates, and current credit spreads obtained from swap counterparties and other market participants. Many inputs into the model do not require material subjectivity as they are observable in the marketplace or set per the contract. Other than the contract terms, valuation is mainly determined by the difference between the contract spread and the current market spread. The contract spread (or rate) is generally fixed and the market spread is determined by the credit risk of the underlying debt or reference entity. If the underlying debt is liquid and the OTC market for the current spread is active, credit default swaps are categorised in Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy. If the underlying debt is illiquid and the OTC market for the current spread is not active, credit default swaps are categorised in Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

The total return swap is valued using a mark to market prices provided by a third-party broker.

The Company is not subject to income taxes in Guernsey; however, it may be subject to taxes imposed by other countries on income it derives from investments

Such taxes are reflected in the Consolidated Statement of Operations. In accordance with US GAAP, management is required to determine whether a tax position of the Company is more likely than not to be sustained upon examination by the applicable taxing authority, including resolution of any related appeals or litigation processes, based on the technical merits of the position. The tax benefit to be recognised is measured as the largest amount of benefit that is greater than fifty percent likely of being realised upon ultimate settlement. De-recognition of a tax benefit previously recognised could result in the Company recording a tax liability that would reduce net assets. US GAAP also provides guidance on thresholds, measurement, de-recognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure, and transition that is intended to provide better financial statement comparability among different entities.

There were no uncertain tax positions as at 31 December 2024 or 31 December 2023. The Company files its tax returns as prescribed by the tax laws of the jurisdictions in which it operates. In the normal course of business, the Company is subject to examination by federal and certain state, local, and other foreign tax regulators. State, local and foreign tax returns, if applicable, are generally subject to audit according to varying limitations dependent upon the jurisdiction. As of 31 December 2024, the Company's U.S. federal income tax returns are subject to examination under the three-year statute of limitations.

During the year ended 31 December 2024, the Company recorded current income tax expense \$Nil (31 December 2023 income tax expense: \$Nil). Deferred taxes are recorded to reflect the tax consequences of future years' differences between the tax basis of assets and their financial reporting basis. The deferred tax benefit recorded for the year ended 31 December 2024 was \$Nil (31 December 2023 deferred tax benefit: \$Nil). The net total income tax benefit/expense from realised/unrealised gains/(losses) on investments for the year ended 31 December 2024 was \$Nil (31 December 2023 income tax expense: \$Nil).

### **Operating Expenses**

Operating expenses are recognised on an accruals basis. Operating expenses include amounts directly or indirectly incurred by the Company as part of its operations. Each share class will bear its respective pro-rata share based on its respective Net Asset Value ('NAV') of the ongoing costs and expenses of the Company. Each share class will also bear all costs and expenses of the Company determined by the Directors to be attributable solely to it. Any costs incurred by a share buyback are charged to that share class.

#### Payables/Receivables on Investments Purchased/Sold

At 31 December 2024, \$Nil (31 December 2023: \$Nil) was receivable on investments purchased/sold represents amounts due for investments purchased/sold that have been contracted for but not settled on the Consolidated Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

#### **NOTE 3 - DERIVATIVES**

In the normal course of business, the Company uses derivative contracts in connection with its proprietary trading activities. Investments in derivative contracts are subject to additional risks that can result in a loss of all or part of the derivative investment. The Company's derivative activities and exposure to derivative contracts are classified by the following primary underlying risks: foreign currency exchange rate, credit, and equity price. In addition to its primary underlying risks, the Company is also subject to additional counterparty risk due to inability of its counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts.

### **Forward Currency Contracts**

The Company enters into forwards for the purposes of managing foreign currency exposure.

#### **Credit Default Swap**

The Company uses credit default swap agreements on corporate or sovereign issues to provide a measure of protection against defaults of the issuers (i.e., to reduce risk where a Company owns or has exposure to the referenced obligation) from time to time.

There was one credit default swap position (Brazilian Government) held as at 31 December 2024 (31 December 2023: one).

#### **Total Return Swap**

The Company entered into two fully funded total return swaps on 2 May 2011 and 18 April 2012. These swaps matured on 25 February 2020 and rolled over into a new swap agreement. New ISDA regulations enacted in 2019 require booking the total return swaps with cash collateral maintained vs fully funded swaps.

The new swap rolls on an annual basis. The swap was booked on 02 March 2023 and matured on 01 February 2024. A realised event occurred on the value of the swap as at 01 February 2024 of \$1,343,355. The next maturity will occur on 01 February 2025. The value of the swap, exclusive of related cash collateral, as at 31 December 2024 is (\$126,749) (31 December 2023: \$3,648,201) representing a change in market value of (\$1,470,104) in the period since the 01 February 2023 maturity.

As at 31 December 2024 the net value of the swap and related cash collateral was \$10,843,311 (31 December 2023: \$14,618,201) (comprised of restricted cash collateral of \$10,970,000 (31 December 2023: \$10,970,000) and total return swap liability of (\$126,689) (31 December 2023: swap asset of \$3,648,201), as reflected in the Consolidated Statement of Assets and Liabilities. The underlying asset of the swaps is denominated in Brazilian Real and the foreign exchange exposure is hedged to offset any change in value in underlying asset due to the FX movements.

### **Derivative activity**

For the year ended 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023 the volume of the Company's derivative activities based on their notional amounts and number of contracts, categorised by primary underlying risk, are as follows:

| 31 DECEMBER 2024           | LONG E              | XPOSURE             | SHORT EXPOSURE      |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| PRIMARY UNDERLYING RISK    | NOTIONAL<br>AMOUNTS | NUMBER OF CONTRACTS | NOTIONAL<br>AMOUNTS | NUMBER OF CONTRACTS |
| Foreign exchange risk      |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Forward currency contracts | \$129,525,308       | 68                  | \$104,814,523       | 76                  |
| Credit risk                |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Credit default swap        | \$9,971,000         | 1                   | _                   | _                   |
| Total return swap          | _                   | _                   | \$10,960,348        | 2                   |

| 31 DECEMBER 2023           | LONG E           | XPOSURE             | SHORT EXPOSURE      |                     |
|----------------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| PRIMARY UNDERLYING RISK    | NOTIONAL AMOUNTS | NUMBER OF CONTRACTS | NOTIONAL<br>AMOUNTS | NUMBER OF CONTRACTS |
| Foreign exchange risk      |                  |                     |                     |                     |
| Forward currency contracts | \$127,841,170    | 61                  | \$125,731,102       | 77                  |
| Credit risk                |                  |                     |                     |                     |
| Credit default swap        | \$9,971,000      | 1                   | _                   | _                   |
| Total return swap          | _                | _                   | \$10,960,348        | 2                   |

#### NOTE 3 - DERIVATIVES (CONTINUED)

#### **Derivative activity (continued)**

The following tables show, as at 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023, the fair value amounts of derivative contracts included in the Consolidated Statement of Assets and Liabilities, categorised by primary underlying risk. Balances are presented on a gross basis prior to application of the impact of counterparty and collateral netting. Total derivative assets and liabilities are adjusted on an aggregate basis to take into account the effects of master netting arrangements and, where applicable, have been adjusted by the application of cash collateral receivables and payables with its counterparties. The tables also identify, as at 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023, the realised and unrealised gain and loss amounts included in the Consolidated Statement of Operations, categorised by primary underlying risk:

|                                |            |             |             | <b>NET CHANGE IN</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|
|                                | DERIVATIVE | DERIVATIVE  | REALISED    | UNREALISED           |
| 31 DECEMBER 2024               | ASSETS     | LIABILITIES | GAIN (LOSS) | GAIN (LOSS)          |
| PRIMARY UNDERLYING RISK        | (\$)       | (\$)        | (\$)        | (\$)                 |
| Foreign currency exchange rate |            |             |             |                      |
| Forward currency contracts     | 2,459,931  | (11,319)    | (32,722)    | 3,975,946            |
| Credit                         |            |             |             |                      |
| Purchased protection           |            |             |             |                      |
| Credit default swap            | _          | (19,525)    | (48,132)    | 43,882               |
| Total return swap              | _          | (126,689)   | -           | (3,774,889)          |
|                                |            |             |             | NET CHANGE IN        |
|                                | DERIVATIVE | DERIVATIVE  | REALISED    | UNREALISED           |
| 31 DECEMBER 2023               | ASSETS     | LIABILITIES | GAIN (LOSS) | GAIN (LOSS)          |
| PRIMARY UNDERLYING RISK        | (\$)       | (\$)        | (\$)        | (\$)                 |
| Foreign currency exchange rate |            |             |             |                      |
| Forward currency contracts     | 18,235     | (1,545,570) | (1,975,088) | (269,987)            |
| Credit                         |            |             |             |                      |
| Purchased protection           |            |             |             |                      |
| Credit default swap            | _          | (21,309)    | (84,550)    | 3,223                |
| Total return swap              | 3,648,201  |             |             | 2,078,684            |

#### Offsetting assets and liabilities

Amounts due from and to brokers are presented on a net basis, by counterparty, to the extent the Company has the legal right to offset the recognised amounts and intends to settle on a net basis.

The Company presents on a net basis the fair value amounts recognised for OTC derivatives executed with the same counterparty under the same master netting agreement.

The Company is required to disclose the impact of offsetting assets and liabilities presented in the Consolidated Statement of Assets and Liabilities to enable users of the Financial Statements to evaluate the effect or potential effect of netting arrangements on its financial position for recognised assets and liabilities.

These recognised assets and liabilities include financial instruments and derivative contracts that are either subject to an enforceable master netting arrangement or similar agreement or meet the following right of set off criteria:

- each of the two parties owes the other determinable amounts;
- the Company has the right to set off the amounts owed with the amounts owed by the other party;
- the Company intends to set off; and
- the Company's right of set off is enforceable at law.

The Company is subject to enforceable master netting agreements with its counterparties of credit default swap, the total return swaps and foreign currency exchange contracts. These agreements govern the terms of certain transactions and reduce the counterparty risk associated with relevant transactions by specifying offsetting mechanisms and collateral posting arrangements at pre-arranged exposure levels.

## **Derivative activity**

The following tables, as at 31 December 2024, show the gross and net derivatives assets and liabilities by contract type and amount for those derivatives contracts for which netting is permissible.

#### **31 DECEMBER 2024**

| 31 DECEMBER 202            | 24   |   |   |   |                                      |            |
|----------------------------|--|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|------------|
| (EXPRESSED IN US I         | DOLLARS)   | GROSS<br>AMOUNTS  | NET AMOUNTS<br>OF RECOGNISED<br>ASSETS<br>PRESENTED                 | AMOUNTS NOT<br>CONSOLIDATED<br>ASSETS AND   | STATEMENT OF                         |            |
| DESCRIPTION                | GROSS<br>AMOUNTS OF<br>RECOGNISED<br>ASSETS      | OFFSET IN THE<br>CONSOLIDATED<br>STATEMENTS OF<br>ASSETS AND<br>LIABILITIES | IN THE<br>CONSOLIDATED<br>STATEMENT OF<br>ASSETS AND<br>LIABILITIES | FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (POLICY ELECTION)     | FINANCIAL<br>COLLATERAL<br>RECEIVED¹ | NET AMOUNT |
| Forward currency           |  |   |   |   |                                      |            |
| contracts                  | 2,459,931  | -   | 2,459,931   | (11,319)                                    | _                                    | 2,448,612  |
| Total                      | 2,459,931  | _   | 2,459,931   | (11,319)                                    | _                                    | 2,448,612  |
|                            |  | GROSS<br>AMOUNTS  | NET AMOUNTS OF RECOGNISED ASSETS PRESENTED                          | AMOUNTS NOT<br>CONSOLIDATED S<br>ASSETS AND | STATEMENT OF                         |            |
| DESCRIPTION                | GROSS<br>AMOUNTS OF<br>RECOGNISED<br>LIABILITIES | OFFSET IN THE<br>CONSOLIDATED<br>STATEMENTS OF<br>ASSETS AND<br>LIABILITIES | IN THE<br>CONSOLIDATED<br>STATEMENT OF<br>ASSETS AND<br>LIABILITIES | FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (POLICY ELECTION)     | FINANCIAL<br>COLLATERAL<br>RECEIVED¹ | NET AMOUNT |
| Forward currency contracts | (11,319)   | _   | (11,319)  | 11,319                                      | _                                    | _          |
| Total return swaps         | (126,689)  | _   | (126,689)   | _   | 10,843,311                           | 10,716,622 |
| Credit default swap        | (19,525)   | -   | (19,525)  | -   | -                                    | (19,525)   |
| Total                      | (157,533)  | _   | (157,533)   | 11,319                                      | 10,843,311                           | 10,697,097 |

<sup>1</sup> The amount netted off is a portion of the total collateral as per the Consolidated Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

### NOTE 3 – DERIVATIVES (CONTINUED)

### **Derivative activity (continued)**

The following table, as at 31 December 2023, show the gross and net derivatives assets and liabilities by contract type and amount for those derivatives contracts for which netting is permissible.

### 31 DECEMBER 2023

| (EXPRESSED IN US I         | DOLLARS)   | GROSS<br>AMOUNTS  | NET AMOUNTS<br>OF RECOGNISED<br>ASSETS<br>PRESENTED   | CONSOLIDATED                                     | OFFSET IN THE<br>STATEMENT OF<br>D LIABILITIES |            |
|----------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|------------|
| DESCRIPTION                | GROSS<br>AMOUNTS OF<br>RECOGNISED<br>ASSETS      | OFFSET IN THE<br>CONSOLIDATED<br>STATEMENTS OF<br>ASSETS AND<br>LIABILITIES | IN THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES   | FINANCIAL<br>INSTRUMENTS<br>(POLICY<br>ELECTION) | FINANCIAL<br>COLLATERAL<br>RECEIVED¹           | NET AMOUNT |
| Forward currency contracts | 18,235   | _   | 18,235  | (18,235)   | _  | _          |
| Total return swaps         | 3,648,201  | _   | 3,648,201   | _  | _  | 3,648,201  |
| Total                      | 3,666,436  | _   | 3,666,436   | (18,235)   | _  | 3,648,201  |
|                            |  |   | NET AMOUNTS OF RECOGNISED AMOUNTS NOT OFFSET IN THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF TS PRESENTED ASSETS AND LIABILITIES |  | STATEMENT OF                                   |            |
| DESCRIPTION                | GROSS<br>AMOUNTS OF<br>RECOGNISED<br>LIABILITIES | OFFSET IN THE<br>CONSOLIDATED<br>STATEMENTS OF<br>ASSETS AND<br>LIABILITIES | IN THE<br>CONSOLIDATED<br>STATEMENT OF<br>ASSETS AND<br>LIABILITIES   | FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (POLICY ELECTION)          | FINANCIAL<br>COLLATERAL<br>RECEIVED¹           | NET AMOUNT |
| Forward currency contracts | (1,545,570)                                      | _   | (1,545,570)   | 18,235   | 790,000  | (737,335)  |
| Credit default swap        | (21,309)   | _   | (21,309)  | _  | _  | (21,309)   |
| Total                      | (1,566,879)                                      | _   | (1,566,879)   | 18,235   | 790,000  | (758,644)  |

<sup>1</sup> The amount netted off is a portion of the total collateral as per the Consolidated Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

#### **NOTE 4 - RISK FACTORS**

The Company's investments are subject to various risk factors including market and credit risk, interest rate and foreign exchange risk, and the risks associated with investing in private securities. Investments in private securities and partnerships are illiquid, and there can be no assurances that the Company will be able to realise the value of such investments in a timely manner. Additionally, the Company's investments may be highly concentrated in certain industries. Non-US dollar denominated investments may result in foreign exchange losses caused by devaluations and exchange rate fluctuations. In addition, consequences of political, social, economic, diplomatic changes or public health condition may have disruptive effects on market prices or fair valuations of foreign investments.

#### Market Risk

Market risk is the potential for changes in the value of investments. Categories of market risk include, but are not limited to, interest rates. Interest rate risks primarily result from exposures to changes in the level, slope and curvature of the yield curve, the volatility of interest rates and credit spreads. Details of the Company's investment Portfolio as at 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023 are disclosed in the Consolidated Condensed Schedule of Investments. Each separate investment exceeding 5% of net assets is disclosed separately.

#### Credit Risk

The Company may invest in a range of corporate and other bonds and other credit sensitive securities. Until such investments are sold or are paid in full at maturity, the Company is exposed to credit risk relating to whether the issuer will meet its obligations when the securities fall due. Distressed debt securities by nature are securities in companies which are in default or are heading into default and will expose the Company to a higher than normal amount of credit risk.

The Company may invest a relatively large percentage of its assets in issuers located in a single country, a small number of countries, or a particular geographic region. As a result, the Company's performance may be closely aligned with the market, currency or economic, political or regulatory conditions and developments in those countries or that region, and could be more volatile than the performance of more geographically diversified investments. Refer to the Consolidated Condensed Schedules of Investments on pages 64 to 71 for concentration of credit risk.

The Company maintains positions in a variety of securities, derivative financial instruments and cash and cash equivalents in accordance with its investment strategy and quidelines. The Company's trading activities expose the Company to counterparty credit risk from brokers, dealers and other financial institutions (collectively, "counterparties") with which it transacts business. "Counterparty credit risk" is the risk that a counterparty to a trade will fail to meet an obligation that it has entered into with the Company, resulting in a financial loss to the Company. The Company's policy with respect to counterparty credit risk is to minimise its exposure to counterparties with perceived higher risk of default by dealing only with counterparties that meet the credit standards set out by the Investment Manager.

All the Company's cash and investment assets other than derivative financial instruments are held by the Custodian. The Custodian segregates the assets of the Company from the Custodian's assets and other Custodian clients. Management believes the risk is low with respect to any losses as a result of this concentration. The Company conducts its trading activities with respect to non-derivative positions with a number of counterparties. Counterparty credit risk borne by these transactions is mitigated by trading with multiple counterparties.

In addition, the Company may trade in OTC derivative instruments and in derivative instruments which trade on exchanges with generally a limited number of counterparties and as a consequence the Company is subject to counterparty credit risk related to the potential inability of counterparties to these derivative transactions to perform their obligations to the Company. The Company's exposure to counterparty credit risk associated with counterparty non-performance is generally limited to the fair value (derivative assets and liabilities) of OTC derivatives reported as net assets, net of collateral received or paid, pursuant to agreements with each counterparty. The Investment Manager attempts to reduce the counterparty credit risk of the Company by establishing certain credit terms in its International Swaps and Derivatives Association (ISDA) Master Agreements (with netting terms) with counterparties, and through credit policies and monitoring procedures. Under ISDA Master Agreements in certain circumstances (e.g. when a credit event such as a default occurs) all outstanding transactions under the agreement are terminated, the termination value is assessed and only a single net amount is due or payable in settlement of all transactions. The Company receives and gives collateral in the form of cash and marketable securities and it is subject to the ISDA Master Agreement Credit Support Annex. This means that securities received/given as collateral can be pledged or sold during the term of the transaction. The terms also give each party the right to terminate the related transactions on the other party's failure to post collateral. Exchange-traded derivatives generally involve less counterparty exposure because of the margin requirements of the individual exchanges

Generally, these contracts can be closed out at the discretion of the Investment Manager and are governed by the futures and options clearing agreements signed with the future commission merchants ("FCMs"). FCMs have capital requirements intended to assure that they have sufficient capital to protect their customers in the event of any inadequacy in customer funds arising from the default of one or more customers, adverse market conditions, or for any other reason. The credit risk relating to derivatives is detailed further in Note 3.

#### NOTE 4 - RISK FACTORS (continued)

#### Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company will not be able to meet its obligations as and when these fall due.

Liquidity risk is managed by the Investment Manager so as to ensure that the Company maintains sufficient working capital in cash or near cash form so as to be able to meet the Company's ongoing requirements as these are budgeted for.

#### Other Risks

Legal, tax and regulatory changes could occur during the term of the Company that may adversely affect the Company. The regulatory environment for alternative investment vehicles is evolving, and changes in the regulation of alternative investment vehicles may adversely affect the value of investments held by the Company or the ability of the Company to pursue its trading strategies.

The impact of these risks can have a substantial impact on the valuation and ultimately the realisation of assets.

Market disruptions associated with current geopolitical events have had a global impact, and uncertainty exists as to their implications. Such disruptions can potentially adversely affect the assets, and thus the performance, of the Company. The Board continues to monitor this situation.

#### **NOTE 5 - SHARE CAPITAL**

The Company's authorised share capital consists of:

10,000 Class A Shares authorised, of par value \$1 each (which carry no voting rights); and, an unlimited number of shares of no par value which may, upon issue, be designated as Ordinary Shares, Extended Life Shares or New Global Shares and Subscription Shares (each of which carry voting rights) or Capital Distribution Shares.

The issued share capital of the Company consists of Ordinary Shares, Class A Shares and Extended Life Shares, all denominated in US dollars, and New Global Shares denominated in Pounds Sterling. Shareholders of Ordinary Shares, Extended Life Shares and New Global Shares have the right to attend and vote at any general meeting of the Company. Class A shareholders do not have the right to attend and vote at a general meeting of the Company save where there are no other shares of the Company in issue.

The Class A Shares are held by Suntera Trustees (Guernsey) Limited (formerly named Carey Trustees Limited) (the "Trustee"), pursuant to a Purpose Trust established under Guernsey law. Under the terms of the NBDDIF Purpose Trust Deed, the Trustee holds the Class A Shares for the purpose of exercising the right to receive notice of general meetings of the Company but the Trustee shall only have the right to attend and vote at general meetings of the Company when there are no other shares of the Company in issue.

The original investment period expired on 10 June 2013 and a proposal was made to Ordinary Shareholders to extend the investment period by 21 months to 31 March 2015. A vote was held at a class meeting of shareholders on 8 April 2013 where the majority of shareholders voted in favour of the proposed extension.

Following this meeting and with the Ordinary Shareholders approval of the extension, a new class, the Extended Life Shares, was created and the Extended Life Shares were issued to 72% of initial Investors who elected to convert their Ordinary Shares to Extended Life Shares. The rest of investors remain invested on the basis of the existing investment period.

The New Global Share Class was created in March 2014 and its investment period ended on 31 March 2017.

As at 31 December 2024, the Company had the following number of shares in issue:

| Issued and fully paid up   | 31 DECEMBER 2024 | 31 DECEMBER 2023 |  |
|--|------------------|------------------|--|
| Class A Shares   | 2                | 2                |  |
| Ordinary Share Class of no par value (Nil in treasury; 2023: Nil)      | 15,382,770       | 15,382,770       |  |
| Extended Life Share Class of no par value (Nil in treasury; 2023: Nil) | 38,731,819       | 44,234,790       |  |
| New Global Share Class of no par value (Nil in treasury; 2023: Nil)    | 25,123,440       | 27,821,698       |  |

Reconciliation of the number of shares in issue in each class (excluding Class A) as at 31 December 2024:

| Balance as at 31 December 2024 <sup>1</sup> | 15,382,770 | 38,731,819  | 25,123,440        | 79,238,029  |
|---|------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Buybacks (Shares repurchased)               | _          | _           | _                 | _           |
| Shares redeemed during the year             | _          | (5,502,971) | (2,698,258)       | (8,201,229) |
| Balance as at 31 December 2023              | 15,382,770 | 44,234,790  | 27,821,698        | 87,439,258  |
|   | SHARES     | LIFE SHARES | SHARES            | TOTAL       |
|   | ORDINARY   | EXTENDED    | <b>NEW GLOBAL</b> |             |

<sup>1</sup> Balance of issued shares used to calculate NAV

Reconciliation of the number of shares in issue in each class (excluding Class A) as at 31 December 2023:

|   | ORDINARY   | EXTENDED     | <b>NEW GLOBAL</b> |              |
|---|------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
|   | SHARES     | LIFE SHARES  | SHARES            | TOTAL        |
| Balance as at 31 December 2022              | 15,382,770 | 60,116,016   | 31,023,609        | 106,522,395  |
| Shares redeemed during the year             | _          | (15,881,226) | (3,201,911)       | (19,083,137) |
| Buybacks (Shares repurchased)               | _          | _            | _                 | _            |
| Balance as at 31 December 2023 <sup>1</sup> | 15,382,770 | 44,234,790   | 27,821,698        | 87,439,258   |

<sup>1</sup> Balance of issued shares used to calculate NAV.

### Distributions

Set out below are details of the capital returns by way of compulsory partial redemptions approved during the year ended 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023.

| 31 DECEMBER 2024 | ORDINARY SHARE CLASS        |                     |           | EXTENDED LIFE SHARE CLASS   |                     |           | NEW GLOBAL SHARE CLASS      |                     |                     |
|------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                  | DISTRI-<br>BUTION<br>AMOUNT | NUMBER<br>OF SHARES | PER SHARE | DISTRI-<br>BUTION<br>AMOUNT | NUMBER<br>OF SHARES | PER SHARE | DISTRI-<br>BUTION<br>AMOUNT | NUMBER<br>OF SHARES | PER SHARE<br>AMOUNT |
| 26 November 2024 | _                           | -                   | -         | \$5,491,965                 | 5,502,971           | \$0.9980  | £1,493,486                  | 2,698,258           | £0.5535             |
|                  | _                           | -                   | -         | \$5,491,965                 | 5,502,971           | \$0.9980  | £1,493,486                  | 2,698,258           | £0.5535             |

| 31 DECEMBER 2023  | ORDINARY SHARE CLASS        |                     |           | EXTENDED LIFE SHARE CLASS   |                     |                     | NEW GLOBAL SHARE CLASS      |                     |           |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
|                   | DISTRI-<br>BUTION<br>AMOUNT | NUMBER<br>OF SHARES | PER SHARE | DISTRI-<br>BUTION<br>AMOUNT | NUMBER<br>OF SHARES | PER SHARE<br>AMOUNT | DISTRI-<br>BUTION<br>AMOUNT | NUMBER<br>OF SHARES | PER SHARE |
| 02 May 2023       | _                           | _                   | _         | \$8,149,711                 | 8,487,514           | \$0.9602            | \$2,697,863                 | 3,201,911           | \$0.8426  |
| 29 June 2023      | -                           | _                   | _         | \$3,352,980                 | 3,753,056           | \$0.8934            | _                           | _                   | _         |
| 11 September 2023 | _                           | _                   | _         | \$3,754,972                 | 3,640,656           | \$1.0314            | _                           | _                   | _         |
|                   | _                           | _                   | _         | \$15,257,663                | 15,881,226          | _                   | \$2,697,863                 | 3,201,911           | _         |

Set out below are details of the distributions by way of dividend approved during the year ended 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023.

|                  | ORDINARY SHARE CLASS        |                     |           | EXTENDED LIFE SHARE CLASS   |                     |           | NEW GLOBAL SHARE CLASS      |                     |                     |
|------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| DATE             | DISTRI-<br>BUTION<br>AMOUNT | NUMBER<br>OF SHARES | PER SHARE | DISTRI-<br>BUTION<br>AMOUNT | NUMBER<br>OF SHARES | PER SHARE | DISTRI-<br>BUTION<br>AMOUNT | NUMBER<br>OF SHARES | PER SHARE<br>AMOUNT |
| 21 November 2024 | -                           | _                   | _         | \$654,675                   | 44,234,786          | \$0.0148  | £612,077                    | 27,821,694          | £0.022              |
|                  | _                           | -                   | -         | \$654,675                   | 44,234,786          | \$0.0148  | £612,077                    | 27,821,694          | £0.022              |

There were no distributions by way of dividend for the year ended 31 December 2023.

No shares were repurchased by the Company during either the year ended 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023.

#### NOTE 6 - MATERIAL AGREEMENTS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

#### Investment Management Agreement ("IMA")

The Board is responsible for managing the business affairs of the Company but delegates certain functions to the Investment Manager under an IMA dated 9 June 2010 (as amended).

On 17 July 2014, the Company, the Manager and the AIFM made certain classificatory amendments to their contractual arrangements for the purposes of the AIFM Directive. The Sub-Investment Management Agreement was terminated on 17 July 2014 and Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC (formerly Neuberger Berman Fixed Income LLC), which was the Sub-Investment Manager, was appointed as the AIFM per the amended and restated IMA dated 17 July 2014. Under this agreement, the AIFM is responsible for risk management and dayto-day discretionary management of the Company's Portfolios (including uninvested cash). The risk management and discretionary portfolio management functions are performed independently of each other within the AIFM structure. The AIFM is not required to, and generally will not, submit individual investment decisions for approval by the Board. The Manager, Neuberger Berman Europe Limited, was appointed under the same IMA to provide, amongst other things, certain administrative services to the Company. On 31 December 2017 the Company entered into an Amendment Agreement amending the IMA. On the 30 January 2023 the Company entered into an Amendment Agreement amending the IMA for data protection purposes to note the obligation on the recipient UK investment manager to comply with the new SCCs in transferring personal data to the US AIFM.

Per the IMA and in relation to the Ordinary Shares and Extended Life Shares, the Manager was entitled to a management fee, which shall be accrued daily, and was payable monthly in arrears, at a rate of 0.125% per month of the respective NAVs of the Ordinary Share and Extended Life Share classes. Soft commissions were not used.

Per the IMA and in relation to the New Global Shares, the Manager was entitled to a management fee, which accrued daily, and was payable monthly in arrears, at a rate of 0.125% per month of the NAV of the New Global Share Class (excluding, until such time as the New Global Share Class had become 85% invested, any cash balances (or cash equivalents)). The 85% threshold was crossed on 16 June 2015 and from such date the Company was charged 0.125% per month on the NAV of the New Global Share Class.

Effective 18 March 2021, the Investment Manager had waived its entitlement to all fees from the Company. Accordingly, there was no management fees expensed in the year or the preceding financial year nor were any fees outstanding at either 31 December 2024 or 31 December 2023.

### Administration, Company Secretarial and Custody Agreements

Effective 1 March 2015, the Company entered into an Administration and Sub-Administration Agreement with U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (Guernsey) Limited and U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (Ireland) Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of U.S. Bancorp (the "Administration Agreement"). Under the terms of the Administration Agreement, Sub-Administration services are delegated to U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (Ireland) Limited (the "Sub-Administrator"). The Sub-Administration Service Level Agreement was amended and approved on 21 February 2018.

The Sub-Administrator is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Company (including but not limited to the calculation and publication of the estimated daily NAV).

Under the terms of the Administration Agreement, the Sub-Administrator is entitled to a fee of 0.09% for the first \$500m of net asset value, 0.08% for the next \$500m and 0.07% for any remaining balance, accrued daily and paid monthly in arrears and subject to an annual minimum of \$100,000.

Effective 28 February 2015, the Company entered into a Custody Agreement with U.S. Bank National Association (the "Custodian") to provide loan administration and custody services to the Company. Under the terms of the Custody Agreement the Custodian is entitled to an annual fee of 0.025% of net asset value with a minimum annual fee of \$25,000.

Effective 20 June 2017, Suntera (Guernsey) Limited (formerly named Carey Commercial Limited) was appointed the Company Secretary. The Company Secretary is entitled to an annual fee of £76,850 plus fees for ad-hoc board meetings and additional services.

For the year ended 31 December 2024, the administration fee expense was \$86,775 (31 December 2023: \$87,547), the secretarial fee was \$114,400 of which \$Nil\ was in relation to the administration of the ongoing buyback programme, (31 December 2023: \$116,888\) and the loan administration and custody fee expense was \$28,412' (31 December 2023: \$30,743'). At 31 December 2024, the administration fee payable is \$6,983' (31 December 2023: \$5,852'), the secretarial fee payable is \$29,441' (31 December 2023: \$25,450') and the loan administration and custody fee payable is \$9,5001 (31 December 2023: \$9,0881).

1 Amounts are included under Accrued expenses and other liabilities in the Consolidated Statement of Assets and Liabilities and Consolidated Statement of Operations

#### **Directors' Remuneration and Other Interests**

The Directors are related parties and are remunerated for their services at a fee of \$45,000 plus £10,000 each per annum (\$60,000 plus £10,000 for the Chairman, \$50,000 plus £10,000 for the Chairman of the Audit Committee). For the year ended 31 December 2024, the Directors' fees and travel expenses amounted to \$192,157 (31 December 2023: \$193,450). Michael J. Holmberg, the non-independent Director, has waived the fees for his services as a Director. There were no other related interests for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The Company has not set any requirements or guidelines for Directors to own shares in the Company. The beneficial interests of the Directors and their connected persons in the Company's shares as at 31 December 2024 are shown in the table below:

| DIRECTOR          | NO. OF ORDINARY<br>SHARES | NO. OF EXTENDED LIFE SHARES | NO. OF NEW GLOBAL SHARES | TOTAL NO. OF SHARES |
|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| John Hallam       | -                         | 35,468                      | 30,216                   | 65,684              |
| Michael Holmberg  | -                         | 15,661                      | 31,590                   | 47,251              |
| Christopher Legge | -                         | _                           | _                        | _                   |
| Stephen Vakil     | -                         | _                           | 16,482                   | 16,482              |

#### **NOTE 7 – FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

|   | ORDINARY<br>SHARES<br>(\$)        | EXTENDED<br>LIFE SHARES<br>(\$)   | NEW GLOBAL<br>SHARES<br>(£)       | ORDINARY<br>SHARES<br>(\$)        | EXTENDED LIFE<br>SHARES<br>(\$)   | NEW GLOBAL<br>SHARES<br>(£)       |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PER SHARE<br>OPERATING<br>PERFORMANCE                                     | YEAR ENDED<br>31 DECEMBER<br>2024 | YEAR ENDED<br>31 DECEMBER<br>2024 | YEAR ENDED<br>31 DECEMBER<br>2024 | YEAR ENDED<br>31 DECEMBER<br>2023 | YEAR ENDED<br>31 DECEMBER<br>2023 | YEAR ENDED<br>31 DECEMBER<br>2023 |
| Net asset value per share at beginning of the year                        |                                   | 1.0312                            | 0.6239                            | 0.7730                            | 0.9728                            | 0.6640                            |
| Impact of capital distribution  | n –                               | (0.0017)                          | (0.0016)                          | _                                 | 0.0069                            | 0.0001                            |
| Impact of dividend distribut  | tion –                            | (0.0150)                          | (0.0222)                          | _                                 | _                                 | _                                 |
| Income from investment operations <sup>1</sup>                            |                                   |                                   |                                   |                                   |                                   |                                   |
| Net investment income   | 0.0007                            | 0.0177                            | 0.0291                            | 0.0014                            | 0.0139                            | 0.0214                            |
| Net realised and unrealised (loss)/gain from investments foreign exchange | s and<br>(0.0521)                 | (0.1051)                          | (0.1219)                          | 0.0327                            | 0.0376                            | (0.0616)                          |
| (loss)/gain from investme   |                                   | (0.0874)                          | (0.0928)                          | 0.0341                            | 0.0515                            | (0.0402)                          |
| Net asset value per share<br>at end of the year <sup>2</sup>              | e<br>0.7557                       | 0.9271                            | 0.5073                            | 0.8071                            | 1.0312                            | 0.6239                            |

<sup>1</sup> Weighted average number of shares outstanding was used for calculation.

<sup>2</sup> Each share classes net assets includes the underlying assets and liabilities directly attributable to the respective share class.

### **NOTE 7 – FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (continued)**

|                                    | ORDINARY<br>SHARES<br>(\$)        | EXTENDED<br>LIFE SHARES<br>(\$)   | NEW GLOBAL<br>SHARES<br>(£)       | ORDINARY<br>SHARES<br>(\$)        | EXTENDED LIFE<br>SHARES<br>(\$)   | NEW GLOBAL<br>SHARES<br>(£)       |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| NAV TOTAL<br>RETURN <sup>2,3</sup> | YEAR ENDED<br>31 DECEMBER<br>2024 | YEAR ENDED<br>31 DECEMBER<br>2024 | YEAR ENDED<br>31 DECEMBER<br>2024 | YEAR ENDED<br>31 DECEMBER<br>2023 | YEAR ENDED<br>31 DECEMBER<br>2023 | YEAR ENDED<br>31 DECEMBER<br>2023 |
| NAV Total Return                   | (6.37%)                           | (10.10%)                          | (18.69%)                          | 4.41%                             | 6.00%                             | (6.04%)                           |

<sup>2</sup> NAV Total Return is calculated for the Ordinary Shares, Extended Life Shares and New Global Shares only and is calculated based on movement in the NAV and does not reflect any movement in the market value of the shares. A shareholder's return may vary from these returns based on participation in new issues, the timing of capital transactions etc. It assumes that all income distributions of the Company, paid by way of dividend, were reinvested, without transaction costs. Class A shares are not presented as they are not profit participating shares.

<sup>3</sup> An individual shareholder's return may vary from these returns based on the timing of the shareholder's subscriptions.

| Total expenses        | (1.43%)     | (1.45%)     | (2.34%)           | (1.28%)     | (1.38%)       | (2.21%)           |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Net investment income | 0.08%       | 1.73%       | 4.91%             | 0.18%       | 1.40%         | 3.24%             |
| ASSETS                | 2024        | 2024        | 2024              | 2023        | 2023          | 2023              |
| AVERAGE NET           | 31 DECEMBER | 31 DECEMBER | 31 DECEMBER       | 31 DECEMBER | 31 DECEMBER   | 31 DECEMBER       |
| RATIOS TO             | YEAR ENDED  | YEAR ENDED  | YEAR ENDED        | YEAR ENDED  | YEAR ENDED    | YEAR ENDED        |
|                       | (\$)        | (\$)        | (£)               | (\$)        | (\$)          | (£)               |
|                       | SHARES      | LIFE SHARES | SHARES            | SHARES      | SHARES        | SHARES            |
|                       | ORDINARY    | EXTENDED    | <b>NEW GLOBAL</b> | ORDINARY    | EXTENDED LIFE | <b>NEW GLOBAL</b> |

#### NOTE 8 - RECONCILIATION OF NET ASSET VALUE TO PUBLISHED NAV

In preparing the Financial Statements, there were adjustments relating to investment valuations. The impact of these adjustments on the NAV per Ordinary Share, Extended Life Share and New Global Share is detailed below:

|                            |             | ORDINARY    |               | EXTENDED LIFE |                   | NEW GLOBAL  |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------|
|                            | ORDINARY    | SHARE CLASS | EXTENDED LIFE | SHARE CLASS   | NEW GLOBAL        | SHARE CLASS |
|                            | SHARE CLASS | NAV PER     | SHARE CLASS   | NAV PER       | SHARE CLASS       | NAV PER     |
|                            | NET ASSETS  | SHARE       | NET ASSETS    | SHARE         | NET ASSETS        | SHARE       |
|                            | (\$)        | (\$)        | (\$)          | (\$)          | (£)               | (£)         |
| Published net assets as at |             |             |               |               |                   |             |
| 31 December 2024           | 12,237,190  | 0.7955      | 38,372,870    | 0.9907        | 13,478,756        | 0.5365      |
| Valuation adjustments      | (613,076)   | (0.0398)    | (2,465,260)   | (0.0636)      | (732,397)         | (0.0292)    |
| Net assets per Consolida   | ated        |             |               |               |                   |             |
| Financial Statements       | 11,624,114  | 0.7557      | 35,907,610    | 0.9271        | 12,746,359        | 0.5073      |
|                            |             | ORDINARY    |               | EXTENDED LIFE |                   | NEW GLOBAL  |
|                            | ORDINARY    | SHARE CLASS | EXTENDED LIFE | SHARE CLASS   | <b>NEW GLOBAL</b> | SHARE CLASS |
|                            | SHARE CLASS | NAV PER     | SHARE CLASS   | NAV PER       | SHARE CLASS       | NAV PER     |
|                            | NET ASSETS  | SHARE       | NET ASSETS    | SHARE         | NET ASSETS        | SHARE       |
|                            | (\$)        | (\$)        | (\$)          | (\$)          | (£)               | (£)         |
| Published net assets as at |             |             |               |               |                   |             |
| 31 December 2023           | 12,323,608  | 0.8011      | 45,378,194    | 1.0258        | 17,358,035        | 0.6239      |
| Valuation adjustments      | 91,623      | 0.0060      | 236,291       | 0.0054        |                   |             |
| Net assets per Consolida   | ated        |             |               |               |                   |             |
| Financial Statements       | 12,415,231  | 0.8071      | 45,614,485    | 1.0312        | 17,358,035        | 0.6239      |

### **NOTE 9 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

The Directors have evaluated subsequent events up to 29 April 2025, which is the date that the financial statements were available to be

The Company has received a total of \$5.3 million in respect of the exit of a Surface Transport asset which was held in the NBDX and NBDG share classes.

The Company has received a total of \$1.47 million in respect of the exit of an Oil and Gas asset which was held in the NBDX and NBDG share classes.

NBDG reported a capital distribution and income distribution by way of dividend in March for £1,212,873 and £796,413 respectively. Shareholder will receive their respective distributions on 8 April 2025 and 7 April 2025.

There are no further items that require disclosure or adjustment to Financial Statements.

# Contact Details

#### **Directors**

John Hallam (Chairman) Michael Holmberg Christopher Legge Stephen Vakil

All c/o the Company's registered office.

#### **Registered Office**

1st & 2nd Floors, Elizabeth House Les Ruettes Brayes St Peter Port Guernsey GY1 1EW

### **Company Secretary**

Suntera (Guernsey) Limited (formerly named Carey Commercial Limited)

#### **Alternative Investment Fund Manager**

Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC

### Manager

Neuberger Berman Europe Limited

### **Custodian and Principal Bankers**

US Bank National Association

### **Designated Administrator**

U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (Guernsey) Limited

### **Independent Auditor**

KPMG Channel Islands Limited

#### **Sub-Administrator**

U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (Ireland) Limited

### **Financial Adviser and Corporate Broker**

Jefferies International Limited

### Solicitors to the Company (as to English law and U.S. securities law)

Herbert Smith Freehills LLP

### Advocates to the Company (as to Guernsey law)

Carey Olsen

#### Registrar

MUFG Corporate Markets (UK) Limited (formerly named Link Market Services (Guernsey) Limited)

### **UK Transfer Agent**

MUFG Pension & Market Services (formerly named Link Group) Central Square 29 Wellington Street Leeds LS1 4DL

United Kingdom

Shareholders holding shares directly and not through a broker, saving scheme or ISA and have queries in relation to their shareholdings should contact the Registrar on +44 (0)371 664 0445. (Calls are charged at the standard geographic rate and will vary by provider. Calls outside the United Kingdom will be charged at the applicable international rate. Lines are open between 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (excluding bank holidays)). Shareholders can also access their details via the Registrar's website:

www.signalshares.com.

Full contact details of the Company's advisers and Manager can be found on the Company's website.