# Guide on Best Execution Standard for Goldman Sachs (Asia) L.L.C., Seoul Branch

## I. Purpose

In accordance with Article 68 of the Financial Investment Services and Capital Markets Act (hereinafter referred to as the "Act"), Article 66-2 of the Enforcement Decree of the Act (hereinafter referred to as the "Decree"), Article 7-3 of the Enforcement Rules of the Act (hereinafter referred to as the "Rules"), and Article 4-17-3 of the Financial Investment Business Regulations (hereinafter referred to as the "Regulations"), Goldman Sachs (Asia) L.L.C., Seoul Branch ("we" or "GSKO") hereby prepared the Guide on the Best Execution Standard to specify the requirements for taking investors' orders of financial investment instruments (excluding those prescribed under any subparagraph of Article 66-2(1) of the Decree), which is intended to ensure execution under the best possible trading terms, enhance market predictability and protect investors.

# **II.** Terms Related to Best Execution Obligation

# 1. Scope of Applicable Securities

The following securities are subject to GSKO's best execution standard:

- A. Shares listed on the securities market
- B. Depositary receipts (DRs) linked to shares and listed on the securities market

#### 2. GSKO Best Execution Standard

Considering the traits of various trading markets, GSKO's best execution standard is **to place client orders to the Korea Exchange**.

The Korea Exchange has been the sole trading market since the stock market was first established in 1956. As such, it is more stable and provides better liquidity than any other markets in Korea, and is also best understood by the investors.

In addition, considering the benefits to investors in comparison to the costs involved in infrastructure and system enhancement for multi-market trading, GSKO concluded that it is in the client's interest to select a single market as the firm's best execution standard.

# **III.** Other Matters Regarding Best Execution Standard

### 1. Non-Attribution of Result Responsibility

GSKO's best execution obligation pertains to its responsibility to execute an investor's order under the best possible terms as a matter of process. If it has executed the order under the best available terms and under the objective circumstances at the time of order, we are not accountable for the outcome of the order.

# 2. Obligation to Review and Publish the Best Execution Policy (Pursuant to §66-2(3) and (5) of the Decree)

- A. GSKO shall review its best execution standard every three (3) months. If the policy is found unsuitable for executing investor orders, it shall revise the standard and publicly announce the changes.
- B. When publishing the standard in accordance with §68(1) of the Act or announcing changes (including the reasons for the changes) as required in A, GSKO shall use the method including all of the following
  - 1) post the standard or otherwise make it available at GSKO's business location
  - 2) publicly disclose the standard at <u>GSKO Entity Information webpage</u> within the Goldman Sachs website.
- **3. Obligation to Provide an Explanatory Document** (Pursuant to §68(4) of the Act, §66-2(6) of the Decree)

When receiving orders for trading of financial investment products, GSKO shall provide investors the Guide on the Best Execution Standard in advance via e-mail.

**4. Obligation to Provide Verification** (Pursuant to §66-2(4) of the Decree, §4-17(1) of the Regulations)

After GSKO executes an investor's order in accordance with the best execution standard, it shall, upon the investor's request, provide verification that the order was processed in compliance with the standard. The verification shall be provided using the following methods and procedures:

- A. Verification may be provided through any of the following methods (hereinafter referred to as "documentation, etc."):
  - (1) Distribution of a physical document;
  - (2) Telephone, telegraph, fax, email, or other similar electronic communication.
- B. Documentation, etc. shall include all of the following information:
  - (1) The details of an investor's trade order, including the name of the instrument, quantity, and whether it was a buy or sell order;
  - (2) The time and place the trade order was executed, along with other execution details and methods;
  - (3) Confirmation of whether the trade order was executed in accordance with the best execution standard and the reasons supporting this determination.
- C. The documentation, etc. containing the information specified in B shall be provided within one (1) month from the date of the investor's request.

5. Obligation to Record and Maintain (Pursuant to §66-2(7) of the Decree, §4-17(2) of the Regulations)
GSKO must record and retain the review results of its best execution standard in written or electronic form for at least ten (10) years.