

### III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or up to 90 days (i) as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

- (A) By order approve or disapprove the proposed rule change, or
- (B) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

#### *Electronic Comments*

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-NYSE-2018-31 on the subject line.

#### *Paper Comments*

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.
- All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSE-2018-31. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for

inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSE-2018-31 and should be submitted on or before August 1, 2018.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>12</sup>

**Eduardo A. Aleman,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2018-14850 Filed 7-10-18; 8:45 am]

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 33149; 812-14835]

### Blackstone/GSO Floating Rate Enhanced Income Fund, et al.

July 6, 2018.

**AGENCY:** Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission").

**ACTION:** Notice.

Notice of application for an order under sections 17(d) and 57(i) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") and rule 17d-1 under the Act to permit certain joint transactions otherwise prohibited by sections 17(d) and 57(a)(4) of the Act and rule 17d-1 under the Act.

**SUMMARY OF APPLICATION:** Applicants request an order to permit business development companies ("BDCs") and closed-end management investment companies to co-invest in portfolio companies with each other and with certain affiliated investment funds and accounts.

**APPLICANTS:** Blackstone/GSO Floating Rate Enhanced Income Fund ("BGFREI"); Blackstone/GSO Long-Short Credit Income Fund ("BGX"); Blackstone/GSO Senior Floating Rate Term Fund ("BSL"); Blackstone/GSO Strategic Credit Fund ("BGB"); Blackstone/GSO Secured Lending Fund ("BGSL," and together with BGFREI, BGX, BSL, BGB, the "GSO Regulated Funds"); GSO/Blackstone Debt Funds Management LLC ("GDFM"), the investment adviser to BGFREI, BGX, BSL and BGB; GSO Asset Management LLC ("GAM"), the proposed investment

adviser to BGSL; the investment advisers set forth in Schedule A to the application (together with GDFM and GAM, the "GSO Advisers"); the Existing Affiliated Funds set forth on Schedule A to the application<sup>1</sup>; and Blackstone Alternative Solutions L.L.C. ("BAS").

**FILING DATES:** The application was filed on October 13, 2017, and amended on June 25, 2018. Applicants have agreed to file an amendment during the notice period, the substance of which is reflected in this notice.

#### **HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING:**

An order granting the requested relief will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the Commission's Secretary and serving applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on July 30, 2018, and should be accompanied by proof of service on applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Pursuant to rule 0-5 under the Act, hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, any facts bearing upon the desirability of a hearing on the matter, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the Commission's Secretary.

**ADDRESSES:** Secretary, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F St. NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090. Applicants: 345 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10154.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Asen Parachkevov, Senior Counsel, or David J. Marcinkus, Branch Chief, at (202) 551-6821 (Chief Counsel's Office, Division of Investment Management).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained via the Commission's website by searching for the file number, or for an applicant using the Company name box, at <http://>

<sup>1</sup> The Existing Affiliated Funds, together with their direct and indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries, are entities (i) (A) whose primary investment adviser is a GSO Adviser or (B) whose primary investment adviser is a registered investment adviser that controls, is controlled by or is under common control with an Adviser (as defined below), but is itself not an Adviser (each, an "Existing Primary Adviser"), and whose sub-adviser is an Adviser (each, an "Existing Sub-Advised Affiliated Fund") and (ii) that either (A) would be an investment company but for section 3(c)(1) or 3(c)(7) of the Act or (B) rely on the rule 3a-7 exemption thereunder from investment company status. The sole Existing Primary Adviser is BAS. Each of the Existing Sub-Advised Affiliated Funds are sub-advised by GSO Capital Partners LP, a GSO Adviser.

<sup>12</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

[www.sec.gov/search/search.htm](http://www.sec.gov/search/search.htm) or by calling (202) 551-8090.

### Applicants' Representations

1. BGFREI, BGX, BSL and BGB, each a Delaware statutory trust, are externally managed, diversified, closed-end management investment companies. Each of BGFREI's and BGX's investment objective is to provide current income, with a secondary objective of capital appreciation. Each of BSL's and BGB's investment objective is to seek high current income, with a secondary objective to seek preservation of capital, consistent with its primary goal of high current income. Each of BGFREI, BGX, BSL and BGB have a five-member Board, of which four members are Non-Interested Trustees.<sup>2</sup>

2. BGSL is a Delaware statutory trust that intends to file an election to be regulated as a business development company ("BDC") under the Act.<sup>3</sup> BGSL's investment objective is to seek high current income, with a secondary objective to seek preservation of capital, consistent with its primary goal of high current income. BGSL will have a seven-member Board, of which four members will be Non-Interested Trustees.

3. Each Adviser<sup>4</sup> is a subsidiary of The Blackstone Group, L.P. ("Blackstone"). Blackstone is a leading global alternative asset manager, whose alternative asset management businesses include investment vehicles focused on private equity, real estate, hedge fund solutions, non-investment grade credit, secondary private equity funds of funds and multi-asset class strategies. Blackstone's four business segments are

(1) private equity, (2) real estate, (3) hedge fund solutions and (4) credit.

4. The GSO Advisers operate as a self-contained advisory business within Blackstone's credit group. Each GSO Adviser is under common control with GDFM and GAM, the Adviser to each of the GSO Regulated Funds, and collectively they conduct a single advisory business for purposes of the requested Order. The GSO Advisers are each either separately registered as investment advisers with the Commission, or are relying advisers that rely on the registration of another GSO Adviser. No GSO Adviser is a relying adviser of any Blackstone-affiliated investment adviser from outside of the self-contained group. BAS is the sole Existing Primary Adviser and serves as investment adviser of the Existing Sub-Advised Affiliated Funds.

5. Applicants seek an order to permit one or more Regulated Funds<sup>5</sup> to be able to participate with one or more other Regulated Funds and/or one or more Affiliated Investors<sup>6</sup> in the same investment opportunities through a proposed co-investment program where such participation would otherwise be prohibited under sections 17(d) and 57(a)(4) of the Act and rule 17d-1 thereunder (the "Co-Investment Program").

6. For purposes of the requested Order, "Co-Investment Transaction" means any transaction in which one or more Regulated Funds (or one or more Wholly-Owned Investment Subsidiaries, as defined below) participates together with one or more other Regulated Funds (or one or more Wholly-Owned Investment Subsidiaries, as defined

below) and/or one or more Affiliated Investors in reliance on the requested Order. "Potential Co-Investment Transaction" means any investment opportunity in which a Regulated Fund (or its Wholly-Owned Investment Subsidiary, as defined below) could not participate together with one or more Affiliated Investors and/or one or more other Regulated Funds without obtaining and relying on the requested Order.<sup>7</sup> Funds that are advised or sub-advised by affiliates of Blackstone other than an Adviser or Primary Adviser will not participate in the Co-Investment Program. No Primary Adviser will be the source of any Potential Co-Investment Transactions under the requested Order. Potential Co-Investment Transactions will not be shared outside of the Co-Investment Program.

7. Applicants state that a Regulated Fund may, from time to time, form a special purpose subsidiary (a "Wholly-Owned Investment Subsidiary").<sup>8</sup> A Wholly-Owned Investment Subsidiary would be prohibited from investing in a Co-Investment Transaction with another Regulated Fund or any Affiliated Investor because it would be a company controlled by its parent Regulated Fund for purposes of sections 17(d) and 57(a)(4) of the Act and rule 17d-1 thereunder. Applicants request that a Wholly-Owned Investment Subsidiary be permitted to participate in Co-Investment Transactions in lieu of the applicable Regulated Fund and that the Wholly-Owned Investment Subsidiary's participation in any such transaction be treated, for purposes of the requested

<sup>2</sup> "Board" means the board of trustees (or equivalent) of the GSO Regulated Funds and any other Regulated Fund (as defined below).

"Non-Interested Trustees" means the Non-Interested Trustees of the GSO Regulated Funds and any other Regulated Fund who are not "interested persons" within the meaning of section 2(a)(19) of the Act.

<sup>3</sup> Section 2(a)(48) defines a BDC to be any closed-end investment company that operates for the purpose of making investments in securities described in sections 55(a)(1) through 55(a)(3) of the Act and makes available significant managerial assistance with respect to the issuers of such securities.

<sup>4</sup> The term "Adviser" means (i) the GSO Advisers and (ii) any future investment adviser that controls, is controlled by or is under common control with a GSO Adviser and is registered as an investment adviser under the Advisers Act that intends to participate in the Co-Investment Program (as defined below). The term Adviser does not include any Primary Adviser. The term "Primary Adviser" means the Existing Primary Adviser or any future investment adviser that (i) controls, is controlled by or is under common control with an Adviser, (ii) is registered as an investment adviser under the Advisers Act, and (iii) is not an Adviser.

<sup>5</sup> "Regulated Fund" means any of the GSO Regulated Funds and any future closed-end management investment company (i) that has elected to be regulated as a BDC or is registered under the Act, (ii) whose investment adviser is an Adviser and (iii) who intends to participate in the Co-Investment Program.

<sup>6</sup> "Affiliated Investor" means (i) the Existing Affiliated Funds, (ii) any Affiliated Proprietary Account and (iii) any Future Affiliated Fund.

"Future Affiliated Fund" means an entity (i)(A) whose investment adviser is an Adviser or (B) whose investment adviser is a Primary Adviser and whose sub-adviser is an Adviser, (ii) that either (A) would be an investment company but for an exemption in section 3(c)(1), 3(c)(5)(C) or 3(c)(7) of the Act or (B) relies on the rule 3a-7 exemption thereunder from investment company status, and (iii) that intends to participate in the Co-Investment Program.

"Affiliated Proprietary Account" means any account of an Adviser or its affiliates or any company that is an indirect, wholly- or majority-owned subsidiary of an Adviser or its affiliates, which, from time to time, may hold various financial assets in a principal capacity. For the avoidance of doubt, neither the Regulated Funds nor the Affiliated Investors shall be deemed to be Affiliated Proprietary Accounts for purposes of the requested Order.

<sup>7</sup> All existing entities that currently intend to rely upon the requested Order have been named as applicants. Any other existing or future entity that subsequently relies on the Order will comply with the terms and conditions of the application.

<sup>8</sup> "Wholly-Owned Investment Subsidiary" means an (i) whose sole business purpose is to hold one or more investments on behalf of a Regulated Fund (and, in the case of an SBIC Subsidiary (as defined below), maintain a license under the SBA Act (as defined below) and issue debentures guaranteed by the SBA (as defined below)); (ii) that is wholly-owned by a Regulated Fund (with such Regulated Fund at all times holding, beneficially and of record, 100% of the voting and economic interests); (iii) with respect to which the Board of the Regulated Fund has the sole authority to make all determinations with respect to the Wholly-Owned Investment Subsidiary's participation under the conditions of the requested Order; and (iv) that is an entity that would be an investment company but for an exemption in section 3(c)(1) or 3(c)(7) of the Act.

The term "SBIC Subsidiary" means a Wholly-Owned Investment Subsidiary that is licensed by the Small Business Administration (the "SBA") to operate under the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended, (the "SBA Act") as a small business investment company (a "SBIC").

Order, as though the parent Regulated Fund were participating directly.

8. When considering Potential Co-Investment Transactions for any Regulated Fund, an Adviser will consider only the Objectives and Strategies,<sup>9</sup> Board-Established Criteria,<sup>10</sup> investment policies, investment positions, capital available for investment, and other pertinent factors applicable to that Regulated Fund. The participation of a Regulated Fund in a Potential Co-Investment Transaction may only be approved by a Required Majority, as defined in section 57(o) of the Act (a "Required Majority"), of the trustees of the Board eligible to vote on that Co-Investment Transaction under section 57(o) of the Act (the "Eligible Trustees").<sup>11</sup> When selecting investments for the Affiliated Investors, an Adviser will select investments separately for each Affiliated Investor, considering, in each case, only the investment objective, investment policies, investment position, capital available for investment, and other pertinent factors applicable to that particular Affiliated Investor.

9. With respect to participation in a Potential Co-Investment Transaction by a Regulated Fund, the application Adviser will present each Potential Co-

<sup>9</sup>The term "Objectives and Strategies" means a Regulated Fund's investment objectives and strategies, as described in the filings made with the Commission by the Regulated Fund under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "1933 Act") and the Act, and the Regulated Fund's reports to shareholders.

<sup>10</sup>The term "Board-Established Criteria" means criteria that the Board of the applicable Regulated Fund may establish from time to time to describe the characteristics of Potential Co-Investment Transactions regarding which an Adviser to the Regulated Fund should be notified under condition 1 of the requested Order. The Board-Established Criteria will be consistent with the Regulated Fund's then-current Objectives and Strategies. If no Board-Established Criteria are in effect, then the Regulated Fund's Adviser will be notified of all Potential Co-Investment Transactions that fall within the Regulated Fund's then current Objectives and Strategies. Board-Established Criteria will be objective and testable, meaning that they will be based on observable information, such as industry/sector of the issuer, minimum earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization of the issuer, asset class of the investment opportunity or required commitment size, and not on characteristics that involve discretionary assessment. The Adviser to the Regulated Fund may from time to time recommend criteria for the applicable Board's consideration, but Board-Established Criteria will only become effective if approved by a majority of the Non-Interested Trustees. The Non-Interested Trustees of a Regulated Fund may at any time rescind, suspend or qualify its approval of any Board-Established Criteria, though Applicants anticipate that, under normal circumstances, the Board would not modify these criteria more often than quarterly.

<sup>11</sup>The defined terms Eligible Trustees and Required Majority apply as if each Regulated Fund were a BDC subject to section 57(o) of the Act.

Investment Transaction and the proposed allocation of each investment opportunity to the Eligible Trustees. The Required Majority of a Regulated Fund will approve each Co-Investment Transaction prior to any investment by the Regulated Fund.

10. Applicants state that the majority of the GSO Advisers' employees work on matters for Close Affiliates<sup>12</sup> and information about potential investment opportunities is routinely disseminated among such Adviser's employees. Other than to satisfy compliance obligations, information regarding Potential Co-Investment Transactions will not be shared with Remote Affiliates,<sup>13</sup> which would include other investment advisers that operate in other Blackstone business groups, except in unusual circumstances, as the Blackstone business groups each generally target different investment strategies or asset classes and there are information barrier policies in place between the Blackstone business groups. Applicants further note within the GSO Advisers, the personnel overlap and coordination among portfolio management teams ensures that all relevant investment opportunities will be brought to the attention of each Regulated Fund (as defined below) managed by the respective Adviser. Applicants submit that the GSO Advisers will receive all information regarding all investment opportunities that fall within the then-current Objectives and Strategies and Board-Established Criteria of each Regulated Fund managed by the respective Adviser.

11. Applicants submit that, in the event that a Potential Co-Investment Transaction would be within the investment objectives and strategies of the Existing Sub-Advised Affiliated Fund, the respective Adviser shall have the primary responsibility for the investment, including making the initial investment recommendation, and day-to-day monitoring of the investment. Applicants further note that the Adviser will be responsible for complying with the conditions of the requested Order.

<sup>12</sup>The term "Close Affiliate" means the Advisers, the Regulated Funds, the Affiliated Investors and any other person described in section 57(b) of the Act (after giving effect to rule 57b-1 thereunder) in respect of any Regulated Fund (treating any registered investment company or series thereof as a BDC for this purpose) except for limited partners included solely by reason of the reference in section 57(b) to section 2(a)(3)(D) of the Act.

<sup>13</sup>The term "Remote Affiliate" means any person described in section 57(e) of the Act in respect of any Regulated Fund (treating any registered investment company or series thereof as a BDC for this purpose) and any limited partner holding 5% or more of the relevant limited partner interests that would be a Close Affiliate but for the exclusion in that definition.

Applicants state that if the Adviser and Primary Adviser agree that the Existing Sub-Advised Affiliated Fund should invest in the Potential Co-Investment Transaction and at what size of investment, then the Adviser would, consistent with the conditions of the requested Order, determine an allocation for the Regulated Funds and Affiliated Investors, including such Existing Sub-Advised Affiliated Fund.

12. Applicants acknowledge that some of the Affiliated Investors may not be funds advised by an Adviser because they are Affiliated Proprietary Accounts. Applicants do not believe the participation of these Affiliated Proprietary Accounts in Co-Investment Transactions should raise issues under the conditions of the requested Order because allocation policies and procedures of the account owners provide that investment opportunities are offered to client accounts before they are offered to Affiliated Proprietary Accounts.

13. Under condition 14, if an Adviser or its principals, or any person controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the Adviser or its principals, and any Affiliated Investor (collectively, the "Holders") own in the aggregate more than 25 percent of the outstanding voting shares of a Regulated Fund ("Shares"), then the Holders will vote such Shares as directed by an independent third party when voting on (1) the election of directors; (2) the removal of one or more directors; or (3) all other matters under either the Act or applicable state law affecting the Board's composition, size or manner of election.

14. No Non-Interested Trustee of a Regulated Fund will have a financial interest in any Co-Investment Transaction, other than indirectly through share ownership in one of the Regulated Funds.

#### Applicants' Legal Analysis

1. Section 57(a)(4) of the Act prohibits certain affiliated persons of a BDC from participating in joint transactions with the BDC or a company controlled by a BDC in contravention of rules as prescribed by the Commission. Under section 57(b)(2) of the Act, any person who is directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by, or under common control with a BDC is subject to section 57(a)(4) of the Act. Section 57(i) of the Act provides that, until the Commission prescribes rules under section 57(a)(4) of the Act, the Commission's rules under section 17(d) of the Act applicable to registered closed-end investment companies will be deemed to apply to transactions subject to

section 57(a)(4) of the Act. Because the Commission has not adopted any rules under section 57(a)(4) of the Act, rule 17d-1 thereunder applies.

2. Section 17(d) of the Act and rule 17d-1 under the Act prohibit affiliated persons of a registered investment company from participating in joint transactions with the company unless the Commission has granted an order permitting such transactions. In passing upon applications under rule 17d-1, the Commission considers whether the company's participation in the joint transaction is consistent with the provisions, policies, and purposes of the Act and the extent to which such participation is on a basis different from or less advantageous than that of other participants.

3. Applicants state that certain transactions effected as part of the Co-Investment Program may be prohibited by sections 17(d) and 57(a)(4) of the Act and rule 17d-1 thereunder without a prior exemptive order of the Commission to the extent that the Affiliated Investors fall within the category of persons described by section 17(d) or section 57(b) of the Act, as modified by rule 57b-1 thereunder with respect to a Regulated Fund. Applicants believe that the proposed terms and conditions will ensure would ensure that the conflicts of interest that section 17(d) and section 57(a)(4) of the Act were designed to prevent would be addressed and the standards for an order under rule 17d-1 under the Act are met.

### Applicants' Conditions

Applicants agree that any Order granting the requested relief shall be subject to the following conditions:

1. (a) Each Adviser will establish, maintain and implement policies and procedures reasonably designed to ensure that each Adviser is promptly notified, for each Regulated Fund the Adviser manages, of all Potential Co-Investment Transactions<sup>14</sup> that (i) an Adviser considers for any other Regulated Fund or Affiliated Investor and (ii) fall within the Regulated Fund's then-current Objectives and Strategies and Board-Established Criteria.

(b) When an Adviser to a Regulated Fund is notified of a Potential Co-Investment Transaction under condition 1(a), such Adviser will make an independent determination of the appropriateness of the investment for the Regulated Fund in light of the

Regulated Fund's then-current circumstances.

2. (a) If the Adviser deems a Regulated Fund's participation in any Potential Co-Investment Transaction to be appropriate for the Regulated Fund, it will then determine an appropriate level of investment for the Regulated Fund.

(b) If the aggregate amount recommended by the applicable Adviser to be invested by the applicable Regulated Fund in the Potential Co-Investment Transaction, together with the amount proposed to be invested by the other participating Regulated Funds and Affiliated Investors, collectively, in the same transaction, exceeds the amount of the investment opportunity, then the investment opportunity will be allocated among them pro rata based on each participant's Available Capital up<sup>15</sup> to the amount proposed to be invested by each. The applicable Adviser will provide the Eligible Trustees of each participating Regulated Fund with information concerning each participating party's Available Capital to assist the Eligible Trustees with their review of the Regulated Fund's investments for compliance with these allocation procedures.

(c) After making the determinations required in conditions 1 and 2(a), the applicable Adviser will distribute written information concerning the Potential Co-Investment Transaction (including the amount proposed to be invested by each participating Regulated Fund and Affiliated Investor) to the Eligible Trustees of each participating Regulated Fund for their consideration. A Regulated Fund will co-invest with one or more other Regulated Funds and/or one or more Affiliated Investors only if, prior to the Regulated Fund's participation in the Potential Co-Investment Transaction, a Required Majority concludes that:

<sup>15</sup> "Available Capital" means (a) for each Regulated Entity, the amount of capital available for investment determined based on the amount of cash on hand, liquidity considerations, existing commitments and reserves, if any, the targeted leverage level, targeted asset mix, risk return and target-return profile, tax implications, regulatory or contractual restrictions or consequences and other investment policies and restrictions set from time to time by the Board of the applicable Regulated Entity or imposed by applicable laws, rules, regulations or interpretations, and (b) for each Affiliated Investor, the amount of capital available for investment determined based on the amount of cash on hand, liquidity considerations, existing commitments and reserves, if any, the targeted leverage level, targeted asset mix, risk return and target-return profile, tax implications, regulatory or contractual restrictions or consequences and other investment policies and restrictions set from time to time by the Affiliated Investors' directors, general partners, or adviser or imposed by applicable laws, rules, regulations or interpretations.

(i) The terms of the Potential Co-Investment Transaction, including the consideration to be paid, are reasonable and fair to the Regulated Fund and its shareholders and do not involve overreaching in respect of the Regulated Fund or its shareholders on the part of any person concerned;

(ii) the Potential Co-Investment Transaction is consistent with:

(A) the interests of the shareholders of the Regulated Fund; and

(B) the Regulated Fund's then-current Objectives and Strategies;

(iii) the investment by any other Regulated Funds or Affiliated Investors would not disadvantage the Regulated Fund, and participation by the Regulated Fund would not be on a basis different from or less advantageous than that of other Regulated Funds or Affiliated Investors; provided that, if any other Regulated Fund or Affiliated Investor, but not the Regulated Fund itself, gains the right to nominate a director for election to a portfolio company's board of directors or the right to have a board observer or any similar right to participate in the governance or management of the portfolio company, such event shall not be interpreted to prohibit the Required Majority from reaching the conclusions required by this condition (2)(c)(iii), if:

(A) The Eligible Trustees will have the right to ratify the selection of such director or board observer, if any;

(B) the applicable Adviser agrees to, and does, provide periodic reports to the Regulated Fund's Board with respect to the actions of such director or the information received by such board observer or obtained through the exercise of any similar right to participate in the governance or management of the portfolio company; and

(C) any fees or other compensation that any Affiliated Investor or any Regulated Fund or any affiliated person of any Affiliated Investor or any Regulated Fund receives in connection with the right of an Affiliated Investor or a Regulated Fund to nominate a director or appoint a board observer or otherwise to participate in the governance or management of the portfolio company will be shared proportionately among the participating Affiliated Investors (who each may, in turn, share its portion with its affiliated persons), and the participating Regulated Funds in accordance with the amount of each party's investment; and

(iv) the proposed investment by the Regulated Fund will not benefit the Advisers, the Affiliated Investors, the other Regulated Funds or any Primary Adviser or any affiliated person of any

<sup>14</sup> No Primary Adviser will be the source of any Potential Co-Investment Transactions under the requested Order.

of them (other than the parties to the Co-Investment Transaction), except

(A) to the extent permitted by condition 13;

(B) to the extent permitted by section 17(e) or 57(k) of the Act, as applicable;

(C) indirectly, as a result of an interest in the securities issued by one of the parties to the Co-Investment Transaction; or

(D) in the case of fees or other compensation described in condition 2(c)(iii)(C).

3. Each Regulated Fund has the right to decline to participate in any Potential Co-Investment Transaction or to invest less than the amount proposed.

4. The applicable Adviser will present to the Board of each Regulated Fund, on a quarterly basis, a record of all investments in Potential Co-Investment Transactions made by any of the other Regulated Funds or Affiliated Investors during the preceding quarter that fell within the Regulated Fund's then-current Objectives and Strategies and Board Established Criteria that were not made available to the Regulated Fund, and an explanation of why the investment opportunities were not offered to the Regulated Fund. All information presented to the Board pursuant to this condition will be kept for the life of the Regulated Fund and at least two years thereafter, and will be subject to examination by the Commission and its staff.

5. Except for Follow-On Investments made in accordance with Condition 8,<sup>16</sup> a Regulated Fund will not invest in reliance on the Order in any issuer in which a Related Party<sup>17</sup> has an investment. The Adviser will maintain books and records that demonstrate compliance with this condition for each Regulated Fund.

6. A Regulated Fund will not participate in any Potential Co-Investment Transaction unless the terms, conditions, price, class of securities to be purchased, settlement date, and registration rights will be the same for each participating Regulated Fund and Affiliated Investor. The grant to an Affiliated Investor or another Regulated Fund, but not the Regulated Fund, of the right to nominate a director for election to a portfolio company's board of directors, the right to have an observer on the board of directors or similar rights to participate in the governance or management of the

portfolio company will not be interpreted so as to violate this condition 6, if conditions 2(c)(iii)(A), (B) and (C) are met.

7. (a) If any Affiliated Investor or any Regulated Fund elects to sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of an interest in a security that was acquired in a Co-Investment Transaction, the applicable Adviser will:<sup>18</sup>

(i) notify each Regulated Fund that participated in the Co-Investment Transaction of the proposed disposition at the earliest practical time; and

(ii) formulate a recommendation as to participation by each Regulated Fund in the disposition.

(b) Each Regulated Fund will have the right to participate in such disposition on a proportionate basis, at the same price and on the same terms and conditions as those applicable to the participating Affiliated Investors and Regulated Funds.

(c) A Regulated Fund may participate in such disposition without obtaining prior approval of the Required Majority if: (i) The proposed participation of each Regulated Fund and each Affiliated Investor in such disposition is proportionate to its outstanding investments in the issuer immediately preceding the disposition; (ii) the Board of the Regulated Fund has approved as being in the best interests of the Regulated Fund the ability to participate in such dispositions on a pro rata basis (as described in greater detail in the application); and (iii) the Board of the Regulated Fund is provided on a quarterly basis with a list of all dispositions made in accordance with this condition. In all other cases, the Adviser will provide its written recommendation as to the Regulated Fund's participation to the Eligible Trustees, and the Regulated Fund will participate in such disposition solely to the extent that a Required Majority determines that it is in the Regulated Fund's best interests.

(d) Each Affiliated Investor and each Regulated Fund will bear its own expenses in connection with any such disposition.

8. (a) If any Affiliated Investor or any Regulated Fund desires to make a Follow-On Investment in a portfolio company whose securities were acquired in a Co-Investment Transaction, the applicable Advisers will:

(i) Notify each Regulated Fund that participated in the Co-Investment

Transaction of the proposed transaction at the earliest practicable time; and

(ii) formulate a recommendation as to the proposed participation, including the amount of the proposed Follow-On Investment, by each Regulated Fund.

(b) A Regulated Fund may participate in such Follow-On Investment without obtaining prior approval of the Required Majority if: (i) the proposed participation of each Regulated Fund and each Affiliated Investor in such investment is proportionate to its outstanding investments in the issuer immediately preceding the Follow-On Investment; and (ii) the Board of the Regulated Fund has approved as being in the best interests of the Regulated Fund the ability to participate in Follow-On Investments on a pro rata basis (as described in greater detail in the application). In all other cases, the Adviser will provide its written recommendation as to the Regulated Fund's participation to the Eligible Trustees, and the Regulated Fund will participate in such Follow-On Investment solely to the extent that a Required Majority determines that it is in the Regulated Fund's best interests.

(c) If, with respect to any Follow-On Investment:

(i) The amount of the opportunity is not based on the Regulated Funds' and the Affiliated Investors' outstanding investments immediately preceding the Follow-On Investment; and

(ii) the aggregate amount recommended by the applicable Adviser to be invested by the applicable Regulated Fund in the Follow-On Investment, together with the amount proposed to be invested by the other participating Regulated Funds and Affiliated Investors, collectively, in the same transaction, exceeds the amount of the investment opportunity; then the amount invested by each such party will be allocated among them pro rata based on each party's Available Capital, up to the amount proposed to be invested by each.

(d) The acquisition of Follow-On Investments as permitted by this condition will be considered a Co-Investment Transaction for all purposes and subject to the other conditions set forth in the application.

9. The Non-Interested Trustees of each Regulated Fund will be provided quarterly for review all information concerning Potential Co-Investment Transactions that fell within the Regulated Fund's then-current Objectives and Strategies and Board-Established Criteria, including investments in Potential Co-Investment Transactions made by other Regulated Funds or Affiliated Investors that the

<sup>16</sup> This exception applies only to Follow-On Investments by a Regulated Fund in issuers in which that Regulated Fund already holds investments.

<sup>17</sup> The term "Related Party" means (i) any Close Affiliate and (ii) in respect of matters as to which any Adviser has knowledge, any Remote Affiliate.

<sup>18</sup> Any Affiliated Proprietary Account that is not advised by an Adviser is itself deemed to be an Adviser for purposes of Conditions 7(a)(i) and 8(a)(i).

Regulated Fund considered but declined to participate in, and concerning Co-Investment Transactions in which the Regulated Fund participated, so that the Non-Interested Trustees may determine whether all Potential Co-Investment Transactions and Co-Investment Transactions during the preceding quarter, including those Potential Co-Investment Transactions which the Regulated Fund considered but declined to participate in, comply with the conditions of the Order. In addition, the Non-Interested Trustees will consider at least annually: (a) The continued appropriateness for the Regulated Fund of participating in new and existing Co-Investment Transactions, and (b) the continued appropriateness of any Board-Established Criteria.

10. Each Regulated Fund will maintain the records required by section 57(f)(3) of the Act as if each of the Regulated Funds were a BDC and each of the investments permitted under these conditions were approved by the Required Majority under section 57(f) of the Act.

11. No Non-Interested Trustee of a Regulated Fund will also be a director, general partner, managing member or principal, or otherwise an "affiliated person" (as defined in the Act) of any of the Affiliated Investors.

12. The expenses, if any, associated with acquiring, holding or disposing of any securities acquired in a Co-Investment Transaction (including, without limitation, the expenses of the distribution of any such securities registered for sale under the 1933 Act) will, to the extent not payable by the Advisers under their respective investment advisory agreements with Affiliated Investors and the Regulated Funds, be shared by the Regulated Funds and the Affiliated Investors in proportion to the relative amounts of the securities held or to be acquired or disposed of, as the case may be.

13. Any transaction fee<sup>19</sup> (including break-up, structuring, monitoring or commitment fees but excluding broker's fees contemplated by section 17(e) or 57(k) of the Act, as applicable), received in connection with a Co-Investment Transaction will be distributed to the participating Regulated Funds and Affiliated Investors on a pro rata basis based on the amounts they invested or committed, as the case may be, in such Co-Investment Transaction. If any transaction fee is to be held by an Adviser pending consummation of the

transaction, the fee will be deposited into an account maintained by the Adviser at a bank or banks having the qualifications prescribed in section 26(a)(1) of the Act, and the account will earn a competitive rate of interest that will also be divided pro rata among the participating Regulated Funds and Affiliated Investors based on the amount they invest in such Co-Investment Transaction. None of the Advisers, the Primary Advisers, the Affiliated Investors, the other Regulated Funds nor any affiliated person of the Regulated Funds or Affiliated Investors will receive additional compensation or remuneration of any kind as a result of or in connection with a Co-Investment Transaction (other than (a) in the case of the Regulated Funds and the Affiliated Investors, the pro rata transaction fees described above and fees or other compensation described in condition 2(c)(iii)(C), and (b) in the case of an Adviser or Primary Adviser, investment advisory fees paid in accordance with their respective agreements between the Advisers and the Regulated Fund or Affiliated Investor).

14. If the Holders own in the aggregate more than 25% of the Shares, then the Holders will vote such Shares as directed by an independent third party when voting on (1) the election of trustees; (2) the removal of one or more trustees; or (3) all other matters under either the Act or applicable state law affecting the Board's composition, size or manner of election.

15. Each Regulated Fund's chief compliance officer, as defined in rule 38a-1(a)(4) under the Act, will prepare an annual report for its Board each year that evaluates (and documents the basis of that evaluation) the Regulated Fund's compliance with the terms and conditions of the application and the procedures established to achieve such compliance.

16. The Affiliated Proprietary Accounts will not be permitted to invest in a Potential Co-Investment Transaction except to the extent the aggregate demand from the Regulated Funds and the other Affiliated Investors is less than the total investment opportunity.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

**Eduardo A. Aleman,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 10459]

### In the Matter of the Designation of al-Ashtar Brigades (AAB), aka Saraya al-Ashtar, as a Foreign Terrorist Organization Pursuant to Section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as Amended

Based upon a review of the Administrative Record assembled in this matter, and in consultation with the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Treasury, I conclude that there is a sufficient factual basis to find that the relevant circumstances described in section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended (hereinafter "INA") (8 U.S.C. 1189), exist with respect to al-Ashtar Brigades (AAB), also known as Saraya al-Ashtar.

Therefore, I hereby designate the aforementioned organization and its aliases as a foreign terrorist organization pursuant to section 219 of the INA.

This determination shall be published in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: June 19, 2018.

**Michael R. Pompeo,**

*Secretary of State.*

[FR Doc. 2018-14837 Filed 7-10-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4710-AD-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 10460]

### In the Matter of the Designation of al-Ashtar Brigades (AAB), aka Saraya al-Ashtar, as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist

Acting under the authority of and in accordance with section 1(b) of Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, as amended by Executive Order 13268 of July 2, 2002, and Executive Order 13284 of January 23, 2003, I hereby determine that the person known as al-Ashtar Brigades (AAB), also known as Saraya al-Ashtar, committed, or poses a significant risk of committing, acts of terrorism that threaten the security of U.S. nationals or the national security, foreign policy, or economy of the United States.

Consistent with the determination in section 10 of Executive Order 13224 that prior notice to persons determined to be subject to the Order who might have a constitutional presence in the United States would render ineffectual the blocking and other measures authorized in the Order because of the ability to transfer funds instantaneously, I determine that no prior notice needs to be provided to any person subject to this

<sup>19</sup> Applicants are not requesting and the staff is not providing any relief for transaction fees received in connection with any Co-Investment Transaction.