

# OP CORPORATE BANK PLC POLICY FOR FOREIGN EXCHANGE TRADING AND THE EX-FCUTION OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE ORDERS

# **INTRODUCTION**

OP Corporate Bank plc ("OP Corporate Bank") is a signatory to the global principles of good practice in foreign exchange trading, FX Global Code ("Code"). The Code is a collaboration between central banks and market participants on the basis of plans by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, and was published in May 2017 with the intention to form a coherent and integral part of the wholesale foreign exchange and currency derivatives markets.

This document specifies the policies of OP Corporate Bank in foreign exchange trading and describes the practices employed by the Corporate Bank in the execution of orders by market participants. OP Corporate Bank is committed to act with transparency, consistency and fairness and comply with the principles of the Code.

The Code serves as a supplement to applicable law, and its practices and policies may be amended in the future due to changes in market practices or laws governing foreign exchange trading.

### CLIENT TRADING AND PRICING

OP Corporate Bank always executes financial instrument and foreign exchange market transactions on its own behalf and offers the client a binding price as either the total price (total exchange rate) or price difference (spread). This price or price difference includes any transaction costs, fees and margins. Factors affecting pricing include the complexity of the transaction, market liquidity, settlement risk and credit risk, capital requirements, costs incurred by OP Corporate Bank over the transaction lifetime, and other factors related to the client or market situation.

# EXECUTION OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE TRADING

OP Corporate Bank operates in the foreign exchange market as a counterparty on its own behalf in order to execute orders by clients and other market participants and to manage its own trading book. The pricing systems of OP Corporate Bank are open between 07:00-23:00 (local time) on weekdays. In pricing client orders, OP Corporate Bank may, at its discretion and depending on the market situation, utilise the bank's own trading book. The execution of client orders may be affected by, among other factors, current market liquidity, the size of the transaction in relation to market availability, and the use of the bank's own trading book in the execution. OP Corporate Bank may also execute its own orders in order to manage its own risks, and such orders executed to manage the bank's own market risk may impact the execution of other orders.

In all its trading, OP Corporate Bank strives to avoid creating a false sense of market price. The market risk arising from trading is transferred between the market participants after the client has requested a firm price from a representative of the



bank and confirmed intent to carry out the transaction at that price, and the representative of OP Corporate Bank has confirmed execution of the transaction at that price. In its own trading, OP Corporate Bank uses direct counterparties, single bank systems, multi-bank systems, and other electronic interfaces (API).

### **ORDERS**

OP Corporate Bank accepts foreign exchange orders from clients at its discretion. An order refers to a transaction in which the client submits a confirmed request to buy or sell a financial Instrument under specific, predefined terms. Orders differ from normal trading, in which the client has the right to accept or reject a binding price, price difference or exchange rate quoted by OP Corporate Bank.

### TYPES OF ORDERS

Upon placing the order, the client must specify all terms required to execute the trade, including capital, price, period of validity and direction.

# Market order (best available price):

The client may request OP Corporate Bank to execute an order on behalf of the client. In executing the order, OP Corporate Bank takes into account factors that affect execution, such as current liquidity, market depth and overall market situation, and executes the order at its discretion and based on its expertise in order to obtain the best available price. In this case, the client waives its right to accept or reject the final price.

### Limit and Stop Orders (Take Profit and Stop Loss)

Limit and Stop Orders (Take Profit, Stop Loss) refer to orders in which the order price (order exchange rate) is set at a level that differs from the current market price. Upon placing a Limit, Stop or Entry Order, the client must be aware of the fact that they relinquish the certainty of immediate execution of the order. The order is executed when the order price is reached, provided that the Corporate Bank has the capacity to execute the order at the requested order price, taking into account the client–specific margin.

# Fixing Orders

Clients may place so-called Fixing Orders that are executed at a specific time requested by the client (such as WM fixing). In these orders, a specified nominal sum is bought or sold at the benchmark/fix rate requested by the client. OP Corporate Bank acts on its own behalf in all Fixing Orders. Fixing Orders are always executed in full.



In the event that several market participants place orders with the same currency pair and market level, OP Corporate Bank shall prioritise their execution according to the order time. This means that orders that are received first are executed first.

OP Corporate Bank may merge similar orders and execute them together in full or partially, if necessary. In executing similar orders, OP Corporate Bank will always strive to select the execution method that offers the best possible outcome to the client.

Orders may be executed either manually or electronically, and the selected method may affect the execution of the order and/or the margin. Factors that affect the execution of orders are described under the section Execution of Foreign Exchange Trading above.

All confirmed and received orders contain a timestamped chain of execution, from receiving the order to executing the trade. If the initial order is altered by the client, the time-based order of priority of the order is also changed. In terms of prioritising orders, the changed order is comparable to a newly placed order.

If the client issues special instructions related to an order or a certain part of it, OP Corporate Bank will primarily follow such instructions. The client's special instructions may prevent OP Corporate Bank from complying with the principles described in this document or from achieving the best possible overall outcome for the client. Special instructions must be submitted by means of a storage medium upon placing the order.

# PRE-HEDGING OF ORDERS

As a rule, OP Corporate Bank will not provide pre-hedging of orders placed by other market participants or by clients. If the execution of an order may result in market disruptions due to market liquidity or an exceptional market situation, OP Corporate Bank will contact the market participant that placed the order to agree on the particulars of executing the order by means of storage media.

### ELECTRONIC TRADING AND THE ORDER APPROVAL PROCESS

All freely exchanged currencies in OP Corporate Bank's range of delivered currencies are available for electronic trading. The prices of all currency products are non-binding until the client requests a binding quotation. While prices are non-binding, OP Corporate Bank may, at its discretion, remove, accept or reject trading requests from clients.

After the client has requested a quotation (RFQ) via electronic channels, OP Corporate Bank will, upon receiving the request, immediately initiate the approval process for the trade, including ascertaining the client and the sufficiency of trading limits, reviewing the parameters of the request for quotation, and initiating measures to prevent the possibility of arbitrage due to potential procedural delays. All conditions required for the approval process must be met before the trade is accepted.

During the trade approval process, OP Corporate Bank uses a price tolerance to ensure that the market price remains accurate after the approval process is



finalised. The trade is accepted if changes in market prices during the trade approval process remain within the limits of the price tolerance. From the client's standpoint, the price tolerance is impartial and enforced in both favourable and unfavourable market fluctuations from the client's standpoint.

The sole purpose of the approval process in trading is to ensure the accuracy of market prices. While the approval process is ongoing, OP Corporate Bank will not make use of any information obtained from the client order.

# CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND CONFIDENTIALITY

By offering a wide range of services to clients, OP Corporate Bank serves in several roles in relation to clients that may lead to conflicts of interest. Conflicts of interest are always identified and avoided in advance whenever possible.

In situations where conflicts of interest cannot be avoided, we comply with OP Financial Group's guidelines related to the management of conflicts of interest and the prevention of corruption. All possible cases of conflict of interest are appropriately processed and documented. Our customers' interests may be in conflict with the interests of our employees, members of management bodies, other customers or OP Financial Group. If a conflict of interest is found to exist, OP Corporate Bank will provide the client with sufficient details of the situation and reasons before taking measures that affect the client.

OP Corporate Bank observes bank secrecy, the confidentiality of client data, and contractual secrecy obligations in all its operations. We process data related to clients in order to better provide services to clients. We collect and process such data carefully for the purpose of developing our products and services.

We process the data of market participants only to the extent necessary to carry out work duties. OP Corporate Bank ensures that data is processed accurately and in accordance with processes and guidelines throughout the lifecycle of the data. In addition to client data, all information related to the business operations, employees and members of governing bodies of OP Corporate Bank is confidential.