

**Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.**

# Pillar III

As at 31/December/2024



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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

These disclosures are prepared in accordance with the capital requirements directive (CRD IV), which is the framework for implementing Basel III in European Union. Basel III sets out certain capital adequacy standards and disclosure requirements to be implemented by regulated firms.

The CRD IV comprises three 'Pillars':

Pillar 1 sets minimum capital requirements to meet credit, market and operation risk;

Pillar 2 requires firms and their supervisors to consider whether additional capital should be held to cover risks not covered by Pillar 1 requirements; and

Pillar 3 seeks to improve market discipline by requiring firms to disclose certain information on their risks, capital and risk management.

The Pillar 3 requirements have been implemented in the UK by way of the Prudential Sourcebook for Investment Firms ("IFPRU") in the FCA Handbook.

This document contains the Pillar 3 disclosures required by IFPRU in respect of Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd. (KISE)

### 1.2 Purpose of Pillar 3

The Purpose of Pillar 3 is to produce disclosures which allow market participants to assess the scope of application by banks of the Basel framework and the rules in their jurisdiction, their capital condition, risk exposures and risk assessment processes, and hence their capital adequacy.

Pillar 3 requires all material risks to be disclosed, enabling a comprehensive view of the company's risk profile.

This document comprises KISE's Pillar 3 disclosures on capital and risk management at 31 December 2024. It has two principal purposes:

To meet the regulatory disclosure requirements under the rules of the United Kingdom ('UK') Financial Conduct Authority ('FCA').

To provide further information useful to readers of these disclosures on the capital and risk profile of KISE.

### 1.3 Frequency of disclosure

The disclosures in this document are required to be updated annually and if appropriate, more frequently.

## 2. Risk management objectives and policies

### 2.1 Risk management objectives

The risk management objective of Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd is to maintain an effective internal control and risk management framework to prudently manage the risks that arise from Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s operations and maintain a sufficient level of regulatory capital in excess of the minimum regulatory capital requirement set by the FCA.

### 2.2 ICAAP

In accordance with the capital requirements directive(CRD IV), Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd is required to produce an ICAAP on an annual basis or more frequently if there is a material change in the nature, trading status or risk profile of Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.

The key output of the ICAAP is a document which:

- Considers the adequacy of Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s internal control and risk management framework; and
- Assesses the risks faced by Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd and, in light of the internal control and risk management framework in place, ascertains the level of regulatory capital that should be held to cover those risks.

Although the Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd is required to have an ICAAP in place, there is no requirement to submit ICAAP document to the FCA.

Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd submitted a questionnaire as part of their electronic annual return. This questionnaire became part of the annual return during 2008 when it was introduced as part of the new-style Integrated Regulatory Reporting (IRR).

Since adoption of the CRD on 1 January 2008, Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd has been monitoring its regulatory capital against ICG (Individual Capital Guidance).

The ICAAP has now been embedded into Firm's risk management framework. In achieving this, Firm's risk registers have been updated to ensure each of Firm's risks is allocated into the FCA risk categories. In addition, estimates are made of the level of regulatory capital, if any, that should be held against each risk and then, after aggregating these amounts, this total is compared to Firm's regulatory capital requirement as set by the FCA and Firm's actual level of regulatory capital. On an annual basis, or more frequently if required, Firm's ICAAP document is updated.

Sections 2.3 and 2.4 of this report set out:

- The key features of Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s internal control and risk management framework that are assessed as part of the ICAAP; and
- The key risks faced by Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd which are considered within the ICAAP to assess the overall level of regulatory capital required to be held by Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd after taking account of the adequacy of Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s internal control and risk management framework.

### 2.3 Internal control and risk management framework

Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s risk appetite is defined by the policies, controls and approval limits determined within the internal control and risk management framework. This ensures that Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd has an effective system of internal control and risk

management to manage Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd prudently within its regulatory capital requirements and to mitigate the potential for material financial loss to the business.

### Monthly management accounts

Monthly management accounts are prepared comparing actual trading results.

Capital adequacy is also reported quarterly. Management accounts are distributed to managing Directors and the management team of Korea Investment & Securities co. Ltd on a monthly basis.

### Corporate Policy Manual

Firm has a Corporate Policy Manual setting out authority levels within firm. The Corporate Policy Manual is distributed to staff and each staff is required to confirm compliance with these policies annually and outline any areas of noncompliance during the year.

## 2.4 Capital adequacy - Pillar 2 assessment

Under Pillar 2 the firm is required to consider whether additional capital should be held against risks not covered in Pillar 1.

In the course of its business, firm is exposed to a wide range of risks. For the purposes of producing the ICAAP, firm's risks are categorised into the FCA's GENPRU 1.2.30 risk classes as follows:

- Credit risk
- Operational risk;
- Market risk.
- Tax risk;
- Liquidity risk;
- Interest rate risk;
- Foreign exchange risk;
- Business risk;
- Regulatory risk;

The definition of these risks and the associated controls and procedures in place to mitigate the risks are as follows:

### 2.4.1 Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd will suffer loss in the event of a default by a client. A default occurs when the client fails to honour repayments as they fall due.

Firm's exposure to credit risk is the risk that arranging commission and unbundling commission from head office cannot be collected and for last 3years the firm has collected all arranging commission and all unbundling commission from head office before it is due. There was not any client who has any difficulty in commission payment. Therefore, credit risk is low. Firm holds all cash with banks assigned high credit ratings. Some of firm's assets are held in foreign currency and, hence, firm is subject to minimal Foreign Exchange Market Risk

### 2.4.2 Operational risk

Operational risk is the risk of loss resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems.

Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd manages operational risk as part of the risk management process. Each staff has the responsibility for putting in place appropriate controls to mitigate operational and other risks. Monitor the controls in place to mitigate those risks and determine the likelihood, value and impact of the risks. Regular reporting of all risks, including operational risk, is

presented to managing director and Korea Investment & Securities Co Ltd weekly basis by means of updated risk registers.

The principal operational risks and the key controls in place to mitigate those risks are as follows:

**IT systems** -Like any other financial services organisation, Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd rely on the effective and efficient use of IT systems. IT is managed with the use of professional third-party contractors and consultants.

Significant changes to IT systems are managed by third party contractors. This ensures that specialist resources are utilised to plan, test and deliver new systems enabling other resources to continue with business-as-usual activities.

Firm places a lot of emphasis on outsourced service providers in order to carry out its business activities. And it would be minimal.

**Health and safety** -The health and safety of employees is a key concern for Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd. As a result, the firm provide relevant health insurance to all employees and invests a considerable amount of time ensuring staff are safety conscious.

**Fraud** - Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd can be the subject of fraud by customers, employees, and agents. Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd identify, investigate, and report on fraudulent activity. Fraud reports are presented to compliance officer or/and managing director.

**Recruiting and retaining highly skilled management and staff** – Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd is dependent on the managing Directors and management team to deliver Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s strategy. Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd maintains effective recruitment, retention and succession planning strategies and monitors remuneration and incentive structures to ensure that they are appropriate and competitive. Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd also ensures that there are training and development opportunities and effective staff communication throughout the business.

In addition to the above mitigating controls, Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd also maintains a range of insurance policies to cover eventualities such as business interruption, loss of IT systems and crime.

Firm is also dependent on the experience and knowledge of brokers for revenue generation. Whilst no one person is essential, a group of people leaving could have a significant impact on revenue and the growth of the business. Therefore, firm continues to look to recruit additional brokers to achieve critical mass, and the more brokers that join firm, the less the impact on the business one key broker leaving will bring. Also extended notice periods and restrictive covenants are in place for broking staff, and key members of staff. Additionally, by using head-hunters, as well as offering attractive salaries, bonus packages and benefit in kinds, firm believes it has the necessary base to be able to continue to attract the desired level of staff required to meet its business objectives.

The impact of errors caused by poor broker execution and/or the misunderstanding of a client order could lead to a loss of revenue. All brokers employed by firm have in depth knowledge and experience of the business and product, and each have a full FCA history.

### 2.4.3 Market risk

Market risk under Pillar I is the risk of loss due to adverse market movements caused by active trading positions taken in interest rates, foreign exchange markets, bonds and equities.

There is no Investments and borrowings which may be affected by interest rate risk and foreign exchange risk. The market risk, associated with interest rate risk on Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s foreign exchange risk within operation, is assessed within Pillar II and is discussed further in sections 2.4.6 and 2.4.7 respectively.

### 2.4.4 Tax risk

Tax risk is the risk of loss arising from changes in tax legislation or practice.

Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s overall tax risks are managed by the accounting firm, Leigh Carr. Advice from Leigh Carr is sought for all material transactions and, where possible, tax treatments are agreed in advance with any relevant authorities.

### 2.4.5 Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd will have insufficient liquid resources available to fulfil its operational plans and/or meet its financial obligations as they fall due.

Liquidity risk is managed daily by Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s accounting department through monitoring of expected cash flows in accordance with funding and liquidity policy. This process is monitored regularly by the accounting department.

Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s funding and liquidity policy is designed to ensure that the company is able to continue to fund the growth of the business.

### 2.4.6 Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that a change in external interest rates leads to a decrease in interest on deposit.

The interest rate on deposit has been increased dramatically in 2022. As most of the firm's deposit is in USD account it is affected by the Fed interest rate in US. The Fed interest rate was unchanged since it reached 5.25% to 5.50%, the highest since January 2001. Current trend on the interest rate is steady and expected unchanged till the end of Q2 2024 and it is within our expectation.

Firm's exposure to movements in interest rates is monitored by the accounting department every month.

### 2.4.7 Foreign exchange risk

Foreign exchange risk is the risk that a change in foreign currency exchange rates leads to a reduction in profits or equity.

Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s exposure to movements in foreign exchange rates is monitored by the accounting department every week.

Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s exposures to foreign exchange risk arise from commission received from head office, which is based on Korean won and we use GBP bank account for the operation of the business. There is risk of fluctuating the currency rate for USD/KRW and USD/GBP. Therefore, payment with the various currency minimises the fluctuation of foreign exchange rate.

Firm believes this risk has a relatively low-cost impact, as exchange rates could also move in its favor. And the residual risk probability of material fluctuations in the major foreign currencies to which the firm is exposed to each month is also low as the risk is monitored regularly by the accounting department and the relevant currency account is selected when receiving and arranging commission payments every month.

### 2.4.8 Business risk

Business risk is the risk of loss arising from the failure of Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s strategy or management actions over the planning horizon.

#### Support from headquarters

Korea Investment & Securities' headquarters (Seoul, S. Korea) fostered proactively overseas sales, and therefore the GIS (Global Investment Service) department formed to assist overseas sales financially and systemically.

The firm aims to grow its existing businesses in a controlled manner to meet the changing needs of clients and to enhance business processes to ensure that the firm remains efficient and competitive. The business risk associated with failure to deliver firm strategy is mitigated by a number of actions:

There is a dedicated Director of Corporate Strategy whose role is to develop corporate strategy, identify strategic opportunities and monitor the strategy and performance of direct, indirect and potential competitors.

There is wide-ranging monitoring of competitor offers, strategic and operational actions.

There is a robust programme management function and process that oversees and controls major change efforts in the business to ensure that they align with strategic priorities.

### **Political risk**

It has been more than 3 years since UK left the EU at the end of the year 2020. However, there is still a lot of uncertainty in Politic, like the war between Ukraine and Russia, the war between Israel and Palestine, US president election. Those situations are being monitored closely. We are looking at the potential implications for our business and its clients based upon the information available.

## **2.4.9 Regulatory risk**

Regulatory risk is the risk of loss arising from a breach of existing regulation or regulatory changes in the markets within which Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd operates.

Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s operations are subject to various forms of regulation in the UK. These regulations are subject to continual modification which could adversely affect Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s operations if they are not effectively anticipated and responded to.

In order to effectively manage the risk associated with changing regulation, Korea Investment & Securities Co. Ltd. has a central in-house compliance team which ensures that Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s operations are compliant with current legislation and effectively manages the implementation of future changes to legislation. Expert third party legal advice is taken where necessary. In addition, managing director and senior level management maintain a constructive level of dialogue with the regulators to ensure that the Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s business is fully understood.

Also, Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd.'s compliance department/operation department works closely with external advisors.

## **2.4.10 Conclusion**

As a result of this, the Executive Group of Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd has concluded that it does not need the further regulatory capital to meet its requirements under Pillar 2.



### 3. Regulatory capital & Ratio

#### 3.1 Capital metrics under the Basel framework

Regulatory capital is calculated and managed according to Basel regulations and used to determine BIS Ratios, BIS Ratios compare eligible CET1 capital, tier1 Capital and total capital with BIS risk weighted assets.

Risk weighted asset(standardised approach)	Risk weighted exposue	Risk weighted asset category	Adjusted RWA	
Property & Equipment	104,634	100%	104,634	
Intangible assets	-	100%	-	
Debtor	61,443	100%	61,443	
Debtor(USD)	225,775	20%	45,155	
Prepayment	3,873	100%	3,873	
Non-USD accounts	145,823	100%	145,823	
USD accounts	2,802,447	20%	560,489	
VAT	8,053	100%	8,053	
<b>Total risk weighted asset</b>			<b>929,470</b>	
<b>Operation risk(average gross income of previous 3 years)</b>	972,656	15%	12.5	1,823,731
<b>Foreign Exchange Risk</b>	151,354	8%	12.5	151,354
<b>Total adjusted RWA (A)</b>				<b>2,904,555</b>
<b>Eligible capital(USD)</b>	Capital held	Capital adequacy ratio	Requirement	Excess
Total CET1	3,175,649	109.33%	4.5%	104.83%
Tier 1	3,175,649	109.33%	6%	103.33%
Total capital	3,175,649	109.33%	8%	101.33%
				US\$
Base capital requirement (£75,000) (A)		1.25135		93,851
Fixed Overhead Requirement (FOR)(B)	837,718	25%		209,429
Credit risk (CR)+Operation Risk(OR)+Foreign Exchange Risk(FEE)	2,904,555	8%		232,364
<b>Pillar 1 capital requirement (highter of A, B and C)</b>				<b>232,364</b>
Total regulatory capital resources				3,175,649
Excess of own funds over Pillar 1 capital requirement				2,943,285
Surplus				1267%

#### BIS eligible capital-Basel III

Under Basel III, the capital adequacy requirement is 8% of risk weighted assets.

As at 31 December 2024, Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd held 109.33% of total adjusted risk weighted assets and it is 101.33% more than the minimum required regulatory capital ratios, 8%.

## 4. Remuneration disclosures

The aim of the remuneration code is to ensure that firms have risk focused remuneration policies which are consistent with and promote sound and effective risk management and do not expose the firm to excessive risk.

The board of the parent company, Korea investment & Securities Co Ltd. is responsible for determining the company's remuneration policy and framework.

- All policies and procedures are kept under regular review and as such will be reviewed at least annually by the board of the parent company.
- The implementation of these policies and procedures of the remuneration policy is fully consistent with and to promote effective risk management and not to expose the company to risks.

In the year to 31 December 2024, Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd classified all employees and directors as "Core Staff".

Core staff received a total remuneration of \$490,197 of which \$490,197 was fixed and the remainder was variable. Korea Investment & Securities Europe Ltd. considers that it operates as one business area. All remuneration was paid in the form of cash. During the period there were no sign-on payment, but no severance payments made to employees.