# **Minutes**

# Global Foreign Exchange Committee Meeting

3-4 July 2025

Location: Singapore, with the option of virtual participation. Virtual attendees are denoted with an

asterisk

Chair: Gerardo García López\* (Bank of Mexico)

Vice Chairs: Simon Manwaring\* (NatWest Markets)

Stuart Simmons (QIC)

Attendees: AUSTRALIA – Australian Foreign Exchange Committee

Private Representative: Luke Marriott (ANZ)\*

Other Attendees: Matthew James Boge (Reserve Bank of Australia)

BANK FOR INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENTS (BIS)

Other Attendees: Paolo Cavallino\* (BIS Markets Committee Secretariat)

BRAZIL - Brazilian Foreign Exchange Committee

Public Representative: Daniel Nunes (Central Bank of Brazil)

<u>CANADA – Canadian Foreign Exchange Committee</u>

Public Representative: Harri Vikstedt (Bank of Canada)

Other Attendees: Zahir Antia (Bank of Canada)

CHINA - China Foreign Exchange Committee

Public Representatives: Wang Haina (People's Bank of China) and Guan Enjie (State

Administration of Foreign Exchange, SAFE)

Private Representative: Lyu Weihua (China Construction Bank)

Other Attendees: Li Jianyang, Sun Jia and Chen Hongxi\* (China Foreign Exchange

Committee Secretariat)

**COLOMBIA** 

Public Representative: Wilmar Cabrera (Central Bank of Colombia)

<u>EURO AREA – Foreign Exchange Contact Group</u>

Public Representative: Torsti Silvonen (European Central Bank (ECB))
Private Representative: Alan Stewart (Goldman Sachs International)

Other Attendees: Roswitha Hutter and Volker Enseleit (European Central Bank (ECB))

GEORGIA - Financial Markets Treasuries Association

Public Representative: Lasha Jugeli\* (Georgian Financial Markets Treasuries Association)

Other Attendees: Alexander Khazaradze\* (National Bank of Georgia)

HONG KONG - Treasury Markets Association

**Public Representative:** Kimberly Chi Man Cheng (Hong Kong Monetary Authority) **Private Representative:** Wilson Siu Chung Wong (Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited)

INDIA - Foreign Exchange Committee

Public Representative: Radha Shyam Ratho (Reserve Bank of India)

Other Attendees: Akash Choudhary and Shreyas Kondibyle (Reserve Bank of India)

INDONESIA – Indonesian Foreign Exchange Market Committee

Public Representative: Agustina Dharmayanti (Bank Indonesia)

Other Attendees: Muhammad Ridha Anshari (Bank Indonesia)

ISRAEL – Israeli Foreign Exchange Committee

Public Representatives: Amir Weller\* and Yinon Meshulam\* (Bank of Israel)

JAPAN – Tokyo Foreign Exchange Market Committee

Public Representative: Yoshihiro Takada (Bank of Japan)

Private Representative: Yoshiyasu Inoue (Morgan Stanley MUFG Securities)

Other Attendees: Hinako Kijima (Bank of Japan)

MEXICO - Mexican Foreign Exchange Committee

Private Representative: Alejandro Faesi Puente (Banorte)

Other Attendees: Mariel Padilla Lujano and Carlos Vélez Martínez (Bank of Mexico)

THE NORDICS - Nordic Countries Foreign Exchange Committee

Public Representative: Anders Gånge\* (Sveriges Riksbank)
Private Representative: Morten Salvesen (DNB Carnegie)

SINGAPORE – Singapore Foreign Exchange Market Committee

Public Representative: Bernard Wee (Monetary Authority of Singapore)

Private Representative: Andrew Ng Wai Hung (DBS Bank)

Other attendees: Xin Yi Ong and Nizam Mohd Idris (Monetary Authority of Singapore)

SOUTH AFRICA – South African Foreign Exchange Committee

Public Representative: Zafar Parker (South African Reserve Bank)

Private Representative: Richard de Roos (Standard Bank)

SOUTH KOREA - Seoul Foreign Exchange Committee

**Public Representative:** Hueechae Jung (Bank of Korea) **Private Representative:** Jiyoung Nah (Woori Bank)

SWITZERLAND - Swiss Foreign Exchange Committee

Public Representative: Roman Baumann (Swiss National Bank (SNB))

Other Attendees: Barbara Döbeli (Swiss National Bank)

UK - London Foreign Exchange Joint Standing Committee

Public Representative: Philippe Lintern (Bank of England)

Private Representative: Lisa Dukes\* (Dukes & King)

Other Attendees: Natalie Lovell and Joe Hanrahan\* (Bank of England)

<u>US – New York Foreign Exchange Committee</u>

Public Representative: Anna Nordstrom (Federal Reserve Bank of New York (FRBNY))

Private Representative: Maria Douvas-Orme\* (Morgan Stanley)

Other Attendees: Lisa Chung and Shawei Wang (Federal Reserve Bank of New York)

Guests

Shirley Barrow (Global Head of Benchmarks and Index, FTSE Russell (LSEG))

Paul Lambert (CEO, New Change FX)

Jean-Philippe Malé (CEO, SGX FX)

Gaurav Kapoor (Market Specialists – Derivatives and Risk, Bloomberg)

Jonathon Frost\* (Head of Innovation and the Digital Economy, BIS)

Nydia Remolina\* (Professor, Singapore Management University)

Ousmène Jacques Mandeng (Visiting Fellow, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE))

James Andronis\* (Head of Markets Portfolio, Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) & C3 Chair International Organization of Securities Commissions, (IOSCO))

Alp Eroglu\* (Deputy Director of Standards Development Department and Head of Innovation & Investor Protection, IOSCO)

John Loizides\* (Managing Director eFX trading, Citibank)

Bart Joris (Head of FX Sell-Side trading Proposition Management, LSEG)

Pallav Kumar\* (Managing Director, Head, Asia Emerging Markets FX Trading, Deutsche Bank)

Chris Howlett (General Manager and COO, ACI Australia Ltd)

James Kemp\* (Managing Director, Global Financial Markets Association (GFMA))

Rui Correia (Chief Executive Officer, ACI Financial Markets Association)

James Adams\* (Senior Director, Education, CFA Institute)

David Sanders (Senior Director, Education, CFA Institute)

James Gwan (Managing Director, Accenture)

Ann Battle\* (Senior Counsel, Market Transitions, International Swaps and Derivatives Association (ISDA))

#### Observers

Otsile Moduka\* (Bank of Botswana)

Keolebogile Samakabadi\* (Bank of Botswana)

Ricardo Consiglio\* (Central Bank of Chile)

Rodolfo Prado\* (Central Bank of Chile)

Ximena Alfarache Morales\* (Manager of International Operations Division, Bank of Mexico)

Sara Castellanos Pascacio\* (Research Specialist, Bank of Mexico)

Santiago García Verdú\* (Research Specialist, Bank of Mexico)

Oladele Ola'Nicholas\* (Central Bank of Nigeria)

Mercy Ewesor\* (Central Bank of Nigeria)

#### Day 1, 3 July 2025

#### Item no Minutes

# **Opening and Competition Guidelines**

The Chair, Gerardo García (Bank of Mexico), welcomed the members of the Global Foreign Exchange Committee (GFXC, or the "Committee") to the hybrid meeting and thanked the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS), DBS Bank and UBS for hosting the meeting. Mr García also welcomed the new representatives/attendees from the public and private sectors.

Afterwards, Shawei Wang (FRBNY) provided an outline of the <u>Competition/Antitrust</u> Law Guidelines for Members of the GFXC.

#### 1. Update on FX Global Code Adherence

The Chair, Gerardo García (Bank of Mexico), recalled that the December 2024 version of the FX Global Code (the "Code") was published, and asked local FX committees (LFXCs) to continue their efforts to remind Market Participants that they should renew their Statements of Commitment to the latest version of the Code. The Chair indicated that translations of the Code into Chinese, French, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish were already available on the GFXC website, and thanked the corresponding jurisdictions for their work.

The Chair then reported that the <u>GFXC Global Index of Public Registers</u> had reached 1,369 entries, with 44 new Statements of Commitment published during the first half of 2025. Details of the distribution of signatories, by type of Market Participants were shared. Outreach efforts to expand Code adherence were discussed, highlighting the adoption of the Code by countries in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia.

Selected statistics on the use of the <u>GFXC website</u> and the <u>Proportionality Self-Assessment Tool</u> (the "Tool") were also presented. The Tool was established in 2021 to assist Market Participants in identifying the 55 Principles of the Code in proportion

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> It should be noted that this statistic may entail some double counting as some institutions' SoC might be on multiple registers.

to their role in the FX market. It was noted there was an increase in users of the Tool since July 2024. The increased use was attributed to broader Market Participants' awareness of the Tool due to ongoing GFXC outreach activities and increased focus on the Code's three-year review. The Chair thanked the Swiss National Bank and the Bank of Japan for their work in updating the English and Japanese versions of the Tool.

# 2. Update on FX Settlement Risk Working Group

Simon Manwaring (GFXC Co-Vice Chair, NatWest Markets) explained that the Working Group shifted its focus to prepare a discussion paper on the implications to FX markets of the changes to T+1 securities settlement in various jurisdictions around the globe, including the upcoming transition in the UK, the European Union and Switzerland. The Committee strongly supported the effort to draft this paper.

The discussion then turned to Natalie Lovell (Bank of England), who presented the FX settlement data collection process. The Bank of England, in conjunction with other central banks and Market Participants, reviewed the global FX settlement data collection process conducted through the BIS Triennial Central Bank Survey of Foreign Exchange and OTC Derivative Markets, and the central bank semi-annual FX settlement survey (GFXC FX settlement survey), with a view to aligning reporting templates and methodologies going forward in order to reduce the burden on reporting dealers.

In addition, Ms Lovell proposed the GFXC Secretariat to collaborate with the BIS and the Committee on Payments and Market Infrastructures (CPMI) Secretariat to coauthor an article for the BIS Quarterly Review. This paper will outline the key findings of the FX settlement survey. This proposal was also approved by GFXC members.

#### 3. LFXCs Markets Update and Outreach Activities

Select LFXCs provided an update on market developments and recent activities in their regions. Anna Nordstrom (FRBNY) discussed the rise in market volatility following the US tariff announcement on April 2, 2025. Changes in asset prices following the announcement were consistent with a relative weakening of US growth prospects versus other economies and a change in the premium to hold USD assets. Some price movements later retracted following a perceived de-escalation of trade policies and a paring back of near-term US recession risks. Still the US dollar continued to depreciate, a trend that was attributable in part to increased hedging activity. Nonetheless, FX market conditions have been reported as orderly.

Regarding their Code outreach activities, Ms Nordstrom shared that in February, 2025, Gerardo García (Bank of Mexico), Harri Vikstedt (Bank of Canada), and herself attended the US TradeTech FX Conference, while in June, Lisa Chung (FRBNY), Torsti Silvonen (ECB) and Simon Manwaring (NatWest Markets) participated in the 70th ACI World Congress in Paris.

Guan Enjie (SAFE) explained that trade policy had taken centre stage in global markets. Despite recent global turbulence, China's exchange rate market remained resilient, with ample liquidity, and stable trading conditions. Recently, he reported, there has been a recovery of the yuan against other currencies, while volatility has receded. Mr Guan highlighted that China was focused on managing its own affairs effectively, and that the government was implementing proactive macro policies, embracing multilateralism and remaining committed to trade and foreign investment.

In turn, Li Jianyang (China FXC Secretariat) emphasised their LFXC's activities, such as a Chinese translation of the FX Global Code and reminding Market Participants to renew their Statement of Commitment, highlighting how they have adapted the Code to their local trading conditions, and developed training programmes for new traders.

On this part, Roman Baumann (SNB) noted that the Swiss franc had gone through one of the most notable periods of appreciation, with US dollar weakness as the primary driver. Mr Baumann highlighted the decoupling of the USD-CHF exchange rate from interest rate differentials, explaining that, despite rising rate differentials, the level of the exchange rate against the US dollar declined markedly. Mr Baumann also noted that hedging costs against Swiss franc appreciation have increased, with the rise in transaction costs largely due to volatility, and while these costs have receded of late, they have not come back to previous levels. It was also highlighted that compared to prior volatility events, the FX basis did not widen. Finally, the Swiss FXC's outreach activities continued to promote the latest version of the Code to corporate treasurers.

Morten Salvesen (DNB Carnegie) reported that the Norwegian krone and Swedish krona showed similar trading dynamics on April 2, 2025, as spreads widened, there were erratic moves in the market and a pickup in hedging activity was observed. These currencies' depreciation was triggered by risk-off sentiment and declining oil prices. Since then, risk-sentiment has improved and oil prices rose, which has helped alleviate the depreciation pressure on some currencies. The Swedish krona and Norwegian krone appreciated notably, largely driven by a weaker US dollar. For the Danish krone, Mr Salvesen mentioned it has stayed close to its peg against the euro during the first half of 2025. While there have been no interventions by the Danish Central Bank since December 2022, there have been some liquidity challenges. Thus, the central bank encourages the use of facilities to support monetary policy transmission. The Icelandic krona had been less affected by global factors and, thus, had been relatively stable. All in all, effective liquidity distribution was key for wellfunctioning money markets. Of note, the Scandinavian FX Committee became the Nordic Countries FX Committee with the inclusion of Iceland and Finland as members. As for the outreach activities, the committee has promoted the adoption of the Code at seminars and through bilateral meetings with buy-side participants.

GFXC members further discussed recent developments in FX markets, underscoring that, despite greater uncertainty, FX markets have proven resilient, with orderly trading conditions. A few participants highlighted the magnitude of the US dollar depreciation trend was exacerbated by increased hedging of their underlying USD asset exposure. Some members highlighted that the traditional correlations between interest rate differentials, risky assets, and currency movements had broken down.

#### 4. Update on Motivation for Adherence Working Group

Lisa Dukes (Dukes & King) informed the Committee that the Adherence Working Group has been divided into three subgroups: The first focuses on the asset management and hedge fund communities; the second, on corporate outreach; and, the third on education and training on the Code. The group is working on increasing media presence and event participation through industry associations to expand the geographical outreach of the Code and corporate-focused activities, and to develop new educational resources intended to deep dive into the principles of the Code.

Furthermore, the Adherence Working Group hosted a roundtable session at the ACT Annual Conference in 2025. Based on feedback received, one of their approaches is

to promote top-down corporate management awareness. They suggested drafting a letter to corporates to invite them to adopt the Code, and that said approach could later be used to reach out to other buy-side participants. The group is also collaborating with professional educational institutions to promote ongoing learning.

#### 5. Update on FX Data Working Group

Stuart Simmons (GFXC Co-Vice Chair, QIC) and Zahir Antia (Bank of Canada) presented the objectives and findings of the FX Data Working Group. Mr Simmons reminded the Committee that the Working Group has been tasked to: (i) investigate the availability and use of reference data for derivatives transaction, with a focus on FX swaps; and (ii) analyse the adoption of the updated <u>Disclosure Cover Sheets</u> for Liquidity Providers and Platforms. The FX Data Working Group focused on the first objective for the first half of 2025 and will focus on the second objective in the second half of 2025.

Mr Antia noted that their preliminary findings suggest that reference rates are widely available for FX swaps. The methodologies used to calculate these references rates are generally considered to be robust, although the liquidity of the underlying market does impact the robustness of the reference rates. He also explained that sell-side and buy-side participants have different use cases of these reference rates, but that they are not widely used as "fixing rates" for executing trades.

#### 6. Panel: FX Derivatives Benchmarks

The panellists Shirley Barrow (FTSE Russell (LSEG)), Paul Lambert (New Change FX), Jean-Philippe Malé (SGX FX) and Gaurav Kapoor (Bloomberg) presented the reference rates for FX forward and swap transactions from their respective institutions. They provided an overview of the methodology used to calculate reference rates, the breadth and coverage (e.g., currencies and tenors) of the reference rates, and the checks used to ensure they are reliable and accurate. They noted that Market Participants use these reference rates for different cases such as portfolio benchmarking, index construction, valuations, and electronic trading. Such reference rates are based on data from various pricing sources that may also include executable rates depending on the service being provided.

GFXC members questioned the reliability of some of the benchmarks in volatile market conditions. During periods of market stress, liquidity tends to decrease more rapidly in FX forwards relative to the spot market, making references rates on FX forwards less reliable. It was explained that some platforms had started introducing a confidence level index associated with each quoted benchmark datum.

Members also noted that the models used to estimate some of these reference rates contain elements of subjectivity. Accordingly, global regulators need to understand how these references rates are used by Market Participants. An overreliance on these reference rates for execution purposes has the potential to create stress.

#### 7. Peering into the Future of FX Markets: Stablecoins

Jon Frost (BIS) moderated this panel. Nydia Remolina (Singapore Management University) highlighted that over 98% of stablecoins are USD-denominated and backed by USD-denominated instruments. The stablecoin market size has grown to exceed USD 250 billion. Previously a largely unregulated market, it is now becoming

more institutionalised in some jurisdictions, though it remains fragmented.

Different approaches to regulation are emerging, and several aspects of the regulatory framework are still under development. Some risks, such as those relating to financial stability, remain largely unaddressed or insufficiently covered in most jurisdictions. Similarly, requirements for market integrity have not yet been developed for stablecoins in most regulatory regimes.

Nevertheless, it has been suggested that stablecoins could, in theory, provide a new, potentially more efficient, faster, and less costly way of settling payments. Ousmène Jacques Mandeng (LSE) pointed out that the innovative feature of stablecoins is their programmability, which enables new functionalities. This could work in a post-trade environment if the stablecoin is considered a safe instrument, mostly for shortening settlement cycles. In contrast, Mr Frost referred to Aldasoro et al. (2024), in which the authors examined the impact of stablecoin investors on Treasury markets, potentially increasing the latter's volatility. It was concluded that financial stability risks and the extent to which regulation can address this risk must be fully considered. It was also argued that tokenised deposits possess the characteristics of singleness of money, elasticity and integrity, which stablecoins do not.

# 8. International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) Update on Consultation Report on Pre-hedging

IOSCO released a <u>consultation report on Pre-hedging</u> in November 2024. It is worth mentioning that, as stated in said document, "The report proposes a definition for pre-hedging and sets out proposed recommendations as guidance to IOSCO members for when and how pre-hedging may be acceptable. This is intended to facilitate international regulatory alignment." The representatives from IOSCO, James Andronis and Alp Eroglu explained that, due to the high level of interest, the consultation period was extended. A range of participants submitted feedback, and extensive stakeholder engagement was undertaken. IOSCO also held roundtables with relevant industry associations and standard-setting bodies.

These engagements helped them to identify key issues and to understand different perspectives. Throughout the consultation process and stakeholder engagement, it became clear that differing views on pre-hedging make it complex, as it was subject to varying interpretations and divergent opinions on certain issues. The various stakeholders engaged in these roundtables supported the principles-based approach put forward by IOSCO. When discussing the various recommendations in the report, they received valuable feedback, which they will assess when determining the final guidance. They thanked the GFXC for their contributions to the discussions.

#### 9. Wrap up

The Chair summarised the key takeaways from the first day of the GFXC meeting, Mr Garcia highlighted that the number of institutions adhering to the Code continues to rise although at a slower pace. He explained that the <u>Proportionality Self-Assessment Tool</u> serves as an excellent educational tool for Market Participants and the GFXC should continue to promote its use. The Chair noted that there was strong support for the initiatives of the FX Settlement Risk Working Group in relation to the discussion paper on T+1 securities settlement implementation in some European economies. During the market conditions discussion, the focus was on US dollar trends and the market resilience shown in the functioning of the FX market in the period of greater uncertainty. Regarding the Motivation for Adherence Working

Group, their ongoing efforts were recognised and members generally supported their efforts to engage with Market Participants. In terms of benchmark rates, the FX Data Working Group, along with the panellists, made clear they are widely available and some caveats of the products were explained. It was also argued that stablecoins were already part of the present landscape, and have the potential to enhance the efficiency and speed of payment and settlement systems though significant concerns about their integrity remain. On pre-hedging, the key takeaway was that preliminary IOSCO recommendations seem to be largely consistent with the Code's principles and the GFXC's <u>Guidance Paper on Pre-hedging</u>.

# Day 2, 4 July 2025

# **Opening Remarks**

The Chair welcomed GFXC participants and summarised the agenda for the second day of the meeting.

# 1. Panel: Assessing FX Liquidity

John Loizides (Citi), Bart Joris (LSEG), Pallav Kumar (Deutsche Bank), and Andrew Wai Hung Ng (DBS Bank) participated in a panel discussion on FX liquidity led by Gerardo García (GFXC Chair). The panel discussed the history of the FX market, electronification, the deepening of liquidity, and the evolution of price formation between trading venues. The panel had a sanguine view on the resilience and liquidity of the FX market. Resilience had been highlighted in April 2025, where, despite increased trade volumes and market volatility, overall liquidity was ample and the FX market functioned well.

The Committee agreed that liquidity fragmentation was an inherent feature of the FX market given the relatively low cost of entry for new venues and regional market structure differences. Liquidity Providers have also invested heavily to connect to multiple trading venues. It was noted that although fragmentation could make price discovery challenging, it also provided a diverse source of liquidity, which could be particularly beneficial during times of market stress. In turn, panellists argued that, under stress conditions, primary venues perform better and that, while liquidity might be available, the price of accessing such liquidity might change. The panel further highlighted that internalisation has become an important source of liquidity that prevents larger market impacts and, more broadly, they underscored the vital role technology had played in accessing FX liquidity.

There was a discussion on FX intervention by some Asian central banks, in particular the effectiveness of intervention with non-deliverable forward (NDF) in offshore markets. The positive impact that central bank swap lines have on the provision of FX market liquidity was also highlighted.

# 2. Panel: Strategies to Create Awareness of the FX Global Code

James Kemp (GFMA), Rui Correia (ACI FMA), and James Adams (CFA Institute), participated in a panel, co-chaired by Alan Stewart (Goldman Sachs) and Chris Howlett (ACI Australia Ltd), which explored strategies for creating greater awareness of the Code. The panel noted that buy-side adoption of the Code, including corporates and hedge funds, remained relatively low. When promoting buy-side adherence to the Code, one suggestion was to also meet individuals who may

become advocates for specific constituents (for example, risk officers or human resources heads). The panel recommended that the GFXC consider targets for buy-side and corporate adoption by jurisdiction, as well as to identify and to target growing markets.

The panel also noted that Code adherence by an entity did not necessarily equate to Code awareness among all of the entity's relevant employees. Furthermore, the 2023 GFXC Survey highlighted that 28% of survey respondents had not implemented any form of Code training, despite the range of educational tools available. The panel stressed the importance of targeted Code outreach and further integration of the Code into professional educational programmes.

# 3. Leadership Tenure & Terms of Reference

The Committee agreed with the proposal from the GFXC Leadership Selection Committee and Co-Vice Chairs to increase the tenure of the GFXC leadership to three years (from two). The Committee also agreed to stagger the terms of the Chair and the Co-Vice Chairs, to maintain continuity of the GFXC leadership. Committee members agreed with the proposed updates to the GFXC Terms of Reference (ToR). The ToR had been updated to reflect the change in GFXC leadership tenure, and the revised ToR were published following the GFXC meeting.

#### 4. Internal Guidance Documents

The Chair explained that the GFXC Secretariat would lead the development of internal documents to outline processes and workflows supporting the GFXC Chair Office transition planned for next summer.

#### 5. Wrap-up

The Chair summarised the key takeaways from the second day of the GFXC meeting. Despite perceptions that FX market has a fragmented market structure, which makes the assessment of available liquidity sometimes difficult, there was a positive overview on how FX markets are evolving. Mr García also highlighted the importance of the GFXC continuing its outreach activities; particularly among buy-side Market Participants, highlighting several examples and offering suggestions to improve education and awareness discussed during the meeting. The Chair and Co-Vice Chairs expressed gratitude to the Working Groups, the LFXCs, and GFXC Secretariat for their continued efforts and support.

The Chair also expressed gratitude to the MAS, DBS Bank, and UBS for hosting the meeting. Finally, Mr Garcia announced that the next GFXC meeting would take place virtually on December 4-5, 2025.