

COMMENT LETTER

May 21, 2012

ICI Submits Comment Letter on the SEC TDF Study (pdf)

Via e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov May 21, 2012 Ms. Elizabeth M. Murphy Secretary U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission 100 F Street, NE Washington, D.C. 20549-1090 Re: Comments on the Results of Investor Testing Regarding Target Date Funds in Connection with the Target Date Retirement Fund Names and Marketing Proposal (File No. S7-12-10) Dear Ms. Murphy: The Investment Company Institute¹ appreciates the opportunity to provide its comments on the results of the investor testing ("Survey"²) sponsored by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission" or "SEC") in connection with its proposal ("Proposal") to require certain disclosures in target date fund ("TDF" or "target date fund") marketing materials.³ We applaud the Commission for its efforts to supplement its rulemaking initiative with investor testing, as well as allowing for public comment on the Survey.⁴ 1 The Investment Company Institute is the national association of U.S. investment companies, including mutual funds, closed-end funds, exchange-traded funds (ETFs), and unit investment trusts (UITs). ICI seeks to encourage adherence to high ethical standards, promote public understanding, and otherwise advance the interests of funds, their shareholders, directors, and advisers. Members of ICI manage total assets of \$13.4 trillion and serve over 90 million shareholders. 2 The Survey is available at www.sec.gov/comments/s7-12-10/s71210-58.pdf. 3 See SEC Release Nos. 33-9126; 34-62300; IC-29301 (June 16, 2010), 75 FR 35920 (June 23, 2010). We are using the term "marketing materials" to refer both to advertisements under Rule 482 and sales literature under Rule 34b-1, whether delivered in print or electronic format. 4 See SEC Release Nos. 33-9309; 34-66720; IC-30026 (April 3, 2012), 77 FR 20749 (April 6, 2012). Ms. Elizabeth M. Murphy May 21, 2012 Page 2 of 9 The Institute strongly supports the spirit and core of the Commission's Proposal that focuses on communicating key pieces of information about target date funds to investors and requires a prominent table, chart, or graph ("glide path illustration") to convey the idea of the changing asset allocation of the target date fund over the entire life of the fund, including at the target date and the point where the fund arrives at its final asset allocation.⁵ The Institute opposes, however, as unnecessary and potentially confusing to investors, a proposed requirement that a target date fund disclose, immediately adjacent to the first use of the fund's name, the fund's asset allocation at the target date ("tagline disclosure"). Our views are based on the Institute's research regarding mutual fund disclosure more generally and our members' work on target date fund disclosures and materials, including development of industry principles designed to enhance understanding of TDFs.⁶ Our review of the Survey did not alter those views.⁷ In particular, the Survey results indicated that: (i) investors who viewed a glide path illustration demonstrated a statistically significantly greater incidence of comprehension of a TDF's changing asset allocation; and (ii) the addition of a tagline to a glide path

illustration did not increase investor comprehension of all key features of a TDF. The discussion that follows explains our views in more detail and provides background on the SEC Proposal and TDFs.

I. Background of the SEC Proposal and Target Date Funds

Target date funds are an important innovation used in defined contribution plans and other individual retirement account savings vehicles. At year-end 2011, target date mutual funds had \$376 billion in assets, including \$270 billion held in defined contribution plans, and another \$73 billion held in IRAs.⁸ In 401(k) plans that offer target date funds, 53 percent of participants had at least some 5 See e.g., Letter from Karrie McMillan, General Counsel, the Investment Company Institute, to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (Aug. 23, 2010) (commenting on the SEC Proposal, available at www.sec.gov/comments/s7-12-10/s71210-34.pdf.)

6 See Principles to Enhance Understanding of Target Date Funds (June 2009) (“Principles”) (developed by the ICI Target Date Fund Disclosure Working Group and available at www.ici.org/pdf/ppr_09_principles.pdf). We have attached a copy of the Principles to this comment letter.

7 The Survey first tested respondents’ baseline comprehension of TDFs and then tested respondents’ comprehension of specific TDFs based on review of TDF documents (See n. 14 for description of the documents tested). We focus our comments only on the part of the Survey that measures the impact of specific disclosure documents on improving respondent comprehension, which is titled “TDF Document Comprehension.”

8 See Investment Company Institute, “The U.S. Retirement Market, Fourth Quarter 2011” (April 2012), available at www.ici.org/info/ret_11_q4_data.xls. Ms. Elizabeth M. Murphy May 21, 2012 Page 3 of 9 portion of their account in these funds.

9 To put these statistics in perspective, about 11 percent of total assets in 401(k) plans in the EBRI/ICI 401(k) database was in target date funds at the end of 2010. Target date funds provide an efficient way for an investor to invest in a mix of asset classes through a single fund that rebalances its portfolio to become less focused on growth and more focused on income over time. Research confirms that asset allocation is one of the most important factors in long-term portfolio performance. Target date funds invest in multiple asset classes, ranging from domestic and international stocks to corporate and government bonds and cash. To achieve the same benefits with a self-managed portfolio, an investor would have to select and monitor a number of individual funds and regularly transfer money between them. Target date funds also are designed to avoid the extreme asset allocations observed in some retirement accounts. Research shows that, left to their own direction, some young workers invest very conservatively by allocating all, or almost all, of their accounts to fixed-income investments, while some participants nearing retirement invest very aggressively, allocating all, or almost all, of their accounts to equity investments.

10 Target date funds follow professionally designed asset allocation models to eliminate such extremes. The Commission’s interest in TDFs and the resulting Proposal were inspired, in large part, by the market events of 2008, during which the account balances of investors (including TDF investors) were significantly impacted. We believed then and we believe now that TDFs’ long-term asset allocation strategy should not be judged by one year of performance.

11 In fact, many argue that TDFs did exactly what they were designed to do during the market-wide downturn, i.e., they followed a 9 In an ongoing collaborative effort, the Employee Benefit Research Institute and the Investment Company Institute collect annual data on millions of 401(k) plan participants as a means to accurately portray how these participants manage their accounts. The EBRI/ICI database includes data on target date funds offered as mutual funds, collective investment trusts, and other investment vehicles. The EBRI/ICI 401(k) database is the largest, most representative repository of information about individual 401(k) plan participant accounts. As of December 31, 2010, the EBRI/ICI 401(k) database included statistical information on about 23.4 million 401(k) participants, in 64,455 employer-sponsored 401(k) plans, holding \$1.414 trillion in assets. See Holden,

VanDerhei, Alonso, and Bass, "401(k) Plan Asset Allocation, Account Balances, and Loan Activity in 2010," ICI Research Perspective 17, no. 10, and EBRI Issue Brief, no. 366 (December 2011), available at www.ici.org/pdf/per17-10.pdf. 10 See "401(k) Plan Asset Allocation, Account Balances, and Loan Activity in 2010," ICI Research Perspective 17, no. 10, and EBRI Issue Brief, no. 366, *supra*. 11 See Statement of the Investment Company Institute for the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging Hearing on "Default Nation: Are 401(k) Target Date Funds Missing the Mark?" (Oct. 28, 2009), available at www.ici.org/trdf/testimony/09_senate_aging_tdrf_tmny. Ms. Elizabeth M. Murphy May 21, 2012 Page 4 of 9 consistent asset allocation strategy, thereby allowing their shareholders to benefit from the subsequent market recovery.¹² Despite the recovery experienced by TDFs generally, the Institute continues to be committed to working with the Commission, the U.S. Department of Labor ("DOL") and others to assure that the interests of TDF investors are protected and that their understanding of these useful investment products is enhanced. In June 2009, the Institute published Principles to Enhance Understanding of Target Date Funds, which reflected the results of the ICI Target Date Fund Disclosure Working Group project that began earlier that year. The ICI Target Date Fund Disclosure Working Group included representatives from a broad range of member firms, representing more than 90 percent of target date mutual fund assets. The Working Group reviewed the then existing disclosures applicable to target date funds, determined that the public's understanding of target date funds could be enhanced by identifying key pieces of information that should be prominently conveyed by target date funds, and developed the Principles that spell out this key information, which includes a glide path illustration accompanied by narrative. When the Commission published the Proposal in June 2010 to require enhanced disclosure in target date fund marketing materials, the Institute strongly supported the spirit and the core of the initiative because of our shared goal to enhance investors' understanding of TDFs. We continue to share the Commission's commitment to understanding the best way to accomplish this goal.

II. The Survey Findings Are Not Inconsistent with the View that Clear and Concise Marketing Materials that Present Information in an Effective Format Help Enhance Understanding of TDFs

A. Importance of Glide Path Illustration to Enhancing Understanding of a Target Date Fund

The Proposal would require target date fund marketing materials to include a prominent table, chart, or graph (hereinafter referred to as the "glide path illustration") clearly depicting the percentage allocations of the target date fund among types of investments (e.g., equity securities, fixed income securities, and cash and cash equivalents) over the entire life of the fund, at identified periods that are not longer than five years, and also at the fund's inception date, the target date, and the final asset

¹² See Morningstar, Target-Date Series Research Paper: 2011 Industry Survey, at 22 (April 2011) ("Despite suffering a sharp loss, investors who held on to their target-date 2010 funds through 2008's crisis and the ensuing rally have generally emerged with gains—albeit modest ones."), available at http://corporate.morningstar.com/us/documents/MethodologyDocuments/MethodologyPapers/Target_Date_Industry_Survey_2011.pdf; also see Morningstar, Target-Date Series Research Paper: 2010 Industry Survey, at 17 (2010) ("While governmental agencies and Senate subcommittees were convening hearings on the target-date industry in 2009, many 2010 funds were making back a good chunk of their investors' money. In 2009, the average target-date 2010 fund returned a healthy 22.4%, with the top performer rising nearly 31%."), available at http://corporate.morningstar.com/us/documents/MethodologyDocuments/MethodologyPapers/TargetDateFundSurvey_2010.pdf. Ms. Elizabeth M. Murphy May 21, 2012 Page 5 of 9 allocation point. We strongly believe that a glide path illustration is the most effective way to communicate the features of a target date fund to investors. Our view is based, in part, on Institute research showing a clear shareholder preference for graphics and charts over

narrative descriptions, and that the preference for graphics and charts to explain the information is especially strong among shareholders who generally do not read, or read very little, of the prospectuses they receive.¹³ The Survey results are not inconsistent with our view. The Survey tested four documents on 1,000 individuals (250 respondents per document), the content of each differing in important respects.¹⁴ According to the Survey, the intended purpose of presenting different disclosure documents was “to gauge whether these disclosures assisted respondents in identifying certain information, such as, among other things, whether they could identify the TDF’s investment asset allocation at the target date and whether they could identify whether the investment asset allocation changed after the target date.”¹⁵ The Survey found that those respondents who viewed a document that included a glide path illustration (the Glide Path Document and the Combined Document) demonstrated a statistically significantly greater incidence of comprehension of the changing asset allocation in a TDF (by 11-19 percentage points) than those who reviewed the Baseline Document, which did not have a glide path illustration.¹⁶ These results are not surprising. Indeed, these results are consistent with the Institute’s research on mutual fund disclosure generally¹⁷ and our Principles.

13 See Understanding Investor Preferences for Mutual Fund Information, Investment Company Institute (2006), available at www.ici.org/pdf/rpt_06_inv_prefs_full.pdf; also see Shareholder Assessment of Risk Disclosure Methods, Investment Company Institute (Spring 1996), available at www.ici.org/pdf/rpt_riskdiscl.pdf. 14 The Survey describes the four documents as follows: “Baseline Document: did not contain [tagline disclosure and glide path illustration]” (emphasis in the original); “Tagline Document: contained the tagline disclosure and no glide path illustration;” “Glide Path Document: contained the glide path illustration and no tagline disclosure;” and “Combined Document: contained both the tagline disclosure and the glide path illustration.” See Survey at 9. 15 See Survey at 10. 16 The Survey found that — • “The percentage of respondents who chose correct responses about the change in stock allocation over time after reviewing the [Combined Document] exceeded by 15 percentage points the percentage of correct responses among [the Baseline Document] reviewers.” (Question 21, Survey at 49) • “When asked about a TDF’s bond allocation over time, comprehension was highest among respondents who reviewed the [Glide Path Document and Combined Document].” (Question 22, Survey at 50) • “A second question related to bond allocation also showed higher comprehension scores from respondents who viewed the [Glide Path Document and the Combined Document].” (Question 23, Survey at 51) 17 See n. 13. Ms. Elizabeth M. Murphy May 21, 2012 Page 6 of 9 B. Importance Of Narrative Accompanying Glide Path The Proposal would require a narrative to precede the glide path illustration explaining, among other things, that the fund’s asset allocation changes over time; the final asset allocation point; an explanation that the asset allocation becomes fixed at that point; and the intended asset allocation at that point. The Survey’s Glide Path Document and the Combined Document included information that would be consistent with the Proposal’s narrative requirement for the glide path illustration. In this respect, the Glide Path Document and the Combined Document included the following statement immediately before the illustration: When you invest in an OliveBranch Target Retirement Fund, OliveBranch adjusts the investment mix for you. Each OliveBranch Target Retirement Fund reaches its most conservative allocation about ten years after its target date, at which time the investment mix is intended to become fixed at 20% stocks, 75% bonds and 5% cash. OliveBranch may modify at any time the intended stock and bond percentages shown below. Because the italicized language was not included in the Baseline Document or the Tagline Document, we believe the Survey findings (discussed above) should be read to suggest that an illustration accompanied by a narrative contributed to increased comprehension. We believe that the narrative should have included both the information proposed by the Commission and information about the target date and the

asset allocation at that date. This is because we believe that information about the target date and the final asset allocation point should be viewed as an integrated whole. Such an approach most effectively distinguishes the target date point from the final asset allocation point (if the two points are different). Unfortunately, the Survey did not test whether adding a simple narrative about the target date asset allocation to the glide path narrative (similar to the final asset allocation narrative) would help increase comprehension about the target date asset allocation. While we recognize that the Survey could not have tested every possible disclosure scenario, we recommend that the Commission continue to consider this combination of disclosure as it moves forward on its rulemaking, particularly given the Institute's and its members work in this area.

C. Tagline Asset Allocation Disclosure Does Not Increase Investor Comprehension The Proposal would require a target date fund that includes a target date in its name to disclose, immediately adjacent to the first use of the fund's name, the percentage allocations of the fund among types of investments at the target date. We strongly oppose the Commission adopting this proposed requirement. We are concerned that investors will place undue emphasis on a fund's target date asset allocation and be less likely to take into consideration other important information about the fund.¹⁸ We continue to believe, consistent with views expressed in our August 2010 comment letter, that the Commission should not require that the narrative precede the illustration. Given the diversity of marketing material formats and sizes, we suggested that the Commission leave it up to the funds to create an effective communication that is not misleading. Ms. Elizabeth M. Murphy May 21, 2012 Page 7 of 9 including how the asset allocation evolves from the time the investor purchases the fund until the target date or the final asset allocation point.¹⁹ As noted above, we believe that a better approach would be to include a narrative with the glide path allowing investors to view the information about the target date (including the asset allocation at the target date) and the final asset allocation point as an integrated whole. In this respect, we believe an investor's comprehension is better when narrative descriptions are presented together with an illustration. Unfortunately, the Survey did not test such a disclosure. The Survey results do indicate, however, that adding a tagline to a document with the glide path illustration did not serve to increase the comprehension of respondents of all TDF key features.²⁰ For example, the percentages of correct responses were the same or different to a statistically insignificant degree for the Glide Path Document and the Combined Document (i.e., the document with both the glide path and tagline) when asked about a TDF's bond allocation over time (74% and 74%, respectively, Question 22, Survey at 50) and another question related to bond allocation over time (70% and 70%, respectively, Question 23, Survey at 51); when asked about the stock allocation over time (59% and 63%, respectively, Question 21, Survey at 49) and whether the asset allocation will stop changing at the target date (49% and 52%, respectively, Question 25, Survey at 53).²¹

D. Importance of an Integrated Document The Survey findings appear to support the effectiveness of using clear and concise materials to convey key information to investors as a means of enhancing the understanding of investment products. In our view, an investor's comprehension is enhanced when key pieces of information are presented in an integrated way. By contrast, information presented in an isolated manner, without context, such as the "tagline" disclosure, can lead to inconsistent understanding. At the same time, we believe that populating each communication that mentions a TDF with all key pieces of information would be

¹⁹ We expressed similar concerns about changing the fund name rule and reiterated the Commission's previously stated belief that a fund's name should not be "the sole source of information about a company's investments and risks." See Statement of Karrie McMillan, General Counsel, Investment Company Institute, at the Target Date Fund Joint Hearing Before the Department of Labor and Securities and Exchange Commission, (June 18, 2009) ("Institute Testimony"), available at

http://www.ici.org/trdf/testimony/091_target_fund_tmny. 20 We note that, with respect to enhancing understanding of the asset allocation at the target date, the Survey stated that “[r]espondents who reviewed the [Tagline Document] demonstrated the highest comprehension of the investment allocation at the target date.” (Question 33, Survey at 61) However, the Survey also noted that “the tagline disclosure may have resulted in some respondents believing that the correct answer was [the target date asset allocation]” when asked about the post-target date stock allocation. (Question 34, Survey at 62) 21 In addition: “Over half of respondents who were shown the glide path (54%-58%) were able to identify the length of time between the target date and the year the asset allocation becomes fixed.” (Question 29, Survey at 57) Ms. Elizabeth M. Murphy May 21, 2012 Page 8 of 9 unnecessary to accomplish the Commission’s goal.22 Therefore, we recommend that any Commission final rule provide that the fund would be considered to be in compliance if, at a minimum, one of the documents delivered in an enrollment kit or other set of materials delivered to retirement plan participants, IRA holders and other investors complies with the Proposal (provided that this document is presented in a way reasonably calculated to draw investor attention). The Survey findings do not appear to be inconsistent with this recommendation. The Survey’s Glide Path document that included a glide path and a corresponding narrative disclosure seemed to have enhanced respondents overall understanding of the TDF.23 As noted above, we believe that comprehension could have been increased further had the glide path narrative disclosure also included an explanation of the asset allocation at the target date. * * * * We strongly applaud the Commission’s efforts to supplement its rulemaking initiatives with investor research, and we would be happy to discuss in detail any of our comments on the Proposal or the Survey with the Commission staff. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 218-3563, David Abbey (Senior Counsel -- Pension Regulation) at (202) 326-5920 or Anna Driggs (Associate Counsel -- Pension Regulation) at (202) 218-3573. Sincerely, /s/ Dorothy M. Donohue Dorothy M. Donohue Deputy General Counsel – Securities Regulation Attachment—Principles to Enhance Understanding of Target Date Funds cc: The Honorable Mary L. Schapiro, Chairman The Honorable Elisse B. Walter, Commissioner 22 In our August 2010 comment letter, we also recommended that the Commission not amend prospectus disclosure requirements for TDFs. We believe focusing on the marketing materials is a better approach to enhancing investors’ understanding of TDFs. 23 In addition to the glide path disclosures, the Survey also concluded that the majority of those who were shown a disclosure that included a statement that the investment in a TDF is not guaranteed (which our Principles also recommend) understood that “you could lose money after the TDF’s target date year” (Question 27, Survey at 55) and that “the TDF would not guarantee that an investor would get back the amount invested in the fund” (Question 30, Survey at 58). This is another example of where a simple disclosure may have contributed to correct answers. Ms. Elizabeth M. Murphy May 21, 2012 Page 9 of 9 The Honorable Luis A. Aguilar, Commissioner The Honorable Troy A. Paredes, Commissioner The Honorable Daniel M. Gallagher, Commissioner Eileen Rominger, Director Susan Nash, Associate Director Division of Investment Management U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Thomas M. Selman, Executive Vice President, Regulatory Policy Thomas A. Pappas, Vice President and Director, Advertising Regulation Joseph E. Price, Senior Vice President, Advertising Regulation/Corporate Financing Joseph P. Savage, Vice President and Counsel, Investment Companies Regulation Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. Principles to Enhance Understanding of Target Date Funds Recommended by the ICI Target Date Fund Disclosure Working Group June 18, 2009 The Principles to Enhance Understanding of Target Date Funds is intended to highlight how target date funds used for retirement savings can convey effective disclosure.1 The Principles were developed by a working group of Investment Company Institute members, comprising a broad range of member firms, whose

target date mutual funds assets represent over 90 percent of target date mutual fund assets. Target date funds provide an efficient way for an investor to invest in a mix of asset classes through a single fund that both rebalances its asset allocation periodically and becomes more conservative over time. The ICI Target Date Fund Disclosure Working Group reviewed existing disclosures applicable to target date funds and determined that five key pieces of information displayed prominently can help enhance understanding of these innovative and valuable retirement savings products. The Principles set forth below reflect the consensus of the Working Group. The Principles can be used by target date funds offered as mutual funds, collective funds, insurance company separate accounts, or customized products. Disclosures incorporating these Principles are not meant to substitute for disclosures otherwise required by securities laws or other applicable law. It is up to each company that offers target date funds to decide whether and how to implement the Principles. Target date fund providers, acting in good faith and exercising their own reasonable business judgment, should consider their own facts and circumstances in developing their particular target date fund disclosure. The “sample language” provided is meant to illustrate the Principles, not to dictate the use of particular language or its placement in offering or marketing materials. As with all disclosures to investors, disclosures provided consistent with these Principles should be written using concise, straightforward, and easy-to-understand language in a manner calculated to be understood by the average plan participant or investor.

1 The Principles focus on target date funds used for retirement savings. Although the target date concept also is used in connection with educational savings, the Principles do not address the use of target date funds for this purpose. The Investment Company Institute (ICI) is the national association of the U.S. mutual fund industry, which manages half of 401(k) assets and advocates policies to make retirement savings more effective and secure.

2 The working group recommends that target date funds prominently disclose:

1. The relevance of the “target date” used in a fund name, including what happens on the target date. Sample language: [2010] in the fund name refers to the approximate year an investor in the fund would plan to retire and likely would stop making new investments in the fund.
2. The fund’s assumptions about the investor’s withdrawal intentions at and after the target date. Sample language: The fund is designed for an investor who plans to withdraw the value of the investor’s account in the fund gradually after retirement. or The fund is designed for an investor who expects to spend all or most of his or her money in the fund at the target date.
3. The age group for whom the fund is designed. Sample language: An investor who anticipates retiring at or about [2010].
4. Illustration of the asset allocation path (or glide path) that the target date fund follows to reduce its equity exposure and become more conservative over time, supplemented by a simple narrative explanation. At a minimum, the illustration should highlight the asset allocation (in appropriate broad asset classes) at both the target date and at the point at which the glide path is expected to reach its most conservative asset allocation. If a fund manager has the flexibility to deviate from the glide path, the disclosure should state this and include the applicable parameters. Sample illustration: The sample illustrates a fund with a glide path that is expected to reach its most conservative asset allocation 15 years after the target date, and that uses equity, fixed income, and short-term as its broad asset classes. Sample Narrative: At the target date of [2010], the asset mix in this fund is anticipated to be approximately 50 percent equities, 40 percent fixed income, and 10 percent short-term. The asset mix will progressively reduce equity exposure and become more conservative until [2025], when it will become fixed at 20 percent equities, 40 percent fixed income, and 40 percent short-term. [A fund manager may adjust the asset allocation over the established glide path within [specified] limits].

0 20 40 60 80 100% 40 35 30 25 20 15 10 5 5 10 15 20 25 30 Years to retirement Years after retirement Short-term Fixed Income Equity Target Date (Assumed Retirement) 50% equities, 40% fixed income, and

10% short-term 20% equities, 40% fixed income, and 40% short-term 33 3 5. A statement, added to the risk disclosure the fund provides, that the risks associated with a target date fund include the risk of loss, including losses near, at, or after the target date, and that there is no guarantee that the fund will provide adequate income at and through the investor's retirement. Sample language: An investment in this fund is not guaranteed, and you may experience losses, including losses near, at, or after the target date. There is no guarantee that the fund will provide adequate income at and through your retirement. Target date fund fact sheets and marketing materials also should state where an investor can obtain more information about the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses for the fund and how to obtain more in- depth information about the fund, including its glide path design. Sample language for mutual funds based on offering legend requirement: You should consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of the fund carefully before investing. For a free copy of the fund's prospectus, which contains this and other information, visit the fund's website at _____, or call your financial adviser or the fund at _____. Read the prospectus carefully before investing. You can obtain additional information about the fund, including its glide path design, on websites of a [fund, adviser, other affiliate or recordkeeper] at _____ or by calling _____. This information also may be available through your plan sponsor. (Investors in non-mutual fund products similarly would be directed to sources for additional information.) The "sample language" is meant to illustrate the Principles, not to dictate the use of particular language or its placement in offering or marketing materials.

2010 Retirement Fund The fund invests in a diversified portfolio of stocks and bonds that is rebalanced to maintain its asset allocation and progressively becomes more conservative over time.

Principle 1. "2010" in the fund name refers to the approximate year an investor in the fund would plan to retire and likely would stop making new investments in the fund.

Principle 2. The fund is designed for an investor who plans to withdraw the value of the investor's account in the fund gradually after retirement.

Who may want to invest: Principle 2 and 3. An investor who anticipates retiring at or about 2010 and withdrawing the value of the investor's account in the fund gradually after retirement.

Principle 4 illustration. Fund information: Inception date Total net assets Expense ratio Fund manager Performance: Performance graphs are not included. The performance quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than the original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. Performance data current to the most recent month end may be obtained by calling ____.

Principle 4 narrative. At the target date of 2010, the asset mix in this fund is anticipated to be 50 percent equities, 40 percent fixed income, and 10 percent short-term. The asset mix will progressively reduce equity exposure and become more conservative until 2025, when it will become fixed at 20 percent equities, 40 percent fixed income, and 40 percent short-term. [A fund manager may adjust the asset allocation over the established glide path within [specified] limits.]

Risks: The fund is subject to several stock and bond market risks, any of which could cause an investor to lose money. However, based on the fund's current allocation between stocks and the less volatile asset class of bonds, the fund's overall level of risk should be higher than those funds that invest the majority of the assets in bonds, but lower than those investing entirely in stocks. As the fund's allocation between underlying funds gradually changes, the fund's overall level of risk also will decline. In addition to the risk inherent in the asset classes of the underlying funds, the fund also is subject to asset allocation risk, which is the chance that the selection of underlying funds and the allocation of fund assets will cause the fund to underperform other funds with a similar investment objective. For further details on all risks, please refer to the fund's prospectus.

Principle 5. An investment in this fund is not guaranteed, and you may experience losses, including

losses near, at, or after the target date. There is no guarantee that the fund will provide adequate income at and through your retirement. You should consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of the fund carefully before investing. For a free copy of the fund's prospectus, which contains this and other information, visit the fund's website at _____, or call your financial adviser or the fund at _____. Read the prospectus carefully before investing. You can obtain additional information about the fund, including its glide path design, on websites of a [fund, adviser, other affiliate or recordkeeper] at _____ or by calling _____. This information also may be available through your plan sponsor.

Mock-Up Fund Fact Sheet Illustrating ICI Principles This mock-up illustrates a fund with a target date of 2010 and a glide path that is expected to reach its most conservative asset allocation 15 years after the target date and uses equity, fixed income, and short-term as its broad asset classes.

Years to retirement	Years after retirement	Short-term	Fixed Income	Equity	Target Date
30	0	20	40	40	2010
25	5	15	35	50	
20	10	10	30	60	
15	15	5	25	70	
10	20	5	20	75	
5	25	5	15	80	
0	30	5	10	85	

(Assumed Retirement) 50% equities, 40% fixed income, and 10% short-term 20% equities, 40% fixed income, and 40% short-term 33

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