ANNOUNCEMENT – WAIVERS FROM COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN RULES OF THE SGX-ST LISTING MANUAL

We, CSOP Asset Management Pte. Ltd. (manager of CSOP SG ETF Series I (the "**Fund**") - CSOP iEdge S-REIT Leaders Index ETF (the "**ETF**")) (the "**Manager**") wish to announce that pursuant to the application submitted on 27 August 2021 by us to the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited (the "**SGX-ST**"), the SGX-ST has on 22 October 2021 granted to the ETF waivers from compliance with the following listing rules under the SGX-ST's listing manual (the "**Listing Rules**"), and the reasons for seeking the waivers are set out below for investors' information:

(1) **Listing Rule 404(1)(a)**, which requires an investment fund denominated in a foreign currency to have a minimum asset size of at least S$20 million (or its equivalent in other currencies).

The Manager understands that the primary reason for having a minimum asset size of at least S$20 million (or its equivalent in other currencies) is to ensure the liquidity and sustainability of the trading of the ETF on the SGX-ST.

The Manager has appointed at least one designated market maker ("**DMM**") for the ETF for so long as the units of the ETF ("**Units**") are listed and traded on the SGX-ST to ensure day-to-day liquidity even if the listing size of the ETF is less than S$20 million (or its equivalent in other currencies).

In view of the above, the Manager has requested for a waiver from the requirements of Listing Rule 404(1)(a) in respect of the ETF, and a waiver thereof was granted by the SGX-ST, subject to the appointment of at least one DMM (approved by the Member Supervision function of the SGX-ST) to make a market in the Units to ensure that there will be a ready market for the trading of the Units.

(2) **Listing Rule 404(3)(a)** which requires an investment fund denominated in Singapore Dollars to limit its investments in companies which are related to the investment fund's substantial shareholders, investment managers or management companies, to a maximum of 10% of gross assets.

The ETF will be open-ended in nature. There is no maximum limit on the number of Units which can be issued to investors and Units may be issued and redeemed on every dealing day of the ETF. As such, it may not be possible to ascertain the identity of any substantial unitholders of the ETF, as the ETF's total issued Units may be subject to change at any point in time.

In view of the above, the Manager has applied to the SGX-ST for a waiver from the requirement of Listing Rule 404(3)(a) for the ETL to limit its investments in companies which are related to the ETF's

substantial unitholders, and a waiver thereof was granted by the SGX-ST, subject to compliance with the relevant requirements under the Code on Collective Investment Schemes (the "**CIS Code**").

(3) **Listing Rule 404(4),** which provides that a newly formed investment fund must not change its investment objectives and policies in the first three years unless approved by a special resolution of the shareholders in a general meeting.

Listing Rule 617, which requires (among others), in the case of a newly formed investment fund, a statement in the prospectus that the investment policy will be adhered to for at least three years following the issue of the prospectus, unless otherwise agreed by the shareholders of the investment fund by a special resolution in general meeting.

The Manager does not currently intend to change the investment objective of the ETF during its first three (3) years. However, there may be instances where the investment policy of the ETF may need to change pursuant to the requirement of any regulatory authorities or as a result of a change in the applicable laws and regulations or due to changes in market environment or changes in relation to the iEdge S-REIT Leaders Index (the "**Index**") (e.g. the Index ceases to be compiled or published or if the licence agreement with respect to the Index is terminated for any reason).

Under the CIS Code, the Manager is required to inform the Monetary Authority of Singapore (the "**MAS**") and existing participants of the scheme of any significant change to be made to the scheme (including a change in the investment objective or focus of the scheme or in the investment approach of the manager) not later than one month before the change is to take effect.

The Manager had therefore requested that in the circumstances where during the first three years following the issue of the first prospectus of the ETF, a change of the investment objective and policy is required pursuant to the requirement of any regulatory authority in Singapore or elsewhere pursuant to the change in the laws and regulations in any jurisdiction or if the change of the investment objective or policy is not material, such change of the investment policy would not require the approval of unitholders by special resolution in general meeting. To require a special resolution by unitholders in general meeting to approve any change of investment policy (including non-material changes), would be administratively cumbersome, inefficient, time consuming and costly to the ETF.

In view of the above, the Manager has requested for a waiver from the requirements of Listing Rules 404(4) and 617 in respect of the ETF, and a waiver thereof was granted by the SGX-ST to the extent that unitholders' approval should be sought unless (i) the change of the investment objective and policy is required pursuant to any requirement of any regulatory authority in Singapore or elsewhere

pursuant to the change in the laws and regulations in any jurisdiction or (ii) the change of the investment objective or policy is not material.

(4) **Listing Rules 705(1), 705(3)(b) and 705(4)**, which provide (amongst others) that an issuer must announce the financial statements for the first half and the full financial year immediately after the figures are available, but in any event not later than 45 or 60 days respectively after the relevant financial period.

As provided in the Prospectus and in accordance with the relevant provisions of the CIS Code, (i) the annual accounts of the ETF and the annual reports of the ETF for the relevant financial year will be made available on the Manager's website within three (3) months of the financial year-end of the Fund and (ii) the semi-annual report and semi-annual unaudited accounts of the ETF will be made available on the Manager's website within two (2) months of the end of the period covered by the relevant report and accounts.

In view of the above, the Manager has requested for a waiver from the requirements of Listing Rules 705(1), 705(3)(b) and 705(4) in respect of the ETF, and a waiver thereof was granted by the SGX-ST, provided that the Manager (in respect of the ETF) must announce via SGXNET the ETF's semi-annual and full year financial statements within two months and three months after the end of the relevant financial period, respectively.

(5) **Listing Rule 748(1)**, which provides that an investment fund must announce via SGXNET its net tangible assets per share or per unit at the end of each week.

As the Manager will post the net asset value (the "**NAV**") per Unit for each dealing day on its website on the business day following each dealing day before market opens (i.e. before 8:30 am Singapore Time), the Manager has requested for a waiver from the requirements of Listing Rule 748(1) in respect of the ETF, and a waiver thereof was granted by the SGX-ST, subject to (i) the Manager providing the NAV per Unit, the sale and redemption price of the Units and the dealing days to which the NAV per Unit and the prices relate as aforementioned; and (ii) an announcement on SGXNET of the NAV per Unit at the end of each week.

(6) **Listing Rule 748(4)**, which provides that an investment fund must seek shareholders' approval for any change of the investment manager.

The trust deed constituting the Fund (the "**Trust Deed**") provides for the retirement and removal of the manager, whereby the manager can be removed following an extraordinary resolution passed by

unitholders. Under the Trust Deed, the manager of the Fund can also be removed by notice in writing given by the trustee of the Fund in any of the events set out therein. In any of such events, the trustee shall appoint another corporation as the new manager of the Fund, in accordance with the provisions of the Trust Deed.

In addition, under the Trust Deed, upon giving not less than 90 days' written notice to the trustee, the Manager shall have power to retire in favour of another manager considered by the trustee to be suitably qualified. Similarly, although the retirement of the manager will not require unitholders' approval, the manager may only retire if a new manager is appointed to replace the Manager.

In view of the above, the Manager has requested for a waiver from the requirement of Listing Rule 748(4) in respect of the ETF, and a waiver thereof was granted by the SGX-ST, subject to the Manager providing an undertaking that (i) where unitholders' approval is not required for any change of the manager in the situations provided for in the Trust Deed or pursuant to the CIS Code, prior notification will nonetheless be given to unitholders via SGXNET and to the MAS; and (ii) unitholder's approval will be sought for the appointment of a new manager of the Fund.