

RBI/2019-20/88 DOR.NBFC (PD) CC. No.102/03.10.001/2019-20

November 04, 2019

All Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) including Core Investment Companies (CICs) Madam/ Sir.

Liquidity Risk Management Framework for Non-Banking Financial Companies and Core Investment Companies

Please refer to paragraph 108 and paragraph 94 of <u>Master Direction - Non-Banking Financial Company - Systemically Important Non-Deposit taking Company and Deposit taking Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2016, and <u>Master Direction - Non-Banking Financial Company - Non-Systemically Important Non-Deposit taking Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2016, both dated September 1, 2016, respectively.</u></u>

Guidelines on Liquidity Risk Management Framework

- 2. In order to strengthen and raise the standard of the Asset Liability Management (ALM) framework applicable to NBFCs, it has been decided to revise the extant guidelines on liquidity risk management for NBFCs. All non-deposit taking NBFCs with asset size of Rs.100 crore and above, systemically important Core Investment Companies and all deposit taking NBFCs irrespective of their asset size, shall adhere to the set of liquidity risk management guidelines given below. However, these guidelines will not apply to Type 1 NBFC-NDs¹, Non-Operating Financial Holding Companies and Standalone Primary Dealers. It will be the responsibility of the Board of each NBFC to ensure that the guidelines are adhered to. The internal controls required to be put in place by NBFCs as per these guidelines shall be subject to supervisory review. Further, as a matter of prudence, all other NBFCs are also encouraged to adopt these guidelines on liquidity risk management on voluntary basis.
- 3. While some of the current regulatory prescriptions applicable to NBFCs on ALM framework have been recast below, a few additional features including disclosure standards have also been introduced. The detailed guidelines are given in **Annex A** and the important changes are as under:

i) Granular Maturity Buckets and Tolerance Limits

The 1-30 day time bucket in the Statement of Structural Liquidity is segregated into granular buckets of 1-7 days, 8-14 days, and 15-30 days. The net cumulative negative mismatches in the maturity buckets of 1-7 days, 8-14 days, and 15-30 days shall not exceed 10%, 10% and 20% of the cumulative cash outflows in the respective time buckets. NBFCs, however, are expected to monitor their cumulative mismatches (running total) across all other time buckets

¹ Type 1 NBFC-ND as defined in RBI press release dated June 17, 2016.



upto 1 year by establishing internal prudential limits with the approval of the Board. The above granularity in the time buckets would also be applicable to the interest rate sensitivity statement required to be submitted by NBFCs.

ii) Liquidity risk monitoring tools

NBFCs shall adopt liquidity risk monitoring tools/metrics in order to capture strains in liquidity position, if any. Such monitoring tools shall cover a) concentration of funding by counterparty/instrument/ currency, b) availability of unencumbered assets that can be used as collateral for raising funds; and, c) certain early warning market-based indicators, such as, book-to-equity ratio, coupon on debts raised, breaches and regulatory penalties for breaches in regulatory liquidity requirements. The Board of NBFCs shall put in place necessary internal monitoring mechanism in this regard.

iii) Adoption of "stock" approach to liquidity

In addition to the measurement of *structural* and *dynamic* liquidity, NBFCs are also mandated to monitor liquidity risk based on a "stock" approach to liquidity. The monitoring shall be by way of predefined internal limits as decided by the Board for various critical ratios pertaining to liquidity risk. Indicative liquidity ratios are short-term liability to total assets; short-term liability to long-term assets; commercial papers to total assets; non-convertible debentures (NCDs) (original maturity less than one year) to total assets; short-term liabilities to total liabilities; long-term assets to total assets; etc.

iv) Extension of liquidity risk management principles

In addition to the liquidity risk management principles underlining extant prescriptions on key elements of ALM framework, it has been decided to extend relevant principles to cover other aspects of monitoring and measurement of liquidity risk, *viz.*, off-balance sheet and contingent liabilities, stress testing, intra-group fund transfers, diversification of funding, collateral position management, and contingency funding plan.

Introduction of Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR)

- 4. In addition, to the guidelines as detailed in Annex A of this circular, the following categories of NBFCs shall adhere to the guidelines on LCR including disclosure standards as provided in **Annex B**:
- (A) All non-deposit taking NBFCs with asset size of Rs.10,000 crore and above, and all deposit taking NBFCs irrespective of their asset size, shall maintain a liquidity buffer in terms of LCR which will promote resilience of NBFCs to potential liquidity disruptions by ensuring that they have sufficient High Quality Liquid Asset (HQLA) to survive any acute liquidity stress scenario lasting for 30 days. The stock of HQLA to be maintained by the NBFCs shall be minimum of 100% of total net cash outflows over the next 30 calendar days. The LCR requirement shall be binding on NBFCs from December 1, 2020 with the minimum HQLAs to be held being 50%



of the LCR, progressively reaching up to the required level of 100% by December 1, 2024, as per the time-line given below:

| From | December 1, |
|---------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| Minimum | 50% | 60% | 70% | 85% | 100% |
| LCR | | | | | |

(B) All non-deposit taking NBFCs with asset size of Rs. 5,000 crore and above but less than Rs. 10,000 crore shall also maintain the required level of LCR starting December 1, 2020, as per the time-line given below:

| From | December 1, |
|---------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| Minimum | 30% | 50% | 60% | 85% | 100% |
| LCR | | | | | |

- (C) Core Investment Companies, Type 1 NBFC-NDs, Non-Operating Financial Holding Companies and Standalone Primary Dealers are exempt from the applicability of LCR norms.
- 5. Master Direction Non-Banking Financial Company Systemically Important Non-Deposit taking Company, Deposit taking Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2016, Non-Banking Financial Company Non-Systemically Important Non-Deposit taking Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2016 and Master Direction Core Investment Companies (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2016 are being modified accordingly.

Yours faithfully

(Manoranjan Mishra) Chief General Manager

Guidelines on Liquidity Risk¹ Management Framework

Non-deposit taking NBFCs with asset size of Rs.100 crore and above, systemically important Core Investment Companies and all deposit taking NBFCs (except Type 1 NBFC-NDs², Non-Operating Financial Holding Companies and Standalone Primary Dealers) shall adhere to the guidelines as mentioned herein below. It will be the <u>responsibility of the Board</u> to ensure that the guidelines are adhered to. The internal controls required to be put in place by NBFCs as per these guidelines shall be subject to supervisory review. Further, as a matter of prudence, all other NBFCs are also encouraged to adopt these guidelines on liquidity risk management on voluntary basis. The guidelines deal with following aspects of Liquidity Risk Management framework.

- A. Liquidity Risk Management Policy, Strategies and Practices
- B. Management Information System (MIS)
- C. Internal Controls
- D. Maturity profiling
- E. Liquidity Risk Measurement Stock Approach
- F. Currency Risk
- G. Managing Interest Rate Risk
- H. Liquidity Risk Monitoring Tools

A. Liquidity Risk Management Policy, Strategies and Practices

In order to ensure a sound and robust liquidity risk management system, the Board of the NBFC shall frame a liquidity risk management framework which ensures that it maintains sufficient liquidity³, including a cushion of unencumbered, high quality liquid assets to withstand a range of stress events, including those involving the loss or impairment of both unsecured and secured funding sources. It shall spell out the entity-level liquidity risk tolerance; funding strategies; prudential limits; system for measuring, assessing and reporting/reviewing liquidity; framework for stress testing; liquidity planning under alternative scenarios/formal contingent funding plan; nature and frequency of management reporting; periodical review of assumptions used in liquidity projection; etc.

¹"Liquidity Risk" means inability of an NBFC to meet such obligations as they become due without adversely affecting the NBFC's financial condition. Effective liquidity risk management helps ensure an NBFC's ability to meet its obligations as and when they fall due and reduces the probability of an adverse situation developing.

² Type 1 NBFC-ND as defined in RBI press release dated June 17, 2016.

³"Liquidity" means NBFC's capacity to fund the increase in assets and meet both expected and unexpected cash and collateral obligations at reasonable cost and without incurring unacceptable losses.

Key elements of the liquidity risk management framework are as under:

i) Governance of Liquidity Risk Management

Successful implementation of any risk management process has to emanate from the top management in the NBFC with the demonstration of its strong commitment to integrate basic operations and strategic decision-making with risk management. The Chief Risk Officer, appointed by the NBFC in terms of our circular DNBR (PD) CC. No.099/03.10.001/2018-19 dated May 16, 2019, shall be involved in the process of identification, measurement and mitigation of liquidity risks. A desirable organisational set up for liquidity risk management should be as under:

a) Board of Directors

The Board shall have the overall responsibility for management of liquidity risk. The Board shall decide the strategy, policies and procedures of the NBFC to manage liquidity risk in accordance with the liquidity risk tolerance/limits decided by it.

b) Risk Management Committee

The Risk Management Committee, which reports to the Board and consisting of Chief Executive Officer (CEO)/ Managing Director and heads of various risk verticals shall be responsible for evaluating the overall risks faced by the NBFC including liquidity risk.

c) Asset-Liability Management Committee (ALCO)

The ALCO consisting of the NBFC's top management shall be responsible for ensuring adherence to the risk tolerance/limits set by the Board as well as implementing the liquidity risk management strategy of the NBFC. The CEO/MD or the Executive Director (ED) should head the Committee. The Chiefs of Investment, Credit, Resource Management or Planning, Funds Management/ Treasury (forex and domestic), Economic Research may be members of the Committee. The role of the ALCO with respect to liquidity risk should include, inter alia, decision on desired maturity profile and mix of incremental assets and liabilities, sale of assets as a source of funding, the structure, responsibilities and controls for managing liquidity risk, and overseeing the liquidity positions of all branches.

d) Asset Liability Management (ALM) Support Group

The ALM Support Group consisting of the operating staff shall be responsible for analysing, monitoring and reporting the liquidity risk profile to the ALCO. Such support groups will be constituted depending on the size and complexity of liquidity risk management in an NBFC.

ii) Liquidity risk Tolerance

An NBFC shall have a sound process for identifying, measuring, monitoring and controlling liquidity risk. It should clearly articulate a liquidity risk tolerance that is appropriate for its business strategy and its role in the financial system. Senior management should develop the strategy to manage liquidity risk in accordance with such risk tolerance and ensure that the NBFC maintains sufficient liquidity.

iii) Liquidity Costs, Benefits and Risks in the Internal Pricing

NBFCs should endeavour to develop a process to quantify liquidity costs and benefits so that the same may be incorporated in the internal product pricing, performance measurement and new product approval process for all material business lines, products and activities.

iv) Off-balance Sheet Exposures and Contingent Liabilities

The process of identifying, measuring, monitoring and controlling liquidity risk should include a robust framework for comprehensively projecting cash flows arising from assets, liabilities and off-balance sheet items over an appropriate set of time horizons. The management of liquidity risks relating to certain off-balance sheet exposures on account of special purpose vehicles, financial derivatives, and, guarantees and commitments may be given particular importance due to the difficulties that many NBFCs have in assessing the related liquidity risks that could materialise in times of stress.

v) Funding Strategy - Diversified Funding

An NBFC shall establish a funding strategy that provides effective diversification in the sources and tenor of funding. It should maintain an ongoing presence in its chosen funding markets and strong relationships with fund providers to promote effective diversification of funding sources. An NBFC should regularly gauge its capacity to raise funds quickly from each source. There should not be over-reliance on a single source of funding. Funding strategy should also take into account the qualitative dimension of the concentrated behaviour of deposit withdrawal (for deposit taking NBFCs) in typical market conditions and over-reliance on other funding sources arising out of unique business model.

vi) Collateral Position Management

An NBFC shall actively manage its collateral positions, differentiating between encumbered and unencumbered assets. It should monitor the legal entity and physical location where collateral is held and how it may be mobilised in a timely manner. Further, an NBFC should have sufficient collateral to meet expected and unexpected borrowing needs and potential increases in margin requirements over different timeframes.

vii) Stress Testing

Stress testing shall form an integral part of the overall governance and liquidity risk management culture in NBFCs. An NBFC should conduct stress tests on a regular basis for a variety of short-term and protracted NBFC-specific and market-wide stress scenarios (individually and in combination). In designing liquidity stress scenarios, the nature of the NBFC's business, activities and vulnerabilities should be taken into consideration so that the scenarios incorporate the major funding and market liquidity risks to which the NBFC is exposed.

viii) Contingency Funding Plan

An NBFC shall formulate a contingency funding plan (CFP) for responding to severe disruptions which might affect the NBFC's ability to fund some or all of its activities in a

timely manner and at a reasonable cost. Contingency plans should contain details of available/ potential contingency funding sources and the amount/ estimated amount which can be drawn from these sources, clear escalation/ prioritisation procedures detailing when and how each of the actions can and should be activated, and the lead time needed to tap additional funds from each of the contingency sources.

ix) Public disclosure

An NBFC shall publicly disclose information (Appendix I) on a quarterly basis on the official website of the company and in the annual financial statement as notes to account that enables market participants to make an informed judgment about the soundness of its liquidity risk management framework and liquidity position.

x) Intra Group transfers

With a view to recognizing the likely increased risk arising due to Intra-Group transactions and exposures (ITEs), the Group Chief Financial officer (CFO) is expected to develop and maintain liquidity management processes and funding programmes that are consistent with the complexity, risk profile, and scope of operations of the companies in the Group⁴. The Group liquidity risk management processes and funding programmes are expected to take into account lending, investment, and other activities, and ensure that adequate liquidity is maintained at the head and each constituent entity within the group. Processes and programmes should fully incorporate real and potential constraints, including legal and regulatory restrictions, on the transfer of funds among these entities and between these entities and the principal.

B. Management Information System (MIS)

An NBFC shall have a reliable MIS designed to provide timely and forward-looking information on the liquidity position of the NBFC and the Group to the Board and ALCO, both under normal and stress situations. It should capture all sources of liquidity risk, including contingent risks and those arising from new activities, and have the ability to furnish more granular and time-sensitive information during stress events.

C. Internal Controls

An NBFC shall have appropriate internal controls, systems and procedures to ensure adherence to liquidity risk management policies and procedure. Management should ensure that an independent party regularly reviews and evaluates the various components of the NBFC's liquidity risk management process.

D. Maturity Profiling

a) For measuring and managing net funding requirements, the use of a maturity ladder and calculation of cumulative surplus or deficit of funds at selected maturity dates is adopted

⁴As defined in the Master Direction - Non-Banking Financial Company - Systemically Important Non-Deposit taking Company and Deposit taking Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2016

as a standard tool. The Maturity Profile should be used for measuring the future cash flows of NBFCs in different time buckets. The time buckets shall be distributed as under:

- (i) 1 day to 7 days
- (ii) 8 day to 14 days
- (iii) 15 days to 30/31 days (One month)
- (iv) Over one month and upto 2 months
- (v) Over two months and upto 3 months
- (vi) Over 3 months and upto 6 months
- (vii)Over 6 months and upto 1 year
- (viii) Over 1 year and upto 3 years
- (ix) Over 3 years and upto 5 years
- (x) Over 5 years
- b) NBFCs would be holding in their investment portfolio, securities which could be broadly classifiable as 'mandatory securities' (under obligation of law) and other 'non-mandatory securities'. In case of NBFCs not holding public deposits, all investments in securities, and in case of NBFCs holding public deposits, the surplus securities (held over and above the requirement), shall fall in the category of 'non-mandatory securities'. Alternatively, the NBFCs may also follow the concept of Trading Book as per the extant prescriptions for NBFCs.
- c) Within each time bucket, there could be mismatches depending on cash inflows and outflows. While the mismatches up to one year would be relevant since these provide early warning signals of impending liquidity problems, the main focus shall be on the short-term mismatches, *viz.*, 1-30/31 days. The net cumulative negative mismatches in the Statement of Structural Liquidity in the maturity buckets 1-7 days, 8-14 days, and 15-30 days shall not exceed 10%, 10% and 20% of the cumulative cash outflows in the respective time buckets. NBFCs, however, are expected to monitor their cumulative mismatches (running total) across all other time buckets upto 1 year by establishing internal prudential limits with the approval of the Board. NBFCs shall also adopt the above cumulative mismatch limits for their structural liquidity statement for consolidated operations.
- d) The Statement of Structural Liquidity may be prepared by placing all cash inflows and outflows in the maturity ladder according to the expected timing of cash flows. A maturing liability shall be a cash outflow while a maturing asset shall be a cash inflow.
- e) In order to enable the NBFCs to monitor their short-term liquidity on a dynamic basis over a time horizon spanning from 1 day to 6 months, NBFCs shall estimate their short-term liquidity profiles on the basis of business projections and other commitments for planning purposes.

E. Liquidity Risk Measurement - Stock Approach

NBFCs shall adopt a "stock" approach to liquidity risk measurement and monitor certain critical ratios in this regard by putting in place internally defined limits as approved by their Board. The ratios and the internal limits shall be based on an NBFC's liquidity risk management capabilities, experience and profile. An indicative list of certain critical ratios to monitor re short-term⁵ liability to total assets; short-term liability to long term assets; commercial papers to total assets; non-convertible debentures (NCDs)(original maturity of less than one year) to total assets; short-term liabilities to total liabilities; long-term assets to total assets; etc.

F. Currency Risk

Exchange rate volatility imparts a new dimension to the risk profile of an NBFC's balance sheets having foreign assets or liabilities. The Board of NBFCs should recognise the liquidity risk arising out of such exposures and develop suitable preparedness for managing the risk.

G. Managing Interest Rate Risk (IRR)

NBFCs shall manage interest rate risk as per the extant regulatory prescriptions.

H. Liquidity Risk Monitoring Tools

The Statement of Structural Liquidity is currently one of the prescribed monitoring tools. In addition to this, the following tools shall be adopted by the Board of the NBFC for internal monitoring of liquidity requirements:

a) Concentration of Funding

This metric is meant to identify those significant sources of funding, withdrawal of which could trigger liquidity problems. The metric thus encourages diversification of funding sources and monitoring of each of the significant counterparty⁶, significant product / instrument⁷ and significant currency.

b) Available Unencumbered Assets

This metric provides significant information on available unencumbered assets, which have the potential to be used as collateral to raise additional secured funding in secondary markets. It shall capture the details of the amount, type and location of available unencumbered assets that could serve as collateral for secured borrowing in secondary markets.

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⁵ Less than one year

⁶ A "Significant counterparty" is defined as a single counterparty or group of connected or affiliated counterparties accounting in aggregate for more than 1% of the NBFC-NDSI's, NBFC-Ds total liabilities and 10% for other non-deposit taking NBFCs

⁷ A "significant instrument/product" is defined as a single instrument/product of group of similar instruments/products which in aggregate amount to more than 1% of the NBFC-NDSI's, NBFC-Ds total liabilities and 10% for other non-deposit taking NBFCs

c) Market-related Monitoring Tools

- i This includes high frequency market data that can serve as early warning indicators in monitoring potential liquidity difficulties at the NBFCs.
- The Board / committee set up for the purpose shall monitor on a monthly basis, the movements in their book-to-equity ratio for listed NBFCs and the coupon at which long-term and short-term debts are raised by them. This also includes information on breach/penalty in respect of regulatory liquidity requirements, if any.

Public disclosure on liquidity risk

(i) Funding Concentration based on significant counterparty (both deposits and borrowings)

| Sr. No. | Number of Significant Counterparties | Amount (Rs. crore) | % of Total deposits | % of Total Liabilities |
|------------|--|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | |

- (ii) Top 20 large deposits (amount in Rs. crore and % of total deposits)
- (iii) Top 10 borrowings (amount in Rs. crore and % of total borrowings)
- (iv) Funding Concentration based on significant instrument/product

| Sr. | Name of the instrument/product | Amount | % of Total |
|-----|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| No. | | (Rs. crore) | Liabilities |
| | | | |

- (v) Stock Ratios:
 - (a) Commercial papers as a % of total public funds, total liabilities and total assets
 - (b) Non-convertible debentures (original maturity of less than one year) as a % of total public funds, total liabilities and total assets
 - (c) Other short-term liabilities, if any as a % of total public funds, total liabilities and total assets
- (vi) Institutional set-up for liquidity risk management

Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR)

1) Applicability

In addition to the guidelines laid down in Annex A of these guidelines, all non-deposit taking systemically important NBFCs with asset size of Rs. 5,000 crore and above (except Core Investment Companies, Type 1 NBFC-ND¹s, Non-Operating Financial Holding Companies and Standalone Primary Dealers) and all deposit taking NBFCs irrespective of the asset size shall adhere to the following guidelines while computing the Liquidity Coverage Ratio.

2) Definitions

- A) In these Directions, unless the context otherwise requires, the terms herein shall bear the meanings assigned to them below
- i. "High Quality Liquid Assets (HQLA)" means liquid assets that can be readily sold or immediately converted into cash at little or no loss of value or used as collateral to obtain funds in a range of stress scenarios.
- ii. Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) is represented by the following ratio:

Stock of High Quality Liquid Assets (HQLAs)

Total Net Cash Outflows over the next 30 calendar days

- iii. "Unencumbered" means free of legal, regulatory, contractual or other restrictions on the ability of the NBFC to liquidate, sell, transfer, or assign the asset.
- B) All other expressions unless defined herein shall have the same meaning as have been assigned to them under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 or any statutory modification or re-enactment thereto or as used in commercial parlance, as the case may be.

3) General Guidelines

- A) An NBFC shall maintain an adequate level of unencumbered HQLA that can be converted into cash to meet its liquidity needs for a 30 calendar-day time horizon under a significantly severe liquidity stress scenario, as specified in these guidelines.
- B) LCR shall be maintained as at C) below on an ongoing basis to help monitor and control liquidity risk.
- C) (i) The LCR requirement shall be binding on all non-deposit taking systemically important NBFCs with asset size of Rs.10,000 crore and above and all deposit taking NBFCs irrespective of the asset size from December 1, 2020, with the minimum LCR to be 50%, progressively increasing, till it reaches the required level of 100%, by December 1, 2024, as per the time-line given below:

¹ Type 1 NBFC-ND as defined in RBI press release dated June 17, 2016.

| From | December 1, 2020 | December 1, 2021 | December 1, 2022 | December 1, 2023 | December 1, 2024 |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Minimum LCR | 50% | 60% | 70% | 85% | 100% |

(ii) Further, Non-deposit taking NBFCs with asset size of Rs. 5,000 crore and above but less than Rs. 10,000 crore shall also maintain the required level of LCR starting December 1, 2020, as per the time-line given below:

| From | December 1, 2020 | December 1, 2021 | December 1, 2022 | December 1, 2023 | December 1, 2024 |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Minimum LCR | 30% | 50% | 60% | 85% | 100% |

D) The LCR shall continue to be minimum 100% (i.e., the stock of HQLA shall at least equal total net cash outflows) on an ongoing basis with effect from December 1, 2024, i.e., at the end of the phase-in period.

Provided that NBFCs shall have the option to use their stock of HQLA, thereby allowing LCR to fall below 100% during a period of financial stress.

Provided further that NBFCs shall immediately report to RBI (Department of Regulation and Department of Supervision) such use of stock of HQLA during a period of financial stress along with reasons for such usage and corrective steps initiated to rectify the situation.

- E) The stress scenario for LCR intends to cover a combined idiosyncratic and market-wide shock that would result in:
- i. run-off of a proportion of deposits (in case of deposit taking NBFCs);
- ii. a partial loss of unsecured wholesale funding capacity;
- iii. a partial loss of secured, short-term financing with certain collateral and counterparties;
- iv. additional contractual outflows that would arise from a downgrade in the NBFC's credit rating, including collateral posting requirements;
- v. increases in market volatilities that impact the quality of collateral or potential future exposure of derivative positions and thus require larger collateral haircuts or additional collateral, or lead to other liquidity needs;
- vi. unscheduled draws on committed but unused credit and liquidity facilities that the NBFC has provided to its clients; and,

vii. the potential need for the NBFC to buy back debt or honour non-contractual obligations in the interest of mitigating reputational risk.

4) High Quality Liquid Assets

- A) Liquid assets comprise of high quality assets that can be readily sold or used as collateral to obtain funds in a range of stress scenarios. They shall be unencumbered. Assets are considered to be *high quality liquid assets* if they can be easily and immediately converted into cash at little or no loss of value. The liquidity of an asset depends on the underlying stress scenario, the volume to be monetized and the timeframe considered. Nevertheless, there are certain assets that are more likely to generate funds without incurring large discounts due to fire-sales even in times of stress.
- B) The fundamental characteristics of HQLAs include low credit and market risk; ease and certainty of valuation; low correlation with risky assets and listing on a developed and recognized exchange market. The market related characteristics of HQLAs include active and sizeable market; presence of committed market makers; low market concentration and flight to quality (tendencies to move into these types of assets in a systemic crisis).
- C) Assets to be included in the computation of HQLAs are those that the NBFC is holding on the first day of the stress period. Such assets shall be valued at an amount no greater than their current market value for the purpose of computing the LCR. Depending upon the nature of assets, they have been assigned different haircuts below, which are to be applied while calculating the HQLA for the purpose of calculation of LCR. The assets and the haircuts are as under:

(I) Assets to be included as HQLA without any haircut:

- i. Cash²
- ii. Government securities
- iii. Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign sovereigns satisfying all the following conditions:
 - (a) Assigned a 0% risk weight by banks under standardized approach for credit risk;
 - (b) Traded in large, deep and active repo or cash markets characterised by a low level of concentration; and proven record as a reliable source of liquidity in the markets (repo or sale) even during stressed market conditions.
 - (c) Not issued by a bank/financial institution/NBFC or any of its affiliated entities.

(II) Assets to be considered for HQLA with a minimum haircut of 15%:

i. Marketable securities representing claims on or claims guaranteed by sovereigns, Public Sector Entities (PSEs) or multilateral development banks that are assigned a 20% risk

² Cash would mean cash on hand and demand deposits with Scheduled Commercial Banks.

- weight by banks under standardised approach for credit risk and provided that they are not issued by a bank/financial institution/NBFC or any of its affiliated entities.
- ii. Corporate bonds, not issued by a bank/financial institution/NBFC or any of its affiliated entities, which have been rated AA- or above by an eligible credit rating agency.
- iii. Commercial Papers not issued by a bank/PD/financial institution or any of its affiliated entities, which have a short-term rating equivalent to the long-term rating of AA- or above by an eligible credit rating agency.

(III) Assets to be considered for HQLA with a minimum haircut of 50%:

- i. Marketable securities representing claims on or claims guaranteed by sovereigns having risk weights higher than 20% but not higher than 50%, i.e., they should have a credit rating not lower than BBB-as prescribed for banks in India.
- ii. Common Equity Shares which satisfy all of the following conditions:
 - (a) not issued by a bank/financial institution/NBFC or any of its affiliated entities;
 - (b) included in NSE CNX Nifty index and/or S&P BSE Sensex index.
- iii. Corporate debt securities (including commercial paper) and the securities having usual fundamental and market related characteristics for HQLAs and meeting the following conditions:
 - (a) not issued by a bank, financial institution, PD, NBFC or any of its affiliated entities;
 - (b) have a long-term credit rating from an eligible credit rating agency between A+ and BBB- or in the absence of a long-term rating, a short-term rating equivalent in quality to the long-term rating;
 - (c) traded in large, deep and active repo or cash markets characterised by a low level of concentration; and
 - (d) have a proven record as a reliable source of liquidity in the markets (repo or sale) even during stressed market conditions, i.e. a maximum decline of price not exceeding 20% or increase in haircut over a 30-day period not exceeding 20 percentage points during a relevant period of significant liquidity stress.
 - D) For the purpose of computing LCR for deposit taking NBFCs, such unencumbered approved securities held as per the provisions of section 45 IB of RBI Act, would be reckoned as HQLA only to the extent of 80% of the required holding.
 - E) All assets in the stock of liquid assets must be managed as part of that pool by the NBFC and shall be subject to the following operational requirements:
 - (i) must be available at all times to be converted into cash;
 - (ii) shall be unencumbered;
 - (iii) shall not be co-mingled/ used as hedges on trading position; designated as collateral or credit enhancement in structured transactions or designated to cover operational costs;
 - (iv) shall be managed with sole intent for use as a source of contingent funds; and,
 - (v) shall be under the control of specific function/s charged with managing liquidity risk of the bank, e.g. ALCO.
 - F) NBFCs should periodically monetize a proportion of assets through repo or outright sale to test the saleability of these assets and to minimize the risk of negative signalling during

period of stress. NBFCs are also expected to maintain liquid assets consistent with distribution of their liquidity needs by currency.

G) If an eligible liquid asset becomes ineligible (e.g. due to downgrade), NBFCs will be allowed to keep the asset in their stock of liquid assets for an additional 30 calendar days in order to have sufficient time to adjust the stock / replace the asset.

5) Total net cash outflows

A) Total net cash outflows is defined as the total expected cash outflows minus total expected cash inflows for the subsequent 30 calendar days. Considering the unique nature of the balance sheet of the NBFCs, stressed cash flows is computed by assigning a predefined stress percentage to the overall cash inflows and cash outflows. Total expected cash outflows (stressed outflows) are calculated by multiplying the outstanding balances of various categories or types of liabilities and off-balance sheet commitments by 115% (15% being the rate at which they are expected to run off further or be drawn down). Total expected cash inflows (stressed inflows) are calculated by multiplying the outstanding balances of various categories of contractual receivables by 75% (25% being the rate at which they are expected to under-flow). However, total cash inflows will be subjected to an aggregate cap of 75% of total expected cash outflows. In other words, total net cash outflows over the next 30 days = Stressed Outflows - Min (stressed inflows; 75% of stressed outflows).

Items of Cash Inflows

- Maturing secured lending transactions backed by HQLA
- b. Margin Lending backed by all other collateral
- c. All other assets
- d. Lines of credit Credit or liquidity facilities or other contingent funding facilities that the NBFC holds at other institutions for its own purpose
- e. Other inflows by counterparty
- f. Net derivatives cash inflows
- g. Other contractual cash inflows (please specify as footnotes)

Items of Cash Outflows

- a. Deposits
- b. Unsecured wholesale Funding
- c. Secured Funding
- d. Additional requirements [(i)+(ii)+(ii)+(iv)+(v)+(vi)+(vii)+(viii)]:
- (i) Net derivative cash outflows
- (ii) Liquidity needs (e.g. collateral calls) related to financing transactions, derivatives and other contracts where 'downgrade triggers' up to and including a 3-notch downgrade
- (iii) Market valuation changes on derivatives transactions (largest absolute net 30-day collateral flows realised during the preceding 24 months) based on look back approach
- (iv) Increased liquidity needs related to the potential for valuation changes in collateral securing derivatives
- (v) Increased liquidity needs related to excess non-segregated collateral held that could contractually be called at any time by the counterparty

| (vi) Increased liquidity needs related to |
|---|
| contractually required collateral on |
| transactions for which the counterparty has |
| not yet demanded the collateral be posted |
| (vii) Increased liquidity needs related to |
| derivative transactions that allow collateral |
| substitution to non-HQLA assets |
| (viii) Currently undrawn committed credit |
| and liquidity facilities |
| (e) Other contingent funding liabilities |
| (f) Any other contractual outflows not |
| captured elsewhere in the template |

Computation of Net cash outflows

| S No. | Net Cash outflows over the 30 days period | Amount |
|-------|--|--------|
| Α | Total Cash Outflows | |
| В | Stressed Cash Outflows (A*115%) | |
| С | Total Cash Inflows | |
| D | Stressed Cash Inflows (C*75%) | |
| E | Total net cash outflows over the next 30 days = Stressed Outflows (B) - Minimum of (Stressed Inflows (D); 75% of Stressed Outflows(B)). | |

B) NBFCs will not be permitted to double count items, i.e., if an asset is included as part of the "stock of HQLA" (i.e., the numerator), the associated cash inflows cannot also be counted as cash inflows (i.e., part of the denominator). Where there is potential that an item could be counted in multiple outflow categories (e.g., committed liquidity facilities granted to cover debt maturing within the 30 calendar day period), an NBFC only has to assume up to the maximum contractual outflow for that product.

6) LCR Disclosure Standards

- A) NBFCs are required to disclose information on their LCR every quarter. Further, NBFCs in their annual financial statements under Notes to Accounts, starting with the financial year ending March 31, 2021, shall disclose information on LCR for all the four quarters of the relevant financial year. The disclosure format is given in the Appendix I.
- B) Data must be presented as simple averages of monthly observations over the previous quarter (i.e., the average is calculated over a period of 90 days). However, with effect from

the financial year ending March 31, 2022, the simple average shall be calculated on daily observations.

C) In addition to the disclosures required by the format given in Appendix I, NBFCs should provide sufficient qualitative discussion (in their annual financial statements under Notes to Accounts) around the LCR to facilitate understanding of the results and data provided. For example, where significant to the LCR, NBFCs could discuss: (a) the main drivers of their LCR results and the evolution of the contribution of inputs to the LCR's calculation over time; (b) intra-period changes as well as changes over time; (c) the composition of HQLAs; (d) concentration of funding sources; (e) derivative exposures and potential collateral calls; (f) currency mismatch in the LCR; (g) other inflows and outflows in the LCR calculation that are not captured in the LCR common template but which the institution considers to be relevant for its liquidity profile.

| Appe | Appendix I | | | | | |
|-------|--|-------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| LCR | LCR Disclosure Template | | | | | |
| | | Total Unweighted ³ | Total Weighted⁴ | | | |
| | Crore) | Value (average) | Value (average) | | | |
| | Quality Liquid Assets | | | | | |
| 1 | **Total High Quality Liquid Assets | | | | | |
| | (HQLA) | | | | | |
| Cash | Outflows | | | | | |
| 2 | Deposits (for deposit taking companies) | | | | | |
| 3 | Unsecured wholesale funding | | | | | |
| 4 | Secured wholesale funding | | | | | |
| 5 | Additional requirements, of which | | | | | |
| (i) | Outflows related to derivative exposures | | | | | |
| | and other collateral requirements | | | | | |
| (ii) | Outflows related to loss of funding on | | | | | |
| | debt products | | | | | |
| (iii) | Credit and liquidity facilities | | | | | |
| 6 | Other contractual funding obligations | | | | | |
| 7 | Other contingent funding obligations | | | | | |
| 8 | TOTAL CASH OUTFLOWS | | | | | |
| Cash | Inflows | | | | | |
| 9 | Secured lending | | | | | |
| 10 | Inflows from fully performing exposures | | | | | |
| 11 | Other cash inflows | | | | | |
| 12 | TOTAL CASH INFLOWS | | | | | |

³Unweighted values must be calculated as outstanding balances maturing or callable within 30 days (for inflows and outflows).

⁴Weighted values must be calculated after the application of respective haircuts (for HQLA) and stress factors on inflow and outflow.

| | | Total Value | Adjusted |
|----|------------------------------|----------------|----------|
| 13 | TOTAL HQLA | | |
| 14 | TOTAL NET CASH OUTFLOWS | | |
| 15 | LIQUIDITY COVERAGE RATIO (%) | | |

^{**}Components of HQLA need to be disclosed
