

Registered No: 95996

Report and Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 December 2015

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# **Management and Administration**



#### **Directors**

Graham J Tuckwell – Chairman Christopher J M Foulds Graeme D Ross Joseph L Roxburgh

# **Registered Office**

Ordnance House 31 Pier Road St Helier Jersey, JE4 8PW

#### Manager

ETFS Management Company (Jersey) Limited Ordnance House 31 Pier Road St Helier Jersey, JE4 8PW

#### Custodian

HSBC Bank plc 8 Canada Square London, E14 5HQ United Kingdom

#### **Auditor**

KPMG Channel Islands Limited 37 Esplanade St Helier Jersey, JE4 8WQ

# **Administrator and Company Secretary**

R&H Fund Services (Jersey) Limited Ordnance House PO Box 83 31 Pier Road St Helier Jersey, JE4 8PW

# Registrar

Computershare Investor Services (Jersey) Limited Queensway House Hilgrove Street St Helier Jersey, JE1 1ES

#### **Trustee**

The Law Debenture Trust Corporation plc Fifth Floor 100 Wood Street London, EC2V 7EX United Kingdom

#### **Swiss Gold Custodian**

JP Morgan Chase Bank, NA London Branch 125 London Wall London, EC2Y 5AJ United Kingdom

#### Jersey Legal Advisers

Mourant Ozannes 22 Grenville Street St Helier Jersey, JE4 8PX

# **Directors' Report**



The directors of ETFS Metal Securities Limited ("MSL" or the "Company") submit herewith the annual report and financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2015.

#### **Directors**

The names and particulars of the directors of the Company during and since the end of the financial year are:

Graham J Tuckwell - Chairman

Christopher J M Foulds (Appointed 20 October 2015)

Graeme D Ross Joseph L Roxburgh

Mark K Weeks (Resigned 20 October 2015)

#### **Directors' Interests**

The following table sets out the directors' interests in Ordinary shares as at the date of this report:

# Director Ordinary Shares of Nil Par Value

Graham J Tuckwell

(as ultimate controlling party of ETF Securities Limited

("ETFSL"), the ultimate parent company)

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# **Principal Activities**

The Company's principal activity is the issue and listing of metal securities ("Metal Securities"). Metal Securities allow investors to gain exposure to the precious metals market without needing to take physical delivery of platinum, palladium, silver and gold bullion ("Metal Bullion"). It also allows investors to buy and sell that interest through the trading of a security on the London Stock Exchange and any other exchange to which that security may be admitted to trading from time to time.

A Metal Security is an undated secured limited recourse debt obligation of the Company, constituted by a trust instrument. Under the terms of this trust instrument the Trustee ensures that the Metal Securities are secured on an amount of Metal Bullion equivalent to the Metal Entitlement of each Metal Security. This Metal Bullion is held in custody by designated custodians or their sub-custodians and the subject of fixed charges in favour of the Trustee. Metal Bullion, once deposited, may only be removed after approval from the Trustee. A holder of a Metal Security is entitled to require the redemption of that Metal Security and receive an amount of Metal Bullion equal to the metal entitlement on the date of redemption (and subject to applicable redemption fees):

- in the case of an authorised participant at any time; or
- in the case of any other holder only in circumstances where there are no authorised participants (or otherwise as determined by the Company), and where the holder has an unallocated bullion account and the holder is not an Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities ("UCITS").

The Company earns a management fee by reducing the metal entitlement of each class of Metal Security on a daily basis by an agreed amount (the "Management Fee"). The Management Fee is received in the form of bullion on a monthly basis (in arrears) following agreement from the Trustee.

The Company has entered into a service agreement with ETFS Management Company (Jersey) Limited ("ManJer" or the "Manager"), whereby ManJer is responsible for supplying or procuring the supply of all management and administration services required by the Company, (including marketing) as well as the payment of costs relating to the listing and issuance of Metal Securities. In return for these services, the Company pays ManJer an amount equal to the Management Fee and the creation and redemption fees earned. As a result, all bullion in respect of the Management Fee and monetary amounts in respect of the creation and redemption fees are transferred directly to ManJer and there are no cash or bullion flows through the Company.

# **Directors' Report (Continued)**



#### **Review of Operations**

The most recent rollover prospectus was issued on 6 August 2015. During the year, the Company had the following classes of Metal Securities in issue and admitted to trading on the following exchanges:

	London			NYSE-	Tokyo
	Stock	Borsa	Deutsche	<b>Euronext</b>	Stock
	Exchange	Italiana	Börse	Paris	Exchange
ETFS Physical Platinum	<b>√</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
ETFS Physical Palladium	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ETFS Physical Silver	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	✓
ETFS Physical Gold	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
ETFS Physical PM Basket	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
ETFS Physical Swiss Gold	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	-	-

As at 31 December 2015, the fair value of assets under management amounted to USD 4,864.6 million (2014: USD 6,531.1 million). The Company recognises its assets (Metal Bullion) and financial liabilities (Metal Securities) at fair value in the Statement of Financial Position.

During the year, the Company generated income from creation and redemption fees and Management Fees as follows:

	2015 USD	2014 USD
Creation and Redemption Fees Management Fees	28,995 24,319,181	111,693 26,791,074
Total Fee Income	24,348,176	26,902,767

Under the terms of the service agreement with ManJer, the Company accrued expenses equal to the Management Fee and creation and redemption fees, which, after taking into account other operating income and expenses, resulted in an operating result for the year of USD Nil (2014: USD Nil).

The gain or loss on Metal Securities and Metal Bullion is recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income in line with the Company's accounting policy.

The Company holds Metal Bullion to support the Metal Securities as determined by the Metal Entitlement (which is calculated in accordance with an agreed formula published in the prospectus). Metal Bullion is marked to fair value using the latest quote provided by the London Bullion Market Association ("LBMA").

The Company has entered into contractual obligations to trade Metal Securities at set prices on each trading day, based on an agreed formula published in the prospectus, of each Metal Security.

IFRS 13 requires the Company to identify the principal market and to utilise the available market price within that principal market. The directors consider that the stock exchanges where the Metal Securities are listed to be the principal markets and as a result the fair value of the Metal Securities is the on-exchange price as quoted on those stock exchanges. As a result of the difference in valuation methodology between Metal Bullion and Metal Securities there is a mis-match between accounting values, and the results of the Company reflect a gain or loss on the difference between the agreed formula price of the Metal Bullion and the market price of Metal Securities. This gain or loss would be reversed on a subsequent redemption of the Metal Securities and transfer of the corresponding Metal Bullion. This is presented in more detail in note 7 to these financial statements.

The Company's exposure to risks is disclosed in note 11 to the financial statements.

# **Directors' Report (Continued)**



# **Going Concern**

The nature of the Company's business dictates that the outstanding Metal Securities may be redeemed at any time by the holder and in certain circumstances may be compulsorily redeemed by the Company. As the redemption of Metal Securities will always coincide with the payment of an equal amount (in value) of Metal Bullion, no liquidity risk is considered to arise. All other liabilities are met by ManJer; therefore the directors consider the Company to be a going concern.

#### **Future Developments**

The board of directors (the "board") are not aware of any developments that might have a significant effect on the operations of the Company in subsequent financial periods not already disclosed in this report or the attached financial statements.

#### **Risk Management**

Each Metal Security is a debt instrument whose redemption price is linked directly to the price of the relevant underlying Metal Bullion. The Metal Securities are issued under limited recourse arrangements whereby the holders have recourse only to the value of the Metal Bullion and not to the Company. In addition, since any such price movements are wholly attributable to the Metal Security holders, the Company has no residual exposure to price movements of the Metal Bullion. From a commercial perspective the gains or losses on the liability represented by the Metal Securities are matched economically by corresponding losses or gains attributable to the Metal Bullion (see detail on page 3 regarding the accounting mis-match). The Company does not retain any net gains or losses or net risk exposures. Further details surrounding the value of Metal Security and the Metal Bullion are disclosed in note 11.

Movements in the price of the underlying Metal Bullion, and thus the value of the Metal Securities, may vary widely which could have an impact on the demand for the Metal Securities issued by the Company. These movements are shown in notes 6 and 7.

#### **Dividends**

There were no dividends declared or paid in the year (2014: USD Nil). It is the Company's policy that dividends will only be declared when the directors are of the opinion that there are sufficient distributable reserves.

# **Employees**

The Company does not have any employees. It is the Company's policy to use the services of specialist subcontractors or consultants as far as possible.

#### **Directors' Remuneration**

No director has a service contract with the Company and details of the directors' remuneration which has been paid by ManJer on behalf of the Company for the year is disclosed below.

	2015	2014
	GBP	GBP
0		
Graham J Tuckwell	Nil	Nil
Christopher J M Foulds	Nil	Nil
Graeme D Ross	7,500	7,500
Joseph L Roxburgh	Nil	Nil
Mark K Weeks	Nil	Nil

# **Directors' Report (Continued)**



#### **Auditor**

Following a competitive tender process during the year, Deloitte LLP resigned as auditor of the Company and KPMG Channel Islands Limited was appointed in their place on 4 December 2015. A resolution to reappoint KPMG Channel Islands Limited as the auditor of the Company will be proposed at the next meeting of the directors.

#### **Corporate Governance**

There is no standard code of corporate governance in Jersey. The operations, as previously described in the directors' report, are such that the directors do not consider the Company is required to voluntarily apply the UK Corporate Governance Code.

As the board is small there is no nomination committee and appointments of new directors are considered by the board as a whole. The board does not consider it appropriate that directors should be appointed for a specific term. Furthermore the structure of the board is such that it is considered unnecessary to identify a senior non-executive director.

The constitution of the board is disclosed above. The directors are either members of the board of the ultimate parent company, ETFSL, employees within the ETFSL group or members of the board of the Company's Administrator, R&H Fund Services (Jersey) Limited ("R&H"), and will continue to have such a composition of directors beyond the next meeting of the directors.

The board of directors meets regularly to consider matters specifically reserved for its review. Further meetings will be held as required by the operations of the Company.

#### **Internal Control**

During the year the Company did not have any employees or subsidiaries, and there is no intention that this will change. The Company, being a special purpose company established for the purpose of issuing Metal Securities, has not undertaken any business, save for issuing and redeeming Metal Securities, entering into the required documents and performing the obligations and exercising its rights in relation thereto, since its incorporation. The Company does not intend to undertake any business other than issuing and redeeming Metal Securities and performing the obligations and exercising its rights in relation thereto.

The Company is dependent upon ManJer to provide management and administration services to it. ManJer is licensed under the Financial Services (Jersey) Law 1998 to conduct classes U, V and Z of Fund Services Business. ManJer outsources the administration services in respect of the Company to R&H. Documented contractual arrangements are in place with the Administrator which define the areas where the authority is delegated to them. The performance of the Manager and Administrator are reviewed on an ongoing basis by the board through their review of periodic reports.

ManJer provides management and other services to both the Company and other companies issuing commodity based and index tracking securities.

The board having reviewed the effectiveness of the internal control systems of the Manager and R&H, and having a regard to the role of its external auditors, does not consider that there is a need for the Company to establish its own internal audit function.

# **Audit Committee**

The board has not established a separate audit committee; instead the board meets to consider the financial reporting by the Company, the internal controls, and relations with the external auditors. In addition the board reviews the independence and objectivity of the auditors.

**Christopher JM Foulds** 

Director Jersey 31 March 2016

# Statement of Directors' Responsibilities



The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRSs") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB").

Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies (Jersey) Law 1991. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Company's website. Legislation in Jersey governing the preparation and dissemination of the financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

With regard to Regulation 2004/109/EC of the European Union (the "EU Transparency Directive"), the directors confirm that to the best of their knowledge that:

- the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 give a true and fair view of the
  assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the Company as required by law and in
  accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the IASB; and
- the Directors' report gives a fair view of the development of the Company's business, financial
  position and the important events that have occurred during the year and their impact on these
  financial statements.

The principal risks and uncertainties faced by the Company are disclosed in note 11 of these financial statements.

By order of the board

**Christopher JM Foulds** 

Director 31 March 2016

# **Independent Auditor's Report**

We have audited the financial statements of ETFS Metal Securities Limited for the year ended 31 December 2015 which comprise the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows, the Statement of Changes in Equity and the related notes 1 to 13. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

This report is made solely to the Company's members, as a body, in accordance with Article 113A of the Companies (Jersey) Law 1991. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

# Respective responsibilities of directors and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities set out on page 6, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

# Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Directors' Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

#### Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 2015 and of its result for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies (Jersey) Law 1991.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies (Jersey) Law 1991 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the Company; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

# **Steven Hunt**

For and on behalf of KPMG Channel Islands Limited Chartered Accountants and Recognized Auditor 37 Esplanade St. Helier, Jersey 31 March 2016





		December	
		2015	2014
	Notes	USD	USD
Revenue	3	24,348,176	26,902,767
Expenses	3	(24,348,176)	(26,902,767)
Operating Result	3	-	
Net Loss Arising on Contractual and Fair Value of Metal Bullion	6	(889,021,774)	(196,807,121)
Net Gain Arising on Fair Value of Metal Securities	7	897,313,833	194,982,332
Result and Total Comprehensive Income for the Year	<u>-</u>	8,292,059	(1,824,789)
<sup>1</sup> Adjustment from Market Value to Contractual Formula Price (as set out in the Prospectus) of Metal Securities	2	(8,292,059)	1,824,789
Adjusted Result and Total Comprehensive Income for the Year	7 _	<u> </u>	<u>-</u>

The directors consider the Company's activities as continuing.

The notes on pages 12 to 22 form part of these financial statements

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The definition of non-statutory adjustments is set out on page 14. This represents the movement in the difference between the agreed formula price of Metal Bullion and the market price of Metal Securities.

# **Statement of Financial Position**



		As at 31 December		
		2015	2014	
	Notes	USD	USD	
Current Assets				
Trade and Other Receivables	5	1,753,307	2,224,389	
Metal Bullion	6	4,862,900,530	6,531,131,551	
Amounts Receivable on Bullion Awaiting Settlement	6	-	118,586,336	
Total Assets	_	4,864,653,837	6,651,942,276	
Current Liabilities				
Metal Securities	7	4,855,767,067	6,532,290,147	
Amounts Payable on Securities Awaiting Settlement	7	-	118,586,336	
Trade and Other Payables	8	1,753,303	2,224,385	
Total Liabilities	<u> </u>	4,857,520,370	6,653,100,868	
Equity				
Stated Capital	9	4	4	
Revaluation Reserve		7,133,463	(1,158,596)	
Total Equity	<del>-</del>	7,133,467	(1,158,592)	
Total Equity and Liabilities		4,864,653,837	6,651,942,276	

The financial statements on pages 8 to 22 were approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors and signed on its behalf on 31 March 2016.

**Christopher JM Foulds** 

Director .

# **Statement of Cash Flows**



	Year ended 31 December		
	2015	2014	
	USD	USD	
Operating Result for the Year	-	-	
Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities			
Decrease/(Increase) in Receivables	471,082	(155,664)	
(Decrease)/Increase in Payables	(471,082)	155,664	
Cash Generated from Operations	-	-	
Cash Flows from Financing Activities Dividends Paid	_	_	
Net Cash Used in Financing Activities	-	-	
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents			
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Year	-	-	
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	-	-	
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Year			

Metal Securities are issued or redeemed by receipt/transfer of Metal Bullion and have been netted off in the Statement of Cash Flows.





	Notes	Stated Capital USD	Retained Earnings USD	Revaluation Reserve <sup>2</sup> USD	Total Equity USD	Adjusted Total Equity USD
Opening Balance at 1 January 2014		4	-	666,193	666,197	4
Result and Total Comprehensive Income for the Year Transfer to Revaluation Reserve  3 Adjustment from Market Value to Contractual Formula	7	- -	(1,824,789) 1,824,789	(1,824,789)	(1,824,789) -	(1,824,789)
Price (as set out in the Prospectus) of Metal Securities  Balance at 31 December 2014	7	4	<u>-</u>	(1,158,596)	(1,158,592)	1,824,789 <b>4</b>
Opening Balance at 1 January 2015		4	-	(1,158,596)	(1,158,592)	4
Result and Total Comprehensive Income for the Year Transfer to Revaluation Reserve  3 Adjustment from Market Value to Contractual Formula	7	-	8,292,059 (8,292,059)	- 8,292,059	8,292,059 -	8,292,059
Price (as set out in the Prospectus) of Metal Securities	7	-	-	-	-	(8,292,059)
Balance at 31 December 2015		4	-	7,133,463	7,133,467	4

The notes on pages 12 to 22 form part of these financial statements

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This represents the difference between the agreed formula price of Metal Bullion and the market price of Metal Securities.
<sup>3</sup> The definition of non-statutory adjustments is set out on page 14.

#### **Notes to the Financial Statements**



#### 1. **General Information**

ETFS Metal Securities Limited (the "Company") is a company incorporated in Jersey. The address of the registered office is Ordnance House, 31 Pier Road, St. Helier, Jersey, JE4 8PW.

The ETF Securities Group, of which the Company is a part, specialises in the development and issuance of Exchange Traded Products ("ETPs"). ETPs are secured, undated, limited recourse securities designed to track the value (before fees and expenses) of an underlying commodity, index or currency while providing market liquidity for the investor.

The purpose of the Company is to provide a vehicle that permits trading of the Metal Securities and the Company does not make gains from trading in the underlying Metal Bullion. The Metal Securities are issued under limited recourse arrangements whereby the Company has no residual exposure to price movements of the Metal Bullion, therefore from a commercial perspective gains and losses in respect of Metal Bullion will always be offset by a corresponding loss or gain on the Metal Securities. Further details regarding the risks of the Company are disclosed in note 11.

ETPs are not typically actively managed, are significantly lower in cost when compared to actively managed mutual funds and are easily accessible to investors. No trading or management of Metal Bullion is required of the Company because the Company only holds Metal Bullion to hedge the exposure of the Company under the Metal Securities.

The Company is entitled to:

- (1) a Management Fee which is calculated by applying a fixed percentage to the contractual value of Metal Securities in issue on a daily basis; and
- (2) Creation and redemption fees on the issue and redemption of the Metal Securities.

No creation or redemption fees are payable to the Company when investors trade in the Metal Securities on a listed market such as the London Stock Exchange.

The Company has entered into a service agreement with ETFS Management Company (Jersey) Limited ("ManJer" or the "Manager"), whereby ManJer is responsible for supplying or procuring the supply of all management and administration services required by the Company, (including marketing) as well as the payment of costs relating to the listing and issuance of Metal Securities. In return for these services, the Company pays ManJer an amount equal to the Management Fee and the creation and redemption fees earned. As a result there are no operating profits or losses recognised through the Company.

#### 2. **Accounting Policies**

The main accounting policies of the Company are described below.

#### **Basis of Preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRSs") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB"), and interpretations issued by the International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee of the IASB. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of financial assets and financial liabilities held at fair value through profit or loss.

# **Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements**

The presentation of financial statements in conformity with IFRSs requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Company's accounting policies.

The Company makes estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial period. Estimates are continually evaluated and based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The only key accounting judgement required to prepare these financial statements is in respect of the valuation of Metal Bullion and Metal Securities held at fair value through profit or loss as disclosed in notes 6 and 7. Actual results could vary from these estimates.

# **Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)**



# 2. Accounting Policies (continued)

#### **Accounting Standards**

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(a) Standards, amendments and interpretations effective on 1 January 2015:

There are no new and revised Standards and Interpretations relevant to the Company that have been adopted in the current year to affect these financial statements. Details of other Standards and Interpretations adopted that have had no effect on these financial statements are set out in section (b).

- (b) Standards, amendments and interpretations effective on 1 January 2015 but not relevant to the Company during the year:
  - IAS 19 Employee Benefits
- (c) Standards, amendments and interpretations that are in issue but not yet effective:

The Company has not adopted the following new and revised IFRSs that have been issued but are not yet effective:

- IFRS 9 Financial Instruments (as amended in 2014) (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018)
- IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements and IAS 28 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures (2011) (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016, and applicable only to prospective sale or contribution of assets)
- IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements, IFRS 12 Disclosure of Interest in Other Entities and IAS 28 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures – Applying the Consolidation Exception (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016)
- IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016, and applicable only to prospective acquisitions in which the activities of the joint operations constitute businesses, as defined in IFRS 3)
- IFRS 14 Regulatory Deferral Accounts (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016)
- IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2017)
- IAS 1 Disclosure Initiative (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016)
- IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment and IAS 38 Intangible Assets (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016)
- IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment and IAS 41 Agriculture (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016)
- IAS 27 Separate Financial Statements (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016)
- Annual Improvements to IFRS (effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2016)

The directors intend to adopt IFRS 9 for the annual period beginning on 1 January 2018, and whilst the directors anticipate that these amendments may affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and result in more extensive disclosures in the financial statements, a detailed analysis has not been undertaken.

The directors do not expect the adoption of the remaining standards, amendments and interpretations that are in issue but not yet effective will have a material impact on the financial statements of the Company in future periods.

The directors have considered other standards and interpretations in issue but not effective and concluded that they would not have a material impact on the future financial periods when they become available.

# **Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)**



#### 2. Accounting Policies (continued)

#### **Going Concern**

The nature of the Company's business dictates that the outstanding Metal Securities may be redeemed at any time by the holder and in certain circumstances may be compulsorily redeemed by the Company. Generally, only security holders who have entered into an authorised participant agreement with the Company ("Authorised Participant") can submit applications and redemptions directly with the Company. As the redemption of Metal Securities will always coincide with the payment of an equal amount of Metal Bullion, no liquidity risk is considered to arise. All other liabilities are met by ManJer; therefore the directors consider the Company to be a going concern and have prepared the financial statements on this basis.

#### **Metal Securities**

#### i) Issuance and Redemption

The Company has entered into a Trust Instrument with The Law Debenture Trust Corporation plc ("Law Debenture") to permit the Company to issue Metal Securities. The conditions of issue are set out in the Trust Instrument. Each time a Metal Security is issued or redeemed by the Company a corresponding amount of Metal Bullion is transferred into or from the relevant secured account held by the Custodian.

Financial liabilities are recognised and de-recognised on the trade date.

#### ii) Pricing

Metal Bullion is priced using the appropriate fixing price from the London Bullion Market Association ("LBMA").

IFRS 13 requires the Company to identify the principal market and to utilise the available market price within that principal market. The directors consider that the stock exchanges where the Metal Securities are listed to be the principal markets and as a result the fair value of the Metal Securities is the on-exchange price as quoted on those stock exchanges. The Metal Securities are priced using the mid-market price on the statement of financial position date taken just at the time the relevant bullion fix price is set.

Consequently a difference arises between the value of Metal Bullion (based on the agreed formula price) and Metal Securities (at market value) presented in the Statement of Financial Position. This difference is reversed on a subsequent redemption of the Metal Securities and transfer of the corresponding Metal Bullion.

#### iii) Designation at fair value through Profit or Loss

Metal Securities comprise a financial instrument and are designated at fair value through the profit or loss upon initial recognition. This is in order to enable gains or losses on both the Metal Security and Metal Bullion to be recorded in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

Through the mis-matched accounting values, the results of the Company reflect a gain or loss which represents the movement in the cumulative difference between the agreed formula value of the Metal Bullion and the market price of Metal Securities. This gain or loss is transferred to a Revaluation Reserve which is non-distributable. The results of the Company are adjusted through the presentation of a non-statutory movement entitled 'Adjustment from Market Value to Contractual Formula Price (as set out in the prospectus) of Metal Securities'.

#### **Metal Bullion**

The Company holds Metal Bullion equal to the amount due to holders of Metal Securities solely for the purposes of meeting its obligations under the Metal Securities. The Metal Bullion held is marked to fair value and movements are recorded through profit or loss.

The fair value is calculated using the latest quote provided by the LBMA.

# **Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)**



#### 2. Accounting Policies (continued)

#### **Metal Bullion and Metal Securities Awaiting Settlement**

The issue and redemption of Metal Securities, and the transfer in and out of Metal Bullion, is accounted for on the trade date ("T"). Where settlement pricing is applied, the trade will not settle until T+2. Where trades are awaiting settlement at the year end, the monetary amount due to be settled is separately disclosed within the relevant assets and liabilities on the Statement of Financial Position.

# **Revenue Recognition**

Revenue is recognised to the extent that the economic benefits will flow to the Company and the revenue can be reliably measured. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received, excluding discounts, rebates, and other sales taxes or duty.

Fees received for the issue and redemption of Metal Securities are recognised at the date on which the transaction becomes legally binding. All other income and expenses are recognised on an accruals basis.

#### **Loans and Receivables**

The loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with a fixed payment amount and are not quoted in an active market. After initial measurement the loans and receivables are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method less any allowance for impairment. The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of an instrument and of allocating interest over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash flows (including all fees paid or received that form an integral part of the effective interest rate, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) through the expected life of the instrument, or, where appropriate, a shorter period, to the net carrying amount on initial recognition. Gains and losses on loans and receivables which are impaired are recognised immediately through profit or loss.

# Metal Bullion Receivable and Payable

Management Fees receivable are accrued by applying a fixed percentage to the contractual value of Metal Securities in issue on a daily basis. These fees are receivable in Metal Bullion, recorded at fair value at the Statement of Financial Position date using the latest quote provided by the LBMA. Movements in fair value are recorded through profit or loss.

Management Fees payable are also accrued based on the income accrued in accordance with the agreement with ManJer. These fees (relating to Management Fees received) are payable in Metal Bullion, recorded at fair value at the Statement of Financial Position date using the latest quote provided by the LBMA. Movements in fair value are accounted for through profit or loss.

#### **Foreign Currency Translation**

The financial statements of the Company are presented in the currency of the primary economic environment in which it operates (its functional currency). For the purpose of the financial statements, the results and financial position of the Company are expressed in United States Dollars, which is the functional currency of the Company and the presentational currency of the financial statements.

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the year end date are translated at rates ruling at that date. Creation and redemption fees are translated at the average rate for the quarter in which they are incurred. The resulting differences are accounted for through profit or loss.



# 2. Accounting Policies (continued)

# **Segmental Reporting**

IFRS 8 requires operating segments to be identified on the basis of internal reports about components of the Company that are regularly reviewed by the Chief Operating Decision Maker ("CODM") in order to allocate resources to the segments and to assess their performance. The CODM has been determined as the board of directors. A segment is a distinguishable component of the Company that is engaged either in providing products or services (business segment), or in providing products and services within a particular economic environment (geographical segment), which is subject to risks and rewards that are different from those of other segments.

The Company has not provided segmental information as the Company has only one business or product group, precious metals, and one geographical segment which is UK and Europe. All information relevant to the understanding of the Company's activities is included in these financial statements.

# 3. Operating Result

Operating result for the year comprised:

	Year ended 31 December		
	2015		
	USD	USD	
Creation and Redemption Fees	28,995	111,693	
Management Fees	24,319,181	26,791,074	
Total Revenue	24,348,176	26,902,767	
Management Fees to ManJer	(24,348,176)	(26,902,767)	
Total Operating Expenses	(24,348,176)	(26,902,767)	
Operating Result		-	

Audit Fees for the year of GBP 18,000 will be met by ManJer (2014: GBP 20,600).

#### 4. Taxation

The Company is subject to Jersey Income Tax. The Jersey Income Tax rate applicable to the Company for the foreseeable future is zero percent.

#### 5. Trade and Other Receivables

	As at 31 December	
	2015 USD	2014 USD
		030
Management Fees	1,727,500	2,176,054
Creation and Redemption Fees	25,807	48,335
	1,753,307	2,224,389

The fair value of these receivables is equal to the carrying value.

# **Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)**



#### 6. Metal Bullion

	As at 31 De	As at 31 December		
	2015	2014		
	USD	USD		
Change in Fair Value for the Year	(889,021,774)	(196,807,121)		
Metal Bullion at Fair Value	4,862,900,530	6,531,131,551		

As at 31 December 2015, there were certain amounts of Metal Bullion awaiting the creation or redemption of Metal Securities with trade dates before the year end and settlement dates in the following year:

- The amount receivable as a result of unsettled creations is USD Nil (2014: USD 118,586,336); and
- The amount payable as a result of unsettled redemptions is USD Nil (2014: USD Nil).

All Metal Bullion assets have been valued using the AM fix on 31 December 2015 as quoted by the LBMA being the last fix prices available for the year.

#### 7. Metal Securities

Whilst the Metal Securities are quoted on the open market, the Company's liability relates to its contractual obligations to trade at set prices on each trading day. These prices are based on an agreed formula of each class of Metal Securities. Therefore, the actual contractual issue and redemption of Metal Securities occur at a price that corresponds to gains or losses on the Metal Bullion. As a result the Company has no net exposure to gains or losses on the Metal Securities and Metal Bullion.

The Company measures the Metal Securities at their market value in accordance with IFRS 13 rather than their settlement value as described in the prospectus. The transferable value is deemed to be the prices quoted on stock exchanges or other markets where the Metal Securities are listed or traded. However Metal Bullion is valued based on the agreed formula of each class of Metal Securities, and applies the published bullion prices published by the LBMA.

The fair values and changes thereof during the year based on prices available on the open market as recognised in the financial statements are:

	As at 31 December		
	2015	2014	
	USD	USD	
Change in Fair Value for the Year	897,313,834	194,982,332	
Metal Securities at Fair Value	4,855,767,066	6,532,290,147	

The contractual redemption values changes thereof during the year based on the contractual settlement values are:

	As at 31 December	
	2015	2014
	USD	USD
Change in Contractual Redemption Value for the Year	889,021,774	196,807,121
Metal Securities at Contractual Redemption Value	4,862,900,530	6,531,131,551

The gain or loss on the difference between the agreed formula price of the Metal Bullion and the market price of Metal Securities would be reversed on a subsequent redemption of the Metal Securities and transfer of the corresponding Metal Bullion.

# **Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)**



# 7. Metal Securities (continued)

The mismatched accounting values are as shown below and represent the non-statutory adjustment presented in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income:

	Year ended 31 December	
	2015	2014
	USD	USD
Net Loss Arising on Contractual and Fair Value of Metal		
Bullion	(889,021,774)	(196,807,121)
Net Gain Arising on Fair Value of Metal Securities	897,313,833	194,982,332
	8,292,059	(1,824,789)

As at 31 December 2015, there were certain Metal Securities awaiting creation or redemption with trade dates before the year end and settlement dates in the following year:

- The amount receivable as a result of unsettled redemptions of Metal Securities is USD Nil (2014: USD Nil); and
- The amount payable as a result of unsettled creations of Metal Securities is USD Nil (2014: USD 118,586,336).

#### 8. Trade and Other Payables

	As at 31 December	
	2015	2014
	USD	USD
Management Fees Payable to ManJer	1,753,303	2,224,385

The fair value of these payables is equal to the carrying value.

# 9. Stated Capital

	As at 31 Dec	As at 31 December	
	2015	2014	
	USD	USD	
2 Shares of Nil Par Value, Issued at GBP 1 Each	4	4	

The Company can issue an unlimited capital of nil par value shares in accordance with its Memorandum of Association.

All shares issued by the Company carry one vote per share without restriction and carry the right to dividends. All shares are held by ETFS Holdings (Jersey) Limited ("HoldCo").

# **Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)**



#### 10. **Related Party Disclosures**

Entities and individuals which have a significant influence over the Company, either through the ownership of HoldCo shares, or by virtue of being a director of the Company, are related parties.

Management Fees paid to ManJer during the year:

	Year ended 31 December	
	2015	2014
	USD	USD
Management Fees	24,348,176	26,902,767
The following balances were due to ManJer at the year end:		
	As at 31 December	
	2015	2014
<u>.</u>	USD	USD
Management Fees Payable	1,753,303	2,224,385

As disclosed in the Directors' Report, ManJer paid Directors' Fees in respect of the Company of GBP 7,500 (2014: GBP 7,500).

Graeme D Ross and Craig A Stewart are directors of R&H Fund Services (Jersey) Limited ("R&H"), the administrator. During the year, R&H charged ManJer Secretarial and Administration Fees in respect of the Company of GBP 71,500 (2014: GBP 71,500), of which GBP 17,875 (2014: GBP 17,875) was outstanding at the year end.

Graham J Tuckwell is a director of ETFSL, ManJer and HoldCo. Joseph L Roxburgh is a director of ManJer and HoldCo. Craig A Stewart is a director of ManJer. Christopher JM Foulds is the Compliance Officer of ManJer.

#### 11. **Financial Risk Management**

The Metal Securities are subject to normal market fluctuations and other risks inherent in investing in securities and other financial instruments. There can be no assurance that any appreciation in the value of securities will occur, and the capital value of an investor's original investment is not guaranteed. The value of investments may go down as well as up, and an investor may not get back the original amount invested.

The Company is exposed to a number of risks arising from its activities. The information provided below is not intended to be a comprehensive summary of all the risks associated with the Metal Securities and investors should refer to the prospectus (as amended) for a detailed summary of the risks inherent in investing in the Metal Securities. Any data provided should not be used or interpreted as a basis for future forecast or investment performance.

The risk management policies employed by the Company to manage these are discussed below.

#### (a) Credit Risk

Credit risk primarily refers to the risk that Authorised Participants or the Custodian will default on its contractual obligations resulting in financial loss.

Credit risk is managed by the Company by only dealing with Authorised Participants who are believed to be creditworthy. In the event the authorised participants fail to complete their obligation, no Metal Securities will be created therefore the Company does not have the risk of loss of the amount expected to be received.

Credit risk also includes custodial risk. The custodian is not required to take out insurance and neither is the Trustee. Accordingly, there is a risk that the secured Metal Bullion could be lost, stolen or damaged and the Company would not be able to satisfy its obligations in respect of the Metal Securities.

# **Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)**



#### 11. Financial Risk Management (continued)

#### (b) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company will encounter difficulty in meeting the obligations associated with its financial liabilities as they fall due.

When Metal Securities are redeemed, the Company returns the corresponding amount of Metal Bullion determined by the Metal Entitlement. The market value of the Metal Bullion returned will always be the same as that of the Metal Securities being redeemed. Therefore the redemption of Metal Securities would not impact the liquidity of the Company.

# (c) Settlement Risk

Settlement risk primarily refers to the risk that an Authorised Participant or the Custodian will default on its contractual obligations resulting in financial loss.

The directors believe that settlement risk would only be caused by the risk of the Company's trading counterparty not delivering Metal Bullion or Metal Securities on the settlement date. The directors feel that this risk is mitigated as a result of the Metal Securities settling through the CREST system. The system ensures that the transaction does not settle until both parties have fulfilled their contractual obligations.

Amounts outstanding in respect of positions yet to settle are disclosed in notes 6 and 7.

#### (d) Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices (such as foreign exchange rates, interest rates bullion prices and equity prices) will affect the Company's income or the value of its financial instruments held or issued.

#### i) Price Risk

The value of the Company's liability in respect of the Metal Securities fluctuates according to the Metal Bullion prices and the risk of such change in price is managed by the Company by holding Metal Bullion in the same quantity as its liability. Therefore, the Company bears no financial risk from a change in the price of Metal Bullion. Refer to note 7 for the further details regarding fair values.

However, there is an inherent risk from the point of view of investors as the price of Metal Bullion and the value of the Metal Securities may vary widely due to, amongst other things, changing supply or demand for Metal Bullion, government and monetary policy or intervention and global or regional political, economic or financial events.

The market price of Metal Securities is a function of supply and demand amongst investors wishing to buy and sell Metal Securities and the bid or offer spread that the market makers are willing to quote. This is highlighted in note 7, and below under the Fair Value Hierarchy.

#### ii) Interest Rate Risk

The Company does not have significant exposure to interest rate risk as neither the Metal Bullion or the Metal Securities bear any interest.

#### iii) Currency Risk

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The directors do not consider the Company to have a significant exposure to currency risk arising from the current economic uncertainties facing a number of countries around the world as the gains or losses on the liability represented by the Metal Securities are matched economically by corresponding losses or gains attributable to the Metal Bullion.

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# **Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)**



#### 11. Financial Risk Management (continued)

#### (e) Capital Management

The Company's principal activity is the issue and listing Metal Securities. These securities are issued and cancelled as demand requires. The Company holds a corresponding amount of Metal Bullion which matches the total liability of the Metal Securities issued. ManJer supplies or arranges the supply of all management and administration services to the Company and pays all management and administration costs of the Company, including Trustee and Custodian Fees. In return for these services the Company pays a Management Fee, which under the terms of the service agreement is equal to the Management Fee and Creation and Redemption Fees earned. The Company is not subject to any capital requirements imposed by a regulator and there were no changes in the Company's approach to capital management during the year.

As all Metal Securities on issue are supported by an equivalent amount of physical bullion held by the Custodian and the Swiss Gold Custodian and the running costs of the Company were paid by ManJer, the directors of the Company consider the capital management and its current capital resources are adequate to maintain the ongoing listing and issue of Metal Securities.

#### (f) Sensitivity Analysis

IFRS 7 requires disclosure of a sensitivity analysis for each type of market risk to which the entity is exposed to at the reporting date, showing how profit or loss and equity would have been affected by a reasonably possible change to the relevant risk variable.

The Company's rights and liability in respect of Metal Bullions and Metal Securities, respectively, relates to its contractual obligations to trade at set prices on each trading day. As a result the Company's contractual and economic liability in connection with the issue of Metal Securities is matched by movements in corresponding Metal Bullion. Consequently, the Company does not have any net exposure to market price risk. Therefore, in the directors' opinion, no sensitivity analysis is required to be disclosed.

#### (g) Fair Value Hierarchy

The levels in the hierarchy are defined as follows:

- Level 1 fair value based on quoted prices in active markets for identical assets.
- Level 2 fair values based on valuation techniques using observable inputs other than quoted prices within level 1.
- Level 3 fair values based on valuation techniques using inputs that are not based on observable market data.

Categorisation within the hierarchy is determined on the basis of the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement of each relevant asset/liability.

The Company is required to utilise the available market price as the Metal Securities are quoted and actively traded on the open market. Therefore Metal Securities are classified as Level 1 financial liabilities.

The Company holds Metal Bullion to support the Metal Securities as determined by the Metal Entitlement (which is calculated in accordance with an agreed formula published in the prospectus). Metal Bullion is marked to fair value using the latest quote provided by the LBMA. The Company has contractual obligations to trade the Metal Securities at set prices on each trading day. These prices are based on an agreed formula, published in the prospectus, of each Metal Security. Therefore, Metal Bullion is classified as a level 2 asset, as the value is calculated using third party pricing sources supported by observable, verifiable inputs.

# **Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)**



# 11. Financial Risk Management (continued)

#### (g) Fair Value Hierarchy (continued)

The categorisation of the Company's assets and (liabilities) are as shown below:

	Fair Value as at	Fair Value as at 31 December	
	2015	2014	
	USD	USD	
Level 1 Metal Securities	(4,855,767,067)	(6,532,290,147)	
Level 2 Metal Bullion	4,862,900,530	6,531,131,551	

There are no assets or liabilities classified in level 3. There were no reclassifications during the year.

Metal Bullion is not considered to be a financial asset; however, it has been presented here for purposes of consistency with prior periods and to show a matching between assets and liabilities.

# 12. Ultimate Controlling Party

The immediate parent company is HoldCo, a Jersey registered company. The ultimate controlling party is Graham J Tuckwell through his majority shareholding in ETFSL. ETFSL is the parent company of HoldCo.

# 13. Events Occurring After the Reporting Period

No significant events have occurred since the end of the reporting period up to the date of signing the Financial Statements which would impact on the financial position of the Company disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2015 or on the results and cash flows of the Company for the year ended on that date.

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