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1 NEW YORK CITY TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
INVESTMENT MEETING

2 held on Thursday, November 3, 2011
at

3 55 Water Street
New York, New York

4

5

ATTENDEES:

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MELVYN AARONSON, Chairperson, Trustee

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SANDRA MARCH, Trustee

MONA ROMAIN, Trustee

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NELSON SERRANO, Executive Director, TRS

LARRY SCHLOSS, Trustee, Comptroller's Office

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RANJI NAGASWAMI, Trustee, Finance

CAROL EGLOW, Comptroller's Office

10 THADDEUS McTIGUE, Comptroller's Office

MARTIN GANTZ, Comptroller's Office

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JOEL GILLER, Comptroller's Office

SEEMA HINGORANI, Comptroller's Office

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BARRY MILLER, Comptroller's Office

YVONNE NELSON, Comptroller's Office

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MARC KATZ, TRS

ROBERT RAUCCI, TRS

14

SUSAN STANG, TRS

ROBERT C. NORTH, JR., Actuary

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JAMIE SMARR

CHRIS LYON, Rocaton

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ROBIN PELISH, Rocaton

ROBERTA UFFORD, Counsel

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STEVE BYRNES, Townsend

SARAH CACHAT, Townsend

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MARTIN ROSENBERG, Townsend

MICHAEL KOENIG, Hamilton Lane

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CORINA SYLVIA, Hamilton Lane

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1 PROCEEDINGS
 2 (Time noted: 10:10 a.m.)
 3 MR. SERRANO: Good morning. I'll begin the
 4 November 3 investment meeting by calling the role.
 5 MR. SERRANO: Melvyn Aaronson?
 6 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: Here.
 7 MR. SERRANO: Sandra March?
 8 MS. MARCH: Here.
 9 MR. SERRANO: Mona Romain?
 10 MS. ROMAIN: Here.
 11 MR. SERRANO: Larry Schloss?
 12 MR. SCHLOSS: Present.
 13 MR. SERRANO: Lisette Nieves is out of town.
 14 We have a quorum.
 15 I'll turn it over to the chairman.
 16 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: Welcome to the
 17 investment meeting of November 3, of the TRS Board. And
 18 we are going to follow the following order:
 19 We will do the public agenda of the Passport
 20 funds first, and then we will do the public agenda of
 21 the pension fund. And then we will do the executive
 22 agenda of the Passport funds, and we will then do the
 23 executive report agenda for the pension fund.
 24 So we will start by calling on Rocaton to
 25 talk to us about the Passport funds.

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1 MR. LYON: Good morning.
 2 I will review the information by first
 3 starting with November. I'd like to make a remark
 4 before that, which is that it's gotten better since
 5 then. When you see this, keep that in mind.
 6 We'll first start with the diversified
 7 equity fund, Variable A. And as you may know from the
 8 report last month, August 31, there were \$9.3 billion of
 9 assets in the fund, market value, as well as the regular
 10 outflows we have due to participant distributions and
 11 transfers, which brought the value down to about \$8.6
 12 billion.
 13 So you can tell that September has been a
 14 relatively rough month, for reasons in the markets.
 15 When you look across the asset allocation on the first
 16 page, you can see that the major composites continue to
 17 track the movement within 1 percent of their targets.
 18 Of course, that's a function of the regular
 19 revaluation program that's done monthly to bring things
 20 closer to targets, and the process of also raising
 21 necessary liquidity for beneficiary payments.
 22 So, no major concerns from an asset
 23 allocation perspective.
 24 You can also see, of course, a few more
 25 recent changes that have now started to flow through,

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1 such as indexing, as part of the portfolio.

2 If you flip ahead to page 3, you can see the
3 total performance for the month of September on a net of
4 fee basis. The Diversified Equity Fund had a negative 7
5 and a half percent return. Small consolation, but a
6 little better than the broad U.S. equity market, a
7 little worse behind the benchmark for each of the
8 underlying composites of the fund.

9 In terms of looking at that absolute return,
10 it's again, the total fund is down negative 7 and a
11 half. The international allocation hurt in that sense.
12 A lot of the developed markets had problems here. We
13 have many more problems in some of the developed
14 markets, countries in Europe, and that weighted that
15 part of the portfolio down 9 and a half percent.

16 And we did have some help, to help
17 discussion of the defensive strategy composite. It's
18 not guaranteed to always do better in down markets, but
19 certainly in September. You can see on page 2 the
20 defensive strategy composite was down just under 4
21 percent, with the RTAA manager being a large portion of
22 those assets, down only 3 percent, rounding liberally.

23 And our two local volatility equity managers
24 continue to look very good relative to the broader
25 equity markets. So those strategies are generally

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1 working; not always outperforming their respective
2 benchmarks, but they are performing the way we would
3 hope in the market environments.

4 In fact, since an inception basis, low
5 volatility equity managers are very significantly ahead
6 of their benchmarks, and that of course is a relatively
7 short time period. Their performance record started in
8 March, but it is off to a very strong start.

9 So, if you look at the year to date column,
10 the year to date, therefore, the 7 and a half percent
11 back on page 3, for the month, year to date, it's in
12 further negative territory, down 9.6 percent.

13 MR. SCHLOSS: That's the calendar year,
14 right?

15 MR. LYON: Calendar to date; correct.

16 Then, I'll flip to other Passport funds. We
17 reviewed Variable B in a different format quartile
18 report, but for this purpose we have Variable C, D and
19 E, the International Equity Fund, the Socially
20 Responsive Equity Fund. You can see the asset levels at
21 \$64 million, \$23 million and \$26 million, respectively,
22 continue to be similar to prior reports.

23 You can see the performance of each of the
24 options, the International Equity Fund performance.
25 Similarly, the international composite of diversified

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1 equity fund because, in fact, the assets are unified
 2 under a similar manager structure and performed in line
 3 with the EAFE for the month and year to date basis, also
 4 a handful of basis points ahead of the benchmark, down
 5 14.4 percent on a since-inception basis. This
 6 investment option, annualized since July 2008, is still
 7 4 and a half percent ahead of the benchmark.

8 The next fund is the Inflation Protection
 9 Fund. That fund, we hope, over longer time periods
 10 outpaces inflation and other benchmarks that are shown.

11 Over short time periods, we don't expect to
 12 track very closely, because it has a tactical allocation
 13 component, a fund of funds that invests in a variety of
 14 strategies. And each is an underlying PIMCO brand of
 15 mutual funds, and the fund was down about 5 and a half
 16 percent for the month, bringing year to date into slight
 17 negative territory; and therefore one of the few times
 18 it was reported behind the benchmark.

19 Also, the amount of tracking this particular
 20 month versus the benchmark, it did take since inception
 21 into slightly negative territory. So since inception,
 22 the investment option just shows slightly behind, 11
 23 basis points behind the benchmark. This is a pretty
 24 active fund, and hopefully will do better in the next
 25 few months. It's reversible.

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1 And finally, the Socially Responsible Equity
 2 Fund. That's investment option Variable E, returned
 3 negative 8.3 percent, a little behind the S&P 500 index,
 4 about 1.3 percent. So it is a year to date number
 5 similarly behind since inception. This investment
 6 option is still about 3 percent annualized ahead of its
 7 benchmark.

8 So all in all, a disappointing month of
 9 September for anything but long term Treasuries, pretty
 10 much. And those are the results past the end of
 11 September. And everything but long Treasuries pretty
 12 much has been a better month.

13 Before I preview October 31, any questions
 14 on these reports so far?

15 I'm glad I previewed first, to soften the
 16 blow. October was a strong month on this report. The
 17 U.S. Equity market was up 11 and a half percent. Long
 18 Treasuries were down a bit, but they still have a
 19 calendar year return of over 20 percent.

20 The regular Barclays aggregate fixed income
 21 market was slightly positive. International stocks
 22 rebounded, but not to the same extent as U.S. based
 23 investors in U.S. markets. And so, the hybrid benchmark
 24 for the Diversified Equity Fund is up 10.3 percent for
 25 the month of October; so that the October 31 flash, when

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1 all the data becomes available, will look a lot better
2 on a year to date basis than I just presented.

3 The PIMCO All Asset Fund returned a positive
4 almost 6 percent return; so compared to its benchmark of
5 1.4 percent, a lot of ground has already been recovered
6 in October. And although it didn't outperform the
7 Newberger Socially Responsive Equity Fund, the primary
8 underlying investment in Variable E, it was up almost 10
9 percent, so the returns of that option have also been
10 similar. So October's flash will be more pleasant to
11 present. Of course, we'll have to talk about whatever's
12 going on in November.

13 In any case, those are the items for the
14 Passport funds, for the public agenda.

15 I'll pause one more time if there are any
16 questions.

17 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: Do any Board people
18 have questions?

19 MR. LYON: Thanks.

20 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: Thank you very much
21 for that report. And thank you very much for the
22 October results.

23 Mr. Schloss?

24 MR. SCHLOSS: Ideally, I was going to start,
25 but the economist from Barclays is stuck at the security

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1 desk. We can skip them and get to the September results
2 if you want.

3 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: Yes.

4 MR. SCHLOSS: Does everyone have this
5 package?

6 (Indicating.)

7 Again, I'll skip the economics because I'm
8 sure he will cover it all. So, let's go to page 212,
9 and this will parallel a little bit what was just said
10 on the variable. Since August, you may recall -- in
11 August we had a debt ceiling problem and issues on the
12 federal budget, and we had euro issues.

13 Basically, since August, if you look at the
14 markets, the volatility, page 21 -- there are all sorts
15 of ramifications. We discussed that September was a
16 lousy month, October was a good month; lots of
17 volatility in our portfolio.

18 In response to that, on page 22, the Fed
19 announced a new program. The new program will hopefully
20 induce people to borrow longer term. It's designed to
21 ultimately help mortgage lenders. So if you recall, the
22 Fed's QE 2 pushed down the shorter end of the curve, now
23 they're after the longer end of the curve.

24 So if you look on page 22, the current yield
25 curve is the white line, and in the Halloween spirit,

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1 the pumpkin color is where we were at the beginning of
2 the year. You can see they made good progress, but
3 they're going to keep working pushing this down,
4 dropping their risk, getting people to refinance
5 mortgages, basically trying to get people more
6 comfortable with risk, even though there's lots of
7 things going. Ultimately we need other parties to pay
8 attention and do their bit.

9 Page 23, again, you can see the panic that
10 went on in September. And now things have bounced back.
11 Of course, the Greeks announced they'd like to vote one
12 more time. A Greek drama, Greek tragedy, more
13 volatility and uncertainty, not good for long term
14 investors like us; although it does create certain
15 buying opportunities at some point, which we'll get to
16 in a second.

17 On page 24, what's happened is, the risk has
18 come off. You may recall we sold high yield bonds in
19 the spring when spreads were compressed; now they're
20 blown out again. So we are actually in the process of
21 buying high yield bonds now. We'll get back to that in
22 a second.

23 You can see the risk premium is up almost
24 300 basis points high in the yield market; and it's also
25 up again, the spread widened again in investment grade.

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1 Again, fear is on one day, off another day. It's quite
2 a treacherous investment environment.

3 If you go to page 25, what you see is, PEs
4 are coming down, because earnings of corporations are
5 doing quite well through cost cuts. The bad news about
6 the cost cuts is its people, so unemployment is staying
7 high while earnings are going up.

8 You see earnings on the next page, 26. We
9 are the blue line, which compares this recession, coming
10 out of this recession. These are orders, and how they
11 compare to the last 30 years worth of coming out of
12 recessions. Basically, this is the second best from a
13 corporate profit standpoint, not a GDP standpoint,
14 however. Again, I'll let the Barclays guys talk about
15 that, how profits are up.

16 If you look on the next page, 27, these are
17 the PE multiples, trailing and projected, for the
18 Russell 3000 EAFE and emerging markets. If you look at
19 the green color, you see prices are starting to be
20 pretty reasonable. Equities, by and large, are cheap.
21 People are still worried if the euro blows apart. Fear
22 is what's keeping things down. As soon as that calms
23 down -- It calmed down last week, there was a big rally.
24 The Greeks decided they'd like to vote and it went down
25 again. It's really something of a yo-yo. We'll get

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1 back to that in a second. We dealt with that.

2 On 28, large cap, mid-cap and small cap,
3 again, multiples coming down, earnings coming up, good
4 value in the stock market.

5 And then, page 29, you can see again, the
6 white line is the U.S. stock market. You can see it
7 fall off a cliff after the downgrade and through the
8 debt ceiling discussions. And then basically up and
9 down, a sawtooth pattern. It rebounded back down a
10 little bit; difficult markets.

11 If you skip to page 31, this is the ten year
12 asset value for Teachers. If you look at the fiscal
13 year 2011, July 1 to now, being September 30, it's down
14 to 38.7. We estimate that at the end of October it will
15 be back up to about 40.5. October was better than
16 September; but again, extreme volatility.

17 In fact, if you glance at 37 -- before I go
18 further -- page 37, we will talk about September
19 results. If you look at the top of the first column on
20 the left, the U.S. markets, they were down 8 to 11
21 percent in the month. And the international markets
22 were down 10 to 15 percent in the month. A terrible
23 month.

24 On the other hand, I'm happy to tell you
25 that the October numbers, which you'll see next month,

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1 U.S. Equities are up 11, International was up 10 to 13
2 percent again. So this will be a bad month to go
3 through. We'll spend much more time on it next month,
4 which will be a better month. I say that partly in
5 jest; but again, high volatility in the markets.

6 If you go to the next page, 32, again this
7 is the monthly progression. If you pencil in 40.5, up
8 about 5 percent -- 32 of our numbers -- up to about 40.5
9 at the end of October.

10 So, if you look at page 33, this is the old
11 asset allocation. You'll recall, basically page 33 to
12 page 34, which is the asset allocation, would typically
13 take us 12 plus months to move old asset allocations to
14 new asset allocations.

15 You may recall that we've been building cash
16 in anticipation of the asset allocation, as well as the
17 risk mitigation. This cash number is the highest it
18 ever got to, 8.7, down to 6.7.

19 Page 34 of this book, the September 30
20 book -- remember we're going from page 33, which is the
21 old allocation, to the new allocation. This is the peak
22 cash, we had 8.7 percent down to about 6.8. In the
23 interim, we added half a percent to REITs, half to
24 equities, a half percent to high yield bonds, trying to
25 get us into the range, slowly with choppy markets.

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1 On page 34 we'll talk more about the ranges
2 next. Probably after the Barclays thing.

3 Having said that, one of the big
4 discrepancies is opportunistic fixed income, hot pink --
5 at another board meeting I called it chartreuse -- down
6 3.9 percent in allocation.

7 As you know, at the last possibly four board
8 meetings we approved a half dozen managers for the
9 space. We're in the process of negotiating documents.
10 And so we probably committed 2 and a half percent of
11 this 3.9 percent. So once we finish the documents, the
12 managers will then slowly, or not so slowly -- now is a
13 good time to invest in opportunistic fixed income. This
14 should take care of itself over time. I'm confident
15 this is sort of self-correcting.

16 I'm also pretty sure from now to the end of
17 the year, plus or minus, depending on the markets, we'll
18 basically reinvest all the cash; unless, of course, the
19 euro completely blows apart, in which case it would be
20 good not to invest in cash. So again, in process. I
21 think the U.S. basically is in balance. In emerging
22 markets we added to high yield, added to REITs, we've
23 added to all, which are slowly working their way into
24 new ranges.

25 MS. NAGASWAMI: EMD, the light blue, is

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1 invested? Or is it zero?

2 MR. SCHLOSS: We haven't done trustee
3 education; remember, EMD is a new asset class.

4 MS. NAGASWAMI: You had it a minus 3 in
5 August.

6 MR. SCHLOSS: It should be minus 3.

7 At some point we'll have trustee education
8 on emerging market debt, and have an RFP. It will be
9 the last thing to get filled most likely, because of the
10 timing of the RFP process more than anything else.

11 If you look on page 36, in the month of
12 September we were down 5 percent, mostly equities. And
13 the fiscal year to date was down about 9 and a half
14 percent. I think it made about 5 percent in the month
15 of October. So we're probably down less than 5 percent
16 fiscal year to date. Again, cash is usually better than
17 the stock market. If the stock market goes down, we
18 don't lose money on that.

19 If you go through most of the managers,
20 there's a lot of volatility, more green than red
21 bouncing around. Because of volatility, a lot of
22 managers were getting caught one month and would make it
23 back the next month. We're not that focused unless
24 someone's a very, very big outlier on month to month
25 performance. I think, over all, they've done all right,

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1 given the markets.
 2 Seema, do you want to say anything about the
 3 equities?
 4 MS. HINGORANI: No.
 5 MR. GANTZ: I'll have specific comments in
 6 executive session.
 7 MR. SCHLOSS: Barry?
 8 MR. MILLER: No.
 9 MR. SCHLOSS: Yvonne?
 10 MS. NELSON: No.
 11 MR. SCHLOSS: Basically, it was a volatile
 12 month. The asset allocation caught some of it; cash
 13 caught some of it. A better month next, than October.
 14 I think it's actually reasonable, given all the
 15 volatility in the markets.
 16 So, any questions on this?
 17 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: Thank you.
 18 MR. SCHLOSS: The Barclays people are here
 19 now. I'd like to have them come in to talk about what's
 20 going on in Europe, and the U.S. economy backdrop of
 21 making investments.
 22 (The Barclays people entered the room.)
 23 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: Welcome. When you
 24 make your remarks, make them in this direction where we
 25 have the Board people and the stenographer.

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1 MS. DUNLAP: Thank you.
 2 My name is Kathleen Dunlap, and I'm with
 3 Barclays Capital. My job is to look after and be the
 4 relationship manager for large pension funds. On behalf
 5 of the bank, I'm delighted to be here to talk to you
 6 about the crisis in Europe and the implications for
 7 investors.
 8 And with me is my esteemed colleague,
 9 Michael Gapen. I'm going to read Michael's bio, because
 10 it's illustrious and I don't want to miss anything.
 11 Michael joined Barclays in 2009, and he is head of our
 12 International Macro Strategy Group.
 13 Prior to Barclays Capital, he was with
 14 Citadel, as their emerging markets economist. Prior to
 15 Citadel he was with UBS, head of Latin America. And
 16 prior to UBS, he worked with the Inter-American
 17 Development Bank. We worked at the Fed. He was a
 18 consultant to the IMF, and also to the World Bank.
 19 Michael works with G10 as an emerging
 20 markets economist and strategist to identify trends and
 21 international asset flows, evaluations of policy and
 22 currency and investment opportunities, and implications
 23 for global asset management.
 24 He's also an associate professor of
 25 Economics at Columbia, and received his Ph.D. in

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1 Economics from MIT.

2 So, I think you are in good hands with an
3 expert to talk about this gnarly subject. It's my
4 understanding we've been asked for Michael to talk for
5 about 20 minutes, and then 10 minutes Q and A.

6 MR. SCHLOSS: Perfect.

7 MS. DUNLAP: Over to you, Michael.

8 MR. GAPEN: Thank you for your time. Let me
9 know if my voice trails off a bit. When I was teaching
10 at Columbia the faculty Ph.D. students would make fun of
11 the faculty, and I was always "the mute."

12 (Laughter.)

13 I'll do my best.

14 The attention of the headlines these days
15 are about Greece. I have relatively little to speak
16 about Greece. If the problem were only Greece, it
17 wouldn't be a problem that need concern you, it would
18 not be a global problem, even a small European problem.

19 The problem is that Greece is the tip of the
20 iceberg, much bigger, and now includes Italy. Up until
21 about July of this year the crisis countries were
22 Greece, Portugal and Ireland. I'm not allowed to say
23 them in the order of Portugal, Ireland, Greece, or use
24 the acronym.

25 (Laughter.)

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1 It was an eminently manageable problem, even
2 if all three of those were to be forced into acting like
3 adults, to restructure. It had to be managed well. It
4 hasn't been; it's been managed with mediocrity. It was
5 a manageable problem until July of this year, when this
6 situation took a significant turn for the worse. Market
7 attention focused on Italy, now the battleground that
8 matters.

9 A couple of weeks ago the situation turned
10 even worse, when market attention started to focus on
11 France. Let me begin with the French connection. It's
12 not impossible that there could be another run or attack
13 on the French public debt; but that's not a downside
14 risk or the negative reality that needs to concern us
15 here.

16 What needs to concern us here is the market
17 focus on the French public financial limits, to the
18 extent to which the stronger countries of Europe,
19 meaning Germany, France, and a couple of smaller
20 countries, can lend support to Southern Europe. It's
21 part of the reality we now face, that we didn't even
22 three weeks ago. The conditions I will talk about,
23 recent policy announcements from the euro zone.

24 Bear in mind that the entire euro zone is at
25 least under the threat of a loss of confidence, and that

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1 does condition the magnitude of the support that the
2 North can offer to the South, not only the local
3 politics, but the fiscal reality piece, as well.

4 The underlying problem in Italy is not
5 really a government that is widely out of balance,
6 public finances that are widely out of balance. In
7 fact, if you look at the Italian public finances, you'd
8 be led to ask, what is the problem? Compare them with
9 the U.K., compare them with U.S., compare them with
10 Japan, three countries whose debt is not under attack at
11 the moment.

12 The Italian public finances look in most
13 respects much more comfortable. I have a note here, I
14 thought I would leave behind a couple of background
15 notes for anybody who cares.

16 One is, exactly what is the difference
17 between Italy and Japan? That's a question we started
18 to get, kind of around July of this year. What is the
19 difference? Not the deficit, it's not related to public
20 debt. Japan has public debt, even higher than Italy,
21 considerably so. Certainly the public deficit is much
22 bigger.

23 The difference is, in our view, first, that
24 the U.K., the U.S. and Japan all have central banks that
25 are ultimately under the control of the government that

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1 issue the currency, that the government has as its
2 obligation. In a last resort, Japan, the U.S. and the
3 U.K. central banks can print the money the government
4 needs to redeem its debt. It might be inflationary, but
5 it doesn't mean a default.

6 Italy -- in fact, all of the euro zone
7 countries are in a fundamentally more precarious
8 situation because they issued their debt currency; which
9 is, for all intents and purposes, the national
10 government can't issue to cover their own liabilities in
11 the local currency. This is the problem in emerging
12 markets, sovereigns, and up until fairly recently, where
13 at least international finance, sometimes domestically
14 generated public debt as well, was dollars or Deutsche
15 or marks or yen, currencies they couldn't print. And
16 that is very closely related to the debt crisis
17 countries have.

18 It's been resolved in some countries. Let
19 me step back for a second and continue the thought.
20 What Italy lacks and the U.S. and the U.K. and Japan
21 have, is the lender of last resort who can print
22 unlimited amounts of money in extremis. What it has
23 instead is fiscal support mechanisms from the core
24 European or European fiscal structure. But these are
25 first, ad hoc; and secondly, come with conditions that

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1 have turned support mechanisms into what we call the
2 default machine.

3 What's the default machine? A default
4 machine is a country that goes into an EU program; it
5 tries to comply with the conditions of the EU program.
6 It typically fails because, almost inevitably,
7 politically generated programs are generated on the
8 basis of economic assumptions that are unrealistically
9 optimistic.

10 And after the failure becomes apparent, a
11 new round of support is necessary, and the creditor
12 countries condition that support on private sector
13 involvement. In Greece, a country where this has played
14 out so far, private sector involvement is inevitable.
15 That is to say, a default on at least obligations owed
16 to the private sector is inevitable, because there is
17 simply no way the government under any realistic
18 circumstances can repay all the debt accumulated in the
19 past 30 years of its profligate existence.

20 But that is not how private sector
21 involvement was sold politically in Europe. It was sold
22 on the grounds of political fairness. If the public
23 sector and taxpayers of Europe make X contribution to a
24 Greek rescue effort, then the private sector creditors
25 ought to be making wide contributions understandable.

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1 My German wife, born and raised in Germany,
2 is angry that her parents have to actually pay the bill.
3 And her brothers will have to pay, rightly so.

4 But that means that the next time a country
5 where the credit story is a little less cut and dry than
6 the one in Greece, creditors, private creditors, cannot
7 assume there won't be a default restructuring of
8 obligations owed to them, even if the credit
9 fundamentals look okay, because of the political element
10 in the decisions whether or not to demand private sector
11 involvement; default machine.

12 The U.K. doesn't have it, the U.S. doesn't
13 have it, Japan doesn't have it. Italy has it, Spain has
14 it, the process is endemic within the European system.

15 What this means is, a country like Italy is
16 solvent if the market thinks it is solvent. If the
17 market thinks it's solvent, it will charge interest
18 rates that are at levels the Italian state can afford to
19 pay.

20 But, if the private sector thinks that
21 there's a haircut coming, for political or underlying
22 debt reasons, the risk premium doesn't have to get too
23 high before it declares a bankruptcy rate of interest.
24 In a country where the gross public debt is 120 percent
25 of GDP, it can't afford even a 6 percent interest rate.

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1 That leaves you with a multiple equilibrium
 2 problem. We believe Italy can make it. And deep in our
 3 hearts we think ultimately Italy will be rescued from
 4 the bad equilibrium in which it's forced into the
 5 default consequences of an Italian restructuring. Even
 6 a full scale attack on the Italian public debt, which we
 7 have not yet seen, are too horrible to contemplate; and
 8 for you, let me say.

9 The U.S. is entirely exposed, directly and
 10 indirectly, to a downdraft of major proportions in the
 11 Italian debt market. Again, it's not an issue if Greece
 12 restructures, it's not an issue if Ireland restructures,
 13 if Portugal restructures. But Italy the world cannot
 14 afford. The banking systems around the world, not just
 15 Europe, are holding debt, and the risk would be a
 16 Lehman-like event.

17 As the European authorities try to manage
 18 the smaller debt problems, in particular the Greek debt
 19 problem, are they managing to do to that in a way that
 20 reduces or increases the risk of a destabilizing
 21 outbreak of anxiety about Italy or maybe even a credit
 22 event? Is this sometime down the road in Italy?

23 I'd love to say the answer is yes; but the
 24 answer, I think, is no. The euro zone summit was a step
 25 forward, and we have adopted the view that the glass is

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1 half full, and that's true, that compared with what
 2 existed, the policy vacuum that existed before the
 3 announcement of last week, the recent policy framework
 4 is sketchy and gets an incomplete as a step forward.

5 This morning, I'd like to focus on the part
 6 of the glass that's half empty; the risks to the Italian
 7 story, in particular, created by the policy decisions
 8 that were made last week.

9 First, what needs to be done with the
 10 management of Greece and probably Portugal and maybe
 11 Ireland, in the months to come, is first: The
 12 restructuring has to be definitively behind the market.
 13 It can't be perceived to linger for another five months,
 14 never mind five years.

15 Second, the restructuring has to be done in
 16 a way that insulates the precarious sovereigns and the
 17 banking system in Europe, in particular, infrastructure,
 18 the consequences, direct and indirect, of restructuring
 19 itself; and it has a plan to rebuild the banking system
 20 of defaulting countries that will certainly be broken by
 21 restructuring.

22 In three dimensions, seems to me, all of the
 23 opposing last week's announcements were dangerously in
 24 step. First, the Greek restructuring is not deep enough
 25 to put the Greek public finances on a sound footing.

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1 Fifty percent sounds like a lot. But they've carved out
2 all of the EU obligations, both ECB and government to
3 government obligations, and refused to restructure
4 those.

5 Of course, the IMF is considering that,
6 supposing that the rest of the stuff can be
7 restructured. But in that, there's debt which is owned
8 by other central banks and institutions. If the ECB is
9 not willing to take a haircut, it's unlikely those guys
10 will take a haircut, as well.

11 And it's likely that the banks, who are
12 under the regulatory -- are subject to regulatory
13 pressures from European sovereigns, will participate in
14 the restructuring. They own half of the privately held
15 debt out there. It's easily understandable and easily
16 predictable that other investors will not. We're not
17 done with Greece, even that if this restructuring goes
18 forward. That's bad.

19 Second, because the public sector purchases
20 of Greek public debt were decided not to be
21 restructured, it has become clear to the market that the
22 default risk will be concentrated in other stories as
23 well upon the private sector holding the bonds, more
24 concentrated as the aggregate shifting of bonds, the
25 holding of bonds, move from the public sector to the

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1 private sector.

2 So it's one thing for you to be the subject
3 of debt restructures, all of the debt to be
4 restructured. But if you own debt, which is 30 percent
5 of the total and it has to be cut by enough to make the
6 sovereigns credit-worthy again, that's when it becomes
7 astronomical and the credit risk becomes enormous.

8 Second, the banking initiatives to try to
9 strengthen the core European banking system were two.
10 First, sensibly, they have agreed on a program, the
11 details are not yet available, to make sure bank funding
12 is maintained throughout the crisis, some sort of public
13 guarantee of European bank obligations, seems to be in
14 the offing. And that's very important to prevent a
15 credit crunch in Europe. It's happening now -- to get
16 worse and create a deeper recession than is already in
17 the cards for core Europe.

18 Bank recapitalization received a lot of
19 attention. It's completely wrong-headed and actually
20 the wrong thing to do, and much more likely
21 counterproductive than productive. It was way too small
22 to make any difference whatsoever if the important
23 countries of Europe fall into default or even are
24 subject to full-fledged attack, and way too big if they
25 don't.

0028

1 Because the only problem, the only capital
2 deficiency in the European banking system occurs because
3 the sovereign debt the banks own are in question.
4 There's no protection for European banks from an Italian
5 default, no such thing; certainly a hundred billion
6 euros of capital will do no such thing.

7 The allocation of the capital raised was
8 determined because, in the event Spain and Italy do go
9 down, the least problems would be the direct exposure of
10 the banking system to those sovereigns. The bigger
11 story will be the economic chaos that ensues from the
12 credit losses associated with the financial mayhem, and
13 the economic catastrophe.

14 And finally, along with the very unfriendly
15 treatment of banks in general, in particular Greek
16 restructuring, it encourages banks to delever and to
17 reduce ownership of Greek public debt, European public
18 debt, to the maximum permissible. It has happened to
19 big banks all over Europe, reducing their holdings of
20 Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Greek and Irish debt as
21 quickly as it can get away with.

22 The last thing that Europe needs is to
23 contaminate the confidence of the most important class
24 or group of owners of the European public debt. This
25 they have done. The EFSF, which was created or

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1 conceived as a lender of last resort for distressed
2 sovereigns among other things, was very poorly equipped
3 and ultimately inadequate for the task of supporting
4 Italy or Spain if either one of the countries comes
5 under a really serious market attack. It is simply too
6 small and poorly structured for that purpose.

7 I have a note here on the structure of the
8 EFSF, the European Financial Stability Fund. It
9 explains why we think the headline number of a trillion
10 euro is completely -- won't have significant impact on
11 the actual debt service costs and problems that face the
12 distressed European sovereigns. Again, Italy is the one
13 that matters the most.

14 So, for the time being, it looks to us like
15 this story is very, very far from over. It's no
16 surprise, to me at least, that the market reaction to
17 the summit decisions, after a day or two of euphoria,
18 returned to a position of pretty significant skepticism.
19 The Italian bond yields a little bit softer today, a
20 little bit better today because the ECB cut rates this
21 long.

22 Nevertheless, unsustainable levels, and very
23 close to the previous peaks. Ominously, no evidence
24 whatsoever of any relief in the banking system, created
25 by the banking component.

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1 I don't know if you guys follow this, but
 2 one measure of stress in the banking system is the
 3 spread, the Libor overnight interest rate, that's
 4 noncredit intensive, reflects nervousness with which the
 5 major banks of Europe treat each other in the overnight
 6 lending rate. And that is close to, in fact, at the
 7 (unclear) was certainly higher in the 2008 financial
 8 crisis, now unsustainable.

9 You can't have that continue for another
 10 year or two and not have a liquidity/lending crunch that
 11 will do serious damage to the European banking system.

12 What is needed?

13 First, again, Italy is the story. All of
 14 the other stories really matter, almost only to you,
 15 insofar as Spain and, above all, Italy is perceived to
 16 proceed. Greece matters more for precedent to Italy
 17 than anything else.

18 First, Italy needs to do its homework, and
 19 it can't under the present government. We need a new
 20 government of Italy. The government doesn't have the
 21 traction in Rome needed to get a relatively modest
 22 important set of reforms through that both markets and,
 23 more importantly, the euro zone policy needs to see.

24 And the prime minister has zero credibility.
 25 Nobody in Europe's policy circles have confidence in

0031

1 him, and there's very unlikely to be full-fledged policy
 2 support for Italy under the Berlusconi government; which
 3 means that, in a matter of days if not weeks, maybe a
 4 couple of months away, what needs to happen for Europe
 5 and what needs to be done is, first, as Italy does its
 6 homework, to offer essentially unlimited financial
 7 support to stabilize the Italian debt markets so that
 8 investors know there's a backstop if they and other
 9 investors retreat from their holdings of Italian debt,
 10 which is inevitable; inevitable because of its treatment
 11 of the banking system of Greece and for other reasons,
 12 as well.

13 The only way is to prevent the vicious
 14 circle dynamics in which high interest rates lead to
 15 high estimated default probabilities, which lead to
 16 reduced demand for the debt, which leads to yet higher
 17 interest rates. That's a vicious circle that has to be
 18 cut, and EFSF won't do it.

19 The SNP, which is the Secondary Market
 20 Purchases program, on EBCB, cannot do it unless it's
 21 made clear to market participants that they mean
 22 business; they mean business like Ben Bernanke means it
 23 when he says the QE2 is \$800 billion dollars. When EBCD
 24 starts to signal they're willing to intervene on that
 25 sort of scale, then one can rest easier with the Italian

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1 situation.

2 This will not be over even if these
3 preconditions for preventing a collapse are in place for
4 at least a year. We still have to get through Portugal.
5 There's a very good chance that we'll have to manage the
6 Portugese, as well. Another direct consequence of that,
7 not too devastating, but it needs to be needs managed
8 intelligently. So far it's been managed abominably.

9 My background is in emerging markets. I
10 have to tell you, the kind of sanctimonious lectures
11 that the countries I cover got in the IMF from the
12 Europeans made me want to (unclear) at this point
13 because, compared with the way this is being managed,
14 they make it look like Argentina did good.

15 So first, we've got other policy, big policy
16 bumps in the road to get over. Secondly, we have a
17 recession coming that could be pretty bad, will be
18 pretty bad if we don't get the banking system back on
19 track. And no investor is going to feel comfortable in
20 the European public financials until they can see light
21 at the of the end macro economic tunnel. And that is
22 sometime to come. We're just going into the beginnings
23 of the European recession.

24 Look for this to be a key driver of asset
25 markets in the months to come. What would I do? Be

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1 aware. Whatever you do, don't be tempted -- there seems
2 to be -- to write catastrophe insurance on the European
3 collapse, which is what is holding Italian public debt.
4 Yes, you win if they avoid a public collapse. But if
5 you lose, everything else in your portfolio goes down at
6 the same time, and big. That is a horrible trade.

7 Look for things that are located as a result
8 of anxiety attacks, like we periodically will have in
9 the future, that you can feel comfortable holding
10 through market to market volatility associated with debt
11 assets, where the kind of distressed that is, ought to
12 be reflected in situations is price.

13 You can make a case that German equities are
14 a case where such bad news in price (unclear) public
15 debt. And look for opportunities in European bank
16 deleveraging; that is coming. I was speaking with
17 another big pension system not long ago, and they let us
18 know that they are already starting to see things from
19 European banks, governments, disposing related assets,
20 appealing prices, as long as the cosmetics transaction
21 are priced acceptably.

22 I've probably overspoken. Let me leave it
23 open for comments, complaints, questions.

24 (Laughter.)

25 MR. SCHLOSS: Depressing.

0034

1 THE SPEAKER: Can you comment on
2 implications for the U.S. markets?

3 MR. GAPEN: I think, first, what I said
4 about the economics, it all needs to be said about the
5 markets. This is, if Italy goes down, maybe even if
6 Spain goes down. Spain is a much smaller story, a less
7 meaningful smaller story and less risk, less distributed
8 around the world as Italian risk is.

9 But if Italy -- if the probability of Italy
10 going into a real debt crisis becomes a real one, there
11 are secondary ramifications that will hit the U.S., as
12 well.

13 What's our view on China? China will be
14 fine in 2012, as long as it doesn't import a recession
15 along the lines of the 2008 external demand implosion.
16 It's very poorly equipped at the moment, compared to
17 2008, to manage an external shock that size. The
18 reasons we'd have to schedule another meeting to
19 discuss.

20 It's not just the U.S. at risk. It's also
21 not just the economics, but also U.S. banks are not at
22 risk to a Greek restructuring, an Irish restructuring, a
23 Portugese restructuring; but an Italian restructuring,
24 directly, yes. Indirectly even more, because the
25 interlinkages between the U.S. financing system and the

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1 European financial system are like Siamese twins, and
2 there's no one unraveling those connections.

3 So first, to the extent that there's a
4 market anxiety about something that doesn't seem to
5 threaten Italy -- you may not think tactically about
6 investments, but if you read newspapers and try filter
7 the news, you can psychologically filter market anxiety
8 about now.

9 But, if Italy begins to come into more
10 serious questions than it already has, get out of the
11 way. Get out of the way. The S&P 500 is not priced for
12 consequences of anything like that. So there's real
13 risk in this story if it plays out poorly; we think it
14 could. I painted a very dire picture.

15 MR. SCHLOSS: You were just kidding.

16 (Laughter.)

17 MR. GAPEN: This is a manageable problem.
18 It is both astonishing and shocking that it's come to
19 this pass. There's no reason for Italy to be in the
20 kind of policy straits that it is at risk of being in.
21 It may actually be resolved quickly. We think if in
22 December, or the earliest January, we have a new Italian
23 government that is technocratic in nature and trusted by
24 the core European policy makers...

25 And although I deeply respect his

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1 intervention, this has been puzzling and unbelievably
 2 damaging to the management of the crisis. If there's
 3 one single person has complicated the European policy
 4 response, above all it would have to be Trachet [sic].
 5 He hung on for longer than anybody in the world, never
 6 mind in Europe, to the fiction that Greece didn't need
 7 to restructure its public debt.

8 As an economist, it's deeply baffling to me
 9 how he could have maintained that fancy for as long as
 10 -- and resisted the Greek restructuring for as long as
 11 he did. It's tremendously damaging, and his very
 12 grudging half-hearted support for European public debt
 13 stabilization was damaging. That's easy to remember,
 14 easy to understand.

15 But nevertheless, with the benefit of
 16 hindsight, it can be seen to be tremendously damaging
 17 (unclear) an equally competent trusted technocrat. I
 18 think (unclear) because of the fact he's Italian. He's
 19 not Italian, he went to MIT just like me. He is an
 20 economist's economist, a Ben Bernanke-like figure with
 21 political stature to do what needs to be done.

22 Even from an Italian that might be received
 23 negatively in some circles. They proved that today to
 24 some extent. That was an easy decision. It's not
 25 impossible with a political transition in Italy, offer

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1 the lender of last resort the facility... to what Italy
 2 needs, long policy efforts to turn the threat of Italian
 3 debt in the event of a true fail risk.

4 Second, you can afford to put Italy off to
 5 the side when making core investment decisions. It's
 6 not there yet. It's not likely to get there. I just
 7 think we'll see worse before we see an ultimate
 8 resolution of the problem.

9 MS. NAGASWAMI: You talked about a
 10 management and leadership crisis. That's what got us
 11 into this mess. Inherently the economy's structure is
 12 deeply flawed. And you talk about a recession. I just
 13 don't see where the growth is going to come to even make
 14 the three cents on the dollar, seem like it might move?

15 MR. GAPEN: I think the two economies where
 16 you can say that are Greece -- and I don't think that's
 17 the case in Italy. Italy has a demographic problem that
 18 compounds the problem going forward. And they have what
 19 we used to call "Remember Italy." (Unclear) They have
 20 it, clearly. They also have the ingredients to come
 21 back, I think, along the lines of Ireland. I see Italy
 22 as obviously bigger, older and a more complicated story
 23 than Ireland.

24 One potential actual surprise upside,
 25 demographics aside, is the private sector. If you think

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1 about it, it does comprise a large number -- doesn't
 2 mean that they don't have a recession coming. That
 3 doesn't mean they don't they a long grinding period of
 4 rebalancing coming. They do.

5 But I see it a little more like -- I don't
 6 want to sound overly optimistic, more like the 5 to 10
 7 years of difficulty that Germany had absorbing East
 8 Germany. It took enormous policy efforts and it took
 9 enormous sacrifice from the private sector in the form
 10 of slow to negative wage growth and so forth. But they
 11 came out of it with a stronger economy than they went
 12 into it.

13 I don't think that's impossible for Italy.
 14 Many things can be done. It might not be so obvious to
 15 guys who haven't lived in Sicily or --

16 MS. NAGASWAMI: Have been for ten years and
 17 nothing happened.

18 MR. GAPEN: It's a leadership problem. It's
 19 two things. First, let's step back. Italy has been
 20 through something like this in the past under more
 21 favorable circumstances. In the early 1990s, the debt
 22 burden may have been almost identical to the one it
 23 faces now. What brought it down, if I remember, about
 24 25 percent point GDP to get Italy out of the danger
 25 zone, if it were actually to materialize. Now, those

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1 were much more buoyant years in terms of global growth.
 2 Italy didn't have the competitiveness problem but
 3 developed a competitiveness problem in the last ten
 4 years. It didn't have quite the demographic problem
 5 that it will have in the next ten years.

6 So I think it will be harder and a little
 7 over-optimistic to say that (unclear) repeat those ten
 8 years is not easy, but I personally think doable.

9 If you talk about Greece, it's much more
 10 difficult to envision Portugal, too; much more difficult
 11 to envision. I don't think we should be
 12 overly-pessimistic about Italy with the leadership and
 13 the kind of policy initiatives.

14 Last point; the debt consolidation we had in
 15 the 1990s didn't happen, because (unclear) slowed,
 16 better growth than you can expect in the next ten years,
 17 but it's still a fairly slow growth economy. It has
 18 been a slow growth economy the last twenty years, not
 19 just the past five or ten.

20 It means that we have to be much more
 21 careful and much more thorough in the manager attitude
 22 to fiscal consolidation. But they can start with a much
 23 healthier position. The Italian public finances are
 24 probably out of whack by 3 to 5 percent, I'm not sure,
 25 compared with the United States or Japan, more 10 to 12

0040

1 percentage points of GDP, an unsustainable fiscal
 2 structure. It's a much more manageable situation. It
 3 definitely needs attention and work and support, but
 4 we're not pessimistic.

5 MS. ROMAIN: Given the dysfunction, what is
 6 your view of the euro zone expanding, contracting?

7 MR. GAPEN: I think it's not my call, but we
 8 think there is a negligible risk the euro zone will lose
 9 a subset of Portugal, Greece and Ireland. It would be
 10 devastating if any of those countries leave the euro
 11 zone. It would be equally devastating for them to stay
 12 in the euro zone. It's a very tough situation they've
 13 gotten themselves into.

14 That, to me, can only increase the integrity
 15 -- by the way, I think Ireland is the least likely to
 16 leave and the most likely to come out of this actually
 17 with high public debt, without a debt restructuring, a
 18 pretty good bet; and with a growth story to tell. Why?
 19 Partly because of two reasons.

20 First, the markets and endowments,
 21 endowments in human capital and international trade; and
 22 in the stubbornness of the Irish people and their
 23 experience. They approach this problem like the Baltics
 24 did, and their crisis, Lithuania and those countries,
 25 fell into an unbelievably deep crisis, and nobody really

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1 thought they would be able to make it with their heads
 2 intact.

3 Until our economists went there and looked
 4 them in the eye, "Show me the arithmetic." They said,
 5 "You don't understand, we went through the Soviet Union,
 6 we know what pain is. You haven't even seen the
 7 beginning of what we can tolerate."

8 The Italian public sector (unclear) that is
 9 benefiting them, because internationally they're exposed
 10 to competitors. It's hard to see that in Greece, hard
 11 to see in Portugal and Italy. Luckily the problem is
 12 much smaller... euro zone systemic in nature, little
 13 countries but a core country. I think you would have to
 14 identify Italy as the country most at risk. There are
 15 elements within Italy that would -- I would assign zero
 16 to low probability, five to ten years, no more than five
 17 percent probability that Italy leaves the euro zone.

18 Scenarios in which the strong countries
 19 decide to break up euro zone, not even worth thinking
 20 about. If they had to vote on it now, Germany would
 21 vote overwhelmingly against the euro. They weren't
 22 asked.

23 (Laughter.)

24 The politicians ignore them.

25 MR. SMARR: Can you describe the debt, some

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1 of which was restructured, some was not? All the money
 2 Greece borrowed, was that restructured public debt? You
 3 said it was restructured?

4 MR. GAPEN: Make a distinction between debt
 5 -- debt owed to or borrowed by?

6 MR. SMARR: Borrowed by.

7 MR. GAPEN: All borrowed private sector
 8 debt, the problem was non-existent, not entirely
 9 (unclear).

10 MR. SCHLOSS: One guesstimation, you're
 11 handicapping, the Greeks say, let's have a nice
 12 referendum, because they're going to ask question they
 13 don't want to ask the people: What happens?

14 MR. GAPEN: The reason this question is
 15 being asked is because if we ever get to a referendum,
 16 there's almost no risk, the answer would be no. The
 17 Greek public is overwhelmingly in favor of staying
 18 within the euro zone with the euro. Not unanimously; 70
 19 to 75 percent of survey respondents have said that.

20 The risk comes from the fact that the
 21 referendum might turn into a referendum on the
 22 government, as opposed to an actual answer to the
 23 question being asked. And it's a stupid risk to run. A
 24 new government would almost certainly abandon this plan
 25 to run a referendum. It can't afford referendum that

0043

1 has nothing to do with the policy questions at stake, I
 2 think.

3 MR. SCHLOSS: You think there's no
 4 referendum?

5 MR. GAPEN: It's not impossible.

6 MR. SCHLOSS: You're a betting man.

7 MR. GAPEN: I think it's very likely to wind
 8 up being no referendum. I'd say my own view, not the
 9 house view, I'm not sure what the house would say, what
 10 a European team would say. My own view probably is
 11 there's a 15 to 20 percent probability of a referendum.
 12 I could be wrong. Politicians are very hard to predict.
 13 They may survive. Weirder things have happened, with
 14 Greek politicians especially.

15 I think the base case is a government is
 16 elected tomorrow. A government of national unity is
 17 constructed, a temporary government is constructed, and
 18 they stagger into 2012 and try to implement the most
 19 recent program as best they can. There's uncertainty,
 20 not to say we know.

21 MR. SCHLOSS: Last question.

22 A Hail Mary from the Fed or China, don't
 23 worry?

24 MR. GAPEN: One of the scariest things to me
 25 is to hear Sarkozy (unclear) Chinese realization, he

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1 doesn't seem to understand the nature of the problem
 2 where Europe is in the international scheme, the Chinese
 3 would provide cash. But Europe doesn't need cash. Cash
 4 is everywhere. You have cash, I have cash. The Fed has
 5 a fire hose.

6 It's not a liquidity problem in that sense.
 7 Europe needs credit, an investor or set of investors
 8 willing to take a bet on the European, in particular
 9 Italian, credit. That's not the Chinese game. They
 10 invest in cash reserve managers. Certainly not to make
 11 stupid credit bets; right? They don't. Enough to know.

12 So, approach China? To me, no. This may
 13 wind up, if it grinds on long enough, bad enough,
 14 becoming a problem obviously too big for Europeans to
 15 handle on their own. In that case, you can expect the
 16 U.S. -- the IMF, of course, to spearhead a G20 type of
 17 response, which would possibly be financed substantially
 18 by Chinese money.

19 For example, in the past we've seen Asian
 20 and Middle East money. That will not be credit. Credit
 21 will remain concentrated in the private sector, because
 22 all those lenders will demand the private sector not be
 23 subject to restructuring risk. There aren't many
 24 investors out there right now willing to be subject to
 25 that restructuring risk.

0045

1 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: Anybody else?

2 Thank you very much. The only thing that
 3 saves this day is my granddaughter. She raises my
 4 spirits.

5 (Laughter.)

6 MS. DUNLAP: Thank you very much for having
 7 us here today. We have a number of publications here
 8 that we'll leave for you, research reports.

9 (The Barclays people left the room.)

10 (Recess taken.)

11 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: We would like to get
 12 started again.

13 MR. SCHLOSS: Next on the agenda is a
 14 continued discussion about rebalancing ranges for the
 15 new asset allocation. I'll hand it over to Robin.

16 MS. PELISH: Thank you. This is really
 17 intended to be a follow-up to a discussion held at a
 18 prior meeting about rebalancing the target allocations
 19 and rebalancing ranges. And this is on page number 58,
 20 and starts in the big book.

21 So, the difference between the prior
 22 presentation and this presentation really is that we've
 23 aggregated the allocations to public equity and public
 24 fixed income, and developed ranges, rebalancing ranges
 25 for those asset classes.

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1 And let me call your attention to the
2 details on page 60, where you see that the long term
3 target allocation to public equity is 51 percent. The
4 aggregate U.S. Equity and non-U.S. Equities, Emerging
5 Markets and REITS, each one of the individual asset
6 classes has a range around the target allocation that
7 allows for some movement within that asset class.

8 But once you get outside of that range, it's
9 expected that you rebalance back to a point within the
10 rebalancing range. The ranges are developed as a
11 combination of our end science, but they're developed
12 considering using algorithms to produce transaction
13 cost, volatility of the asset class, as well as the
14 correlation to that asset class and other asset classes
15 in the portfolio.

16 As I just noted, if you add up those four
17 sub-asset classes, public market equity for the target
18 allocation to 51 percent, what we're proposing here is
19 that rebalancing range for aggregate number be plus or
20 minus 5 percent.

21 So, in other words, you could underweight
22 non-U.S. Equity, overweight U.S. Equities, but it's
23 aggregate. The aggregate of public market equities is
24 not expected to go beyond 46 percent or 56 percent.

25 Now we don't have rebalancing ranges for

0047

1 private asset classes, although those allocations should
2 be monitored. Rebalancing is really intended to be
3 carried out with liquid asset classes. So we're
4 excluding private equity and real estate.

5 If you move down to the fixed income asset
6 classes, you'll see, if you add up all the sub
7 strategies, Core+5, TIPS, high yield and emerging market
8 debt, the total target allocation to public market fixed
9 income is 32 percent. We're suggesting here that there
10 be a range of plus or minus 4 percent with regard to the
11 aggregate strategies within public markets.

12 So that's really the major change from the
13 numbers you've seen previously.

14 Any questions on that set of numbers?

15 MS. NAGASWAMI: The trigger points all
16 appear reasonable in terms of changes to the volatility
17 assumptions that Rocaton made, which reflects that. The
18 only question I still have, Robin, is that our current
19 equity in fixed income, what you have as plus or minus 5
20 and plus or minus 4, actually include the illiquid.
21 Today in our investment policy statement we are plus or
22 minus 5 for equities, private and private.

23 If you added the 51 plus 63 and 3, is that
24 63? And the plus or minus 5 would apply to that? I'm
25 not sure why we would change that.

0048

1 The same with fixed income, we've added up
2 opportunistic fixed income to that category, with a plus
3 or minus 4, would be relative to 37, not 32. And that
4 goes with the whole way that the Actuary thinks about
5 it, the 70/30 is the risk today and that moves to 63/37;
6 and then the bands are set around that, rather than just
7 the public.

8 MS. ROMAIN: The balance of liquid in the
9 categories, then are you saying let it be included
10 anyway, and therefore wouldn't rebalance?

11 MS. NAGASWAMI: Included now, so it's
12 already part of how we thought about it for years and
13 years. But we don't -- Robin makes a very interesting
14 point, which is that you don't rebalance illiquids, but
15 the weights changes. So when we think about our total
16 equity weight -- let's say we have a market drop by 20
17 percent of the total equity, shouldn't we include the
18 private equity weight in terms of saying what's plus or
19 minus 5 percent of the total equity weight, including
20 private equity, because we have that exposure to private
21 equity?

22 MS. PELISH: There is a logic to doing that.
23 I understand the logic; I guess the counter-argument, I
24 do think the way it's being done is defensible. The
25 counter-argument to the way it's currently being done

0049

1 and the suggestion you are making is that rebalancing is
2 really a response to mark to market. And the private
3 asset classes don't really mark to market very
4 efficiently. So you're including numbers that may be
5 very lag, either on the upside or downside.

6 MS. MARCH: You can't figure out what they
7 are worth?

8 MS. NAGASWAMI: I agree with Robin.

9 MS. PELISH: If you're including them in the
10 total around which -- what you're saying is, consider
11 those beta exposures.

12 MS. NAGASWAMI: Ignore means don't include
13 them. We already have them. Suddenly we could add 5
14 percent to public equities, but in fact we have private
15 equity stuff.

16 MS. PELISH: Right.

17 MR. NORTH: I think what the issue is here
18 is, right now there's a rebalancing on 82 percent of the
19 assets. To the extent you want to get fully invested in
20 the other 18, you could be in a situation -- I'll make
21 it extreme to make a point -- assume none of the private
22 equity elements are in place at all. You would end up
23 with a portfolio of 56 percent public equity, the
24 maximum -- because the private equity is still being
25 advised.

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1 So I think the question is, Do you want to
2 allow in terms of characteristics either a wider band to
3 account for the investment into the other processes? Or
4 do you want to make a specific allocation to the
5 place-holder or illiquids?

6 MR. SCHLOSS: Bob, I don't think that is
7 right. It looks like that, the way the math works. I
8 think the reality is buried in the footnotes 1, 2, 3, 4.
9 Because what these footnotes do is give you a public
10 proxy for illiquids. So if you added these footnotes
11 in, with sort of a pro forma number.

12 In fact, if you wanted you could come up
13 with another pro forma number, add the invested amounts,
14 and say let's use that as a proxy. But I think it's
15 dangerous if you -- you're going to have privates
16 pushing out your publics in big market dislocations,
17 which might not be at all what you want to do, given the
18 inability to value these privates correctly.

19 MS. NAGASWAMI: I feel that ignoring that
20 beta is absolutely painting a picture in terms of ranges
21 I wouldn't want. I wouldn't want to ignore the
22 denominator effect on the alternatives. We want to do
23 more of these. We talked about adding even more, so
24 that we could have a lot of beta exposure that's not
25 accounted for when we think about our weights.

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1 MS. PELISH: It is accounted for. I think
2 your point applies if we've gotten very much out of
3 whack versus our targets to privates. But if we're
4 anywhere near these targets it is included, we are
5 saying.

6 MS. NAGASWAMI: It could be off, right? For
7 two or three years, pretty off.

8 MR. NORTH: I think another way of
9 describing the issue is, when the reports come back
10 every quarter and they say how much is in, say,
11 uninvested EMD; it's supposed to be 50 percent in
12 foreign and 50 percent in high yield. Unless it's
13 recognized in a separate bucket as, this is part of what
14 will be EMD someday, the reports that are going to come
15 back are going to show you either a little overweight in
16 Core+5 and overweight in high yield. And you don't want
17 to rebalance back, because they're both illiquid. It's
18 a proxy.

19 So one can set up the numbers on the whole
20 portfolio or the other portfolio because you're trying
21 to get the risk balance and the betas in the right
22 place. But then when it's reported, you've got to make
23 sure you don't accidentally trigger a rebalancing --

24 MR. SCHLOSS: Right.

25 MR. GANTZ: What we've done in the past is

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1 adjust for just what you're describing, have the
2 adjusted policy to account for the uninvested amounts
3 going into the other holding place; and then apply
4 ranges on that adjusted --

5 MS. NAGASWAMI: That's in the policy.

6 MR. SCHLOSS: There's two parts to this.
7 Let's break it into two. The part that's not invested,
8 EMD, that just gets you a pro forma policy, which is
9 easy to take care of. Ranji's is a little different
10 question. You guys are only 82 percent of the
11 portfolio. What about the rest?

12 I can take care of yours, Bob, by these
13 footnotes.

14 MS. PELISH: And appropriate reporting.

15 MR. SCHLOSS: Yes.

16 MS. PELISH: I think what the answer is, you
17 can approach it -- not adding in private asset classes
18 does leave out beta exposure, absolutely. Adding
19 increases the problem, the evaluations at any moment in
20 time, and we're rebalancing monthly; very suspect. But
21 so it's weighing those two issues.

22 If however, we worked to include the private
23 asset classes in either equity or fixed income, because
24 we have also left out opportunistic fixed income -- I
25 think we would have to raise the 5 percent either way.

0053

1 Keep it the way it is or raise it 3 percent.

2 MR. SCHLOSS: Bigger bands --

3 MS. MARCH: But what you're doing is, you
4 are including in your range, including in your results,
5 assets that we don't have the value of, for six months
6 after they are valued. And this is not an exact
7 science. And if we account for it in other ways, I
8 don't really think we should make the changes being
9 asked for.

10 MS. NAGASWAMI: I'm not sure why we're
11 changing our policy. What we have today is being
12 changed. I'm not sure why we are doing that. We've had
13 this policy for years, where we've included it. I'm not
14 sure why we're changing something. Because the beta has
15 mattered historically. I'm not sure why the beta
16 doesn't matter anymore. We've moved all the other
17 trigger points for volatility, let's move this one.

18 I'm surprised we've excluded something that
19 has always been included, and it's now 18 percent of the
20 portfolio. And everywhere else we have widened the
21 bands, because vol [sic] has gone up. Sure that makes
22 sense.

23 MS. PELISH: I think we can approach it
24 either way. I think this is sort of neither -- I think
25 rebalancing is really an operational process. If you

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1 want to include the beta from private asset classes,
2 that's fine. It's harder to calculate the range because
3 it then becomes --

4 MS. NAGASWAMI: But the bands are there to
5 manage the beta. That is what bands are for. If we
6 ignore 20 percent of the portfolio -- I'm not sure why
7 -- the point of the exercise is to keep beta at a target
8 level.

9 MS. MARCH: That's fine. So let's not
10 change our bands until we know the results of the
11 private equity. Let's not deal on a short term basis.
12 Let's wait until we have the results. We'll wait until
13 those results come in.

14 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: We've heard arguments
15 on several sides. The Board has made its recommendation
16 with respect to your application, to accept this
17 recommendation at this time, and that we move ahead.
18 And then, as we do this, if we see any problems arising,
19 review it. Right now my suggestion is to accept this
20 and move --

21 MS. NAGASWAMI: I'm not comfortable. We are
22 changing the way we think about beta. I'm not
23 comfortable with that. It's very easy to just widen the
24 bands. We just did it for non-U.S. in our policy
25 portfolio, plus or minus 2 to plus or minus 4. That

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1 makes sense. I'm not sure why this is difficult.

2 MS. PELISH: I'd suggest one other solution.
3 One other solution is to -- balancing the problems with
4 valuations. All we know the numbers are off the mark
5 any time we rebalance. We know the private numbers are
6 not exact, they lag so much. But recognizing that, at
7 the same time, recognizing that they do provide beta
8 exposure. Another way to potentially handle it is to
9 look at this either on a monthly or quarterly basis,
10 take weightings, either over or under targets, the
11 private asset classes, and adjust the numbers. I'm not
12 sure of the best way.

13 MS. MARCH: If you are not sure that it's
14 the best, why should we accept the recommendations?

15 MR. SCHLOSS: How about we do not decide
16 today and come back to it next month? I'm okay with
17 that.

18 MS. MARCH: Fine. Come back next month.

19 MS. PELISH: I'd mention one other point.
20 If you're not approving this today either, I'd mention
21 one other point that needs to be addressed and approved
22 at some point; which is this concept of cash
23 allocations. In none of the asset allocations is cash
24 considered as a strategic allocation. Cash is only
25 accumulated for frictional reasons, you're awaiting

0056

1 distributions, awaiting investments, manager
 2 terminations that are proceeding. Or, the third reason
 3 is cash -- today the largest, I think, source of cash is
 4 extreme market conditions that led to holding cash for a
 5 limited period of time.

6 MR. SCHLOSS: And rebalancing.

7 MS. PELISH: An rebalancing falls into the
 8 cash category.

9 So, we are not suggesting that cash be
 10 considered a strategic allocation; it never has been.
 11 But one of the decisions that has to be made is the
 12 maximum allocation to cash that can be held for any of
 13 the reasons, any administrative or tactical reasons.

14 Here we have a suggestion that allocation to
 15 cash not exceed 5 percent of the planned assets without
 16 prior notification and approval of the Board of
 17 Trustees. I'm not sure the board wants to discuss this
 18 at this time, but this is another important element to
 19 go into IPS.

20 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: All right?

21 MS. MARCH: All right.

22 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: Does that conclude
 23 your report?

24 MS. PELISH: Yes, it does.

25 MR. SCHLOSS: We'll come back on this one

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1 next month and wrap it up.

2 That concludes the public session for the
 3 Comptroller's Office.

4 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: Do I hear a motion?

5 MS. MARCH: I move, pursuant to public
 6 session law, Section 105, to go into executive session
 7 to discuss the proposed acquisition, sale or exchange of
 8 securities held by the Teachers' Retirement System; and
 9 to discuss proposed pending or current litigation.

10 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: Any discussion?

11 All in favor say "Aye."

12 (A chorus of "Ayes.")

13 Any opposed?

14

15

16 (At this time, the meeting was conducted in executive session.)

17

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19 MS. MARCH: Motion to go out of executive session.

20 MR. SCHLOSS: Second.

21 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: Any discussion?

22 All in favor say "Aye."

23 (A chorus of "Ayes.")

24 Opposed?

25 We're now out of executive session. And we

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1 would like, for the record, a report on what was done in
2 executive session.

3 MS. STANG: In executive session of the
4 variable funds, three manager updates were presented.

5 In the executive session of the pension
6 funds, several manager updates were presented.

7 A private equity investment was discussed,
8 consensus was reached, which will be announced at the
9 appropriate time.

10 Presentations from two real estate
11 consultants was received, and a consensus developed,
12 which will be announced at the appropriate time.

13 There was a session of attorney client
14 privilege to discuss a policy issue. No consensus was
15 reached.

16 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: Okay.

17 Any other business before the board?

18 Do I hear a motion to adjourn?

19 MS. MARCH: Moved.

20 MS. NAGASWAMI: Second.

21 CHAIRPERSON AARONSON: Therefore, seeing no
22 objections, we are adjourned.

23 (Time noted: 3:28 p.m.)

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I, Jeffrey Shapiro, a Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public, within and for the State of New York, do hereby certify that I reported the proceedings in the within-entitled matter, on Thursday, November 3, 2011, at the offices of the NYC TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM, 55 Water Street, New York, New York, and that this is an accurate transcription of these proceedings.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this ____ day of _____, 2011.

JEFFREY SHAPIRO