

- Meeting
- Chairman's Report
- Director's Report
- Open Committee Reports

**Michael P. Crosby,**

*Executive Officer and NSB Office Director.*

[FR Doc. 06-6718 Filed 8-2-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-M**

## OFFICE OF THE TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Determinations Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Trade Representative (USTR) has determined that Burkina Faso has adopted an effective visa system and related procedures to prevent unlawful transshipment and the use of counterfeit documents in connection with shipments of textile and apparel articles and has implemented and follows, or is making substantial progress toward implementing and following, the customs procedures required by the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). Therefore, imports of eligible products from Burkina Faso qualify for the textile and apparel benefits provided under the AGOA.

**DATES:** Effective August 4, 2006.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Laurie-Ann Agama, Director for African Affairs, Office of the United States Trade Representative, (202) 395-9514.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The AGOA (Title I of the Trade and Development Act of 2000, Pub. L. 106-200) provides preferential tariff treatment for imports of certain textile and apparel products of beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries. The textile and apparel trade benefits under the AGOA are available to imports of eligible products from countries that the President designates as beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries, provided that these countries: (1) Have adopted an effective visa system and related procedures to prevent unlawful transshipment and the use of counterfeit documents; and (2) have implemented and follow, or are making substantial progress toward implementing and following, certain customs procedures that assist U.S. Customs and Border Protection in verifying the origin of the products.

In Proclamation 7853, the President designated Burkina Faso a "beneficiary sub-Saharan African country."

Proclamation 7350 (October 2, 2000) delegated to the USTR the authority to determine whether designated countries have met the two requirements described above. The President directed the USTR to announce any such determinations in the **Federal Register** and to implement them through modifications of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS). Based on actions that the Government of Burkina Faso has taken, I have determined that Burkina Faso has satisfied these two requirements.

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority vested in the USTR by Proclamation 7350, U.S. note 7(a) to subchapter II of chapter 98 of the HTS and U.S. note 1 to subchapter XIX of chapter 98 of the HTS are each modified by inserting "Burkina Faso" in alphabetical sequence in the list of countries. The foregoing modifications to the HTS are effective with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the date of publication of this notice. Importers claiming preferential tariff treatment under the AGOA for entries of textile and apparel articles should ensure that those entries meet the applicable visa requirements. See *Visa Requirements Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act*, 66 FR 7837 (2001).

**Susan C. Schwab,**

*United States Trade Representative.*

[FR Doc. E6-12642 Filed 8-3-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3190-W6-P**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. IC-27442]

### Notice of Applications for Deregistration Under Section 8(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

July 28, 2006.

The following is a notice of applications for deregistration under section 8(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 for the month of July, 2006. A copy of each application may be obtained for a fee at the SEC's Public Reference Branch (tel. 202-551-5850). An order granting each application will be issued unless the SEC orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing on any application by writing to the SEC's Secretary at the address below and serving the relevant applicant with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the SEC by 5:30 p.m. on August 22, 2006, and should be accompanied by proof of service on the

applicant, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the Secretary, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090.

*For Further Information Contact:*  
Diane L. Titus at (202) 551-6810, SEC, Division of Investment Management, Office of Investment Company Regulation, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-4041.

### The Thurlow Funds, Inc. [File No. 811-8219]

*Summary:* Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On March 17, 2006, applicant made a liquidating distribution to its shareholders, based on net asset value. Expenses of approximately \$16,500 incurred in connection with the liquidation were paid by Thurlow Capital Management, Inc., applicant's investment adviser.

*Filing Date:* The application was filed on June 30, 2006.

*Applicant's Address:* 3212 Jefferson St. #416, Napa, CA 94558.

### Retirement Income Trust [File No. 811-21320]

*Summary:* Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On April 27, 2006, applicant made a liquidating distribution to its shareholders, based on net asset value. Applicant incurred no expenses in connection with the liquidation.

*Filing Date:* The application was filed on July 19, 2006.

*Applicant's Address:* 5553 Woodmont St., Pittsburgh, PA 15217.

### WM Prime Income Fund [File No. 811-9122]

*Summary:* Applicant, a closed-end investment company, seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On August 17, 1998, applicant made a liquidating distribution to its shareholders, based on net asset value. Expenses of approximately \$4,000 incurred in connection with the liquidation were paid by WM Advisors, Inc., applicant's investment adviser.

*Filing Date:* The application was filed on June 6, 2006.

*Applicant's Address:* John T. West, c/o WM Advisors, Inc., 1201 Third Ave., Suite 2200, Seattle, WA 98101.

**Smith Barney Principal Return Fund [File No. 811-5678]**

*Summary:* Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On August 31, 2005, applicant made a liquidating distribution to its shareholders, based on net asset value. Expenses of \$27,000 incurred in connection with the liquidation will be paid by applicant using \$13,372 in cash held by its custodian, State Street Bank and Trust Company, and remaining amounts will be paid by Smith Barney Fund Management LLC, applicant's investment adviser.

*Filing Date:* The application was filed on June 27, 2006.

*Applicant's Address:* 125 Broad St., 10th Floor, New York, NY 10004.

**Fidelity Qualified Dividend Fund [File No. 811-3071]**

*Summary:* Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On September 30, 1991, applicant transferred its assets to Fidelity Utilities Income Fund, a series of Fidelity Devonshire Trust, based on net asset value. Expenses incurred in connection with the reorganization were paid by applicant.

*Filing Dates:* The application was filed on March 9, 2006, and amended on July 17, 2006.

*Applicant's Address:* 82 Devonshire St., Boston, MA 02109.

**The Nevis Fund, Inc. [File No. 811-8689]**

*Summary:* Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On December 30, 2005, applicant transferred its assets to Brown Advisory Opportunity Fund, a series of Forum Funds, based on net asset value. Expenses of \$164,891 incurred in connection with the reorganization were paid by Nevis Capital Management LLC and Brown Investment Advisory Incorporated, applicant's investment advisers.

*Filing Date:* The application was filed on June 13, 2006.

*Applicant's Address:* 2 Hamill Rd., Suite 272, Baltimore, MD 21210.

**Highland Institutional Floating Rate Income Fund [File No. 811-8955]**

*Summary:* Applicant, a closed-end investment company, seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On May 5, 2006, applicant made a final liquidating distribution to its shareholders, based on net asset value. Applicant paid expenses of approximately \$14,800 incurred in connection with the liquidation.

*Filing Date:* The application was filed on June 15, 2006.

*Applicant's Address:* c/o Highland Capital Management, L.P., Two Galleria Tower, 13455 Noel Rd., Suite 800, Dallas, TX 75240.

**CIM High Yield Securities [File No. 811-5328]**

*Summary:* Applicant, a closed-end investment company, seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On April 28, 2006, applicant made a final liquidating distribution to its shareholders, based on net asset value. Applicant incurred \$75,214 in expenses in connection with the liquidation.

*Filing Date:* The application was filed on June 16, 2006.

*Applicant's Address:* c/o Invesco Institutional (N.A.), Inc., 400 W Market St., Suite 3300, Louisville, KY 40202.

**Morgan Stanley KLD Social Index Fund [File No. 811-10353]; Morgan Stanley Biotechnology Fund [File No. 811-21040]**

*Summary:* Each applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On April 7, 2006, each applicant made a liquidating distribution to its shareholders, based on net asset value. Expenses of approximately \$10,000 incurred in connection with each liquidation were paid by Morgan Stanley Investment Advisors Inc., investment adviser to each applicant.

*Filing Date:* The applications were filed on July 18, 2006.

*Applicants' Address:* Morgan Stanley Investment Advisors Inc., 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020.

**ACM Government Securities Fund, Inc. [File No. 811-5402]; ACM Government Spectrum Fund, Inc. [File No. 811-5500]**

*Summary:* Each applicant, a closed-end investment company, seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On December 19, 2000, each applicant transferred its assets to ACM Income Fund, Inc. (formerly, ACM Government Income Fund, Inc.), based on net asset value. Each applicant paid \$17,500 of the expenses incurred in connection with the reorganizations.

*Filing Date:* The applications were filed on June 30, 2006.

*Applicants' Address:* 1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10105.

**Scudder Yieldwise Funds [File No. 811-8047]**

*Summary:* Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an

investment company. On June 10, 2005, applicant transferred its assets to corresponding series of DWS Money Funds (formerly, Scudder Money Funds), based on net asset value. Expenses of \$217,524 incurred in connection with the reorganization were paid by Deutsche Investment Management Americas, Inc., applicant's investment adviser.

*Filing Date:* The application was filed on June 29, 2006.

*Applicant's Address:* 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606.

**Scudder Focus Value Plus Growth Fund [File No. 811-7331]**

*Summary:* Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On April 26, 2005, applicant transferred its assets to DWS Growth & Income Fund, a series of DWS Investment Trust, based on net asset value. Expenses of \$238,121 incurred in connection with the reorganization were paid by Deutsche Investment Management Americas, Inc., applicant's investment adviser.

*Filing Date:* The application was filed on June 29, 2006.

*Applicant's Address:* 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606.

**Scudder Growth Trust [File No. 811-1365]**

*Summary:* Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On March 14, 2005, applicant transferred its assets to DWS Capital Growth Fund, a series of DWS Investment Trust, based on net asset value. Expenses of \$399,868 incurred in connection with the reorganization were paid by Deutsche Investment Management Americas, Inc., applicant's investment adviser.

*Filing Dates:* The application was filed on July 6, 2006.

*Applicant's Address:* 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606.

**Scudder Dynamic Growth Fund [File No. 811-1702]; Scudder Aggressive Growth Fund [File No. 811-7855]**

*Summary:* Each applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On December 20, 2004 and September 17, 2005, respectively, each applicant transferred its assets to corresponding series of DWS Advisor Funds (formerly, Scudder Advisor Funds), based on net asset value. Expenses of approximately \$417,209 and \$195,103, respectively, incurred in connection with the reorganizations were paid by Deutsche Investment Management Americas, Inc., applicants' investment adviser.

*Filing Date:* The applications were filed on July 6, 2006.

*Applicants' Address:* 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606.

**Scudder Investors Trust [File No. 811-9057]**

*Summary:* Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On April 15, 2005, applicant made a liquidating distribution to its shareholders, based on net asset value. Expenses of \$115,176 incurred in connection with the liquidation were paid by Deutsche Investment Management Americas, Inc., applicant's investment adviser.

*Filing Date:* The application was filed on June 29, 2006.

*Applicant's Address:* 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606.

**Scudder New Europe Fund, Inc. [File No. 811-5969]**

*Summary:* Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On March 14, 2005, applicant transferred its assets to DWS Europe Equity Fund, a series of DWS International Fund, Inc. (formerly, Scudder International Fund, Inc.), based on net asset value. Expenses of approximately \$283,745 incurred in connection with the reorganization were paid by Deutsche Investment Management Americas, Inc., applicant's investment adviser.

*Filing Date:* The application was filed on July 6, 2006.

*Applicant's Address:* 345 Park Ave., New York, NY 10154.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, pursuant to delegated authority.

**J. Lynn Taylor,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E6-12634 Filed 8-3-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

[Release No. 34-54239; File No. 4-524]

**Joint Industry Plan; Notice of Filing of the NMS Linkage Plan by the American Stock Exchange LLC, Boston Stock Exchange, Inc., Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated, Chicago Stock Exchange, Inc., The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC, National Stock Exchange, New York Stock Exchange LLC, and NYSE Arca, Inc.**

July 28, 2006.

**I. Introduction**

On July 17, 2006, pursuant to Rule 608 of the Securities Exchange Act of

1934 ("Act"),<sup>1</sup> the American Stock Exchange LLC, ("Amex"), the Boston Stock Exchange, Inc., the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated., the Chicago Stock Exchange, Inc., The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC, the National Stock Exchange, the New York Stock Exchange LLC, ("NYSE"), and NYSE Arca, Inc. ("Participants") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission" or "SEC") an executed copy of the NMS Linkage Plan ("Linkage Plan" or "Plan"), a national market system plan to create and operate an intermarket communications linkage pursuant to Section 11A(a)(3)(B) of the Act.<sup>2</sup> The Linkage Plan, as stated in section 13 of the Plan, is to become operative on October 1, 2006. The Linkage Plan was executed by the eight self-regulatory organizations listed above. According to the Plan Participants, the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc. ("Phlx") is in general agreement with the policy and rules associated with the proposed Linkage Plan and may become a Participant before the Plan's operative date of October 1, 2006. Pursuant to Rule 608(b)(1),<sup>3</sup> the Commission is publishing this notice of, and soliciting comments on, the Linkage Plan.

**II. NMS Linkage Plan**

In the following paragraphs, the Linkage Plan Participants respond to the requirements of Rule 608 under the Act.

**1. Purpose of Linkage Plan**

The purpose of the proposed Linkage Plan is to enable the Plan Participants to act jointly in planning, developing, operating and regulating the NMS Linkage System ("Linkage" or "System") that will electronically link the Participant Markets to one another, as described in the Linkage Plan, so as to further the objectives of Congress as set forth in Section 11A of the Act and to facilitate compliance by the Participants and their respective members with Rules 610 and 611 under Regulation NMS.

**2. Governing or Constitutional Documents**

The governing document is the Linkage Plan.

**3. Implementation of Plan**

The proposed Linkage Plan will become effective on October 1, 2006.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 17 CFR 242.608.

<sup>2</sup> This submission supersedes earlier submissions dated April 10, 2006 and June 12, 2006.

<sup>3</sup> 17 CFR 240.608(b)(1).

<sup>4</sup> As the ITS Plan is still in effect, SROs may need exemptions from certain provisions of the ITS Plan, in conjunction with the implementation of the

**4. Development and Implementation Phases**

As provided in section 13 of the proposed Plan, the Plan will become effective on October 1, 2006.

As provided in section 11 of the proposed Plan, the Plan will terminate on June 30, 2007. Participants that wish to extend the term may agree to do so, subject to Commission approval. During the term of the Plan, a Participant may withdraw on 30 days' notice if it continues to maintain connectivity to all other Participants and accepts orders through the Linkage until June 30, 2007. A withdrawing Participant's right to send orders through the Linkage would terminate on the date the withdrawal is effective.

**5. Analysis of Impact on Competition**

According to the Participants, the Plan imposes no burden on competition. Rather, it enhances intermarket competition by providing a means, in addition to any private linkages established among Participants, by which orders entered in any Participant Market may access interest displayed in other Participant Markets electronically and in compliance with Rule 611. The Linkage Plan imposes no fees or charges in connection with order executions. Further, the Plan provides that any fee imposed by a Participant on its members in connection with use of or access to the System must not discourage use of the System.

**6. Written Understandings or Agreements Relating to Interpretation of, or Participation in, Plan**

According to the Participants, other than the Plan itself, there are no written understandings or agreements between or among Plan Participants relating to interpretations of the Plan or conditions for becoming a participant in the Plan.

**7. Approval of Amendment by Sponsors in Accordance With Plan**

Not applicable.

**8. Description of Operation of Facility Contemplated by the Proposed Plan**

The System includes the data processing hardware, software and communications network that electronically links the Participant Markets to one another. The System accommodates only regular way trading. All System trades must be compared, cleared and settled through SEC-registered clearing corporations. The System is designed to accommodate

Linkage Plan. SROs should request, and the Commission will consider, appropriate exemptions from the provisions of the ITS Plan.