

# Investor Charter prescribed by SEBI in respect of Portfolio Management Services effective from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022

## A. <u>Vision and Mission Statements for investors</u>.

#### Vision:

To implement diligently researched customised investment strategies which help investors meet their long-term financial goals in a risk appropriate manner.

#### Mission:

To ensure that the PMS industry provides a viable investment avenue for wealth creation by adopting high levels of skill, integrity, transparency and accountability.

# B. <u>Details of business transacted by the organization with respect to the investors.</u>

- a. appropriate risk profiling of investors
- b. to provide Disclosure Document to investors
- c. executing the PMS agreement
- d. Making investment decisions on behalf of investors (discretionary) or investment decisions taken at the discretion of the Investor (non-discretionary) or advising investors regarding their investment decisions (advisory), as the case may be.

#### C. Details of services provided to investors and estimated timelines:-

i. Discretionary & Non-Discretionary Portfolio Management Services (PMS):-

Under these services, all an investor has to do, is to give his portfolio in any form i.e. in stocks or cash or a combination of both. The minimum size of the portfolio under the Discretionary and / or Non-Discretionary Funds Management Service should be Rs.50 lakhs as per the current SEBI Regulations. However, the PMS provider reserves the right to prescribe a higher threshold product-wise or in any other manner at its sole discretion. The PMS provider will ascertain the investor's investment objectives to achieve optimal returns based on his risk profile. Under



the Discretionary Portfolio Management service, investment decisions are at the sole discretion of the PMS provider if they are in sync with the investor's investment objectives. Under the Non-Discretionary Portfolio Management service, investment decisions taken at the discretion of the Investor.

# ii. Investment Advisory Services: -

Under these services, the Client is advised on buy / sell decision within the overall profile without any back-office responsibility for trade execution, custody of securities or accounting functions. The PMS provider shall be solely acting as an Advisor to the Client and shall not be responsible for the investment / divestment of securities and / or administrative activities on the client's portfolio. The PMS provider shall act in a fiduciary capacity towards its Client and shall maintain arm's length relationship with its other activities. The PMS provider shall provide advisory services in accordance with guidelines and / or directives issued by the regulatory authorities and / or the Client from time to time in this regard.

# iii. Client On-boarding

- a. Ensuring compliance with KYC and AML guidelines.
- b. franking & signing the Power of Attorney to make investment decisions on behalf of the investor.
- opening demat account and funding of the same from the investor's verified bank account and / or transfer of securities from verified demat account of the investor and
- d. Mapping the said demat account with Custodian.

## iv. Ongoing activities

- To provide periodic statements to investors as provided under the PMS Regulations 2020 and other SEBI notifications and circulars ("PMS Regulations") and
- b. Providing each client an audited account statement on an annual basis which includes all the details as required under the PMS Regulations.



# v. Fees and Expenses

Charging and disclosure of appropriate fees & expenses in accordance with the PMS Regulations.

# vi. Closure and Termination

Upon termination of PMS Agreement by either party, the securities and the funds lying in the account of the investor shall be transferred to the verified bank account / demat account of the investor.

# vii. Grievance Redressal

Addressing in a time bound manner investor's queries, service requests and grievances, if any, on an ongoing basis.

Timelines of the services provided to investors are as follows:

| Sr. | Service / Activity                | Timeline                                 |
|-----|-----------------------------------|--|
| No. |                                   |  |
| 1   | Opening of PMS account (including | 7 days from receipt of all requisite     |
|     | demat account) for residents.     | documents from the client, subject to    |
|     |                                   | review of the documents for accuracy     |
|     |                                   | and completeness by portfolio manager    |
|     |                                   | and allied third party service providers |
|     |                                   | as may be applicable.                    |
| 2   | Opening of PMS account (including | 14 days from receipt of all requisite    |
|     | demat account) for non-individual | documents from the client, subject to    |
|     | clients.                          | review of the documents for accuracy     |
|     |                                   | and completeness by portfolio manager    |
|     |                                   | and allied third party service providers |
|     |                                   | as may be applicable.                    |
| 3   | Opening of PMS account (including | 14 days from receipt of all requisite    |
|     | demat account, bank account and   | documents from the client, subject to    |
|     | trading account) for non-resident | review of the documents for accuracy     |
|     | clients                           | and completeness by portfolio manager    |
|     |                                   | and allied third party service providers |
|     |                                   | as may be applicable.                    |
| 4   | Registration of nominee in PMS    | Registration of nominee should happen    |
|     | account and demat account         | along with account opening, therefore    |



| Sr. | Service / Activity                  | Timeline                                 |
|-----|-------------------------------------|--|
| No. |                                     |  |
|     |                                     | turnaround time should be same as        |
|     |                                     | account opening turnaround time.         |
| 5   | Modification of nominee in PMS      | 10 days from receipt of requisite        |
|     | account and demat account           | nominee modification form, subject to    |
|     |                                     | review of the documents for accuracy     |
|     |                                     | and completeness by portfolio manager    |
|     |                                     | and allied third party service providers |
|     |                                     | as may be applicable.                    |
| 6   | Uploading of PMS account in KRA     | 10 days from date of account opening     |
|     | and CKYC database.                  | (Portfolio Manager may rely on the       |
|     |                                     | custodian for updating the same).        |
| 7   | Whether portfolio manager is        | At the time of client signing the        |
|     | registered with SEBI, then SEBI     | agreement; this information should be a  |
|     | registration number                 | part of the account opening form and     |
|     |                                     | disclosure document.                     |
| 8   | Disclosure about latest networth of | Disclosure of portfolio manager's total  |
|     | portfolio manager and total AUM     | AUM -monthly to SEBI. Disclosure of      |
|     |                                     | latest networth should be done in the    |
|     |                                     | disclosure document whenever there       |
|     |                                     | are any material changes.                |
| 9   | Intimation of type of PMS account – | At the time of client signing the        |
|     | discretionary.                      | agreement; this information should be a  |
|     |                                     | part of the account opening form.        |
| 10  | Intimation of type of PMS account - | At the time of client signing the        |
|     | non discretionary.                  | agreement; this information should be a  |
|     |                                     | part of the account opening form.        |
| 11  | Intimation to client what           | At the time of client signing the        |
|     | discretionary account entails and   | agreement; this information should be a  |
|     | powers that can be exercised by     | part of the account opening form.        |
| 4.0 | portfolio manager.                  |  |
| 12  | Intimation to client what non-      | At the time of client signing the        |
|     | discretionary account entails and   | agreement; this information should be a  |
|     | powers that can be exercised by     | part of the account opening form.        |
| 40  | portfolio                           | Within 2 days of alignt an averat        |
| 13  | Copy of executed PMS agreement      | Within 3 days of client request.         |
| 4.4 | sent to client.                     | All latelle and E                        |
| 14  | Frequency of disclosures of         | All details regarding client portfolios  |
|     | available eligible funds.           | should be shared quarterly (point 26).   |



| Sr. | Service / Activity   | Timeline  |
|-----|--|---|
| No. | ,  |   |
| 15  | Issuance of funds and securities                                       | This data should be shared on a                                     |
|     | balance statements held by client                                      | quarterly basis or upon client request.                             |
| 16  | Intimation of name and demat   | Within 3 days of PMS and demat                                      |
|     | account number of custodian for  | account opening.  |
|     | PMS account.   |   |
| 17  | Conditions of termination of   | At the time of client signing the                                   |
|     | contract   | agreement; this information should be a                             |
| 40  | , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,                                  | part of the account opening form.                                   |
| 18  | Intimation regarding PMS fees and                                      | At the time of client signing the                                   |
|     | modes of payment or frequency of                                       | agreement; this information should be a                             |
| 19  | deduction.   | part of the account opening form.                                   |
| 20  | POA taken copy providing to client Intimation to client about what all | Within 3 days of client request.  At the time of client signing the |
| 20  | transactions can portfolio manager                                     | agreement; this information should be a                             |
|     | do using PoA.  | part of the account opening form.                                   |
| 21  | Frequency of providing audited   | Annual.   |
|     | reports to clients   | 7   |
| 22  | Explanation of risks involved in                                       | At the time of client signing the                                   |
|     | investment.  | agreement; this information should be a                             |
|     |  | part of the account opening form.                                   |
| 23  | Intimation of tenure of portfolio                                      | Indicative tenure should be disclosed at                            |
|     | investments.   | the time of client signing the agreement;                           |
|     |  | this information should be a part of the                            |
|     |  | account opening form.   |
| 24  | , , ,  | Negative list of securities should be                               |
|     | restrictions imposed by the investor                                   | taken from the client at the time of client                         |
|     | on portfolio manager   | signing the agreement; this information                             |
|     |  | should be a part of the account opening form.                       |
| 25  | Intimation regarding settling of                                       | Settlement of funds and securities is                               |
| 25  | client funds and securities.   | done by the Custodian. The details of                               |
|     |  | clients' funds and securities should be                             |
|     |  | sent to the clients in the prescribed                               |
|     |  | format not later than on a quarterly                                |
|     |  | basis.  |
| 26  | Frequency of intimation of   | Not later than on a quarterly basis or                              |
|     | transactions undertaken in portfolio                                   | upon clients' request.  |
|     | account  |   |



| Sr. | Service / Activity                   | Timeline                                  |
|-----|--------------------------------------|---|
| No. | -                                    |   |
| 27  | Intimation regarding conflict of     | The portfolio manager should provide      |
|     | interest in any transaction          | details of related party transactions and |
|     |                                      | conflict of interest in the Disclosure    |
|     |                                      | Document which should be available on     |
|     |                                      | website of portfolio manager at all       |
|     |                                      | times.                                    |
| 28  | Timeline for providing disclosure    | The latest disclosure document should     |
|     | document to investor.                | be provided to investors prior to account |
|     |                                      | opening and the latest disclosure         |
|     |                                      | documents should be available on          |
|     |                                      | website of portfolio manager at all       |
|     |                                      | times.                                    |
| 29  | Intimation to investor about details | Within 3 days of PMS and demat            |
|     | of bank accounts where client funds  | account opening.                          |
|     | are kept                             |   |
| 30  | Redressal of investor grievances.    | Within 21 calendar days, subject to all   |
|     |                                      | the information required to redress the   |
|     |                                      | complaint is provided by the              |
|     |                                      | complainant to the portfolio manager      |

Note: The number of days in the above timelines indicate clear working days unless specified, otherwise.

# D. Details of grievance redressal mechanism and how to access it

- It is mandatory for every PMS provider to register itself on SEBI SCORES (SEBI Complaint Redress System). SCORES is a centralised online complaint resolution system through which the complainant can take up his grievance against the PMS provider and subsequently view its status. (https://scores.gov.in/scores/Welcome.html)
- 2. The details such as the name, address and telephone number of the investor relations officer of the PMS provider who attends to the investor queries and complaint should be provided in the PMS Disclosure document.
- 3. The grievance redressal and dispute mechanism should be mentioned in the Disclosure Document.
- 4. Investors can approach SEBI for redressal of their complaints. On receipt of complaints, SEBI takes up the matter with the concerned PMS provider and follows up with them.



- 5. Investors may send their complaints to: Office of Investor Assistance and Education, Securities and Exchange Board of India, SEBI Bhavan. Plot No. C4-A, 'G' Block, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai 400 051.
- 6. SEBI circular dated July 31, 2023 along with Corrigendum cum Amendment to SEBI Circular dated August 04, 2023 and Circular No. SEBI/HO/OIAE/IGRD/CIR/P/2023/156 dated September 20, 2023 read with SEBI/HO/OIAE/IGRD/CIR/P/2023/183 dated December 01, 2023 related to Online Resolution of Disputes in the Indian Securities Market states the process for online dispute resolution :

#### Salient features of the circulars are as under:

I. Disputes between Investors/Clients and listed companies (including their registrar and share transfer agents) or any of the specified intermediaries / regulated entities in securities market (as specified in Schedule A) arising out of latter's activities in the securities market, will be resolved in accordance with this circular and by harnessing online conciliation and/or online arbitration as specified in this circular. Quest Investment Advisors Pvt Ltd falls under the Specified Intermediaries as classified under Schedule A. Listed companies / specified intermediaries / regulated entities OR their clients/investors (or holders on account of nominations or transmission being given effect to) may also refer any unresolved issue of any service requests / service related complaints for due resolution by harnessing online conciliation and/or online arbitration as specified in this circular.

# II. Initiation of the dispute resolution process:

- a) An investor/client shall first take up his/her/their grievance with the Market Participant (i.e., Quest Investment Advisors Pvt Ltd) by lodging a complaint directly with the concerned Market Participant.
- b) If the grievance is not redressed satisfactorily, the investor/client may, in accordance with the SCORES guidelines, escalate the same through the SCORES Portal in accordance with the process laid out therein.
- c) After exhausting these options for resolution of the grievance, if the investor/client is still not satisfied with the outcome, he/she/they can initiate dispute resolution through the ODR Portal.
- d) Alternatively, the investor/client can initiate dispute resolution through the ODR Portal if the grievance lodged with the concerned Market Participant was not satisfactorily resolved or at any stage of the subsequent escalations mentioned in the points 3.a, b and c above (prior to or at the end of such escalation/s). The concerned Market Participant



- may also initiate dispute resolution through the ODR Portal after having given due notice of at least 15 calendar days to the investor/client for resolution of the dispute which has not been satisfactorily resolved between them.
- e) The dispute resolution through the ODR Portal can be initiated when the complaint/dispute is not under consideration in terms of the points 3.a, b and c above or SCOREs guidelines as applicable or not pending before any arbitral process, court, tribunal or consumer forum or are non-arbitrable in terms of Indian law (including when moratorium under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code is in operation due to the insolvency process or if liquidation or winding up process has been commenced against the Market Participant).
- f) The dispute resolution through the ODR Portal can be initiated when within the applicable law of limitation (reckoned from the date when the issue arose/occurred that has resulted in the complaint/date of the last transaction or the date of disputed transaction, whichever is later).
- III.All matters that are appealable before the Securities Appellate Tribunal in terms of Section 15T of SEBI Act, 1992 (other than matters escalated through SCOREs portal in accordance with SEBI SCOREs Circular), Sections 22A and 23L of Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and 23A of Depositories Act, 1996 shall be outside the purview of the ODR Portal.
- IV. All agreements, contractual frameworks or relationships entered into by Market Participants with investors/clients in the Indian Securities market presently existing or entered into hereafter shall stand amended or be deemed to incorporate provision to the effect that the parties agree to undertake online conciliation and/or online arbitration by participating in the ODR Portal and/or undertaking dispute resolution in the manner specified in this Circular.
- V. ODR link for Quest https://smartodr.in/login

# E. <u>Expectations from the investors (Responsibilities of investors)</u>

- 1. Check registration status of the intermediary from SEBI website before availing services.
- 2. Submission of KYC documents and application form in a timely manner with signatures in appropriate places and with requisite supporting documents.



- 3. Read carefully terms and conditions of the agreement before signing the same.
- 4. Thorough study of the Disclosure Documents of the PMS to accurately understand the risks entailed by the said investment in PMS.
- Accurate and sincere answers given to the questions asked in the 'Risk Questionnaire' shall help the PMS provider properly assess the risk profile of the investor.
- 6. Thorough study of the quarterly statements sent by the PMS provider to the investor intimating him about the portfolio's absolute and relative performance, its constituents and its risk profile.
- 7. Ensure providing complete details of negative list of securities as part of freeze instructions at the time of entering into PMS agreement and every time thereafter for changes, if any, in a timely manner.
- 8. To update the PMS provider in case of any change in the KYC documents and personal details and to provide the updated KYC along with the required proof