As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 30, 2024

Registration No. 333-278880

# UNITED STATES
# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

# Amendment No. 1
# to
# FORM S-3
# REGISTRATION STATEMENT
***UNDER***
***THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933***

# Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH)

**(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)**

| Delaware | c/o Grayscale Investments, LLC | 82-6677805 |
|---|---|---|
| (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization) | 290 Harbor Drive, 4th Floor Stamford, Connecticut 06902 | (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number) |

**(212) 668-1427**

**(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)**

**Edward McGee Chief Financial Officer Grayscale Investments, LLC**
**290 Harbor Drive, 4th Floor Stamford, Connecticut 06902**
**(212) 668-1427**

**(Name, Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent For Service)**

***Copy to:***
**Joseph A. Hall**
**Dan Gibbons**
**Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP**
**450 Lexington Avenue**
**New York, NY 10017**
**(212) 450-4000**

**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public**: From time to time after this Registration Statement becomes effective.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box. ☐

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box. ☒

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. ☐

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. ☐

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box. ☐

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box. ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company" and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

| | |
|---|---|
| Large accelerated filer ☒ | Accelerated filer ☐ |
| Non-accelerated filer ☐ | Smaller reporting company ☐ |
| | Emerging growth company ☐ |

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the Registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act. ☐

**The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.**

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

On May 22, 2024, Grayscale Investments, LLC, the sponsor (the "Sponsor") of Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH) (the "Trust"), solicited the consent of the shareholders of the Trust (the "Consent Solicitation") to approve certain proposals to amend the Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement between the Sponsor and CSC Delaware Trust Company, the trustee (the "Trustee") of the Trust (the "Current Trust Agreement"), which amendments have been described in the Trust's Consent Solicitation Statement included in its definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 22, 2024, among other amendments. Following the expiration of the Consent Solicitation on June 11, 2024, the Sponsor expects to enter into the Second Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement (the "Amended Trust Agreement") with the Trustee, implementing such amendments. Except where indicated, this prospectus has been prepared on the basis that the Amended Trust Agreement has been entered into by the Sponsor and the Trustee, and describes the terms of the Amended Trust Agreement where applicable. A description of the Current Trust Agreement in effect prior to execution of the Amended Trust Agreement is included in the Trust's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus. All references herein to the "Trust Agreement," and descriptions of the terms thereof, are deemed to be to the Amended Trust Agreement.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED MAY 30, 2024

**PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS**

GRAYSCALE®

# GRAYSCALE ETHEREUM TRUST (ETH)

Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH) (the "Trust") is a Delaware statutory trust that issues common units of fractional undivided beneficial interest ("Shares"), which represent ownership in the Trust. The Trust's purpose is to hold "Ether", which are digital assets that are created and transmitted through the operations of the peer-to-peer Ethereum Network, a decentralized network of computers that operates on cryptographic protocols. The Trust's investment objective is for the value of the Shares (based on Ether per Share) to reflect the value of Ether held by the Trust, as determined by reference to the Index Price (as defined herein), less the Trust's expenses and other liabilities. While an investment in the Shares is not a direct investment in Ether, the Shares are designed to provide investors with a cost-effective and convenient way to gain investment exposure to Ether. Grayscale Investments, LLC is the sponsor of the Trust (the "Sponsor"), CSC Delaware Trust Company is the trustee of the Trust (the "Trustee"), The Bank of New York Mellon is the transfer agent of the Trust (in such capacity, the "Transfer Agent") and the administrator of the Trust (in such capacity, the "Administrator"), Coinbase, Inc. is the prime broker of the Trust (the "Prime Broker") and Coinbase Custody Trust Company, LLC is the custodian of the Trust (the "Custodian").

The Shares have been approved for listing on NYSE Arca, Inc. ("NYSE Arca") under the symbol "ETHE." It is expected that the Shares will be sold to the public at varying prices to be determined by reference to, among other considerations, the price of Ether and the trading price of the Shares on the NYSE Arca at the time of each sale.

The Shares may be purchased from the Trust only in one or more blocks of 10,000 Shares after the Amended Trust Agreement (as defined herein) becomes effective, or 100 Shares prior to such time (a block of such number of Shares is called a "Basket"). The Trust issues Baskets of Shares to certain authorized participants ("Authorized Participants") on an ongoing basis as described in "Plan of Distribution." In addition, the Trust redeems Shares in Baskets on an ongoing basis from Authorized Participants. The Trust is currently able to accept Cash Orders (as defined herein), pursuant to which an Authorized Participant will deposit cash into, or accept cash from, the Cash Account in connection with the creation and redemption of Baskets, and a third party (a "Liquidity Provider") that is not an agent of, or otherwise acting on behalf of, such Authorized Participant will obtain or receive Ether in exchange for cash in connection with such order. However, and in common with other spot digital asset exchange-traded products, the Trust is not at this time able to create and redeem shares via in-kind transactions with Authorized Participants, and there has yet to be definitive regulatory guidance on whether and how registered broker-dealers can hold and deal in Ether in compliance with the federal securities laws. To the extent further regulatory clarity emerges, the Sponsor expects NYSE Arca to seek the necessary regulatory approval to amend its listing rules to permit the Trust to do so (the "In-Kind Regulatory Approval"). Subject to NYSE Arca seeking and obtaining In-Kind Regulatory Approval, in the future the Trust may also create and redeem Shares via in-kind transactions with Authorized Participants or their designees (any such designee, an "AP Designee") in exchange for Ether. There can be no assurance as to when such regulatory clarity will emerge, or when NYSE Arca will seek or obtain such regulatory approval, if at all. See "Description of Creation and Redemption of Shares." Some of the activities of the Authorized Participants will result in their being deemed participants in a distribution in a manner which would render them statutory underwriters and subject them to the prospectus-delivery and liability provisions under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). See "Plan of Distribution." As of May 28, 2024, the number of Ether required to create a Basket of 100 Shares is approximately 0.94552590 Ether and the number of Ether required to create a Basket of 10,000 Shares after giving effect to the Amended Trust Agreement would have been 94.552590 Ether.

In addition, and in common with other spot Ether exchange-traded products at this time, neither the Trust, nor the Sponsor, nor the Custodian, nor any other person associated with the Trust will, directly or indirectly, engage in Staking (as defined herein), meaning no action will be taken pursuant to which any portion of the Trust's Ether becomes subject to Ethereum proof-of- stake validation or is used to earn additional Ether or generate income or other earnings, and there can be no assurance that the Trust, the Sponsor, the Custodian or any other person associated with the Trust will ever be permitted to engage in such activity in the future.

**Investing in the Shares involves significant risks. You should carefully consider the risk factors described beginning on page 18 in this prospectus, in "Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors" beginning on page 47 in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, in "Part II—Item 1.A. Risk Factors" beginning on page 22 in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2024, in any applicable prospectus supplement and in the other documents incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference herein before you invest in the Shares.**

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**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the securities offered in this prospectus, or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

The Shares are neither interests in nor obligations of the Sponsor or the Trustee.

The U.S. dollar value of a Basket of Shares at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the trade date of a creation or redemption order is equal to the "Basket Amount", which is the number of Ether required to create or redeem a Basket of Shares, multiplied by the "Index Price," which is the U.S. dollar value of an Ether derived from the Digital Asset Trading Platforms (as defined herein) that are reflected in the CoinDesk Ether Price Index (ETX) (the "Index"), calculated at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on each business day. The Index Price is calculated using non-GAAP methodology and is not used in the Trust's financial statements.

**The date of this prospectus is , 2024.**

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Neither the Trust nor the Sponsor has authorized anyone to provide you with any information other than that contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement or any free writing prospectus prepared by or on behalf of the Trust. Neither the Trust nor the Sponsor takes any responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any information that others may give you. Neither the Trust nor the Sponsor is making an offer to sell any security or soliciting any offer to buy any security in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should not assume that the information appearing in this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement and any free writing prospectus or any document incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the respective dates on the front of such documents. The Trust's business, assets, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

This prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell, or an invitation on behalf of the Trust or the Sponsor, to subscribe to or purchase any securities, and may not be used for or in connection with an offer or solicitation by anyone, in any jurisdiction in which such an offer or solicitation is not authorized or to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such an offer or solicitation.

Authorized Participants may be required to deliver a prospectus when making transactions in the Shares. This prospectus summarizes certain documents and other information in a manner the Sponsor believes to be accurate. In making an investment decision, you must rely on your own examination of the Trust, the Ethereum industry, the operation of the Ethereum market and the terms of the offering and the Shares, including the merits and risks involved. Although the Sponsor believes this information to be reliable, the accuracy and completeness of this information is not guaranteed and has not been independently verified.

See "Glossary of Defined Terms" for the definition of certain capitalized terms used in this prospectus.

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein contain "forward-looking statements" with respect to the Trust's financial conditions, results of operations, plans, objectives, future performance and business. Statements preceded by, followed by or that include words such as "may," "might," "will," "should," "expect," "plan," "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "potential" or "continue," the negative of these terms and other similar expressions are intended to identify some of the forward-looking statements. All statements (other than statements of historical fact) included in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus that address activities, events or developments that will or may occur in the future, including such matters as changes in market prices and conditions, the Trust's operations, the Sponsor's plans and references to the Trust's future success and other similar matters are forward-looking statements. These statements are only predictions. Actual events or results may differ materially from such statements. These statements are based upon certain assumptions and analyses the Sponsor made based on its perception of historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments, as well as other factors appropriate in the circumstances. You should specifically consider the numerous risks described in this prospectus, in "Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023 (the "Annual Report"), in "Part II—Item 1.A. Risk Factors" in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2024 (the "Q1 2024 Quarterly Report"), in any applicable prospectus supplement and in the other documents incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference herein. Whether or not actual results and developments will conform to the Sponsor's expectations and predictions, however, is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including:

- recent developments in the digital asset economy which have led to extreme volatility and disruption in digital asset markets, a loss of confidence in participants of the digital asset ecosystem, significant negative publicity surrounding digital assets broadly and market-wide declines in liquidity;
- the extreme volatility of trading prices that many digital assets, including Ether, have experienced in recent periods and may continue to experience, which could cause the value of the Shares to be volatile and/or have a material adverse effect on the value of the Shares;
- the recentness of the development of digital assets and the uncertain medium-to-long term value of the Shares due to a number of factors relating to the capabilities and development of blockchain technologies and to the fundamental investment characteristics of digital assets;
- the value of the Shares depending on the acceptance of digital assets, such as Ether, which represent a new and rapidly evolving industry;
- a temporary or permanent "fork" or a "clone", which could adversely affect the value of the Shares;
- the unregulated nature and lack of transparency surrounding the operations of Digital Asset Trading Platforms, which may adversely affect the value of digital assets and, consequently, the value of the Shares;
- the value of the Shares relating directly to the value of Ether then held by the Trust, the value of which may be highly volatile and subject to fluctuations due to a number of factors;
- the limited history of the Index;
- competition from the emergence or growth of other digital assets or methods of investing in Ether could have a negative impact on the price of Ether and adversely affect the value of the Shares;
- the liquidity of the Shares may be affected if Authorized Participants cease to perform their obligations under the Participant Agreements or the Liquidity Engager (as defined herein) is unable to engage Liquidity Providers;
- the commencement of a redemption program, in conjunction with the listing of the Shares on the NYSE Arca, may impact whether the Shares trade at a discount or premium to the NAV per Share;
- any suspension or other unavailability of the Trust's redemption program may cause the Shares to trade at a discount to the NAV per Share;

- the possibility that the Shares may trade at a price that is at, above or below the Trust's NAV per Share as a result of the non-current trading hours between NYSE Arca and the Digital Asset Trading Platform Market;
- a determination that Ether or any other digital asset is a "security" may adversely affect the value of Ether and the value of the Shares and result in potentially extraordinary, nonrecurring expenses to, or termination of, the Trust;
- regulatory changes or actions by the U.S. Congress or any U.S. federal or state agencies that may affect the value of the Shares or restrict the use of one or more digital assets, validating activity or the operation of their networks or the Digital Asset Trading Platform Market in a manner that adversely affects the value of the Shares;
- changes in the policies of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") that could adversely impact the value of the Shares;
- regulatory changes or other events in foreign jurisdictions that may affect the value of the Shares or restrict the use of one or more digital assets, validating activity or the operation of their networks or the Digital Asset Trading Platform Market in a manner that adversely affects the value of the Shares;
- the possibility that an Authorized Participant, the Trust or the Sponsor could be subject to regulation as a money service business or money transmitter, which could result in extraordinary expenses to such Authorized Participant, the Trust or the Sponsor and also result in decreased liquidity for the Shares;
- regulatory changes or interpretations that could obligate the Trust or the Sponsor to register and comply with new regulations, resulting in potentially extraordinary, nonrecurring expenses to the Trust;
- potential conflicts of interest that may arise among the Sponsor or its affiliates and the Trust;
- the potential discontinuance of the Sponsor's continued services, which could be detrimental to the Trust;
- the lack of ability to facilitate in-kind creations and redemptions of Shares, which could have adverse consequences for the Trust;
- the lack of ability to participate in Staking (as defined herein), which could have adverse consequences for the Trust;
- the Trust's reliance on third-party service providers to perform certain functions essential to the affairs of the Trust and the challenges replacement of such service providers could pose to the safekeeping of the Trust's Ether and to the operations of the Trust; and
- the Custodian's possible resignation or removal by the Sponsor or otherwise, without replacement, which could trigger early termination of the Trust.

Consequently, all forward-looking statements made in this prospectus are qualified by these cautionary statements, and there can be no assurance that the actual results or developments the Sponsor anticipates will be realized or, even if substantially realized, that they will result in the expected consequences to, or have the expected effects on, the Trust's operations or the value of the Shares. Should one or more of these risks discussed in this prospectus, in "Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors" in the Annual Report, in "Part II—Item 1.A. Risk Factors" in the Q1 2024 Quarterly Report, in any applicable prospectus supplement and in the other documents incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference herein, or other uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual outcomes may vary materially from those described in forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are made based on the Sponsor's beliefs, estimates and opinions on the date the statements are made and neither the Trust nor the Sponsor is under a duty or undertakes an obligation to update forward-looking statements if these beliefs, estimates and opinions or other circumstances should change, other than as required by applicable laws. Moreover, neither the Trust, the Sponsor, nor any other person assumes responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of any of these forward-looking statements. Investors are therefore cautioned against relying on forward-looking statements.

## PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

*You should read this entire prospectus and the material incorporated by reference herein, including "Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors" in the Annual Report, "Part II—Item 1.A. Risk Factors" in the Q1 2024 Quarterly Report, in any applicable prospectus supplement and in the other documents incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference herein, before making an investment decision about the Shares.*

### Trust Overview

Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH) (the "Trust") is a Delaware Statutory Trust that was formed on December 13, 2017, by the filing of the Certificate of Trust with the Delaware Secretary of State in accordance with the provisions of the Delaware Statutory Trust Act ("DSTA"). The Trust's purpose is to hold "Ether", which are digital assets that are created and transmitted through the operations of the peer-to-peer Ethereum Network, a decentralized network of computers that operates on cryptographic protocols. There are several key features of the Ethereum Network. Ether has an unlimited supply and a circulating supply of approximately 120 million coins as of March 31, 2024. As of March 31, 2024, the 24-hour trading volume of Ether was approximately $4.0 billion. As of March 31, 2024, the aggregate market value of Ether was $438 billion. As of March 31, 2024, Ether was the second largest digital asset by market capitalization, as tracked by CoinMarketCap.com.

As of March 31, 2024, the Trust holds approximately 2.5% of the Ether in circulation. The size of the Trust's position does not itself enable the Sponsor or the Trust to participate in or otherwise influence the development of the Ethereum Network. As a decentralized digital asset network, the Ethereum Network consists of several stakeholders, including core developers of Ether, users, services, businesses, validators and other constituencies, of which the Trust is only one constituent. Furthermore, in contrast to other protocols in which token holders participate in the governance of the network, ownership of Ether confers no such rights.

As a passive investment vehicle, the Trust's investment objective is for the value of the Shares (based on Ether per Share) to reflect the value of Ether held by the Trust, determined by reference to the Index Price, less the Trust's expenses and other liabilities. The Trust does not seek to generate returns beyond tracking the price of Ether. There can be no assurance that the Trust will be able to achieve its investment objective. Historically, the Trust has not met its investment objective and the Shares quoted on OTCQX have not reflected the value of Ether held by the Trust, less the Trust's expenses and other liabilities, but instead have traded at both premiums and discounts to such value, which at times have been substantial. The Trust will not utilize leverage, derivatives or any similar arrangements in seeking to meet its investment objective.

The Trust historically issued common units of fractional undivided beneficial interest ("Shares"), which represent ownership in the Trust, on a periodic basis to certain "accredited investors" within the meaning of Rule 501(a) of Regulation D under the Securities Act in exchange for deposits of Ether. The Shares were quoted on OTC Markets Group Inc.'s OTCQX® Best Market ("OTCQX") under the ticker symbol "ETHE." From and after the date of this prospectus, the Trust intends to issue Shares on an ongoing basis pursuant to this registration statement and intends to rely on an exemption or other relief from the SEC under Regulation M to operate a redemption program. The Shares have been approved for listing on NYSE Arca under the symbol "ETHE." The Shares will be distributed by Authorized Participants who will be able to take advantage of arbitrage opportunities to keep the value of the Shares closely linked to the Index Price (referred to as the "arbitrage mechanism"). Immediately prior to listing on NYSE Arca, it is expected that the market price of the Shares will be at, or approximate to, a value that aligns with NAV per Share. Upon listing on NYSE Arca, the Sponsor expects the market price of the Shares and the NAV per Share to converge, thus closing the current discount to NAV per Share. Subsequent to the first day of trading, the Sponsor expects there to be a net creation of Shares if the Shares trade at a premium to NAV per Share and a net redemption of Shares if the Shares trade at a discount to NAV per Share, representing the effective functioning of the arbitrage mechanism.

Thereafter, it is expected that the Shares will be sold to the public at varying prices to be determined by reference to, among other considerations, the price of the Ether represented by each Share and the trading price of the Shares on NYSE Arca at the time of each sale. Shares registered hereby are of the same class and will have the same rights as any Shares distributed prior to this offering.

As previously noted, the Shares have historically traded at a substantial premium over, or a substantial discount to, the value of the Trust's Ether, less the Trust's expenses and other liabilities. For example, from June 20, 2019 to March 31, 2024, the maximum premium of the closing price of the Shares quoted on OTCQX over the value of the Trust's NAV per Share was 956%, the average premium was 191%, the maximum discount of the closing price of the Shares quoted on OTCQX below the value of the Trust's NAV per Share was 60%, and the average discount was 25%. The closing price of the Shares, as quoted on OTCQX at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on each business day between June 20, 2019 and March 31, 2024, has been quoted at a discount on 772 days. As of March 28, 2024, the last business day of such period, the closing price of the Shares quoted on OTCQX was $26.15 and the Trust's Shares were quoted on OTCQX at a discount of 23% to the Trust's NAV per Share. As of May 28, 2024, the closing price of the Shares quoted on OTCQX was $35.68 and the Trust's Shares were quoted on OTCQX at a discount of 2% to the Trust's NAV per Share.

Grayscale Investments, LLC is the sponsor (the "Sponsor") of the Trust, CSC Delaware Trust Company is the trustee (the "Trustee") of the Trust, The Bank of New York Mellon is the transfer agent (in such capacity, the "Transfer Agent") and the administrator (in such capacity, the "Administrator") of the Trust, Coinbase, Inc. is the prime broker (the "Prime Broker") of the Trust and Coinbase Custody Trust Company, LLC is the custodian (the "Custodian") of the Trust.

The Trust issues Shares only in one or more blocks of 10,000 Shares after the Amended Trust Agreement becomes effective, or 100 Shares prior to such time (a block of such number of Shares is called a "Basket") to certain authorized participants ("Authorized Participants") from time to time. Baskets are offered in exchange for Ether. Through its redemption program, the Trust redeems Shares from Authorized Participants on an ongoing basis.

The U.S. dollar value of a Basket of Shares at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the trade date of a creation or redemption order is equal to the Basket Amount, which is the number of Ether required to create or redeem a Basket of Shares, multiplied by the "Index Price," which is the U.S. dollar value of an Ether derived from the Digital Asset Trading Platforms that are reflected in the CoinDesk Ether Price Index (ETX) (the "Index") at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on each business day. The Index Price is calculated using non-GAAP methodology and is not used in the Trust's financial statements. See "Part I—Item 1. Business—Overview of the ETH Industry and Market—ETH Value—The Index and the Index Price" in the Trust's Annual Report, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

The Basket Amount on any trade date is determined by dividing (x) the number of Ether owned by the Trust at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on such trade date, after deducting the number of Ether representing the U.S. dollar value of accrued but unpaid fees and expenses of the Trust (converted using the Index Price at such time, and carried to the eighth decimal place), by (y) the number of Shares outstanding at such time (with the quotient so obtained calculated to one one-hundred-millionth of one Ether (i.e., carried to the eighth decimal place)), and multiplying such quotient by (i) 10,000, after the Amended Trust Agreement becomes effective, or (ii) 100, prior to such time.

The Trust creates Baskets of Shares only upon receipt of Ether and redeems Shares only by distributing Ether or proceeds from the disposition of Ether. At this time, Authorized Participants may only submit orders to create or redeem Shares through transactions that are referred to as "Cash Orders" in this prospectus. Cash Orders are made through the participation of a Liquidity Provider (as defined herein) and facilitated by the Transfer Agent, as described in "Description of Creation and Redemption of Shares." Authorized Participants must pay a Variable Fee (as defined herein) in connection with certain Cash Orders.

Subject to In-Kind Regulatory Approval, in the future Authorized Participants would also be able to submit orders to create or redeem shares through "In-Kind Orders." In connection with In-Kind Orders, Authorized Participants, or their AP Designees, would deposit Ether directly with the Trust or receive Ether directly from the Trust. However, because In-Kind Regulatory Approval has not been obtained, at this time Shares will not be created or redeemed through In-Kind Orders. Furthermore, there is regulatory uncertainty regarding whether registered broker-dealers can hold and deal in Ether in compliance with the applicable requirements of the federal securities laws, including financial responsibility rules. Even if In-Kind Regulatory Approval were sought and obtained, there can be no assurance that in-kind creations or redemptions of the Shares will be available in the future. To the extent in-kind creations and redemptions of Shares continue to be unavailable for any reason, this could have adverse consequences for the Trust. See "Risk Factors—Risk Factors Related to the Trust and the Shares—The lack of ability to facilitate in-kind creations and redemptions of Shares could have adverse consequences for the Trust."

The Shares are neither interests in nor obligations of the Sponsor or the Trustee. As provided under the Trust Agreement, the Trust's assets will not be loaned or pledged, or serve as collateral for any loan, margin, rehypothecation, or other similar activity to which the Sponsor, the Trust or any of their respective affiliates are a party.

Some of the notable features of the Trust and its Shares include the holding of Ether in the Trust's own accounts, the experience of the Sponsor's management team in the Ethereum industry and the use of the Custodian to protect the Trust's private keys. See "Part I—Item 1. Business—Activities of the Trust" in the Annual Report.

The Sponsor maintains an Internet website at www.grayscale.com/crypto-products/grayscale-ethereum-trust/, through which the Trust's annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), are made available free of charge after they have been filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). Additional information regarding the Trust may also be found on the SEC's EDGAR database at www.sec.gov.

The contents of the websites referred to above and any websites referred to herein are not incorporated into this filing. Further, our references to the URLs for these websites are intended to be inactive textual references only.

**Trust Objective and Determination of Principal Market NAV and NAV**

The Trust's investment objective is for the value of the Shares (based on Ether per Share) to reflect the value of Ether held by the Trust, determined by reference to the Index Price, less the Trust's expenses and other liabilities. There can be no assurance that the Trust will be able to achieve its investment objective.

While an investment in the Shares is not a direct investment in Ether, the Shares are designed to provide investors with a cost-effective and convenient way to gain investment exposure to Ether. A substantial direct investment in Ether may require expensive and sometimes complicated arrangements in connection with the acquisition, security and safekeeping of the Ether and may involve the payment of substantial fees to acquire such Ether from third-party facilitators through cash payments of U.S. dollars. Because the value of the Shares is correlated with the value of Ether held by the Trust, it is important to understand the investment attributes of, and the market for, Ether.

The Trust's Ether are carried, for financial statement purposes, at fair value as required by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"). The Trust determines the fair value of Ether based on the price provided by the Digital Asset Market (defined below) that the Trust considers its principal market as of 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the valuation date. The net asset value of the Trust determined on a GAAP basis is

referred to in this prospectus as "Principal Market NAV." Prior to February 23, 2024, Principal Market NAV was referred to as NAV. "Digital Asset Market" means a "Brokered Market," "Dealer Market," "Principal-to-Principal Market" or "Exchange Market" (referred to as "Trading Platform Market" in this prospectus), as each such term is defined in the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Master Glossary. See "Part II—Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates—Principal Market and Fair Value Determination" in the Annual Report for more information on the Trust's principal market selection.

The Trust uses the Index Price to calculate its "NAV," a Non-GAAP metric, which is the aggregate value, expressed in U.S. dollars, of the Trust's assets (other than U.S. dollars or other fiat currency), less the U.S. dollar value of the Trust's expenses and other liabilities, calculated in the manner set forth under "Part I—Item 1. Business—Valuation of ETH and Determination of NAV" in the Annual Report. "NAV per Share" is calculated by dividing NAV by the number of Shares currently outstanding. Prior to February 23, 2024, NAV was referred to as Digital Asset Holdings and NAV per Share was referred to as Digital Asset Holdings per Share.

NAV and NAV per Share are not measures calculated in accordance with GAAP. NAV is not intended to be a substitute for the Trust's Principal Market NAV calculated in accordance with GAAP, and NAV per Share is not intended to be a substitute for the Trust's Principal Market NAV per Share calculated in accordance with GAAP. Prior to February 23, 2024, Principal Market NAV was referred to as NAV and Principal Market NAV per Share was referred to as NAV per Share.

**Ethereum History**

The Ethereum Network is a recent technological innovation, and the Ether that are created, transferred, used and stored by entities and individuals have certain features associated with several types of assets, most notably commodities and currencies. The price of Ether on public Digital Asset Trading Platforms (as defined herein) has a limited history, and during this history, Ether prices on the Digital Asset Markets more generally, and on Digital Asset Trading Platforms individually, have been volatile and subject to influence by many factors, including operational interruptions. While the Index is designed to limit exposure to the interruption of individual Digital Asset Trading Platforms, the Index Price, and the price of Ether generally, remains subject to volatility experienced by Digital Asset Trading Platforms, and such volatility could adversely affect the value of the Shares. For example, from April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2024, the Index Price ranged from $109.83 to $4,776.32, with the average being $1,546.49. In addition, during the twelve months ended March 31, 2024, the Index Price ranged from $1,531.25 to $4,033.10. See "Part I—Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in the Q1 2024 Quarterly Report.

Several U.S. regulators, including the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network of the U.S. Department of the Treasury ("FinCEN"), the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC"), the U.S. Internal Revenue Service ("IRS"), and state regulators, including the New York Department of Financial Services ("NYDFS"), have made official pronouncements or issued guidance or rules regarding the treatment of Ether and other digital assets. However, other U.S. and state agencies, such as the SEC, have not made official pronouncements or issued guidance or rules regarding the treatment of Ether, although the SEC, by action through delegated authority approving exchange rule filings to list shares of trusts holding Ether as commodity-based exchange-traded products, has implicitly taken the view that Ether is a commodity. Similarly, the treatment of Ether and other digital assets is often uncertain or contradictory in other countries. The regulatory uncertainty surrounding the treatment of Ether creates risks for the Trust and its Shares. See "Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors—Risk Factors Related to the Regulation of the Trust and the Shares" in the Annual Report and the risk factors set forth in our other filings with the SEC incorporated by reference herein.

**Recent Developments**

***The ETH Trust Distribution***

Prior to the effectiveness of the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, the Sponsor announced the formation of Grayscale Ethereum Mini Trust (the "ETH Trust") and its intention to effectuate the initial creation of shares of the ETH Trust (the "ETH Trust Distribution Basket Creation") through the contribution by the Trust of a certain amount of Ether to the ETH Trust as consideration and in exchange for newly created shares of the ETH Trust ("ETH Shares"). Assuming that the Sponsor does proceed in this manner, then following the effectiveness of the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part and a registration statement filed by the ETH Trust with respect to the ETH Shares, the newly created ETH Shares would then be distributed to shareholders of the Trust as of , 2024 (the "Record Date"), pro rata based on a 1:1 ratio, such that for each one (1) Share held by each shareholder on the Record Date, such shareholder would be entitled to receive one (1) ETH Share on , 2024 (the "Distribution Date") (such transactions collectively, the "ETH Trust Distribution").

As a result of the contemplated ETH Trust Distribution, if consummated, following the Distribution Date, the Trust will hold approximately % of the Ether that was held by the Trust as of the Record Date and the ETH Trust would hold the remaining approximately % of the Ether that was held by the Trust as of the Record Date, in each case, reduced by the portion of the Sponsor's Fee (as defined herein) attributable to such Ether accrued and paid between the Record Date and the Distribution Date. Neither the number of outstanding Shares nor the exposure of shareholders of the Trust to Ether underlying their aggregate shareholdings (including Shares and ETH Shares) are expected to change as a result of the contemplated ETH Trust Distribution, if consummated. No consent, authorization, approval or proxy is being sought from shareholders in connection with the ETH Trust Distribution, and shareholders will not need to pay any consideration, exchange or surrender existing Shares or take any other action to receive ETH Shares on the Distribution Date if the ETH Trust Distribution is to be consummated. Following the ETH Trust Distribution, the Trust and the ETH Trust will operate as independent NYSE Arca listed exchanged-traded commodity products, and neither will have any share ownership, beneficial or otherwise, in the other.

The Sponsor does not expect the ETH Trust Distribution to be a taxable event for the Trust or its shareholders.

**Principal Offices**

The offices of the Trust and the Sponsor are located at 290 Harbor Drive, 4th Floor, Stamford, Connecticut 06902 and the Trust's telephone number is 212-668-1427. The Trustee has a trust office at 2711 Centerville Road, Wilmington, Delaware 19808. The Prime Broker's and the Custodian's office is located at 548 Market Street, #23008, San Francisco, CA 94104. The Transfer Agent's office is located at 240 Greenwich Street, New York, NY 10286.

**THE OFFERING**

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| Shares Offered by the Trust | Shares representing units of fractional undivided beneficial interest in, and ownership of, the Trust. |
| Use of Proceeds | Proceeds received by the Trust from the issuance and sale of Baskets will consist of Ether deposited with the Trust in connection with creations. Such Ether will only be (i) owned by the Trust, (ii) transferred (or converted to U.S. dollars, if necessary) to pay the Trust's expenses, (iii) distributed or otherwise disposed of in connection with the redemption of Baskets or (iv) liquidated in the event that the Trust terminates or as otherwise required by law or regulation. |
| Proposed NYSE Arca symbol | ETHE |
| CUSIP | 389638107 |
| Index Price | The Index Price is the price of an Ether at 4:00 p.m., New York time, calculated based on the price and trading volume data of the Digital Asset Trading Platforms included in the Index over the preceding 24-hour period. The Index Price is calculated using non-GAAP methodology and is not used in the Trust's financial statements.<br><br>The Index is a U.S. dollar-denominated composite reference rate for the price of Ether. The Index is designed to (1) mitigate the effects of fraud, manipulation and other anomalous trading activity from impacting the Ether reference rate, (2) provide a real-time, volume-weighted fair value of Ether and (3) appropriately handle and adjust for non-market related events. The Index Provider formally re-evaluates the weighting algorithm quarterly, but maintains discretion to change the way in which an Index Price is calculated based on its periodic review or in extreme circumstances. The exact methodology to calculate the Index Price is not publicly available. Still, the Index is designed to limit exposure to trading or price distortion of any individual Digital Asset Trading Platform that experiences periods of unusual activity or limited liquidity by discounting, in real-time, anomalous price movements at individual Digital Asset Trading Platforms. The Digital Asset Trading Platforms that are included in the Index are selected by the Index Provider utilizing a methodology that is guided by the International Organization of Securities Commissions ("IOSCO") principles for financial benchmarks. For a trading platform to become a Constituent Trading Platform (as defined herein), it must satisfy the Inclusion Criteria described in the Annual Report, as may be updated by the Index Provider from time to time. See "Risk Factors—Risk Factors Related to the Digital Asset Markets—The Index Price used to calculate the value of the Trust's Ether may be volatile, and purchasing and selling activity in the Digital Asset Markets associated with Basket creations and redemptions may affect the Index Price and Share trading prices, adversely affecting the value of the Shares." |

Index price data and the description of the Index are based on information publicly available at the Index Provider's website at www.coindesk.com/indices/. None of the information on the Index Provider's website is incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

The Index Provider may change the trading venues that are used to calculate the Index Price or otherwise change the way in which the Index Price is calculated at any time. If the Index Price becomes unavailable, or if the Sponsor determines in good faith that the Index Price does not reflect an accurate Ether price, then the Sponsor will, on a best efforts basis, contact the Index Provider to obtain the Index Price directly from the Index Provider. If after such contact the Index Price remains unavailable or the Sponsor continues to believe in good faith that the Index Price does not reflect an accurate Ether price, then the Sponsor will employ a cascading set of rules to determine the Index Price, as described in "Part I—Item 1. Business—Overview of the ETH Industry and Market—ETH Value—The Index and the Index Price" in the Annual Report.

The Sponsor may, in its sole discretion, select a different Index Provider, select a different index price provided by the Index Provider, calculate the Index Price using a cascading set of rules as described above, or change such cascading set of rules at any time. The Sponsor will provide notice of any such changes in the Trust's periodic or current reports and, if the Sponsor makes such a change other than on an ad hoc or temporary basis, will file a proposed rule change with the SEC.

*Digital Asset Trading Platform Public Market Data*

On each online Digital Asset Trading Platform, Ether is traded with publicly disclosed valuations for each executed trade, measured by one or more fiat currencies such as the U.S. dollar or Euro. Over-the-counter dealers or market makers do not typically disclose their trade data.

As of March 31, 2024, the Digital Asset Trading Platforms included in the Index were Coinbase, Kraken, LMAX Digital and Crypto.com. As further described below, the Sponsor and the Trust reasonably believe each of these Digital Asset Trading Platforms are in material compliance with applicable U.S. federal and state licensing requirements and maintain practices and policies designed to comply with know-your-customer ("KYC") and anti-money-laundering ("AML") regulations.

*Coinbase:* A U.S.-based trading platform registered as a money services business ("MSB") with the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network ("FinCEN") and licensed as a virtual currency business under the New York State Department of Financial Services ("NYDFS") BitLicense, as well as a money transmitter in various U.S. states.

*Crypto.com:* A Singapore-based trading platform registered as an MSB with FinCEN and licensed as a money transmitter in various U.S. states. Crypto.com does not hold a BitLicense.

*Kraken*: A U.S.-based trading platform registered as an MSB with FinCEN and licensed as a money transmitter in various U.S. states. Kraken does not hold a BitLicense.

*LMAX Digital*: A U.K.-based trading platform registered as a broker with the Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA"). LMAX Digital does not hold a BitLicense.

Currently, there are several Digital Asset Trading Platforms operating worldwide, and online Digital Asset Trading Platforms represent a substantial percentage of Ether buying and selling activity and provide the most data with respect to prevailing valuations of Ether. These trading platforms include established trading platforms such as the trading platforms included in the Index, which provide a number of options for buying and selling Ether. The below table reflects the trading volume in Ether and market share of the ETH-U.S. dollar trading pairs of each of the Digital Asset Trading Platforms included in the Index as of March 31, 2024 (collectively, "Constituent Trading Platforms"), using data since the inception of the Trust: Digital Asset Trading Platforms: A Singapore-based trading platform registered as an MSB with FinCEN and licensed as a money transmitter in various U.S. states. Crypto.com does not hold a BitLicense. Kraken: A U.S.-based trading platform registered as an MSB with FinCEN and licensed as a money transmitter in various U.S. states. Kraken does not hold a BitLicense. LMAX Digital: A U.K.-based trading platform registered as a broker with Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA"). LMAX Digital does not hold a BitLicense. Currently, there are several Digital Asset Trading Platforms operating worldwide, and online Digital Asset Trading Platforms represent a substantial percentage of Ether buying and selling activity and provide the most data with respect to prevailing valuations of Ether. These trading platforms include established trading platforms such as the trading platforms included in the Index, which provide a number of options for buying and selling Ether. The below table reflects the trading volume in Ether and market share of the ETH-U.S. dollar trading pairs of each of the Digital Asset Trading Platforms included in the Index as of March 31, 2024 (collectively, "Constituent Trading Platforms"), using data since the inception of the Trust:

| Digital Asset Trading Platforms included in the Index as of March 31, 2024[1] | Volume (Ether) | Market Share[2] |
|---|---|---|
| Coinbase | 426,842,922 | 34.85% |
| Kraken | 137,231,707 | 11.20% |
| LMAX Digital | 71,729,096 | 5.86% |
| Crypto.com | 24,829,679 | 2.03% |
| **Total ETH-U.S. Dollar trading pair** | **660,633,404** | **53.94%** |

(1) The Index was initially launched on March 2, 2018 and included Coinbase, Kraken, Bitstamp, Poloniex and Bittrex. The Digital Asset Trading Platforms chosen by the Index Provider have changed over time. On April 20, 2019, the Index Provider removed Bittrex and Poloniex and added itBit to the Index, as part of its scheduled quarterly review. On January 19, 2020, the Index Provider removed itBit and added LMAX Digital to the Index, as part of its scheduled quarterly review. On July 23, 2022, the Index Provider removed Bitstamp from the Index, due to the trading platform failing the minimum liquidity requirement, and added FTX.US as a Constituent Trading Platform due to the trading platform meeting the minimum liquidity requirement, as part of its scheduled quarterly review. On November 10, 2022, the Index Provider removed FTX.US from the Index, due to FTX.US's announcement that trading on the trading platform may be halted which would impact FTX.US's ability to reliably publish trade prices and volume on a real-time basis through APIs, and did not add any Constituent Trading Platforms, as part of its review. On January 28, 2023, the Index Provider added Binance.US to the Index due to the trading platform meeting the minimum liquidity requirement, and did not remove any Constituent Trading Platforms as part of its scheduled quarterly review. On June 17, 2023, the Index Provider removed Binance.US from the Index due to Binance.US's announcement that the trading platform was suspending U.S. dollar ("USD") deposits and withdrawals and planned to delist its USD trading pairs, and did not add any Constituent Trading Platforms as part of its review. On October 28, 2023, the Index Provider added Crypto.com to the Index, due to the trading platform meeting the minimum liquidity requirement, and did not remove any Constituent Trading Platforms as part of its scheduled quarterly review.

(2) Market share is calculated using trading volume (in Ether) for certain Digital Asset Trading Platforms, including Coinbase, Kraken, LMAX Digital and Crypto.com, as well as certain other large U.S.-dollar denominated Digital Asset Trading Platforms that were not included in the Index as of March 31, 2024, including Binance.US (data included from April 1, 2020 through October 14, 2023), Bitfinex, Bitflyer (data included from November 13, 2022), Bitstamp, Bittrex (data included from July 31, 2018), Cboe Digital (data included from October 1, 2020), FTX.US (data included from July 1, 2021 through November 12, 2022), Gemini, HitBTC (data included from June 13, 2019 through March 31, 2020), itBit (data included from December 27, 2018), and OKCoin (data included from December 25, 2018 through December 31, 2022).

Information regarding each Digital Asset Trading Platform may be found, where available, on the websites for such Digital Asset Trading Platforms, among other places. Such information is referenced for informational purposes only and is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

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| Basket | The number of whole and fractional Ether represented by each Basket at any time is determined by dividing (x) the number of Ether owned by the Trust at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the relevant trade date, after deducting the number of Ether representing the U.S. dollar value of accrued but unpaid fees and expenses of the Trust (converted using the Index Price at such time, and carried to the eighth decimal place) by (y) the number of Shares outstanding at such time (with the quotient so obtained calculated to one one-hundred-millionth of one Ether (i.e., carried to the eighth decimal place)), and multiplying such quotient by (i) 10,000, after the Amended Trust Agreement becomes effective, or (ii) 100, prior to such time (the "Basket Amount").<br><br>The number of Ether represented by a Share will gradually decrease over time due to the transfer of the Trust's Ether to pay the Sponsor's Fee and the delivery or sale of the Trust's Ether to pay any Trust expenses not assumed by the Sponsor. See "Part I—Item 1. Business—Activities of the Trust" in the Annual Report. |
| Creation and Redemption | The Trust issues Shares on an ongoing basis, but only in one or more whole Baskets of 10,000 Shares each after the Amended Trust Agreement becomes effective, or 100 Shares each prior to such time. In addition, on the effective date of the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, the Trust reinstated its redemption program. Through its redemption program, the Trust redeems Shares from Authorized Participants on an ongoing basis.<br><br>The creation and redemption of Baskets require the delivery to or acquisition by the Trust, or the distribution or disposition by the Trust, of the number of Ether represented by the Baskets being created or redeemed, the number of which is equal to the "Basket Amount" as of 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the trade date of a creation or redemption order multiplied by the number of Baskets being created or redeemed (the "Total Basket Amount"). The number of Ether required to create a Basket, or to be delivered or disposed of upon the redemption of a Basket, will gradually decrease over time due to the transfer of the Trust's Ether to pay the Sponsor's Fee and the delivery or sale of the Trust's Ether to pay any Trust expenses not assumed by the Sponsor. See "Description of Creation and Redemption of Shares" in this prospectus and "Part I—Item 1. Business—Activities of the Trust" in the Annual Report.<br><br>Although the Trust creates Baskets only upon the receipt of Ether, and redeems Baskets only by distributing Ether or proceeds from the disposition of Ether, at this time an Authorized Participant can only submit Cash Orders, pursuant to which the Authorized Participant will deposit cash into, or accept cash from, the Cash Account in connection with the creation and redemption of Baskets. Cash Orders will be facilitated by the Transfer Agent and Grayscale Investments, LLC, which will engage one or more eligible companies (each, a "Liquidity Provider") that is not an agent of, or otherwise acting on behalf of, any Authorized Participant to obtain or receive Ether in |

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| | connection with such orders. The Sponsor may in its sole discretion limit the number of Shares created pursuant to Cash Orders on any specified day without notice to the Authorized Participants and may direct the Marketing Agent to reject any Cash Orders in excess of such capped amount. The redemption of Shares pursuant to Cash Orders will only take place if approved by the Sponsor in writing, in its sole discretion and on a case-by-case basis.<br><br>The Trust is currently able to accept Cash Orders. However, and in common with other spot digital asset exchange-traded products, the Trust is not at this time able to create and redeem shares via in-kind transactions with Authorized Participants, and there has yet to be definitive regulatory guidance on whether and how registered broker-dealers can hold and deal in Ether in compliance with the federal securities laws. Subject to In-Kind Regulatory Approval, in the future the Trust may also create and redeem Baskets via In-Kind Orders, pursuant to which an Authorized Participant or its AP Designee would deposit Ether directly with the Trust or receive Ether directly from the Trust. However, because In-Kind Regulatory Approval has not been obtained, at this time Baskets will not be created or redeemed through In-Kind Orders and will only be created or redeemed through Cash Orders. There can be no assurance as to when such regulatory clarity will emerge, or when NYSE Arca will seek or obtain such regulatory approval, if at all. See "Risk Factors—Risk Factors Related to the Trust and the Shares—The lack of ability to facilitate in-kind creations and redemptions of Shares could have adverse consequences for the Trust."<br><br>See "Description of Creation and Redemption of Shares" in this prospectus for more information.<br><br>The Sponsor has engaged certain unaffiliated Liquidity Providers, and intends to engage additional Liquidity Providers who are unaffiliated with the Trust in the future. |
| Net Asset Value . . . . . | As of March 31, 2024, the Trust's Principal Market NAV was $10,711,109,737 and the Trust's Principal Market NAV per Share was $34.53. See "Part I—Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Selected Operating Data" in the Q1 2024 Quarterly Report for additional information reconciling the Trust's NAV and NAV per Share presented in the Annual Report (previously referred to therein as "Digital Asset Holdings" and "Digital Asset Holdings per Share") against the GAAP metrics presented in our financial statements included hereto. |
| The Trust's NAV . . . . . | As of March 31, 2024, the Trust's NAV was $10,710,962,523 and the Trust's NAV per Share was $34.53. The Trust's NAV is the aggregate value, expressed in U.S. dollars, of the Trust's assets (other than U.S. dollars or other fiat currency), less the U.S. dollar value of |

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| | the Trust's expenses and other liabilities calculated in the manner set forth under "Part I—Item 1. Business—Overview of the ETH Industry and Market" in the Annual Report.<br><br>The Sponsor also calculates the NAV per Share, which equals the NAV of the Trust divided by the number of Shares then outstanding. The Sponsor publishes the NAV and NAV per Share each business day as of 4:00 p.m., New York time, or as soon thereafter as practicable at the Trust's website at www.grayscale.com/crypto-products/grayscale-ethereum-trust. The contents of the website referred to above and any websites referred to herein are not incorporated into this filing. Further, our references to the URL for this website is intended to be an inactive textual reference only. See "Part I—Item 1. Business—Valuation of ETH and Determination of NAV" in the Annual Report for a more detailed description of how the Trust's NAV and NAV per Share are calculated. |
| Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency | Other than receiving and distributing cash from the Cash Account in connection with the creation and redemption of Baskets as described under "Description of Creation and Redemption of Shares," the Trust will not hold cash, and will not engage a cash custodian. The Trust may from time to time be entitled to come into possession of rights incident to its ownership of Ether, which permit the Trust to acquire, or otherwise establish dominion and control over, other virtual currencies. These rights are generally expected to arise in connection with forks in the Blockchain, airdrops offered to holders of Ether or other similar events and arise without any action of the Trust or of the Sponsor or Trustee on behalf of the Trust. We refer to these rights as "Incidental Rights" and any such virtual currency acquired through Incidental Rights as "IR Virtual Currency."<br><br>With respect to any fork, airdrop or similar event, the Sponsor will cause the Trust to irrevocably abandon the Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency. In the event the Trust seeks to change this position, an application would need to be filed with the SEC by NYSE Arca seeking approval to amend its listing rules to permit the Trust to distribute the Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency in-kind to an agent of the shareholders for resale by such agent. Because the Trust will abandon any Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency, the Trust would not receive any direct or indirect consideration for the Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency and thus the value of the Shares will not reflect the value of the Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency. See "Risk Factors—Risks Related to the Trust and the Shares—Shareholders will not receive the benefits of any forks or airdrops" and "Description of the Shares—Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency." |
| Trust Expenses | The Trust's only ordinary recurring expense is expected to be the "Sponsor's Fee." The Sponsor's Fee will accrue daily in U.S. dollars |

at an annual rate of % of the NAV Fee Basis Amount of the Trust as of 4:00 p.m., New York time, on each day; provided that for a day that is not a business day, the calculation will be based on the NAV Fee Basis Amount from the most recent business day, reduced by the accrued and unpaid Sponsor's Fee for such most recent business day and for each day after such most recent business day and prior to the relevant calculation date. This dollar amount for each daily accrual will then be converted into Ether by reference to the same Index Price used to determine such accrual. The Sponsor's Fee is payable in Ether to the Sponsor daily in arrears.

To cause the Trust to pay the Sponsor's Fee, the Sponsor will instruct the Custodian to withdraw from the Trust's Vault Balance (as defined below) the number of Ether equal to the accrued but unpaid Sponsor's Fee and transfer such Ether to the Sponsor's account at such times as the Sponsor determines in its absolute discretion.

The Sponsor, from time to time, may temporarily waive all or a portion of the Sponsor's Fee in its sole discretion. Presently, the Sponsor does not intend to waive any of the Sponsor's Fee and there are no circumstances under which the Sponsor has determined it will definitely waive the fee.

After the Trust's payment of the Sponsor's Fee to the Sponsor, the Sponsor may elect to convert any Ether received as payment of the Sponsor's Fee into U.S. dollars. The rate at which the Sponsor converts such Ether to U.S. dollars may differ from the rate at which the relevant Sponsor's Fee was determined. The Trust will not be responsible for any fees and expenses incurred by the Sponsor to convert Ether received in payment of the Sponsor's Fee into U.S. dollars.

As partial consideration for its receipt of the Sponsor's Fee, the Sponsor is obligated under the Trust Agreement to assume and pay all fees and other expenses incurred by the Trust in the ordinary course of its affairs, excluding taxes, but including: (i) the Marketing Fee, (ii) the Administrator Fee, (iii) the Custodian Fee and fees for any other security vendor engaged by the Trust, (iv) the Transfer Agent Fee, (v) the Trustee fee, (vi) the fees and expenses related to the listing, quotation or trading of the Shares on any Secondary Market (including customary legal, marketing and audit fees and expenses) in an amount up to $600,000 in any given fiscal year, (vii) ordinary course, legal fees and expenses, (viii) audit fees, (ix) regulatory fees, including, if applicable, any fees relating to the registration of the Shares under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, (x) printing and mailing costs, (xi) costs of maintaining the Trust's website and (xii) applicable license fees (each, a "Sponsor-paid Expense" and collectively, the "Sponsor-paid Expenses"), provided that any expense that qualifies as an Additional Trust Expense will be deemed to be an Additional Trust Expense and not a Sponsor-paid Expense.

The Trust may incur certain extraordinary, nonrecurring expenses that are not Sponsor-paid Expenses, including, but not limited to, taxes and governmental charges, expenses and costs of any extraordinary services performed by the Sponsor (or any other service provider) on behalf of the Trust to protect the Trust or the interests of shareholders, any indemnification of the Custodian or other agents, service providers or counterparties of the Trust, the fees and expenses related to the listing, quotation or trading of the Shares on any Secondary Market (including legal, marketing and audit fees and expenses) to the extent exceeding $600,000 in any given fiscal year and extraordinary legal fees and expenses, including any legal fees and expenses incurred in connection with litigation, regulatory enforcement or investigation matters (collectively, "Additional Trust Expenses").

In such circumstances, the Sponsor or its delegate (i) will instruct the Custodian to withdraw from the Trust's Vault Balance Ether in such quantity as may be necessary to permit payment of such Additional Trust Expenses and (ii) may either (x) cause the Trust (or its delegate) to convert such Ether into U.S. dollars or other fiat currencies at the Actual Exchange Rate or (y) when the Sponsor incurs such expenses on behalf of the Trust, cause the Trust (or its delegate) to deliver such Ether in kind to the Sponsor in satisfaction of such Additional Trust Expenses.

Although the Sponsor is obligated to use its commercially reasonable efforts to obtain the highest price when engaging other parties to assist with the sale of the Trust's Ether to raise proceeds for any Additional Trust Expenses, the Sponsor will have some discretion in arranging for the sale of the Trust's Ether, and may engage one or more of its affiliates to assist with any such sale. The Sponsor and its respective directors, officers, employees, affiliates, and/or parties engaged to assist with the sale of the Trust's Ether may trade in the Ether, digital asset, derivative or other markets for their own accounts, and in doing so may take positions opposite to or ahead of those held by the Trust and may compete with the Trust for positions in the marketplace. For example, sales of the Trust's Ether for the satisfaction of any Additional Trust Expenses may create conflicts of interest on behalf of one or more such parties in respect of their obligation to the Trust. The Sponsor has adopted and implemented policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to ensure compliance with applicable law, including a Compliance Manual and Code of Ethics, which address conflicts of interest. See "Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors—Risk Factors Related to Potential Conflicts of Interest—Potential conflicts of interest may arise among the Sponsor or its affiliates and the Trust. The Sponsor and its affiliates have no fiduciary duties to the Trust and its shareholders other than as provided in the Trust Agreement, which may permit them to favor their own interests to the detriment of the Trust and its shareholders" in the Annual Report.

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| | In order to raise proceeds to pay for any Additional Trust Expenses, the Sponsor would execute the sale of Ether through eligible financial institutions that are subject to federal and state licensing requirements and practices regarding AML and KYC regulations, which may include a Liquidity Provider or one or more of their respective affiliates. The Sponsor expects that these financial institutions will generally only have access to Digital Asset Trading Platforms or other venues that they reasonably believe are operating in compliance with applicable law, including federal and state licensing requirements, based upon information and assurances provided to it by each venue. The Trust is not responsible for paying any costs associated with the transfer of Ether to the Sponsor in connection with the payment of the Sponsor's Fee or the sale of Ether in connection with the payment of any Additional Trust Expenses.<br><br>The number of Ether represented by a Share will decline each time the Trust pays the Sponsor's Fee or any Additional Trust Expenses by transferring or selling Ether. See "Part I—Item 1. Business—Expenses; Sales of ETH" in the Annual Report.<br><br>The quantity of Ether to be delivered to the Sponsor or other relevant payee in payment of the Sponsor's Fee or any Additional Trust Expenses, or sold to permit payment of Additional Trust Expenses, will vary from time to time depending on the level of the Trust's expenses and the value of Ether held by the Trust. See "Part I—Item 1. Business—Expenses; Sales of ETH" in the Annual Report. Assuming that the Trust is a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes, each delivery or sale of Ether by the Trust for the payment of expenses will be a taxable event to shareholders. See "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences—Tax Consequences to U.S. Holders." |
| Voting Rights . . . . . | The shareholders take no part in the management or control of the Trust. Under the Trust Agreement, shareholders have limited voting rights. For example, in the event that the Sponsor withdraws, a majority of the shareholders may elect and appoint a successor sponsor to carry out the affairs of the Trust. In addition, no amendments to the Trust Agreement that materially adversely affect the interests of shareholders may be made without the vote of at least a majority (over 50%) of the Shares (not including any Shares held by the Sponsor or its affiliates). However, the Sponsor may make any other amendments to the Trust Agreement in its sole discretion without shareholder consent provided that the Sponsor provides 20 days' notice of any such amendment. See "Description of the Shares." |
| Termination Events . . . . . | Upon dissolution of the Trust and surrender of Shares by the shareholders, shareholders will receive a distribution in U.S. dollars or in Ether, at the sole discretion of the Sponsor, after the Sponsor has sold the Trust's Ether, if applicable, and has paid or made provision for the Trust's claims and obligations. See "Part I—Item 1. |

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| | Business—Description of the Trust Agreement—The Trustee—Termination of the Trust" in the Annual Report. In exercising its discretion, the Sponsor expects to take into consideration a number of factors including, but not limited to, the intention that the Shares offer investors an opportunity to gain exposure to digital assets through an investment in securities, the operational challenges of transferring Ether to the Trust's shareholders via their brokers or brokerage platforms and the ability of those parties to receive Ether or cash, as well as the tax consequences of distributing cash or Ether. Based on the foregoing considerations, the Sponsor currently expects such distributions to be made in cash and to execute the sales of any Ether in connection with the termination of the Trust through eligible financial institutions that are subject to federal and state licensing requirements and practices regarding AML and KYC regulations, which may include a Liquidity Provider or one or more of their respective affiliates. |
| Authorized Participants . . . . . | Baskets may be created or redeemed only by Authorized Participants. Each Authorized Participant must (i) be a registered broker-dealer and (ii) have entered into a Participant Agreement with the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent. Subject to In-Kind Regulatory Approval, in the future any Authorized Participants creating and redeeming Shares through In-Kind Orders must also own, or their AP Designee (as defined below) must own, an Ether wallet address that is known to the Custodian as belonging to the Authorized Participant or its AP Designee and maintain an account with the Custodian. The Participant Agreement provides the procedures for the creation and redemption of Baskets and for the delivery of Ether required for the creation and redemption of Baskets via a Liquidity Provider, as well as the deposit with and subsequent delivery by the Trust of cash required in connection therewith, from or to an Authorized Participant or Liquidity Provider, as applicable. See "Description of Creation and Redemption of Shares."<br><br>As of the date of this prospectus, the Trust has engaged , and as Authorized Participants. Additional Authorized Participants may be added at any time, subject to the discretion of the Sponsor. |
| Liquidity Providers . . . . . | Liquidity Providers facilitate the purchase and sale of Ether in connection with Cash Orders for creations or redemptions of Baskets. Liquidity Providers are engaged by Grayscale Investments, LLC (in such capacity, the "Liquidity Engager"), and are not party to Participant Agreements or otherwise agents of, or otherwise acting on behalf of, any Authorized Participant. See "Description of Creation and Redemption of Shares." The Liquidity Engager's criteria for engaging one or more Liquidity Providers includes the completion of due diligence that considers each such Liquidity Provider's Ether trading capabilities, organizational structure, operating history, lines of business, controls, and other details necessary to evaluate their ability to facilitate Cash Orders. Liquidity Providers formalize their relationship through a Liquidity Provider |

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| | Agreement between the Liquidity Engager, Liquidity Provider and the Sponsor (on behalf of the Trust). Pursuant to such Liquidity Provider Agreements, the Liquidity Providers will be contractually obligated to deliver or receive Ether in exchange for cash in connection with Cash Orders for creations or redemptions.<br><br>The Liquidity Providers with which Grayscale Investments, LLC, acting in its capacity as the Liquidity Engager, will engage in Ether transactions are third parties that are not affiliated with the Sponsor or the Trust and are not acting as agents of the Trust, the Sponsor, or any Authorized Participant, and all transactions will be done on an arms-length basis. Except for the contractual relationships between each Liquidity Provider and Grayscale Investments, LLC in its capacity as the Liquidity Engager and the Sponsor (on behalf of the Trust), there is no other pre-existing contractual relationship between each Liquidity Provider, on the one hand, and the Trust, the Sponsor, or any Authorized Participant, on the other hand, in each case that relates to the Trust or the Trust's Shares. When seeking to buy Ether in connection with creations or sell Ether in connection with redemptions, the Liquidity Engager will seek to obtain commercially reasonable prices and terms from the approved Liquidity Providers. Once agreed upon, the transaction will generally occur on an "over-the-counter" basis.<br><br>As of the date of this prospectus, the Liquidity Engager has engaged and as Liquidity Providers. Additional Liquidity Providers may be added at any time, subject to the discretion of the Liquidity Engager. |
| Clearance and Settlement . . . . . | The Shares are evidenced by one or more global certificates that the Transfer Agent issues to DTC. The Shares are primarily available in book-entry form. Shareholders may hold their Shares through DTC if they are direct participants in DTC ("DTC Participants"), or indirectly through entities that are DTC Participants. |
| Risk Factors . . . . . | See the risks discussed in this prospectus, in "Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors" in the Annual Report, in any applicable prospectus supplement and in the other documents incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference herein before you invest in the Shares. |

## RISK FACTORS

*An investment in the Shares involves risks, including the risks described below which update the Trust's previously filed risk factors to the extent applicable, as well as those risks set forth under "Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors" in the Annual Report, in any applicable prospectus supplement and in the other documents incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference herein. You should also refer to the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, including the Trust's financial statements and related notes thereto, before making an investment decision.*

### Risk Factors Related to the Offering

***The liquidity of the Shares may be affected if Authorized Participants cease to perform their obligations under the Participant Agreements or the Liquidity Engager is unable to engage Liquidity Providers.***

In the event that one or more Authorized Participants having substantial interests in Shares or otherwise responsible for a significant portion of the Shares' daily trading volume on NYSE Arca terminates its Participant Agreement, the liquidity of the Shares would likely decrease, which could adversely affect the value of the Shares. In addition, if the Liquidity Engager is unable to engage one or more Liquidity Providers to obtain or receive Ether in connection with Cash Orders, the Trust may have difficulty maintaining the participation of certain Authorized Participants or engaging additional Authorized Participants. Under such circumstances, the liquidity of the Shares would likely decrease, which could adversely affect the value of the Shares.

***The Shares may trade at a price that is at, above or below the Trust's NAV per Share as a result of the non-current trading hours between NYSE Arca and the Digital Asset Trading Platform Market.***

The Trust's NAV per Share will fluctuate with changes in the market value of Ether, and the Sponsor expects the trading price of the Shares to fluctuate in accordance with changes in the Trust's NAV per Share, as well as market supply and demand. However, the Shares may trade on NYSE Arca at a price that is at, above or below the Trust's NAV per Share for a variety of reasons. For example, NYSE Arca is open for trading in the Shares for a limited period each day, but the Digital Asset Trading Platform Market is a 24-hour marketplace. During periods when NYSE Arca is closed but Digital Asset Trading Platforms are open, significant changes in the price of Ether on the Digital Asset Trading Platform Market could result in a difference in performance between the value of Ether as measured by the Index and the most recent NAV per Share or closing trading price. For example, if the price of Ether on the Digital Asset Trading Platform Market, and the value of Ether as measured by the Index, move significantly in a negative direction after the close of NYSE Arca, the trading price of the Shares may "gap" down to the full extent of such negative price shift when NYSE Arca reopens. If the price of Ether on the Digital Asset Trading Platform Market drops significantly during hours NYSE Arca is closed, shareholders may not be able to sell their Shares until after the "gap" down has been fully realized, resulting in an inability to rapidly mitigate losses in a negative market. Even during periods when NYSE Arca is open, large Digital Asset Trading Platforms (or a substantial number of smaller Digital Asset Trading Platforms) may be lightly traded or closed for any number of reasons, which could increase trading spreads and widen any premium or discount on the Shares.

***The commencement of a redemption program, in conjunction with the listing of the Shares on the NYSE Arca, may impact whether the Shares trade at a discount or premium to the NAV per Share, and any suspension or other unavailability of the Trust's redemption program may cause the Shares to trade at a discount to the NAV per Share.***

Historically, the Shares have traded on OTCQX at both premiums and discounts to the NAV per Share, which at times have been substantial. The Sponsor believes that the trading price of the Shares has diverged from the NAV per Share in the past due, in part, to the holding period under Rule 144 for Shares purchased in the private placement and the lack of an ongoing redemption program, as a result of which Authorized Participants have been unable to take advantage of arbitrage opportunities when the market value of the Shares deviated from the

NAV per Share. Although the Sponsor cannot predict with certainty what effect the commencement of the Trust's redemption program, in conjunction with the listing of the Shares on NYSE Arca, will have on the trading price of the Shares, it may have the effect of reducing any premium or discount at which the Shares have been trading on the OTCQX immediately prior to the commencement of the redemption program, and there can be no assurance that the Trust's redemption program will not be suspended or become unavailable again in the future. In addition, if the Sponsor decides to limit Cash Orders at a time when the Shares are trading at a premium or a discount to the NAV per Share, and In-Kind Regulatory Approval has not been obtained as of such time or the in-kind creation or redemption of Shares is otherwise unavailable for any reason, the arbitrage mechanism may fail to effectively function, which could impact the Shares' liquidity and/or cause the Shares to trade at premiums and discounts to the NAV per Share, and otherwise have a negative impact on the value of the Shares.

***Shareholders may suffer a loss on their investment if the Shares trade above or below the Trust's NAV per Share.***

Historically, the Shares have traded at both premiums and discounts to the NAV per Share, which at times have been substantial. If the Shares trade on NYSE Arca in the future at a premium, investors who purchase Shares on NYSE Arca will pay more for their Shares than investors who purchase Shares directly from Authorized Participants. In contrast, if the Shares trade on NYSE Arca in the future at a discount, investors who purchase Shares directly from Authorized Participants will pay more for their Shares than investors who purchase Shares on NYSE Arca. The premium or discount at which the Shares have traded has fluctuated over time. For example, from June 20, 2019 to March 31, 2024, the maximum premium of the closing price of the Shares quoted on OTCQX over the value of the Trust's NAV per Share was 956%, the average premium was 191%, the maximum discount of the closing price of the Shares quoted on OTCQX below the value of the Trust's NAV per Share was 60%, and the average discount was 25%. The closing price of the Shares, as quoted on OTCQX at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on each business day between June 20, 2019 and March 31, 2024, has been quoted at a discount on 772 days. As of March 28, 2024, the last business day of the period, the Trust's Shares were quoted on OTCQX at a discount of 23% to the Trust's NAV per Share. As a result, shareholders who purchase Shares on NYSE Arca at a premium may suffer a loss on their investment if they sell their Shares at a time when the premium has decreased from the premium at which they purchased the Shares even if the NAV per Share remains the same. Likewise, shareholders that purchase Shares directly from the Trust may suffer a loss on their investment if they sell their Shares at a time when the Shares are trading at a discount on NYSE Arca. Furthermore, shareholders may suffer a loss on their investment even if the NAV per Share increases because the decrease in any premium or increase in any discount may offset any increase in the NAV per Share.

***There is no guarantee that an active trading market for the Shares will develop.***

Although an active market for the Shares had developed on OTCQX and the Shares have begun trading on NYSE Arca, there can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Shares will develop or, to the extent an active market does develop, be maintained or continue to develop on NYSE Arca. In addition, NYSE Arca can halt the trading of the Shares at any time and for a variety of reasons. To the extent that NYSE Arca halts trading in the Shares, whether on a temporary or permanent basis, shareholders may not be able to buy or sell Shares, which could adversely affect the value of the Shares. If an active trading market for the Shares does not develop or continue to exist, the market prices and liquidity of the Shares may be adversely affected.

**Risk Factors Related to the Digital Asset Markets**

***Recent developments in the digital asset economy have led to extreme volatility and disruption in digital asset markets, a loss of confidence in participants of the digital asset ecosystem, significant negative publicity surrounding digital assets broadly and market-wide declines in liquidity.***

Since the fourth quarter of 2021 and to date, digital asset prices have fluctuated widely. This has led to volatility and disruption in the digital asset markets and financial difficulties for several prominent industry participants,

including digital asset trading platforms, hedge funds and lending platforms. For example, in the first half of 2022, digital asset lenders Celsius Network LLC and Voyager Digital Ltd. and digital asset hedge fund Three Arrows Capital each declared bankruptcy. This resulted in a loss of confidence in participants in the digital asset ecosystem, negative publicity surrounding digital assets more broadly and market-wide declines in digital asset trading prices and liquidity.

Thereafter, in November 2022, FTX Trading Ltd. ("FTX"), the third largest Digital Asset Trading Platform by volume at the time, halted customer withdrawals amid rumors of the company's liquidity issues and likely insolvency. Shortly thereafter, FTX's CEO resigned and FTX and several affiliates of FTX filed for bankruptcy. The U.S. Department of Justice subsequently brought criminal charges, including charges of fraud, violations of federal securities laws, money laundering, and campaign finance offenses, against FTX's former CEO and others. In November 2023, FTX's former CEO was convicted of fraud and money laundering. Similar charges related to violations of anti-money laundering laws were brought in November 2023 against Binance and its former CEO. FTX is also under investigation by the SEC, the Justice Department, and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, as well as by various regulatory authorities in the Bahamas, Europe and other jurisdictions. In response to these events, the digital asset markets have experienced extreme price volatility and declines in liquidity. In addition, several other entities in the digital asset industry filed for bankruptcy following FTX's bankruptcy filing, such as BlockFi Inc. and Genesis Global Capital, LLC ("Genesis Capital"), a subsidiary of Genesis Global Holdco, LLC ("Genesis Holdco"). The SEC also brought charges against Genesis Capital and Gemini Trust Company, LLC ("Gemini") in January 2023 for their alleged unregistered offer and sale of securities to retail investors. In October 2023, the New York Attorney General ("NYAG") brought charges against Gemini, Genesis Capital, Genesis Asia Pacific PTE. LTD. ("Genesis Asia Pacific"), Genesis Holdco (together with Genesis Capital and Genesis Asia Pacific, the "Genesis Entities"), Genesis Capital's former CEO, Digital Currency Group, Inc. ("DCG"), and DCG's CEO alleging violations of the New York Penal Law, the New York General Business Law and the New York Executive Law. In February 2024, the NYAG amended its complaint to expand the charges against Gemini, the Genesis Entities, Genesis Capital's former CEO, DCG, and DCG's CEO to include harm to additional investors. Also in February 2024, the Genesis Entities entered into a settlement agreement with the NYAG to resolve the NYAG's allegations against the Genesis Entities, which proposed settlement remains subject to the approval of the Bankruptcy Court of the Southern District of New York.

Furthermore, Genesis Holdco, together with certain of its subsidiaries, filed a voluntary petition for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code in January 2023. While Genesis Holdco is not a service provider to the Trust, it is a wholly owned subsidiary of DCG, and is an affiliate of the Trust and the Sponsor.

These events have led to a substantial increase in regulatory and enforcement scrutiny of the industry as a whole and of Digital Asset Trading Platforms in particular, including from the Department of Justice, the SEC, the CFTC, the White House and Congress. For example, in June 2023, the SEC brought charges against Binance (the "Binance Complaint") and Coinbase (the "Coinbase Complaint"), two of the largest digital asset trading platforms, alleging that they solicited U.S. investors to buy, sell, and trade "crypto asset securities" through their unregistered trading platforms and operated unregistered securities exchanges, brokerages and clearing agencies. Binance subsequently announced that it would be suspending USD deposits and withdrawals on Binance.US and that it plans to delist its USD trading pairs. In addition, in November 2023, the SEC brought similar charges against Kraken (the "Kraken Complaint"), alleging that it operated as an unregistered securities exchange, brokerage and clearing agency. The Binance Complaint, the Coinbase Complaint and the Kraken Complaint have led, and may in the future lead, to further volatility in digital asset prices.

These events have also led to significant negative publicity around digital asset market participants including DCG, Genesis and DCG's other affiliated entities. This publicity could negatively impact the reputation of the Sponsor and have an adverse effect on the trading price and/or the value of the Shares. Moreover, sales of a significant number of Shares of the Trust as a result of these events could have a negative impact on the trading price of the Shares.

Further, in March 2023, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") accepted Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank into receivership. Also, in March 2023, Silvergate Bank announced plans to wind down and liquidate its operations. Following these events, a number of companies that provide digital asset-related services have been unable to find banks that are willing to provide them with bank accounts and banking services. Although these events did not have a material impact on the Trust or the Sponsor, it is possible that a future closing of a bank with which the Trust or the Sponsor has a financial relationship could subject the Trust or the Sponsor to adverse conditions and pose challenges in finding an alternative suitable bank to provide the Trust or the Sponsor with bank accounts and banking services.

These events are continuing to develop at a rapid pace and it is not possible to predict at this time all of the risks that they may pose to the Sponsor, the Trust, their affiliates and/or the Trust's third-party service providers, or on the digital asset industry as a whole.

Continued disruption and instability in the digital asset markets as these events develop, including further declines in the trading prices and liquidity of Ether, could have a material adverse effect on the value of the Shares and the Shares could lose all or substantially all of their value.

***Due to the unregulated nature and lack of transparency surrounding the operations of Digital Asset Trading Platforms, they may experience fraud, market manipulation, business failures, security failures or operational problems, which may adversely affect the value of Ether and, consequently, the value of the Shares.***

Digital Asset Trading Platforms are relatively new and, in many ways, unregulated. While many prominent Digital Asset Trading Platforms provide the public with significant information regarding their ownership structure, management teams, corporate practices and regulatory compliance, many other Digital Asset Trading Platforms do not provide this information. Furthermore, while Digital Asset Trading Platforms are and may continue to be subject to federal and state licensing requirements in the United States, Digital Asset Trading Platforms do not currently appear to be subject to regulation in a similar manner as other regulated trading platforms, such as national securities exchanges or designated contract markets. As a result, the marketplace may lose confidence in Digital Asset Trading Platforms, including prominent trading platforms that handle a significant volume of Ether trading.

Many Digital Asset Trading Platforms are unlicensed, unregulated, operate without extensive supervision by governmental authorities, and do not provide the public with significant information regarding their ownership structure, management team, corporate practices, cybersecurity, and regulatory compliance. In particular, those located outside the United States may be subject to significantly less stringent regulatory and compliance requirements in their local jurisdictions and may take the position that they are not subject to laws and regulations that would apply to a national securities exchange or designated contract market in the United States, or may, as a practical matter, be beyond the ambit of U.S. regulators. As a result, trading activity on or reported by these Digital Asset Trading Platforms is generally significantly less regulated than trading activity on or reported by regulated U.S. securities and commodities markets, and may reflect behavior that would be prohibited in regulated U.S. trading venues. For example, in 2022 one report claimed that trading volumes on unregulated Digital Asset Trading Platforms were inflated by over 70% due to false or non-economic trades, with specific focus on unlicensed trading platforms located outside of the United States. Such reports may indicate that the Digital Asset Trading Platform Market is significantly smaller than expected and that the U.S. makes up a significantly larger percentage of the Digital Asset Trading Platform Market than is commonly understood. Nonetheless, any actual or perceived false trading in the Digital Asset Trading Platform Market, and any other fraudulent or manipulative acts and practices, could adversely affect the value of Ether and/or negatively affect the market perception of Ether, which could in turn adversely impact the value of the Shares.

The SEC has also identified possible sources of fraud and manipulation in the Digital Asset Markets generally, including, among others (1) "wash-trading"; (2) persons with a dominant position in Ether manipulating Ether

pricing; (3) hacking of the Ethereum Network and trading platforms; (4) malicious control of the Ethereum Network; (5) trading based on material, non-public information (for example, plans of market participants to significantly increase or decrease their holdings in Ether, new sources of demand for Ether) or based on the dissemination of false and misleading information; (6) manipulative activity involving purported "stablecoins," including Tether; and (7) fraud and manipulation at Digital Asset Markets. The use or presence of such acts and practices in the Digital Asset Markets could, for example, falsely inflate the volume of Ether present in the Digital Asset Markets or cause distortions in the price of Ether, among other things that could adversely affect the Trust or cause losses to shareholders. Moreover, tools to detect and deter fraudulent or manipulative trading activities, such as market manipulation, front-running of trades, and wash-trading, may not be available to or employed by Digital Asset Markets, or may not exist at all. Many Digital Asset Markets also lack certain safeguards put in place by exchanges for more traditional assets to enhance the stability of trading on the exchanges and prevent "flash crashes," such as limit-down circuit breakers. As a result, the prices of Ether on Digital Asset Markets may be subject to larger and/or more frequent sudden declines than assets traded on more traditional exchanges.

In addition, over the past several years, some Digital Asset Trading Platforms have been closed, been subject to criminal and civil litigation and have entered into bankruptcy proceedings due to fraud and manipulative activity, business failure and/or security breaches. In many of these instances, the customers of such Digital Asset Trading Platforms were not compensated or made whole for the partial or complete losses of their account balances in such Digital Asset Trading Platforms. While smaller Digital Asset Trading Platforms are less likely to have the infrastructure and capitalization that make larger Digital Asset Trading Platforms more stable, larger Digital Asset Trading Platforms are more likely to be appealing targets for hackers and malware and their shortcomings or ultimate failures are more likely to have contagion effects on the digital asset ecosystem, and therefore may be more likely to be targets of regulatory enforcement action. For example, in February 2014, Mt. Gox, the largest Digital Asset Trading Platform at the time, halted withdrawals of Bitcoin and subsequently filed for bankruptcy protection in Japan following a hack that resulted in the loss of several hundred thousand Bitcoin. In the two weeks following the halt of Bitcoin withdrawals from Mt. Gox, the value of one Bitcoin fell on other trading platforms from around $795 to $578. Failure and shortcomings of large Digital Asset Trading Platforms have since continued; in January 2015, Bitstamp announced that approximately 19,000 Bitcoin had been stolen from its operational or "hot" wallets, and in August 2016, it was reported that almost 120,000 Bitcoin worth around $78 million were stolen from Bitfinex. The value of Bitcoin and other digital assets immediately decreased over 10% following reports of the theft at Bitfinex. Regulatory enforcement actions have followed, such as in July 2017, when FinCEN assessed a $110 million fine against BTC-E, a now defunct Digital Asset Trading Platform, for facilitating crimes such as drug sales and ransomware attacks. In addition, in December 2017, Yapian, the operator of Seoul-based digital asset trading platform Youbit, suspended digital asset trading and filed for bankruptcy following a hack that resulted in a loss of 17% of Yapian's assets. In January 2018, the Japanese digital asset trading platform, Coincheck, was hacked, resulting in losses of approximately $535 million, and in February 2018, the Italian digital asset trading platform, Bitgrail, was hacked, resulting in approximately $170 million in losses. In May 2019, one of the world's largest Digital Asset Trading Platforms, Binance, was hacked, resulting in losses of approximately $40 million. More recently, in November 2022, FTX, another of the world's largest Digital Asset Trading Platforms, filed for bankruptcy protection and subsequently halted customer withdrawals as well as trading on its FTX.US platform. While details and events surrounding the failure continue to develop, and it is unclear what the eventual impacts of its bankruptcy will be, it appears that fraud, security failures and operational problems all played a role in FTX's issues. Moreover, Digital Asset Trading Platforms have been a subject of enhanced regulatory and enforcement scrutiny, and Digital Asset Markets have experienced continued instability, following the failure of FTX. In particular, in June 2023, the SEC brought the Binance Complaint and Coinbase Complaint, alleging that Binance and Coinbase operated unregistered securities exchanges, brokerages and clearing agencies. In addition, in November 2023, the SEC brought the Kraken Complaint, alleging that Kraken operated as an unregistered securities exchange, brokerage and clearing agency.

Negative perception, a lack of stability and standardized regulation in the Digital Asset Markets and/or the closure or temporary shutdown of Digital Asset Trading Platforms due to fraud, business failure, security breaches or government mandated regulation, and associated losses by customers, may reduce confidence in the Ethereum Network and result in greater volatility in the prices of Ether. Furthermore, the closure or temporary shutdown of a Digital Asset Trading Platform used in calculating the Index Price may result in a loss of confidence in the Trust's ability to determine its NAV on a daily basis. These potential consequences of such a Digital Asset Trading Platform's failure could adversely affect the value of the Shares.

***Digital Asset Trading Platforms may be exposed to front-running.***

Digital Asset Trading Platforms may be susceptible to "front-running," which refers to the process when someone uses technology or market advantage to get prior knowledge of upcoming transactions. Front-running is a frequent activity on centralized as well as decentralized trading platforms. By using bots functioning on a millisecond-scale timeframe, bad actors are able to take advantage of the forthcoming price movement and make economic gains at the cost of those who had introduced these transactions. The objective of a front runner is to buy tokens at a low price and later sell them at a higher price while simultaneously exiting the position. To the extent that front-running occurs, it may result in investor frustrations and concerns as to the price integrity of Digital Asset Trading Platforms and digital assets more generally.

***Digital Asset Trading Platforms may be exposed to wash trading.***

Digital Asset Trading Platforms may be susceptible to wash trading. Wash trading occurs when offsetting trades are entered into for other than bona fide reasons, such as the desire to inflate reported trading volumes. Wash trading may be motivated by non-economic reasons, such as a desire for increased visibility on popular websites that monitor markets for digital assets so as to improve a trading platform's attractiveness to investors who look for maximum liquidity, or it may be motivated by the ability to attract listing fees from token issuers who seek the most liquid and high-volume trading platforms on which to list their tokens. Results of wash trading may include unexpected obstacles to trade and erroneous investment decisions based on false information.

Even in the United States, there have been allegations of wash trading even on regulated venues. Any actual or perceived false trading on Digital Asset Trading Platforms, and any other fraudulent or manipulative acts and practices, could adversely affect the value of Ether and/or negatively affect the market perception of Ether. To the extent that wash trading either occurs or appears to occur in Digital Asset Trading Platforms, investors may develop negative perceptions about Ether and the digital assets industry more broadly, which could adversely impact the price of Ether and, therefore, the price of the Shares. Wash trading also may place more legitimate Digital Asset Trading Platforms at a relative competitive disadvantage.

***The Index Price used to calculate the value of the Trust's Ether may be volatile, and purchasing and selling activity in the Digital Asset Markets associated with Basket creations and redemptions may affect the Index Price and Share trading prices, adversely affecting the value of the Shares.***

The price of Ether on public Digital Asset Trading Platforms has a very limited history, and during this history, Ether prices on the Digital Asset Markets more generally, and on Digital Asset Trading Platforms individually, have been volatile and subject to influence by many factors, including operational interruptions. While the Index is designed to limit exposure to the interruption of individual Digital Asset Trading Platforms, the Index Price, and the price of Ether generally, remains subject to volatility experienced by Digital Asset Trading Platforms, and such volatility could adversely affect the value of the Shares. For example, from April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2024, the Index Price ranged from $109.83 to $4,776.32, with the average being $1,546.49. In addition, during the twelve months ended March 31, 2024, the Index Price ranged from $1,531.25 to $4,033.10. The Sponsor has not observed a material difference between the Index Price and average prices from the constituent Digital Asset Trading Platforms individually or as a group. The price of Ether more generally has experienced volatility similar to the Index Price during these periods. For additional information on movement of

the Index Price and the price of Ether, see "Part I—Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Historical NAV and Ether Prices" in the Q1 2024 Quarterly Report.

Furthermore, because the number of Digital Asset Trading Platforms is limited, the Index will necessarily be comprised of a limited number of Digital Asset Trading Platforms. If a Digital Asset Trading Platform were subjected to regulatory, volatility or other pricing issues, the Index Provider would have limited ability to remove such Digital Asset Trading Platform from the Index, which could skew the price of Ether as represented by the Index. Trading on a limited number of Digital Asset Trading Platforms may result in less favorable prices and decreased liquidity of Ether and, therefore, could have an adverse effect on the value of the Shares.

Purchasing activity associated with acquiring Ether required for the creation of Baskets may increase the market price of Ether on the Digital Asset Markets, which will result in higher prices for the Shares. Alternatively, selling activity associated with sales of Ether withdrawn from the Trust in connection with the redemption of Baskets may decrease the market price of Ether on the Digital Asset Markets, which will result in lower prices for the Shares. Increases or decreases in the market price of Ether may also occur as a result of the purchasing or selling activity of other market participants. Other market participants may attempt to benefit from an increase or decrease in the market price of Ether that may result from increased purchasing or selling activity of Ether connected with the creation or redemption of Baskets. Consequently, the market price of Ether may decline immediately after Baskets are created. Decreases in the market price of Ether may also occur as a result of sales in Secondary Markets by other market participants. If the Index Price declines, the value of the Shares will generally also decline.

***Competition from the emergence or growth of other digital assets or methods of investing in Ether could have a negative impact on the price of Ether and adversely affect the value of the Shares.***

As of March 31, 2024, Ether was the second largest digital asset by market capitalization, as tracked by CoinMarketCap.com. As of March 31, 2024, the alternative digital assets tracked by CoinMarketCap.com had a total market capitalization of approximately $2,548.7 billion (including the approximately $438 billion market cap of ETH), as calculated using market prices and total available supply of each digital asset, excluding tokens pegged to other assets. In addition, many consortiums and financial institutions are also researching and investing resources into private or permissioned smart contracts platforms rather than open platforms like the Ethereum Network. Competition from the emergence or growth of alternative digital assets and smart contracts platforms, such as Solana, Avalanche or Cardano, could have a negative impact on the demand for, and price of, Ether and thereby adversely affect the value of the Shares.

In addition, some digital asset networks, including the Ethereum Network, may be the target of ill will from users of other digital asset networks. For example, in July 2016, the Ethereum Network underwent a contentious hard fork that resulted in the creation of a new digital asset network called Ethereum Classic. As a result, some users of the Ethereum Classic network may harbor ill will toward the Ethereum Network. These users may attempt to negatively impact the use or adoption of the Ethereum Network. For additional information on the hard fork that resulted in the creation of Ethereum Classic, see "Item 1. Business—Overview of the ETH Industry and Market—Introduction to Ether and the Ethereum Network—The DAO and Ethereum Classic" in the Annual Report.

Investors may invest in Ether through means other than the Shares, including through direct investments in Ether and other potential financial vehicles, possibly including securities backed by or linked to Ether and digital asset financial vehicles similar to the Trust. While the Trust is the largest and most liquid Ether investment vehicle in the world, the Trust and the Sponsor face competition with respect to the creation of competing exchange-traded spot Ether products, among other digital asset vehicles, several of which have applications pending before the SEC. Whether the Trust is successful in maintaining its scale and achieving its intended competitive position may be impacted by a range of factors, including the Trust's timing in entering the market relative to competing spot Ether exchange-traded products and its fee structure relative to those competing products. For example, if

the SEC were to approve many or all of the currently pending applications for such exchange-traded spot Ether products, the Trust could fail to continue to acquire substantial assets. The Trust's competitors may also charge a substantially lower fee than the Sponsor Fee in an effort to achieve initial market acceptance and scale, which could cause investors to favor such competing products over the Trust.

If the Trust fails to continue to maintain or grow sufficient scale due to competition, the Sponsor may have difficulty raising sufficient revenue to cover the costs associated with maintaining the Trust and such shortfalls could impact the Sponsor's ability to properly invest in robust ongoing operations and controls of the Trust to minimize the risk of operating events, errors, or other forms of losses to the Shareholders. Furthermore, the Trust may fail to continue to attract adequate liquidity in the secondary market due to such competition, resulting in a small number of Authorized Participants willing to make a market in the Shares, which in turn could result in the Shares trading at a significant premium or discount for extended periods. Likewise, market and financial conditions, among other conditions outside the Trust's control, may cause investors to find it more attractive to gain exposure to Ether through other vehicles, rather than the Trust.

In addition, to the extent digital asset financial vehicles other than the Trust tracking the price of Ether come to represent a significant proportion of the demand for Ether, large purchases or redemptions of the securities of these digital asset financial vehicles, or private funds holding Ether, could negatively affect the Index Price, the NAV, the value of the Shares, the Principal Market NAV and the Principal Market NAV per Share. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that the Trust will be able to maintain its scale and achieve its intended competitive positioning relative to competitors, which could adversely affect the performance of the Trust and the value of the Shares.

**Risk Factors Related to the Trust and the Shares**

***The lack of ability to facilitate in-kind creations and redemptions of Shares could have adverse consequences for the Trust.***

The Trust is currently only able to accept Cash Orders, which means that an Authorized Participant will deposit cash into, or accept cash from, the Cash Account in connection with the creation and redemption of Baskets, and a Liquidity Provider will obtain or receive Ether in exchange for cash in connection with such order. However, and in common with other spot digital asset exchange-traded products, the Trust is not at this time able to create and redeem Shares via in-kind transactions with Authorized Participants in exchange for Ether.

Authorized participants must be registered broker-dealers. Registered broker-dealers are subject to various requirements of the federal securities laws and rules, including financial responsibility rules such as the customer protection rule, the net capital rule and recordkeeping requirements. There has yet to be definitive regulatory guidance on whether and how registered broker-dealers can comply with these rules with regard to transacting in or holding spot Ether. Until further regulatory clarity emerges regarding whether registered broker-dealers can hold and deal in Ether under such rules, there is a risk that registered broker-dealers participating in the in-kind creation or redemption of Shares for Ether may be unable to demonstrate compliance with such requirements. While compliance with these requirements would be the broker-dealer's responsibility, a national securities exchange is required to enforce compliance by its member broker-dealers with applicable federal securities law and rules. As a result, the SEC is unlikely to permit an exchange to adopt listing rules for a product if it is not clear that the exchange's members would be able to comply with applicable rules when transacting in the product as designed. To the extent further regulatory clarity emerges, the Sponsor expects NYSE Arca to seek the necessary regulatory approval to amend its listing rules to permit the Trust to create and redeem Shares through In-Kind Orders, in which Authorized Participants or their designees would deposit Ether directly with the Trust or receive Ether directly from the Trust. However, there can be no assurance as to when such regulatory clarity will emerge, or when NYSE Arca will seek or obtain this approval, if at all.

To the knowledge of the Sponsor, exchange-traded products for all spot-market commodities other than Bitcoin and Ether, such as gold and silver, employ in-kind creations and redemptions with the underlying asset. The

Sponsor believes that it is generally more efficient, and therefore less costly, for spot commodity exchange-traded products to utilize in-kind orders rather than cash orders, because there are fewer steps in the process and therefore there is less operational risk involved when an authorized participant can manage the buying and selling of the underlying asset itself, rather than depend on an unaffiliated party such as the issuer or sponsor of the exchange-traded product. As such, a spot commodity exchange-traded product that only employs cash creations and redemptions and does not permit in-kind creations and redemptions is a novel product that has not been tested, and could be impacted by any resulting operational inefficiencies.

In particular, the Trust's inability to facilitate in-kind creations and redemptions could result in the exchange-traded product arbitrage mechanism failing to function as efficiently as it otherwise would, leading to the potential for the Shares to trade at premiums or discounts to the NAV per Share, and such premiums or discounts could be substantial. Furthermore, if Cash Orders are unavailable, either due to the Sponsor's decision to reject or suspend such orders or otherwise, it will not be possible for Authorized Participants to redeem or create Shares, in which case the arbitrage mechanism would be unavailable. This could result in impaired liquidity for the Shares, wider bid/ask spreads in secondary trading of the Shares and greater costs to investors and other market participants. In addition, the Trust's inability to facilitate in-kind creations and redemptions, and resulting reliance on cash creations and redemptions, could cause the Sponsor to halt or suspend the creation of redemption of Shares during times of market volatility or turmoil, among other consequences.

Even if In-Kind Regulatory Approval were obtained, there can be no assurance that in-kind creations or redemptions of the Shares will be available in the future, or that broker-dealers would be willing to serve as Authorized Participants with respect to the in-kind creation and redemption of Shares. Any of these factors could adversely affect the performance of the Trust and the value of the Shares.

***Shareholders will not receive the benefits of any forks or airdrops.***

The Ethereum Network operates using open-source protocols, meaning that any user can download the software, modify it and then propose that the users and validators of Ether adopt the modification. When a modification is introduced and a substantial majority of users and validators consent to the modification, the change is implemented and the network remains uninterrupted. However, if less than a substantial majority of users and validators consent to the proposed modification, and the modification is not compatible with the software prior to its modification, the consequence would be what is known as a "hard fork" of the Ethereum Network, with one group running the pre-modified software and the other running the modified software. The effect of such a fork would be the existence of two versions of Ethereum running in parallel, yet lacking interchangeability. In addition to forks, a digital asset may become subject to a similar occurrence known as an "airdrop." In an airdrop, the promoters of a new digital asset announce to holders of another digital asset that such holders will be entitled to claim a certain amount of the new digital asset, generally for free, based on the fact that they hold such other digital asset. We refer to the right to receive any benefits arising from a fork, airdrop or similar event as an "Incidental Right" and any such virtual currency acquired through an Incidental Right as "IR Virtual Currency."

With respect to any fork, airdrop or similar event, the Sponsor will cause the Trust to irrevocably abandon the Incidental Rights and any IR Virtual Currency associated with such event. As such, shareholders will not receive the benefits of any forks, and the Trust is not able to participate in any airdrop.

In the event the Sponsor seeks to change the Trust's policy with respect to Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency, an application would need to be filed with the SEC by NYSE Arca seeking approval to amend its listing rules to permit the Trust to distribute the Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency in-kind to an agent of the shareholders for resale by such agent. However, there can be no assurance as to whether or when the Sponsor would make such a decision, or when NYSE Arca will seek or obtain this approval, if at all.

Even if such regulatory approval is sought and obtained, shareholders may not receive the benefits of any forks, the Trust may not choose, or be able, to participate in an airdrop, and the timing of receiving any benefits from a

fork, airdrop or similar event is uncertain. Any inability to recognize the economic benefit of a hard fork or airdrop could adversely affect the value of the Shares.

***The Trust is not permitted to engage in Staking, which could negatively affect the value of the Shares.***

Staking on the Ethereum Network refers to using Ether, or permitting Ether to be used, directly or indirectly, through an agent or otherwise, in the Ethereum Network's proof-of-stake validation protocol, in exchange for the receipt of consideration, including, but not limited to, staking rewards paid in fiat currency or paid in kind (collectively, "Staking"). At this time, neither the Trust, nor the Sponsor, nor the Custodian, nor any other person associated with the Trust may, directly or indirectly, engage in Staking, meaning no action will be taken pursuant to which any portion of the Trust's Ether becomes subject to Ethereum proof-of-stake validation or is used to earn additional Ether or generate income or other earnings, and there can be no assurance that the Trust, the Sponsor, the Custodian or any other person associated with the Trust will ever be permitted to engage in Staking or such activity in the future.

To the extent (i) the Trust were to amend its Trust Agreement to permit Staking and (ii) NYSE Arca were to seek and obtain a rule change permitting the listing of a spot Ether investment vehicle engaged in Staking, in the future the Trust may seek to establish a program to participate in the proof-of-stake validation mechanism of the Ethereum Network to receive rewards comprising additional Ether in respect of a portion of its Ether holdings. However, as long as such conditions and requirements have not been satisfied, the Trust will not participate in the proof-of-stake validation mechanism of the Ethereum Network to receive rewards comprising additional Ether in respect of its Ether holdings. The current inability of the Trust to participate in Staking and receive such rewards could place the Shares at a comparative disadvantage relative to an investment in Ether directly or through a vehicle that is not subject to such a prohibition, which could negatively affect the value of the Shares.

***Coinbase Global serves as the Ether custodian and prime execution agent for several competing exchange-traded Ether products, which could adversely affect the Trust's operations and ultimately the value of the Shares.***

The Prime Broker and Custodian are both affiliates of Coinbase Global. As of the date hereof, Coinbase Global is the largest publicly traded digital asset company in the world by market capitalization and is also the largest digital asset custodian in the world by assets under custody. By virtue of its leading market position and capabilities, and the relatively limited number of institutionally-capable providers of digital asset brokerage and custody services, Coinbase Global serves as the Ether custodian and prime execution agent for several competing exchange-traded Ether products. Therefore, Coinbase Global plays a critical role in supporting the U.S. spot Ether exchange-traded product ecosystem, and its size and market share create the risk that Coinbase Global may fail to properly resource its operations to adequately support all such products that use its services, which could harm the Trust, the shareholders and the value of the Shares. If Coinbase Global were to favor the interests of certain products over others, it could result in inadequate attention or comparatively unfavorable commercial terms to less favored products, which could adversely affect the Trust's operations and ultimately the value of the Shares.

***Certain of the Authorized Participants engaged by the Trust serve in a similar capacity for several competing exchange-traded Ether products, which could adversely affect the arbitrage mechanism, the Trust's operations, the performance of the Trust and ultimately the value of the Shares.***

Certain of the Authorized Participants engaged by the Trust serve in a similar capacity for several competing exchange-traded Ether products. As a result, the Authorized Participants may be unable to adequately support all of the exchange-traded Ether products that use their respective services. This risk may also be exacerbated as a consequence of the price and volatility of Ether, as well as the number of Ether that is required to create or redeem Shares of the Trust. See "Description of Creation and Redemption of Shares." Moreover, the Authorized Participants may choose to facilitate creations and redemptions for competing products rather than for the Trust, including as a result of, among other things, how effectively the arbitrage mechanism of the Trust functions, the

liquidity for the Shares, the bid/ask spreads in secondary trading of the Shares and the costs associated with creating and redeeming Shares of the Trust, in each case relative to competing products. In addition, given the relatively limited number of market participants that could serve as Authorized Participants of the Trust, the Trust may not be able to engage other providers to serve as Authorized Participants. If any or all of the Authorized Participants were to cease to act in their capacity as Authorized Participants of the Trust, or if any of the Authorized Participants were to favor creating and redeeming shares of competing products over those of the Trust, the Trust may receive inadequate attention or be subject to comparatively unfavorable commercial terms, which could adversely affect the arbitrage mechanism, the Trust's operations, the performance of the Trust and ultimately the value of the Shares. See also "—Risks Related to the Offering—Competition from the emergence or growth of other digital assets or methods of investing in Ether could have a negative impact on the price of Ether and adversely affect the value of the Shares."

**Risk Factors Related to the Regulation of the Trust and the Shares**

***The treatment of the Trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes is uncertain.***

The Sponsor intends to take the position that the Trust is properly treated as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Assuming that the Trust is a grantor trust, the Trust will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax. Rather, if the Trust is a grantor trust, each beneficial owner of Shares will be treated as directly owning its pro rata share of the Trust's assets and a pro rata portion of the Trust's income, gain, losses and deductions will "flow through" to each beneficial owner of Shares.

The Trust has taken certain positions with respect to the tax consequences of Incidental Rights and its receipt of IR Virtual Currency. If the IRS were to disagree with, and successfully challenge, any of these positions the Trust might not qualify as a grantor trust. In addition, the Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment Notices (as defined herein) provide that the Trust will irrevocably abandon, effective immediately prior to each Creation Time or Redemption Time, all Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency to which it would otherwise be entitled as of such time and with respect to which it has not taken any Affirmative Action at or prior to such time. The Sponsor has committed to cause the Trust to irrevocably abandon any Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency to which the Trust may become entitled in the future. There can be no complete assurance that these abandonments will be treated as effective for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If the Trust were treated as owning any asset other than Ether as of any date on which it creates or redeems Shares, it might cease to qualify as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

In addition, and in common with other spot digital asset exchange-traded products, at this time the Trust is not permitted to create or redeem Shares via in-kind transactions with Authorized Participants. Unless and until In-Kind Regulatory Approval is obtained, Baskets will be created or redeemed only through Cash Orders. In general, investment vehicles intended to be treated as grantor trusts for U.S. federal income tax purposes historically have created additional trust interests only in kind, and there is no authority directly addressing whether a grantor trust may create or redeem trust interests under procedures similar to those that govern Cash Orders. Accordingly, there can be no complete assurance that the creation or redemption of Shares under the procedures governing Cash Orders will not cause the Trust to fail to qualify as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Moreover, because of the evolving nature of digital assets, it is not possible to predict potential future developments that may arise with respect to digital assets, including forks, airdrops and other similar occurrences. Assuming that the Trust is currently a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes, certain future developments could render it impossible, or impracticable, for the Trust to continue to be treated as a grantor trust for such purposes.

If the Trust is not properly classified as a grantor trust, the Trust might be classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. However, due to the uncertain treatment of digital assets for U.S. federal income tax

purposes (as discussed below in "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences—Uncertainty Regarding the U.S. Federal Income Tax Treatment of Digital Assets"), there can be no assurance in this regard. If the Trust were classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the tax consequences of owning Shares generally would not be materially different from the tax consequences described herein, although there might be certain differences, including with respect to timing of the recognition of taxable income or loss. In addition, tax information reports provided to beneficial owners of Shares would be made in a different form. If the Trust were not classified as either a grantor trust or a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes, it would be classified as a corporation for such purposes. In that event, the Trust would be subject to entity-level U.S. federal income tax (currently at the rate of 21%) on its net taxable income and certain distributions made by the Trust to shareholders would be treated as taxable dividends to the extent of the Trust's current and accumulated earnings and profits. Any such dividend distributed to a beneficial owner of Shares that is a non-U.S. person for U.S. federal income tax purposes would be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax at a rate of 30% (or such lower rate as provided in an applicable tax treaty).

## USE OF PROCEEDS

Proceeds received by the Trust from the issuance and sale of Baskets will consist of Ether deposited with the Trust in connection with creations. Such Ether will only be (i) owned by the Trust, (ii) transferred (or converted to U.S. dollars, if necessary) to pay the Trust's expenses, (iii) distributed or otherwise disposed of in connection with the redemption of Baskets or (iv) liquidated in the event that the Trust terminates or as otherwise required by law or regulation.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE SHARES

On May 22, 2024, the Sponsor solicited the consent of the shareholders of the Trust (the "Consent Solicitation") to approve certain proposals to amend the Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement between the Sponsor and CSC Delaware Trust Company, the trustee (the "Trustee") of the Trust (the "Current Trust Agreement"), which amendments have been described in the Trust's Consent Solicitation Statement included in its definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 22, 2024, among other amendments. Following the expiration of the Consent Solicitation on June 11, 2024, the Sponsor expects to enter into the Second Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement (the "Amended Trust Agreement") with the Trustee, implementing such amendments. Except where indicated, the following description of the Shares has been prepared on the basis that the Amended Trust Agreement has been entered into by the Sponsor and the Trustee. A description of the Shares under the Current Trust Agreement in effect prior to execution of the Amended Trust Agreement is included in the Trust's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023 (our "Annual Report"), which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

The Trust is authorized under the Trust Agreement to create and issue an unlimited number of Shares. Shares are issued only in Baskets (a Basket equals a block of 10,000 Shares after the Amended Trust Agreement becomes effective, or 100 Shares prior to such time) in connection with creations. The Shares represent units of fractional undivided beneficial interest in and ownership of the Trust and have no par value. On December 17, 2020, the Trust completed a 9-for-1 Share split of the Trust's issued and outstanding Shares. In connection with the Share Split, shareholders of record on December 14, 2020 received eight additional Shares of the Trust for each Share held. The number of outstanding Shares and per-Share amounts disclosed for periods prior to December 17, 2020 have been retroactively adjusted to reflect the effects of the Share Split, as applicable. The Shares are expected to be listed on NYSE Arca under the ticker symbol "ETHE".

### Description of Limited Rights

The Shares do not represent a traditional investment and should not be viewed as similar to "shares" of a corporation operating a business enterprise with management and a board of directors. A shareholder will not have the statutory rights normally associated with the ownership of shares of a corporation. Each Share is transferable, is fully paid and non-assessable and entitles the holder to vote on the limited matters upon which shareholders may vote under the Trust Agreement. For example, shareholders do not have the right to elect or remove directors and will not receive dividends. The Shares do not entitle their holders to any conversion or pre-emptive rights or, except as discussed below, any redemption rights or rights to distributions.

### Voting and Approvals

The shareholders take no part in the management or control of the Trust. Under the Trust Agreement, shareholders have limited voting rights. For example, in the event that the Sponsor withdraws, a majority of the shareholders may elect and appoint a successor sponsor to carry out the affairs of the Trust. In addition, no amendments to the Trust Agreement that materially adversely affect the interests of shareholders may be made without the vote of at least a majority (over 50%) of the then-outstanding Shares (not including any Shares held by the Sponsor or its affiliates); provided, however, that a shareholder shall be deemed to consent to a modification or amendment of the Trust Agreement if the Sponsor has notified such shareholder in writing of the proposed modification or amendment and such shareholder has not, within twenty (20) calendar days of such notice, notified the Sponsor in writing that such shareholder objects to such modification or amendment. Additionally, subject to certain limitations, the Sponsor may make any other amendments to the Trust Agreement which do not materially adversely affect the interests of the shareholders in its sole discretion without shareholder consent.

**Redemptions and Distributions**

Through its redemption program, the Trust may redeem Shares from Authorized Participants on an ongoing basis. Although the Trust redeems Baskets only by distributing Ether, at this time an Authorized Participant can only submit Cash Orders, pursuant to which the Authorized Participant will accept cash from the Cash Account in connection with the redemption of Baskets. Cash Orders will be facilitated by the Transfer Agent and Grayscale Investments, LLC, which will engage one or more Liquidity Providers that is not an agent of, or otherwise acting on behalf of, any Authorized Participant receiving Ether in connection with such orders. Subject to In-Kind Regulatory Approval, in the future the Trust may also redeem Baskets via In-Kind Orders, pursuant to which an Authorized Participant or its AP Designee would receive Ether directly from the Trust. However, because In-Kind Regulatory Approval has not been obtained, at this time Baskets will not be redeemed through In-Kind Orders and will only be redeemed through Cash Orders. Pursuant to the terms of the Trust Agreement, the Trust may make distributions on the Shares in-cash or in-kind.

In addition, if the Trust is terminated and liquidated, the Sponsor will distribute to the shareholders any amounts of the cash proceeds of the liquidation remaining after the satisfaction of all outstanding liabilities of the Trust and the establishment of reserves for applicable taxes, other governmental charges and contingent or future liabilities as the Sponsor will determine. See "Part I—Item 1. Business—Description of the Trust Agreement—Termination of the Trust" in the Annual Report. Shareholders of record on the record date fixed by the Transfer Agent for a distribution will be entitled to receive their pro rata portions of any distribution.

**Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency**

On July 29, 2019, the Sponsor delivered to the Custodian a notice (the "Pre-Creation Abandonment Notice") stating that the Trust is abandoning irrevocably for no direct or indirect consideration, effective immediately prior to each time at which the Trust creates Shares (any such time, a "Creation Time"), all Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency to which it would otherwise be entitled as of such time. The Prime Broker Agreement provides that the Trust also will abandon irrevocably for no direct or indirect consideration, effective immediately prior to each Creation Time and each time at which the Trust redeems Shares (any such time, a "Redemption Time"), all Incidental Right or IR Virtual Currency to which it would otherwise be entitled as of such time (such provision, as amended or supplemented from time to time, the "Pre-Redemption Abandonment Notice" and, together with the Pre-Creation Abandonment Notice, the "Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment Notices"). An abandonment made pursuant to a Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment Notice is referred to herein as a "Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment." Pursuant to the Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment Notices, a Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment would not apply to any Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency if (i) the Trust has taken, or is taking at such time, an "Affirmative Action" to acquire or abandon such Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency at any time prior to the relevant Creation Time or Redemption Time or (ii) such Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency has been subject to a previous Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment. An Affirmative Action refers to a written notification from the Sponsor to the Prime Broker, the Custodian or Coinbase Credit of the Trust's intention (i) to acquire and/or retain an Incidental Right and/or IR Virtual Currency or (ii) to abandon, with effect prior to the relevant Creation Time or Redemption Time, an Incidental Right and/or IR Virtual Currency.

As a result of the Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment Notices, since July 29, 2019, the Trust has irrevocably abandoned, prior to the Creation Time of any Shares (and, after the effective date of the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, prior to the Redemption Time of any Shares), any Incidental Right or IR Virtual Currency that it may have any right to receive at such time. The Trust has no right to receive any Incidental Right or IR Virtual Currency abandoned pursuant to either the Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment Notices or Affirmative Actions. Furthermore, the Prime Broker, the Custodian and Coinbase Credit have no authority, pursuant to the Prime Broker Agreement or otherwise, to exercise, obtain or hold, as the case may be, any such abandoned Incidental Right or IR Virtual Currency on behalf of the Trust or to transfer any such abandoned Incidental Right or IR Virtual Currency to the Trust if the Trust terminates its custodial arrangement with the Prime Broker, the

Custodian and Coinbase Credit. In addition, the Sponsor has committed to cause the Trust not to take any Affirmative Action to acquire any Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency, thereby irrevocably abandoning any Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency to which the Trust may become entitled in the future.

Because the Sponsor has now committed to causing the Trust to irrevocably abandon all Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency to which the Trust otherwise would become entitled in the future, and causing the Trust not to take any Affirmative Actions, the Trust will not receive any direct or indirect consideration for the Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency and thus the value of the Shares will not reflect the value of the Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency. In addition, in the event the Sponsor seeks to change the Trust's policy with respect to Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency, an application would need to be filed with the SEC by NYSE Arca seeking approval to amend its listing rules to permit the Trust to distribute the Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency in-kind to an agent of the shareholders for resale by such agent. However, there can be no assurance as to whether or when the Sponsor would make such a decision, or when NYSE Arca will seek or obtain this approval, if at all. See "Risk Factors—Risks Related to the Trust and the Shares—Shareholders will not receive the benefits of any forks or airdrops."

The Sponsor has controls in place to monitor for material hard forks or airdrops. The Sponsor will notify investors of any material change to its policy with respect to Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency by filing a current report on Form 8-K.

For purposes of the foregoing:

- "**Creation Time**"—With respect to the creation of any Shares by the Trust, the time at which the Trust creates such Shares.
- "**Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment**"—The abandonment by the Trust, irrevocably for no direct or indirect consideration, all Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency to which the Trust would otherwise be entitled, effective immediately prior to a Creation Time or a Redemption Time (as the case may be) for the Trust.
- **"Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment Notices"**— Together, the Pre-Creation Abandonment Notice and the Pre-Redemption Abandonment Notice.
- "**Redemption Time**"—With respect to the redemption of any Shares by the Trust, the time at which the Trust redeems such Shares.

**Book-Entry Form**

Shares are held primarily in book-entry form by the Transfer Agent. The Sponsor or its delegate directs the Transfer Agent to credit or debit, as applicable, the number of Baskets to the applicable Authorized Participant. The Transfer Agent issues or cancels Baskets, as applicable. Transfers will be made in accordance with standard securities industry practice. The Sponsor may cause the Trust to issue Shares in certificated form in limited circumstances in its sole discretion.

**Share Splits**

In its discretion, the Sponsor may direct the Transfer Agent to declare a split or reverse split in the number of Shares outstanding and to make a corresponding change in the number of Shares constituting a Basket. For example, if the Sponsor believes that the per Share price in the secondary market for Shares has risen or fallen outside a desirable trading price range, it may declare such a split or reverse split.

## DESCRIPTION OF CREATION AND REDEMPTION OF SHARES

The following description of the material terms of the Trust Agreement as they relate to the creation and redemption of the Trust's Shares on an ongoing basis is provided on the basis that the Amended Trust Agreement has been entered into by the Sponsor and the Trustee, except where otherwise indicated. A description of the material terms of the Trust Agreement as they relate to the creation and redemption of the Trust's Shares on an ongoing basis under the Current Trust Agreement in effect prior to execution of the Amended Trust Agreement is included in the section titled "Part I—Item 1. Business—Description of Creation and Redemption of Shares" in our Annual Report, which is incorporated by reference herein.

### General

The Trust issues Shares to and redeems Shares from Authorized Participants on an ongoing basis, but only in one or more Baskets (with a Basket being a block of 10,000 Shares after the Amended Trust Agreement becomes effective, or 100 Shares prior to such time). The Trust will not issue fractions of a Basket. The Sponsor believes that such creation and redemption order size will enable Authorized Participants to manage inventory and facilitate an effective arbitrage mechanism for the Trust. However, the Sponsor may in the future adjust the creation and redemption order size in order to improve the effectiveness of the activities of Authorized Participants in the secondary market for the Shares if the Sponsor determines it to be necessary or advisable. As of May 28, 2024, 0.94552590 Ether are required to create a Basket of 100 Shares, and 94.552590 Ether would be required to create a Basket of 10,000 Shares after giving effect to the Amended Trust Agreement, in each case representing less than 0.01% of the number of Ether traded each day on average. As such, the Sponsor does not expect that the size of the Baskets will have an impact on the arbitrage mechanism.

The creation and redemption of Baskets will be made only upon the delivery to the Trust, or the distribution or other disposition by the Trust, of the number of whole and fractional Ether represented by each Basket being created or redeemed, which is determined by dividing (x) the number of Ether owned by the Trust at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the trade date of a creation or redemption order, after deducting the number of Ether representing the U.S. dollar value of accrued but unpaid fees and expenses of the Trust (converted using the Index Price at such time, and carried to the eighth decimal place), by (y) the number of Shares outstanding at such time (with the quotient so obtained calculated to one one-hundred-millionth of one Ether (i.e., carried to the eighth decimal place)), and multiplying such quotient by (i) 10,000, after the Amended Trust Agreement becomes effective, or (ii) 100, prior to such time (the "Basket Amount"). The U.S. dollar value of a Basket is calculated by multiplying the Basket Amount by the Index Price as of the trade date (the "Basket NAV"). The Basket NAV multiplied by the number of Baskets being created or redeemed is referred to as the "Total Basket NAV." All questions as to the calculation of the Basket Amount will be conclusively determined by the Sponsor and will be final and binding on all persons interested in the Trust. One or more major market data vendors may provide an intra-day indicative value ("IIV") per Share updated every 15 seconds, as calculated by NYSE Arca or a third-party financial data provider during NYSE Arca's Core Trading Session (9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., New York time). Such IIV will be calculated using the same methodology as the NAV per Share of the Trust, specifically by using the prior day's closing NAV per Share as a base and updating that value during the NYSE Arca Core Trading Session to reflect changes in the value of the Trust's NAV during the trading day. The IIV on a per Share basis disseminated during the Core Trading Session should not be viewed as a real-time update of the NAV, which is calculated once a day. The number of Ether represented by a Share will gradually decrease over time as the Trust's Ether are used to pay the Trust's expenses. As of March 31, 2024 each Share represented approximately 0.0095 Ether.

Authorized Participants are the only persons that may place orders to create and redeem Baskets. Each Authorized Participant must (i) be a registered broker-dealer and (ii) enter into a Participant Agreement with the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent. Subject to In-Kind Regulatory Approval, in the future any Authorized Participants creating and redeeming Shares through In-Kind Orders must also own an Ether wallet address that is known to the Custodian as belonging to the Authorized Participant and maintain an account with the Custodian

(or if the Authorized Participant does not itself trade in Ether, a designee of such Authorized Participant (each, an "AP Designee") must own an Ether wallet address that is known to the Custodian as belonging to such AP Designee and maintain an account with the Custodian).

An Authorized Participant may act for its own account or as agent for broker-dealers, custodians and other securities market participants that wish to create or redeem Baskets. Shareholders who are not Authorized Participants will only be able to create or redeem their Shares through an Authorized Participant.

The creation of Baskets requires the delivery to the Trust of the Total Basket Amount (or cash to acquire the Total Basket Amount) and the redemption of Baskets requires the distribution or other disposition by the Trust of the Total Basket Amount. Although the Trust creates Baskets only upon the receipt of Ether, and redeems Baskets only by distributing or otherwise disposing of Ether, at this time an Authorized Participant can only submit Cash Orders, pursuant to which the Authorized Participant will deposit cash into, or accept cash from, a segregated account maintained by the Transfer Agent in the name of the Trust for purposes of receiving and distributing cash in connection with the creation and redemption of Baskets (such account, the "Cash Account").

Cash Orders will be facilitated by the Transfer Agent and Grayscale Investments, LLC. On an order-by-order basis, Grayscale Investments, LLC, acting in its capacity as Liquidity Engager, will engage one or more Liquidity Providers to obtain or receive Ether in exchange for cash in connection with such order, as described in more detail below. Each Liquidity Provider must enter into a Liquidity Provider Agreement with the Liquidity Engager and the Sponsor (on behalf of the Trust), which will obligate it to obtain or receive Ether in connection with creations and redemptions pursuant to Cash Orders.

Unless the Sponsor requires that a Cash Order be effected at actual execution prices (an "Actual Execution Cash Order"), each Authorized Participant that submits a Cash Order to create or redeem Baskets will pay a fee (the "Variable Fee") based on the Total Basket NAV (a "Variable Fee Cash Order"), and any price differential between (x) the Total Basket NAV on the trade date and (y) the price realized in acquiring or disposing of the corresponding Total Basket Amount, as the case may be, will be borne solely by the Liquidity Provider until such Ether have been received or liquidated by the Trust. The Variable Fee is intended to cover all of a Liquidity Provider's expenses in connection with the creation or redemption order, including any exchange fees that the Liquidity Provider incurs in connection with buying or selling Ether. The amount may be changed by the Sponsor in its sole discretion at any time, and Liquidity Providers will communicate to the Sponsor in advance the Variable Fee they would be willing to accept in connection with a Variable Fee Cash Order, based on market conditions and other factors existing at the time of such Variable Fee Cash Order. See "—Creation Procedures—Variable Fee Cash Orders" and "—Redemption Procedures—Variable Fee Cash Orders."

Alternatively, the Sponsor may require that a Cash Order be effected as an Actual Execution Cash Order, in its sole discretion based on market conditions and other factors existing at the time of such Cash Order, and under such circumstances, any price differential between (x) the Total Basket NAV on the trade date and (y) the price realized in acquiring or disposing of the corresponding Total Basket Amount, as the case may be, will be borne solely by the Authorized Participant until such Ether have been received or liquidated by the Trust. See "—Creation Procedures—Actual Execution Cash Orders" and "—Redemption Procedures—Actual Execution Cash Orders."

In the case of creations pursuant to Cash Orders, to transfer the Total Basket Amount to the Trust's Vault Balance, the Liquidity Provider will transfer Ether to one of the public key addresses associated with the Vault Balance and as provided by the Sponsor. In the case of redemptions pursuant to Cash Orders, the same procedure is conducted, but in reverse, using the public key addresses associated with the wallet of the Liquidity Provider, and as provided by such party. All such transactions will be conducted on the Blockchain and parties acknowledge and agree that such transfers may be irreversible if done incorrectly. See "Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors—Risk Factors Related to the Trust and the Shares—ETH transactions are irrevocable and stolen or incorrectly transferred ETH may be irretrievable. As a result, any incorrectly executed ETH transactions could adversely affect the value of the Shares" in the Annual Report.

In common with other spot digital asset exchange-traded products, the Trust is not at this time able to create and redeem shares via in-kind transactions with Authorized Participants, and there has yet to be definitive regulatory guidance on whether and how registered broker-dealers can hold and deal in Ether in compliance with the federal securities laws. Subject to In-Kind Regulatory Approval, in the future the Trust may also create and redeem Baskets via In-Kind Orders, pursuant to which an Authorized Participant or its AP Designee would deposit Ether directly with the Trust or receive Ether directly from the Trust. However, because In-Kind Regulatory Approval has not been obtained, at this time Baskets will not be created or redeemed through In-Kind Orders and will only be created or redeemed through Cash Orders. There can be no assurance as to when such regulatory clarity will emerge, or when NYSE Arca will seek or obtain such regulatory approval, if at all. See "Risk Factors—Risk Factors Related to the Trust and the Shares—The lack of ability to facilitate in-kind creations and redemptions of Shares could have adverse consequences for the Trust."

Authorized Participants do not pay a transaction fee to the Trust in connection with the creation or redemption of Baskets, but there may be transaction fees associated with the validation of the transfer of Ether by the Ethereum Network, which will be paid by the Custodian in the case of redemptions and the Authorized Participant, its AP Designee or the Liquidity Provider in the case of creations. Service providers may charge Authorized Participants or AP Designees administrative fees for order placement and other services related to the creation of Baskets. As discussed above, Authorized Participants will also pay the Variable Fee in connection with Variable Fee Cash Orders. As discussed in further detail below under "—Creation Procedures—Actual Execution Cash Orders" and "—Redemption Procedures—Actual Execution Cash Orders", under certain circumstances Authorized Participants may also be required to deposit additional cash in the Cash Account, or be entitled to receive excess cash from the Cash Account, in connection with creations and redemptions pursuant to Actual Execution Cash Orders. Authorized Participants will receive no fees, commissions or other form of compensation or inducement of any kind from either the Sponsor or the Trust and no such person has any obligation or responsibility to the Sponsor or the Trust to effect any sale or resale of Shares.

The Participant Agreements and the related procedures attached thereto may be amended by the Sponsor and the relevant Authorized Participant. Under the Participant Agreements, the Sponsor has agreed to indemnify each Authorized Participant against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

The following description of the procedures for the creation and redemption of Baskets is only a summary and shareholders should refer to the relevant provisions of the Trust Agreement and the form of Participant Agreement for more detail.

**Creation Procedures**

On any business day, an Authorized Participant may place an order with the Transfer Agent to create one or more Baskets. Cash Orders for creation must be placed with the Transfer Agent no later than 1:59:59 p.m., New York time (the "Order Cutoff Time").

The Sponsor may in its sole discretion limit the number of Shares created pursuant to Cash Orders on any specified day without notice to the Authorized Participants and may direct the Marketing Agent to reject any Cash Orders in excess of such capped amount. In exercising its discretion to limit the number of Shares created pursuant to Cash Orders, the Sponsor expects to take into consideration a number of factors, including (i) the availability of Liquidity Providers to facilitate Cash Orders and (ii) to the extent In-Kind Regulatory Approval has been obtained, the cost of processing Cash Orders relative to the cost of processing In-Kind Orders. If the Sponsor decides to limit Cash Orders and the Trust is otherwise unable to satisfy creation orders made in cash, the Trust's ability to create new Shares could be negatively impacted or, if In-Kind Regulatory Approval has not been obtained as of such time, would be unavailable, which could impact the Shares' liquidity and/or cause the Shares to trade at premiums to the NAV per Share, and otherwise have a negative impact on the value of the Shares. In addition, if the Sponsor decides to limit Cash Orders at a time when the Shares are trading at a premium to the NAV per Share, and In-Kind Regulatory Approval has not been obtained as of such time or the

in-kind creation is otherwise unavailable for any reason, the arbitrage mechanism may fail to effectively function, which could impact the Shares' liquidity and/or cause the Shares to trade at premiums to the NAV per Share, and otherwise have a negative impact on the value of the Shares. See "Risk Factors—Risk Factors Related to the Trust and the Shares—The lack of ability to facilitate in-kind creations and redemptions of Shares could have adverse consequences for the Trust."

Creations pursuant to Cash Orders will take place as follows, where "T" is the trade date and each day in the sequence must be a business day. Before a creation order is placed, the Sponsor determines if such creation order will be a Variable Fee Cash Order or an Actual Execution Cash Order, which determination is communicated to the Authorized Participant.

| Trade Date (T) | Settlement Date (T+1, or T+2, as established at the time of order placement) |
|---|---|
| • The Authorized Participant places a creation order with the Transfer Agent.<br>• The Marketing Agent accepts (or rejects) the creation order, which is communicated to the Authorized Participant by the Transfer Agent.<br>• The Sponsor notifies the Liquidity Provider of the creation order.<br>• The Sponsor determines the Total Basket NAV and any Variable Fee and Additional Creation Cash as soon as practicable after 4:00 p.m., New York time. | • The Authorized Participant delivers to the Cash Account:<br>(x) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV, plus any Variable Fee; or<br>(y) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV, plus any Additional Creation Cash, less any Excess Creation Cash, if applicable<br>(such amount, as applicable, the "Required Creation Cash").<br>• The Liquidity Provider transfers the Total Basket Amount to the Trust's Vault Balance.<br>• Once the Trust is in simultaneous possession of (x) the Total Basket Amount and (y) the Required Creation Cash, the Trust issues the aggregate number of Shares corresponding to the Baskets ordered by the Authorized Participant, which the Transfer Agent holds for the benefit of the Authorized Participant.<br>• Cash equal to the Required Creation Cash is delivered to the Liquidity Provider from the Cash Account.<br>• The Transfer Agent delivers Shares to the Authorized Participant by crediting the number of Baskets created to the Authorized Participant's DTC account. |

***Variable Fee Cash Orders***

Unless the Sponsor determines otherwise in its sole discretion based on market conditions and other factors existing at the time of such Cash Order, all creations pursuant to Cash Orders are expected to be executed as Variable Fee Cash Orders, and any price differential between (x) the Total Basket NAV on the trade date and (y) the price realized in acquiring the corresponding Total Basket Amount will be borne solely by the Liquidity Provider until such Ether have been received by the Trust.

The Sponsor anticipates that the Trust's cost to acquire the Total Basket Amount in connection with a Variable Fee Cash Order will equal the sum of the corresponding Total Basket NAV and Variable Fee to be delivered by

the Authorized Participant to the Trust. In the event that, by 12:00 p.m., New York time on the settlement date of a creation pursuant to a Variable Fee Cash Order, either (x) the Trust's Vault Balance has not been credited with Ether in an amount equal to the Total Basket Amount or (y) the Cash Account has not been credited with the Total Basket NAV, plus any Variable Fee, such Cash Order will be deemed a failed trade, with any consideration that has been delivered by the Authorized Participant or the Liquidity Provider in respect of such Cash Order being returned by the Trust.

The Transfer Agent shall under no circumstances cause the Trust to issue Shares in respect of a Variable Fee Cash Order until such time as each of (x) the Total Basket Amount and (y) the Total Basket NAV, plus any Variable Fee, has been delivered to the Trust, and the Trust is in simultaneous possession of both.

***Actual Execution Cash Orders***

With respect to a creation pursuant to an Actual Execution Cash Order, as between the Trust and an Authorized Participant, the Authorized Participant is responsible for the dollar cost of the difference between the Ether price utilized in calculating Total Basket NAV on the trade date and the price at which the Trust acquires the Ether on the settlement date. If the price realized in acquiring the corresponding Total Basket Amount is higher than the Total Basket NAV, the Authorized Participant will bear the dollar cost of such difference by delivering cash in the amount of such difference (the "Additional Creation Cash") to the Cash Account. If the price realized in acquiring the corresponding Total Basket Amount is lower than the Total Basket NAV, the Authorized Participant will benefit from such difference, with the Trust promptly returning cash in the amount of such excess (the "Excess Creation Cash") to the Authorized Participant.

In the event that, by 12:00 p.m., New York time on the settlement date of a creation pursuant to an Actual Execution Cash Order, either (x) the Trust's Vault Balance has not been credited with Ether in an amount equal to the Total Basket Amount or (y) the Cash Account has not been credited with the Total Basket NAV (net of any Additional Creation Cash or Excess Creation Cash, if applicable), such Cash Order will be deemed a failed trade, with any consideration that has been delivered by the Authorized Participant or the Liquidity Provider in respect of such Cash Order being returned by the Trust.

The Transfer Agent shall under no circumstances cause the Trust to issue Shares in respect of a Cash Order until such time as each of (x) the Total Basket Amount and (y) the Total Basket NAV (net of any Additional Creation Cash or Excess Creation Cash, if applicable) has been delivered to the Trust, and the Trust is in simultaneous possession of both.

**Redemption Procedures**

The procedures by which an Authorized Participant can redeem one or more Baskets mirror the procedures for the creation of Baskets. On any business day, an Authorized Participant may place a redemption order specifying the number of Baskets to be redeemed.

The redemption of Shares pursuant to Cash Orders will only take place if approved by the Sponsor in writing, in its sole discretion and on a case-by-case basis. In exercising its discretion to approve the redemption of Shares pursuant to Cash Orders, the Sponsor expects to take into consideration a number of factors, including (i) the availability of Liquidity Providers to facilitate Cash Orders and (ii) to the extent In-Kind Regulatory Approval has been obtained, the cost of processing Cash Orders relative to the cost of processing In-Kind Orders. If the Sponsor decides to limit Cash Orders and the Trust is unable to satisfy redemption orders made in cash, the Trust's ability to redeem new Shares could be negatively impacted or, if In-Kind Regulatory Approval has not been obtained as of such time, would be unavailable, which could impact the Shares' liquidity and/or cause the Shares to trade at discounts, and could have a negative impact on the value of the Shares. In addition, if the Sponsor decides to limit Cash Orders at a time when the Shares are trading at a discount to the NAV per Share, and In-Kind Regulatory Approval has not been obtained as of such time or the in-kind redemption of Shares is otherwise unavailable, the arbitrage mechanism

may fail to effectively function, which could impact the Shares' liquidity and/or cause the Shares to trade at discounts to the NAV per Share, and otherwise have a negative impact on the value of the Shares. See "Risk Factors—Risk Factors Related to the Trust and the Shares—The lack of ability to facilitate in-kind creations and redemptions of Shares could have adverse consequences for the Trust."

Cash Orders for redemption must be placed no later than 1:59:59 p.m., New York time on each business day. The Authorized Participants may only redeem Baskets and cannot redeem any Shares in an amount less than a Basket.

Redemptions pursuant to Cash Orders will take place as follows, where "T" is the trade date and each day in the sequence must be a business day. Before a redemption order is placed, the Sponsor determines if such redemption order will be a Variable Fee Cash Order or an Actual Execution Cash Order, which determination is communicated to the Authorized Participant.

| Trade Date (T) | Settlement Date (T+1 (or T+2 on case-by-case basis, as approved by Sponsor)) |
|---|---|
| • The Authorized Participant places a redemption order with the Transfer Agent.<br>• The Marketing Agent accepts (or rejects) the redemption order, which is communicated to the Authorized Participant by the Transfer Agent.<br>• The Sponsor notifies the Liquidity Provider of the redemption order.<br>• The Sponsor determines the Total Basket NAV and, in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, any Variable Fee, as soon as practicable after 4:00 p.m., New York time. | • The Authorized Participant delivers Baskets to be redeemed from its DTC account to the Transfer Agent.<br>• The Liquidity Provider delivers to the Cash Account:<br>(x) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Variable Fee; or<br>(y) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, the actual proceeds to the Trust from the liquidation of the Total Basket Amount (such amount, as applicable, the "Required Redemption Cash").<br>• Once the Trust is in simultaneous possession of (x) the Total Basket Amount and (y) the Required Redemption Cash, the Transfer Agent cancels the Shares comprising the number of Baskets redeemed by the Authorized Participant.<br>• The Custodian sends the Liquidity Provider the Total Basket Amount, and cash equal to the Required Redemption Cash is delivered to the Authorized Participant from the Cash Account. |

***Variable Fee Cash Orders***

Unless the Sponsor determines otherwise in its sole discretion based on market conditions and other factors existing at the time of such Cash Order, all redemptions pursuant to Cash Orders are expected to be executed as Variable Fee Cash Orders, and any price differential between (x) the Total Basket NAV on the trade date and (y) the price realized in disposing of the corresponding Total Basket Amount will be borne solely by the Liquidity Provider.

The Sponsor anticipates that the Trust's proceeds from liquidating the Total Basket Amount in connection with a Variable Fee Cash Order will equal the corresponding Total Basket NAV less the Variable Fee to be delivered by the Liquidity Provider to the Trust. In the event that, by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the settlement date of a redemption pursuant to a Variable Fee Cash Order, either (x) the Transfer Agent's account at DTC has not been

credited with the total number of Shares corresponding to the total number of Baskets to be redeemed or (y) the Cash Account has not been credited with the Total Basket NAV, less any Variable Fee, such Cash Order will be deemed a failed trade, with any consideration that has been delivered by the Authorized Participant or the Liquidity Provider in respect of such Cash Order being returned by the Trust.

The Transfer Agent shall under no circumstances deliver the Required Redemption Cash to the Authorized Participant in respect of a Variable Fee Cash Order until such time as (x) the Baskets to be redeemed have been delivered to the Transfer Agent and (y) the Total Basket NAV, less any Variable Fee, has been delivered to the Cash Account, and the Trust and/or the Transfer Agent is in simultaneous possession of both.

***Actual Execution Cash Orders***

With respect to a redemption pursuant to an Actual Execution Cash Order, as between the Trust and an Authorized Participant, the Authorized Participant is responsible for the dollar cost of the difference between the Ether price utilized in calculating Total Basket NAV on the trade date and the price at which the Trust disposes of the Ether on the settlement date. If the price realized in disposing the corresponding Total Basket Amount on the settlement date is lower than the Total Basket NAV on the trade date, the Authorized Participant will bear the dollar cost of such difference (the "Redemption Cash Shortfall"), with the amount of cash to be delivered to the Authorized Participant being reduced by the amount of such Redemption Cash Shortfall. If the price realized in disposing the corresponding Total Basket Amount on the settlement date is higher than the Total Basket NAV on the trade date, the Trust will deliver cash in the amount of such excess (the "Additional Redemption Cash") to the Authorized Participant.

In the event that, by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the settlement date of a redemption pursuant to an Actual Execution Cash Order, either (x) the Transfer Agent's account at DTC has not been credited with the total number of Shares corresponding to the total number of Baskets to be redeemed or (y) the Cash Account has not been credited with the Total Basket NAV (plus any Additional Redemption Cash or net of any Redemption Cash Shortfall), such Cash Order will be deemed a failed trade, with any consideration that has been delivered by the Authorized Participant or the Liquidity Provider in respect of such Cash Order being returned by the Trust.

The Transfer Agent shall under no circumstances deliver the Required Redemption Cash to the Authorized Participant in respect of a Cash Order until such time as (x) the Total Basket Amount has been delivered to the Transfer Agent and (y) the Total Basket NAV (plus any Additional Redemption Cash or net of any Redemption Cash Shortfall, if applicable) has been delivered to the Trust, and the Trust and/or the Transfer Agent is in simultaneous possession of both.

**Suspension or Rejection of Orders and Total Basket Amount**

The creation or redemption of Shares may be suspended generally, or refused with respect to particular requested creations or redemptions, during any period when the transfer books of the Transfer Agent are closed or if circumstances outside the control of the Sponsor or its delegates make it for all practical purposes not feasible to process creation orders or redemption orders or for any other reason at any time or from time to time. The Marketing Agent may reject an order or, after accepting an order, may cancel such order, if: (i) such order is not presented in proper form as described in the Participant Agreement, (ii) to the extent In-Kind Regulatory Approval has been obtained, in the case of In-Kind Orders, the transfer of the Total Basket Amount comes from an account other than an Ether wallet address that is known to the Custodian as belonging to the Authorized Participant or its AP Designee or (iii) the fulfillment of the order, in the opinion of counsel, might be unlawful, among other reasons. None of the Sponsor or its delegates will be liable for the suspension, rejection or acceptance of any creation order or redemption order.

The Sponsor will notify investors of any suspension of creations or redemptions of Shares by filing a current report on Form 8-K. Suspension of the creation or redemption of Shares could negatively impact the Shares' liquidity and/or cause the Shares to trade at premiums and discounts, and otherwise have a negative impact on the value of the Shares.

**Tax Responsibility**

Authorized Participants are responsible for any transfer tax, sales or use tax, stamp tax, recording tax, value-added tax or similar tax or governmental charge applicable to the creation and redemption of Baskets, regardless of whether such tax or charge is imposed directly on the Authorized Participant, and agree to indemnify the Sponsor and the Trust if the Sponsor or the Trust is required by law to pay any such tax, together with any applicable penalties, additions to tax or interest thereon.

## MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES

The following discussion addresses the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the ownership of Shares. Subject to the limitations and qualifications, and based on the assumptions described herein and in the opinion letter filed as Exhibit 8.1 to this registration statement, the statements of law and legal conclusions set forth in the following discussion constitute the opinion of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP ("Davis Polk") as to the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of Shares that generally may apply to a "U.S. Holder" or a "non-U.S. Holder" (in each case, as defined below). This discussion does not describe all of the tax consequences that may be relevant to a beneficial owner of Shares in light of the beneficial owner's particular circumstances, including tax consequences applicable to beneficial owners subject to special rules, such as:

- financial institutions;
- dealers in securities or commodities;
- traders in securities or commodities that have elected to apply a mark-to-market method of tax accounting in respect thereof;
- persons holding Shares as part of a hedge, "straddle," integrated transaction or similar transaction;
- Authorized Participants (as defined below);
- U.S. Holders (as defined below) whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar;
- entities or arrangements classified as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes;
- real estate investment trusts;
- regulated investment companies; and
- tax-exempt entities, including individual retirement accounts.

This discussion applies only to Shares that are held as capital assets and does not address alternative minimum tax consequences or consequences of the Medicare contribution tax on net investment income.

If an entity or arrangement that is classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds Shares, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Partnerships holding Shares and partners in those partnerships are urged to consult their tax advisers about the particular U.S. federal income tax consequences of owning Shares.

This discussion is based on the Code, administrative pronouncements, judicial decisions and final, temporary and proposed Treasury regulations as of the date hereof, changes to any of which subsequent to the date hereof may affect the tax consequences described herein. For the avoidance of doubt, this summary does not discuss any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or foreign taxing jurisdiction.

Shareholders are urged to consult their tax advisers about the application of the U.S. federal income tax laws to their particular situations, as well as any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or foreign taxing jurisdiction.

### Tax Treatment of the Trust

The Sponsor intends to take the position that the Trust is properly treated as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Assuming that the Trust is a grantor trust, the Trust will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax. Rather, if the Trust is a grantor trust, each beneficial owner of Shares will be treated as directly owning its pro rata share of the Trust's assets and a pro rata portion of the Trust's income, gain, losses and deductions will "flow through" to each beneficial owner of Shares.

Although not free from doubt due to the lack of authority directly addressing certain aspects of the Trust's affairs, in the opinion of Davis Polk the Trust should be classified as a "grantor trust" for U.S. federal income tax purposes. However, there can be no complete assurance that the Trust will be treated as a grantor trust for those purposes. An opinion of counsel is not binding on the IRS or any court, and there are significant uncertainties regarding the application of existing authorities to certain aspects of Ether and the Trust.

In particular, the Trust has taken certain positions with respect to the tax consequences of Incidental Rights and its receipt of IR Virtual Currency. If the IRS were to disagree with, and successfully challenge, any of these positions, the Trust might not qualify as a grantor trust. The Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment Notices provide that the Trust will abandon irrevocably, for no direct or indirect consideration, effective immediately prior to each Creation Time and Redemption Time, all Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency to which it would otherwise be entitled as of such time and with respect to which it has not taken any Affirmative Action at or prior to such time. Prospectively, the Sponsor has committed to causing the Trust to irrevocably abandon all Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency to which the Trust might otherwise become entitled. There can be no complete assurance that these abandonments will be treated as effective for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If the Trust were treated as owning any asset other than Ether as of any date on which it creates or redeems Shares, it might cease to qualify as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

In addition, and in common with other spot digital asset exchange-traded products, at this time the Trust is not permitted to create or redeem Shares via in-kind transactions with Authorized Participants. Unless and until In-Kind Regulatory Approval is obtained, Baskets will be created or redeemed only through Cash Orders. In general, investment vehicles intended to be treated as grantor trusts for U.S. federal income tax purposes historically have created additional trust interests only in kind, and there is no authority directly addressing whether a grantor trust may create or redeem trust interests under procedures similar to those that govern Cash Orders. Accordingly, there can be no complete assurance that the creation or redemption of Shares under the procedures governing Cash Orders will not cause the Trust to fail to qualify as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Moreover, because of the evolving nature of digital assets, it is not possible to predict potential future developments that may arise with respect to digital assets, including forks, airdrops and other similar occurrences. Assuming that the Trust is currently a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes, certain future developments could render it impossible, or impracticable, for the Trust to continue to be treated as a grantor trust for such purposes.

If the Trust is not properly classified as a grantor trust, the Trust might be classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. However, due to the uncertain treatment of digital assets for U.S. federal income tax purposes, there can be no assurance in this regard. If the Trust were classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the tax consequences of owning Shares generally would not be materially different from the tax consequences described herein, although there might be certain differences, including with respect to timing of the recognition of taxable income or loss. In addition, tax information reports provided to beneficial owners of Shares would be made in a different form. If the Trust were not classified as either a grantor trust or a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes, it would be classified as a corporation for such purposes. In that event, the Trust would be subject to entity-level U.S. federal income tax (currently at the rate of 21%) on its net taxable income and certain distributions made by the Trust to shareholders would be treated as taxable dividends to the extent of the Trust's current and accumulated earnings and profits. Any such dividend distributed to a beneficial owner of Shares that is a non-U.S. person for U.S. federal income tax purposes would be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax at a rate of 30% (or such lower rate as provided in an applicable tax treaty).

The remainder of this discussion is based on the assumption that the Trust will be treated as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

**Uncertainty Regarding the U.S. Federal Income Tax Treatment of Digital Assets**

Each beneficial owner of Shares will be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as the owner of an undivided interest in the Ether (and any Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency) held in the Trust. Due to the new and evolving nature of digital assets and the absence of comprehensive guidance with respect to digital assets, many significant aspects of the U.S. federal income tax treatment of digital assets are uncertain.

In 2014, the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") released a notice (the "Notice") discussing certain aspects of the treatment of "convertible virtual currency" (that is, digital assets that have an equivalent value in fiat currency or that acts as substitutes for fiat currency) for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In the Notice, the IRS stated that, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, such digital assets (i) are "property," (ii) are not "currency" for purposes of the provisions of the Code relating to foreign currency gain or loss and (iii) may be held as a capital asset. In 2019, the IRS released a revenue ruling and a set of "Frequently Asked Questions" (the "Ruling & FAQs") that provide some additional guidance, including guidance to the effect that, under certain circumstances, hard forks of digital assets are taxable events giving rise to ordinary income and guidance with respect to the determination of the tax basis of digital assets. However, the Notice and the Ruling & FAQs do not address other significant aspects of the U.S. federal income tax treatment of digital assets. Moreover, although the Ruling & FAQs address the treatment of hard forks, there continues to be significant uncertainty with respect to the timing and amount of the income inclusions. While the Ruling & FAQs do not address most situations in which airdrops occur, it is clear from the reasoning of the Ruling & FAQs that the IRS generally would treat an airdrop as a taxable event giving rise to ordinary income.

There can be no assurance that the IRS will not alter its position with respect to digital assets in the future or that a court would uphold the treatment set forth in the Notice and the Ruling & FAQs. It is also unclear what additional guidance on the treatment of digital assets for U.S. federal income tax purposes may be issued in the future. Any such alteration of the current IRS positions or additional guidance could result in adverse tax consequences for shareholders and could have an adverse effect on the prices of digital assets, including the price of Ether in the Digital Asset Market, and therefore could have an adverse effect on the value of Shares. Future developments that may arise with respect to digital assets may increase the uncertainty with respect to the treatment of digital assets for U.S. federal income tax purposes. For example, the Notice addresses only digital assets that are "convertible virtual currency," and it is conceivable that, as a result of a fork, airdrop or similar occurrence, a Trust will hold certain types of digital assets that are not within the scope of the Notice.

The remainder of this discussion assumes that Ether, and any Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency that the Trust may hold, is properly treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as property that may be held as a capital asset and that is not currency for purposes of the provisions of the Code relating to foreign currency gain and loss.

Shareholders are urged to consult their tax advisers regarding the tax consequences of an investment in the Trust and in digital assets in general, including, in the case of shareholders that are generally exempt from U.S. federal income taxation, whether such shareholders may recognize "unrelated business taxable income" ("UBTI") as a consequence of a fork, airdrop or similar occurrence.

**Tax Consequences to U.S. Holders**

As used herein, the term "U.S. Holder" means a beneficial owner of a Share for U.S. federal income tax purposes that is:

- an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States for U.S. federal income tax purposes;
- a corporation, or other entity treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or of any political subdivision thereof; or
- an estate or trust the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source.

Except as specifically noted, the discussion below assumes that each U.S. Holder will acquire all of its Shares on the same date for the same price per Share and solely for cash (or, if In-Kind Regulatory Approval is obtained in the future, solely for Ether that were originally acquired by the U.S. Holder for cash on the same date).

As discussed in the section entitled "Description of Creation and Redemption of Shares," if In-Kind Regulatory Approval is obtained in the future, a U.S. Holder may be able to acquire Shares of the Trust by contributing Ether in kind to the Trust (either directly or through an Authorized Participant acting as agent of the U.S. Holder). Assuming that the Trust is properly treated as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes, such a contribution should not be a taxable event to the U.S. Holder.

For U.S. federal income tax purposes, each U.S. Holder will be treated as owning an undivided interest in the Ether held in the Trust and will be treated as directly realizing its pro rata share of the Trust's income, gains, losses and deductions. When a U.S. Holder purchases Shares solely for cash, (i) the U.S. Holder's initial tax basis in its pro rata share of the Ether held in the Trust will be equal to the amount paid for the Shares and (ii) the U.S. Holder's holding period for its pro rata share of such Ether will begin on the date of such purchase. If, in the future, In-Kind Regulatory Approval is obtained and a U.S. Holder acquires Shares in exchange for Ether, (i) the U.S. Holder's initial tax basis in its pro rata share of the Ether held in the Trust would be equal to the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the Ether that the U.S. Holder transferred to the Trust and (ii) the U.S. Holder's holding period for its pro rata share of such Ether generally would include the period during which the U.S. Holder held the Ether that the U.S. Holder transferred to the Trust. The Ruling & FAQs confirm that if a taxpayer acquires tokens of a digital asset at different times and for different prices, the taxpayer has a separate tax basis in each lot of such tokens. Under the Ruling & FAQs, if, in the future, In-Kind Regulatory Approval is obtained and a U.S. Holder that owns more than one lot of Ether contributes a portion of its Ether to the Trust in exchange for Shares, the U.S. Holder could designate the lot(s) from which such contribution will be made, provided that the U.S. Holder is able to identify specifically which Ether it is contributing and to substantiate its tax basis in that Ether. In general, if a U.S. Holder acquires Shares solely for cash at different prices, the U.S. Holder's share of the Trust's Ether will consist of separate lots with separate tax bases. In addition, in this situation, the U.S. Holder's holding period for the separate lots may be different.

Gains or losses from the sale of Ether to fund cash redemptions are expected to be treated as incurred only by the shareholder that is being redeemed. However, when the Trust transfers Ether to the Sponsor as payment of the Sponsor's Fee, or sells Ether to fund payment of any Additional Trust Expenses, each U.S. Holder will be treated as having sold its pro rata share of that Ether for their fair market value at that time (which, in the case of Ether sold by the Trust, generally will be equal to the cash proceeds received by the Trust in respect thereof). As a result, each U.S. Holder will recognize gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between (i) the fair market value of the U.S. Holder's pro rata share of the Ether transferred and (ii) the U.S. Holder's tax basis for its pro rata share of the Ether transferred. Any such gain or loss will be short-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. Holder's holding period for its pro rata share of the Ether is one year or less and long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. Holder's holding period for its pro rata share of the Ether is more than one year. A U.S. Holder's tax basis in its pro rata share of any Ether transferred by the Trust generally will be determined by multiplying the tax basis of the U.S. Holder's pro rata share of all of the Ether held in the Trust immediately prior to the transfer by a fraction the numerator of which is the amount of Ether transferred and the denominator of which is the total amount of Ether held in the Trust immediately prior to the transfer. Immediately after the transfer, the U.S. Holder's tax basis in its pro rata share of the Ether remaining in the Trust will be equal to the tax basis of its pro rata share of the Ether held in the Trust immediately prior to the transfer, less the portion of that tax basis allocable to its pro rata share of the Ether transferred.

As noted above, the IRS has taken the position in the Ruling & FAQs that, under certain circumstances, a hard fork of a digital asset constitutes a taxable event giving rise to ordinary income, and it is clear from the reasoning of the Ruling & FAQs that the IRS generally would treat an airdrop as a taxable event giving rise to ordinary income. As described above, the Sponsor has committed to causing the Trust to abandon all Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency to which the Trust otherwise might become entitled. If, however, the Trust were to receive

and retain IR Virtual Currency in the future, a U.S. Holder would have a basis in that IR Virtual Currency equal to the amount of income the U.S. Holder recognizes as a result of such fork or airdrop and the U.S. Holder's holding period for such IR Virtual Currency would begin as of the time it recognizes such income.

U.S. Holders' pro rata shares of the expenses incurred by the Trust will be treated as "miscellaneous itemized deductions" for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a result, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017 and before January 1, 2026, a non-corporate U.S. Holder's share of these expenses will not be deductible for U.S. federal income tax purposes. For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, a non-corporate U.S. Holder's share of these expenses will be deductible for regular U.S. federal income tax purposes only to the extent that the U.S. Holder's share of the expenses, when combined with other "miscellaneous itemized deductions," exceeds 2% of the U.S. Holder's adjusted gross income for the particular year, will not be deductible for U.S. federal alternative minimum tax purposes and will be subject to certain other limitations on deductibility.

On a sale or other disposition of Shares, a U.S. Holder will be treated as having sold the Ether underlying such Shares. Accordingly, the U.S. Holder generally will recognize gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between (i) the amount realized on the sale of the Shares and (ii) the portion of the U.S. Holder's tax basis in its pro rata share of the Ether held in the Trust that is attributable to the Shares that were sold or otherwise subject to a disposition. Such tax basis generally will be determined by multiplying the tax basis of the U.S. Holder's pro rata share of all of the Ether held in the Trust immediately prior to such sale or other disposition by a fraction the numerator of which is the number of Shares disposed of and the denominator of which is the total number of Shares held by such U.S. Holder immediately prior to such sale or other disposition (such fraction, expressed as a percentage, the "Share Percentage"). If the U.S. Holder's share of the Trust's Ether consists of separate lots with separate tax bases and/or holding periods, the U.S. Holder will be treated as having sold the Share Percentage of each such lot. Gain or loss recognized by a U.S. Holder on a sale or other disposition of Shares will generally be short-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. Holder's holding period for the Ether underlying such Shares is one year or less and long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. Holder's holding period for the Ether underlying such Shares is more than one year. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to significant limitations.

If, in the future, In-Kind Regulatory Approval is obtained and the Trust redeems all or portion of a U.S. Holder's Shares in exchange for the underlying Ether represented by the redeemed Shares, such redemption generally would not be a taxable event to the U.S. Holder. The U.S. Holder's tax basis in the Ether received in the redemption generally would be the same as the U.S. Holder's tax basis for the portion of its pro rata share of the Ether held in the Trust immediately prior to the redemption that was attributable to the Shares redeemed, determined as described above, and the U.S. Holder's tax basis in its remaining pro rata portion, if any, of the Ether held in the Trust after the redemption would be equal to the tax basis of its pro rata share of the total amount of the Ether held in the Trust immediately prior to the redemption, less the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the Ether received in the redemption. The U.S. Holder's holding period with respect to the Ether received would generally include the period during which the U.S. Holder held the Shares so redeemed. A subsequent sale of the Ether received in such redemption would generally be a taxable event.

After any sale or other disposition of fewer than all of a U.S. Holder's Shares, the U.S. Holder's tax basis in its pro rata share of the Ether held in the Trust immediately after the disposition will equal the tax basis in its pro rata share of the total amount of the Ether held in the Trust immediately prior to the disposition, less the portion of that tax basis that is taken into account in determining the amount of gain or loss recognized by the U.S. Holder on the disposition (or, in the case of a redemption pursuant to an In-Kind Order, if In-Kind Regulatory Approval is obtained, that is treated as the basis of the Ether received by the U.S. Holder in the redemption).

Any brokerage or other transaction fee incurred by a U.S. Holder in purchasing Shares generally will be added to the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the underlying assets of the Trust. Similarly, any brokerage fee or other transaction fee incurred by a U.S. Holder in selling Shares generally will reduce the amount realized by the U.S. Holder with respect to the sale.

In the absence of guidance to the contrary, it is possible that any income recognized by a U.S. tax-exempt shareholder as a consequence of a hard fork, airdrop or similar occurrence would constitute UBTI. A tax-exempt shareholder should consult its tax adviser regarding whether such shareholder may recognize some UBTI as a consequence of an investment in Shares.

**Tax Consequences to Non-U.S. Holders**

As used herein, the term "non-U.S. Holder" means a beneficial owner of a Share for U.S. federal income tax purposes that is not a U.S. Holder. The term "non-U.S. Holder" does not include (i) a nonresident alien individual who is present in the United States for 183 days or more in a taxable year, (ii) a former U.S. citizen or U.S. resident or an entity that has expatriated from the United States; (iii) a person whose income in respect of Shares is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States; or (iv) an entity that is treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Shareholders described in the preceding sentence should consult their tax advisers regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of owning Shares.

A non-U.S. Holder generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax with respect to its share of any gain recognized on the Trust's transfer of Ether in payment of the Sponsor's Fee or any Additional Trust Expense or on the Trust's sale or other disposition of Ether. In addition, assuming that the Trust holds no asset other than Ether, a non-U.S. Holder generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax with respect to any gain it recognizes on a sale or other disposition of Shares. A non-U.S. Holder also will generally not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax with respect to any distribution received from the Trust, whether in cash or in-kind.

Provided that it does not constitute income that is treated as "effectively connected" with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States, U.S.-source "fixed or determinable annual or periodical" ("FDAP") income received, or treated as received, by a non-U.S. Holder will generally be subject to U.S. withholding tax at the rate of 30% (subject to possible reduction or elimination pursuant to an applicable tax treaty and to statutory exemptions such as the portfolio interest exemption). Although the Sponsor has committed to causing the Trust to abandon all Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency to which the Trust may become entitled in the future, and although there is no guidance on point, if the Trust were to receive and retain IR Virtual Currency arising from a future fork, airdrop or similar occurrence, it is likely that any ordinary income recognized by a non-U.S. Holder as a result would constitute FDAP income. It is unclear, however, whether any such FDAP income would be properly treated as U.S.-source or foreign-source FDAP income. Non-U.S. Holders should assume that, in the absence of guidance, a withholding agent (including the Sponsor) is likely to withhold 30% from a non-U.S. Holder's pro rata share of any such income. A non-U.S. Holder that is a resident of a country that maintains an income tax treaty with the United States may be eligible to claim the benefits of that treaty to reduce or eliminate, or to obtain a partial or full refund of, the 30% U.S. withholding tax on its share of any such income, but only if the non-U.S. Holder's home country treats the Trust as "fiscally transparent," as defined in applicable Treasury regulations.

In order to prevent the possible imposition of U.S. "backup" withholding and (if applicable) to qualify for a reduced rate of withholding tax at source under a treaty, a non-U.S. Holder must comply with certain certification requirements (generally, by delivering a properly executed IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E to the relevant withholding agent).

**U.S. Information Reporting and Backup Withholding**

The Trust or the appropriate broker will file certain information returns with the IRS and provide shareholders with information regarding their annual income (if any) and expenses with respect to the Trust in accordance with applicable Treasury regulations.

A U.S. Holder will generally be subject to information reporting requirements and backup withholding unless (i) the U.S. Holder is a corporation or other exempt recipient or (ii) in the case of backup withholding, the U.S. Holder provides a correct taxpayer identification number and certifies that it is not subject to backup withholding. In order to avoid the information reporting and backup withholding requirements, a non-U.S. Holder may have to comply with certification procedures to establish that it is not a U.S. person. The amount of any backup withholding will be allowed as a credit against the shareholder's U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle the holder to a refund, provided that the required information is furnished to the IRS.

**FATCA**

As discussed above, it is unclear whether any ordinary income recognized by a non-U.S. Holder as a result of a fork, airdrop or similar occurrence would constitute U.S.-source FDAP income. Provisions of the Code commonly referred to as "FATCA" require withholding of 30% on payments of U.S.-source FDAP income and, subject to the discussion of proposed U.S. Treasury regulations below, of gross proceeds of dispositions of certain types of property that produce U.S.-source FDAP income to, "foreign financial institutions" (which is broadly defined for this purpose and in general includes investment vehicles) and certain other non-U.S. entities unless various U.S. information reporting and due diligence requirements (generally relating to ownership by U.S. persons of interests in or accounts with those entities) have been satisfied, or an exemption applies. An intergovernmental agreement between the United States and an applicable foreign country may modify these requirements. In addition, regulations proposed by the U.S. Treasury Department (the preamble to which indicates that taxpayers may rely on the regulations pending their finalization) would eliminate the requirement under FATCA of withholding on gross proceeds. If FATCA withholding is imposed, a beneficial owner that is not a foreign financial institution generally may obtain a refund of any amounts withheld by filing a U.S. federal income tax return (which may entail significant administrative burden). Shareholders should consult their tax advisers regarding the effects of FATCA on an investment in the Trust.

## ERISA AND RELATED CONSIDERATIONS

ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code impose certain requirements on employee benefit plans and certain other plans and arrangements, including individual retirement accounts ("IRAs") and annuities, Keogh plans, and certain collective investment funds or insurance company general or separate accounts in which such plans or arrangements are invested, that are subject to ERISA and/or the Section 4975 of the Code (collectively, "Plans"), and on persons who are fiduciaries with respect to the investment of Plan assets. Government plans and certain church and non-U.S. plans (collectively, "Non-ERISA Arrangements") are not subject to the fiduciary responsibility provisions of ERISA or the provisions of Section 4975 of the Code, but may be subject to similar rules under other federal, state, local, non-U.S. or other applicable laws ("Similar Laws").

### General Fiduciary Matters

In contemplating an investment of a portion of Plan assets in Shares, the Plan fiduciary responsible for making such investment should carefully consider, taking into account the facts and circumstances of the Plan, the risks discussed in this prospectus, in "Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors" in the Annual Report, in any applicable prospectus supplement and in the other documents incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference herein, and whether such investment is consistent with its fiduciary responsibilities, including, but not limited to (i) whether the fiduciary has the authority to make the investment under the appropriate governing plan instrument, (ii) whether the investment would constitute a direct or indirect non-exempt prohibited transaction under ERISA or the Code, (iii) the Plan's funding objectives, and (iv) whether under the general fiduciary standards of investment prudence and diversification such investment is appropriate for the Plan, taking into account the overall investment policy of the Plan, the composition of the Plan's investment portfolio and the Plan's need for sufficient liquidity to pay benefits when due. Fiduciaries of Non-ERISA Arrangements should carefully consider whether an investment in Shares would violate any applicable Similar Laws.

### Plan Asset Issues

Under the Department of Labor's regulations at section 2510.3-101, as amended by Section 3(42) of ERISA (the "Plan Asset Regulations"), if a Plan invests in an equity interest of an entity that is "a publicly-offered security," the entity will not be deemed to hold "plan assets" subject to ERISA, and a party managing the assets of such entity will not be subject to the fiduciary responsibility and prohibited transaction rules of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code. A "publicly-offered security" is a security that is freely transferable, part of a class of securities that is widely held, and is either (i) part of a class of securities registered under section 12(b) or 12(g) of the Exchange Act or (ii) sold to the plan as part of an offering of securities to the public pursuant to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act and the class of securities of which such security is a part is registered under the Exchange Act within 120 days (or such later time as may be allowed by the Securities and Exchange Commission) after the end of the fiscal year of the issuer during which the offering of such securities to the public occurred. Whether a security is "freely transferable" is a factual question determined on the basis of facts and circumstances. A class of securities is "widely-held" if it is a class of securities that is owned by 100 or more investors independent of the issuer and of one another. It is anticipated that the Shares will constitute "publicly-offered securities" as defined in the Plan Asset Regulations. Accordingly, Shares held by a Plan, and not the underlying Ether held in the Trust represented by the Shares, should be treated as assets of the Plan, for purposes of applying the fiduciary responsibility and prohibited transaction rules of ERISA and the Code.

### Investment by Certain Retirement Plans

IRAs and participant-directed accounts under tax-qualified retirement plans are limited in the types of investments they may make under the Code. Potential purchasers of Shares that are IRAs or participant-directed accounts under a Code Section 401(a) plan should consult with their own advisors as to the consequences of an investment in Shares.

**Ineligible Purchasers**

In general, Shares may not be purchased with the assets of a Plan if the Trustee, the Sponsor, the distributor or any of their respective affiliates or employees either: (i) has investment discretion with respect to the investment of such Plan assets; (ii) has authority or responsibility to give or regularly gives investment advice with respect to such Plan assets, for a fee, and pursuant to an agreement or understanding that such advice will serve as a primary basis for investment decisions with respect to such Plan assets and that such advice will be based on the particular investment needs of the Plan; or (iii) is an employer maintaining or contributing to such Plan. A party that is described in clause (i) or (ii) of the preceding sentence is a fiduciary under ERISA and the Code with respect to the Plan, and any such purchase might result in a prohibited transaction under ERISA and/or the Code.

**Representation**

Accordingly, by acceptance of Shares, each purchaser and subsequent transferee of Shares will be deemed to have represented and warranted that either (i) no portion of the assets used by such purchaser or transferee to acquire or hold the Shares constitutes assets of any Plan or Non-ERISA Arrangement or (ii) the acquisition, holding and subsequent disposition of the Shares by such purchaser or transferee will not constitute or result in any non-exempt prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code or violate any applicable Similar Law.

Except as otherwise set forth, the foregoing statements regarding the consequences under ERISA and the Code of an investment in the Trust are based on the provisions of the Code and ERISA as currently in effect, and the existing administrative and judicial interpretations thereunder. No assurance can be given that administrative, judicial or legislative changes will not occur that may make the foregoing statements incorrect or incomplete.

ACCEPTANCE OF SUBSCRIPTIONS ON BEHALF OF PLANS IS IN NO RESPECT A REPRESENTATION BY THE SPONSOR OR ANY OTHER PARTY RELATED TO THE TRUST THAT THIS INVESTMENT MEETS THE RELEVANT LEGAL REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO INVESTMENTS BY ANY PARTICULAR PLAN, PLANS GENERALLY OR THAT THIS INVESTMENT IS APPROPRIATE FOR ANY PARTICULAR PLAN OR PLANS GENERALLY. THE PERSON WITH INVESTMENT DISCRETION WITH RESPECT FOR ANY PLAN SHOULD CONSULT WITH THEIR OWN COUNSEL AND ADVISERS AS TO THE PROPRIETY OF AN INVESTMENT IN THE TRUST, IN LIGHT OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PARTICULAR PLAN BEFORE PURCHASING SHARES. NEITHER THIS DISCUSSION NOR ANYTHING IN THIS PROSPECTUS IS OR IS INTENDED TO BE INVESTMENT ADVICE DIRECTED AT ANY POTENTIAL PURCHASER THAT IS A PLAN OR NON-ERISA ARRANGEMENT, OR AT SUCH PURCHASERS GENERALLY.

## PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The Trust issues Shares in Baskets only to Authorized Participants in exchange for deposits of Ether via a Liquidity Provider, together with corresponding deposits of cash from such Authorized Participants, on an ongoing continuous basis. The Trust does not issue fractions of a Basket. Although the Trust creates Baskets only upon the receipt of Ether, at this time an Authorized Participant can only submit Cash Orders, pursuant to which the Authorized Participant will deposit cash into the Cash Account (and a Liquidity Provider will transfer to the Trust's Vault Balance the corresponding Ether) in connection with the creation and redemption of Baskets. Subject to In-Kind Regulatory Approval, in the future the Trust may also create and redeem Baskets via In-Kind Orders, pursuant to which an Authorized Participant or its AP Designee would deposit Ether directly with the Trust or receive Ether directly from the Trust. However, because In-Kind Regulatory Approval has not been obtained, at this time Baskets will not be created or redeemed through In-Kind Orders and will only be created or redeemed through Cash Orders. There can be no assurance as to when In-Kind Regulatory Approval will be sought or obtained, if at all.

Cash Orders will be facilitated by the Transfer Agent and Grayscale Investments, LLC, which will engage one or more eligible companies (each, a "Liquidity Provider") that is not an agent of, or otherwise acting on behalf of, any Authorized Participant to obtain or receive Ether in connection with such orders. Authorized Participants may create a Basket pursuant to a Cash Order by delivering to the Cash Account (x) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Basket NAV and any Variable Fee, or (y) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, the Basket NAV, plus any Additional Creation Cash, less any Excess Creation Cash (such amount, as applicable, the "Required Creation Cash"), and the Liquidity Provider transferring the corresponding Basket Amount to the Trust's Vault Balance. The Basket Amount equals the number of Ether owned by the Trust at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on each trade date (after deducting the number of Ether representing the U.S. dollar value of accrued but unpaid fees and expenses of the Trust) by the number of Shares outstanding at such time and multiplying such quotient by (i) 10,000, after the Amended Trust Agreement becomes effective, or (ii) 100, prior to such time. The Basket NAV equals the U.S. dollar value of a Basket calculated by multiplying the Basket Amount by the Index Price as of the trade date. Shares will only be created and delivered to the Authorized Participant after the Trust is in simultaneous possession of (i) the Basket Amount and (ii) the Required Creation Cash.

It is expected that Authorized Participants that create Shares will sell Shares to the public at varying prices to be determined by reference to, among other considerations, the price of Ether and the trading price of the Shares on the NYSE Arca at the time of each sale. There will not be an "initial" creation of Baskets upon the Trust's listing on NYSE Arca given that the Trust already has created Baskets of Shares that will continue to be outstanding as of such date.

While the arbitrage mechanism is expected to keep the value of the Shares closely linked to the Index Price, due to price volatility and differentials, trading volume, and closings of Digital Asset Trading Platforms due to fraud, failure, security breaches or otherwise, there can be no assurance that the value of the Shares will reflect the value of the Trust's Ether, less the Trust's expenses and other liabilities, and the Shares may trade at a substantial premium over, or a substantial discount to, the value of the Trust's Ether, less the Trust's expenses and other liabilities. This risk may be exacerbated to the extent in-kind creations and redemptions of Shares continue to be unavailable for any reason. See "Risk Factors—Risk Factors Related to the Trust and the Shares— The lack of ability to facilitate in-kind creations and redemptions of Shares could have adverse consequences for the Trust." Moreover, there may be variances in the prices of Ether on the various Digital Asset Trading Platforms, including as a result of differences in fee structures or administrative procedures on different Digital Asset Trading Platforms, which could enhance or inhibit the arbitrage mechanism in a manner that is beyond our control.

Because new Shares can be created and issued on an ongoing basis at any point during the life of the Trust, a "distribution," as such term is used in the Securities Act, will be occurring. Authorized Participants, other broker-dealers and other persons are cautioned that some of their activities will result in their being deemed participants

in a distribution in a manner which would render them statutory underwriters and subject them to the prospectus delivery and liability provisions of the Securities Act. For example, an Authorized Participant, other broker-dealer firm or its client will be deemed a statutory underwriter if it purchases a Basket from the Trust, breaks the Basket down into its constituent Shares and sells the Shares directly to its customers, or if it chooses to couple the creation of a new Basket with an active selling effort involving solicitation of secondary market demand for the Shares. A determination of whether a particular market participant is an underwriter must take into account all the facts and circumstances pertaining to the activities of the broker-dealer or its client in the particular case, and the examples mentioned above should not be considered a complete description of all the activities that could lead to designation as an underwriter and subject them to the prospectus delivery and liability provisions of the Securities Act.

Investors that purchase shares through a brokerage account (whether commission-based or fee-based) may pay commissions or fees charged by the brokerage account.

Dealers that are not "underwriters" but are participating in a distribution (as contrasted to ordinary secondary trading transactions), and thus dealing with Shares that are part of an "unsold allotment" within the meaning of Section 4(3)(C) of the Securities Act, would be unable to take advantage of the prospectus delivery exemption provided by Section 4(3) of the Securities Act.

The Sponsor intends to qualify the Shares in states selected by the Sponsor and that sales be made through broker-dealers who are members of FINRA. Investors intending to create or redeem Baskets through Authorized Participants in transactions not involving a broker-dealer registered in such investor's state of domicile or residence should consult their legal advisor regarding applicable broker-dealer or securities regulatory requirements under the state securities laws prior to such creation or redemption.

Authorized Participants will not receive from the Trust or the Sponsor any compensation in connection with an offering or reoffering of the Shares. Accordingly, there is, and will be, no payment of underwriting compensation in connection with any such offering of Shares in excess of 10% of the gross proceeds of the offering.

Pursuant to a Marketing Agent Agreement (the "Marketing Agent Agreement") between the Sponsor and Foreside Fund Services, LLC, as Marketing Agent (the "Marketing Agent"), the Marketing Agent will be paid by the Sponsor an annual fee. In addition, the Sponsor will pay certain out-of-pocket fees and expenses of the Marketing Agent incurred in connection with its assistance in the marketing of the Trust and its Shares.

Under the Marketing Agent Agreement, the Marketing Agent will provide the following services to the Sponsor:

- Assist the Sponsor in facilitating Participation Agreements between and among Authorized Participants, the Trust, the Transfer Agent;
- Provide prospectuses to Authorized Participants;
- Work with the Transfer Agent to review and approve orders placed by the Authorized Participants and transmitted to the Transfer Agent;
- Review and file applicable marketing materials with FINRA; and
- Maintain, reproduce and store applicable books and records related to the services provided under the Marketing Agent Agreement.

The Shares have been approved for listing on NYSE Arca under the symbol "ETHE."

## LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the Shares will be passed upon by Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A., as special Delaware counsel to the Trust. Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, as special tax counsel to the Trust, will render an opinion regarding the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the ownership of Shares.

## EXPERTS

Marcum LLP and Friedman LLP (prior to the acquisition of certain assets of Friedman LLP by Marcum LLP effective September 1, 2022), independent registered public accounting firms, have audited the financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, and the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting, as set forth in their reports, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Marcum LLP audited the financial statements of the Trust as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and for the two years ended December 31, 2023, as well as internal control over financial reporting of the Trust as of December 31, 2023. Friedman LLP audited the statements of operations and changes in net assets of the Trust for the year ended December 31, 2021. Such financial statements are incorporated by reference in reliance upon the reports of Marcum LLP and Friedman LLP, given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

## WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION; INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The Sponsor has filed on behalf of the Trust a registration statement on Form S-3 with the SEC under the Securities Act of 1933. As permitted by the rules and regulations of the SEC, this prospectus does not contain all of the information contained in the registration statement and the exhibits and schedules thereto. As such we make reference in this prospectus to the registration statement and to the exhibits and schedules thereto. For further information about us and about the securities we hereby offer, you should consult the registration statement and the exhibits and schedules thereto. You should be aware that statements contained in this prospectus concerning the provisions of any documents filed as an exhibit to the registration statement or otherwise filed with the SEC are not necessarily complete, and in each instance reference is made to the copy of such document so filed. Each such statement is qualified in its entirety by such reference.

We file annual, quarterly and periodic reports and other information with the SEC. These filings contain important information which does not appear in this prospectus but is incorporated by reference herein. Our filings are available to the public on the Internet, through a database maintained by the SEC at http://www.sec.gov. Our filings are also available, free of charge, on our website at www.grayscale.com. We have included our website address for the information of prospective investors and do not intend it to be an active link to our website. Information contained on our website does not constitute a part of this prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement (or any document incorporated by reference herein or therein).

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" information into this prospectus, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to other documents which we have filed or will file with the SEC. We are incorporating by reference in this prospectus the documents listed below.

- Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023;
- Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2024; and
- Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on February 27, 2024, March 6, 2024, March 25, 2024, April 25, 2024, April 25, 2024, May 15, 2024 and May 20, 2024 and any additional Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC prior to the effectiveness of the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

Any future filings the Sponsor or the Trust makes with the SEC pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c) 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (other than documents or information deemed to have been furnished and not filed in

accordance with SEC rules, including Items 2.02 and 7.01 of Form 8-K), on or after the date of this prospectus and before the termination or completion of this offering of our Shares shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus and to become a part of it from the dates that such documents are filed with the SEC. Certain statements and portions of this prospectus will automatically update and may replace information in the above listed documents incorporated by reference. Likewise, information that becomes a part of this prospectus after the date of this prospectus will automatically update and may replace statements in and portions of this prospectus and information previously filed with the SEC.

Notwithstanding the foregoing paragraphs, information furnished under Items 2.02 and 7.01 of any Current Report on Form 8-K, including the related exhibits under Item 9.01, is not incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

We will provide you without charge, upon your written or oral request, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus, other than exhibits to such documents which are not specifically incorporated by reference into such documents, other than information in future filings that is deemed not to be filed. Please direct your written or telephone requests to Grayscale Investments, LLC, 290 Harbor Drive, 4th Floor, Stamford, Connecticut 06902, (212) 668-1427.

## GLOSSARY OF DEFINED TERMS

In this prospectus, each of the following quoted terms have the meanings set forth after such term:

"**Actual Exchange Rate**"—With respect to any particular asset, at any time, the price per single unit of such asset (determined net of any associated fees) at which the Trust is able to sell such asset for U.S. dollars (or other applicable fiat currency) at such time to enable the Trust to timely pay any Additional Trust Expenses, through use of the Sponsor's commercially reasonable efforts to obtain the highest such price.

"**Actual Execution Cash Order**"—A Cash Order pursuant to which any price differential between (x) the Total Basket NAV on the trade date and (y) the price realized in acquiring or disposing of the corresponding Total Basket Amount, as the case may be, will be borne solely by the Authorized Participant.

"**Additional Creation Cash**"—In connection with a creation pursuant to an Actual Execution Cash Order, the amount of additional cash required to be delivered by the Authorized Participant in the event the price realized in acquiring the corresponding Total Basket Amount is higher than the Total Basket NAV on the trade date.

"**Additional Redemption Cash**"—In connection with a redemption pursuant to an Actual Execution Cash Order, the amount of additional cash to be delivered to the Authorized Participant in the event the price realized in disposing the corresponding Total Basket Amount is higher than the Total Basket NAV on the trade date.

"**Additional Trust Expenses**"—Together, any expenses incurred by the Trust in addition to the Sponsor's Fee that are not Sponsor-paid Expenses, including, but not limited to, (i) taxes and governmental charges, (ii) expenses and costs of any extraordinary services performed by the Sponsor (or any other service provider) on behalf of the Trust to protect the Trust or the interests of shareholders, (iii) any indemnification of the Custodian or other agents, service providers or counterparties of the Trust, (iv) the fees and expenses related to the listing, quotation or trading of the Shares on any Secondary Market (including legal, marketing and audit fees and expenses) to the extent exceeding $600,000 in any given fiscal year and (v) extraordinary legal fees and expenses, including any legal fees and expenses incurred in connection with litigation, regulatory enforcement or investigation matters.

"**Administrator**"—The Bank of New York Mellon, a New York corporation authorized to do a banking business.

"**Administrator Fee**"—The fee payable to any administrator of the Trust for services it provides to the Trust, which the Sponsor will pay such administrator as a Sponsor-paid Expense.

"**Affirmative Action**"—A decision by the Trust to acquire or abandon specific Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency at any time prior to the time of a creation or redemption of Shares.

"**AP Designee**"—An Authorized Participant's designee in connection with In-Kind Orders (to the extent In-Kind Regulatory Approval is obtained).

"**Authorized Participant**"—Certain eligible financial institutions that have entered into an agreement with the Trust and the Sponsor concerning the creation or redemption of Shares. Each Authorized Participant (i) is a registered broker-dealer and (ii) has entered into a Participant Agreement with the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent. Subject to In-Kind Regulatory Approval, in the future any Authorized Participants creating and redeeming Shares through In-Kind Orders must also own, or their AP Designee (as defined above) must own, an Ether wallet address that is known to the Custodian as belonging to the Authorized Participant or its AP Designee and maintain an account with the Custodian.

"**Basket**"—A block of (i) 10,000 Shares, after the Amended Trust Agreement becomes effective, or (ii) 100, prior to such time.

"**Basket Amount**"—On any trade date, the number of Ether required as of such trade date for the creation or redemption of a Basket, as determined by dividing (x) the number of Ether owned by the Trust at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on such trade date, after deducting the number of Ether representing the U.S. dollar value of accrued but unpaid fees and expenses of the Trust (converted using the Index Price at such time, and carried to the eighth decimal place), by (y) the number of Shares outstanding at such time (with the quotient so obtained calculated to one one-hundred-millionth of one Ether (i.e., carried to the eighth decimal place)), and multiplying such quotient by (i) 10,000, after the Amended Trust Agreement becomes effective, or (ii) 100, prior to such time.

"**Basket NAV**"—The U.S. dollar value of a Basket calculated by multiplying the Basket Amount by the Index Price as of the trade date.

"**Bitcoin**"—A type of digital asset based on an open-source cryptographic protocol existing on the Bitcoin network.

"**Blockchain**" or "**Ethereum Blockchain**"—The public transaction ledger of the Ethereum Network on which transactions in Ether are recorded.

"**Cash Account**"—The segregated account maintained by the Transfer Agent in the name of the Trust for purposes of receiving cash from Authorized Participants in connection with creations of Shares and distributing cash to Authorized Participants in connection with redemptions of Shares.

"**Cash Order**"—An order for the creation or redemption of Shares pursuant to procedures facilitated by the Transfer Agent and pursuant to which a Liquidity Provider is engaged to facilitate the purchase or sale of Ether. A Cash Order may be executed as either a Variable Fee Cash Order or an Actual Execution Cash Order. Unless the Sponsor determines otherwise in its sole discretion based on market conditions and other factors existing at the time of such Cash Order, all creations and redemptions pursuant to Cash Orders are expected to be executed as Variable Fee Cash Orders.

"**CFTC**"—The U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, an independent agency with the mandate to regulate commodity futures and option markets in the United States.

"**Code**"—The U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

"**Coinbase Credit**"—Coinbase Credit, Inc.

"**Creation Basket**"—Basket of Shares issued by the Trust upon deposit of the Basket Amount required for each such Creation Basket.

"**Creation Time**"—With respect to the creation of any Shares by the Trust, the time at which the Trust creates such Shares.

"**Custodial and Prime Broker Services**"—The services of the Custodian and the Prime Broker that provide for: (i) holding of the Trust's Ether in the Vault Balance and the Settlement Balance; (ii) transfer of the Trust's Ether between the relevant Vault Balance and the Settlement Balance; (iii) the deposit of Ether from a public blockchain address into the respective account or accounts in which the Vault Balance or the Settlement Balance are maintained; and (iv) the withdrawal of Ether from the Vault Balance to a public blockchain address the Trust controls.

"**Custodian**"—Coinbase Custody Trust Company, LLC.

"**Custodian Fee**"—Fee payable to the Custodian and the Prime Broker for services they provide to the Trust, which the Sponsor shall pay to the Custodian and the Prime Broker as a Sponsor-paid Expense.

"**DCG**"—Digital Currency Group, Inc.

"**Digital Asset Market**"—A "Brokered Market," "Dealer Market," "Principal-to-Principal Market" or "Exchange Market," (referred to as "Trading Platform Market" in this prospectus) as each such term is defined in the Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Master Glossary.

"**Digital Asset Trading Platform**"—An electronic marketplace where trading platform participants may trade, buy and sell Ether based on bid-ask trading. The largest Digital Asset Trading Platforms are online and typically trade on a 24-hour basis, publishing transaction price and volume data.

"**Digital Asset Trading Platform Market**"—The global exchange market for the trading of Ether, which consists of transactions on electronic Digital Asset Trading Platforms.
"**DTC**"—The Depository Trust Company. DTC is a limited purpose trust company organized under New York law, a member of the U.S. Federal Reserve System and a clearing agency registered with the SEC. DTC will act as the securities depository for the Shares.

"**Ether**"—Ethereum tokens, which are a type of digital asset based on an open-source cryptographic protocol existing on the Ethereum Network, comprising units that constitute the assets underlying the Trust's Shares.

"**Ether Account**"—Collectively, the Vault Balance, the Settlement Balance and any subaccounts associated therewith.

"**Ethereum Network**"—The online, end-user-to-end-user network hosting the public transaction ledger, known as the Ethereum Blockchain, and the source code comprising the basis for the cryptographic and algorithmic protocols governing the Ethereum Network.

"**ERISA**"—The U.S. Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended.

"**Excess Creation Cash**"—In connection with a creation pursuant to an Actual Execution Cash Order, the amount of excess cash to be returned to the Authorized Participant in the event the price realized in acquiring the corresponding Total Basket Amount is lower than the Total Basket NAV on the trade date.

"**Exchange Act**"—The Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

"**FCA**"—The Financial Conduct Authority.

"**FDIC**"—The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

"**FinCEN**"—The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, a bureau of the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

"**FINRA**"—The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc., which is the primary regulator in the United States for broker-dealers, including Authorized Participants.

"**GAAP**"—United States generally accepted accounting principles.

"**Incidental Rights**"—Rights to acquire, or otherwise establish dominion and control over, any virtual currency or other asset or right, which rights are incident to the Trust's ownership of Ether and arise without any action of the Trust, or of the Sponsor or Trustee on behalf of the Trust.

"**Index**"— The CoinDesk Ether Price Index (ETX).

"**Index License Agreement**"—The license agreement, dated as of February 1, 2022, between the Index Provider and the Sponsor governing the Sponsor's use of the Index for calculation of the Index Price, as amended by Amendment No. 1 thereto and as the same may be amended from time to time.

"**Index Price**"—The U.S. dollar value of an Ether derived from the Digital Asset Trading Platforms that are reflected in the Index, calculated at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on each business day. See "Part I—Item 1. Business—Overview of the ETH Industry and Market—ETH Value—The Index and the Index Price" in the Annual Report for a description of how the Index Price is calculated. For purposes of the Trust Agreement, the term Ether Index Price shall mean the Index Price as defined herein.

"**Index Provider**"—CoinDesk Indices, Inc., a Delaware corporation that publishes the Index. Prior to its sale to an unaffiliated third party on November 20, 2023, DCG was the indirect parent company of CoinDesk Indices, Inc. As a result, CoinDesk Indices, Inc. was an affiliate of the Sponsor and the Trust and was considered a related party of the Trust.

"**In-Kind Order**"—An order for the creation or redemption of Shares pursuant to which the Authorized Participant (or its AP Designee) will deliver or receive Ether directly from the Trust's Vault Balance. Because In-Kind Regulatory Approval has not been obtained, at this time Shares will not be created or redeemed through In-Kind Orders.

"**In-Kind Regulatory Approval**"—The necessary regulatory approval to permit NYSE Arca to list the Shares of the Trust utilizing a structure that allows the Trust to create and redeem Shares via in-kind transactions with Authorized Participants or their AP Designees in exchange for Ether. In common with other spot digital asset exchange-traded products, the Trust is not at this time able to create and redeem shares via in-kind transactions with Authorized Participants, and there has yet to be definitive regulatory guidance on whether and how registered broker-dealers can hold and deal in Ether in compliance with the federal securities laws. To the extent further regulatory clarity emerges, the Sponsor expects NYSE Arca to seek the necessary regulatory approval to amend its listing rules to permit the Trust to create and redeem Shares through In-Kind Orders. There can be no assurance as to when such regulatory clarity will emerge, or when NYSE Arca will seek or obtain such regulatory approval, if at all.

"**IR Virtual Currency**"—Any virtual currency tokens, or other asset or right, acquired by the Trust through the exercise (subject to the applicable provisions of the Trust Agreement) of any Incidental Right.

"**IRS**"—The U.S. Internal Revenue Service, a bureau of the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

"**Liquidity Engager**"—Grayscale Investments, LLC, acting other than in its capacity as Sponsor, and in its capacity to engage one or more Liquidity Providers.

"**Liquidity Provider**" —One or more eligible companies that facilitate the purchase and sale of Ether in connection with creations or redemptions pursuant to Cash Orders. The Liquidity Providers with which Grayscale Investments, LLC, acting in its capacity as the Liquidity Engager, will engage in Ether transactions are third parties that are not affiliated with the Sponsor or the Trust and are not acting as agents of the Trust, the Sponsor, or any Authorized Participant, and all transactions will be done on an arms-length basis. Except for the contractual relationships between each Liquidity Provider and Grayscale Investments, LLC in its capacity as the Liquidity Engager, there is no contractual relationship between each Liquidity Provider and the Trust, the Sponsor, or any Authorized Participant.

"**Marketing Agent**"—Foreside Fund Services, LLC.

"**Marketing Fee**"—Fee payable to the marketer for services it provides to the Trust, which the Sponsor will pay to the marketer as a Sponsor-paid Expense.

"**NAV**"—The aggregate value, expressed in U.S. dollars, of the Trust's assets (other than U.S. dollars or other fiat currency), less its liabilities (which include estimated accrued but unpaid fees and expenses), a Non-GAAP metric, calculated in the manner set forth under "Part I—Item 1. Business—Valuation of ETH and Determination of NAV" in the Annual Report. See also "Trust Objective and Determination of Principal Market NAV and NAV" in this prospectus for a description of the Trust's Principal Market NAV, as calculated in accordance with GAAP. Prior to February 23, 2024, NAV was referred to as Digital Asset Holdings. For purposes of the Trust Agreement, the term Ether Holdings shall mean the NAV as defined herein.

"**NAV Fee Basis Amount**"—The amount on which the Sponsor's Fee for the Trust is based, as calculated in the manner set forth under "Part I—Item 1. Business—Valuation of ETH and Determination of NAV" of the Annual Report.

"**NYSE Arca**"—NYSE Arca, Inc.

"**OTCQX**"—The OTCQX tier of OTC Markets Group Inc.

"**Participant Agreement**"—An agreement entered into by an Authorized Participant with the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent, that provides the procedures for the creation and redemption of Baskets via a Liquidity Provider.

"**Pre-Creation Abandonment Notice**"—A notice, delivered to the Custodian on July 29, 2019, stating that the Trust is abandoning irrevocably for no direct or indirect consideration, effective immediately prior to a Creation Time for the Trust, all Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency to which it would otherwise be entitled as of such time and with respect to which the Trust has not taken any Affirmative Action at or prior to such time.

"**Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment**"—The abandonment by the Trust, irrevocably for no direct or indirect consideration, all Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency to which the Trust would otherwise be entitled, effective immediately prior to a Creation Time or a Redemption Time (as the case may be) for the Trust.

"**Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment Notices**"—Together, the Pre-Creation Abandonment Notice and the Pre-Redemption Abandonment Notice.

**"Pre-Redemption Abandonment Notice**"—A provision, as amended or supplemented from time to time, in the Prime Broker Agreement that provides that the Trust will abandon irrevocably for no direct or indirect consideration, effective immediately prior to each Creation Time and each Redemption Time for the Trust, all Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency to which it would otherwise be entitled as of such time and with respect to which the Trust has not taken any Affirmative Action at or prior to such time.

"**Prime Broker**"—Coinbase, Inc.

"**Prime Broker Agreement**"—The Prime Broker Agreement, dated as of May 22, 2024, by and among the Trust, the Sponsor and the Prime Broker, on behalf of itself, the Custodian and Coinbase Credit, that governs the Trust's and the Sponsor's use of the Custodial and Prime Broker Services provided by the Custodian and the Prime Broker.

"**Principal Market NAV**"—The net asset value of the Trust determined on a GAAP basis. Prior to February 23, 2024, Principal Market NAV was referred to as NAV.

"**Redemption Cash Shortfall**"—In connection with a redemption pursuant to an Actual Execution Cash Order, the amount by which the cash to be delivered to the Authorized Participant is reduced in the event the price realized in disposing the corresponding Total Basket Amount is lower than the Total Basket NAV on the trade date.

"**Redemption Time**"—With respect to the redemption of any Shares by the Trust, the time at which the Trust redeems such Shares.

"**SEC**"—The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

"**Secondary Market**"—Any marketplace or other alternative trading system, as determined by the Sponsor, on which the Shares may then be listed, quoted or traded, including but not limited to, NYSE Arca and the OTCQX tier of the OTC Markets Group Inc.

"**Securities Act**"—The Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

"**Settlement Balance**"—An account controlled and maintained by the Custodian to which cash and digital assets of the Trust are credited on the Trust's behalf.

"**Shares**"—Common units of fractional undivided beneficial interest in, and ownership of, the Trust.

"**Share Split**"—A 9-for-1 Share split of the Trust's issued and outstanding Shares, which was effective on December 17, 2020 to shareholders of record as of the close of business on December 14, 2020.

"**Sponsor**"—Grayscale Investments, LLC.

"**Sponsor-paid Expenses**"—The fees and expenses incurred by the Trust in the ordinary course of its affairs that the Sponsor is obligated to assume and pay, excluding taxes, but including: (i) the Marketing Fee, (ii) the Administrator Fee, (iii) the Custodian Fee and fees for any other security vendor engaged by the Trust, (iv) the Transfer Agent fee, (v) the Trustee fee, (vi) the fees and expenses related to the listing, quotation or trading of the Shares on any Secondary Market (including customary legal, marketing and audit fees and expenses) in an amount up to $600,000 in any given fiscal year, (vii) ordinary course, legal fees and expenses, (viii) audit fees, (ix) regulatory fees, including, if applicable, any fees relating to the registration of the Shares under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, (x) printing and mailing costs, (xi) costs of maintaining the Trust's website and (xii) applicable license fees, provided that any expense that qualifies as an Additional Trust Expense will be deemed to be an Additional Trust Expense and not a Sponsor-paid Expense.

"**Sponsor's Fee**"—A fee, payable in Ether, which accrues daily in U.S. dollars at an annual rate of  % of the NAV Fee Basis Amount of the Trust as of 4:00 p.m., New York time, on each day; *provided* that for a day that is not a business day, the calculation of the Sponsor's Fee will be based on the NAV Fee Basis Amount from the most recent business day, reduced by the accrued and unpaid Sponsor's Fee for such most recent business day and for each day after such most recent business day and prior to the relevant calculation date.

"**Staking**"—Using Ether, or permitting Ether to be used, directly or indirectly, through an agent or otherwise, in the Ethereum Network's proof-of-stake validation protocol, in exchange for the receipt of consideration, including, but not limited to, staking rewards paid in fiat currency or paid in kind.

"**Total Basket Amount**"—With respect to any creation or redemption order, the applicable Basket Amount multiplied by the number of Baskets being created or redeemed.

"**Total Basket NAV**"—The applicable Basket NAV Amount multiplied by the number of Baskets being created or redeemed.

"**Transfer Agency and Service Agreement**"—The agreement between the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent which sets forth the obligations and responsibilities of the Transfer Agent with respect to transfer agency services and related matters.

"**Transfer Agent**"—The Bank of New York Mellon, a New York corporation authorized to do a banking business.

"**Transfer Agent Fee**"—Fee payable to the Transfer Agent for services it provides to the Trust, which the Sponsor will pay to the Transfer Agent as a Sponsor-paid Expense.

"**Treasury Regulations**"—The regulations, including proposed or temporary regulations, promulgated under the Code.

"**Trust**"—Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH), a Delaware statutory trust, formed on December 13, 2017 under the Delaware Statutory Trust Act, as amended, and pursuant to the Trust Agreement.

"**Trust Agreement**"—The Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement, dated as of July 3, 2018, between the Trustee and the Sponsor establishing and governing the operations of the Trust, as amended by Amendments No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 thereto and as the same may be amended from time to time. Following the expiration of the Consent Solicitation, the Sponsor expects to enter into the Second Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement (as may be further amended from time to time, the "Amended Trust Agreement") with the Trustee, and all references herein to the Trust Agreement, and descriptions of the terms thereof, are deemed to be to the Amended Trust Agreement unless otherwise indicated.

"**Trustee**"—CSC Delaware Trust Company, a Delaware trust company, is the Delaware trustee of the Trust.

"**U.S.**"—United States.

"**U.S. dollar**" or "**$**"—United States dollar or dollars.

"**Variable Fee**" —An amount in cash based on the Total Basket NAV, which shall be paid by the Authorized Participant in connection with Variable Fee Cash Orders. The amount may be changed by the Sponsor in its sole discretion at any time.

"**Variable Fee Cash Order**"—A Cash Order pursuant to which any price differential between (x) the Total Basket NAV on the trade date and (y) the price realized in acquiring or disposing of the corresponding Total Basket Amount, as the case may be, will be borne solely by the applicable Liquidity Provider.

"**Vault Balance**"—A segregated custody account controlled and secured by the Custodian to store private keys, which allow for the transfer of ownership or control of the Trust's Ether on the Trust's behalf.

# GRAYSCALE
# ETHEREUM TRUST (ETH)

## PART II

## INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

### Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution.

The Registrant ("Registrant" or "Trust") does not bear any expenses incurred in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities being registered. These expenses will be paid by Grayscale Investments, LLC, the sponsor of the Registrant ("Sponsor").

### Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Section 2.4(a) of the Trust Agreement ("Trust Agreement") between CSC Delaware Trust Company, the Registrant's Trustee ("Trustee"), and the Sponsor provides that the Trustee and any of the officers, directors, employees and agents of the Trustee (the "Indemnified Persons") shall be indemnified by the Trust as primary obligor and held harmless against any loss, damage, liability, claim, action, suit, cost, expense, disbursement (including the reasonable fees and expenses of counsel), tax or penalty of any kind and nature whatsoever (collectively, "Expenses"), arising out of, imposed upon or asserted at any time against such Indemnified Person in connection with the performance of its obligations under the Trust Agreement, the creation, operation or termination of the Trust or the transactions contemplated therein; provided, however, that neither the Trust nor the Sponsor shall be required to indemnify any Indemnified Person for any Expenses which are a result of the willful misconduct, bad faith or gross negligence of the Indemnified Person. If the Trust shall have insufficient assets or improperly refuses to pay an Indemnified Person within 60 days of a request for payment owed under Section 2.4 of the Trust Agreement, the Sponsor shall, as secondary obligor, compensate or reimburse the Trustee or indemnify, defend and hold harmless an Indemnified Person as if it were the primary obligor under Section 2.4 of the Trust Agreement. Any amount payable to an Indemnified Person under Section 2.4 of the Trust Agreement may be payable in advance and shall be secured by a lien on the Trust property. The obligations of the Sponsor and the Trust to indemnify the Indemnified Persons under this Section 2.4 shall survive the termination of the Trust Agreement.

Section 6.7 of the Trust Agreement provides that the Sponsor, its affiliates and their respective members, managers, directors, officers, employees, agents and controlling persons (each a "Sponsor Indemnified Party") shall be indemnified by the Trust against any loss, judgment, liability, expense and amount paid in settlement of any claims sustained by it in connection with its activities for the Trust, provided that (i) the Sponsor Indemnified Party was acting on behalf of or performing services for the Trust and has determined, in good faith, that such course of conduct was in the best interests of the Trust and such liability or loss was not the result of fraud, gross negligence, bad faith, willful misconduct, or a material breach of the Trust Agreement on the part of the Sponsor Indemnified Party and (ii) any such indemnification will only be recoverable from the Ether and proceeds from the disposition of Ether on deposit in the Trust's accounts as well as any rights of the Trust pursuant to any other agreements to which the Trust is a party.

All rights to indemnification permitted in Section 6.7 of the Trust Agreement and payment of associated expenses shall not be affected by the dissolution or other cessation to exist of the Sponsor Indemnified Party, or the withdrawal, adjudication of bankruptcy or insolvency of the Sponsor Indemnified Party, or the filing of a voluntary or involuntary petition in bankruptcy under Title 11 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, by or against the Sponsor Indemnified Party.

Notwithstanding the other provisions of Section 6.7 of the Trust Agreement, the Sponsor Indemnified Party and any person acting as broker-dealer for the Trust shall not be indemnified for any losses, liabilities or expenses arising from or out of an alleged violation of U.S. federal or state securities laws unless (i) there has been a successful adjudication on the merits of each count involving alleged securities law violations as to the particular indemnitee and the court approves the indemnification of such expenses (including, without limitation, litigation costs), (ii) such claims have been dismissed with prejudice on the merits by a court of competent jurisdiction as

to the particular indemnitee and the court approves the indemnification of such expenses (including, without limitation, litigation costs) or (iii) a court of competent jurisdiction approves a settlement of the claims against a particular indemnitee and finds that indemnification of the settlement and related costs should be made. The Trust shall not incur the cost of that portion of any insurance which insures any party against any liability, the indemnification of which is prohibited by the Trust Agreement. Expenses incurred in defending a threatened or pending civil, administrative or criminal action suit or proceeding against the Sponsor Indemnified Party shall be paid by the Trust in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding, if (i) the legal action relates to the performance of duties or services by the Sponsor Indemnified Party on behalf of the Trust; (ii) the legal action is initiated by a third party who is not a shareholder of the Trust or the legal action is initiated by a shareholder of the Trust and a court of competent jurisdiction specifically approves such advance; and (iii) the Sponsor Indemnified Party undertakes to repay the advanced funds with interest to the

Trust in cases in which it is not entitled to indemnification under Section 6.7 of the Trust Agreement. In the event the Trust is made a party to any claim, dispute, demand or litigation or otherwise incurs any loss, liability, damage, cost or expense as a result of or in connection with any shareholder of the Trust's (or assignee's) obligations or liabilities unrelated to Trust business, such shareholder of the Trust (or assignees cumulatively) shall indemnify, defend, hold harmless, and reimburse the Trust for all such loss, liability, damage, cost and expense incurred, including attorneys' and accountants' fees.

**Item 16. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules.**

***(a) Exhibits***

See Exhibit Index below, which is incorporated by reference herein.

***(b) Financial Statement Schedules***

Not applicable

**Item 17. Undertakings.**

(a) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement.

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

*Provided, however,* the:

(A) Paragraphs (a)(1)(i), (ii), and (iii) of this section do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the Registrant pursuant to section 13 or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement, or, contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

(i) Each prospectus filed by the Registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and

(ii) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date; or

(5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the Registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities:

The undersigned Registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned Registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned Registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

(i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned Registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

(ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned Registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned Registrant;

(iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned Registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned Registrant; and

(iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned Registrant to the purchaser.

(b) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to section 13(a) or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

## EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit Number | Exhibit Description |
|---|---|
| 4.1# | Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of the Registration Statement on Form 10 filed by the Registrant on August 6, 2020). |
| 4.2# | Amendment No. 1 to the Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 of the Registration Statement on Form 10 filed by the Registrant on August 6, 2020). |
| 4.3# | Certificate of Amendment to Certificate of Trust (attached as Exhibit A to Amendment No. 1 to the Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement). |
| 4.4# | Amendment No. 2 to the Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.4 of the Registration Statement on Form 10 filed by the Registrant on August 6, 2020). |
| 4.5# | Amendment No. 3 to the Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 on Form 8-K filed by the Registrant on March 25, 2024). |
| 4.6 | Form of Participant Agreement. |
| 5.1 | Form of Opinion of Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A., as special Delaware counsel to the Trust. |
| 8.1 | Form of Opinion of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, as special tax counsel to the Trust. |
| 23.1 | Consent of Marcum LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm. |
| 23.2 | Consent of Friedman LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm. |
| 23.3 | Form of Consent of Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A., as special Delaware counsel to the Trust, included in Exhibit 5.1. |
| 23.4 | Form of Consent of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, as special tax counsel to the Trust, included in Exhibit 8.1. |
| 24.1# | Power of Attorney of certain officers and directors of the Sponsor, included on the signature page of the original filing of this Registration Statement. |
| 99.1† | Prime Broker Agreement, dated as of May 22, 2024, by and among the Trust, the Sponsor and the Prime Broker, on behalf of itself, the Custodian and Coinbase Credit. |
| 99.2# | Fund Administration and Accounting Agreement, dated February 26, 2024, between the Trust and the Administrator (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 on Form 8-K filed by the Registrant on February 27, 2024). |
| 99.3†# | Distribution and Marketing Agreement, dated October 3, 2022, between the Sponsor and Grayscale Securities, LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 on Form 8-K filed by the Registrant on October 3, 2022). |
| 99.4†# | Index License Agreement, dated February 1, 2022, between the Sponsor and the Index Provider (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by the Registrant on February 4, 2022). |
| 99.5†# | Amendment No. 1 to the Index License Agreement, dated June 20, 2023, between the Sponsor and the Index Provider (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by the Registrant on June 23, 2023). |
| 99.6 | Transfer Agency and Service Agreement, dated May 8, 2024, between the Trust and the Transfer Agent (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by the Registrant on May 15, 2024). |

| Exhibit Number | Exhibit Description |
|---|---|
| 99.7 | Co-Transfer Agency Agreement, dated May 22, 2024, between the Sponsor and Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company. |
| 107# | Filing Fee Table. |

† Portions of this exhibit (indicated by asterisks) have been omitted as the Registrant has determined that (i) the omitted information is not material and (ii) the omitted information is of the type that the Registrant treats as private or confidential.

# Previously filed.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of New York, New York, on May 30, 2024.

GRAYSCALE INVESTMENTS, LLC
as Sponsor of the Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH)

By: /s/ Edward McGee
Name: Edward McGee
Title: Member of the Board of Directors and Chief Financial Officer

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

| Signature | Title | Date |
|---|---|---|
| # | Chairman of the Board of Directors | May 30, 2024 |
| Mark Shifke | | |
| /s/ Edward McGee | Member of the Board of Directors and Chief Financial Officer (principal executive, principal financial and principal accounting officer) | May 30, 2024 |
| Edward McGee | | |
| # | Member of the Board of Directors | May 30, 2024 |
| Matthew Kummell | | |

* The Registrant is a trust and the persons are signing in their capacities as officers or directors of Grayscale Investments, LLC, the Sponsor of the Registrant.

Exhibit 4.6

# AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT

AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT (this "Agreement") dated as of [•] among: (i) [•], a company organized under the laws of [•] (the "Authorized Participant"); (ii) Grayscale Investments, LLC, except as otherwise specified herein, acting in its capacity as sponsor (the "Sponsor") of each trust listed on Schedule V attached hereto, as the same may be amended from time to time by the Sponsor (each, the applicable "Trust" when referred to throughout the remainder of this Agreement), created under Delaware law pursuant to its applicable declaration of trust and trust agreement listed on Schedule V attached hereto between the Delaware Trust Company acting in its capacity as Trustee (the "Trustee") and the Sponsor (each, the applicable "Trust Agreement" when referred to throughout the remainder of this Agreement); and (iii) subject to its acceptance hereof, The Bank of New York Mellon, a New York Banking corporation acting in its capacity as transfer agent (the "Transfer Agent") of the Trust.

## RECITALS

A. Pursuant to the provisions of the Trust Agreement, the Trust may from time to time issue or redeem equity securities representing common units of fractional undivided beneficial interest in the profits, losses, distributions, capital and assets of, and ownership of, the Trust ("Shares"), in each case only in aggregate amounts of 10,000 Shares (such block of 10,000 shares, a "Basket"), and integral multiples thereof, and only in transactions with a party who, at the time of the transaction, shall have signed and entered into an effective Authorized Participant Agreement with the Trust.

B. [•] has requested to become an "Authorized Participant" with respect to the Trust (as such term is defined in the Trust Agreement), and the Sponsor and the Distributor (as such term is defined in the Trust Agreement) have agreed to such request. Nothing in this Agreement shall obligate the Authorized Participant to create or redeem one or more Baskets of Shares or to sell or offer to sell Shares.

C. The parties hereto acknowledge and agree that, at present, the Trust may only create and redeem Shares pursuant to Cash Orders (as defined herein). Unless and until NYSE Arca (as defined herein) shall have obtained necessary regulatory approval from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") to amend its listing rules to permit the Trust to create and redeem Shares pursuant to In-Kind Orders (as defined herein) (the "In-Kind Regulatory Approval"), the procedures described herein under Section 8, and any other references to In-Kind Orders, shall not be operative, and Shares shall only be created and redeemed by the Trust in a manner that is consistent with the following concepts:

1. The Authorized Participant will deliver only cash to create Shares and will receive only cash when redeeming Shares;
2. The Authorized Participants will not directly or indirectly purchase, hold, deliver, or receive Digital Assets as part of the creation or redemption process or otherwise direct the Trust or a third party with respect to purchasing, holding, delivering, or receiving Digital Assets as part of the creation or redemption process;

3. The Trust will create Shares by receiving Digital Assets from a third party that is not the Authorized Participant, and the Sponsor (and in any event not the Authorized Participant) is responsible for selecting the third party to deliver the Digital Assets;

4. The third party will not be acting as an agent of the Authorized Participant with respect to the delivery of the Digital Assets to the Trust or acting at the direction of the Authorized Participant with respect to the delivery of the Digital Asset to the Trust;

5. The Trust will redeem Shares by delivering Digital Assets to a third party that is not the Authorized Participant, and the Sponsor (and in any event not the Authorized Participant) is responsible for selecting the third party to receive the Digital Assets; and

6. The third party will not be acting as an agent of the Authorized Participant with respect to the receipt of the Digital Assets from the Trust or acting at the direction of the Authorized Participant with respect to the receipt of the Digital Asset from the Trust.

D. Upon the In-Kind Regulatory Approval (and not before such time), notice of which shall be provided by the Sponsor to the Authorized Participant, the Authorized Participant may designate others, including affiliates or its agents (each, an "AP Designee" and collectively, "AP Designees"), to perform certain functions in this Agreement on behalf of the Authorized Participant, such as transferring, delivering and/or receiving Digital Assets. To the extent In-Kind Regulatory Approval is obtained and the Authorized Participant is under an obligation to transfer, deliver or receive Digital Assets under this Agreement (including any schedule or attachment hereto) or makes any representation, warranty or covenant related to such obligation, that obligation may be performed by, and that representation, warranty or covenant may be made by, its AP Designee, not the Authorized Participant, provided that for the avoidance of doubt, the Authorized Participant shall be fully liable for any failure of any AP Designee to perform such obligation or make such representation, warranty or covenant.

E. The Sponsor may designate Grayscale Securities, LLC or any other party, including affiliates or its agents, which may include the Trust (such party, the "Sponsor Agent"), to perform certain functions in this Agreement, such as transferring, delivering and/or receiving cash in connection with the creation or redemption of Shares. Where the creation or redemption of Shares requires the transfer, delivery or receipt of cash under this Agreement (including any schedule or attachment hereto), that obligation shall be performed by, and any applicable representation, warranty or covenant shall be made by, the Sponsor Agent, not the Sponsor, provided that for the avoidance of doubt, (i) any such action taken by the Sponsor or any Sponsor Agent shall be taken solely to facilitate Cash Orders and, except in the case of Alternate Cash Orders (as defined herein), shall not be actions taken on behalf of the Trust, and (ii) the Trust shall have no responsibility or liability for any such action (or any failure to take such action) or for such representation, warranty or covenant.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties, hereto, intending to be legally bound, agree as follows:

Section 1. Procedures. The Authorized Participant will create or redeem Baskets of Shares of the Trust in compliance with procedures provided in the Trust Agreement as supplemented by the Creation and Redemption Procedures attached to this Agreement as Schedule I (such procedures, as the same may be amended or modified from time to time with notice to the Authorized Participant and in compliance with the provisions hereof and thereof, the "Procedures"), using either (i) the form attached thereto as Annex I-A or in such other formats as may be agreed to by the parties (in the case of an order to create one or more Baskets, a "Creation Order", in the case of an order to redeem one or more Baskets, a "Redemption Order" and, collectively, "Orders") or (ii) through the Transfer Agent's electronic order entry system, as such may be made available and constituted from time to time, the use of which shall be subject to the terms and conditions attached thereto as Annex I-B. All Orders shall be placed and executed in accordance with the Trust Agreement as supplemented by the Procedures. Capitalized terms used in this Agreement and not otherwise defined herein have the meaning ascribed to them in the Procedures or, if not defined in the Procedures, the Standard Terms for this Agreement, which are attached hereto as Schedule II (the "Standard Terms").

Section 2. Incorporation of Procedures and Standard Terms. The Procedures and the Standard Terms are hereby incorporated by reference into, and made a part of, this Agreement.

Section 3. Conflicts Rules. In case of any inconsistency between the provisions of this Agreement and the Trust Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall control. In case of inconsistency between the Standard Terms and any other provision of this Agreement, the latter will control. To the extent there is a conflict between this Agreement, the Procedures or the Standard Terms and the Prospectus (as defined in the Standard Terms), the Prospectus shall control.

Section 4. Authorized Representatives. Pursuant to Section 2.01 of the Standard Terms, attached hereto as Schedule III is a certificate listing the Authorized Representatives of the Authorized Participant.

Section 5. Covenants of the Authorized Participant. The Authorized Participant covenants and agrees:

(a) The Authorized Participant is registered as a broker-dealer under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") and is a member in good standing of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA"). The Authorized Participant will maintain such registration and membership in good standing and any other registration, qualification or membership in good standing applicable to it or, if applicable, exempt status, in full force and effect throughout the term of this Agreement. The Authorized Participant will comply with all applicable United States federal laws, the laws of the states or other jurisdictions concerned, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, and with the Constitution, By-Laws and Conduct Rules of FINRA and shall not offer or sell Shares in any state or jurisdiction where they may not lawfully be offered and/or sold.

(b) Subject to In-Kind Regulatory Approval, if the Authorized Participant will participate in In-Kind Orders, the Authorized Participant hereby represents, covenants and warrants that at such time, it or an AP Designee will maintain a digital wallet address that is previously known to the Custodian as belonging to the Authorized Participant or its AP Designee (an "Authorized Participant Self-Administered Account"). If there is any change in the foregoing, the Authorized Participant shall give immediate notice to the Sponsor of such event.

(c) The Authorized Participant hereby acknowledges and agrees that some activities on its or any AP Designee's part, depending on the circumstances and under certain possible interpretations of applicable law, could be interpreted as resulting in its being deemed a Money Services Business, as such term is defined by the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, a bureau of the United States Department of the Treasury responsible for the federal regulation of Money Services Businesses, including certain virtual currency market participants. The Authorized Participant agrees to consult its own counsel in connection with entering into this Agreement and transacting in Digital Assets to determine if it must register with the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network as a Money Services Business.

(d) Each of the Authorized Participant and any AP Designee has policies and procedures reasonably designed to comply with the money laundering and related provisions of the Currency and Foreign Transactions Reporting Act of 1970 (also known as the "Bank Secrecy Act"), the United States Money Laundering Control Act of 1986, and the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 (the "USA PATRIOT Act"), and the regulations promulgated under each, in each case, as amended from time to time (all such laws and regulations collectively, "AML Laws").

(e) None of the Authorized Participant, any AP Designee, nor any of their subsidiaries nor any of their respective directors, officers, employees or agents is an individual or entity that is, or is owned or controlled by one or more individuals or entities that are, (i) the subject of any sanctions administered or enforced by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control, the U.S. Department of State, the United Nations Security Council, the European Union or His Majesty's Treasury (collectively, "Sanctions"), or (ii) located, organized or resident in a country or territory that is the subject of comprehensive Sanctions (including, as of the date of this Agreement and without limitation, the so-called Donetsk People's Republic, so-called Luhansk People's Republic or any other Covered Region of Ukraine identified pursuant to Executive Order 14065, and the non-government controlled areas of the Zaporizhzhia and Kherson Regions of Ukraine, the Crimea region, Cuba, Iran, North Korea and Syria).

Each of the Authorized Participant and the AP Designees shall act in a manner consistent with all applicable AML Laws, the United States Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 as amended, the UK Bribery Act 2010 and other applicable anti-corruption laws (the "Anti-Corruption Laws") and Sanctions. In furtherance of such efforts, the Authorized Participant and its AP Designees shall not mention the Trust, or send any materials related to the Trust, to any prospective investor, or accept any contribution or payment in connection with an investment in the Trust (including, without limitation, any Creation and Redemption transactions with the Trust) by any prospective investor, unless the Authorized Participant or any AP Designee, as applicable, has no knowledge or reason to believe that: (i) any cash or property or, subject to In-Kind Regulatory Approval, Digital Assets, that would be paid to the Authorized Participant in connection with an investment

in the Trust, would be derived from, or related to, any activity that would violate, or cause the Authorized Participant, any of its AP Designees (as applicable), the Trust, the Sponsor or the Sponsor Agent to be in violation of, any United States law or any other applicable law, including AML Laws, Anti-Corruption Laws, Sanctions or otherwise; or (ii) any contribution or payment to the Authorized Participant in connection with an investment in the Trust by such prospective investor would cause the Authorized Participant, any of its AP Designees (as applicable), the Trust, the Sponsor or the Sponsor Agent to be in violation of AML Laws, Anti-Corruption Laws or Sanctions.

(f) The Authorized Participant hereby represents, covenants and warrants that it has all requisite authority, under applicable federal or state law, the rules and regulations of any regulatory or self-regulatory organization to which it is subject and its certificate of incorporation, formation or limited liability company operating agreement or other organizational document to enter into this Agreement and to discharge the duties and obligations apportioned to it in accordance with the terms hereof.

(g) The Authorized Participant hereby represents, covenants and warrants that it and its AP Designees will maintain such registration and membership in good standing and any other registration, qualification or membership in good standing applicable to it or its AP Designees or, if applicable, exempt status, in full force and effect throughout the term of this Agreement. The Authorized Participant and the AP Designees will comply with all applicable United States federal laws, the laws of the states or other jurisdictions concerned, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

(h) The Authorized Participant hereby represents, covenants and warrants that, subject to In-Kind Regulatory Approval, any Authorized Participant Self-Administered Accounts that it or its AP Designee, if applicable, maintains (i) will be dedicated exclusively for Creation and Redemption transactions with the Trust and (ii) will be active at the time of a Creation or Redemption transaction with the Trust.

(i) The Authorized Participant hereby represents, covenants and warrants that, subject to In-Kind Regulatory Approval, the aforementioned Authorized Participant Self-Administered Accounts will be managed and maintained by the Authorized Participant or the AP Designee on behalf of the Authorized Participant to facilitate and fulfill the duties dedicated for the Creation and Redemption of Basket Shares with the Trust.

(j) The Authorized Participant hereby represents, covenants and warrants that there are no actions, grievances, proceedings (including, without limitation, arbitration proceedings), orders, inquiries or claims pending, or to the Authorized Participant's knowledge, threatened against or affecting it or any of its or its AP Designee's employees (in his or her capacity as such) by the SEC, FINRA or any other regulatory or self-regulatory organization that would affect the Authorized Participant's ability to fulfill its obligations hereunder.

(k) The Authorized Participant hereby covenants and agrees that it shall promptly notify the Sponsor in the event that it or its AP Designee is not in compliance with any of the representations and warranties set forth in clauses (a) through (j) above.

Section 6. [Reserved]

Section 7. Notices. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Agreement, all notices required or permitted to be given pursuant to this Agreement shall be given in writing and delivered by (i) personal delivery, (ii) postage prepaid registered or certified United States first class mail, return receipt requested, (iii) overnight traceable mail (e.g., Federal Express), (iv) facsimile, (v) electronic mail (e-mail) or (vi) similar means of same day delivery. Any notice or other communication required by this Agreement shall be deemed to be duly received (i) if via personal delivery, at the time when it was delivered; (ii) if via postage prepaid registered or certified United States first class mail, return receipt requested or overnight traceable mail (e.g., Federal Express), at the time when that mail is delivered; (iii) if via facsimile, at the time when the transmission is received by a responsible employee of the recipient in legible form (it being agreed that the burden of proving receipt will be on the sender and will not be met by a transmission report generated by the sender's facsimile machine); (iv) if via electronic mail (e-mail), at the time that electronic message is received; except that any notice or communication which is received, or delivery of which is attempted, after close of business on the date of receipt or attempted delivery or on a day which is not a day on which commercial banks are open for business in the place where that notice or other communication is to be given shall be treated as given at the opening of business on the next following day which is such a day or (v) via similar means of same day delivery, on the date actually sent or on the first Business Day after such notice is sent via reputable overnight courier. Unless otherwise notified in writing, all notices to the Transfer Agent, Sponsor and Authorized Participant shall be directed to the address, e-mail address or facsimile number indicated below:

(i) If to the Transfer Agent:

The Bank of New York Mellon
Attn: ETF Services
240 Greenwich St.
New York, NY 10286
Telephone: (212) 635-6314
E-Mail: ETFservicesGrayscale@bnymellon.com

(ii) If to the Sponsor:

Grayscale Investments, LLC
Attn: Michael Sonnenshein
260 Harbor Drive
Stamford, CT 06902
Telephone: (212) 668-3911
E-Mail: ETFs@grayscale.com

(iii) If to the Authorized Participant:

[ ]
[ ]
[ ]
Telephone: [ ]
E-mail: [ ]

or such other address as any of the parties hereto shall have communicated in writing to the remaining parties in compliance with the provisions hereof.

Section 8. In-Kind Orders. Subject to In-Kind Regulatory Approval, the following procedures apply to creations or redemptions in which the Authorized Participant or its AP Designees will deliver Digital Asset from, or receive Digital Asset in, an Authorized Participant Self-Administered Account ("In-Kind Orders"). EACH OF THE PARTIES HERETO ACKNOWLEDGES AND AGREES THAT DIGITAL ASSET TRANSFERS MAY BE IRREVERSIBLE.

(a) The Authorized Participant shall provide the Sponsor or its delegates with one or more Authorized Participant Self-Administered Accounts maintained by the Authorized Participant or its AP Designee. If the Authorized Participant becomes unable to continue to provide the Sponsor with at least one Authorized Participant Self-Administered Account, the Authorized Participant shall give immediate notice to the Sponsor of such event.

(b) Any Digital Assets to be transferred in connection with any Creation Order or Redemption Order shall be transferred between an Authorized Participant Self-Administered Account and the Digital Asset Account (as defined in the Procedures) in accordance with the Procedures for Authorized Participants participating in In-Kind Orders.

(c) The Authorized Participant acknowledges and agrees that (i) it or its AP Designee has the computer hardware, software and technological knowhow required to transact in Digital Assets; and (ii) it or its AP Designee is responsible for confirming the accuracy of any Account (as defined below) it is provided or that it provides in connection with any Creation Order or Redemption Order pursuant to this Agreement.

(d) None of the Authorized Participant(s) or any AP Designee will receive fees, commissions or other form of compensation or inducement of any kind from either the Sponsor or the Trust in connection with any Order.

(e) To the extent that the Authorized Participant (or its AP Designee) or the Sponsor (or its Sponsor Agent) or Custodian provide information in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby, such party is solely responsible for any loss that arises out of another party's actions in strict conformity with such information.

Section 9. In-Cash Orders. The following procedures apply to creations or redemptions other than In-Kind Orders ("Cash Orders"). EACH OF THE PARTIES HERETO ACKNOWLEDGES AND AGREES THAT DIGITAL ASSET TRANSFERS MAY BE IRREVERSIBLE.

(a) The Authorized Participant shall provide the Transfer Agent or its delegates with one or more bank accounts from which or into which funds may be deposited in connection with Orders.

(b) The Sponsor or its delegates shall identify to the Custodian one or more Digital Asset wallet addresses from a Digital Asset wallet software provider or with a third-party provider of Digital Asset wallets belonging to liquidity providers that (i) will be dedicated exclusively for Creation and Redemption transactions with the Trust, (ii) is previously known to the Custodian (or the Sponsor or its delegates) and (iii) is currently active at the time of a Creation or Redemption transaction with the Trust (each, a "Liquidity Provider Account" and, together with each Digital Asset Account and Authorized Participant Self-Administered Account, an "Account"). If the Sponsor is unable to identify at least one Liquidity Provider Account, the Sponsor shall promptly notify the Authorized Participant and Cash Orders shall not be accepted until such time as at least one Liquidity Provider Account is identified to the Custodian.

(c) Any Digital Assets to be transferred in connection with any Creation Order or Redemption Order shall be transferred between a Liquidity Provider Account and the Digital Asset Account in accordance with the Procedures for Cash Orders.

(d) The Sponsor acknowledges and agrees that (i) the relevant liquidity provider has the computer hardware, software and technological knowhow required to transact in Digital Assets; and (ii) it is responsible for confirming the accuracy of all Accounts it is provided and that it or the relevant liquidity provider provides in connection with any Creation Order or Redemption Order pursuant to this Agreement.

(e) The Authorized Participants will receive no fees, commissions or other form of compensation or inducement of any kind from either the Sponsor or the Trust in connection with Creation Orders and Redemption Orders.

(f) To the extent that the Authorized Participant, Sponsor or Custodian provide information in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby, such party is solely responsible for any loss that arises out of another party's actions in strict conformity with such information.

(g) (1) In the case of any Cash Order other than an Alternate Cash Order, each of the parties hereto hereby acknowledges and agrees that the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent, in taking any action contemplated herein to facilitate any transaction in which cash is delivered to or received by any Person, including in exchange for Digital Asset, whether by the Authorized Participant or a liquidity provider, as applicable, or as consideration for any agreement to deliver (or cause to be delivered) Digital Asset to the Trust or any other Person (each, a "Cash Transaction"), are not acting, and are not authorized to act, for or on behalf of the Trust. For the avoidance of doubt, neither the Trust nor any of its agents or representatives (in their capacities as such) shall be party to, or have any direct or indirect liability for, any such Cash Transaction, any actions of (or failures to act by) the Sponsor, the Transfer Agent, the Authorized Participant or any liquidity provider in connection with any such Cash Transaction, or any claims, losses, judgments, liabilities or expenses sustained in connection with any such Cash Transaction; provided that, without limiting the foregoing, the Trust agrees to (i) accept Digital Asset from a Liquidity Provider Account in connection with the issuance of Shares to the Authorized Participant or (ii) deliver Digital Asset to a Liquidity Provider Account in connection with the delivery of Shares to the Trust by the Authorized Participant, in each case, pursuant to the procedures applicable to Cash Orders (other than Alternate Cash Orders).

(2) In the case of any Alternate Cash Order, the Sponsor and the Authorized Participant hereby agree, as a condition to the participation in the consummation of any such Alternate Cash Order, (A) to fully (and without exception) exculpate the Trust with respect to, and to irrevocably waive any and all claims against the Trust or the Trust Estate (as defined in the Trust Agreement) arising from or in connection with, such Alternate Cash Order and (B) to fully indemnify and hold the Trust harmless against (x) any breach by such person of any provision of this Agreement; (y) any failure on the part of such person to perform any of its obligations set forth in this Agreement; and (z) any failure by such person to comply with applicable laws, including, without limitation, rules and regulations of any regulatory or self-regulatory organizations in relation to its role under this Agreement. Without limiting the foregoing, the Trust agrees to (i) (x) accept cash from the Authorized Participant and deliver cash to the applicable liquidity provider and (y) accept Digital Asset from a Liquidity Provider Account, in each case of this clause (i), in connection with the issuance of Shares to the Authorized Participant or (ii) (x) accept cash from the applicable liquidity provider and deliver cash to the Authorized Participant and (y) deliver Digital Asset to a Liquidity Provider Account, in each case of this clause (ii), in connection with the delivery of Shares to the Trust by the Authorized Participant for redemption, and in each case of clause (i) or (ii), pursuant to the procedures applicable to Alternate Cash Orders.

Section 10. Effectiveness and Amendment. This Agreement shall become effective upon execution and delivery by each of the parties hereto. This Agreement, along with any other agreement or instrument delivered pursuant to this Agreement, supersedes any prior agreement between or among the parties concerning the matters governed hereby. This Agreement (including the Standard Terms) may not be amended without the written consent of all parties. Notwithstanding the foregoing, however, the Procedures may be amended by the Transfer Agent and the Sponsor from time to time without the consent of the Authorized Participant by the following procedure: the Transfer Agent or the Sponsor will send a copy of the amendment to the Authorized Participant in compliance with the notice provisions of this Agreement; if the Authorized Participant does not object in writing to the amendment within fifteen (15) Business Days after receipt of the proposed amendment, the amendment will become part of this Agreement in accordance with its terms; provided, however, that any amendments to the Procedures shall not apply retroactively to Orders submitted prior to the effectiveness of such amended Procedures as set forth herein. Titles and section headings in this Agreement (and in the Standard Terms and the Procedures) are included solely for convenient reference and are not a part of this Agreement.

Section 11. Termination. This Agreement may be terminated at any time by any party upon sixty (60) days prior written notice delivered in the manner prescribed in Section 7 hereof to the other parties and may be terminated earlier by any party hereto at any time on the event of a material breach by any other party hereto of any provision of this Agreement (including, without limitation, the Standard Terms). For the avoidance of doubt, if the Sponsor determines that the Authorized Participant or its AP Designee has breached the provisions of Sections 5(a) and 5(d) through 5(f), the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent have the authority to terminate the Authorized Participant’s role in this Agreement.

Section 12. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York (regardless of the laws that might otherwise govern under applicable New York conflict of laws principles) as to all matters, including matters of validity, construction, effect, performance and remedies. Each party hereto irrevocably consents to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of New York and of any federal court located in the Borough of Manhattan in such State in connection with any action, suit or other proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement or any action taken or omitted hereunder, and waives any claim of forum non conveniens and any objections as to laying of venue. Each party further waives personal service of any summons, complaint or other process and agrees that service thereof may be made by certified or registered mail directed to such party at such party's address for purposes of notices hereunder. EACH PARTY HERETO IRREVOCABLY WAIVES ANY AND ALL RIGHTS TO TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY LEGAL PROCEEDING ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT.

Section 13. Assignment. Except as otherwise expressly set forth herein, no party to this Agreement shall assign any rights, or delegate the performance of any obligations, arising hereunder without the prior written consent of the other parties hereto, which shall not be unreasonably withheld, provided that any entity into which a party hereto may be merged or converted, or with which it may be consolidated, or any entity resulting from any merger, consolidation or conversion to which a party hereunder shall be a party, shall be the successor of such party hereunder without further action. The party resulting from any such merger, conversion, consolidation or succession shall promptly notify the other parties hereto of the change. Any purported assignment or delegation in violation of these provisions shall be null and void. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any successor Transfer Agent appointed in compliance with the Trust Agreement shall automatically become a party hereto and shall assume all the obligations of, and be entitled to all the rights and remedies of, the Transfer Agent hereunder with respect to the Trust.

Section 14. No Strict Construction. The language used in this Agreement will be deemed to be the language chosen by the parties to express their mutual intent, and no rule of strict construction will be applied against any party.

Section 15. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be an original and all of which shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

Section 16. Severability. Any term or provision of this Agreement that is held by a court of competent jurisdiction or any governmental or regulatory (including stock exchange) body, agency, court, commission, instrumentality, authority or other legislative, executive or judicial entity (each, a "Governmental Entity") to be invalid, void or unenforceable in any situation in any jurisdiction will not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining terms and provisions of this Agreement or the validity or enforceability of the offending term or provision in any other situation or in any other jurisdiction. If the final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction or other Governmental Entity declares that any term or provision of this Agreement is invalid, void or unenforceable, the parties hereto will negotiate in good faith to modify this Agreement so as to effect the original intent of the parties as closely as possible.

Section 17. Waiver of Compliance. Any failure of any of the parties hereto to comply with any obligation, covenant, agreement or condition herein may be waived by the party entitled to the benefits thereof by a written instrument signed by the party granting such waiver, provided, however, that any such written waiver, or the failure to insist upon strict compliance with any obligation, covenant, agreement or condition herein, shall not operate as a waiver of, or give rise to any claim of estoppel with respect to, any subsequent or other failure hereunder.

Section 18. Survival of Certain Representations and Obligations. The respective indemnities, agreements, representations, warranties and other statements of the Trust or the Sponsor and the Authorized Participant set forth in, or made pursuant, to this Agreement will remain in full force and effect, regardless of any investigation, or statement as to the results thereof, made by or on behalf of the Authorized Participant, the Trust, the Sponsor or any of their respective representatives, officers or directors or any controlling person, and will survive delivery of and payment for the Securities. If this Agreement is terminated pursuant to Section 11, the respective obligations of the Trust, the Sponsor and the Authorized Participant pursuant to Article 6 of the Standard Terms shall remain in effect, and if any Shares have been purchased hereunder, the representations and warranties in Section 5 hereof and Article 5 of the Standard Terms shall also remain in effect.

[Signatures Follow on Next Page]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Authorized Participant Agreement as of the date set forth above.

[•], as Authorized Participant

By: _____
Name:
Title:

GRAYSCALE INVESTMENTS, LLC, as Sponsor

By: _____
Name:
Title:

Accepted by: THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, as Transfer Agent

By: _____
Name:
Title:

SCHEDULE I - CREATION AND REDEMPTION PROCEDURES

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CREATION AND REDEMPTION PROCEDURES

CREATION AND REDEMPTION PROCEDURES FOR AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT AGREEMENTS (the "Procedures") adopted by the Sponsor, Transfer Agent, Authorized Participant and Marketing Agent (each as defined below) as of [•].

ARTICLE I

DEFINITIONS AND OTHER PROVISIONS OF GENERAL APPLICATION

Section 1.01. Definitions. For purposes of these Procedures, and the Standard Terms incorporated by reference into the Authorized Participant Agreement to which these Procedures are attached, unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms will have the following meanings:

"Actual Execution Cash Order" shall mean a Cash Order pursuant to which any price differential between (x) the Total Basket NAV on the Trade Date and (y) the price realized in acquiring or disposing of the corresponding Total Basket Amount, as the case may be, will be borne solely by the Authorized Participant.

"Affiliate" shall have the meaning given to it by Rule 501(b) under the Securities Act.

"Alternate Cash Order" shall mean a Cash Order pursuant to the alternative procedures for creation and redemption of Shares set forth in Section 13.12 of the Trust Agreement, as may be amended or supplemented from time to time.

"Alternate Cash Account" shall mean the account maintained by the Transfer Agent in the name of the Trust for purposes of (i) receiving cash from Authorized Participants, and distributing cash to liquidity providers, in connection with Creations pursuant to Alternate Cash Orders and (ii) receiving cash from liquidity providers, and distributing cash to Authorized Participants, in connection with Redemptions pursuant to Alternate Cash Orders.

"AP Designee" shall mean the party that acts as a designee, including affiliates or agents of the Authorized Participant in the case of In-Kind Orders.

"AP Indemnified Party" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Sections 6.01(a) of the Standard Terms.

"Authorized Participant" shall have the meaning ascribed to the term in the introductory paragraph of the Authorized Participant Agreement.

"Authorized Participant Agreement" shall mean each Authorized Participant Agreement (including the Schedules thereto) among the Authorized Participant, the Transfer Agent and the Sponsor authorizing the Authorized Participant to submit Creation Orders and Redemption Orders.

"Authorized Participant Client" shall mean any party on whose behalf the Authorized Participant acts in connection with an Order (whether a customer or otherwise).

"Authorized Participant Self-Administered Account" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 5(b) of the Authorized Participant Agreement.

"Authorized Representative" shall mean, with respect to an Authorized Participant, each individual who, pursuant to the provisions of the Authorized Participant Agreement, has the power and authority to act on behalf of the Authorized Participant in connection with the placement of Creation Orders or Redemption Orders and is in possession of the personal identification number (PIN) assigned by the Transfer Agent for use in any communications regarding Purchase or Redemption Orders on behalf of such Authorized Participant.

"Basket" shall have the meaning ascribed to the term in the recitals to the Authorized Participant Agreement.

"Basket Amount" shall mean, on any Trade Date, the number of Digital Assets required as of such Trade Date for each Basket, as determined by dividing (x) the number of Digital Assets owned by the Trust at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on such Trade Date, after deducting the number of Digital Assets representing the U.S. dollar value of accrued but unpaid fees and expenses of the Trust (in the case of any such fee and expenses other than the Sponsor's Fee, converted using the Index Price at such time, and carried to the eighth decimal place), by (y) the number of Shares outstanding at such time (with the quotient so obtained calculated to one one-hundred-millionth of one Digital Asset (i.e., carried to the eighth decimal place)), and multiplying such quotient by 10,000.

"Basket NAV" shall mean the U.S. dollar value of a Basket of Shares calculated by multiplying the Basket Amount by the Index Price as of the Trade Date.

"Blockchain" or "Digital Asset Blockchain" shall mean the public transaction ledger of the Digital Asset Network on which transactions in Digital Asset are recorded.

"Business Day" shall mean each day the Shares trade on NYSE Arca.

"Capped Amount" shall mean a number of Shares that may be created pursuant to Cash Orders on any specified day.

"Cash Account" shall mean the account maintained by the Transfer Agent in the name of a Sponsor Agent for purposes of receiving cash from, and distributing cash to, Authorized Participants in connection with Creations and Redemptions pursuant to Cash Orders (other than Alternate Cash Orders). For the avoidance of doubt, the Trust shall have no interest (beneficial, equitable or otherwise) in the Cash Account or any cash held therein.

"Cash Orders" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 9 of the Authorized Participant Agreement.

"Cash Order Delivery Amount" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3.02(d)(i).

"Collateral Amount" shall mean 115% of the U.S. dollar value of the Total Basket Amount determined using the Index Price on the Business Day prior to the Creation Settlement Date, in the case of in-kind Creations, or the Business Day prior to the Redemption Settlement Date, in the case of in-kind or in-cash Redemptions. The Collateral Amount may be changed by the Sponsor in its sole discretion at any time.

"Creation" shall mean the process that begins when an Authorized Participant first indicates to the Transfer Agent its intention to acquire one or more Baskets pursuant to these Procedures and concludes with the issuance by the Trust and Delivery to such Authorized Participant of the corresponding number of Shares.

"Creation and Redemption Line" shall mean a telephone number designated as such by the Transfer Agent and specified in Annex I-A of the Procedures or otherwise communicated to each Authorized Participant in compliance with the notice provisions of the respective Authorized Participant Agreement.

"Creation Order" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 1 of the Authorized Participant Agreement.

"Creation Settlement Date" shall mean the first or second Business Day following the Trade Date as specified in the applicable Creation Order, subject to the exceptions described in the Procedures.

"Custodial Services" shall mean the Custodian's services that (i) allow Digital Assets to be deposited from a public blockchain address to the Trust's Digital Asset Account and (ii) allow the Trust and the Sponsor to withdraw Digital Asset from the Trust's Digital Asset Account to a public blockchain address the Trust or the Sponsor controls pursuant to instructions the Trust or the Sponsor provides to the Custodian.

"Custodian" shall mean Coinbase Custody Trust Company, LLC, or any other Person from time to time engaged to provide custodian services or related services to the Trust pursuant to authority delegated by the Sponsor.

"Custody Agreement" or "Custody Agreements" shall mean the Custodial Services Agreement by and between the Trust and the Sponsor and Custodian that governs the Trust's and the Sponsor's use of the Custodial Services provided by the Custodian as a fiduciary with respect to the Trust's assets.

"Deliver" shall mean the act of delivering Digital Assets, Cash or Shares, as applicable.

"Delivery" shall mean a delivery of Digital Assets, Cash or Shares, as applicable.

"Depositor" shall mean any Authorized Participant, any AP Designee or any liquidity provider that deposits Digital Assets with the Custodian.

"Deposit Property" shall mean Digital Assets that are, in compliance with the provisions of the Trust Agreement and these Procedures, transferred by the Depositor to the Custodian to effectuate Orders.

"Digital Asset" shall mean the applicable digital asset underlying the Shares of the applicable Trust on Schedule V hereto.

"Digital Asset Account" shall mean a segregated custody account controlled and secured by the Custodian to store private keys, which allow for the transfer of ownership or control of the Trust's Digital Assets on the Trust's behalf. For purposes of the Trust Agreement, the Digital Asset Account shall mean the Digital Asset Account.

"Digital Asset Network" shall mean the online, end-user-to-end-user network hosting the public transaction ledger, known as the Blockchain, and the source code comprising the basis for the cryptographic and algorithmic protocols governing the digital asset network for the applicable Digital Asset.

"DTC" shall mean The Depository Trust Company, its nominees and their respective successors.

"DTC Participant" shall mean a direct participant in DTC.

"FINRA" shall mean the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

"In-Kind Orders" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 8 of the Authorized Participant Agreement.

"Index" shall mean the applicable index listed alongside the applicable Trust on Schedule V hereto.

"Index Price" shall mean the U.S. dollar value of a Digital Asset derived from the Digital Asset Exchanges that are reflected in the Index, calculated at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on each Business Day. For purposes of the Trust Agreement, the term Digital Asset Index Price shall mean the Index Price as defined herein.

"Index Provider" shall mean CoinDesk Indices, Inc., a Delaware corporation that publishes the Index.

"Marketing Agent" shall mean Foreside Fund Services, LLC.

"NYSE Arca" shall mean NYSE Arca, Inc.

"Order" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 1 of the Authorized Participant Agreement.

"Order Cutoff Time" shall mean (i) 3:59:59 p.m. (New York time) on any Business Day, in the case of In-Kind Orders, and (ii) 1:59:59 p.m. (New York time) on any Business Day, in the case of Cash Orders.

"Order Date" shall mean the Business Day on which an Order is accepted by the Marketing Agent.

"Person" shall mean any natural person, partnership, limited liability company, statutory trust, corporation, association, or other legal entity.

"Procedures" shall have the meaning ascribed to the term in the introductory paragraph of this Schedule I.

"Prospectus" or "Prospectuses" shall mean the current prospectus of the Trust included in its Registration Statement, as supplemented or amended from time to time.

"Redemption" shall mean the process that begins when an Authorized Participant first indicates to the Transfer Agent its intention to redeem one or more Baskets pursuant to these Procedures and concludes with the cancellation of a corresponding number of Shares Delivered by such Authorized Participant for cancellation.

"Redemption Order" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 1 of the Authorized Participant Agreement.

"Redemption Settlement Date" shall mean the second Business Day after the Trade Date, subject to the exceptions described in the Procedures.

"Registration Statement" shall mean the Trust's effective registration statement filed with the SEC, as the same may at any time and from time to time be amended or supplemented.

"Securities Act" shall mean the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

"Shares" shall have the meaning set forth in the recitals to the Authorized Participant Agreement.

"Sponsor" shall mean Grayscale Investments, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, in its capacity as the sponsor of the Trust under the Trust Agreement except as otherwise specified, and any successor thereto in compliance with the provisions thereof.

"Sponsor Agent" shall mean the Sponsor, or any other party that acts as a designee, including affiliates or agents of the Sponsor in the case of Cash Orders.

"Sponsor Indemnified Party" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 6.01(b) of the Standard Terms.

"Standard Terms" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in Section 1 of the Authorized Participant Agreement.

"Time of Creation" shall mean each time of acquisition by the Authorized Participant of a Basket from the Trust.

"Total Basket Amount" shall mean the Basket Amount multiplied by the number of Baskets being created or redeemed, specified in the applicable Creation Order or Redemption Order.

"Total Basket NAV" shall mean the Basket NAV multiplied by the number of Baskets being created or redeemed.

"Trade Date" shall mean the Business Day on which the Total Basket Amount is determined in accordance with the Procedures.

"Transaction Fee" shall mean a fee of $500.00 to be paid by the Authorized Participant to the Transfer Agent for each Creation Order or Redemption Order. The fee may be changed by the Transfer Agent with the prior written consent of the Sponsor.

"Transfer Agent" shall mean The Bank of New York Mellon, a New York corporation authorized to do banking business.

"Trustee" shall mean Delaware Trust Company, its successors and assigns, or any substitute therefor, acting not in its individual capacity but solely as trustee of the Trust as provided for in the Trust Agreement.

"Trust" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the introductory paragraph of the Authorized Participant Agreement.

"Trust Agreement" shall have the meanings ascribed to it in the introductory paragraph of the Authorized Participant Agreement.

"VAT" shall mean (a) any tax imposed pursuant to or in compliance with the Sixth Directive of the Council of the European Economic Communities (77/388/EEC) including, without limitation, in relation to the United Kingdom, value added tax imposed by the Value Added Tax Act 1994 and legislation and regulations supplemental thereto; and (b) any other tax of a similar nature, whether imposed in a member state of the European Union or elsewhere, in substitution for, or levied in addition to, such tax referred to in "(a)".

"Variable Fee" shall mean an amount in cash based on the Total Basket NAV, which shall be paid by the Authorized Participant in connection with Variable Fee Cash Orders. The amount may be changed by the Sponsor in its sole discretion at any time.

"Variable Fee Cash Order" shall mean a Cash Order pursuant to which any price difference between (x) the Total Basket NAV on the Trade Date and (y) the price realized in acquiring or disposing of the corresponding Total Basket Amount, as the case may be, will be borne solely by the applicable liquidity provider.

Section 1.02. Interpretation. In these Procedures:

Unless otherwise indicated, all references to Sections, clauses, paragraphs, schedules or exhibits, are to Sections, clauses, paragraphs, schedules or exhibits in or to these Procedures.

The words "hereof," "herein," "hereunder" and words of similar import shall refer to these Procedures as a whole, and not to any individual provision in which such words may appear.

A reference to any statute, law, decree, rule, regulation or other applicable norm shall be construed as a reference to such statute, law, decree, rule, regulation or other applicable norm as re-enacted, re-designated or amended from time to time.

A reference to any agreement, instrument or document shall be construed as a reference to such agreement, instrument or document as the same may have been amended from time to time in compliance with the provisions thereof.

Section 1.03. In-Kind Regulatory Approval.

As set forth in the recitals to the Authorized Participant Agreement, it is the current position of the SEC that the Trust shall only create and redeem Shares pursuant to Cash Orders. Unless and until NYSE Arca shall have obtained necessary regulatory approval from the SEC to amend its listing rules to permit the Trust to create and redeem Shares pursuant to In-Kind Orders, the procedures described herein with respect to In-Kind Orders (including without limitation Sections 2.01 and 3.01) shall not be operative.

## ARTICLE II CREATION PROCEDURES

Section 2.01. Creation of Shares Pursuant to In-Kind Orders. The Creation of Shares pursuant to In-Kind Orders shall take place only in compliance with the rules of this Section 2.01:

(a) Authorized Participants wishing to acquire from the Trust one or more Baskets shall place a Creation Order with the Transfer Agent no later than the Order Cutoff Time on any Business Day. Creation Orders received by the Transfer Agent on or after the Order Cutoff Time on any Business Day shall be considered rejected unless determined otherwise by the Sponsor in writing in its sole discretion.

(b) The Trade Date for the Creation of Shares pursuant to In-Kind Orders shall be the Order Date.

(c) For purposes of Section 2.01(a) above, a Creation Order shall be deemed received by the Transfer Agent only when either of the following has occurred no later than the Order Cutoff Time:

(i) Telephone Order – An Authorized Representative shall have placed a telephone call to the Creation and Redemption Line informing the Transfer Agent that the Authorized Participant wishes to place a Creation Order for a specified number of Baskets, received an Order Number from the Transfer Agent for insertion in the Creation Order and submitted a properly completed, irrevocable Creation Order in the form set out in Annex I-A to these Procedures executed by an Authorized Representative of such Authorized Participant via electronic mail message at the address specified in such Annex I-A, and such Creation Order shall have been received by the Transfer Agent within thirty (30) minutes following such phone call; or

(ii) Web-based Order – An Authorized Representative shall have accessed the Transfer Agent's online services (nexen.bnymellon.com) and submitted a properly completed, irrevocable Creation Order in the form set out in Annex I-A to these Procedures executed by an Authorized Representative of such Authorized Participant, via electronic mail message at the address specified in such Annex I-A.

(d) Creation Orders are accepted or rejected by the Marketing Agent. The Marketing Agent will accept or reject a Creation Order as soon as reasonably practicable following receipt of a properly completed Creation Order but no later than 4:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date.

(i) If a Creation Order is accepted, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant, via electronic mail message, as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 4:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date, a copy of the corresponding Creation Order endorsed "Accepted" by the Marketing Agent and indicating the Basket Amount that the Authorized Participant (or its AP Designee) shall Deliver to the Custodian in respect of each Basket being created. Prior to the transmission of the acceptance as specified above, a Creation Order for an In-Kind Order will only represent the Authorized Participant's firm unilateral offer to deposit (or cause its AP Designee to deposit) Digital Assets in exchange for a Delivery of Baskets and will have no binding effect upon the Trust, the Transfer Agent or any other party. Following the transmission of the acceptance as specified above, a Creation Order will be a binding agreement between the Trust and the Authorized Participant for the deposit of Digital Assets in exchange for the Creation of Baskets pursuant to the terms of the Creation Order and these Procedures. The Authorized Participant may submit an amended Creation Order changing the number of Baskets ordered no later than the Order Cutoff Time.

(ii) If a Creation Order is rejected, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant, via electronic mail message, as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 4:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date, a copy of the corresponding Creation Order endorsed "Declined" by the Marketing Agent. A Creation Order which is not properly completed will be deemed invalid and rejected by the Marketing Agent; the Authorized Participant may submit a corrected Creation Order no later than the Order Cutoff Time. If the Marketing Agent rejects a Creation Order pursuant to these Procedures or the Standard Terms, the Transfer Agent will promptly return to the Authorized Participant all consideration tendered by the Authorized Participant in respect of such rejected Creation Order.

(iii) Creation Orders not accepted or rejected by 4:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date shall be accepted or rejected on the same Business Day as soon as practicable.

(e) The Transfer Agent shall provide a written summary to the Sponsor of all accepted In-Kind Orders for Creation for such Order Date no later than 6:00 p.m. (New York time).

(f) Each Creation Order shall require the Authorized Participant, or any AP Designee acting on behalf of the Authorized Participant (as the case may be), to obtain Digital Asset equal to the Total Basket Amount.

(g) Except as provided in Section 2.01(i) below, each Creation Order shall settle on the Creation Settlement Date. In connection with settlement, by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Creation Settlement Date, or at such later date and time as the Transfer Agent and the Sponsor in their absolute discretion may agree in writing with the Authorized Participant (i) the Total Basket

Amount must be deposited by the Authorized Participant, or the AP Designee acting on behalf of the Authorized Participant (as the case may be), in the Trust's Digital Asset Account and (ii) the Authorized Participant shall have paid the Transfer Agent the Transaction Fee, if applicable, and all taxes, governmental charges and fees payable in connection with such deposit, the transfer of Digital Assets and the issuance and Delivery of Shares.

(h) On the Creation Settlement Date, or on such earlier date and time as the Transfer Agent in its absolute discretion may agree in writing with the Authorized Participant and the Sponsor, the Transfer Agent shall cause the Trust to issue the aggregate number of Shares corresponding to the Baskets ordered by the Authorized Participant and shall Deliver such Shares to the Authorized Participant, by credit to the account at DTC that the Authorized Participant shall have identified for such purpose in its Creation Order, no later than 6:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Creation Settlement Date; provided that, by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Creation Settlement Date the Transfer Agent is notified that the Total Basket Amount has been deposited in the Trust's Digital Asset Account in compliance with the provisions of Section 2.01(g) above.

(i) In the event that on the Creation Settlement Date, the Trust's Digital Asset Account shall not have been credited with the Total Basket Amount in compliance with the provisions of Section 2.01(g)(i) above, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant and the Sponsor via electronic mail message notice of such fact.

(i) The Transfer Agent and the Sponsor each agree not to treat such Creation Order as a failed trade or a failed settlement provided that as soon as practicable between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Creation Settlement Date, the Authorized Participant shall wire the Collateral Amount to the Cash Account.

(ii) If the Authorized Participant fails to deposit the Collateral Amount in the Cash Account as provided in Section 2.01(i)(i) or the Authorized Participant, or the AP Designee acting on behalf of the Authorized Participant (as the case may be), fails to deposit the Total Basket Amount in the Trust's Digital Asset Account by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Business Day following the Creation Settlement Date, then the Sponsor and Transfer Agent may (A) deem the relevant Creation Order as a failed trade and the Authorized Participant will be solely responsible for all damages, losses, costs and expenses incurred by the Trust, the Sponsor, any liquidity provider, the Transfer Agent or the Custodian related to the pending Creation Order or (B) complete such Creation Order by (1) applying the Collateral Amount to the purchase, for the account of the Authorized Participant, of Digital Assets constituting the Total Basket Amount and to the payment or reimbursement of any actual costs of the Sponsor in connection with otherwise completing the Creation Order and (2) delivering such Digital Assets to the Trust's Digital Asset Account in satisfaction of the Authorized Participant's delivery obligations under such Creation Order.

(iii) Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Authorized Participant has deposited the Collateral Amount in accordance with the requirements of Section 2.01(i)(i) but fails to deposit the Total Basket Amount by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Business Day following the Creation Settlement Date, the Transfer Agent and the Sponsor may nonetheless agree not to treat such Creation Order as a failed trade, provided that (i)

if the U.S. dollar value of the Total Basket Amount exceeds the Collateral Amount, as determined using the Index Price on the previous Business Day, then by 6:00 p.m. (New York time) on such Business Day, the Authorized Participant deposits in the Cash Account an additional amount in U.S. dollars such that the amount in the Cash Account is equal to 115% of the U.S. dollar value of the Total Basket Amount, as determined using the Index Price on the previous Business Day and (ii) the Authorized Participant, or the AP Designee acting on behalf of the Authorized Participant (as the case may be), deposits the Total Basket Amount in the Trust's Digital Asset Account by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the following Business Day. If the Authorized Participant fails to deposit such excess amount in the Cash Account or fails to so deposit the Total Basket Amount, the Sponsor and Transfer Agent may (A) deem the relevant Creation Order as a failed trade and the Authorized Participant will be solely responsible for all damages, losses, costs and expenses incurred by the Trust, the Sponsor, any liquidity provider, the Transfer Agent or the Custodian related to the pending Creation Order or (B) complete such Creation Order by (1) applying the Collateral Amount (and any additional amount subsequently deposited in the Cash Account) to the purchase, for the account of the Authorized Participant, of Digital Assets constituting the Total Basket Amount and to the payment or reimbursement of any actual costs of the Sponsor in connection with otherwise completing the Creation Order and (2) delivering such Digital Assets to the Trust's Digital Asset Account in satisfaction of the Authorized Participant's delivery obligations under such Creation Order.

(iv) If the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent deem the relevant Creation Order a failed trade in accordance with Section 2.01(i)(ii) or Section 2.01(i)(iii), they shall return the Collateral Amount (and any additional amount deposited pursuant to this Section 2.01(i)) by wire transfer to the Authorized Participant.

(v) The Transfer Agent shall cause the Trust to issue the aggregate number of Shares corresponding to the Baskets ordered by the Authorized Participant and shall Deliver such Shares to the Authorized Participant, by credit to the account at DTC that the Authorized Participant shall have identified for such purpose in its Creation Order, no later than 6:00 p.m. (New York time) on the date on which the Transfer Agent is notified that the Total Basket Amount has been deposited in the Trust's Digital Asset Account by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on such date.

(j) The Transfer Agent shall under no circumstances cause the Trust to issue the aggregate number of Shares ordered until such time as (i) the Authorized Participant (or its AP Designee) Delivers the Total Basket Amount or (ii) the Total Basket Amount is Delivered to the Trust, funded by the Collateral Amount.

(k) The foregoing provisions notwithstanding, none of the Authorized Participant, the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Sponsor nor the Custodian shall be liable for any failure or delay in making Delivery of Shares, Digital Assets or cash, as the case may be, in respect of a Creation Order arising from nuclear fission or fusion, radioactivity, war, terrorist event, invasion, insurrection, civil commotion, riot, strike, act of government, public authority, public service or utility problems, power outages resulting in telephone, telecopy and computer failures, acts of God such as fires, floods or extreme weather conditions, market conditions or activities causing trading halts, systems failures involving computer or other information systems, including any failures or

outages of the Digital Asset Network, affecting the Authorized Participant, the Sponsor, the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Marketing Agent and the Custodian and similar extraordinary events beyond the Authorized Participant's, the Sponsor's, the Trust's, the Custodian's, the Marketing Agent's or the Transfer Agent's reasonable control. In the event of any such delay, the time to complete Delivery in respect of a Creation Order will be extended for a period equal to that during which the inability to perform continues as determined by the Transfer Agent in its sole discretion.

(l) Except as provided in Sections 2.01(e), 2.01(h) and the Standard Terms, none of the Transfer Agent, the Sponsor, Marketing Agent or the Custodian are under any duty to give notification of any defects or irregularities in any Creation Order or the Delivery of the Total Basket Amount, and shall not incur any liability for the failure to give any such notification.

Section 2.02. Creation of Shares Pursuant to Cash Orders. The Creation of Shares pursuant to Cash Orders that are not Alternate Cash Orders shall take place only in compliance with the rules of this Section 2.02:

(a) Authorized Participants wishing to acquire from the Trust one or more Baskets shall place a Creation Order with the Transfer Agent no later than the Order Cutoff Time on any Business Day. Creation Orders received by the Transfer Agent on or after the Order Cutoff Time on any Business Day shall be considered rejected unless determined otherwise by the Sponsor in writing in its sole discretion.

(b) The Trade Date for the Creation of Shares pursuant to Cash Orders shall be the Order Date.

(c) The Sponsor may in its absolute discretion limit the Creation of Shares pursuant to Cash Orders to the Capped Amount at any time without notice to the Authorized Participant and may direct the Marketing Agent to reject any Cash Orders in excess of the Capped Amount.

(d) For purposes of Section 2.02(a) above, a Creation Order shall be deemed received by the Transfer Agent only when either of the following has occurred no later than the Order Cutoff Time:

(i) Telephone Order – An Authorized Representative shall have placed a telephone call to the Creation and Redemption Line informing the Transfer Agent that the Authorized Participant wishes to place a Creation Order for a specified number of Baskets, received an Order Number from the Transfer Agent for insertion in the Creation Order and submitted a properly completed, irrevocable Creation Order in the form set out in Annex I-A to these Procedures executed by an Authorized Representative of such Authorized Participant via electronic mail message at the address specified in such Annex I-A, and such Creation Order shall have been received by the Transfer Agent within thirty (30) minutes following such phone call; or

(ii) Web-based Order – An Authorized Representative shall have accessed the Transfer Agent's online services (nexen.bnymellon.com) and submitted a properly completed, irrevocable Creation Order in the form set out in Annex I-A to these Procedures executed by an Authorized Representative of such Authorized Participant, via electronic mail message at the address specified in such Annex I-A.

(e) Creation Orders are accepted or rejected by the Marketing Agent. The Marketing Agent will accept or reject a Creation Order as soon as reasonably practicable following receipt of a properly completed Creation Order but no later than 2:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date.

(i) If a Creation Order is accepted, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant, via electronic mail message, as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 2:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date, a copy of the corresponding Creation Order endorsed "Accepted" by the Marketing Agent. Prior to the transmission of the acceptance as specified above, a Cash Order for Creation will only represent the Authorized Participant's firm unilateral offer to (x) deposit into the Cash Account, the Total Basket NAV and Variable Fee for Delivery to a liquidity provider and (y) accept a Delivery of Baskets upon such liquidity provider's Delivery to the Custodian of the Total Basket Amount and will have no binding effect upon the Trust, the Transfer Agent, or any other party. Following the transmission of the acceptance as specified above, a Creation Order will be a binding agreement among (x) the Trust and the Authorized Participant for the Creation of Baskets in exchange for the Delivery of the Total Basket Amount, (y) the Sponsor and the Authorized Participant for the engagement by the Sponsor of a liquidity provider to deposit the Total Basket Amount with the Custodian and (z) the Sponsor and the Authorized Participant for the Delivery by the Authorized Participant of the Total Basket NAV and the Variable Fee to the Cash Account no later than 10:00 a.m. (New York time) on the Creation Settlement Date, in each case pursuant to the terms of the Creation Order and these Procedures. Subject to the Capped Amount, the Authorized Participant may submit an amended Creation Order changing the number of Baskets ordered no later than the Order Cutoff Time.

(ii) If a Creation Order is rejected, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant, via electronic mail message, as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 2:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date, a copy of the corresponding Creation Order endorsed "Declined" by the Marketing Agent. A Creation Order which is not properly completed will be deemed invalid and rejected by the Marketing Agent; the Authorized Participant may submit a corrected Creation Order no later than the Order Cutoff Time. If the Marketing Agent rejects a Creation Order pursuant to these Procedures or the Standard Terms, the Transfer Agent will promptly return to the Authorized Participant all consideration tendered by the Authorized Participant in respect of such rejected Creation Order.

(iii) Creation Orders not accepted or rejected by 2:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date shall be accepted or rejected on the same Business Day as soon as practicable.

The Transfer Agent shall provide a written summary to the Sponsor of all accepted Cash Orders for Creation for such Order Date no later than 2:30 p.m. (New York time). Promptly following 4:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Trade Date, the Transfer Agent shall notify the Sponsor and the Authorized Participant of the Total Basket Amount, the Total Basket NAV and the dollar amount of any Variable Fees.

(f) Each Cash Order shall require (i) the Sponsor to engage a liquidity provider to obtain Digital Asset equal to the Total Basket Amount and (ii) the Authorized Participant to Deliver the Total Basket NAV and the Variable Fee to the Cash Account by 10:00 a.m. (New York time) on the Creation Settlement Date.

(g) Except as provided in Section 2.02(k) below, each Creation Order shall settle on the Creation Settlement Date. In connection with settlement, by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Creation Settlement Date, or at such later date and time as the Transfer Agent and the Sponsor in their absolute discretion may agree in writing with the Authorized Participant (i) the Total Basket Amount must be deposited by the Sponsor, or a liquidity provider on behalf of the Sponsor (as the case may be), in the Trust's Digital Asset Account, (ii) the Authorized Participant shall have deposited the Total Basket NAV and the Variable Fee in the Cash Account in compliance with Section 2.02(f) above and (iii) the Authorized Participant shall have paid the Transfer Agent the Transaction Fee, if applicable, and all taxes, governmental charges and fees payable in connection with such deposit, the transfer of Digital Assets and the issuance and Delivery of Shares.

(h) On the Creation Settlement Date, or on such earlier date and time as the Transfer Agent in its absolute discretion may agree in writing with the Authorized Participant and the Sponsor, the Transfer Agent shall cause the Trust to issue the aggregate number of Shares corresponding to the Baskets ordered by the Authorized Participant and shall Deliver such Shares to the Authorized Participant, by credit to the account at DTC that the Authorized Participant shall have identified for such purpose in its Creation Order, no later than 6:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Creation Settlement Date; provided that, by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Creation Settlement Date the Transfer Agent is notified that the Total Basket Amount has been deposited in the Trust's Digital Asset Account in compliance with the provisions of Section 2.02(g) above.

(i) Upon deposit of the Total Basket Amount in the Trust's Digital Asset Account, the Shares will be deemed issued and delivered with no further action required to be taken by the Trust or any other person; provided that, notwithstanding the foregoing, the Transfer Agent shall take the further actions contemplated hereby to evidence such issuance and delivery to the Authorized Participant.

(j) In the event that on the Creation Settlement Date, the Trust's Digital Asset Account shall not have been credited with the Total Basket Amount in compliance with the provisions of Section 2.02(g)(i) above, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant and the Sponsor via electronic mail message notice of such fact. The relevant Creation Order shall be deemed a failed trade and the Authorized Participant will be solely responsible for all damages, losses, costs and expenses incurred by the Trust, the Sponsor, any liquidity provider, the Transfer Agent or the Custodian related to the pending Creation Order, unless the Sponsor, in its sole discretion, chooses to complete such Creation Order by (i) applying any related Total Basket NAV to the purchase of Digital Assets constituting the Total Basket Amount and (ii) delivering such Digital Assets to the Trust's Digital Asset Account in satisfaction of the liquidity provider's delivery obligations. In the event that on the Creation Settlement Date, the Trust's Digital Asset Account shall have been credited with the Total Basket Amount in compliance with the provisions of Section 2.02(g)(i) above but the Authorized Participant shall not have deposited the Total Basket NAV and the Variable Fee in the Cash Account as required by Section 2.02(f), the Transfer Agent

shall send to the Authorized Participant and the Sponsor via electronic mail message notice of such fact. The relevant Creation Order shall settle in accordance with Section 2.02(h) and the Authorized Participant will be solely responsible for all damages, losses, costs and expenses incurred by the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Sponsor, any liquidity provider or the Custodian related to the Creation Order.

(k) The Transfer Agent shall under no circumstances cause the Trust to issue the aggregate number of Shares ordered until such time as the Total Basket Amount has been Delivered to the Trust.

(l) The foregoing provisions notwithstanding, none of the Authorized Participant, the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Sponsor nor the Custodian shall be liable for any failure or delay in making Delivery of Shares, Digital Assets or cash, as the case may be, in respect of a Creation Order arising from nuclear fission or fusion, radioactivity, war, terrorist event, invasion, insurrection, civil commotion, riot, strike, act of government, public authority, public service or utility problems, power outages resulting in telephone, telecopy and computer failures, acts of God such as fires, floods or extreme weather conditions, market conditions or activities causing trading halts, systems failures involving computer or other information systems, including any failures or outages of the Digital Asset Network, affecting the Authorized Participant, the Sponsor, the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Marketing Agent and the Custodian and similar extraordinary events beyond the Authorized Participant's, the Sponsor's, the Trust's, the Custodian's, the Marketing Agent's or the Transfer Agent's reasonable control. In the event of any such delay, the time to complete Delivery in respect of a Creation Order will be extended for a period equal to that during which the inability to perform continues as determined by the Transfer Agent in its sole discretion.

(m) Except as provided in Sections 2.02(f), 2.02(j) and the Standard Terms, none of the Transfer Agent, the Marketing Agent, the Sponsor nor the Custodian are under any duty to give notification of any defects or irregularities in any Creation Order or the Delivery of the Total Basket Amount, and shall not incur any liability for the failure to give any such notification.

(n) For the avoidance of doubt, the Trust shall not be liable to the Authorized Participant, the Transfer Agent, the Sponsor or any other party for actions taken or not taken in relation to Cash Orders for the Creation of Shares other than for a failure by the Trust to deliver Shares upon receipt of the Total Basket Amount.

Section 2.03. Creation of Shares Pursuant to Alternate Cash Orders. Unless otherwise specified by the Sponsor in writing, any Creation of Shares pursuant to a Cash Order shall be executed as an Alternate Cash Order. The Creation of Shares pursuant to Cash Orders to be executed as Alternate Cash Orders shall take place only in compliance with the rules set forth in Section 2.02(a) through (d), and the following rules of this Section 2.03:

(a) Creation Orders are accepted or rejected by the Marketing Agent. The Sponsor will determine if such Creation Order will be a Variable Fee Cash Order or an Actual Execution Cash Order, which determination will be communicated to the Authorized Participant. The Marketing Agent will accept or reject a Creation Order as soon as reasonably practicable following receipt of a properly completed Creation Order but no later than 2:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date.

(i) If a Creation Order is accepted, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant, via electronic mail message, as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 2:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date, a copy of the corresponding Creation Order endorsed "Accepted" by the Marketing Agent. Prior to the transmission of the acceptance as specified above, an Alternate Cash Order for Creation will only represent the Authorized Participant's firm unilateral offer to (x) deposit into the Alternate Cash Account, the Total Basket NAV and, in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, any Variable Fee, for Delivery to a liquidity provider and (y) accept a Delivery of Baskets upon such liquidity provider's Delivery to the Custodian of the Total Basket Amount, and will have no binding effect upon the Trust, the Transfer Agent or any other party. Following the transmission of the acceptance as specified above, a Creation Order will be a binding agreement between the Trust and the Authorized Participant for the Creation of Baskets in exchange for the Delivery of the Total Basket Amount, in each case subject to (x) the Trust being in simultaneous possession of (1) the Total Basket NAV plus (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Variable Fee or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, any Additional Creation Cash (as defined below), less any Excess Creation Cash, if applicable, in the Alternate Cash Account and (2) such Total Basket Amount, no later than 10:00 a.m. (New York time) on the Creation Settlement Date, (y) the Trust delivering such Total Basket NAV plus (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Variable Fee or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, any Additional Creation Cash, less any Excess Creation Cash, if applicable, to the liquidity provider and (z) any remaining cash originally Delivered by the Authorized Participant to the Alternate Cash Account in connection with such Creation Order being returned to the Authorized Participant, in each case pursuant to the terms of the Creation Order and these Procedures. Subject to the Capped Amount, the Authorized Participant may submit an amended Creation Order changing the number of Baskets ordered no later than the Order Cutoff Time. For the avoidance of doubt, (i) in the event that, in connection with a Creation Order that is effected as an Actual Execution Cash Order, the Authorized Participant has Delivered cash to the Alternate Cash Account in excess of the total cash purchase price actually paid by the Trust to purchase the corresponding Total Basket Amount (the "Excess Creation Cash"), such excess cash shall promptly be returned to the Authorized Participant and (ii) in the event that, in connection with a Creation Order that is effected as an Actual Execution Cash Order, the total cash purchase price to be paid by the Trust to purchase the corresponding Total Basket Amount exceeds the Total Basket NAV, the Authorized Participant shall deliver cash in the amount of such excess (the "Additional Creation Cash") to the Alternate Cash Account prior 10:00 a.m. (New York time) on the Creation Settlement Date.

(ii) If a Creation Order is rejected, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant, via electronic mail message, as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 2:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date, a copy of the corresponding Creation Order endorsed "Declined" by the Marketing Agent. A Creation Order which is not properly completed will be deemed invalid and rejected by the Marketing Agent; the Authorized Participant may submit a corrected Creation Order no later than the Order Cutoff Time. If the Marketing Agent rejects a Creation Order pursuant to these Procedures or the Standard Terms, the Transfer Agent will promptly return to the Authorized Participant all consideration tendered by the Authorized Participant in respect of such rejected Creation Order.

(iii) Creation Orders not accepted or rejected by 2:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date shall be accepted or rejected on the same Business Day as soon as practicable.

The Transfer Agent shall provide a written summary to the Sponsor of all accepted Alternate Cash Orders for Creation for such Order Date no later than 2:30 p.m. (New York time). Promptly following 4:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Trade Date, the Transfer Agent shall notify the Sponsor and the Authorized Participant of the Total Basket Amount, the Total Basket NAV and the dollar amount of any Variable Fees.

(b) Each Alternate Cash Order shall require (i) the Sponsor to engage a liquidity provider to obtain Digital Asset equal to the Total Basket Amount and (ii) the Authorized Participant to Deliver the Total Basket NAV plus (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Variable Fee or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, any Additional Creation Cash, less any Excess Creation Cash, if applicable, to the Alternate Cash Account by 10:00 a.m. (New York time) on the Creation Settlement Date.

(c) Except as provided in Section 2.03(g) below, each Creation Order shall settle on the Creation Settlement Date. In connection with settlement, by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Creation Settlement Date, or at such later date and time as the Transfer Agent and the Sponsor in their absolute discretion may agree in writing with the Authorized Participant, (i) the Total Basket Amount must be deposited by a liquidity provider in the Trust's Digital Asset Account, (ii) the Authorized Participant shall have deposited the Total Basket NAV plus (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Variable Fee or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, any Additional Creation Cash (or less any Excess Creation Cash), if applicable, in the Alternate Cash Account in compliance with Section 2.03(b) above and (iii) the Authorized Participant shall have paid the Transfer Agent the Transaction Fee, if applicable, and all taxes, governmental charges and fees payable in connection with such deposit, the transfer of Digital Assets and the issuance and Delivery of Shares.

(d) On the Creation Settlement Date, or on such earlier date and time as the Transfer Agent in its absolute discretion may agree in writing with the Authorized Participant and the Sponsor, the Transfer Agent shall cause the Trust to issue the aggregate number of Shares corresponding to the Baskets ordered by the Authorized Participant and shall Deliver such Shares to the Authorized Participant, by credit to the account at DTC that the Authorized Participant shall have identified for such purpose in its Creation Order, no later than 6:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Creation Settlement Date; provided that, by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Creation Settlement Date the Transfer Agent has been notified that the Total Basket Amount has been deposited in the Trust's Digital Asset Account in compliance with the provisions of Section 2.03(c) above.

(e) In the event that, by 10:00 a.m. on the Creation Settlement Date, either (x) the Trust's Digital Asset Account shall not have been credited with the Total Basket Amount in compliance with the provisions of Section 2.03(c)(i) above or (y) the Alternate Cash Account shall not have been credited with the Total Basket NAV plus (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Variable Fee or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, any Additional Creation Cash (less any Excess Creation Cash), if applicable, in compliance with the provisions

of Section 2.03(c)(ii) above, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant and the Sponsor via electronic mail message notice of such fact. The relevant Creation Order shall be deemed a failed trade and the Trust will return (x) the Total Basket Amount to the liquidity provider and/or (y) the Total Basket NAV plus (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Variable Fee or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, any Additional Creation Cash (less any Excess Creation Cash), if applicable, to the Authorized Participant, in each case to the extent then in possession of the Trust.

(f) The Transfer Agent shall under no circumstances cause the Trust to issue the aggregate number of Shares ordered until such time as each of (x) the Total Basket Amount and (y) the Total Basket NAV plus (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Variable Fee or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, any Additional Creation Cash (less any Excess Creation Cash), if applicable, has been Delivered to the Trust (and the Trust is in simultaneous possession of both).

(g) The foregoing provisions notwithstanding, none of the Authorized Participant, the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Sponsor nor the Custodian shall be liable for any failure or delay in making Delivery of Shares, Digital Assets or cash, as the case may be, in respect of a Creation Order arising from nuclear fission or fusion, radioactivity, war, terrorist event, invasion, insurrection, civil commotion, riot, strike, act of government, public authority, public service or utility problems, power outages resulting in telephone, telecopy and computer failures, acts of God such as fires, floods or extreme weather conditions, market conditions or activities causing trading halts, systems failures involving computer or other information systems, including any failures or outages of the Digital Asset Network, affecting the Authorized Participant, the Sponsor, the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Marketing Agent and the Custodian and similar extraordinary events beyond the Authorized Participant's, the Sponsor's, the Trust's, the Custodian's, the Marketing Agent's or the Transfer Agent's reasonable control. In the event of any such delay, the time to complete Delivery in respect of a Creation Order will be extended for a period equal to that during which the inability to perform continues as determined by the Transfer Agent in its sole discretion.

(h) Except as provided in Sections 2.03(b), 2.03(f) and the Standard Terms, none of the Transfer Agent, the Marketing Agent, the Sponsor nor the Custodian are under any duty to give notification of any defects or irregularities in any Creation Order or the Delivery of the Total Basket Amount, and shall not incur any liability for the failure to give any such notification.

(i) For the avoidance of doubt, the Trust shall not be liable to the Authorized Participant, the Transfer Agent, the Sponsor or any other party for actions taken or not taken in relation to Alternate Cash Orders for the Creation of Shares other than for a failure by the Trust to deliver Shares (and, if applicable, any Excess Creation Cash) upon receipt and simultaneous possession of (x) the Total Basket Amount and (y) the Total Basket NAV plus (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Variable Fee or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, any Additional Creation Cash, if applicable. The Sponsor and the Authorized Participant hereby agree, as a condition to the participation in the consummation of any such Alternate Cash Order, (A) to fully (and without exception) exculpate the Trust with respect to, and to irrevocably waive any and all claims against the Trust or the Trust Estate arising from or in connection with, such Alternate Cash Order and (B) to indemnify and hold the Trust harmless, in each case as provided in clause (g)(2) of Section 9 of the Authorized Participant Agreement.

Section 2.04. Suspension or Rejection of Creation of Shares. The Creation of Shares, whether pursuant to In-Kind Orders or Cash Orders, may be suspended or rejected under the circumstances specified in the Trust Agreement, these Procedures or the Standard Terms. If the Marketing Agent rejects a Creation Order pursuant to these Procedures or the Standard Terms, the Transfer Agent or Sponsor will notify the Authorized Participant as soon as reasonably practicable, and the Transfer Agent will promptly return to the Authorized Participant all consideration tendered by the Authorized Participant in respect of such rejected Creation Order. If the Trust, Transfer Agent or Sponsor suspends the right to submit Creation Orders pursuant to these Procedures or the Standard Terms, the Transfer Agent or Sponsor will notify the Authorized Participant as soon as reasonably practicable.

## ARTICLE III REDEMPTION PROCEDURES

Section 3.01. Redemption of Shares Pursuant to In-Kind Orders. The Redemption of Shares pursuant to In-Kind Orders shall take place only in compliance with the rules of this Section 3.01:

(a) Authorized Participants wishing to redeem one or more Baskets shall place a Redemption Order with the Transfer Agent no later than the Order Cutoff Time on any Business Day. Redemption Orders received by the Transfer Agent on or after the Order Cutoff Time on any Business Day shall be considered rejected unless determined otherwise by the Sponsor in writing in its sole discretion.

(b) The Trade Date for the Redemption of Shares pursuant to In-Kind Orders shall be the Order Date.

(c) For purposes of Section 3.01(a) above, a Redemption Order shall be deemed received by the Transfer Agent only when either of the following has occurred no later than the Order Cutoff Time:

(i) Telephone Order – An Authorized Representative shall have placed a telephone call to the Creation and Redemption Line informing the Transfer Agent that the Authorized Participant wishes to place a Redemption Order for a specified number of Baskets, received an Order Number from the Transfer Agent for insertion in the Redemption Order and submitted a properly completed, irrevocable Redemption Order in the form set out in Annex I-A to these Procedures executed by an Authorized Representative of such Authorized Participant via electronic mail message at the address specified in such Annex I-A, and such Redemption Order shall have been received by the Transfer Agent within thirty (30) minutes following such phone call; or

(ii) Web-based Order – An Authorized Representative shall have accessed the Transfer Agent's online services (nexen.bnymellon.com) and submitted a properly completed, irrevocable Redemption Order in the form set out in Annex I-A to these Procedures executed by an Authorized Representative of such Authorized Participant, via electronic mail message at the address specified in such Annex I-A.

(d) Redemption Orders are accepted or rejected by the Marketing Agent. The Marketing Agent will accept or reject a Redemption Order as soon as reasonably practicable following receipt of a properly completed Redemption Order but no later than 4:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date.

(i) If a Redemption Order is accepted, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant (with a copy to the Custodian), via electronic mail message, as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 4:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date, a copy of the corresponding Redemption Order endorsed "Accepted" by the Marketing Agent and indicating the Basket Amount that the Custodian shall Deliver to the Authorized Participant (or its AP Designee) in respect of each Basket being redeemed. Prior to the transmission of the acceptance as specified above, an In-Kind Order for Redemption will only represent the Authorized Participant's firm unilateral offer for the Redemption of Baskets in exchange for a Delivery of the Total Basket Amount by the Custodian to the Authorized Participant (or its AP Designee) and will have no binding effect upon the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Custodian, or any other party. Following the transmission of the acceptance as specified above, a Redemption Order will be a binding agreement between the Trust and the Authorized Participant for the Redemption of Baskets in exchange for the Delivery of Digital Assets pursuant to the terms of the Redemption Order and these Procedures. The Authorized Participant may submit an amended Redemption Order changing the number of Baskets to be redeemed no later than the Order Cutoff Time.

(ii) If a Redemption Order is rejected, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant (with a copy to the Custodian), via electronic mail message, as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 4:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date, a copy of the corresponding Redemption Order endorsed "Declined" by the Marketing Agent. A Redemption Order which is not properly completed will be deemed invalid and rejected by the Marketing Agent; the Authorized Participant may submit a corrected Redemption Order no later than the Order Cutoff Time. If the Marketing Agent rejects a Redemption Order pursuant to these Procedures or the Standard Terms, the Transfer Agent will promptly return to the Authorized Participant all consideration tendered by the Authorized Participant in respect of such rejected Redemption Order.

(e) The Transfer Agent shall provide a written summary to the Sponsor and the Custodian of all accepted In-Kind Orders for Redemption for such Order Date no later than 5:00 p.m. (New York time).

(f) Except as provided in Section 3.01(h) below, each Redemption Order shall settle on the Redemption Settlement Date. In connection with settlement, by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Redemption Settlement Date, or at such later date and time as the Transfer Agent and the Sponsor in their absolute discretion may agree in writing with the Authorized Participant (i) the Baskets to be redeemed must be Delivered to the Transfer Agent by the Authorized Participant and (ii) the Authorized Participant shall have paid the Transfer Agent the Transaction Fee, if applicable, and all taxes, governmental charges and fees payable in connection with such deposit, the transfer of Digital Assets and the Delivery of Shares, and any expenses incurred in connection with the Delivery of Digital Assets.

(g) On the Redemption Settlement Date, or on such earlier date and time as the Transfer Agent in its absolute discretion may agree in writing with the Authorized Participant and the Sponsor, the Transfer Agent shall instruct the Custodian to Deliver the Total Basket Amount to the Authorized Participant Self-Administered Account no later than 4:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Redemption Settlement Date; provided that, by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Redemption Settlement Date the Authorized Participant has Delivered to the Transfer Agent's account at DTC the total number of Shares corresponding to the total number of Baskets to be redeemed by such Authorized Participant pursuant to such Redemption Order.

(h) In the event that on the Redemption Settlement Date, the Transfer Agent's account at DTC shall not have been credited with the total number of Shares corresponding to the total number of Baskets to be redeemed in compliance with the provisions of Section 3.01(f)(i) above, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant, the Sponsor and the Custodian via electronic mail message notice of such fact.

(i) The Transfer Agent and the Sponsor each agree not to treat such Redemption Order as a failed trade or a failed settlement provided that as soon as practicable between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Redemption Settlement Date, the Authorized Participant shall wire the Collateral Amount to the Cash Account.

(ii) If the Authorized Participant fails to deposit the Collateral Amount in the Cash Account as provided in Section 3.01(h)(i) or the Transfer Agent's account at DTC shall not have been credited with the total number of Shares corresponding to the total number of Baskets to be redeemed by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Business Day following the Redemption Settlement Date, then the Sponsor and Transfer Agent may (A) deem the relevant Redemption Order as a failed trade and the Authorized Participant will be solely responsible for all damages, losses, costs and expenses incurred by the Trust, the Sponsor, the Transfer Agent or the Custodian related to the pending Redemption Order or (B) complete such Redemption Order by (1) applying the Collateral Amount to the purchase, for the account of the Authorized Participant, of Shares and (2) crediting such Shares to the Transfer Agent's account at DTC in satisfaction of the Authorized Participant's delivery obligations under such Redemption Order.

(iii) Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Authorized Participant has deposited the Collateral Amount in accordance with the requirements of Section 3.01(h)(i) but the Transfer Agent's account at DTC shall not have been credited with the total number of Shares corresponding to the total number of Baskets to be redeemed by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Business Day following the Redemption Settlement Date, the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent may nonetheless agree not to treat such Redemption Order as a failed trade, provided that (i) if the U.S. dollar value of the Total Basket Amount exceeds the Collateral Amount, as determined using the Index Price on the previous Business Day, then by 6:00 p.m. (New York time) on such Business Day, the Authorized Participant deposits in the Cash Account an additional amount in U.S. dollars such that the amount in the Cash Account is equal to 115% of the U.S. dollar value of the Total Basket Amount, as determined using the Index Price on the previous Business Day, and (ii) the Transfer Agent's account at DTC shall have been credited with the total number of Shares corresponding to the total number of Baskets to be redeemed by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the following Business Day. If the Authorized Participant fails to deposit such excess amount in the Cash Account or the Transfer Agent's account at DTC shall not have

been credited with the total number of Shares corresponding to the total number of Baskets to be redeemed, the Sponsor and Transfer Agent may (A) deem the relevant Redemption Order as a failed trade and the Authorized Participant will be solely responsible for all damages, losses, costs and expenses incurred by the Trust, the Sponsor, the Transfer Agent or the Custodian related to the pending Redemption Order or (B) complete such Redemption Order by (1) applying the Collateral Amount (and any excess amount subsequently deposited in respect thereof) to the purchase, for the account of the Authorized Participant, of Shares and (2) crediting such Shares to the Transfer Agent's account at DTC in satisfaction of the Authorized Participant's delivery obligations under such Redemption Order.

(iv) If the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent deem the relevant Creation Order a failed trade in accordance with Section 3.01(h)(ii) or Section 3.01(h)(iii), they shall return the Collateral Amount (and any additional amount deposited pursuant to this Section 3.01(h)) by wire transfer to the Authorized Participant.

(v) The Transfer Agent shall instruct the Custodian to Deliver the Total Basket Amount to the Authorized Participant Self-Administered Account no later than 4:30 p.m. (New York time) on date on which the Authorized Participant has Delivered to the Transfer Agent's account at DTC the total number of Shares corresponding to the total number of Baskets to be redeemed by such Authorized Participant pursuant to such Redemption Order prior to 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on such date.

(i) The Transfer Agent shall under no circumstances cause the Custodian to Deliver to the Authorized Participant the Total Basket Amount until the Authorized Participant Delivers the corresponding number of Shares.

(j) Once the Transfer Agent has received the Shares pursuant to Section 3.01(g) or 3.01(h) above, the Transfer Agent shall instruct the Transfer Agent to cancel such Shares.

(k) The foregoing provisions notwithstanding, none of the Authorized Participant, the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Sponsor nor the Custodian shall be liable for any failure or delay in making Delivery of Shares, Digital Assets or cash, as the case may be, in respect of a Redemption Order arising from nuclear fission or fusion, radioactivity, war, terrorist event, invasion, insurrection, civil commotion, riot, strike, act of government, public authority, public service or utility problems, power outages resulting in telephone, telecopy and computer failures, acts of God such as fires, floods or extreme weather conditions, market conditions or activities causing trading halts, systems failures involving computer or other information systems, including any failures or outages of the Digital Asset Network, affecting the Authorized Participant, the Sponsor, the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Marketing Agent and the Custodian and similar extraordinary events beyond the Authorized Participant's, the Sponsor's, the Trust's, the Custodian's, the Marketing Agent's or the Transfer Agent's reasonable control. In the event of any such delay, the time to complete Delivery in respect of a Redemption Order will be extended for a period equal to that during which the inability to perform continues as determined by the Transfer Agent in its sole discretion.

(l) Except as provided in Sections 3.01(e), 3.01(h) and the Standard Terms, none of the Transfer Agent, the Marketing Agent, the Sponsor nor the Custodian are under any duty to give notification of any defects or irregularities in any Redemption Order or the Delivery of the Shares, and shall not incur any liability for the failure to give any such notification.

Section 3.02. Redemption of Shares Pursuant to Cash Orders. The Redemption of Shares pursuant to Cash Orders that are not Alternate Cash Orders shall only take place if approved by the Sponsor in writing in its absolute discretion and on a case-by-case basis. If accepted by the Sponsor, such Redemption of Shares shall take place only in compliance with the rules of this Section 3.02:

(a) Authorized Participants wishing to redeem one or more Baskets may place a Redemption Order with the Transfer Agent no later than the Order Cutoff Time on any Business Day. Redemption Orders received by the Transfer Agent on or after the Order Cutoff Time on any Business Day shall be considered rejected unless determined otherwise by the Sponsor in writing in its sole discretion.

(b) The Trade Date for the Redemption of Shares pursuant to Cash Orders shall be the Order Date.

(c) For purposes of Section 3.02(a) above, a Redemption Order shall be deemed received by the Transfer Agent only when either of the following has occurred no later than the Order Cutoff Time:

(i) Telephone Order – An Authorized Representative shall have placed a telephone call to the Creation and Redemption Line informing the Transfer Agent that the Authorized Participant wishes to place a Redemption Order for a specified number of Baskets, received an Order Number from the Transfer Agent for insertion in the Redemption Order and submitted a properly completed, irrevocable Redemption Order in the form set out in Annex I-A to these Procedures executed by an Authorized Representative of such Authorized Participant via electronic mail message at the address specified in such Annex I-A, and such Redemption Order shall have been received by the Transfer Agent within thirty (30) minutes following such phone call; or

(ii) Web-based Order – An Authorized Representative shall have accessed the Transfer Agent's online services (nexen.bnymellon.com) and submitted a properly completed, irrevocable Redemption Order in the form set out in Annex I-A to these Procedures executed by an Authorized Representative of such Authorized Participant, via electronic mail message at the address specified in such Annex I-A.

(d) Redemption Orders are accepted or rejected by the Marketing Agent. The Marketing Agent will accept or reject a Redemption Order as soon as reasonably practicable following receipt of a properly completed Redemption Order but no later than 2:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date.

(i) If a Redemption Order is accepted, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant (with a copy to the Custodian), via electronic mail message, as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 2:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date, a copy of the corresponding Redemption Order endorsed "Accepted" by the Marketing Agent. Prior to the transmission of the acceptance as specified above, a Cash Order for Redemption will only represent the Authorized Participant's firm unilateral offer to (x) deposit Baskets for cancellation upon the Trust's Delivery of the Total Basket Amount to a Liquidity Provider Account in exchange for (y) a Delivery by the Sponsor or a Sponsor Agent of cash to the Authorized Participant in an amount equal to the Total Basket NAV pursuant to the provisions of Section 3.02(f), after deduction of the Transaction Fee, the Variable Fee and all taxes, governmental charges and fees payable in connection with such deposit, the transfer of Digital Assets and the Delivery of Shares, and any expenses incurred in connection with the Delivery of Digital Assets (the "Cash Order Delivery Amount") and will have no binding effect upon the Trust, the Transfer Agent or any other party. Following the transmission of the acceptance as specified above, a Redemption Order will be a binding agreement among (i) the Trust and the Authorized Participant for the Redemption of Baskets in exchange for the Delivery of the Total Basket Amount to a Liquidity Provider Account, (ii) the Sponsor and the Authorized Participant for the engagement by the Sponsor of a liquidity provider to receive the Total Basket Amount and (iii) the Sponsor and the Authorized Participant for the Delivery of the Cash Order Delivery Amount to the Authorized Participant on the Redemption Settlement Date, in each case pursuant to the terms of the Redemption Order and these Procedures. The Authorized Participant may submit an amended Redemption Order changing the number of Baskets to be redeemed no later than the Order Cutoff Time.

(ii) If a Redemption Order is rejected, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant (with a copy to the Custodian), via electronic mail message, as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 2:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date, a copy of the corresponding Redemption Order endorsed "Declined" by the Marketing Agent. A Redemption Order which is not properly completed will be deemed invalid and rejected by the Marketing Agent; the Authorized Participant may submit a corrected Redemption Order no later than the Order Cutoff Time. If the Marketing Agent rejects a Redemption Order pursuant to these Procedures or the Standard Terms, the Transfer Agent will promptly return to the Authorized Participant all consideration tendered by the Authorized Participant in respect of such rejected Redemption Order.

(e) The Transfer Agent shall provide a written summary to the Sponsor and the Custodian of all accepted Cash Orders for Redemption for such Order Date no later than 12:00 p.m. (New York time). Promptly following receipt of the written summary of accepted Redemption Orders pursuant to 3.02(d) above, the Sponsor shall notify a liquidity provider as soon as practicable thereafter.

(f) Except as provided in Section 3.02(i), each Redemption Order shall settle on the Redemption Settlement Date. In connection with settlement, by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Redemption Settlement Date, or at such later date and time as the Transfer Agent and the Sponsor in their absolute discretion may agree in writing with the Authorized Participant, (i) the Baskets to be redeemed must be Delivered to the DTC account of the Transfer Agent by the Authorized Participant and (ii) the Total Basket NAV, less the Variable Fee, must be deposited in the Cash Account by the relevant liquidity provider at the instruction of the Sponsor.

(g) On the Redemption Settlement Date, or on such earlier date and time as the Transfer Agent in its absolute discretion may agree in writing with the Authorized Participant and the Sponsor, (i) the Sponsor Agent shall send the Cash Order Delivery Amount to the Authorized Participant, by wire to the account that the Authorized Participant shall have identified for such purpose in its Redemption Order, and (ii) the Transfer Agent shall cause the Trust to Deliver the Total Basket Amount to the Liquidity Provider Account, in each case no later than 4:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Redemption Settlement Date; provided that, by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Redemption Settlement Date (i) the Authorized Participant has Delivered to the Transfer Agent's account at DTC the total number of Baskets to be redeemed by such Authorized Participant pursuant to such Redemption Order and (ii) the Total Basket NAV, less the Variable Fee, shall have been deposited in the Cash Account by the relevant liquidity provider at the instruction of the Sponsor.

(h) In the event that on the Redemption Settlement Date, the Transfer Agent's account at DTC shall not have been credited with the total number of Shares corresponding to the total number of Baskets to be redeemed in compliance with the provisions of Section 3.02(f) above, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant, the Sponsor and the Custodian via electronic mail message notice of such fact.

(i) The Transfer Agent and the Sponsor each agree not to treat such Redemption Order as a failed trade or a failed settlement provided that as soon as practicable between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Redemption Settlement Date, the Authorized Participant shall wire the Collateral Amount to the Cash Account.

(ii) If the Authorized Participant fails to deposit the Collateral Amount in the Cash Account as provided in Section 3.02(h)(i) or the Transfer Agent's account at DTC shall not have been credited with the total number of Shares corresponding to the total number of Baskets to be redeemed by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Business Day following the Redemption Settlement Date, then the Sponsor and Transfer Agent may (A) deem the relevant Redemption Order as a failed trade and the Authorized Participant will be solely responsible for all damages, losses, costs and expenses incurred by the Trust, the Sponsor, any liquidity provider, the Transfer Agent or the Custodian related to the pending Redemption Order or (B) complete such Redemption Order by (1) applying the Collateral Amount to the purchase, for the account of the Authorized Participant, of Shares, (2) crediting such Shares to the Transfer Agent's account at DTC in satisfaction of the Authorized Participant's delivery obligations under such Redemption Order and (3) causing the Trust to deliver the Total Basket Amount to the relevant liquidity provider.

(iii) Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Authorized Participant has deposited the Collateral Amount in accordance with the requirements of Section 3.02(h)(i) but the Transfer Agent's account at DTC shall not have been credited with the total number of Shares corresponding to the total number of Baskets to be redeemed by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Business Day following the Redemption Settlement Date, the Transfer Agent and the Sponsor may nonetheless agree not to treat such Redemption Order as a failed trade, provided that (i) if the U.S. dollar value of the Total Basket Amount exceeds the Collateral Amount, as determined using the Index Price on the previous Business Day, then by 6:00 p.m. (New York time) on such Business Day, the Authorized Participant

deposits in the Cash Account an additional amount in U.S. dollars such that the amount in the Cash Account is equal to 115% of the U.S. dollar value of the Total Basket Amount, as determined using the Index Price on the previous Business Day and (ii) the Transfer Agent's account at DTC shall have been credited with the total number of Shares corresponding to the total number of Baskets to be redeemed by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the following Business Day. If the Authorized Participant fails to deposit such excess amount in the Cash Account or the Transfer Agent's account at DTC shall not have been credited with the total number of Shares corresponding to the total number of Baskets to be redeemed, the Sponsor and Transfer Agent may (A) deem the relevant Redemption Order as a failed trade and the Authorized Participant will be solely responsible for all damages, losses, costs and expenses incurred by the Trust, the Sponsor, any liquidity provider, the Transfer Agent or the Custodian related to the pending Redemption Order or (B) complete such Redemption Order by (1) applying the Collateral Amount to the purchase, for the account of the Authorized Participant, of Shares, (2) crediting such Shares to the Transfer Agent's account at DTC in satisfaction of the Authorized Participant's delivery obligations under such Redemption Order and (3) causing the Trust to deliver the Total Basket Amount to the relevant liquidity provider.

(iv) If the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent deem the relevant Redemption Order a failed trade in accordance with Section 3.02(h)(ii) or Section 3.02(h)(iii), they shall promptly return the Collateral Amount (and any additional amount deposited pursuant to this Section 3.02(i)) by wire transfer to the Authorized Participant.

(v) (A) The Sponsor Agent shall send the Cash Order Delivery Amount to the Authorized Participant, by wire to the account that the Authorized Participant shall have identified for such purpose in its Redemption Order, and (B) the Transfer Agent shall cause the Trust to Deliver the Total Basket Amount to the Liquidity Provider Account, in each case on the date on which (1) the Authorized Participant has Delivered to the Transfer Agent's account at DTC the total number of Baskets to be redeemed by such Authorized Participant pursuant to such Redemption Order and (2) the Total Basket NAV, less the Variable Fee, shall have been deposited in the Cash Account by the relevant liquidity provider at the instruction of the Sponsor, in each case, prior to 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on such date.

(i) The Transfer Agent shall under no circumstances wire the Cash Order Delivery Amount to the Authorized Participant until the Authorized Participant Delivers the corresponding number of Shares to the Transfer Agent.

(j) In the event that, upon notification by the Transfer Agent that the Shares have been Delivered, the Cash Account shall not have been credited with the Total Basket NAV, less any Variable Fee, from a liquidity provider at the direction of the Sponsor, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant, the Sponsor and the Custodian via electronic mail message notice of such fact. If the Redemption Order is deemed a failed trade, the Transfer Agent shall return the Shares to the Authorized Participant. The Authorized Participant will be solely responsible for all damages, losses, costs and expenses incurred by the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Sponsor or the Custodian related to the pending Redemption Order for failure to Deliver the Total Basket NAV, less any Variable Fee, to the Cash Account.

(k) Once the Transfer Agent has received the Shares from the Authorized Participant pursuant to Section 3.02(h) or 3.02(i) above and the Total Basket NAV, less any Variable Fee, has been Delivered to the Cash Account, the Transfer Agent shall promptly (x) instruct (i) the Transfer Agent to cancel such Shares and (ii) the Custodian to Deliver the Total Basket Amount to the applicable Liquidity Provider Account. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, upon the Delivery of the Total Basket Amount to the Liquidity Provider Account, whether pursuant to Section 3.02(h) or this Section 3.02(k), and without further action by any Person, the Shares comprising the corresponding Baskets shall be deemed irrevocably canceled and retired; provided that, notwithstanding the foregoing, the Transfer Agent shall take the further actions contemplated hereby to evidence such cancellation.

(l) The foregoing provisions notwithstanding, none of the Authorized Participant, the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Sponsor nor the Custodian shall be liable for any failure or delay in making Delivery of Shares, Digital Assets or cash, as the case may be, in respect of a Redemption Order arising from nuclear fission or fusion, radioactivity, war, terrorist event, invasion, insurrection, civil commotion, riot, strike, act of government, public authority, public service or utility problems, power outages resulting in telephone, telecopy and computer failures, acts of God such as fires, floods or extreme weather conditions, market conditions or activities causing trading halts, systems failures involving computer or other information systems, including any failures or outages of the Digital Asset Network, affecting the Authorized Participant, the Sponsor, the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Marketing Agent and the Custodian and similar extraordinary events beyond the Authorized Participant's, the Sponsor's, the Trust's, the Custodian's, the Marketing Agent's or the Transfer Agent's reasonable control. In the event of any such delay, the time to complete Delivery in respect of a Redemption Order will be extended for a period equal to that during which the inability to perform continues as determined by the Transfer Agent in its sole discretion.

(m) Except as provided in Sections 3.02(e), 3.02(i) and the Standard Terms, none of the Transfer Agent, the Marketing Agent, the Sponsor nor the Custodian are under any duty to give notification of any defects or irregularities in any Redemption Order or the Delivery of the Shares, and shall not incur any liability for the failure to give any such notification.

(n) For the avoidance of doubt, the Trust shall not be liable to the Authorized Participant, the Transfer Agent, the Sponsor or any other party for actions taken or not taken in relation to Cash Orders for the Redemption of Shares other than a failure to deliver the Total Basket Amount to the Liquidity Provider Account upon receipt of Shares.

Section 3.03 Redemption of Shares Pursuant to Alternate Cash Orders. Unless otherwise specified by the Sponsor in writing, any Redemption of Shares pursuant to a Cash Order shall be executed as an Alternate Cash Order, which for the avoidance of doubt, shall only take place if approved by the Sponsor in writing in its absolute discretion and on a case-by-case basis. If accepted by the Sponsor, such Redemption of Shares shall take place only in compliance with the rules set forth in Section 3.02(a) through (c), and the following rules of this Section 3.03:

(a) Redemption Orders are accepted or rejected by the Marketing Agent. The Sponsor will determine if such Redemption Order will be a Variable Fee Cash Order or an Actual Execution Cash Order, which determination will be communicated to the Authorized Participant. The Marketing Agent will accept or reject a Redemption Order as soon as reasonably practicable following receipt of a properly completed Redemption Order but no later than 2:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date.

(i) If a Redemption Order is accepted, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant (with a copy to the Custodian), via electronic mail message, as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 2:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date, a copy of the corresponding Redemption Order endorsed "Accepted" by the Marketing Agent. Prior to the transmission of the acceptance as specified above, an Alternate Cash Order for Redemption will only represent the Authorized Participant's firm unilateral offer to (x) deposit Baskets for cancellation upon the Trust's Delivery of the Total Basket Amount to a Liquidity Provider Account in exchange for (y) a Delivery by the Trust of cash to the Authorized Participant in an amount equal to the Cash Order Delivery Amount (as adjusted, if applicable, pursuant to clause (ii) of the final sentence of this Section 3.03(a)(i)), and will have no binding effect upon the Trust, the Transfer Agent or any other party. Following the transmission of the acceptance as specified above, a Redemption Order will be a binding agreement between the Trust and the Authorized Participant for the Redemption of Baskets in exchange for the Delivery of the Total Basket Amount to a Liquidity Provider Account, in each case subject to (x) the Trust being in simultaneous possession of (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Variable Fee; or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Redemption Cash Shortfall (as defined below) (plus any Additional Redemption Cash), if applicable, in the Alternate Cash Account and such Baskets to be redeemed, (y) the Trust delivering the Total Basket Amount to the liquidity provider and (z) any remaining cash in the Alternate Cash Account attributable to such Cash Order being Delivered to the Authorized Participant, in each case pursuant to the terms of the Redemption Order and these Procedures. The Authorized Participant may submit an amended Redemption Order changing the number of Baskets to be redeemed no later than the Order Cutoff Time. For the avoidance of doubt, (i) in the event that, in connection with a Redemption Order that is effected as an Actual Execution Cash Order, the total cash proceeds Delivered to the Alternate Cash Account exceeds the Total Basket NAV (the amount of such excess, the "Additional Redemption Cash"), such excess cash shall promptly be Delivered to the Authorized Participant and (ii) in the event that, in connection with a Redemption Order that is effected as an Actual Execution Cash Order, the total cash proceeds Delivered to the Alternate Cash Account is less than the Total Basket NAV (the amount of such difference, the "Redemption Cash Shortfall"), the amount of cash to be Delivered to the Authorized Participant in connection with such Redemption Order shall be reduced by the amount of such Redemption Cash Shortfall.

(ii) If a Redemption Order is rejected, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant (with a copy to the Custodian), via electronic mail message, as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 2:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Order Date, a copy of the corresponding Redemption Order endorsed "Declined" by the Marketing Agent. A Redemption Order which is not properly completed will be deemed invalid and rejected by the Marketing Agent; the Authorized Participant may submit a corrected Redemption Order no later than the Order Cutoff Time. If the Marketing Agent rejects a Redemption Order pursuant to these Procedures or the Standard Terms, the Transfer Agent will promptly return to the Authorized Participant all consideration tendered by the Authorized Participant in respect of such rejected Redemption Order and the Trust will promptly return to the liquidity provider all consideration tendered by the liquidity provider in respect of such rejected Redemption Order.

(b) The Transfer Agent shall provide a written summary to the Sponsor and the Custodian of all accepted Alternate Cash Orders for Redemption for such Order Date no later than 12:00 p.m. (New York time). Promptly following receipt of the written summary of accepted Redemption Orders pursuant to 3.03(a) above, the Sponsor shall notify a liquidity provider as soon as practicable thereafter.

(c) Except as provided in Section 3.03(g), each Redemption Order shall settle on the Redemption Settlement Date. In connection with settlement, by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Redemption Settlement Date, or at such later date and time as the Transfer Agent and the Sponsor in their absolute discretion may agree in writing with the Authorized Participant, (i) the Baskets to be redeemed must be Delivered to the DTC account of the Transfer Agent by the Authorized Participant and (ii) (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Variable Fee; or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Redemption Cash Shortfall (plus any Additional Redemption Cash), if applicable, must be deposited in the Alternate Cash Account by the relevant liquidity provider at the instruction of the Sponsor.

(d) On the Redemption Settlement Date, or on such earlier date and time as the Transfer Agent in its absolute discretion may agree in writing with the Authorized Participant and the Sponsor, (i) the Trust shall send the Cash Order Delivery Amount (less any Redemption Cash Shortfall) to the Authorized Participant, by wire to the account that the Authorized Participant shall have identified for such purpose in its Redemption Order, and (ii) the Transfer Agent shall cause the Trust to Deliver the Total Basket Amount to the Liquidity Provider Account, in each case no later than 4:30 p.m. (New York time) on the Redemption Settlement Date; provided that, by 12:00 p.m. (New York time) on the Redemption Settlement Date (i) the Authorized Participant has Delivered to the Transfer Agent's account at DTC the total number of Baskets to be redeemed by such Authorized Participant pursuant to such Redemption Order and (ii) (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Variable Fee; or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Redemption Cash Shortfall (plus any Additional Redemption Cash), if applicable, shall have been deposited in the Alternate Cash Account by the relevant liquidity provider at the instruction of the Sponsor.

(e) In the event that on the Redemption Settlement Date, the Transfer Agent's account at DTC shall not have been credited with the total number of Shares corresponding to the total number of Baskets to be redeemed in compliance with the provisions of Section 3.03(c) above, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant, the Sponsor and the Custodian via electronic mail message notice of such fact. The Sponsor and Transfer Agent may deem the relevant Redemption Order as a failed trade, and the Trust shall return (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Variable Fee; or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Redemption Cash Shortfall (plus any Additional Redemption Cash), if applicable, to the relevant liquidity provider. The Authorized Participant will be solely responsible for all damages, losses, costs and expenses incurred by the Trust, the Sponsor, any liquidity provider, the Transfer Agent or the Custodian related to the pending Redemption Order for failure to deliver the Baskets to the Transfer Agent's account at DTC.

(f) In the event that, upon notification by the Transfer Agent that the Shares have been Delivered, the Alternate Cash Account shall not have been credited with (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Variable Fee; or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Redemption Cash Shortfall (plus any Additional Redemption Cash), if applicable, from a liquidity provider at the direction of the Sponsor, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant, the Sponsor and the Custodian via electronic mail message notice of such fact. The Sponsor and Transfer Agent shall deem the relevant Redemption Order as a failed trade, and the Transfer Agent shall return the Shares to the Authorized Participant. The Authorized Participant will be solely responsible for all damages, losses, costs and expenses incurred by the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Sponsor or the Custodian related to the pending Redemption Order for failure to Deliver (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Variable Fee; or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Redemption Cash Shortfall (plus any Additional Redemption Cash), if applicable, to the Alternate Cash Account.

(g) The Transfer Agent shall under no circumstances wire the Cash Order Delivery Amount to the Authorized Participant until such time as (x) the Authorized Participant has Delivered the corresponding number of Shares to the Transfer Agent and (y) (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Variable Fee; or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Redemption Cash Shortfall (plus any Additional Redemption Cash), if applicable, has been Delivered to the Trust (and the Trust and/or the Transfer Agent are in simultaneous possession of both).

(h) Once the Transfer Agent has received the Shares from the Authorized Participant pursuant to Section 3.03(e) above and (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Variable Fee; or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Redemption Cash Shortfall (plus any Additional Redemption Cash), if applicable, has been Delivered to the Alternate Cash Account, the Transfer Agent shall promptly (x) instruct (i) the Transfer Agent to cancel such Shares and Deliver (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Variable Fee; or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Redemption Cash Shortfall (plus any Additional Redemption Cash), if applicable, to the Authorized Participant and (ii) the Custodian to Deliver the Total Basket Amount to the applicable Liquidity Provider Account. In the event that, by 12:00 p.m. on the Redemption Settlement Date, either (x) the Alternate Cash Account shall not have been credited with (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Variable Fee; or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Redemption Cash Shortfall (plus any Additional Redemption Cash), if applicable, in compliance with the provisions of Section 3.03(c)(ii) above or (y) the Transfer Agent shall not have received the Shares from the Authorized Participant in compliance with the provisions of Section 3.03(c)(i) above, the Transfer Agent shall send to the Authorized Participant and the Sponsor via electronic mail message notice of such fact. The relevant Redemption Order shall be deemed a failed trade and the Trust will return (x) (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Variable Fee; or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Redemption Cash Shortfall (plus any Additional Redemption Cash), if applicable, to the liquidity provider and/or (y) the Shares to the Authorized Participant, in each case to the extent received by the Trust.

(i) The foregoing provisions notwithstanding, none of the Authorized Participant, the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Sponsor nor the Custodian shall be liable for any failure or delay in making Delivery of Shares, Digital Assets or cash, as the case may be, in respect of a Redemption Order arising from nuclear fission or fusion, radioactivity, war, terrorist event, invasion, insurrection, civil commotion, riot, strike, act of government, public authority, public service or utility problems, power outages resulting in telephone, telecopy and computer failures, acts of God such as fires, floods or extreme weather conditions, market conditions or activities causing trading halts, systems failures involving computer or other information systems, including any failures or outages of the Digital Asset Network, affecting the Authorized Participant, the Sponsor, the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Marketing Agent and the Custodian and similar extraordinary events beyond the Authorized Participant's, the Sponsor's, the Trust's, the Custodian's, the Marketing Agent's or the Transfer Agent's reasonable control. In the event of any such delay, the time to complete Delivery in respect of a Redemption Order will be extended for a period equal to that during which the inability to perform continues as determined by the Transfer Agent in its sole discretion.

(j) Except as provided in Sections 3.03(b), 3.03(e), 3.03(f) and the Standard Terms, none of the Transfer Agent, the Marketing Agent, the Sponsor nor the Custodian are under any duty to give notification of any defects or irregularities in any Redemption Order or the Delivery of the Shares, and shall not incur any liability for the failure to give any such notification.

(k) For the avoidance of doubt, the Trust shall not be liable to the Authorized Participant, the Transfer Agent, the Sponsor or any other party for actions taken or not taken in relation to Alternate Cash Orders for the Redemption of Shares other than a failure to deliver (1) the Total Basket Amount to the Liquidity Provider Account and (2) (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Variable Fee; or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Redemption Cash Shortfall (plus any Additional Redemption Cash), if applicable, to the Authorized Participant, in each case, upon the Trust's receipt and simultaneous possession of (x) Shares and (y) (A) in the case of a Variable Fee Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Variable Fee; or (B) in the case of an Actual Execution Cash Order, the Total Basket NAV less any Redemption Cash Shortfall (plus any Additional Redemption Cash), if applicable. The Sponsor and the Authorized participant hereby agree, as a condition to the participation in the consummation of any such Alternate Cash Order, (A) to fully (and without exception) exculpate the Trust with respect to, and to irrevocably waive any and all claims against the Trust or the Trust Estate arising from or in connection with, such Alternate Cash Order and (B) to fully indemnify and hold the Trust harmless, in each case as provided in clause (g)(2) of Section 9 of the Authorized Participant Agreement.

Section 3.04 Suspension or Rejection of Redemption of Shares. The Redemption of Shares, whether In-Kind Orders or Cash Orders, may be suspended or rejected under the circumstances specified in the Trust Agreement, these Procedures or the Standard Terms. If the Marketing Agent rejects a Redemption Order pursuant to these Procedures or the Standard Terms, the Transfer Agent or Sponsor will notify the Authorized Participant as soon as reasonably practicable and the

Transfer Agent will promptly return to the Authorized Participant all consideration tendered by the Authorized Participant in respect of such rejected Redemption Order. If the Trust, Transfer Agent or Sponsor suspends the right to submit Redemption Orders pursuant to these Procedures or the Standard Terms, the Transfer Agent or Sponsor will notify the Authorized Participant as soon as reasonably practicable.

[Signatures Follow on Next Page]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, [•], the Sponsor, Transfer Agent, have executed these Creation and Redemption Procedures as of the date set forth above.

[•], as Authorized Participant

By: _____
Name:
Title:

GRAYSCALE INVESTMENTS, LLC, as Sponsor

By: _____
Name:
Title:

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, as Transfer Agent

By: _____
Name:
Title:

ANNEX I-A TO CREATION AND REDEMPTION PROCEDURES

FORESIDE FUND SERVICES, LLC, MARKETING AGENT DELAWARE TRUST COMPANY, TRUSTEE CREATION/REDEMPTION ORDER FORM
[TRUST]

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CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ORDER EXECUTION:

Creation and Redemption Line: [•]

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ALL ITEMS IN PART I MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT. THE MARKETING AGENT, THE TRANSFER AGENT AND/OR THE ADMINISTRATOR, IN THEIR DISCRETION, MAY REJECT ANY ORDER NOT SUBMITTED IN COMPLETE FORM OR CONTAINING AMBIGUOUS INSTRUCTIONS. CAPITALIZED TERMS USED BUT NOT DEFINED BELOW SHALL HAVE THE MEANING SET FORTH IN THE AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT.

I. TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT

Date: Time: (ET)
Your Name: Firm Name:
NSCC/DTC Participant Number: / Telephone Number:
Email Address:

Type of order (Check One): Creation Redemption

Settlement type (Check One): Digital Asset Cash

Select ETF for transaction (1 Basket = 10,000 Shares)

| ETF NAME | TICKER | CUT-OFF | CREATION/ REDEMPTION SETTLEMENT DATE (T+[1][2]) |
|---|---|---|---|
| [TRUST] | [TICKER] | 3:59:59 p.m. (ET) for settlement in Digital Asset<br>1:59:59 p.m. (ET) for settlement in Cash | |

Please provide wire information below.

Bank Account No. _____

Beneficiary Account Name _____

ABA Routing No. _____

Swift Code _____

THIS TRANSACTION SHALL BE EFFECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE TRUST'S CURRENT PROSPECTUS AND THE AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT

#of Baskets Transacted Number: _____Number written out: _____Order #: _____Authorized Person's Signature _____

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II. TO BE COMPLETED BY MARKETING AGENT

This certifies that the above order has been:

☐ Accepted by the Marketing Agent ☐ Rejected

This certifies that the above order will be executed as a:

☐ Variable Fee Cash Order (default if neither checked) ☐ Actual Execution Cash Order

Date _____Time _____Authorized Person's Signature _____

ANNEX I-B TO CREATION AND REDEMPTION PROCEDURES ORDER ENTRY
SYSTEM TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This Annex I-B shall govern use by Authorized Participant of the electronic order entry system for placing Creation Orders and Redemption Orders for Shares (the "System"). Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in Schedule I of the Authorized Participant Agreement. In the event of any conflict between the terms of this Annex I-B and Section 2.01 and 2.02 of the Authorized Participant Agreement with respect to the placing of Creation Orders and Redemption Orders, the terms of this Annex I-B shall control.

1. (a) Authorized Participant shall provide to The Bank of New York Mellon a duly executed authorization letter, in a form satisfactory to The Bank of New York Mellon, identifying those authorized persons who will access the System (the "Authorized Persons"). Authorized Participant shall notify The Bank of New York Mellon in writing in the event that any person's status as an Authorized Person is revoked or terminated as soon as possible, and The Bank of New York Mellon shall promptly terminate such Authorized Person's access to the System.

(b) It is understood and agreed that each Authorized Person shall be designated as an Authorized Representative of Authorized Participant for the purpose of the Authorized Participant Agreement. Upon termination of the Authorized Participant Agreement, the Authorized Participant's and each Authorized Person's access rights with respect to the System shall be immediately revoked.

2. The Bank of New York Mellon grants to Authorized Participant a personal, nontransferable and nonexclusive license to use the System solely for the purpose of transmitting Creation Orders and Redemption Orders and otherwise communicating with The Bank of New York Mellon in connection with the same. Authorized Participant shall use the System solely for its own internal and proper business purposes. Except as set forth herein, no license or right of any kind is granted to Authorized Participant with respect to the System. Authorized Participant acknowledges that The Bank of New York Mellon and its suppliers retain and have title and exclusive proprietary rights to the System. Authorized Participant further acknowledges that all or a part of the System may be copyrighted or trademarked (or a registration or claim made therefor) by The Bank of New York Mellon or its suppliers. Authorized Participant shall not take any action with respect to the System inconsistent with the foregoing acknowledgments. Authorized Participant may not copy, distribute, sell, lease or provide, directly or indirectly, the System or any portion thereof to any other person or entity without The Bank of New York Mellon's prior written consent. Authorized Participant may not remove any statutory copyright notice or other notice included in the System. Authorized Participant shall reproduce any such notice on any reproduction of any portion of the System and shall add any statutory copyright notice or other notice upon The Bank of New York Mellon's request.

3. (a) Authorized Participant acknowledges that any user manuals or other documentation (whether in hard copy or electronic form) (collectively, the "Material"), which is delivered or made available to Authorized Participant regarding the System is the exclusive and confidential property of The Bank of New York Mellon. Authorized Participant shall keep the Material confidential by using the same care and discretion that Authorized Participant uses with respect to

its own confidential property and trade secrets, but in no event less than reasonable care. Authorized Participant may make such copies of the Material as is reasonably necessary for Authorized Participant to use the System and shall reproduce The Bank of New York Mellon's proprietary markings on any such copy. The foregoing shall not in any way be deemed to affect the copyright status of any of the Material which may be copyrighted and shall apply to all Material whether or not copyrighted. THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON AND ITS SUPPLIERS MAKE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, CONCERNING THE MATERIAL OR ANY PRODUCT OR SERVICE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

(b) Upon termination of the Authorized Participant Agreement for any reason Authorized Participant shall return to The Bank of New York Mellon all copies of the Material which is in Authorized Participant's possession or under its control, except to the extent required by applicable law or Authorized Participant's commercially reasonable internal document retention, electronic backup or similar policies.

4. Authorized Participant agrees that it shall have sole responsibility for maintaining adequate security and control of the user IDs, passwords and codes for access to the System, which shall not be disclosed to any third party without the prior written consent of The Bank of New York Mellon. The Bank of New York Mellon shall be entitled to rely on the information received by it from the Authorized Participant and The Bank of New York Mellon may assume that all such information was transmitted by or on behalf of an Authorized Person regardless of by whom it was actually transmitted, unless the Authorized Participant previously notified The Bank of New York Mellon that the user IDs, passwords and codes for access to the System have been compromised or the Authorized Participant has properly revoked the authority of such Authorized Person pursuant to Section 2.03 of the Standard Terms.

5. The Bank of New York Mellon shall have no liability in connection with the use of the System, the access granted to the Authorized Participant and its Authorized Persons hereunder, or any transaction effected or attempted to be effected by the Authorized Participant hereunder, except for damages incurred by the Authorized Participant as a direct result of The Bank of New York Mellon's gross negligence or willful misconduct. WITHOUT LIMITING THE GENERALITY OF THE FOREGOING, IT IS HEREBY AGREED THAT IN NO EVENT SHALL THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON OR ANY MANUFACTURER OR SUPPLIER OF EQUIPMENT, SOFTWARE OR SERVICES BE RESPONSIBLE OR LIABLE FOR ANY SPECIAL, INDIRECT, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES WHICH THE AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT MAY INCUR OR EXPERIENCE BY REASON OF ITS HAVING ENTERED INTO OR RELIED ON THIS AGREEMENT, OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE ACCESS GRANTED TO AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT HEREUNDER, OR ANY TRANSACTION EFFECTED OR ATTEMPTED TO BE EFFECTED BY AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT HEREUNDER, EVEN IF THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON OR SUCH MANUFACTURER OR SUPPLIER HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES, NOR SHALL THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON OR ANY SUCH MANUFACTURER OR SUPPLIER BE LIABLE FOR ACTS OF GOD, MACHINE OR COMPUTER BREAKDOWN OR MALFUNCTION, INTERRUPTION OR MALFUNCTION OF COMMUNICATION FACILITIES, LABOR DIFFICULTIES OR ANY OTHER SIMILAR OR DISSIMILAR CAUSE BEYOND SUCH PERSON'S REASONABLE CONTROL.

6. The Bank of New York Mellon reserves the right to revoke Authorized Participant's access to the System immediately and without notice upon any material breach by the Authorized Participant of the terms and conditions of this Annex I-B.

7. The Bank of New York Mellon shall acknowledge through the System its receipt of each Creation Order or Redemption Order communicated through the System, and in the absence of such acknowledgment The Bank of New York Mellon shall not be liable for any failure to act in accordance with such orders and Authorized Participant may not claim that such Creation Order or Redemption Order was received by The Bank of New York Mellon. The Bank of New York Mellon may in its discretion and with notice to the Authorized Participant decline to act upon any instructions or communications that are insufficient or incomplete or are not received by The Bank of New York Mellon in sufficient time for The Bank of New York Mellon to act upon, or in accordance with, such instructions or communications.

8. Authorized Participant agrees to use reasonable efforts to prevent the transmission through the System of any software or file which contains any viruses, worms, harmful component or corrupted data and agrees not to use any device, software, or routine to interfere or attempt to interfere with the proper working of the Systems.

9. Authorized Participant acknowledges and agrees that encryption may not be available for every communication through the System, or for all data. Authorized Participant agrees that The Bank of New York Mellon may deactivate any encryption features at any time, without notice or liability to Authorized Participant, for the purpose of maintaining, repairing or troubleshooting its systems.

SCHEDULE II

STANDARD TERMS FOR AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT AGREEMENTS

STANDARD TERMS FOR AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT AGREEMENTS

STANDARD TERMS FOR AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT AGREEMENTS (the "Standard Terms") dated as of [•] among: (i) [•], a company organized under the laws of [•] (the "Authorized Participant"); (ii) The Bank of New York Mellon, a New York banking corporation, as Transfer Agent for the Grayscale Digital Asset Trust (the "Transfer Agent"); and (iii) Grayscale Investments, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, as sponsor (the "Sponsor") for the each Trust listed on Schedule V attached hereto and incorporated herein (each, the applicable "Trust" when referred to throughout the remainder of this Agreement), as the same may be amended from time to time by the Sponsor except as otherwise specified. Capitalized terms used in these Standard Terms and not otherwise defined herein have the meaning ascribed to them in the Creation and Redemption Procedures attached to the Authorized Participant Agreement as Schedule I (the "Procedures").

ARTICLE I
ORDERS FOR PURCHASE AND REDEMPTION

Section 1.01. Authorization to Purchase and Redeem Baskets. Subject to the provisions of the Authorized Participant Agreement, during the term of the Authorized Participant Agreement the Authorized Participant will be authorized to purchase and tender for redemption Baskets in compliance with the provisions of the Trust Agreement, the Procedures and these Standard Terms.

Section 1.02. Procedures for Orders. Each party hereto agrees to comply with the provisions of the Trust Agreement, the Procedures and these Standard Terms to the extent applicable to it.

Section 1.03. Consent to Recording. The phone lines used by the Transfer Agent, the Custodian, the Sponsor and/or their affiliated persons may be recorded, and the Authorized Participant hereby consents to the recording of all calls with any of those parties; provided, that, the Transfer Agent shall use its reasonable efforts to provide the Authorized Participant with copies of such recordings upon the reasonable request of the Authorized Participant. The parties agree that either party may use such recordings in connection with any dispute or proceeding related to this Agreement. In the event that the Transfer Agent, the Custodian, the Sponsor or any of their affiliated persons becomes legally compelled to disclose to any third party any recording involving communications with the Authorized Participant, the Sponsor agrees to provide the Authorized Participant with reasonable advance written notice identifying the recordings to be so disclosed unless prohibited by applicable rule, law or order, together with copies of such recordings, so that the Authorized Participant may seek a protective order or other appropriate remedy with respect to the recordings or waive its right to do so. In the event that such protective order or other remedy is not obtained or the Authorized Participant waives its right to seek such protective order or remedy, the Sponsor will use commercially reasonable efforts to obtain reliable assurance that confidential treatment will be accorded the recorded conversation. The Transfer Agent, the Sponsor or any of their affiliated persons shall not otherwise disclose to any third party any recording involving communications with the Authorized Participant without the Authorized Participant's express written consent, except that the Transfer Agent and the Sponsor may disclose to any regulatory or self-regulatory organization with competent jurisdiction over Transfer Agent or Sponsor, as applicable, to the extent required by applicable rule or law, any recording involving communications with the Authorized Participant.

Section 1.04. Irrevocability. The Authorized Participant agrees that delivery to the Transfer Agent of an Order shall be irrevocable, provided that the Transfer Agent will reject any Order that is not completed in accordance with the Procedures. In the event that the Creation or Redemption of Baskets is suspended by the Transfer Agent or the Sponsor and such suspension affects any Order submitted by the Authorized Participant, the Transfer Agent or Sponsor, as applicable, will notify the Authorized Participant as soon as reasonably practicable of such suspension. The Sponsor agrees to undertake commercially reasonable efforts to accommodate any request by the Authorized Participant to cancel a previously placed Order if such Order has not yet been accepted, but the Sponsor shall have no liability for the Trust's inability to accommodate such a request. The Trust, the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent will promptly return to the Authorized Participant upon cancellation or rejection of an Order all consideration, including any Shares, Digital Asset or other consideration tendered by the Authorized Participant, in respect of such cancelled or rejected Order to the extent reasonably practicable.

Section 1.05. Costs and Expenses. The Authorized Participant shall be responsible for the expenses and costs incurred by the Trust that can be directly attributable to Orders submitted by the Authorized Participant other than ordinary course expenses and costs which are reimbursed through payment of the fee contemplated in Sections 2.01(h) and 2.02(h) of the Procedures. The Transfer Agent or the Sponsor shall provide the Authorized Participant with reasonably detailed information relating to such expenses and costs upon request by the Authorized Participant.

Section 1.06. Delivery of Property to the Trust and Shares Surrendered for Redemption.

(a) The Authorized Participant understands and agrees that in the event Deposit Property in connection with an In-Kind Order for Creation is not transferred to the Trust, or Shares are not delivered to the Transfer Agent by the applicable Settlement Date in connection with any Redemption Order, in compliance with the Procedures and these Standard Terms, and, in each case, the Authorized Participant does not deposit the Collateral Amount pursuant to the Procedures, the Authorized Participant will be solely responsible for all damages, losses, costs and expenses incurred by the Trust, the Sponsor, the Transfer Agent or the Custodian related to any such Order. The Authorized Participant will not, however, be responsible for damages, losses, costs and expenses incurred by the Trust, the Sponsor, the Transfer Agent or the Custodian related to such Orders to the extent the failure to transfer Deposit Property in connection with a Cash Order for Creation, in the case of a Creation Order, or Shares, in the case of a Redemption Order, to the Trust is due to the negligence, bad faith or reckless or willful misconduct of the Transfer Agent, the Sponsor, a liquidity provider or the Custodian or if such failure arises from nuclear fission or fusion, radioactivity, war, terrorist event, invasion, insurrection, civil commotion, riot, strike, act of government, public authority, public service or utility problems, power outages resulting in telephone, telecopy and computer failures, acts of God, such as fires, floods or extreme weather conditions, market conditions or activities causing trading halts, systems failures involving computer or other information systems, including any failures or outages of the Digital Asset Network, affecting the Authorized Participant, or similar extraordinary events beyond the Authorized Participant's control. In the event of any such delay, the time to complete Delivery in respect of a Creation Order or Redemption Order will be extended for a period equal to that during

which the inability to perform continues as determined by the Transfer Agent in its sole discretion. Upon the deposit of Digital Assets by the Authorized Participant or any AP Designee, the Authorized Participant represents and warrants that (i) the Authorized Participant (or its AP Designee) is duly authorized to make such deposit of Digital Assets and (ii) at the time of Delivery, the Digital Assets are free and clear of any lien, pledge, encumbrance, right, charge or claim.

(b) The Sponsor understands and agrees that in the event Deposit Property is not transferred to the Trust by a liquidity provider at the Sponsor's direction in connection with a Cash Order for Creation, in compliance with the Procedures and these Standard Terms, the liquidity provider will be solely responsible for all damages, losses, costs and expenses incurred by the Trust, the Transfer Agent or the Custodian related to any such Order. The Sponsor will not, however, be responsible for damages, losses, costs and expenses incurred by the Trust, the Authorized Participant, the Transfer Agent or the Custodian related to such Orders to the extent the failure to transfer Deposit Property to the Trust is due to the negligence, bad faith or reckless or willful misconduct of the Transfer Agent, the Authorized Participant or the Custodian or if such failure arises from nuclear fission or fusion, radioactivity, war, terrorist event, invasion, insurrection, civil commotion, riot, strike, act of government, public authority, public service or utility problems, power outages resulting in telephone, telecopy and computer failures, acts of God, such as fires, floods or extreme weather conditions, market conditions or activities causing trading halts, systems failures involving computer or other information systems, including any failures or outages of the Digital Asset Network, affecting the Sponsor, or similar extraordinary events beyond the Sponsor's control. In the event of any such delay, the time to complete Delivery in respect of a Creation Order will be extended for a period equal to that during which the inability to perform continues as determined by the Transfer Agent in its sole discretion.

Section 1.07. Title to Deposit Property and Shares Surrendered for Redemption. (a) The Authorized Participant represents and warrants to the Transfer Agent and the Sponsor that:

(i) in connection with each In-Kind Order for Creation, the Authorized Participant, as Depositor, will have the right and authority to transfer to the Trust the corresponding Deposit Property, and that upon delivery of such Deposit Property to the Custodian on the Creation Settlement Date, the Trust will acquire good and unencumbered title to such property, free and clear of all liens, charges, duties imposed on the transfer of assets and encumbrances and not subject to any adverse claims or transferability restrictions, whether arising by operation of law or otherwise; and

(ii) in connection with a Redemption Order, the Authorized Participant has reasonable grounds to believe that it or the Authorized Participant Client, as the case may be, will on the Redemption Settlement Date own (within the meaning of Rule 200 of Regulation SHO of the Exchange Act) the requisite number of Shares to be redeemed such that the Shares will be surrendered to the Transfer Agent on or prior to the Redemption Settlement Date. In either case, the Authorized Participant or the Authorized Participant Client, as the case may be, (i) has or will have the right and authority to surrender to the Transfer Agent for redemption on the Redemption Settlement Date the corresponding Shares, (ii) has or will have the right and authority to receive the entire proceeds of the redemption on the Redemption Settlement Date, and (iii) upon such surrender on the Redemption Settlement Date, the Trust will acquire good and unencumbered title to such Shares, free and clear of all liens, charges, duties imposed on the transfer of assets and

encumbrances and not subject to any adverse claims, transferability restrictions (whether arising by operation of law or otherwise), loan, pledge, repurchase or securities lending agreements or other arrangements affecting legal or beneficial ownership of such Shares being submitted for redemption which, under such circumstances, would preclude the delivery of such Shares to the Transfer Agent on the Redemption Settlement Date.

Section 1.08. Ambiguous Instructions. In the event that a Creation Order or Redemption Order contains terms that differ from the information provided in the related telephone call or email transmission, the Transfer Agent will use its commercially reasonable efforts to contact the Authorized Participant to request confirmation of the terms of the order at the telephone number indicated in the Creation Order or Redemption Order. If an Authorized Representative (as defined below) confirms the terms as they appear in the Creation Order or Redemption Order, then the order will be accepted and processed. If an Authorized Representative contradicts the terms of the Creation Order or Redemption Order, the order will be deemed invalid, and a corrected Creation Order or Redemption Order must be received by the Transfer Agent no later than the Order Cutoff Time. For the avoidance of doubt, notwithstanding the invalidation of the initial Creation Order or Redemption Order pursuant to this paragraph, a Creation Order or Redemption Order that is otherwise in proper form shall be deemed submitted at the time of its initial submission for purposes of determining when orders are deemed received. If the Transfer Agent makes a commercially reasonable effort to contact the Authorized Participant but is not able to contact an Authorized Representative by the Order Cutoff Time, then the Creation Order or Redemption Order shall be accepted and processed in accordance with its terms notwithstanding any inconsistency from the terms of the telephone information. In the event that a Creation Order or Redemption Order contains terms that are illegible, the submission will be deemed invalid and the Transfer Agent will attempt to contact the Authorized Participant to request retransmission. A corrected Creation Order or Redemption Order must be received by the Transfer Agent, as applicable, no later than the Order Cutoff Time.

Section 1.09. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, in the event that the Deposit Property to be delivered by the Authorized Participant in connection with any Creation Order or the Shares to be delivered by the Authorized Participant in connection with any Redemption Order are missing some of the required assets on the applicable settlement date for such Creation Order or Redemption Order, the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent agree not to treat such Creation Order or Redemption Order as a failed trade or a failed settlement provided that the Authorized Participant adheres to the remedial steps set forth in the Procedures.

## ARTICLE II AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES

Section 2.01. Certification. Concurrently with the execution of the Authorized Participant Agreement, the Authorized Participant shall deliver to the Transfer Agent and the Marketing Agent a certificate in a form as attached at Schedule III to the Authorized Participant Agreement or in such other formats as may be mutually agreed to by the parties (an "Authorized Representative Certificate") signed by the Authorized Participant's Secretary or other duly authorized person setting forth the names, signatures, e-mail addresses and telephone numbers of all persons authorized to give instructions relating to any activity contemplated hereby or any other notice, request or instruction on behalf of the Authorized Participant (each an "Authorized

Representative"). Such certificate may be accepted and relied upon by each of the Transfer Agent and the Marketing Agent as conclusive evidence of the facts set forth therein and shall be considered to be in full force and effect until (i) receipt by the Transfer Agent and the Marketing Agent of a superseding Authorized Representative Certificate, or (ii) termination of the Authorized Participant Agreement. After such Authorized Representative Certificate is accepted by the Transfer Agent and the Marketing Agent, the Authorized Participant may authorize additional Authorized Representatives to give instructions relating to any activity contemplated hereby or any other notice, request or instruction on behalf of the Authorized Participant by delivering to the Transfer Agent and the Marketing Agent an addendum to the certificate described above in a form as attached at Schedule IV to the Authorized Participant Agreement.

Section 2.02. PIN Numbers. The Transfer Agent shall issue to each Authorized Participant a unique personal identification number ("PIN Number") by which such Authorized Participant shall be identified and instructions issued by the Authorized Participant shall be authenticated. The PIN Number shall be kept confidential and only provided to Authorized Representatives. The Transfer Agent acknowledges and agrees that certain employees of the Authorized Participant, such as those who work in legal, compliance, risk management or other supervisory roles may have a reasonable need to know or may have incidental access to one or more PIN Numbers. The Authorized Participant may revoke the PIN Number at any time upon written notice to the Transfer Agent pursuant to Section 2.03 hereof, and the Authorized Participant shall be responsible for doing so in the event that it becomes aware that an unauthorized person has received access to its PIN Number or has or intends to use the PIN Number in an unauthorized manner. Except as otherwise provided in these Standard Terms, the Authorized Participant agrees that neither the Trust nor the Transfer Agent shall be liable for losses incurred by the Authorized Participant as a result of unauthorized use of the Authorized Participant's PIN Number prior to the time when the Authorized Participant provides notice to the Transfer Agent of the termination or revocation of authority pursuant to Section 2.03 and the Transfer Agent has de-activated the PIN Number as provided for in Section 2.03 hereof.

Section 2.03. Termination of Authority. Upon the termination or revocation of authority of an Authorized Representative by the Authorized Participant or the revocation of a PIN Number by the Authorized Participant, the Authorized Participant shall (i) give, as promptly as practicable under the circumstances, written notice of such fact to the Transfer Agent and such notice shall be effective upon receipt by the Transfer Agent in accordance with the notice provisions herein; and (ii) request a new PIN Number. The Transfer Agent shall, as promptly as practicable, de-activate the PIN Number upon receipt of such written notice. If an Authorized Participant's PIN Number is changed, the new PIN Number will become effective on a date mutually agreed upon by the Authorized Participant and the Transfer Agent.

Section 2.04. Verification. The Transfer Agent may assume that all instructions issued to it using the Authorized Participant's PIN Number have been properly placed by Authorized Representatives, unless the Transfer Agent has actual knowledge to the contrary or the Authorized Participant has properly revoked such PIN Number prior to the placement of such instructions. The Transfer Agent shall have no duty to verify that an Order is being placed by an Authorized Representative that uses a valid PIN Number. The Authorized Participant agrees that the Transfer Agent shall not be responsible for any losses incurred by the Authorized Participant as a result of an Authorized Representative identifying himself or herself as a different Authorized Representative or an unauthorized person identifying himself or herself as an Authorized Representative, unless such person uses a PIN Number which the Authorized Participant had previously revoked in accordance with Section 2.03 hereof or which was acquired through a breach of the Transfer Agent's security system.

ARTICLE III
STATUS OF THE AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT

Section 3.01. Clearing Status. The Authorized Participant represents, covenants and warrants that, as of the date of execution of the Authorized Participant Agreement, and at all times during the term of the Authorized Participant Agreement, the Authorized Participant is and will be entitled to use the clearing and settlement services of each of the national or international clearing and settlement organizations through which, in compliance with the Procedures, the transactions contemplated hereby will clear and settle. Any change in the foregoing status of the Authorized Participant shall terminate the Authorized Participant Agreement, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the parties, and the Authorized Participant shall give prompt written notice thereof to the Transfer Agent.

Section 3.02. Broker-Dealer Status. The Authorized Participant represents and warrants that it is (i) registered as a broker-dealer under the Exchange Act or other securities market participant, such as a bank or other financial institution, which, but for an exclusion from registration, would be required to register as a broker-dealer to engage in securities transactions, (ii) qualified to act as a broker or dealer in the states or other jurisdictions where it transacts business to the extent so required by applicable law, and (iii) a member in good standing with FINRA. The Authorized Participant agrees that it will maintain such registration and membership in good standing and any other registrations, qualifications and membership in good standing applicable to it in full force and effect throughout the term of the Authorized Participant Agreement. The Authorized Participant further agrees to comply with all applicable U.S. federal laws, the laws of the states or other jurisdictions concerned, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, to the extent such laws and regulations are applicable to the Authorized Participant's transactions in, and activities with respect to, Shares, and with the FINRA By-Laws and the FINRA Conduct Rules to the extent the foregoing relates to the Authorized Participant's transactions in, and activities with respect to, Shares, and that it will not offer or sell Shares in any state or jurisdiction where they may not lawfully be offered and/or sold. The Authorized Participant shall be solely responsible for determining the application of any such laws or regulations in all cases at its own expense.

Section 3.03. Foreign Status. If the Authorized Participant is offering and selling Shares in jurisdictions outside the several states, territories and possessions of the United States and is not otherwise required to meet the requirements of clauses (i) through (iii) of Section 3.02 hereof, the Authorized Participant agrees to observe the applicable laws of the jurisdiction in which such offer and/or sale is made and to conduct its business in accordance with the FINRA Conduct Rules, to the extent the foregoing relates to the Authorized Participant's transactions in, and activities with respect to, Shares.

Section 3.04. Compliance with Certain Laws. The Authorized Participant has policies and procedures reasonably designed to comply with the anti-money laundering and related provisions of the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001, as amended (the "U.S.A. PATRIOT Act"), and the operations of the Authorized Participant are and have been conducted in compliance with the U.S.A. PATRIOT Act.

Section 3.05. Authorized Participant Status. The Authorized Participant understands and acknowledges that the method by which Baskets will be created and traded may raise certain issues under applicable securities laws. For example, because new Baskets of Shares may be issued and sold by the Trust on an ongoing basis, at any point a "distribution," as such term is used in the Securities Act, may occur. The Authorized Participant understands and acknowledges that some activities on its part, depending on the facts, and based on certain possible interpretations of applicable law, may result in its being deemed a participant in a distribution in a manner which could render it a statutory underwriter as such term is defined in Section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act and subject it to the prospectus delivery and liability provisions of the Securities Act.

## ARTICLE IV
## ROLE OF AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT

Section 4.01. No Agency. The Authorized Participant acknowledges and agrees that, for purposes of the Authorized Participant Agreement, the Authorized Participant will have no authority to act as agent for the Trust or the Transfer Agent in any matter or in any respect. The Authorized Participant agrees to make itself and its employees available, upon reasonable request and reasonable notice, during normal business hours to consult with the Transfer Agent, the Custodian, the Sponsor or their designees concerning the performance of the Authorized Participant's responsibilities under the Authorized Participant Agreement; provided, however, that the Authorized Participant shall be under no obligation to divulge or otherwise disclose any information that the Authorized Participant reasonably believes (i) the disclosure of which to third parties is in violation of any applicable law or regulation or is otherwise prohibited or (ii) is confidential or proprietary in nature.

Section 4.02. Rights and Obligations of DTC Participant. The Authorized Participant, as a DTC Participant, agrees that it shall be bound by all of the obligations of a DTC Participant in addition to any obligations that it undertakes hereunder or in accordance with the Procedures.

Section 4.03. Beneficial Owner Communications. The Authorized Participant agrees (i) subject to any limitations arising under federal or state securities laws relating to privacy, or other obligations it may have to its customers, to assist the Transfer Agent or the Sponsor in determining certain information that the Authorized Participant may have in its possession regarding sales of Shares made by or through the Authorized Participant (including, without limitation, the ownership level of each beneficial owner relating to positions in Shares that the Authorized Participant may hold as record holder) upon the request of the Transfer Agent or the Sponsor that is necessary for the Transfer Agent or Sponsor to comply with their obligations to distribute information to beneficial owners of Shares under applicable state or federal securities laws and (ii) to forward to such beneficial owners written materials and communications received, directly or indirectly, from the Sponsor or the Transfer Agent in sufficient quantities to allow mailing thereof to such beneficial owners, including, without limitation, notices, annual reports, disclosure or other informational materials and any amendments or supplements thereto that may be required to be sent by the Sponsor or the Transfer Agent to such beneficial owners pursuant to applicable law or regulation or otherwise, or that the Sponsor or the Transfer Agent reasonably wishes to distribute to such beneficial owners, in each case at the expense of the Sponsor and/or the Trust.

Section 4.04. Authorized Participant Customer Information. The Sponsor and the Transfer Agent agree that the names and addresses and other information concerning the Authorized Participant's customers are and shall remain the sole property of the Authorized Participant, and none of the Sponsor, the Trust, or the Transfer Agent, or any of their respective affiliates, shall use such names, addresses or other information for any purpose except as required for performance of their duties and responsibilities under the Authorized Participant Agreement, the Procedures, the Standard Terms, the Trust Agreement and the applicable Prospectus and except for servicing and informational mailings related to the Trust referred to in Section 4.03 above.

## ARTICLE V
## MARKETING MATERIALS AND REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

Section 5.01. Representations of the Trust. The Sponsor hereby represents and warrants on behalf of the Trust:

(a) The Registration Statement will have become effective, and on the effective date of the Registration Statement (the "Effective Date") and at each Time of Purchase, the Registration Statement shall be effective and no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement will be in effect and no proceedings for such purpose will be pending before or, to the Sponsor's knowledge, threatened by the SEC.

The Registration Statement complies, or will comply when so filed, in all material respects with the Securities Act and the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC thereunder, and the Prospectus complied, or will comply, as of its date, and complies at each Time of Purchase, in all material respects with the requirements of the Securities Act and the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC thereunder. As of the Effective Date and as of each Time of Purchase, the Registration Statement will not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, and the Prospectus, as of its date or as of each Time of Purchase, will not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they are made, not misleading; provided, however, that the Sponsor makes no warranty or representation with respect to any statement contained in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus in reliance upon and in conformity with information concerning the Authorized Participant and furnished in writing by or on behalf of the Authorized Participant to the Sponsor expressly for use therein.

No consent, approval, authorization, order, registration, qualification or other action of, or filing with, any federal, state, local or foreign governmental or regulatory authority, agency, body or court having jurisdiction over the Trust is required in connection with the issuance and sale of the Shares, except (i) such as have been obtained and made or will have been obtained and made under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act on or prior to the Creation of such Shares, (ii) approval of listing on NYSE Arca, (iii) such as may be required by the securities or Blue Sky laws of the various states in connection with the offer and sale of the Shares and (iv) if required, exemptive relief from the SEC pursuant to Regulation M regarding the reinstatement of the Trust's ability to redeem Shares.

(b) As of the Effective Date, the Trust will have all requisite corporate power and authority to execute, deliver and perform each of its obligations under this Agreement and issue the Shares. The Shares, when issued, will be in the form contemplated by the Trust Agreement and when delivered against payment of consideration therefor, as provided in this Agreement, will be duly and validly authorized, issued, fully paid and non-assessable and free of statutory and contractual preemptive rights, rights of first refusal and similar rights. The Shares will be consistent with the descriptions thereof contained in the Prospectus.

(c) All marketing and promotional materials other than the Prospectus provided to the Authorized Participant by the Sponsor will comply in all material respects with applicable law, including, without limitation, the provisions of the Securities Act, FINRA's marketing rules and the rules and regulations of the SEC.

(d) As of the Effective Date, the Shares will have been approved for listing on NYSE Arca; the Sponsor will comply, at all times during which this Agreement is in effect, with all applicable disclosure requirements in connection with its offering of the Shares, including, without limitation, those under the Securities Act and the rules of the SEC thereunder.

Section 5.02. Representations of the Authorized Participant. The Authorized Participant represents, warrants and agrees that, in connection with any sale or solicitation of a sale of Shares, it will not make, or permit any of its representatives to make on its behalf, any representations concerning Shares, the Trust or the Sponsor other than those not inconsistent with the Trust's Prospectus or any promotional materials or sales literature furnished to the Authorized Participant by the Sponsor or other information and materials filed by the Trust with the SEC or made available on any website controlled by the Sponsor or the Trust. The Authorized Participant agrees not to furnish or cause to be furnished to any person or display or publish any information or materials concerning the Shares, the Trust or the Sponsor, including, without limitation, research materials, market color commentaries, training and educational materials, promotional materials and sales literature, advertisements, press releases, announcements, statements, posters, signs or other similar materials ("Marketing Materials"), except such Marketing Materials as may be furnished to the Authorized Participant by the Sponsor and such other information and materials as may be approved in writing by the Sponsor. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Authorized Participant and its Affiliates and representatives may, without the approval of the Sponsor, prepare and circulate in the regular course of their respective businesses research, reports, commentary or similar materials that include information, opinions or recommendations relating to Shares (i) for public dissemination, provided that such reports, research, commentary or other similar materials comply with applicable FINRA rules and/or (ii) for internal use by the Authorized Participant and its Affiliates and representatives.

Section 5.03. Prospectus. The Sponsor will provide, or cause to be provided, to the Authorized Participant copies of the Prospectus and any printed supplemental information in reasonable quantities upon request. The Sponsor will, as promptly as practicable under the circumstances, notify the Authorized Participant when a revised, supplemented or amended Prospectus for the Shares is available, and deliver or otherwise make available to the Authorized

Participant copies of such revised, supplemented or amended Prospectus at such time and in such quantities as may be reasonable to permit the Authorized Participant to comply with any obligation the Authorized Participant may have to deliver such Prospectus to its customers. The Sponsor will make such revised, supplemented or amended Prospectus available to the Authorized Participant no later than its effective date. The Sponsor shall be deemed to have complied with this Section 5.03 when the Authorized Participant has received such revised, supplemented or amended Prospectus by e-mail at [ ], in printable form, with such number of hard copies as may be agreed from time to time by the parties promptly thereafter.

Section 5.04. Use of Authorized Participant's Name.

(a) The Sponsor agrees that it will not, without prior written consent of the Authorized Participant, use in advertising or publicity the name of the Authorized Participant or any affiliate of the Authorized Participant, any trade name, trademark, trade device, service mark, symbol or any abbreviation, contraction or simulation thereof owned by the Authorized Participant or any of its affiliates or represent, directly or indirectly, that any product or any service provided or distributed by the Trust or the Sponsor has been approved or endorsed by the Authorized Participant or any of its affiliates or that the Authorized Participant acts as underwriter, distributor, marketing agent or selling group member with respect to the Shares.

(b) The Sponsor agrees not to identify or name the Authorized Participant in the Registration Statement, the Prospectus, any free-writing prospectus or in any Marketing Materials of the Trust, except as required by applicable law or regulation, and in no event shall identify the Authorized Participant as an underwriter in any communications, documentation, materials, or filings of the Trust without the Authorized Participant's prior written consent, and provided that in all cases, the Sponsor shall provide advance written notice of such disclosure to the Authorized Participant and upon receipt of such notice, provided that the Authorized Participant has not previously consented in writing to such disclosure, the Authorized Participant may elect to terminate this Agreement in its sole discretion. If the Authorized Participant agrees to be identified in any such documents, upon the notification of termination of the Authorized Participant Agreement, the Sponsor shall promptly (i) file a current report on Form 8-K indicating the notification of withdrawal of the Authorized Participant as an authorized participant of the Trust and (ii) update the website of the Trust and any investment adviser of the Trust to remove any identification of the Authorized Participant as an authorized participant of the Trust. Further and for the avoidance of doubt, if the Authorized Participant agrees to be identified in any of such documents, the Trust and Sponsor each agree and acknowledge that the Authorized Participant is not intended to serve as an underwriter to the Trust by granting such consent.

## ARTICLE VI INDEMNIFICATION; LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

Section 6.01. Indemnification.

(a) The Authorized Participant shall indemnify and hold harmless the Sponsor, in its capacity as sponsor of the Trust, the Transfer Agent, the Trust and their respective Affiliates, subsidiaries, directors, officers, employees and agents, and each person, if any, who controls such persons within the meaning of Section 15 of the Securities Act (each an "AP Indemnified Party")

from and against any claim, loss, liability, cost and expense (including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees) incurred by such AP Indemnified Party as a result of (i) any breach by the Authorized Participant (or its AP Designee) of any provision of the Authorized Participant Agreement that relates to the Authorized Participant, including the representations and warranties contained in the Procedures and these Standard Terms (together, the "Trust Documents"); (ii) any failure on the part of the Authorized Participant to perform any of its obligations set forth in the Authorized Participant Agreement or Trust Documents; (iii) any failure by the Authorized Participant to comply with applicable laws, including, without limitation, rules and regulations of any regulatory or self-regulatory organizations in relation to its role as Authorized Participant; (iv) actions of such AP Indemnified Party taken in reliance upon any instructions issued or representations made in accordance with the Trust Documents reasonably believed by the AP Indemnified Party to be genuine and to have been given by the Authorized Participant; or (v) (A) any representation by the Authorized Participant or any of their employees or agents or other representatives about the Shares or any AP Indemnified Party that is not consistent with the Trust's then-current Prospectus made in connection with the offer or the solicitation of an offer to buy or sell Shares, (B) any untrue statement of a material fact or omission to state any material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they are made, not misleading in any Marketing Materials to the extent that such statement or omission relates to the Shares or any AP Indemnified Party, unless such statement or omission was furnished to the Authorized Participant or otherwise approved in writing by the Sponsor, the Trust or any of their designees and (C) any untrue statement of a material fact or omission to state any material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading in the Registration Statement or any untrue statement of a material fact or omission to state any material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they are made, not misleading in the Prospectus to the extent such statement or omission were based upon written information furnished to an AP Indemnified Party by the Authorized Participant specifically for use therein. The Authorized Participant shall not be liable under its indemnity agreement contained in this paragraph with respect to any claim made against any AP Indemnified Party unless the AP Indemnified Party shall have notified the Authorized Participant in writing of the claim within a reasonable time after the summons or other first written notification giving information of the nature of the claim shall have been served upon the AP Indemnified Party (or after the AP Indemnified Party shall have received notice of service on any designated agent). However, failure to notify the Authorized Participant of any claim shall not relieve the Authorized Participant from any liability which it may have to any AP Indemnified Party against whom such action is brought otherwise than on account of its indemnity agreement contained in this paragraph, and shall not release it from such liability under this paragraph unless and to the extent it did not otherwise learn of such action and such failure results in the forfeiture by the Authorized Participant of substantial rights and defenses. The Authorized Participant shall be entitled to participate at its own expense in the defense, or, if it so elects, to assume the defense of any suit brought to enforce any claims, but if the Authorized Participant elects to assume the defense, the defense shall be conducted by counsel chosen by it.

(b) The Sponsor shall indemnify and hold harmless the Authorized Participant, its Affiliates, subsidiaries, directors, officers, employees and agents, and each person, if any, who controls such persons within the meaning of Section 15 of the Securities Act (each a "Sponsor Indemnified Party") from and against any claim, loss, liability, cost and expense (including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees) incurred by such Sponsor Indemnified Party as a

result of (i) any breach by the Sponsor (or its Sponsor Agent) of any provision of the Authorized Participant Agreement that relates to the Sponsor; (ii) any failure by the Sponsor to perform any of its obligations set forth in the Authorized Participant Agreement applicable to it; (iii) any failure on the part of the Sponsor to comply in all material respects with applicable laws, including, without limitation, rules and regulations of any regulatory or self-regulatory organizations to the extent such laws, rules and regulations are applicable to the transactions being undertaken pursuant to the Authorized Participant Agreement; (iv) actions of such Sponsor Indemnified Party taken in reliance upon any instructions issued or representations made in accordance with the Authorized Participant Agreement, the Procedures, the Trust Agreement or these Standard Terms reasonably believed by the Sponsor Indemnified Party to be genuine and to have been given by the Sponsor; or (v) with respect to the Registration Statement, any untrue statement of a material fact or omission to state any material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading or, with respect to the Prospectus and any Marketing Materials, any untrue statement of a material fact or omission to state any material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they are made, not misleading to the extent that such statement or omission relates to the Shares or the Trust, unless such statement or omission was furnished to the Sponsor or otherwise approved in writing by the Authorized Participant or any of their designees. The Sponsor shall not be liable under its indemnity agreement contained in this paragraph with respect to any claim made against any Sponsor Indemnified Party unless the Sponsor Indemnified Party shall have notified the Sponsor in writing of the claim within a reasonable time after the summons or other first written notification giving information of the nature of the claim shall have been served upon the Sponsor Indemnified Party (or after the Sponsor Indemnified Party shall have received notice of service on any designated agent). However, failure to notify the Sponsor of any claim shall not relieve the Sponsor from any liability which it may have to any Sponsor Indemnified Party against whom such action is brought otherwise than on account of its indemnity agreement contained in this paragraph, and shall not release it from such liability under this paragraph unless and to the extent it did not otherwise learn of such action and such failure results in the forfeiture by the Sponsor of substantial rights and defenses. The Sponsor shall be entitled to participate at its own expense in the defense, or, if it so elects, to assume the defense of any suit brought to enforce any claims, but if the Sponsor elects to assume the defense, the defense shall be conducted by counsel chosen by it. If the Sponsor does not elect to assume the defense of any suit, it will reimburse the Sponsor Indemnified Parties in the suit for the reasonable fees and expenses of any counsel retained by them.

(c) No indemnifying party, as described in paragraphs (a) and (b) above, shall, without the written consent of the AP Indemnified Party or the Sponsor Indemnified Party, as the case may be, effect the settlement or compromise of, or consent to the entry of any judgment with respect to, any pending or threatened action or claim in respect of which indemnification may be sought hereunder (whether or not the indemnified party is an actual or potential party to such action or claim) unless such settlement, compromise or judgment (i) includes an unconditional release of the AP Indemnified Party or Sponsor Indemnified Party, as the case may be, from all liability arising out of such action or claim and (ii) does not include a statement as to or an admission of fault, culpability or a failure to act, by or on behalf of any AP Indemnified Party or Sponsor Indemnified Party, as the case may be.

(d) The Authorized Participant shall not be liable to any AP Indemnified Party for any damages arising out of (i) mistakes or errors in data provided in connection with Creations or Redemptions except for data provided by the Authorized Participant, or (ii) mistakes or errors by, or arising out of interruptions or delays of communications with, the Transfer Agent or any AP Indemnified Party.

(e) The indemnification provided for in Section 6.01(a) shall not apply to the extent any such losses, liabilities, damages, costs and expenses are incurred as a result of any fraud, gross negligence, bad faith or reckless or willful misconduct on the part of an AP Indemnified Party. The indemnification provided for in Section 6.01(b) shall not apply to the extent any such losses, liabilities, damages, costs and expenses are incurred as a result of any fraud, gross negligence, bad faith or reckless or willful misconduct on the part of a Sponsor Indemnified Party.

(f) The indemnity agreements contained in this Section 6.01 shall remain in full force and effect and shall survive any termination of this Agreement. The Sponsor and the Authorized Participant agree promptly to notify each other of the commencement of any proceeding against it and against any of their officers or directors in connection with the issuance and sale of the Shares or in connection with the Registration Statement or the relevant Prospectus.

## ARTICLE VII LIABILITY PROVISIONS

Section 7.01. No Special Damages. In the absence of gross negligence, bad faith or willful misconduct, in no event shall any party to these Standard Terms be liable for any special, indirect, incidental, exemplary, punitive or consequential loss or damage of any kind whatsoever (including, but not limited to, loss of revenue, loss of actual or anticipated profit, loss of contracts, loss of the use of money, loss of anticipated savings, loss of business, loss of opportunity, loss of market share, loss of goodwill or loss of reputation), even if such parties have been advised of the likelihood of such loss or damage and regardless of the form of action. In no event shall any party be liable for the acts or omissions of DTC, NSCC or any other securities depository or clearing corporation.

Section 7.02. Force Majeure. No party to these Standard Terms shall be responsible or liable for any failure or delay in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement arising out of or caused, directly or indirectly, by circumstances beyond its reasonable control, including, without limitation: acts of God; earthquakes; fires; floods; wars; civil or military disturbances; terrorism; sabotage; epidemics; riots; interruptions; loss or malfunction of utilities, computer (hardware or software) or communications service; failures or outages of the Digital Asset Network; accidents; labor disputes; acts of civil or military authority or governmental actions.

Section 7.03. Reliance on Instructions. Subject to Sections 2.02, 2.03 and 2.04, the Transfer Agent may conclusively rely upon, and shall be fully protected in acting or refraining from acting upon, any communication authorized under these Standard Terms and upon any written or oral instruction, notice, request, direction or consent reasonably believed by it to be genuine.

Section 7.04. Limited Liability. In the absence of fraud, bad faith, gross negligence or willful misconduct on its part, the Transfer Agent, whether acting directly or through agents, affiliates or attorneys, shall not be liable for any action taken, suffered or omitted or for any error of judgment made by it in the performance of its duties hereunder. The Transfer Agent shall not

be liable for any error of judgment made in good faith unless in exercising such, it shall have been grossly negligent in ascertaining the pertinent facts necessary to make such judgment. The Transfer Agent shall not be required to advance, expend or risk its own funds or otherwise incur or become exposed to financial liability in the performance of its duties hereunder, except as may be required as a result of its own fraud, bad faith, gross negligence or willful misconduct.

## ARTICLE VIII
## MISCELLANEOUS

Section 8.01. Commencement of Trading. The Authorized Participant may not submit an Order prior to the effectiveness of the Registration Statement, or amendment to the Registration Statement, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Section 8.02. Defined Terms. All capitalized terms used in these Standard Terms and not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Authorized Participant Agreement and the Procedures.

Section 8.03. Third-Party Beneficiaries. The parties acknowledge and agree that the Trust shall be a third-party beneficiary of the Authorized Participant Agreement, including, without limitation, as to Section 6.01(c) of these Standard Terms.

[Signatures Follow on Next Page]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed these Standard Terms as of the date set forth above.

[•], as Authorized Participant

By: _____
Name:
Title:

GRAYSCALE INVESTMENTS, LLC, as Sponsor

By: _____
Name:
Title:

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, as Transfer Agent

By: _____
Name:
Title:

SCHEDULE III

FORM OF LIST OF CERTIFIED AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT

The following are the names, titles, signatures, phone numbers, and email addresses of all persons (each, an "Authorized Representative") authorized to give instructions relating to any activity contemplated by this Authorized Participant Agreement for the [TRUST] (the "Agreement") or any other notice, request or instruction on behalf of the Authorized Participant pursuant to the Authorized Participant Agreement.

Authorized Participant:

Name: _____ Name: _____

Title: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Signature: _____

Phone: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Name:

Title: _____ Title: _____ Signature:

Signature: _____ Phone:

Phone: _____ Email:

Email: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Title: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Signature: _____

Phone: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Email: _____

Date: _____

Certified By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

DTC Participant Number: _____

SCHEDULE IV
ADDENDUM TO THE CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES

[On Authorized Participant's Firm Letterhead]

[DATE]

Attn:
The Bank of New York Mellon
240 Greenwich Street
New York, NY 10007

Attn: Foreside Fund Services, LLC [•]
[•],
NY [•]

Re: Addendum to the Certificate of Authorized Representatives for [•] under the Authorized Participant Agreement for the [TRUST], sponsored by Grayscale Investments, LLC, dated [DATE] (the "Agreement")

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the Agreement, the following are the names, titles, signatures, phone numbers, and email addresses of additional Authorized Representatives of [•] (the "Authorized Participant") authorized to give instructions relating to any activity contemplated by the Agreement or any other notice, request or instruction on behalf of the Authorized Participant pursuant to the Agreement. This list of Authorized Representatives is an addendum and adds further Authorized Representatives to the Authorized Participant's most recently executed certificate (entitled "Certificate of Authorized Representatives of the Authorized Participant").

| | |
|---|---|
| Name: | Name: |
| Title: | Title: |
| Signature: | Signature: |
| Phone: | Phone: |
| Email: | Email: |
| Name: | Name: |
| Title: | Title: |
| Signature: | Signature: |
| Phone: | Phone: |
| Email: | Email: |

Please provide PIN numbers for such Authorized Representatives who are not already established in the Transfer Agent's system.

The undersigned does hereby certify that the persons listed above have been duly authorized to act as Authorized Representatives pursuant to the Authorized Participant Agreement.

By: _____

Name:

Title:

Date:

SCHEDULE V
LIST OF TRUSTS

| Trust | Trust Agreement | Digital Asset | Index |
|---|---|---|---|
| Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (BTC) | 7th Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement, as amended by Amendment No. 1 thereto | Bitcoin (BTC) | CoinDesk Bitcoin Price Index (XBX) |
| Grayscale Bitcoin Mini Trust (BTC) | Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement | Bitcoin (BTC) | CoinDesk Bitcoin Price Index (XBX) |
| Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH) | 2nd Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement, as amended by Amendment No. 1 thereto | Ethereum (ETH) | CoinDesk Ether Price Index (ETX) |
| Grayscale Ethereum Mini Trust (ETH) | Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement | Ethereum (ETH) | CoinDesk Ether Price Index (ETX) |

Exhibit 5.1

May [ ], 2024

Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH)
c/o Grayscale Investments, LLC
290 Harbor Drive, 4th Floor
Stamford, Connecticut 06902

Re: Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as special Delaware counsel to Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH) (the "Trust"), a Delaware statutory trust, in connection with the matters set forth herein. This opinion is being delivered to you at your request.

We have examined and relied upon such records, documents, certificates and other instruments as in our judgment are necessary or appropriate to enable us to render the opinions expressed below, including the following documents:

(a) The Certificate of Trust of the Trust, as filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware (the "Secretary of State") on December 13, 2017, as amended by that certain Certificate of Amendment to the Certificate of Trust, as filed with the Secretary of State on January 11, 2019 (collectively, the "Certificate of Trust");

(b) The Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement of the Trust, dated as of December 13, 2017, between Grayscale Investments, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, as sponsor (the "Sponsor"), and CSC Delaware Trust Company, a Delaware corporation, as trustee (the "Trustee");

(c) The Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement, dated as of July 3, 2018, as amended by that certain Amendment No. 1 to the Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement, dated as of January 11, 2019, as further amended by that certain Amendment No. 2 to the Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement, dated as of August 11, 2020, and as further amended by that certain Amendment No. 3 to the Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement, dated as of March 22, 2024 (as so amended and restated, the "Trust Agreement");

(d) A form of the Second Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement, to be entered into by the Trustee and the Sponsor (as so amended and restated, the "Amended and Restated Trust Agreement");

(e) A form of the Authorized Participant Agreement to be entered into by the Sponsor, acting in its capacity as Sponsor of the Trust, [The Bank of New York Mellon, a New York Banking corporation] acting in its capacity as transfer agent of the Trust, and each authorized participant (the "Authorized Participant Agreement");

(f) Amendment No. 1 to the Registration Statement on Form S-3 (the "Registration Statement"), including a preliminary prospectus (the "Prospectus"), filed by the Sponsor and the Trust with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") on or about the date hereof relating to an unspecified number of shares to be issued by the Trust representing units of fractional undivided beneficial interests in the assets of the Trust (each, a "Share" and collectively, the "Shares); and

(g) A Certificate of Good Standing for the Trust, dated May [ ], 2024, obtained from the Secretary of State.

With respect to all documents examined by us, we have assumed (i) the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as authentic originals, (ii) the conformity with the originals of all documents submitted to us as copies or forms, and (iii) the genuineness of all signatures. Capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined are used as defined in, or by reference in, the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement, except that references herein to any document shall mean such document as in effect on the date hereof.

Based upon and subject to the foregoing and subject to the assumptions, exceptions, qualifications and limitations set forth hereinbelow, it is our opinion that:

1. The Trust is validly existing as a statutory trust under the Delaware Statutory Trust Act, 12 Del. C. § 3801 et seq. (the "Act") and has the power and authority to issue and deliver the Shares.

2. When the Shares to be issued by the Trust have been delivered and sold to and paid for by the subscribers thereof as contemplated in the Registration Statement, the Participant Agreement and the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement, such Shares will be validly issued and will be fully paid and nonassessable beneficial interests in the Trust.

The foregoing opinions are subject to the following assumptions, exceptions, qualifications and limitations:

A. This opinion is limited to the laws of the State of Delaware (excluding the securities laws of the State of Delaware), and we have not considered and express no opinion on the laws of any other jurisdiction, including federal laws and rules and regulations relating thereto. Our opinions are rendered only with respect to Delaware laws and rules, regulations and orders thereunder which are currently in effect.

B. We have assumed (i) that the Trust Agreement constitutes and the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement will constitute the entire agreement among the parties thereto with respect to the subject matter thereof, including, without limitation, the creation, operation and termination of the Trust and that the Trust Agreement and the Certificate of Trust are in full force and effect and have not been amended and that the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement will be effective as of the time the Shares are issued, (ii) the due creation, due formation or due organization, as the case may be, and valid existence in good standing of each party to the documents (other than the Trust) examined by us under the laws of the jurisdiction governing its creation, formation or organization, (iii) the legal capacity of each natural person who is a signatory to the documents examined by us, (iv) that each of the parties to the documents (other than the Trust) examined by us has the power and authority to execute and deliver, and to perform its obligations under, such documents, (v) the due authorization, execution and delivery by all parties thereto of all documents (other than the Trust) examined by us, (vi) the due submission to the Sponsor or its delegate of a Creation Order by each Authorized Participant, (vii) the due acceptance by the Sponsor or its delegate of each Creation Order, (viii) the payment by each Shareholder to the Trust of the full consideration due from it for the Shares subscribed to by it, (ix) the Shares will be offered and sold as described in the Registration Statement, the Authorized Participant Agreement, and the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement, and (x) that any amendment or restatement of any document reviewed by us has been accomplished in accordance with, and was permitted by, the relevant provisions of said document prior to its amendment or restatement from time to time.

C. We have not participated in the preparation of the Registration Statement or the Prospectus (except for providing this opinion) and assume no responsibility for its contents.

D. We note that Section 6.7(f) of the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement provides that the Shareholders will indemnify the Trust in certain circumstances.

We consent to the filing of this opinion with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. We hereby consent to the use of our name under the heading “Legal Matters” in the Prospectus. In giving the foregoing consents, we do not thereby admit that we come within the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission thereunder.

Very truly yours,

JWP/CZD

Exhibit 8.1

Davis Polk

Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP
450 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10017
davispolk.com

[Date]

Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH)
c/o Grayscale Investments, LLC
290 Harbor Drive, 4th Floor
Stamford, Connecticut 06902

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as special tax counsel for Grayscale Investments, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (the "Company"), in connection with the preparation and filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, a registration statement on Form S-3 (the "Registration Statement"), including the prospectus constituting Part I of the Registration Statement (the "Prospectus"). The Registration Statement relates to the proposed issuance by the Grayscale Ethereum Trust (the "Trust"), a Delaware trust governed by the Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement dated July 3, 2018 between the Company, as Sponsor and CSC Delaware Trust Company, as Trustee (as amended from time to time, the "Trust Agreement"), of an unspecified amount of shares representing units of fractional undivided beneficial interest in and ownership of the Trust (the "Shares").

We have examined the Prospectus and originals or copies, certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of all such agreements, certificates and other statements of corporate officers and other representatives of the Company, and such other documents, as we have deemed necessary or appropriate in order to enable us to render this opinion. In such examination we have assumed the genuineness of all signatures, the legal capacity of natural persons, the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the conformity with the originals of all documents submitted to us as duplicates or certified or conformed copies, and the authenticity of the originals of such latter documents. We have, when relevant facts material to our opinion were not independently established by us, relied, to the extent we deemed such reliance proper, upon written or oral statements of officers and other representatives of the Company. We have assumed, with your permission, that all statements concerning the Trust set forth in the Prospectus and in the written and oral statements described above are true, correct and complete, and that each of the Company and the Trust has complied with, and will continue to comply with, the obligations, covenants, and agreements contained in the Trust Agreement without waiver or modification.

Based on and subject to the foregoing, we advise you that, subject to the limitations and qualifications, and based on the assumptions, described herein and therein, the statements of law and legal conclusions set forth in the discussion under the caption "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences" in the Prospectus constitute our opinion as to the material United States federal income tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of Shares that generally may apply to a "U.S. Holder" or a "non-U.S. Holder" (in each case, as defined in the material under such caption), as applicable, under currently applicable law.

We express our opinion herein only as to those matters specifically set forth above, and no opinion should be inferred as to the tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of Shares under any state, local or foreign law, or with respect to other areas of U.S. federal taxation. We are members of the Bar of the State of New York, and we do not express any opinion herein concerning any law other than the federal law of the United States.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an exhibit to the Registration Statement, and to the references to our firm in the material under the caption “Legal Matters” in the said Prospectus. In giving this consent, we do not admit that we are in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act.

Very truly yours,

Exhibit 23.1

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM'S CONSENT

We consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement of Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH) (the "Trust") on Amendment No.1 to Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-278880) of our report dated February 23, 2024, with respect to our audit of the financial statements of the Trust as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and for the two years ended December 31, 2023, and our report dated February 23, 2024, with respect to our audit of internal control over financial reporting of the Trust as of December 31, 2023, appearing in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Trust for the year ended December 31, 2023.

We also consent to the reference to our firm under the heading "Experts" in such Prospectus. We were dismissed as auditors on March 1, 2024 and, accordingly, we have not performed any audit or review procedures with respect to any financial statements for the periods after the date of our dismissal.

/s/ Marcum LLP

Marcum LLP
New York, NY
May 30, 2024

Exhibit 23.2

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM'S CONSENT

We consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement of Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH) (the "Trust") on Amendment No.1 to Form S-3 (Registration No.333-278880) of our report dated February 25, 2022, with respect to our audit of the statements of operations and changes in net assets of the Trust for the year ended December 31, 2021, appearing in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Trust for the year ended December 31, 2023. We also consent to the reference to our firm under the heading "Experts" in such Prospectus. We were dismissed as auditors on September 27, 2022 and, accordingly, we have not performed any audit or review procedures with respect to any financial statements appearing in such prospectus for the periods after the date of our dismissal.

/s/ Friedman LLP

Friedman LLP
New York, NY
May 30, 2024

Exhibit 99.1

Certain confidential information contained in this document, marked by [***], has been omitted because the registrant has determined that the information (i) is not material and (ii) is the type that the registrant treats as private or confidential.

# COINBASE PRIME BROKER AGREEMENT

## General Terms and Conditions

### 1. Introduction

This agreement (including, the Coinbase Custody Custodial Services Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit A (the "Custody Agreement"), the Coinbase Settlement and Transfer Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit B (the "STA"), and all other exhibits, addenda and supplements attached hereto or referenced herein, collectively, the "Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement"), is entered into by and between Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH) ("Client"), Grayscale Investments LLC ("Sponsor") , and Coinbase, Inc. ("Coinbase"), on behalf of itself and as agent for Coinbase Custody Trust Company, LLC ("Coinbase Custody" or "Trust Company"), and, as applicable, Coinbase Credit, Inc. ("Coinbase Credit," and collectively with Coinbase and Coinbase Custody, the "Coinbase Entities"). This Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement sets forth the terms and conditions pursuant to which the Coinbase Entities will open and maintain the prime broker account (the "Prime Broker Account") for Client and provide services relating to custody and other services (collectively, the "Prime Broker Services") for certain digital assets ("Digital Assets") as set forth herein. Client and the Coinbase Entities (individually or collectively, as the context requires) may also be referred to as a "Party". Capitalized terms not defined in these General Terms and Conditions (the "General Terms") shall have the meanings assigned to them in the respective exhibit, addendum, or supplement. In the event of a conflict between these General Terms and any exhibit, addendum, or supplement hereto, then the document governing the specific relevant Prime Broker Service shall control in respect of such Prime Broker Service.

Although executed as of the date hereof, this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement shall not become effective until the date on which shares of Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH)begin trading on NYSE Arca as shares of an exchange-traded product.

### 2. Conflicts of Interest Acknowledgement

Client acknowledges that the Coinbase Entities may have actual or potential conflicts of interest in connection with providing the Prime Broker Services including that Coinbase does not engage in front-running, but is, or may be, aware of pending movements of Digital Assets, and may execute a trade for its own inventory (or the account of an affiliate) while in possession of that knowledge. As a result of these and other conflicts, the Coinbase Entities may have an incentive to favor their own interests and the interests of their affiliates over a particular Client's interests and have in place certain policies and procedures in place that are designed to mitigate such conflicts. Coinbase will maintain appropriate and effective arrangements to eliminate or manage conflicts of interest, including segregation of duties, information barriers and training. Coinbase will notify Client in accordance with the notice provisions hereof of changes to its business that have a material adverse effect on Coinbase's ability to manage its conflicts of interest.

### 3. Account Statements

Client authorizes Coinbase to combine information regarding all Prime Broker Services activities into a single statement. Coinbase will provide Client with an electronic account statement every month, at a minimum. Each account statement will identify the amount of cash and each Digital Asset in Client's Prime Broker Account at the end of the period and set forth all Prime Broker Account activity during that period. Client shall have on demand access to its account information on the Coinbase Prime Broker site subject to section 8.1 and availability of the Prime Broker site.

4. Client Instructions

4.1 In a written notice to Coinbase, Client may designate persons and/or entities (including auditors or service providers) authorized to act on behalf of Client with respect to the Prime Broker Account (the "Authorized Representative"). Upon such designation, Coinbase may rely on the validity of such appointment until such time as Coinbase receives Instructions (as defined below) from Client revoking such appointment or designating a new Authorized Representative. Coinbase will disable the access of an Authorized Representative as soon as reasonably practicable upon request from Client and in no event greater than one day following the receipt of such request and the execution of any documents reasonably required by Client. Any removal of an Authorized Representative shall occur automatically, without any request for documentation, upon Client removing such person via the portal.

4.2 The Coinbase Entities may act upon instructions received from Client or Client's Authorized Representative ("Instructions"). When taking action upon Instructions, the applicable Coinbase Entity shall act in a reasonable manner, and in conformance with the following: (a) Instructions shall continue in full force and effect until executed, canceled or superseded; (b) if any Coinbase Entity becomes aware of any Instructions that are illegible, unclear or ambiguous, the applicable Coinbase Entity shall promptly notify Client and may refuse to execute such Instructions until any ambiguity or conflict has been resolved to the Coinbase Entity's satisfaction; (c) the Coinbase Entities may refuse to execute Instructions if in the applicable Coinbase Entity's reasonable opinion such Instructions are outside the scope of its obligations under this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement or are contrary to any applicable laws, rules, or regulations, and the applicable Coinbase Entity shall promptly notify Client of such refusal; and (d) the Coinbase Entities may rely on any Instructions, notice or other communication believed by it in good faith and in a commercially reasonable manner to be genuine and to be signed or furnished by the proper party or parties thereto, to be given by Client or Client's Authorized Representative. Client shall be fully responsible and liable for, and the Coinbase Entities shall have no liability with respect to, any and all Claims and Losses arising out of or relating to inaccurate or ambiguous Instructions except for errors as a result of Coinbase's negligence, fraud or willful misconduct. Subject to the foregoing and except as otherwise provided for hereunder, Coinbase may not transfer Client Assets absent: (i) Instructions; (ii) a default or an event of default under an agreement with a Coinbase Entity; (iii) a Data Security Event (as defined below); or (iv) in accordance with any applicable laws, rules, regulations, court order or binding order of a government authority. The applicable Coinbase Entity is responsible for losses resulting from its errors in executing a transaction (e.g., if Client provides the correct destination address for executing a withdrawal transaction, but Coinbase Entity erroneously sends Client's Digital Assets to another destination address) subject to the standard of care agreed in Section 20.

4.3 Coinbase shall comply with the Client's Instructions to stake, stack or vote the Client's Digital Assets to the extent the applicable Coinbase Entity supports proof of stake validation, proof of transfer validation, or voting for such Digital Assets. The Coinbase Entities may, in their sole discretion, decide whether or not to support (or cease supporting) staking services or stacking or voting for a Digital Asset.

5. Representations, Warranties, and Additional Covenants

Client represents, warrants, and covenants that:

5.1 Client has the full power, authority, and capacity to enter into this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement and to engage in transactions with respect to all Digital Assets relating to the Prime Broker Services;

5.2 Neither the Client, nor the Sponsor nor to the Client's knowledge, any of the Client's beneficial owners are the target of applicable economic, trade and financial sanctions laws, resolutions, executive orders, and regulations enabled by the United States (including those administered by the U.S. Office of Foreign Assets Controls), the United Kingdom, the European Union, the United Nations and other applicable jurisdictions (collectively, "Sanctions Laws"). Client has implemented policies, procedures and controls designed to comply with said Sanctions Laws.

5.3 To the best of Client's knowledge, Client is and shall remain in full compliance with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations in each jurisdiction in which Client operates or otherwise uses the Prime Broker Services, including U.S. securities laws and regulations, as well as any applicable state and federal laws, including AML Laws, USA PATRIOT Act and Bank Secrecy Act requirements, and other anti-terrorism statutes, regulations, and conventions of the United States or other international jurisdictions to the extent relevant and material to its performance hereunder;

5.4 To the best of Client's knowledge, Client is and shall remain in good standing with all relevant government agencies, departments, regulatory, and supervisory bodies in all relevant jurisdictions in which Client does business, and Client will promptly notify Coinbase if Client ceases to be in good standing with any regulatory authority;

5.5 Client shall promptly provide information as the Coinbase Entities may reasonably request from time to time regarding: (a) Client's policies, procedures, and activities which relate to the Prime Broker Services; and (b) Client's use of the Prime Broker Services, in each case to the extent reasonably necessary for the Coinbase Entities to comply with any applicable laws, rules, and regulations (including money laundering statutes, regulations and conventions of the United States or other jurisdictions), or the guidance or direction of, or request from, any regulatory authority or financial institution, in each case related to its performance hereunder, provided that such information may be redacted to remove Confidential Information not relevant to the requirements of this Prime Broker Agreement;

5.6 Client's use of the Prime Broker Services shall be for commercial, business purposes only, limited to activities disclosed in the due diligence information submitted to Coinbase, and shall not include any personal, family or household purposes. Client shall promptly notify Coinbase in writing in the event it intends to use the Prime Broker Services in connection with any business activities not previously disclosed to Coinbase. Coinbase may, in its sole discretion acting in good faith, prohibit Client from using the Prime Broker Services in connection with any business activities not previously disclosed;

5.7 Client's Authorized Representatives have the: (a) full power, authority and capacity to access and use the Prime Broker Services; and (b) appropriate sophistication, expertise, and knowledge necessary to understand the nature and risks, and make informed decisions, in respect of Digital Assets and the Prime Broker Services;

5.8 This Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement is Client's legal, valid, and binding obligation, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms and the person executing or otherwise accepting this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement; and Client has full legal capacity and authorization to do so;

5.9 In connection with this Coinbase Prime Brokerage Agreement, Client will not use, access or attempt to access or use any trading services provided by the Coinbase Entities including accessing or using any Market Data (as defined below);

5.10 Client will not deposit to a Prime Broker Account any Digital Asset that is not supported by the Prime Broker Services;

5.11 Subject to Section 8.3 and Section 11, Client will not make any public statement, including any press release, media release, or blog post which mentions or refers to a Coinbase Entity or a partnership between Client and a Coinbase Entity, without the prior written consent of the Coinbase Entity;

5.12 All information provided by Client to Coinbase in the course of negotiating this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, and the onboarding of Client as Coinbase customer and user of the Prime Broker Services is complete, true, and accurate in all material respects, and no material information has been excluded;

5.13 Client is not a resident in nor organized under the laws of any country with which transactions or dealings are prohibited by governmental sanctions imposed by the U.S., the United Nations, the European Union, the United Kingdom, or any other applicable jurisdiction (collectively, "Sanctions Regimes"), nor is it owned or controlled by a person, entity or government prohibited under an applicable Sanctions Regime;

5.14 Sponsor has implemented an AML and sanctions program that is reasonably designed to comply with applicable AML, anti-terrorist, anti-bribery/corruption, and Sanctions Regime laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the Bank Secrecy Act, as amended by the USA PATRIOT Act (collectively, "AML and Sanctions Laws and Regulations"). Said program includes: (a) a customer due diligence program designed to identify and verify the identities of Client's customers; (b) enhanced due diligence on high-risk customers, including but not limited to customers designated as politically exposed persons or residing in high-risk jurisdictions; (c) processes to conduct ongoing monitoring of customer transactional activity and report any activity deemed to be suspicious; (d) ongoing customer sanctions screening against applicable Sanctions Regimes lists; and (e) processes to maintain records related to the above controls as required by law;

5.15 To its knowledge, Client does not maintain any asset in an Account which is derived from any unlawful activity and it will not knowingly instruct or otherwise cause Coinbase to hold any assets or engage in any transaction that would cause Coinbase to violate applicable laws and regulations, including applicable AML and Sanctions Laws and Regulations; and

5.16 Although investors in Client may include plans subject to the Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), or a federal, state, local or non-U.S. law that is similar to such laws ("Similar Law"), unless Client advises Coinbase to the contrary in writing, at all times, none of Client's assets constitute, directly or indirectly, as determined under Department of Labor Regulation Section 2510.3-101, as modified by Section 3(42) of ERISA, "plan assets" subject to the fiduciary responsibility and prohibited transaction sections of ERISA or the prohibited transaction provisions of the Code, and no Similar Law applies to the operations of Client as a result of the investment in Client by plans subject to Similar Law and Client shall immediately provide Coinbase with a written notice in the event that Client becomes aware that Client is in breach of the foregoing. Moreover, securities issued by Client are registered under section 12(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and such securities otherwise meet the definition of "publicly offered securities" under Department of Labor Regulation Section 2510.3-101(b)(2) and therefore, de facto, the assets of Client do not constitute "plan assets" as defined in such regulation.

Coinbase, on behalf of itself and each other Coinbase Entity, represents, warrants, and covenants that:

5.17 It has the full power, authority, and capacity to enter into and be bound by this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement;

5.18 It possesses and will maintain, all licenses, registrations, authorizations and approvals required by any applicable government agency, regulatory authority, or self-regulatory authority for it to operate its business and provide the Prime Broker Services;

5.19 Coinbase is and shall operate in compliance in all material respects with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations in each jurisdiction in which Coinbase operates, including U.S. securities laws and regulations, as well as any applicable state and federal laws, including AML Laws, USA Patriot Act and Bank Secrecy Act requirements, and other anti-terrorism statutes, regulations, and conventions of the United States or other international jurisdiction;

5.20 To the best of Coinbase's knowledge, it is currently in good standing with all relevant government agencies, departments, regulatory, and supervisory bodies in all relevant jurisdictions in which it does business, including, as applicable, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, the Securities Investor Protection Corporation, the National Futures Association, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, the Securities and Exchange Commission, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the New York State Department of Financial Services to the extent relevant and material to its performance hereunder, and it will, to the extent permitted under applicable law and by such relevant government agency, department, regulatory and supervisory body, and in compliance with its policies and procedures addressing material non-public information, promptly notify Client if it ceases to be in good standing with any regulatory authority to the extent such cessation would materially impact either party's performance hereunder;

5.21 Coinbase possess, and will maintain, all consents, permits, licenses, registrations, authorizations, approvals and exemptions required by any governmental agency, regulatory authority or other party necessary for it to operate its business and engage in the business relating to its provision of the Prime Broker Services;

5.22 Coinbase shall promptly provide information as the Client may reasonably request in writing from time to time in connection with its provision of the Prime Broker Services, to the extent reasonably necessary for the Client to comply with any applicable laws, rules, and regulations (including money laundering statutes, regulations and conventions of the United States or other jurisdictions), or the guidance or direction of, or request from, any regulatory authority or financial institution, in each case related to its performance hereunder and to the extent that providing such information is not prohibited by applicable law or any internal policies and procedures in furtherance of applicable law or addressing material non-public information, and does not constitute material nonpublic information;

5.23 It has all rights necessary to provide Client with access to the Coinbase Prime Broker Site and Content, Coinbase Prime, Coinbase Prime API, Market Data and any other tech/data provided by Coinbase (the "Coinbase Tech") as contemplated herein; (b) the intended use by Client of the Coinbase Tech as described in and in accordance with this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement shall not infringe, violate or misappropriate the intellectual property rights of any third party;

5.24 This Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement is its legal, valid, and binding obligation, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms and the person executing or otherwise accepting this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement has full legal capacity and authorization to do so;

5.25 Each Coinbase Entity has adopted, implemented, and shall maintain and follow a reasonable risk- based program ("Sanctions Program") that is designed to comply with all applicable Sanctions Laws. That Sanctions Program includes reasonable steps designed to prevent Digital Assets, Orders or transactions from being directly derived from or knowingly associated with persons, entities or countries that are the target or subject of sanctions or any country embargoes, in violation of any Sanctions Laws;

5.26 Each Coinbase Entity has also adopted, implemented, and shall maintain and follow an anti-money laundering program ("AML Program") that is designed to comply with all applicable AML Laws. As part of its AML Program, each Coinbase entity performs both initial and ongoing due diligence on each of its customers, as well as ongoing transaction monitoring that is designed to identify and report suspicious activity conducted through customer accounts, as required by law. The above AML controls are applied to all customer accounts, including those opened by: (a) authorized participants of the Client; or (b) agents/partners of such authorized participants (collectively as "Authorized Participant Accounts") for the purpose of facilitating ethereum deposits to, and withdrawals from, the Client's Custody or Settlement Account;

5.27 Any external fund movement into an Authorized Participants Account(s) at Coinbase will be subject to a sanctions screening check performed by Coinbase, prior to any transfer to the Client's Settlement Account(s), to ensure that any Ethereum in-kind transactions did not, directly originate from persons, entities or countries that are the target or subject of sanctions or any country embargoes, or knowingly associated with such persons, entities or countries, or otherwise in violation of any Sanctions Laws, in violation of any Sanctions Laws. Similarly, external transaction flows into and out of the Client's Custody Account(s) will be subject to periodic sanctions screening for the same purposes;

5.28 In the event sanctions screening results, described above are determined to be in violation of any Sanctions Laws, each Coinbase Entity will: (a) block or reject such Ethereum, where required by applicable Sanctions Laws; and (b) agree to promptly inform the Client, so long as permitted by law;

5.29 Each Coinbase Entity also agrees to provide Client with: (i) a quarterly report on the sanctions screening results outlined in section 5.24 after the end of the calendar quarter; and (ii) to the extent permitted by law, such information as it may reasonably request, to enable Client to fulfill its obligations under Sanctions Laws and AML Laws, including an annual attestation regarding Coinbase's AML and Sanctions Law controls. Client is permitted to share this report with service providers of the Client and authorized participants;

5.30 Coinbase Entities will maintain control of the Client's Ethereum in a manner consistent with industry leading standards; and

5.31 Subject to Section 8.3, Coinbase Entities will not make any public statement, including any press release, media release, or blog post which mentions or refers to the Client or a partnership between Coinbase Entities and the Client, without the prior written consent of the Client. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, Coinbase Entities may disclose the existence of this Prime Broker Agreement to its investors and prospective investors. Additionally, notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Client permits the Coinbase Entities to reference the Client (including a description of the Client and/or business, as obtained from publicly available information on Client's website or filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission) as a Client hereunder along with the existence and terms of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, in its public disclosures contained in public filings, each as may be required under applicable law. In addition, Coinbase Entities may file the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement as an exhibit in public filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, as may be required under applicable law, provided that such information may be redacted to remove pricing and other proprietary information in the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement as permitted under applicable law.

6. No Investment Advice or Brokerage

6.1 Client assumes responsibility for each transaction in or for its Prime Broker Account. Client understands and agrees that none of the Coinbase Entities are a SEC/FINRA registered broker-dealer or investment adviser to Client in any respect, and the Coinbase Entities have no liability, obligation, or responsibility whatsoever for Client decisions relating to the Prime Broker Services. Client should consult its own legal, tax, investment and accounting professionals.

6.2 While the Coinbase Entities may make certain general information available to Client, the Coinbase Entities are not providing and will not provide Client with any investment, legal, tax or accounting advice regarding Client's specific situation. Client is solely responsible, and shall not rely on the Coinbase Entities, for determining whether any investment, investment strategy, or transaction involving Digital Assets is appropriate for Client based on Client's investment objectives, financial circumstances, risk tolerance, and tax consequences. The Coinbase Entities shall have no liability, obligation, or responsibility whatsoever regarding any Client decision to enter into in any transaction with respect to any Digital Asset.

7. Opt-In to Article 8 of the Uniform Commercial Code

Client Assets in the Settlement Balance and Vault Balance (as defined hereinafter) will be treated as "financial assets" under Article 8 of the New York Uniform Commercial Code ("Article 8"). Coinbase and Coinbase Custody are "securities intermediaries," the Settlement Balance and Vault Balance are each "securities accounts," and Client is an "entitlement holder" under Article 8. This Agreement sets forth how the Coinbase Entities will satisfy their Article 8 duties. Treating Client Assets in the Settlement Balance and Vault Balance as financial assets under Article 8 does not determine the characterization or treatment of the cash and Digital Assets under any other law or rule. New York will be the securities intermediary's jurisdiction with respect to Coinbase and Coinbase Custody, and New York law will govern all issues addressed in Article 2(1) of the Hague Securities Convention. Coinbase and Coinbase Custody will credit the Client with any payments or distributions on any Client Assets it holds for Client's Settlement Balance and Vault Balance. Coinbase and Coinbase Custody will comply with Client's Instructions with respect to Client Assets in Client's Settlement Balance or Vault Balance, subject to the terms of the STA or Custody Agreement, as applicable, and related Coinbase rules. Neither Coinbase nor Coinbase Custody may grant a security interest in the Digital Assets in either the Settlement Balance or Vault Balance, respectively. Digital Assets in Client's Custodial Account are custodial assets. Under Article 8, the Digital Assets in either the Settlement Balance or Vault Balance are not general assets of Coinbase or Coinbase Custody, respectively and are not available to satisfy claims of creditors of Coinbase or Coinbase Custody, respectively. Coinbase and Coinbase Custody will comply at all times with the duties of a securities intermediary under Article 8, including those set forth at sections 8-504(a), 8505(a), 8-506(a), 8-507 and 8-508, in accordance with the terms of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement.

8. General Use, Security and Prohibited Use

8.1 Prime Broker Site and Content. During the term of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, the Coinbase Entities hereby grant Client a limited, nonexclusive, non-transferable, non-sublicensable, revocable and royalty-free license, subject to the terms of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, to access and use the Coinbase Prime Broker Site accessible at prime.coinbase.com ("Coinbase Prime Broker Site") and related content, materials, and information (collectively, the "Content") solely for Client's internal business use and other purposes as permitted by Coinbase in writing from time to time. Any other use of the Coinbase Prime Broker Site or Content is hereby prohibited. All other right, title, and interest (including all copyright, trademark, patent, trade secrets, and all other intellectual property rights) in the Coinbase Prime Broker Site, Content, and Prime Broker Services is and will remain the exclusive property of the Coinbase Entities and their licensors. Except as expressly permitted herein, Client shall not copy, transmit, distribute, sell, license, reverse engineer, modify, publish, or participate in the transfer or sale of, create derivative works from, or in any other way exploit any of the Prime Broker Services or Content, in whole or in part.

"Coinbase," "Coinbase Prime," "prime.coinbase.com," and all logos related to the Prime Broker Services or displayed on the Coinbase Prime Broker Site are either trademarks or registered marks of the Coinbase Entities or their licensors. Client may not copy, imitate or use them without Coinbase's prior written consent. The license granted under this Section 8.1 will automatically terminate upon termination of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, or the suspension or termination of Client's access to the Coinbase Prime Broker Site or Prime Broker Services.

8.2 Website Accuracy. Although Coinbase intends to provide accurate and timely information on the Coinbase Prime Broker Site, the Coinbase Prime Broker Site (including, without limitation, the Content) may not always be entirely accurate, complete, or current and may also include technical inaccuracies or typographical errors. In an effort to continue to provide Client with as complete and accurate information as possible, information may be changed or updated from time to time without notice, including without limitation information regarding Coinbase Entities policies, products and services. Accordingly, Client should verify all information before relying on it, and all decisions based on information contained on the Coinbase Prime Broker Site are Client's sole responsibility and the Coinbase Entities shall have no liability for such decisions. Links to third-party materials (including without limitation websites) may be provided as a convenience but are not controlled by the Coinbase Entities. The Coinbase Entities is not responsible for any aspect of the information, content, or services contained in any third-party materials or on any third-party sites accessible from or linked to the Coinbase Prime Broker Site.

8.3 Limited License of Coinbase Brand. Notwithstanding Section 5 of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, Coinbase hereby grants to Client a nonexclusive, non-transferable, non-sublicensable, revocable, and royalty-free right, subject to the terms of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, to display, in accordance with Coinbase's brand guidelines, Coinbase's trademark and logo as set forth in the Coinbase Trademark Usage Guidelines, or otherwise refer to its name (the "Coinbase Brand"), for the sole and limited purpose of identifying Coinbase as a provider of Prime Broker Services to Client on Client's website or to investors or the public, as required by its investment activities. Client may also use the Coinbase Brand in published form, including but not limited to investor or related marketing materials using only the content pre-approved by Coinbase ("Pre-Approved Marketing Content"). Client (1) shall not deviate from nor modify the Pre-Approved Marketing Content, and (2) shall not make any representations or warranties regarding the Prime Services provided by Coinbase (other than factually accurate statements that Coinbase is a provider of Prime Broker Services). Client acknowledges that it shall not acquire any right of ownership to any Coinbase copyrights, patents, trade secrets, trademarks, trade dresses, service marks, or other intellectual property rights, and further agrees that it will cease using any materials that bear the Coinbase Brand upon termination of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement. All uses of the Coinbase Brand hereunder shall inure to the benefit of Coinbase and Client shall not do or cause to be done any act or thing that may in any way adversely affect any rights of Coinbase in and to the Coinbase Brand or otherwise challenge the validity of the Coinbase Brand or any application for registration thereof, or any trademark registration thereof, or any rights therein. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Coinbase shall retain the right to request that Client modify or terminate its use of the Coinbase Brand if Coinbase, in its sole and absolute discretion, disapproves of Client's use of the Coinbase Brand.

8.4 Unauthorized Users. Client shall not knowingly permit any person or entity that is not the Client or an Authorized Representative (each, an "Unauthorized User") to access, connect to, and/or use Client's Prime Broker Account. The Coinbase Entities shall have no liability, obligation, or responsibility whatsoever for, and Client shall be fully responsible and liable for, any and all Claims and Losses arising out of or relating to the acts and omissions of any Unauthorized User, except to the extent caused by any Coinbase Entity's negligence, fraud or willful misconduct, in respect of the Prime Broker Services, Prime Broker Account, and/or the Prime Broker Site. Client shall notify Coinbase promptly if Client believes or becomes aware that an Unauthorized User has accessed, connected to, or used Client's Prime Broker Account.

8.5 Password Security; Contact Information. Client is fully responsible for maintaining adequate security and control of any and all IDs, passwords, hints, personal identification numbers (PINs), API keys, YubiKeys, other security or confirmation information or hardware, and any other codes that Client uses to access the Prime Broker Account and Prime Broker Services. Client agrees to keep Client's email address and telephone number up to date in Client's Prime Broker Account in order to receive any notices or alerts that the Coinbase Entities may send to Client. Client shall be fully responsible for, and the Coinbase Entities shall have no liability, obligation, or responsibility whatsoever for, any Losses that Client may sustain due to compromise of Prime Broker Account login credentials. In the event Client believes Client's Prime Broker Account information has been compromised, Client must promptly contact Coinbase.

8.6 Prohibited Use. Client shall not engage in any of the following activities with its use of the Prime Broker Services:

8.6.1. Unlawful Activity. Activity that would violate, or assist in violation of, any law, statute, ordinance, or regulation, sanctions programs administered in the countries where Coinbase conducts business, including but not limited to the U.S. Department of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), or which would involve proceeds of any unlawful activity; publish, distribute or disseminate any unlawful material or information;

8.6.2. Abusive Activity. Client shall use reasonable efforts not to engage in actions that impose an unreasonable or disproportionately large load on Coinbase's infrastructure, or detrimentally interfere with, intercept, or expropriate any system, data, or information; transmit or upload any material to Coinbase systems that contains viruses, trojan horses, worms, or any other harmful or deleterious programs; attempt to gain unauthorized access to Coinbase systems, other Coinbase accounts, computer systems or networks connected to Coinbase systems, Coinbase Site, through password mining or any other means; use Coinbase Account information of another party to access or use the Coinbase systems, except in the case of specific Clients and/or applications which are specifically authorized by a Client to access such Client's Coinbase Account and information; or transfer Client's account access or rights to Client's account to a third party, unless by operation of law or with the express permission of Coinbase; and

8.6.3. Fraud. Activity which operates to defraud Coinbase or any other person or entity.

8.7 Computer Viruses. The Coinbase Entities shall not have any liability, obligation, or responsibility whatsoever for any damage or interruptions caused by any computer viruses, spyware, scareware, Trojan horses, worms or other malware that may affect Client's computer or other equipment, or any phishing, spoofing or other attack, unless such damage or interruption directly resulted from the Coinbase Entities' negligence, fraud, or willful misconduct. Client agrees to access and use its Prime Broker Account through the Coinbase Prime Broker Site to review any Orders, deposits or withdrawals or required actions to confirm the authenticity of any communication or notice from the Coinbase Entities.

9. Taxes

9.1 Taxes. Except as otherwise expressly stated herein, Client shall be fully responsible and liable for, and the Coinbase Entities shall have no liability, obligation, or responsibility whatsoever for, the payment of any and all present and future tariffs, duties or taxes (including withholding taxes, transfer taxes, stamp taxes, documentary taxes, value added taxes, personal property taxes and all similar costs) imposed or levied by any government or governmental agency (collectively, "Taxes") and any related Claims and Losses or the accounting or reporting of income or other Taxes arising from or relating to any transactions Client conducts through the Prime Broker Services. Client shall file all tax returns, reports, and disclosures required by applicable law.

9.2 Withholding Tax. Except as required by applicable law, each payment under this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement or collateral deliverable by Client to any Coinbase Entities shall be made, and the value of any collateral or margin shall be calculated, without withholding or deducting of any Taxes. If any Taxes are required to be withheld or deducted, Client: (a) authorizes the Coinbase Entities to effect such withholding or deduction and remit such Taxes to the relevant taxing authorities; and (b) shall pay such additional amounts or deliver such further collateral as necessary to ensure that the actual net amount received by the Coinbase Entities is equal to the amount that the Coinbase Entities would have received had no such withholding or deduction been required. Client agrees that the Coinbase Entities may disclose any information with respect to Client Assets, the Prime Broker Account, Custodial Accounts, Settlement Accounts, and transactions required by any applicable taxing authority or other governmental entity. The Client agrees that the Coinbase Entities may withhold or deduct Taxes as may be required by applicable law. From time to time, Coinbase Entities shall ask Client for tax documentation or certification of Client's taxpayer status as required by applicable law, and any failure by Client to comply with this request in the time frame identified may result in withholding and/or remission of taxes to a tax authority as required by applicable law.

10. Prime Broker Services Fees

10.1 Sponsor agrees to pay all fees in connection with the Client's Orders and Client's use of the Prime Broker Services on a timely basis as set forth in the Fee Schedule, attached hereto as Appendix 1. If such fees remain unpaid for sixty (60) days following the payment date, Client authorizes Coinbase to deduct any such unpaid amounts from the Sponsor's Prime Broker Accounts.

10.2 Client acknowledges that Coinbase Custody will charge fees for any balance of Digital Assets that Client keeps in the Vault Balance.

11. Confidentiality

11.1 Client and Coinbase Entities each agree that with respect to any non-public, confidential or proprietary information of the other Party, including the existence and terms of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement and information relating to the other Party's business operations or business relationships (including without limitation information concerning any purchaser of any securities issued by the Client (each a "Beneficiary") (including, without limitation, the identity of such Beneficiary, the fact that such Beneficiary is the beneficial owner of any Digital Assets, any information concerning its securities or cash positions, any banking or other relationships between Coinbase Entities and such Beneficiary or any information from which any such information could be derived by a third party) the Coinbase Entities' fees), the contents of any document any information relating to, or transactions involving, Digital Assets, trade secrets or other confidential commercial information), and information with respect to profit margins, and profit and loss information), and any arbitration pursuant to Section 22 (collectively, "Confidential Information"), it: (a) will not disclose such Confidential Information except to such Party's officers, directors, agents, employees and professional advisors who need to know the Confidential Information for the purpose of assisting in the performance of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement and who are informed of, and agree to be bound by obligations of confidentiality no less restrictive than those set forth herein; and (b) will protect such Confidential Information from unauthorized use and disclosure. Each Party shall use any Confidential Information that it receives solely for purposes

of: (i) exercising its rights and performing its duties under the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement; and (ii) complying with any applicable laws, rules, or regulations; provided that, the Coinbase Entities may use Confidential Information for (1) risk management; and (2) to develop or enhance their products and services provided the Confidential Information is properly anonymized and in an aggregated form that does not identify Client and is stripped of any persistent identifiers (such as device identifiers, IP addresses, and cookie IDs) in relation to subsection (2). Confidential Information shall not include any (w) information that is or becomes generally publicly available through no fault of the recipient; (x) information that the recipient obtains from a third party (other than in connection with this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement) that, to the recipient's best knowledge, is not bound by a confidentiality agreement prohibiting such disclosure; (y) information that is independently developed or acquired by the recipient without the use of Confidential Information provided by the disclosing party; or (z) disclosure with the prior written consent of the disclosing Party. The Parties acknowledge that the terms of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement are Confidential Information.

11.2 Notwithstanding the foregoing, each Party may disclose Confidential Information of the other Party to the extent required by a court of competent jurisdiction or governmental authority or otherwise required by law rule or regulation or regulatory agency including but not limited to self-regulatory agencies; provided, however, the Party making such required disclosure shall first notify the other Party (to the extent legally permissible) and shall afford the other Party a reasonable opportunity to seek confidential treatment if it wishes to do so and will consider in good faith reasonable and timely requests for redaction. For purposes of this Section 11, no affiliate of Coinbase with the exception of Coinbase Asset Management, shall be considered a third party of any Coinbase Entity, and the Coinbase Entities may freely share Client's Confidential Information among each other and with such affiliates. All documents and other tangible objects containing or representing Confidential Information and all copies or extracts thereof or notes derived therefrom that are in the possession or control of the receiving Party shall be and remain the property of the disclosing Party and shall be promptly returned to the disclosing Party or destroyed, each upon the disclosing Party's request; provided, however, notwithstanding the foregoing, the receiving Party may retain Confidential Information if: (a) required by law or regulation; or (b) retained pursuant to an established document retention policy

11.3 Notwithstanding anything contained in this Section 11 or otherwise in this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement to the contrary, the Parties agree that the Client may: (i) file the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement as an exhibit in public filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, as may be required under applicable law, provided that such information shall be redacted to remove pricing and other proprietary information in the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement as permitted under applicable law; and (ii) disclose the existence of this Coinbase Prime Brokerage Agreement to its investors and potential investors.

## 12. Market Data

Client agrees that its use of data made available to it through the application programming interface(s) of the Prime Platform (as defined in the STA), which may include the prices and quantities of orders and transactions executed on the Prime Platform (collectively "Market Data"), is subject to the Market Data Terms of Use, as amended and updated from time to time at https://www.coinbase.com/legal/market_data or a successor website.

## 13. Recording of Conversations

For compliance and monitoring purposes, Client authorizes each Coinbase Entity at its sole discretion to record conversations between such Coinbase Entity and Client or its Authorized Representatives relating to this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, the Prime Broker Account and the Prime Broker Services.

14. Security and Business Continuity

The Coinbase Entities have implemented and will maintain a reasonable information security program (as summarized in the Security Addendum attached hereto) that includes policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to safeguard Coinbase Entities' electronic systems and Client's Confidential Information from, among other things, unauthorized access or misuse. In the event of a Data Security Event (defined below), the applicable Coinbase Entity shall promptly (subject to any legal or regulatory requirements) notify Client in writing at the email addresses listed in Section 33 and such notice shall include the following information: (i) the timing and nature of the Data Security Event, (ii) the information related to Client that was compromised, including the names of any individuals' acting on Client's behalf in his or her corporate capacity whose personal information was compromised, (iii) when the Data Security Event was discovered, and (iv) remedial actions that have been taken and that the applicable Coinbase Entity plans to take. "Data Security Event" is defined as any event whereby: (a) an unauthorized person (whether within Coinbase or a third party) acquired or accessed Client's information; (b) Client's information is otherwise lost, stolen or compromised.

The Trust Company will respond to any periodic request from Client regarding the identity of the Trust Company's then employed Chief Information Security Officer, or other senior security officer of a similar title; such requests may be made by Client monthly.

For the year 2023, and for each year thereafter, no more than once per calendar year, Client shall be entitled to request that Coinbase provide a copy of its most recent Services Organization Controls ("SOC") 1 report and SOC 2 report, (together, the "SOC Reports"), and promptly deliver to Client a copy thereof by December 31 of each year. The SOC 1 and SOC 2 reports shall not be dated more than one year prior to such request. Coinbase reserves the right to combine the SOC 1 and SOC 2 reports into a comprehensive report. In the event that Coinbase does not deliver a SOC 1 Report or SOC 2 Report, as applicable, Client shall be entitled to terminate this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement. Client may also request letters of representation regarding any known changes or conclusions to the SOC Reports on a quarterly basis between SOC reports ("SOC Bridge Letters").

The Coinbase Entities have established a business continuity plan that will support their ability to conduct business in the event of a significant business disruption. The business continuity plan is reviewed and updated annually, and may be updated more frequently as deemed necessary by the Coinbase Entities in their sole discretion. To receive more information about the Coinbase Entities' business continuity plan, please send a written request to [***].

15. Acknowledgement of Risks

Client hereby acknowledges, that: (i) Digital Assets are not legal tender, are not backed by any government, and are not subject to protections afforded by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or Securities Investor Protection Corporation; (ii) Legislative and regulatory changes or actions at the state, federal, or international level may adversely affect the use, transfer, exchange, and/or value of Digital Assets; (iii) transactions in Digital Assets are irreversible, and, accordingly, Digital Assets lost due to fraudulent or accidental transactions may not be recoverable; (iv) certain Digital Assets transactions will be deemed to be made when recorded on a public blockchain ledger, which is not necessarily the date or time that Client initiates the transaction or such transaction enters the pool; (v) the value of Digital Assets may be derived from the continued willingness of market participants to exchange any government issued currency ("Fiat Currency") for Digital Assets, which may result in the permanent and total loss of value of a Digital Asset should the market for that Digital Asset disappear; (vi) the volatility of the value of Digital Assets relative to Fiat Currency may result in significant losses; (vii) Digital Assets may be susceptible to an increased risk of fraud or cyber-attack; (viii) the nature of Digital Assets means that any technological difficulties experienced by a Coinbase Entity may prevent the access or use of Client Digital Assets; and (ix) any bond or trust account maintained by Coinbase Entities for the benefit of its customers may not be sufficient to cover all losses (including Losses) incurred by customers.

16. Operation of Digital Asset Protocols

16.1 The Coinbase Entities do not own or control the underlying software protocols which govern the operation of Digital Assets. Generally, the underlying software protocols and, if applicable, related smart contracts (referred to collectively as "Protocols" for purposes of this Section 16) are open source and anyone can use, copy, modify or distribute them. By using the Prime Broker Services, Client acknowledges and agrees that: (i) the Coinbase Entities make no guarantee of the functionality, security, or availability of underlying Protocols; (ii) some underlying Protocols are subject to consensus-based proof of stake validation methods which may allow, by virtue of their governance systems, changes to the associated blockchain or digital ledger ("Governance Modifiable Blockchains"), and that any Client transactions validated on such Governance Modifiable Blockchains may be affected accordingly; and (iii) the underlying Protocols are subject to sudden changes in operating rules (a/k/a "forks"), and that such forks may materially affect the value, function, and/or even the name of the Digital Assets. In the event of a fork, Client agrees that the Coinbase Entities may temporarily suspend Prime Broker Services (with or without notice to Client) and that the Coinbase Entities may, in their sole discretion, determine whether or not to support (or cease supporting) either branch of the forked protocol entirely. Client agrees that the Coinbase Entities shall have no liability, obligation or responsibility whatsoever arising out of or relating to the operation of Protocols, transactions affected by Governance Modifiable Blockchains, or an unsupported branch of a forked protocol and, accordingly, Client acknowledges and assumes the risk of the same.

16.2 Client will abandon irrevocably for no direct or indirect consideration (each such abandonment, a "Prospective Abandonment"), effective immediately prior to any time at which Client creates shares or units (each such time, a "Creation Time") or redeems shares or units (each such time, a "Redemption Time"), all Incidental Assets of Client, provided that a Prospective Abandonment immediately prior to any Creation Time or Redemption Time will not apply to any Incidental Asset if (i) Client has taken an Affirmative Action to acquire or abandon such Incidental Asset at any time prior to such Creation Time or Redemption Time or (ii) such Incidental Asset has been subject to a previous Prospective Abandonment. Coinbase acknowledges that, as a consequence of a Prospective Abandonment, Client will have no right to receive any Incidental Asset that is subject to such Prospective Abandonment, and Coinbase will have no authority, pursuant to this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement or otherwise, to exercise, obtain or hold, as the case may be, any such Incidental Asset on behalf of Client, nor may Coinbase ultimately take control of such Incidental Asset for its own economic benefit. Client represents that it will take no action at any time that is inconsistent with a Prospective Abandonment and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, that it will not accept any future delivery of any abandoned Incidental Asset, that it will not accept any payment from any person in respect of any abandoned Incidental Asset and that it will not represent to any person or in any context that it has any remaining rights with respect to any abandoned Incidental Asset.

"Affirmative Action" is defined as the Sponsor's written notification to Coinbase of Client's intention (i) to acquire and/or retain an Incidental Asset or (ii) to abandon, with effect prior to the relevant Creation Time or Redemption Time, an Incidental Asset.

"Incidental Asset" is defined as any digital asset or other asset, and any right of Client to acquire any digital asset or other asset, that has arisen out of Client's ownership of Digital Assets, whether through a fork, airdrop or similar occurrence, without any action on the part of Client or its trustee or the Sponsor on its behalf.

16.3 Unless specifically communicated by the Coinbase Entities through a written public statement on the Coinbase website, the Coinbase Entities do not support airdrops, metacoins, colored coins, side chains, or other derivative, enhanced or forked protocols, tokens or coins, which supplement or interact with a Digital Asset (collectively, "Advanced Protocols") in connection with the Prime Broker Services. Client shall not use its Prime Broker Account to attempt to receive, request, send, store, or engage in any other type of transaction involving an Advanced Protocol. The Prime Broker Services are not configured to detect, process and/or secure Advanced Protocol transactions and neither Client nor the Coinbase Entities will be able to retrieve any unsupported Advanced Protocol. Coinbase shall have no liability, obligation, or responsibility whatsoever in respect to Advanced Protocols.

## 17. Setoff

Upon the occurrence of a default or an event of default under an agreement with a Coinbase Entity (including an "Event of Default" as such term is defined in the Post Trade Financing Agreement, if applicable (in each case, at maturity, upon acceleration or otherwise) or the occurrence of an event that constitutes "Cause" (as defined below) (each, a "Setoff Event"), each Coinbase Entity may setoff and net the amounts due from it or any other Coinbase Entity to Client and from Client to it or any other Coinbase Entity, so that a single payment (the "Net Payment") shall be immediately due and payable by the Sponsor on behalf of the Client or the Coinbase Entity to the other (subject to the other provisions hereof and of any agreement with a Coinbase Entity). If any amounts cannot be included within the Net Payment, such amounts shall be excluded but may still be netted against any other similarly excluded amounts. Upon the occurrence of a Setoff Event, each Coinbase Entity may also: (a) liquidate, apply and setoff any or all Sponsor Assets (as such term is defined in the STA) against any Net Payment, unpaid trade credits, or any other obligation owed by Client to any Coinbase Entity; and (b) setoff and net any Net Payment or any other obligation owed to the Client by any Coinbase Entity against: (i) any or all collateral or margin posted by any Coinbase Entity to Client (or the U.S. dollar value thereof, determined by Coinbase in its sole discretion on the basis of a recent price at which the relevant Digital Asset was sold to customers on the Prime Platform); and (ii) any Net Payment, unpaid trade credits or any other obligation owed by Client to any Coinbase Entity (in each case, whether matured or unmatured, fixed or contingent, or liquidated or unliquidated). Client agrees that in the exercise of setoff rights or secured party remedies, the Coinbase Entities may value Client Digital Assets using the same valuation methods and processes that are otherwise used when a Coinbase customer sells an asset on the Prime Platform or the applicable index or reference rate provided by Coindesk Indices, Inc. as determined by Coinbase in its sole discretion.

## 18. Disclaimer of Warranties

EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY SET FORTH HEREIN TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, THE PRIME BROKER SERVICES AND THE COINBASE WEBSITE ARE PROVIDED ON AN "AS IS" AND "AS AVAILABLE" BASIS WITHOUT ANY WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, AND THE COINBASE ENTITIES HEREBY SPECIFICALLY DISCLAIM ALL WARRANTIES NOT SPECIFICALLY SET FORTH HEREIN WITH RESPECT TO THE PRIME BROKER SERVICES, WHETHER EXPRESS, IMPLIED OR STATUTORY, INCLUDING THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES AND/OR CONDITIONS OF TITLE, MERCHANTABILITY, SATISFACTORY QUALITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AND/OR NON-INFRINGEMENT. EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY SET FORTH HEREIN THE COINBASE ENTITIES DO NOT WARRANT THAT THE PRIME BROKER SERVICES, INCLUDING ACCESS TO AND USE OF THE COINBASE WEBSITES, OR ANY OF THE CONTENT CONTAINED THEREIN, WILL BE CONTINUOUS, UNINTERRUPTED, TIMELY, COMPATIBLE WITH ANY SOFTWARE, SYSTEM OR OTHER SERVICES, SECURE, COMPLETE, FREE OF HARMFUL CODE OR ERROR-FREE.

19. Indemnification

19.1 Client shall defend and indemnify and hold harmless each Coinbase Entity, its affiliates, and their respective officers, directors, agents, employees and representatives from and against any and all Claims and Losses arising out of or relating to: (i) Client's material breach of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement; (ii) Client's violation of any applicable law, rule or regulation, or rights of any third party related to the performance of Client's obligations under this Prime Broker Agreement; or (iii) Client's negligence, fraud or willful misconduct, except to the extent that such Claims or Losses relate to Coinbase's negligence, fraud or willful misconduct. This obligation will survive any termination of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement.

19.2 The Coinbase Entities shall defend and indemnify and hold harmless Client, its Affiliates, and their respective officers, directors, agents, employees and representatives from and against any and all third party Claims and Losses to the extent arising out of or relating to any: (i) violation of applicable law, rule, or regulation; (ii) negligence, fraud or willful misconduct with respect to the provision of the Prime Broker Services; (iii) the full amount of any Client Assets lost due to the insolvency of or security event at any third party Connected Trading Venue, or (iv) violation misappropriation, or infringement upon any third party intellectual and/or industrial property rights, including patent rights, copyrights, moral rights, trademarks, trade names, service marks, trade secrets, rights in inventions (including applications for, and registrations, extensions, renewals, and re-issuances of the foregoing), in each case as it relates to the Claims and Losses arising during the term of the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement or as it relates to activity during such term except to the extent Claims or Losses arise out of or relate to Client's negligence, fraud, willful misconduct or material breach of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement. This obligation will survive any termination of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement.

19.3 Each party's indemnification obligation under Section 19 of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement shall apply only if the indemnified party does the following: (a) notifies the indemnifying party promptly in writing, not later than thirty (30) days after the indemnified party receives notice of the Claim (or sooner if required by applicable law); (b) gives the indemnifying party sole control of the defense and any settlement negotiations (subject to the below); and (c) gives the indemnifying party the information, authority, and assistance such party needs to defend against or settle the Claim, provided that the Indemnified Party may settle the Claim (after giving prior written notice of the terms of settlement (to the extent legally possible) to the indemnifying party, but without obtaining the indemnifying party's consent) if (a) such settlement is entered into more than 30 days after a request by the indemnified party to the indemnifying party for consent to a proposed settlement or (b) such settlement or compromise or consent does not include a statement as to, or an admission of, fault, culpability, negligence or a failure to act by or on behalf of the indemnifying party or an agent thereof; and (iv) gives the indemnifying party reasonable access at reasonable times (on reasonable prior notice) to the information, authority, and assistance that it needs to defend against or settle the Claim.

19.4 No Party providing indemnification pursuant to this Section 19 shall accept any settlement of any Claims or Losses if such settlement imposes any financial or non-financial liabilities, obligations or restrictions on, or requires an admission of guilt or wrong doing from, any indemnified party pursuant to this Section 19, without such indemnified party's prior written consent.

19.5 For the purposes of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement:

(a) "Claim" means any action, suit, litigation, demand, charge, arbitration, proceeding (including any civil, criminal, administrative, investigative, or appellate proceeding), hearing, inquiry, audit, examination or investigation commenced, brought, conducted or heard by or before, or otherwise involving, any court or other governmental, regulatory or administrative body or any arbitrator or arbitration panel; and

(b) "Losses" means any liabilities, damages, diminution in value, payments, obligations, losses, interest, costs and expenses, security or other remediation costs (including any regulatory investigation or third party subpoena costs, reasonable attorneys' fees, court costs, expert witness fees, and other expenses relating to investigating or defending any Claim); fines, taxes, fees, restitution, or penalties imposed by any governmental, regulatory or administrative body, interest on and additions to tax with respect to, or resulting from, Taxes imposed on Client's assets, cash, other property, or any income or gains derived therefrom; and judgments (at law or in equity) or awards of any nature.

## 20. Limitation of Liability

### 20.1 Waiver of Consequential Damages

IN NO EVENT SHALL EITHER PARTY, ITS AFFILIATES AND SERVICE PROVIDERS, OR ANY OF THEIR RESPECTIVE OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AGENTS, JOINT VENTURERS, EMPLOYEES OR REPRESENTATIVES, BE LIABLE FOR ANY LOST PROFITS OR ANY SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, INDIRECT, INTANGIBLE, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, WHETHER BASED IN CONTRACT, TORT, NEGLIGENCE, STRICT LIABILITY, OR OTHERWISE, ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH AUTHORIZED OR UNAUTHORIZED USE OF THE TRUST COMPANY SITE OR THE TRUST COMPANY CUSTODIAL SERVICES, OR THIS AGREEMENT, EVEN IF AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF TRUST COMPANY HAS BEEN ADVISED OF OR KNEW OR SHOULD HAVE KNOWN OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES.

### 20.2 Standard of Care

IN NO EVENT SHALL ANY COINBASE ENTITY, ITS AFFILIATES, OR THEIR RESPECTIVE OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AGENTS, EMPLOYEES AND REPRESENTATIVES HAVE ANY LIABILITY TO CLIENT OR ANY THIRD PARTY WITH RESPECT TO ANY BREACH OF ITS OBLIGATIONS HEREUNDER, EXPRESS, OR IMPLIED, WHICH DOES NOT RESULT FROM ITS NEGLIGENCE, FRAUD OR WILLFUL MISCONDUCT.

### 20.3 No Joint and Several Liability

NOTHING IN THIS COINBASE PRIME BROKER AGREEMENT SHALL BE DEEMED TO CREATE ANY JOINT OR SEVERAL LIABILITY AMONG ANY OF THE COINBASE ENTITIES.

### 20.4 Replacement of Lost Digital Assets

NOTWITHSTANDING ANYTHING HEREIN TO THE CONTRARY, THE COINBASE ENTITIES SHALL BE LIABLE TO CLIENT FOR THE LOSS OF ANY DIGITAL ASSETS ON DEPOSIT WITH THE COINBASE ENTITIES' CUSTODIAL ACCOUNT(S) OR SETTLEMENT BALANCE(S) TO THE EXTENT THAT SUCH LOSS AROSE FROM THE COINBASE ENTITIES' NEGLIGENCE, FRAUD, OR WILLFUL MISCONDUCT, AND THE COINBASE ENTITIES SHALL BE REQUIRED TO RETURN TO CLIENT A QUANTITY OF DIGITAL ASSETS EQUAL TO THE QUANTITY OF ANY SUCH LOST DIGITAL ASSETS.

20.5 Liability Caps

EXCEPT FOR THE: (I) EXCLUDED LIABILITIES; (II) FRAUD; OR (III) WILLFUL MISCONDUCT SOLELY IN RESPECT OF CUSTODIAL SERVICES PROVIDED PURSUANT TO THE CUSTODY AGREEMENT, THE LIABILITY OF COINBASE CUSTODY SHALL NOT EXCEED THE GREATER OF: (I) THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF FEES PAID BY CLIENT TO COINBASE CUSTODY IN RESPECT OF THE CUSTODIAL SERVICES IN THE 12-MONTH PERIOD PRIOR TO THE EVENT GIVING RISE TO SUCH LIABILITY; OR (II) THE VALUE OF THE SUPPORTED DIGITAL ASSETS ON DEPOSIT IN CLIENT'S CUSTODIAL ACCOUNT(S) INVOLVED IN THE EVENT GIVING RISE TO SUCH LIABILITY AT THE TIME OF SUCH EVENT (THE VALUE OF WHICH SHALL BE CALCULATED AT THE AVERAGE UNITED STATES DOLLAR ASK PRICE, AT THE TIME OF SUCH EVENT, OF THE THREE (3) LARGEST U.S.-BASED EXCHANGES (BY TRAILING 30-DAY VOLUME) WHICH OFFER THE RELEVANT DIGITAL CURRENCY OR DIGITAL ASSET/USD TRADING PAIR, AS RELEVANT); PROVIDED, THAT IN NO EVENT SHALL COINBASE CUSTODY'S AGGREGATE LIABILITY IN RESPECT OF EACH COLD STORAGE ADDRESS EXCEED ONE HUNDRED MILLION US DOLLARS ($100,000,000.00 USD).

EXCEPT FOR THE: (I) EXCLUDED LIABILITIES; (II) FRAUD; OR (III) WILLFUL MISCONDUCT, IN NO EVENT SHALL THE AGGREGATE LIABILITY OF EITHER THE COINBASE ENTITIES OR CLIENT WITH RESPECT TO ANY BREACH OF ITS OBLIGATIONS HEREUNDER EXCEED THE GREATER OF: (A) THE VALUE OF THE CASH OR SUPPORTED DIGITAL ASSETS INVOLVED IN THE EVENT GIVING RISE TO SUCH LIABILITY AT THE TIME OF SUCH EVENT; (B) THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF FEES PAID BY CLIENT TO COINBASE IN RESPECT OF THE PRIME BROKER SERVICES IN THE 12-MONTH PERIOD PRIOR TO SUCH EVENT; OR (C) FIVE MILLION DOLLARS ($5,000,000.00).

THE "EXCLUDED LIABILITIES" MEANS (X) WITH RESPECT TO CLIENT, (1) CLIENT'S DEFENSE AND INDEMNITY OBLIGATIONS UNDER THIS AGREEMENT, INCLUDING PURSUANT TO SECTION 19.1; (2) ANY OUTSTANDING COMMISSIONS OR FEES OWED BY CLIENT UNDER THIS AGREEMENT; (3) CLIENT'S BREACH OF SECTION 8.1 (PRIME BROKER SITE & CONTENT); AND (4) CLIENT'S BREACH OF SECTION 5 (REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES); AND (Y) WITH RESPECT TO THE COINBASE ENTITIES, ANY COINBASE ENTITIES' DEFENSE AND INDEMNITY OBLIGATIONS UNDER THIS AGREEMENT, INCLUDING PURSUANT TO SECTION 19.2.

WITH RESPECT TO THE EXCLUDED LIABILITIES, COINBASE'S LIABILITY TO CLIENT FOR ANY LOSSES ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH COINBASE'S DEFENSE AND INDEMNITY OBLIGATIONS UNDER THIS AGREEMENT WILL BE LIMITED, IN THE AGGREGATE, TO AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO FIVE MILLION U.S. DOLLARS ($5,000,000.00 USD).

21. Privacy

The Coinbase Entities shall use and disclose Client's and its Authorized Representatives' non-public personal information in accordance with the Coinbase Privacy Policy, as set forth at https://www.coinbase.com/legal/privacy or a successor website, and as amended and updated from time to time.

22. Dispute Resolution and Arbitration

22.1 The parties shall attempt in good faith to resolve any dispute arising out of or relating to this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement promptly by negotiation. Any party may give the other party written notice of any dispute not resolved in the normal course of business. Within 15 days after delivery of the notice, the receiving party shall submit to the other a written response. Within 30 days after delivery of the notice, the executives of both parties shall meet at a mutually acceptable time and place. Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the negotiating parties, the negotiation shall end at the close of the first meeting of executives described above ("First Meeting"). All offers, promises, conduct and statements, whether oral or written, made in the course of the negotiation by any of the parties, their agents, employees, experts and attorneys are confidential, privileged and inadmissible for any purpose, including impeachment, in any proceeding involving the parties, provided that evidence that is otherwise admissible or discoverable shall not be rendered inadmissible or non-discoverable as a result of its use in the negotiation.

22.2 At no time prior to the First Meeting shall either side initiate arbitration related to this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement except to pursue a provisional remedy that is authorized by law or by agreement of the parties. However, this limitation is inapplicable to a party if the other party refuses to comply with the requirements of Section 22.1 above.

22.3 All applicable statutes of limitation and defenses based upon the passage of time shall be tolled while the procedures specified in Sections 22.1 and 22.2 above are pending and for 15 calendar days thereafter. The parties will take such action, if any, required to effectuate such tolling. The Party raising the issue will promptly notify the other in writing. Coinbase and Client will then meet in good faith to resolve the issue and, if they are unable to resolve the issue, will escalate the issue to their respective senior managers for resolution. Unless prohibited by applicable law or regulation, Coinbase shall not be relieved of its obligation to continue to perform under the Agreement while a dispute is ongoing.

22.4 If the matter is not resolved by negotiation pursuant to sections 22.1 through 22.3 above, any Claim arising out of or relating to this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, or the breach, termination, enforcement, interpretation or validity thereof, including any determination of the scope or applicability of the agreement to arbitrate as set forth in this Section 22, shall be determined by arbitration in the state of New York or another mutually agreeable location, before one neutral arbitrator. The arbitration shall be in accordance with the American Arbitration Association's rules for arbitration of commercial related disputes (accessible at http://www.adr.org/sites/default/files/CommercialRules_Web-Final.pdf), and the award of the arbitrator (the "Award") shall be accompanied by a reasoned opinion. Judgment on the Award may be entered in any court having jurisdiction. This Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement shall not preclude the Parties from seeking provisional relief, including injunctive relief, in any court of competent jurisdiction. Seeking any such provisional relief shall not be deemed to be a waiver of such party's right to compel arbitration. The Parties expressly waive their right to a jury trial to the extent permitted by applicable law.

22.5 In any arbitration arising out of or related to this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, the arbitrator shall award to the prevailing party, if any, as determined by the arbitrator, all of its costs and fees. "Costs and fees" mean all reasonable pre-award expenses of the arbitration, including the arbitrator's fees, administrative fees, travel expenses, out-of-pocket expenses such as copying and telephone, court costs, witness fees, and attorneys' fees.

22.6 The Parties acknowledge that this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement evidences a transaction involving interstate commerce. Notwithstanding the provision herein with respect to applicable substantive law, any arbitration conducted pursuant to the terms of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement shall be governed by the Federal Arbitration Act (9 U.S.C. §§ 1-16).

## 23 Term, Termination and Suspension

This Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement is effective as of the date written below and shall remain in effect until terminated by Coinbase or Client as follows:

(a) Coinbase may terminate this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement in its entirety for any reason and without Cause by providing at least one-hundred eighty (180) days' prior written notice to Client and Client may terminate this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement in whole or in part for any reason by providing thirty (30) days prior written notice to the applicable Coinbase Entity, provided however, in each case, the Coinbase Entities shall not restrict, suspend, or modify the Prime Broker Services following any termination without Cause or an termination by the Client until the end of any such notice period and neither party's termination of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement shall be effective until Client and the Coinbase Entities have fully satisfied their obligations hereunder.

(b) Regardless of any other provision of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, the Coinbase Entities may, in their sole discretion, suspend, restrict or terminate the Client's Prime Broker Services, including by suspending, restricting or closing the Client's Prime Broker Account and/or any associated Settlement Account, Custodial Account or any credit account (as applicable), for Cause, at any time and without prior notice to the Client. Regardless of any other provision of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, Client may, in its sole discretion, terminate this Agreement, for Coinbase Cause, at any time and with prior notice to Coinbase.

"Cause" shall mean: (i) Client breaches any material provision of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement; (ii) Client takes any action to dissolve or liquidate, in whole or part; (iii) Client becomes insolvent, makes an assignment for the benefit of creditors, becomes subject to direct control of a trustee, receiver or similar authority; (iv) Client becomes subject to any bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding under any applicable laws, rules and regulations, such termination being effective immediately upon any declaration of bankruptcy; (v) Coinbase becomes aware of any facts or circumstances with respect to the Client's financial, legal, regulatory or reputational position which may affect Client's ability to comply with its obligations under this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement; (vi) termination is required pursuant to a facially valid subpoena, court order or binding order of a government authority; (vii) Client's Prime Broker Account is subject to any pending litigation, investigation or government proceeding and/or Coinbase reasonably perceives a heightened risk of legal regulatory non-compliance associated with Client's use of Prime Broker Services; or (viii) Coinbase reasonably suspects Client of attempting to circumvent Coinbase's controls or uses the Prime Broker Services in a manner Coinbase otherwise deems inappropriate or potentially harmful to itself or third parties.

"Coinbase Cause" shall mean: (i) any of the Coinbase Entities breaches any material provision of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement and such breach is not cured within three (3) business days; (ii) any of the Coinbase Entities takes any action to dissolve or liquidate, in whole or part; (iii) any of the Coinbase Entities becomes insolvent, makes an assignment for the benefit of creditors, becomes subject to direct control of a trustee, receiver or similar authority; (iv) any of the Coinbase Entities becomes subject to any bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding under any applicable laws, rules and regulations, such termination being effective immediately upon any declaration of bankruptcy and in the case of any involuntary proceeding, such proceeding is not dismissed or restrained within 30 days of its initiation; or (v) any applicable law, rule or regulation or any change therein or in the interpretation or administration thereof has or may have a material adverse effect on Client or the rights of Client or any Beneficiary with respect to any services covered by this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement.

Additionally, in the event that Client forms the view, acting reasonably and based on material and objective facts and circumstances, that an event or cumulative effect of a series of events has occurred at Coinbase or a Coinbase Entity, that Client reasonably believes represents substantial risk to Client (whether reputationally or otherwise), Client's senior executives shall escalate the matter to Coinbase's senior executives and the Parties will promptly meet to discuss a resolution to the matter in good faith. Following such discussion, Coinbase shall have thirty (30) days to cure such event to the reasonable resolution of Client, provided such cure is possible. If Coinbase is unable to cure within this time period, or if Client reasonably holds the position that no practical solution exists to prevent material injury to its business (reputationally or otherwise) in light of such an adverse event, Client may provide written notice to Coinbase to remove the Majority Obligation requirements herein, upon written notice by Client to Coinbase, with the termination of the Majority Obligation becoming effective on the date provided in such notice. For the avoidance of doubt, changes that generally impact the digital assets markets at large shall not apply to the foregoing, except to the extent directly related to Coinbase.

(c) Client acknowledges that the Coinbase Entities' decision to take certain actions, including suspending, restricting or terminating Client's Prime Broker Account or Prime Broker Services, may be based on confidential criteria that are essential to Coinbase's risk management and security practices and agrees that the Coinbase Entities are under no obligation to disclose the details of its risk management and security practices to Client.

(d) Upon receipt of written notice from Client of any event that constitutes Coinbase Cause, if Coinbase fails to exercise any of its rights and remedies above for a period of 20 days following the receipt of such notice requesting a waiver, then Coinbase shall have waived its right to terminate the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement or exercise any other rights or remedies by reason of such event and such event shall be deemed to have been cured regardless of whether it continues after such waiver; provided however that this provision: (i) does not limit Coinbase's right to take any actions with respect to an event that constitutes Cause as the result of the separate occurrence of such event or the occurrence of any other such event; and (ii) shall not apply to subsections (ii)–(iv) of Coinbase Cause.

(e) Upon receipt of written notice from Coinbase any Coinbase Cause, if Client fails to exercise any of its rights and remedies above for a period of 20 days following the receipt of such notice requesting a waiver, then Client shall have waived its right to terminate the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement or exercise any other rights or remedies by reason of such event and such event shall be deemed to have been cured regardless of whether it continues after such waiver; provided however that this provision: (i) does not limit Client's right to take any actions with respect to an event that constitutes a Coinbase Termination Event as the result of the separate occurrence of such event or the occurrence of any other such event; and (ii) shall not apply to subsections (ii) – (iv) of Coinbase Cause.

(f) In the event that either Party terminates this Prime Broker Services Agreement pursuant to Section 23(a) herein, Coinbase shall use reasonable efforts to assist Client to transfer any Digital Assets, Fiat Currency or funds associated with the Digital Assets Wallet(s) or Fiat Currency (as applicable) to another provider within ninety (90) days of receipt of the Client's termination notice.

## 24 Severability

If any provision or condition of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement shall be held invalid or unenforceable, under any rule, law, or regulation or any governmental agency (local, state, or federal), such provision will be changed and interpreted to accomplish the objectives of the provision to the greatest extent possible under any applicable law and the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect.

## 25 Waiver

Any waivers of rights by a Party under this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement must be in writing and signed by such Party. A waiver will apply only to the particular circumstance giving rise to the waiver and will not be considered a continuing waiver in other similar circumstances. A Party's failure to insist on strict compliance with this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement or any other course of conduct by the other Party shall not be considered a waiver of their rights under this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement. Any waiver of rights that cannot be waived under applicable laws in the jurisdiction where the Client is located will not be recognized and be null and void.

## 26 Survival

All provisions of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement which by their nature extend beyond the expiration or termination of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement including, without limitation, sections pertaining to suspension or termination, Custodial Account cancellation, debts (including the Sponsor's obligations under Sections 10 and 17) owed to the Coinbase Entities, general use of the Coinbase Prime Broker Site, disputes with Coinbase, and general provisions shall survive the termination or expiration of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement.

## 27 Governing Law

This Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, Client's Prime Broker Account, and the Prime Broker Services will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, excluding its conflicts of laws principles, except to the extent such state law is preempted by federal law.

## 28 Force Majeure

The Coinbase Entities shall not be liable for delays, suspension of operations, whether temporary or permanent, failure in performance, or interruption of service which result directly or indirectly from any cause or condition beyond the reasonable control of the Coinbase Entities (a "Force Majeure Event"), including, but not limited to, any act of God; embargo; natural disaster; act of civil or military authorities; act of terrorists; government restrictions; any ruling by any Connected Trading Venue, exchange or market; market volatility or disruptions in order trading on any Connected Trading Venue, exchange or market; suspension of trading; civil disturbance; war; strike or other labor dispute; fire; severe weather; interruption in telecommunications, Internet services, or network provider services; network delays and congestion, a cybersecurity attack, hack or other intrusion by a third party of network provider or other third party, failure of equipment and/or software; failure of computer or other electronic or mechanical equipment or communication lines; outbreaks of infectious disease or any other public health crises, including quarantine or other employee restrictions; acts or omissions of any Connected Trading Venue; or any other catastrophe or other occurrence which is beyond the reasonable control of the Coinbase Entities and shall not affect the validity and enforceability of any remaining provisions. For the avoidance of doubt, a cybersecurity attack, hack or other intrusion by a third party or by someone associated with Coinbase against the Coinbase Entities is not a Force Majeure Event, to the extent due to Coinbase's failure to comply with its obligations under this Agreement.

## 29 Entire Agreement; Headings

This Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, together with all exhibits, addenda and supplements attached hereto or referenced herein, comprise the entire understanding between Client and the Coinbase Entities as to the Prime Broker Services and supersedes all prior discussions, agreements and understandings, including any previous version of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, and the Custodial Services Agreement between Client and any Coinbase Entity, including all exhibits, addenda, policies, and supplements attached thereto or referenced therein. Section headings in this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement are for convenience only and shall not govern the meaning or interpretation of any provision of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement.

## 30 Amendments

Any modification or addition to this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement must be in writing and either (a) signed by a duly authorized representative of each party, or (b) accepted and agreed to by Client. Client agrees that the Coinbase Entities shall not be liable to Client or any third party for any modification or termination of the Prime Broker Services, or suspension or termination of Client's access to the Prime Broker Services, except to the extent otherwise expressly set forth herein.

## 31 Assignment

Any assignment of Client's rights and/or licenses granted under this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement without obtaining the prior written consent, such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, of Coinbase shall be null and void. Coinbase reserves the right to assign its rights under this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement without restriction, including to any of the Coinbase Entities or their affiliates or subsidiaries, or to any successor in interest of any business associated with the Prime Broker Services, provided that Coinbase shall notify Client within a reasonable amount of time after such assignment. Any attempted transfer or assignment in violation hereof shall be void ab initio. Subject to the foregoing, this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement will bind and inure to the benefit of the Parties, their successors and permitted assigns.

## 32 Electronic Delivery of Communications

Client agrees and consents to receive electronically all communications, agreements, documents, notices and disclosures (collectively, "Communications") that the Coinbase Entities provide in connection with Client's Prime Broker Account and Client's use of Prime Broker Services. Communications include: (a) terms of use and policies Client agrees to, including updates to policies or the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, (b) Prime Broker Account details, including transaction receipts, confirmations, records of deposits, withdrawals or transaction information, (c) legal, regulatory and tax disclosures or statements the Coinbase Entities may be required to make available to Client and (d) responses to claims or customer support inquiries filed in connection with Client's Prime Broker Account.

Coinbase will provide these Communications to Client by posting them on the Prime Broker Site, emailing them to Client at the primary email address on file with Coinbase, communicating to Client via instant chat, and/or through other means of electronic communication. The Client agrees that electronically delivered Communications may be accepted and agreed to by Client through the Prime Broker Services interface. Furthermore, the Parties consent to the use of electronic signatures in connection with Client's use of the Prime Broker Services.

## 33 Notice and Contacts

33.2 All notices, requests and other communications to any party hereunder not covered by the Communications described Section 32 shall be in writing (including electronic mail ("email") transmission, so long as a receipt of such e-mail is requested and received) and shall be given,

If to Coinbase, to:

Legal Department
Coinbase Inc
248 3rd St, #434
Oakland, CA 94607
[***]
E-mail: [***]

If to Client, to

Grayscale Investments, LLC
290 Harbor Drive, 4th Floor
Stamford, CT 06902
Attention: Hugh Ross
E-mail: [***]

WITH A MANDATORY COPY OF ALL LEGAL NOTICES TO:
E-mail: [***]

If to Sponsor, to:

Grayscale Investments, LLC
290 Harbor Drive, 4th Floor
Stamford, CT 06902
Attention: CEO of Grayscale Investments, LLC
E-mail: [***]

or such other address as such party may hereafter specify for the purpose by notice to the other parties hereto. Each of the foregoing addresses shall be effective unless and until notice of a new address is given by the applicable party to the other parties in writing. Notice will not be deemed to be given unless it has been received.

33.3 In the event of any market operations, connectivity, or erroneous trade issues that require immediate attention including any unauthorized access to Client's Prime Broker Account, please contact:

To Coinbase: [***].

To Client: the email address specified in its signature block on the Execution Page.

It is solely Client's responsibility to provide Coinbase with a true, accurate and complete contact information including any e-mail address, and to keep such information up to date. Client understands and agrees that if Coinbase sends Client an electronic Communication, but Client does not receive it because Client's primary email address on file is incorrect, out of date, blocked by Client's service provider, or Client is otherwise unable to receive electronic Communications, Coinbase will be deemed to have provided the Communication to Client. Client may update Client's information via Client's Prime Broker Account and visiting settings or by providing a notice to Coinbase as prescribed above.

33.4 To see more information about our regulators, licenses, and contact information for feedback, questions, or complaints, please visit https://www.coinbase.com/legal/licenses.

34 [RESERVED]

35 Counterparts

This Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, including by email of .pdf signatures or DocuSign (or similar electronic signature software), each of which shall be deemed to be an original document, but all such separate counterparts shall constitute only one and the same Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement.

36. Inspection and Auditing.

(i) Inspection and Auditing of Coinbase. To the extent Coinbase may legally do so, it shall permit Client or Client's third party representatives under obligations to secure Coinbase's information no less restrictive than this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement upon thirty (30) days' advance written notice, to inspect, take extracts from and audit the records maintained in relation to the Client, and take such steps as necessary to verify that satisfactory internal control systems and procedures are in place, as Client may reasonably request.

Client shall reimburse Coinbase (A) for all reasonable expenses incurred in connection with this Section 36, and (B) for reasonable time spent by Coinbase's employees or consultant in connection with this Section 36 at reasonable hourly rates to be agreed upon by Client and Coinbase. Any such audit will be conducted during normal business hours and in a manner designed to cause minimal disruption to Coinbase's ordinary business activities. The scope of any such audit will be jointly agreed to by Client and Coinbase in advance of any audit, provided that neither party shall be unreasonable with respect to the scope of such audit, and shall not include items other than those relevant to the Prime Services Coinbase provides to Client. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to require Coinbase to disclose trade secrets, information related to other clients, provide access to secure facilities or services (such as "Vault" locations), or otherwise impair the security or availability of services Coinbase offers to other clients, provided that Coinbase will use reasonable efforts to provide Client with such information or substantially equivalent information in a manner that does not violate the foregoing.

(ii) Trust Company Audit Reports. Coinbase shall, as soon as reasonably practicable after receipt of any audit report prepared by its internal or independent auditors pursuant to Coinbase's annual audit or otherwise, provide Client notification if such audit report reveals any material deficiencies or makes any material objections, furnish to Client a report stating the nature of such deficiencies or such objections, and describing the steps taken or to be taken to remedy the same. Such audit report will be deemed Confidential Information of Coinbase.

[Signatures on following page]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, including the Coinbase Custodial Services Agreement, and Coinbase Settlement and Transfer Agreement, to be duly executed and delivered as of the date below.

COINBASE, INC. For itself and as agent for the Coinbase Entities

| | |
|---|---|
| By: | /s/ Lauren Abendschein |
| Name: | Lauren Abendschein |
| Title: | Senior Director |
| Date: | May 23, 2024 |

CLIENT: Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH)

| | |
|---|---|
| By: | /s/ Hugh Ross |
| Name: | Hugh Ross |
| Title: | COO of Sponsor |
| Date: | May 22, 2024 |
| Address: | 290 Harbor Drive, 4th Floor, |
| | Stamford, CT 06902 |
| E-Mail: | hugh@grayscale.com |

SPONSOR: Grayscale Investments, LLC

| | |
|---|---|
| By: | /s/ Hugh Ross |
| Name: | Hugh Ross |
| Title: | COO of Sponsor |
| Date: | May 22, 2024 |
| Address: | 290 Harbor Drive, 4th Floor, |
| | Stamford, CT 06902 |
| E-Mail: | hugh@grayscale.com |

EXHIBIT A
to the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement

COINBASE CUSTODY CUSTODIAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

This Custody Agreement is entered into between Client and Coinbase Custody and forms a part of the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement between the Client and the Coinbase Entities. Capitalized terms used in this Custody Agreement that are not defined herein shall have the meanings assigned to them in the other parts of the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement.

1. CUSTODIAL SERVICES.

Client hereby appoints Trust Company as its majority ("majority" meaning here at least [***] of Client's total Digital Asset holdings are held with Trust Company, subject to the provisions set forth herein)[1] provider of Custodial Services (the "Majority Obligation"). Trust Company shall establish Client's "Custodial Account" as a segregated custody account controlled and secured by Trust Company to store certain supported digital currencies and utility tokens ("Digital Assets"), on Client's behalf (the "Custodial Services"). Trust Company is a fiduciary under § 100 of the New York Banking Law and a qualified custodian for purposes of Rule 206(4)-2(d)(6) under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, and is licensed to custody Client's Digital Assets in trust on Client's behalf. Digital Assets in Client's Custodial Account are not treated as general assets of Trust Company. Rather, Trust Company serves as a fiduciary and custodian on Client's behalf, and the Digital Assets in Client's Custodial Account are considered fiduciary assets that remain Client's property at all times. In addition, Coinbase Custody shall maintain: (i) any registrations, permits, licenses, approvals and consents issued by any governmental or quasi-governmental authority or regulatory organization necessary for it to carry out any of its obligations hereunder; and (ii) any adequate capital and reserves to the extent required by applicable law and shall not, directly or indirectly, lend, pledge, hypothecate or re-hypothecate or otherwise encumber any Digital Assets in the Custodial Account.

The Parties agree that if at any time the Client does not meet the Majority Obligation then the Parties will have a period of ninety (90) days to discuss this Section 1, and if applicable negotiate an amendment. If after ninety (90) days (i) the Parties have not reached an agreement, and (ii) the Majority Obligation is not met by Client then the other provisions of this Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement will apply (including Sections 22 and 23 the of General Terms).

2. CUSTODIAL ACCOUNT.

2.1. In General. The Custodial Services: (i) allow holding the Vault Balance in Client's Custodial Account and transfer Digital Assets among the Vault Balance and the Settlement Balance (as defined in Exhibit B, STA); (ii) allow supported Digital Assets to be deposited from a public blockchain address to Client's Custodial Account; and (iii) allow Client to withdraw supported Digital Assets from Client's Custodial Account to a public blockchain address Client controls pursuant to instructions Client provides through the Trust Company Site (each such transaction is a "Custody Transaction"). Client shall only withdraw or deposit Digital Assets to public blockchain addresses or to Client's Settlement Balance. The Digital Assets stored in Client's Custodial Account are not commingled with Digital Assets that Trust Company custodies for its other clients or Digital Assets of Trust Company and are custodied pursuant to the terms of this Custody Agreement and any addenda thereto. Trust Company reserves the right to

[1] To the extent Client transfers a portion of its Digital Assets to another custodian, Client hereby agrees to represent in all public-facing documentation in which Trust Company is referenced, that Trust Company is Client's primary digital asset custodian.

refuse to process or to cancel any pending Custody Transaction as required by law or in response to a subpoena, court order, or other binding government order or to enforce transaction, threshold, and condition limits, in each case as communicated to Client as soon as reasonably practicable where Trust Company is permitted to do so, or if Trust Company reasonably believes that the Custody Transaction may violate or facilitate the violation of an applicable law, regulation or applicable rule of a governmental authority or self-regulatory organization. Trust Company cannot reverse a Custody Transaction which has been broadcast to a Digital Asset network.

2.2 Digital Asset Deposits and Withdrawals. Trust Company processes supported Digital Asset deposits and withdrawals according to the Instructions received from Authorized Representatives, and Trust Company does not guarantee the identity of any Authorized Representative. Client should verify all transaction information prior to submitting Instructions to Trust Company. Client should manage and keep secure any and all information or devices associated with deposit and withdrawal verification procedures, including YubiKeys and passphrases or other security or confirmation information. Trust Company reserves the right to charge network fees (miner fees) to process a Digital Asset transaction on Client's behalf. Trust Company will calculate the network fee, if any, in its discretion, although Trust Company will always notify Client of the network fee at or before the time Client authorizes the transaction. Trust Company reserves the right to delay any Custody Transaction if it perceives a risk of fraud or illegal activity.

2.3 Processing of Custody Transactions; Availability of Custodial Account and Custodial Services.

A. Withdrawals.

(i) Absent a Force Majeure Event as defined in Section 28 (Force Majeure) of the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement, from the time Trust Company has verified the authorization of a complete set of Instructions to withdraw Digital Assets from Client's Custodial Account, Trust Company will have [***] hours, unless the Parties otherwise agree in writing to an alternate time frame, to process and complete such Instruction to withdraw Digital Assets from Client's Custodial Account and send those Digital Assets to the applicable Digital Asset network or to Client's Settlement Balance ("Transfer Time"), provided however; that in each case in the event that Trust Company is unable to process a withdrawal within the Transfer Time, the Trust Company shall have an additional [***] hours following the expiration of the Transfer Time to complete the withdrawal request ("Cure Period"); and

(ii) Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event of a Force Majeure Event as defined in Section 28 (Force Majeure) of the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement and for so long as the Force Majeure Event is continuing, the timing requirements of Section 2.3(A)(i) shall not apply. Once the Force Majeure Event ceases to exist as determined by Trust Company in its good faith and reasonable discretion, then Trust Company shall process and complete such verified Instruction to withdraw in [***] hours, unless the Parties otherwise agree in writing to an alternate time frame, which in each case remains subject to the Cure Period provisions as described above.

B. Deposits. Trust Company will ensure that Client-initiated Instructions to deposit are processed in a timely manner; however, Trust Company makes no representations or warranties regarding the amount of time needed to complete processing, which is dependent upon many factors outside of Trust Company's control.

Trust Company makes no other representations or warranties with respect to the availability and/or accessibility of the Digital Assets or the availability and/or accessibility of the Custodial Account or Custodial Services.

2.4. Safekeeping of Digital Assets. Trust Company shall use commercially reasonable efforts to keep in safe custody on behalf of Client all Digital Assets received by Trust Company. All Digital Assets credited to the Custodial Account shall:

(i) be held in the Custodial Account at all times, and the Custodial Account shall be controlled by Trust Company;

(ii) be labeled or otherwise appropriately identified as being held for Client;

(iii) be held in the Custodial Account on a non-fungible basis;

(iv) not be commingled with other Digital Assets held by Trust Company, whether held for Trust Company's own account or the account of other clients other than Client;

(v) not without the prior written consent of Client be deposited or held with any third-party depositary, custodian, clearance system or wallet;

(vi) for any Custodial Accounts maintained by Trust Company on behalf of Client, Trust Company will use commercially reasonable efforts to keep the private key or keys secure, and will not disclose such keys to Client or to any other individual or entity except to the extent that any keys are disclosed consistent with a standard of commercially reasonable effort and as part of a multiple signature solution that would not result in the Grayscale Investment Product or Sponsor "storing, holding, or maintaining custody or control of" the Digital Assets "on behalf of others" within the meaning of the New York BitLicense Rule (23 NYCRR Part 200) as in effect as of June 24, 2015 such that it would require the Grayscale Investment Product or Sponsor to become licensed under such law.

2.5 Supported Digital Asset. The Custodial Services are available only in connection with those Digital Assets that Trust Company, in its sole discretion, decides to support. The Digital Assets that Trust Company supports may change from time to time. Prior to initiating a deposit of Digital Asset to Trust Company, Client must confirm that Trust Company offers Custodial Services for that specific Digital Asset. By initiating a deposit of Digital Asset to a Custodial Account, Client attests that Client has confirmed that the Digital Asset being transferred is a supported Digital Asset offered by Trust Company. Under no circumstances should Client attempt to use the Custodial Services to deposit or store Digital Assets in any forms that are not supported by Trust Company. Depositing or attempting to deposit Digital Assets that are not supported by Trust Company will result in such Digital Asset being unretrievable by Client and Trust Company. Trust Company assumes no obligation or liability whatsoever regarding any unsupported Digital Asset sent or attempted to be sent to it, or regarding any attempt to use the Custodial Services for Digital Assets that Trust Company does not support. To confirm which Digital Assets are supported by Trust Company, Client should login at https://custody.coinbase.com and carefully review the list of supported Digital Assets. Trust Company recommends that Client deposit a small amount of supported Digital Asset as a test prior to initiating a deposit of a significant amount of supported Digital Asset. Trust Company may from time to time determine types of Digital Asset that will be supported or cease to be supported by the Custodial Services. Trust Company shall provide Client with thirty (30) days' written notice before ceasing to support a Digital Asset, unless Trust Company is required to cease such support by court order, statute, law, rule (including a self-regulatory organization rule), regulation, code, or other similar requirement, in which case written notice shall be provided as soon as reasonably practicable.

2.6. Use of the Custodial Services. Client acknowledges and agrees that Trust Company may monitor use of the Custodial Account and the Custodial Services and the resulting information may only be utilized, reviewed, retained and or disclosed by Trust Company as is necessary for its internal purposes or in accordance with the rules of any applicable legal, regulatory or self-regulatory organization or as otherwise may be required to comply with relevant law, sanctions programs, legal process or government request.

2.7. Independent Verification. If Client is subject to Rule 206(4)-2 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, Trust Company shall, upon written request, provide Client authorized independent public accountant confirmation of or access to information sufficient to confirm (i) Client's Digital Assets as of the date of an examination conducted pursuant to Rule 206(4)-2(a)(4), and (ii) Client's Digital Assets are held either in a separate account under Client's name or in accounts under Client's name as agent or trustee for Client's clients.

2.8. Third-Party Payments. The Custodial Services are not intended to facilitate third-party payments of any kind. As such, Trust Company has no control over, or liability for, the delivery, quality, safety, legality or any other aspect of any goods or services that Client may purchase or sell to or from a third party (including other users of Custodial Services) involving Digital Assets that Client intends to store, or have stored, in Client's Custodial Account.

2.9. Termination, and Cancellation. If Trust Company closes Client's Custodial Account or terminates Client's use of the Custodial Services, Client will be permitted to withdraw Digital Assets associated with Client's Custodial Account for a period of up to ninety (90) days following the date of deactivation or cancellation to the extent not prohibited: (i) under applicable law, including applicable sanctions programs; or (ii) by a facially valid subpoena, court order, or binding order of a government authority.

2.10. Location of Digital Assets. The Location of the Digital Assets shall be the United States. Trust Company shall acquire written approval of Client prior to changing the Location of the Digital Assets outside of the United States, except in the event of a security or disaster recovery event necessitating immediate remediation, in which case Trust Company will provide notice to Client as soon as reasonably practicable. "Location" means, with respect to any Digital Assets, the jurisdiction in which Trust Company deems such Digital Assets to be present.

2.11. Third-Party or Non-Permissioned Use. Except for fund administrators, Client shall not grant permission to a third party or non-permissioned user to access or connect to Client's Custodial Account, either through the third party's product or service or through the Trust Company Site. Client acknowledges that granting permission to a third party or non-permissioned user to take specific actions on Client's behalf does not relieve Client of any of Client's responsibilities under this Custody Agreement and may violate the terms of this Custody Agreement. Client is fully responsible for all acts or omissions of any third party or non-permissioned user with access to Client's Custodial Account, other than Trust Company. Further, Client acknowledges and agrees that Client will not hold Trust Company responsible for, and will indemnify Trust Company from, any liability arising out of or related to any act or omission of any third party or non-permissioned user with access to Client's Custodial Account, except to the extent of Trust Company's fraud, negligence, or willful misconduct. Client must notify Trust Company immediately after becoming aware of a third party or non-permissioned user accessing or connecting to Client's Custodial Account by contacting Client's Custodial Account representative or by emailing [***] from the email address associated with Client's Custodial Account.

2.12 Relationship of the Parties. Nothing in this Custody Agreement shall be deemed or is intended to be deemed, nor shall it cause, Client and Trust Company to be treated as partners, joint ventures, or otherwise as joint associates for profit, or either Client or Trust Company to be treated as the agent of the other.

3. TRUST COMPANY OBLIGATIONS.

3.1. Bookkeeping. Trust Company will keep timely and accurate records as to the deposit, disbursement, investment, and reinvestment of the Digital Assets. Trust Company will maintain accurate records and bookkeeping of the Custodial Services as required by applicable law and in accordance with Trust Company's internal document retention policies, but in no event for less than seven years.

3.2. Insurance. Trust Company will obtain and maintain, at its sole expense, insurance coverage in such types and amounts as are commercially reasonable for the Custodial Services provided hereunder.

4. COINBASE REPRESENTATIONS

(i) Trust Company will safekeep the Digital Assets and segregate all Digital Assets from both the (a) property of Trust Company, and (b) assets of other customers of Trust Company;

(ii) Trust Company is a custodian of the Digital Assets stored by Client in the Custodial Account, has no right, interest, or title in such Digital Assets, and will not reflect such Digital Assets as an asset on the balance sheet of the Trust Company;

(iii) Trust Company will not, directly or indirectly, lend, pledge, hypothecate or re-hypothecate any Digital Assets;

(iv) Except as directed by Client, Trust Company does not engage in any fractional reserve banking in connection with Client's Custodial Account, and, as such, none of the Digital Assets in Client's Custodial Account will be used by Trust Company in connection with any loan, hypothecation, lien (including, but not limited to, any mortgage, deed of trust, pledge, charge, security interest, attachment, encumbrance or other adverse claim of any kind in respect of such Digital Assets) or claim of (or by) Trust Company or otherwise transferred or pledged to any third party, without the written agreement of Client; and

(v) Trust Company will maintain adequate capital and reserves to the extent required by applicable law.

5. ADDITIONAL MATTERS

In addition to any additional service providers that may be described in an addendum or attachment hereto, Client acknowledges and agrees that the Custodial Services may be provided from time to time by, through or with the assistance of affiliates of or vendors to Trust Company. Client shall receive notice of any material change in the entities that provide the Custodial Services.

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EXHIBIT B
to the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement

# COINBASE SETTLEMENT AND TRANSFER AGREEMENT

Client should carefully consider holding Digital Assets is suitable for its purpose, including in relation to Client's knowledge of Digital Assets and Digital Asset markets and Client's financial condition. All investments involve risk, and the past performance of a financial product does not guarantee future results or returns.

This Settlement and Transfer Agreement ("STA") sets forth the terms and conditions for clients to transfer Digital Assets through the execution infrastructure of the Prime Broker Services platform ("Prime Platform" or "Settlement Platform") and forms a part of the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement between Client and the Coinbase Entities. Pursuant to this STA, Coinbase shall open a Settlement Account for the Client on the Prime Platform consisting of linked accounts at Coinbase and Coinbase Custody, each accessible via the Prime Platform ("Settlement Account"). This Settlement Account is on the Prime Platform however Client acknowledges and agrees that the Settlement Account will not be used for trading. Capitalized terms used in this STA that are not defined herein shall have the meanings assigned to them in the other parts of the Coinbase Prime Broker Agreement.

1. Client Settlement Balance and Vault Balance

1.1. For purposes of this STA, Client's Digital Assets are referred to as "Client Digital Assets," Client's cash is referred to as "Client Cash," and Client Digital Assets and Client Cash are together referred to as "Client Assets."

1.2. The Coinbase Settlement Account provides access to two types of accounts with balances relating to Client Assets: (1) the "Settlement Balance" (as described below in Section 1.3); and (2) the "Vault Balance" (as described below in Section 1.5). The Settlement Account provides a record of both the Settlement Balance and the Vault Balance. Client determines the allocation of its Client Digital Assets between the Settlement Balance and the Vault Balance. Maintenance of the Vault Balance shall be subject to the terms of the Custody Agreement. For the avoidance of doubt the Settlement Balance is separate from the Vault Balance and any other Digital Assets Client maintains directly with Coinbase Custody.

1.3. Coinbase holds Digital Assets credited to the Settlement Balance in one of three ways: (i) in omnibus hot wallets (each, an "Omnibus Hot Wallet"); (ii) in omnibus cold wallets (each, an "Omnibus Cold Wallet"); or (iii) in Coinbase's accounts with one of the trading venues to which the Prime Platform has established connections ("Coinbase Connected Trading Venue Digital Asset Balance"). Client agrees that Coinbase has sole discretion in determining the allocation of Digital Assets credited to the Settlement Balance. Digital Assets credited to the Settlement Balance are held on an omnibus basis and because of the nature of certain Digital Assets, Client does not have an identifiable claim to any particular Digital Asset. Instead, Client's Settlement Balance represents an entitlement to a pro rata share of the Digital Assets Coinbase has allocated to the Omnibus Hot Wallets, Omnibus Cold Wallets and Coinbase Connected Trading Venue Digital Asset Balance. Coinbase relies on the trading venues to which the Coinbase has established connections ("Connected Trading Venues") for the Coinbase Connected Trading Venue Digital Asset Balance, and Client has no contractual relationship with the Connected Trading Venues with respect to Digital Assets credited to the Settlement Balance.

1.4. Client may maintain Client Cash in the Settlement Balance. Coinbase holds Client Cash credited to the Settlement Balance in one of three ways: (i) in one or more omnibus accounts in Coinbase's name for the benefit of customers at one or more U.S. insured depository institutions (each, an "FBO account"); (ii) with respect to USD, liquid investments, which may include but are not

limited to U.S. treasuries and money market funds, in accordance with state money transmitter laws; and (iii) in Coinbase's omnibus accounts at Connected Trading Venues. Coinbase will title the FBO accounts it maintains with U.S. depository institutions and maintain records of Client's interest in a manner designed to enable receipt of Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") deposit insurance, where applicable and up to the deposit insurance limits applicable under FDIC regulations and guidance, on Client Cash for the Client's benefit on a pass-through basis. Coinbase does not guarantee that pass-through FDIC deposit insurance will apply to Client Cash, since such insurance is dependent in part on compliance of the depository institutions. FDIC insurance applies to cash deposits at banks and other insured depository institutions in the event of a failure of that institution, and does not apply to any Coinbase Entity or to any Digital Asset held by a Coinbase Entity on Client's behalf.

1.5. At Client's election, all or a portion of Client Digital Assets may also be allocated to the Vault Balance which is held in a Custodial Account in Client's name at Coinbase Custody pursuant to the Custody Agreement. A transfer of Digital Assets in the Vault Balance to Client's Settlement Balance will be subject to Coinbase Custody's standard cold storage withdrawal procedures. Client hereby appoints Coinbase as Client's agent for purposes of instructing Coinbase Custody to transfer Client Digital Assets between Client's Vault Balance and Client's Settlement Balance. Client agrees that an Instruction to Coinbase to settle Client Digital Assets to or from Client's Vault Balance constitutes authorization to Coinbase to transfer Client Digital Assets to or from Client's Vault Balance as necessary or appropriate to consummate such settlement.

1.6. In all circumstances and consistent with laws and regulations applicable to Coinbase, Coinbase will keep an internal ledger that specifies the Client Assets credited to Client's Settlement Balance and enables Coinbase and its auditors and regulators to identify Client and the Client Assets.

1.7. Coinbase treats all Client Assets as custodial assets held for the benefit of Client. No Client Assets credited to the Settlement Balance shall be considered to be the property of, or loaned to, Coinbase, except as provided in any loan agreement between Client and any Coinbase Entity. Neither Coinbase nor any Coinbase Entity will sell, transfer, loan, rehypothecate or otherwise alienate Client's Assets credited to Client's Settlement Balance unless instructed by Client pursuant to an agreement between Client and a Coinbase Entity.

2. Role of Coinbase Custody

2.1. Coinbase may at its sole discretion maintain portions of the Omnibus Hot Wallet and the Omnibus Cold Wallet in one or more custodial FBO accounts with its affiliate, Coinbase Custody. In such circumstances, although the Omnibus Hot Wallet and the Omnibus Cold Wallet are held in Coinbase's FBO accounts with Coinbase Custody, Client's legal relationship for purposes of Digital Assets held in the Omnibus Hot Wallet and the Omnibus Cold Wallet will not be, directly or indirectly, with Coinbase Custody and the terms, conditions and agreements relating to those wallets are to be governed by this STA.

2.2. Client Digital Assets held in the Vault Balance are maintained directly between Client and Coinbase Custody in Client's name and are subject to the terms of the Client's Custody Agreement.

3. Cash and Digital Asset Deposits and Withdrawals

3.1. To deposit Client Cash, Client must initiate a transfer from a linked bank account, a wire transfer, a SWIFT transfer, or other form of electronic payment approved by Coinbase from time to time to Coinbase's bank account, the instructions for which are available on the Coinbase Prime Broker Site. Coinbase will credit the Settlement Balance with Client Cash once the associated cash is delivered to Coinbase.

3.2. To withdraw Client Cash, Client may also initiate a withdrawal of Client Cash from the Settlement Balance at any time using the withdrawal function on the Prime Platform.

3.3. To deposit Client Digital Assets, Clients may transfer Client Digital Assets directly to the Omnibus Hot Wallet or Omnibus Cold Wallet, the instructions for which are available on the Coinbase Prime Broker Site. When Client transfers Digital Assets to Coinbase or Coinbase Custody, it delivers custody and control of the Digital Assets to Coinbase or Coinbase Custody, as applicable. Client represents and warrants that any Digital Asset so transferred shall be free and clear of all liens, claims and encumbrances.

3.4. To withdraw Client Digital Assets, Client must provide applicable Instructions via the Coinbase Prime Broker Site ("Withdrawal Transfer"). Once Client has initiated a Withdrawal Transfer, the associated Client Digital Assets will be in a pending state and will not be included in the Client's Settlement Balance or Vault Balance. Client acknowledges that Coinbase may not be able to reverse a Withdrawal Transfer once initiated. Client may request a withdrawal of Client Digital Assets at any time, subject to any applicable account restrictions and the terms herein. Withdrawal Transfers will be processed in the order they are received subject to any system limitations or network issues including delays on the blockchain.

3.5. Client must verify all transaction information prior to submitting withdrawal Instructions to Coinbase, as Coinbase cannot and does not guarantee the identity of the wallet owner or bank account to which Client is sending Client Digital Assets or Client Cash, as applicable. Coinbase shall have no liability, obligation, or responsibility whatsoever for Client Cash or Client Digital Asset transfers sent to or received from an incorrect party or sent or received via inaccurate Instructions.

4. Unclaimed Property

If Coinbase is holding Client Assets in the Settlement Balance, has no record of Client's use of the Prime Services for an extended period, and is otherwise unable to contact Client, Coinbase may be required under applicable laws, rules or regulations to report these assets as unclaimed property and to deliver such unclaimed property to the applicable authority. Coinbase may deduct a dormancy fee or other administrative charge from such unclaimed funds, as permitted by applicable laws, rules or regulations.

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CONTINENTAL
STOCK TRANSFER & TRUST
Requirements of
Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company
As Co-Transfer Agent

Requirements of
Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company
as Co-Transfer Agent

1. Agreement and Copy of Resolution of Board of Directors for our Appointment as Co-Transfer Agent.
2. Copy of Charter or Certificate of Incorporation and Amendments thereto certified by an official of the State of Incorporation.
3. Copy of By-Laws and amendments thereto certified by the Corporate Secretary.
4. Form W-9/W-8 BEN-E, signed by an authorized officer of the entity.
5. Opinion of Counsel for the Corporation advising as to:
   (a) the proper organization of the Corporation;
   (b) the legality of the issuance of its presently issued Capital Stock and Capital Stock being issued in connection with a public offering;
   (c) full compliance as to the aforementioned Capital Stock with the Federal Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the reason and statutory reference under which exemption is claimed if registration under said Act is not necessary.

Initial Public Offering clients: please provide a letter of instruction, signed by two corporate officers, authorizing and directing the Co-Transfer Agent to issue securities in accordance with the underwriter's instructions or the Company's instructions, as the case may be.

Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company

Co-Transfer Agency Agreement

This agreement is made as of May 22, 2024

| | |
|---|---|
| Between: | Grayscale Investments, LLC, ("Sponsor") as Sponsor of the Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH) (hereinafter referred to as the "Company") |
| And: | Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company ("Continental"), incorporated under the Laws of New York and headquartered in New York, NY USA |
| | The Bank Of New York Mellon, Primary Agent (hereinafter referred to as "Primary Agent") is identified within but is not party to the agreement. |

Whereas, the Company has previously appointed PRIMARY AGENT as Principal Transfer Agent and Registrar for the securities of the Company (the "Main Agreement"), which appointment PRIMARY AGENT has approved, and;

Whereas, the Company desires to appoint Continental as Co-Transfer Agent for the securities of the Company listed on the NYSE Arca Stock Exchange, which appointment Continental desires to approve.

1. Appointment. The Company hereby appoints Continental as its Co-Transfer Agent for the securities of the Company, and Continental hereby accepts the said appointment upon the terms and conditions as set out in this Agreement including the services listed in Exhibit A.

2. Description of Register of Transfers. Continental shall keep and maintain or cause to be kept and maintained a branch register of transfers wherein shall be recorded only the particulars of Direct Registration System ("DRS") book-entry transfers of shares registered at its office. Continental shall advise PRIMARY AGENT at its principal office or other designated offices of all transfers of securities made, entered or recorded in the register of DRS transfers kept by Continental and, in addition, transfer journals reflecting transfers of other items promptly after such transfers are entered or recorded but in all cases within 24 hours, by granting PRIMARY AGENT access to the transfer journals posted to ContinentaLink each evening.

3. Transferability of Securities. All the securities issued by Continental or PRIMARY AGENT shall be effectively and interchangeably transferable on the register of transfers of the Company's securities kept and maintained at Continental's offices or at the offices of PRIMARY AGENT or its successors, regardless of where or when the certificates for securities have been issued. All DRS positions in the U.S. depository are controlled by Continental and PRIMARY AGENT agrees that no transaction will be processed against a DRS position maintained on its register unless the transaction was reflected on Continental's transfer journal or PRIMARY AGENT notifies Continental in advance of making any change to ensure that the DRS position is valid at that time.

4. Issuance of Certificates Upon Transfer. Continental is hereby authorized and directed, subject to paragraph 6 hereof and other instructions of PRIMARY AGENT or its successors, from time to time, to enter and record or to cause to be entered and recorded transfers of securities, to cancel certificates for securities surrendered upon transfer and to countersign, register and issue to security holders entitled thereto certificates representing securities duly transferred to or held by them respectively. The Company shall furnish Continental with certificates for the securities of the Company in such quantities and denominations as, from time to time, may be required. Continental is hereby authorized and directed to countersign and register such certificates upon surrender of outstanding certificates submitted for transfer or exchange.

5. Stop Transfers. When Continental is advised by any security holder or any duly appointed representative thereof that certificates representing the securities registered in the name of such security holders are lost, mutilated, stolen or destroyed, Continental shall forthwith advise PRIMARY AGENT or its successors, at its designated office thereof so that a "stop transfer" notation may be made accordingly on its records and thereafter Continental shall not register the transfer of any of the securities represented by such certificates. If Continental receives a request to transfer securities represented by a certificate, which has been reported lost, mutilated, stolen or destroyed, Continental shall notify PRIMARY AGENT or its successors, and await instructions therefrom. PRIMARY AGENT or its successors shall provide Continental with a list of all "stop transfer" notations on record against the certificates for the securities upon the appointment of Continental as Co-Agent. Upon the subsequent placement or removal of "stop transfers" PRIMARY AGENT or its successors shall immediately advise Continental in writing of the change. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Continental shall not be required to make such transfers unless all legal requirements have been met and an indemnity satisfactory to Continental shall be given. Certificates to replace lost, mutilated, stolen or destroyed certificates shall be issued only by PRIMARY AGENT or its successors. Therefore, any request to issue new certificates in such circumstances shall be submitted by Continental to PRIMARY AGENT or its successors.

6. Conditions of Transfers. No securities may be transferred on Continental's register of transfers except in conformity with the following provisions:

   a. Securities may only be transferred by delivering to Continental the certificate representing the securities to be transferred with the form of transfer provided thereon duly completed and executed by the transferor or its duly authorized representative with the signature of the transferor guaranteed by a financial institution that is a member of a recognized STAMP Medallion Signature Guarantee Program or other acceptable organization as defined in the Stock Transfer Association's Guidelines as updated from time to time.

   b. Continental will send to PRIMARY AGENT an electronic image of restricted securities (including supporting documentation) presented to Continental for transfer and will act upon the direction of PRIMARY AGENT to transfer and maintain or release the restriction or to request additional documentation from the presenter, in accordance with PRIMARY AGENT's policies and documentation in its possession to support such transfers. Accordingly, Continental may rely upon and shall be fully protected, held harmless and indemnified in acting or refraining from acting in reliance upon such PRIMARY AGENT directions. However, Continental will be responsible for authenticating the validity of any certificate it receives for transfer that it does not forward to PRIMARY AGENT.

7. Maintenance of Records. Continental shall maintain customary records in connection with the appointment herein and may send to the Company or its successors, all books, documents and records no longer required by it for current purposes. Continental is authorized to destroy certificates for securities that have imaged and indexed within three business days after the date of cancellation, pursuant to SEC Rule 17Ad-19.

8. Legal Matters. Continental may, from time to time, refer any legal matters that may arise in connection with the performance of its duties and obligations herein to legal counsel for the Company or to legal counsel of Continental, for an opinion, the cost being borne by the Company, and may rely upon and shall be fully protected and held harmless in acting or refraining from acting in reliance upon: such legal advice, opinions, or instructions.

9. Fees. The monthly retainer fee payable by the Company to Continental shall be $ (insert amount) (US). No termination fee shall apply.

10. Term. Although executed as of the date hereof, this Agreement shall not become effective until the date on which shares of Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH) begin trading on NYSE Arca as shares of an exchange-traded product. On the date this Agreement becomes effective, the Transfer Agency and Registrar Services Agreement between Continental and the Company dated December 12, 2017, shall terminate. The appointment of Continental as the Co-Transfer Agent is valid until terminated upon ninety (90) days prior written notice delivered by the Company or Continental to the other parties.

11. Degree of Care and Discharge. Continental agrees to faithfully carry out and perform its duties hereunder and, upon termination of its appointment and payment of outstanding fees, shall deliver to the Company, all registers of transfers and documents in connection therewith. A receipt therefor, signed by an officer of the Company shall be a valid discharge to Continental of its appointment hereunder.

12. Trusts. Continental shall not be bound to see to the execution of any trust, express, implied or constructive, or of any charge, pledge or equity to which any of the securities or any interests therein are subject to, to ascertain or inquire whether any sale or transfer of any such securities or interest therein by a holder or his personal representatives is authorized by such trust, charge, pledge or equity or to recognize any person having any interest therein except for the person recorded as such holder.

13. Reliance and Indemnity.

    a. Continental may rely upon and shall be fully protected and held harmless in acting or refraining from acting in reliance upon: (i) any written or oral instructions, representations or certifications received from any person it believes in good faith to be an officer, authorized agent, employee or shareholder of Company; (ii) advice, opinions, or instructions received from Company's or Continental's legal counsel; (iii) any information, records and documents provided to Continental by a former transfer agent or registrar of the Company or PRIMARY AGENT; (iv) the authenticity of any signature (manual, facsimile or electronic transmission) appearing on any writing or communication; and (v) on the conformity to original of any copy.

    b. The Company agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless Continental, its successors and assigns, and each of its directors, officers, employees and agents (the "Indemnified Parties") against and from any demands, claims, assessments, proceedings, suits, actions, costs, judgments, penalties, interest, liabilities, losses, damages, debts, expenses and disbursements (including expert consultant and legal fees and disbursements on a substantial indemnity, or solicitor and client, basis) (collectively, the "Claims") that the Indemnified Parties, or any of them, may suffer or incur or that

may be asserted against them, or any of them, in consequence of, arising from or in any way relating to this Agreement (as the same may be amended, modified or supplemented from time to time) or its duties hereunder in connection with or in any way relating to this Agreement. In addition, the Company agrees to reimburse, indemnify and save harmless the Indemnified Parties for, against and from all legal fees and disbursements (on a substantial indemnity, or solicitor and client, basis) incurred by an Indemnified Party if the Company commences an action, or cross claims or counterclaims, against the Indemnified Party and the Indemnified Party is successful in defending such claim.

c. The Company agrees that its liability hereunder shall be absolute and unconditional regardless of the correctness of any representations of any third parties and regardless of any liability of third parties to the Indemnified Parties, and shall accrue and become enforceable without prior demand or any other precedent action or proceeding, and shall survive the resignation or removal of Continental or the termination of this Agreement.

d. Continental shall not be under any obligation to prosecute or defend any action or suit in respect of their agency relationships with the Company under this Agreement, but will do so at the request of the Company provided that the Company furnishes an indemnity satisfactory to Continental against any liability, cost or expense which might be incurred.

14. Limitation on Liability. Continental shall not be liable for any error in judgment, for any act done or step taken or omitted by it in good faith, for any mistake of fact or law or for anything which it may do or refrain from doing in connection herewith except arising out of their bad faith or willful misconduct. In the event Continental is in breach of this Agreement or its duties hereunder or any agreement or duties relating to any other services that Continental may provide to the Company in connection with or in any way relating to this Agreement or Continental's duties hereunder, Continental shall be liable for claims or damages only to an aggregate maximum amount equal to the amount of fees paid hereunder by the Company to Continental in the twelve months preceding the last of the events giving rise to such claims or damages, except to the extent that Continental has acted in bad faith or engaged in willful misconduct. In no event shall continental be liable for any special, indirect, incidental, punitive or consequential damages arising out of or related to this agreement (including lost profits, damage to reputation or lost savings), even if foreseeable or even if Continental has been advised of the possibility of such damages.

15. Amendment, Assignment and Termination.

a. Except as specifically provided herein, this Agreement may only be amended or assigned by a written agreement of the parties.

b. Any entity resulting from the merger, amalgamation or continuation of Continental or succeeding to all or substantially all of its transfer agency business (by sale of such business or otherwise), shall thereupon automatically become the co-transfer agent hereunder without further act or formality.

c. This Agreement may be terminated by any party on 90 days' notice in writing being given to the other parties at the addresses set out in Section 16 or at such other addresses of which notice has been given.

d. This Agreement may be terminated by Continental in writing to the Company in the event the Company refuses or fails to pay an invoice for fees and expenses, or other demand for payment issued or made pursuant to this Agreement by Continental.

e. The provisions of Sections 14, 15 and 16 shall survive termination of this Agreement.

16. Address for Service. For the purposes of notices, the addresses for each party are as follows unless changed by notice in writing:

Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company

1 State Street, 30th Floor

New York, NY USA 10004

Phone: 212.845.3224

Email: kvandell@continentalstock.com

Grayscale Investments, LLC

290 Harbor Drive, 4th Floor

Stamford, CT 06902

Email: legal@grayscale.com

17. Certificate of Incumbency. Continental and PRIMARY AGENT will provide each other with a list of specimen signatures of officers of their respective companies who are authorized to countersign certificates for securities. The lists shall be updated on a regular basis to reflect changes in the authorized personnel.

18. Governing Laws. This Agreement and the rights and obligations of the parties hereto shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the Laws of the State of New York and the Laws of the United States as applicable therein.

19. Successors and Assigns. The provisions of this Agreement shall be binding upon the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns.

In witness whereof, this Agreement has been duly executed by the parties hereto.

GRAYSCALE ETHEREUM TRUST (ETH)

By: Grayscale Investments, LLC, as Sponsor of
Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH)

By: /s/ Hugh Ross
Title: COO

Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company

By: /s/ Douglas Reed
Title: Vice President


Exhibit A

Included Services

- Unless directed by PRIMARY AGENT, Continental will not process the following items:
  - Treasury Orders
  - Returns to Treasury
  - Restricted Securities (US Legend, etc.)
  - Certificates with Stop Transfer Notations
  - Certificate Replacements
  - Estate Transfers
  - Class conversions
- Continental will refer all Non-Routine Transfers as noted above to PRIMARY AGENT for processing and will advise the presenter by return mail.
- On a weekly basis PRIMARY AGENT will provide Continental with a stop list for all Co-Agent issues
- DRS Processing
  - Continental will always recommend to potential Co-Agent clients to offer DRS Participation to provide an efficient process for withdrawing certificates from DTC.
  - Continental will issue a “Co-Agent” DRS Advice/Statement that will not have any reference to PRIMARY AGENT.
  - PRIMARY AGENT will record Continental issued DRS positions as “BOOK” on PRIMARY AGENT’s register even though on Continental’s transfer journals sent to PRIMARY AGENT will show as “DRS”.
  - Continental will do the same in the event an PRIMARY AGENT DRS position is sent to Continental by US brokers.
  - Annual DRS Statement to shareholders will be sent by Continental per DRS requirements for only Continental DRS positions.
  - Continental will reconcile the DTC Fast Balance with PRIMARY AGENT on a weekly basis.
  - On a weekly basis, Continental will provide DTC Fast Balances to PRIMARY AGENT for reconciliation purposes.

Corporate Information

Corporate Information

| | |
|---|---|
| Federal ID/EIN | Principal Name |
| Company | Title |
| Address | Telephone |
| | Fax |
| Telephone | Email Address |
| Website | |

Accounting (Please note our invoices are delivered electronically)

| | |
|---|---|
| Contact | Contact (if different) |
| Name | Name Title |
| | Title |
| Address | Address |
| Telephone | Telephone |
| Facsimile | Fax |
| Email | Email |

SEC Counsel (for opinions)

| | |
|---|---|
| Firm | Contact |
| | Telephone |
| | Fax |
| Address | Email Address |

Company's General Counsel (if applicable)

| | |
|---|---|
| Firm | Contact |
| | Telephone |
| | Fax |
| Address | Email Address |

List of Officers and Directors of Grayscale Investments, LLC Authorized to Provide
Instructions Relating to Issuances of Shares and Corporate Actions
on Behalf of:

Grayscale Ethereum Trust (ETH)

OFFICERS and DIRECTOR SIGNATORIES:

| Name | Title | Signature |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
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BOARD of DIRECTORS:

| Name | Title |
|---|---|
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