# BlackRock.

BlackRock Strategic Funds (SICAV) (the "Company")

Registered Office: 49 avenue J.F. Kennedy, L-1855 Luxembourg, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg R.C.S. Luxembourg B 127481

#### NOTICE OF 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

The 2023 Annual General Meeting of Shareholders of the Company (the "Meeting") will be held at the registered office of the Company at 11.00 a.m. CET on Thursday 23 November 2023 for the purpose of considering and voting upon the following matters:

### **Agenda**

- 1. To receive the Directors' and Auditor's reports and to approve the financial statements for the year ended 31 May 2023.
- 2. To approve the payment of dividends for the year ended 31 May 2023.
- 3. To agree to discharge the Board for the performance of its duties for the past fiscal year.
- 4. To re-elect Ms Denise Voss as Director until the next annual general meeting of shareholders to be held in 2024.
- 5. To re-elect Mr Geoffrey Radcliffe as Director until the next annual general meeting of shareholders to be held in 2024.
- To re-elect Mr Paul Freeman as Director until the next annual general meeting of shareholders to be held in 2024.
- 7. To re-elect Mr Keith Saldanha as Director until the next annual general meeting of shareholders to be held in 2024.
- 8. To re-elect Ms Davina Saint as Director until the next annual general meeting of shareholders to be held in 2024.

- 9. To re-elect Ms Bettina Mazzocchi as Director until the next annual general meeting of shareholders to be held in 2024.
- 10. To re-elect Ms Vasiliki Pachatouridi as Director until the next annual general meeting of shareholders to be held in 2024.
- 11. To approve the remuneration of the Directors.
- 12. To re-elect Deloitte Audit Sàrl as Auditor until the accounts of 2024 are approved at the annual general meeting of shareholders to be held in 2024.

#### Voting

Resolutions on the Agenda may be passed without a quorum, by a simple majority of the votes cast thereon at the Meeting.

## **Voting Arrangements**

In order to vote at the meeting:

- 1. The holders of Registered Shares may be present in person or:
  - (a) represented by a duly appointed proxy; or
  - (b) vote by means of a ballot paper ("formulaire") in accordance with the procedures set out in Article 11 of the Company's Articles of Association.
- 2. Shareholders who cannot attend the Meeting in person are invited to:
  - (a) send a duly completed and signed proxy form to the registered address of the Company to arrive no later than midnight CET on 16 November 2023; or
  - (b) deliver or send by fax, by mail or by e-mail a duly completed and signed ballot paper to the registered address of the Company (by Fax No: +352 / 46 40 10 413 / email: Luxembourg-Domiciliarygroup@statestreet.com ) to arrive no later than 5.00 p.m. CET on 22 November 2023.
- 3. Proxy forms for registered shareholders can be obtained from the registered office of the Company. A person appointed proxy need not be a holder of Shares in the Company.

- 4. A pro forma ballot paper can be downloaded from: http://www.blackrock.co.uk/intermediaries/library.
- 5. Lodging of a proxy form or ballot vote will not prevent a shareholder from attending the Meeting and voting in person if he decides to do so.

Copies of the audited annual reports and other financial reports of the Company are available for inspection at the registered office of the Company. Shareholders may also request the Company or the local investor servicing team to send them a copy of such reports or may view the accounts by following the link - www.blackrock.co.uk/intermediaries/library.

Copies of the prospectus, the key information documents (KIDs), the articles of association and most recently published annual and semi-annual reports of the Company are available, in each case in German language and free of charge to investors at the registered office of the Company and at Raiffeisen Bank International AG, Am Stadtpark 9, A-1030 Wien, Austria, and may be accessed electronically via www.blackrock.com.

27 July 2023 The Board of Directors

**Registered Office of the Company:** 

49, avenue J.F. Kennedy L-1855 Luxembourg,

Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

**Paying Agents** 

Austria

Raiffeisen Bank International AG

Am Stadtpark 9 1030 Vienna

Luxembourg

(Central Paying Agent)

J.P. Morgan Bank Luxembourg S.A.

European Bank and Business Centre

6C, route de Trèves L-2633 Senningerberg

Luxembourg

United Kingdom

J.P. Morgan Trustee and Depositary Company

Limited

Hampshire Building, 1st Floor

Chaseside Bournemouth BH7 7DA

Switzerland

State Street Bank International GmbH

Munich, Zurich branch Beethovenstrasse 19

CH-8027 Zurich, Switzerland

Czech Republic

UniCredit Bank Czech Republic

and Slovakia a.s.

Prague 4 – Michle, Želetavská 1525/1

Postcal Code 140 92,

Czech Republic

Italy

**BNP Paribas Securities Services** 

Succursale di Milano - Via Ansperto 5

20123 Milan

Société Générale Securities Services S.p.A.

Via Benigno Crespi 19/A - MAC II

20159 Milan

Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena S.p.A.

Piazza Salimbeni 3

53100 Siena

Italy

State Street Bank International Gmbh -

Succursale Italia

Via Ferrante Aporti, 10

20125 Milan

Italy

Allfunds Bank S.A.,

Milan branch,

Via Santa Margherita 7,

20121 Milan

Italy

Banca Sella Holding S.p.A

Piazza Gaudenzio Sella 1

13900 Biella (BI)

Italy

CACEIS Bank, Italy Branch

1-3 Place Valhubert

75206 Paris

Cedex 13 (France)

Operation address:

Piazza Cavour, 2

20121 Milan

ICCREA Banca S.p.A.

Via Lucrezia Romana 41/47

00178 Rome

Italy

#### APPENDIX TO AGM NOTICE

#### **Directors' Biographies**

Denise Voss (Chairwoman) (American): Ms Voss is a Non-Executive Director of financial services companies and is based in Luxembourg. She serves as a Director on the Boards of flagship funds of major fund promoters, including BlackRock Global Funds and BlackRock Global Index Funds. Ms. Voss previously worked for Franklin Templeton in Luxembourg for over 25 years as a Conducting Officer and Director of the firm's UCITS and alternative investment fund management business. Prior to joining Franklin Templeton, she worked for 10 years at Coopers & Lybrand in Boston, USA and in Luxembourg. She holds a Massachusetts CPA license and earned an undergraduate degree from Tufts University, as well as a masters degree in accountancy from Bentley University. Ms. Voss is Chairwoman of LuxFLAG, an independent agency based in Luxembourg that awards recognised sustainable finance labels to eligible investment vehicles. She was Chairman of the Association of the Luxembourg Fund Industry (ALFI) from 2015-2019, and a member of the ALFI Board of Directors from 2007-2019.

Geoffrey D. Radcliffe (British & Luxembourger dual nationality, Luxembourg resident): Mr Radcliffe is a Managing Director of BlackRock and is based in Luxembourg. He is a member of the BlackRock Business Operations & Technology, Global Accounting and Product Services team and heads Product Oversight and Governance International and Alternatives International for BlackRock EMEA & Asia Pacific. Mr Radcliffe is a Fellow of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and an Associate of The Chartered Institute of Bankers. He has 30+ years of mutual fund, accounting and banking experience in Luxembourg, Bermuda, London and the Isle of Man. Mr Radcliffe joined the BlackRock Group in 1998. He serves as a Director on the Boards of BlackRock Luxembourg S.A. and BlackRock Fund Management Company S.A. and also on the Boards of a number of BlackRock investment funds. He has been a Member of the Board of Directors of ALFI (Luxembourg Fund Industry Association) since 2013.

Paul Freeman (British): Mr Freeman is a Non-Executive Director with over 40 years' experience in the investment management industry. He currently serves as a director on the boards of a number of investment funds domiciled in Luxembourg and the Cayman Islands. Until April 2022 he was a non-executive director of a number of BlackRock group subsidiaries in Ireland, including its UCITS/ AIFM management company for which he also served as chair of its Investment Committee. He was, until December 2015, a Managing Director of BlackRock (having joined the group in August 2005). Between July 2011 and December 2015 Mr Freeman worked closely with BlackRock's Government affairs team and served on various internal governance committees. Until July 2011 he was the Head of Product Development and Range Management for the EMEA region with responsibility for the development and ongoing product management of all funds domiciled in EMEA and distributed on a cross-border basis by BlackRock. Prior to BlackRock, Mr Freeman held senior management positions at Schroders, Rothschild Asset Management, Henderson Investors and GT Management (now part of Invesco). Mr Freeman is a Chartered Accountant.

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Keith Saldanha (British): Mr. Saldanha is a Managing Director of BlackRock and is Head of the Wealth Product Group for Europe, Middle East and Africa. He is responsible for defining and executing the alpha and alternatives product agenda for the BlackRock EMEA Wealth business. In addition, Mr Saldanha leads the Fund Selection and Manager Research segment for the EMEA iShares & Wealth sales organisation. Mr Saldanha is a member of the EMEA Wealth Executive Committee, EMEA Product Development Committee and EMEA Capacity Management Committee. He joined BlackRock in 2015 from Man Group where he was Global Head of Investment Marketing, responsible for a number of product specialist, business development and client service teams across Man's investment management businesses. Prior to this, he spent a number of years focused on the origination and execution of Man's hedge fund M&A activity and jointly leading corporate strategy for the hedge fund business. Mr Saldanha started his career in strategy consulting. He is a Chartered Alternative Investment analyst and holds a BSc (Hons) Economics degree from the University of Warwick.

Davina Saint (British, Irish resident): Based in Dublin, Ms Saint is a Non-Executive Director of financial services companies and a Director of the Irish National Assets Management Agency, sitting on the Board, Credit and Planning Committees and Chairing the Remuneration Committee. Ms Saint worked with the BNP Paribas Group for over 20 years as the General Counsel for its Irish Corporate and Institutional banking business and latterly as the Head of Branch for BNP Paribas' Irish Securities Services business. Prior to joining BNP Paribas, she worked in the City of London with ABN Amro after qualifying as a Solicitor in the field of shipping litigation. She holds an Honours degree in Law from the London School of Economics. She is also a Chartered Director (CDir) and a Certified Bank Director.

Bettina Mazzocchi (British and French dual nationality): Ms Mazzocchi is a Managing Director of BlackRock and is based in Paris. She is head of iShares and Wealth for France, Belgium, Luxembourg and Monaco. Before joining BlackRock in 2018, she had been at PIMCO since 2008 where she most recently was Country head for France. Previous roles held by Ms. Mazzocchi were with Morgan Stanley, Bank of America and Credit Suisse First Boston, where she had focused on Credit Derivatives, Structured Credit and Debt Capital markets respectively. Ms. Mazzocchi serves on the Board of Trustees of YATI (Young Actors Theatre Islington), a not-for-profit, community theatre company for children and young people in London, UK. Ms. Mazzocchi is a graduate of the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris ("Sciences Po") and Paris III Sorbonne Nouvelle.

Vasiliki Pachatouridi (British & Greek dual nationality): Managing Director, is the Head of iShares Fixed Income Product Strategy EMEA within BlackRock's Indexed Fixed Income Portfolio Management Group (PMG). She is responsible for driving the adoption of iShares Fixed Income ETFs and other indexed fixed income strategies across both institutional and wealth channels. Ms Pachatouridi also represents the firm in front of clients, regulators, industry bodies and the media, advocating for the need to modernize bond markets, particularly around trading, liquidity and the evolution of indices. Ms Pachatouridi's service with the firm dates back to 2007, including her years with Barclays Global Investors (BGI), which merged with BlackRock in 2009. Previously, she was a

member of the iShares EMEA Investment Strategies & Insights team, where she provided analysis on ETF products as well as investment trade ideas and market insights to a variety of clients. At BGI, she started her career within the Transition Management team. Ms Pachatouridi earned MSc degree, with a first class honours, in Investment Management from Cass Business School in 2007 and a BSc degree in Business Administration from University of Bath in 2006.