## THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AUSTIN DIVISION

UNITED STATES COMMODITY	§
FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION,	§
	§
Plaintiff,	§
	§
V.	§
	§
SENEN POUSA, INVESTMENT	§
INTELLIGENCE CORPORATION,	§
DBA PROPHETMAX MANAGED FX,	§
JOEL FRIANT, MICHAEL DILLARD, and	§
ELEVATION GROUP, INC.,	§
	§
Defendants.	§

Civil Action No. A-12-CV-0862-LY

## **RECEIVER'S STATUS UPDATE**

Comes now, Guy M. Hohmann, the Court-appointed Receiver in the above-referenced ProphetMax Receivership matter and the ancillary IB Capital matter and files this his Status Update.

Since the Receiver's previous interim status report previously reported of March 3, 2022, there has been significant activity to report. Specifically, the Court held a telephonic hearing on all pending motions on June 13, 2022.

## **ING Settlement**

On June 14, 2022, the Court granted the Receiver's Motion to Approve Notice Procedures and to Set Hearing [Dkt. #207] and the Notice [Dkt. #236-1]. On June 17, 2022, The Receiver's paralegal emailed the Notice to all approved investor claimants at their email addresses on file with the Receivership, posted an announcement on the Receivership Facebook page and the Receivership website.

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The Receiver's paralegal completed the assignment of telephoning all non-responsive approved investors located in the U.S. that have been unresponsive to email requests or postcards sent via first class mail via the United States Post Office.<sup>1</sup>

The Receiver is in the process of drafting the Unopposed Motion to Approve the ING Distribution Plan and Procedures that will outline all responsibilities regarding the distribution agent and other pertinent details on how the individual claimants will receive their distribution. Pending this Court's ruling on the Hearing on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the Receiver will submit to the Texas Western District Court Electric System.

#### **Recently Recovered**

## A. Cyprus - Neotex Advanced, Ltd – Amount recovered USD 1,041,758

On April 21, 2022, the funds were transferred to the Receivership estate account.

The Receiver understands these funds were under the control of the Cyprus Attorney General's office. The funds were on deposit in two separate accounts: Neotex and Randius, Ltd.

On March 16, 2022, the district court of Nicosia issued on order directing the Cyprus Attorney General's office to wire the Neotex funds to the Receiver's Dutch counsel. On April 14, 2022, the Neotex funds were wired to the account of the Receiver's Dutch counsel.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On July 12, 2022, the Receiver's Paralegal completed calling the telephone the numbers the investor claimants provided the Receiver, during the claim process. She was able to reestablish contact with 19 out of 108 U.S. investors. To date, we have not reestablished contact with non-responsive non-U.S. investors. The number of outstanding nonresponsive investors total 116 (22 international and 108 in the US). 62 of the 104 investors have approved claims for membership fees. The Commodity Future's Trading Commission (the "CFTC") has been utilizing their resources to contact non-responsive international investors. To date, none of those international investors have contacted the Receiver.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Receiver is preparing a Motion for Distribution of these funds to be distributed, in early fall of 2022.

# B. Funds previously in ING Bank - IB Capital and Maverick - Amount recovered USD 2,389,928.58

As reported in the Receiver's Fourth Motion to Withdraw Previously Filed Motion [Dkt. #231], prior to releasing remaining funds in the accounts of IB Capital and Maverick (the "ING Accounts") to the Receiver, ING requested the Receiver obtain executed documents from Emade Echade and Michel Geurkink waiving claims to approximately EURO 2.4 million, in the ING Accounts. On June 9, 2022, The Receiver obtained the executed waiver documents and forwarded them via email to ING's counsel. On July 27 and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the Receiver received the wired funds from ING Bank<sup>3</sup>.

## **On-Going Recovery Efforts**

As previously stated in the Receiver's Status Reports on January 31, 2022 [Dkt. #212], he continues to make progress on multiple recovery efforts.

## C. Cyprus - Randius, Ltd. – Amount currently held (approximately EUR 100,000)

The Receiver was informed by the DPPO the person that is designated as the Ultimate Beneficial Owner of Randius (Jennifer Weare) would have to consent to the transfer. The Receiver has not been able to contact Ms. Weare. Although, he has been in communication with Florida counsel who can communicate with her. The Receiver prepared a Consent to Transfer document sent it to Florida counsel which was executed by Ms. Weare on July 5, 2022; the following day, he emailed it to the DPPO but has thus far not heard back from them concerning when these funds might be received.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> As stated in the previous footnote, the Receiver is preparing a Motion for Distribution of these funds to be distributed, in early fall of 2022. The distribution for the recovered monies for the second distribution is .19 cents on the dollar. The Receiver previously estimated the amount may have been .23 cents on the dollar. The fluctuation between the Euro and the dollar impacted the distribution amount. Note: This distribution is separate from the pending ING Settlement distribution.

#### D. Slovakia - Riknik & Sons Ltd. Funds – Estimated recovery USD 7,200,000

The Receiver continues to communicate with the Dutch Public Prosecutor's Office ("DPPO") which has in turn been attempting to communicate with their counterparts in Slovakia to have the attachment orders lifted and the funds repatriated to the receivership estate.

On May 25, 2022, the Receiver was advised by the DPPO the Netherlands Central Fine Collection Agency is working on the transfer of their confiscation order to Slovakia. The DPPO will ask to transfer all funds to the Receiver's Dutch counsel after recognition of the confiscation. The Receiver understands that should be done within forty-five (45) days after receipt of the confiscation order. On July 6, 2022, the Receiver emailed the DPPO inquiring about the status of the Slovakian proceeding, but thus far, he has not received a response.

### E. Morocco

As previously reported, The Receiver understands it is very difficult to have funds transferred out of Kingdom of Morocco. The sums on deposit in Morocco are in Moroccan Dirham. The amounts referenced in this section are at estimated exchange rates in U.S. dollars.

# 1. Frozen Funds in a financial institution - Essadia Moutaouakkil – Estimated Recovery USD 4,500,000

The Receiver presently has an assignment agreement which has been executed by Essadia Moutaouakkil; he learned; the kingdom of the Moroccan consulate no longer requires in person visits for notary services. Accordingly, on July 14, 2022, the Receiver mailed five (5) fully executed assignment agreements to the Moroccan Consulate which were received the following day.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Receiver mailed the documents UPS Next Day Air (late delivery) to ensure arrival. The majority of reviews available on the consulate state their document turn-around time is lengthy. Per their instructions, the Receiver included a prepaid USPS priority mail envelope with a tracking number to follow when shipped. To date, there has not been any shipping activity.

# 2. Emade Echade - Estimated recoveries USD 210,000 and Rabiaa Moutaouakill USD 277,000

The Receiver is in the process of preparing powers of attorney to be executed by Emade Echade and Rabiaa Moutaouakkil. It is certainly conceivable that Mr. Echade and Ms. Rabiaa Moutaouakkil will not agree to execute the powers of attorney.

On April 22, 2022, Banque Populaire's counsel has responded stating that an order would be required from a Moroccan Judge and the Moroccan government would have to approve the funds being transferred out of the country. The Receiver will be filing a sealed motion to pay administrative expenses to request the Court's permission to pay his Moroccan counsel a retainer to petition the Moroccan court and seek approval for transfer of the funds out of the country.

## 3. Real Estate - Four tracts of land - Estimated recoveries USD 700,000

The Receiver is having preliminary discussions with Kuper Sotheby's International Realty (the "Realtor) about possibly listing the properties for sale. The Realtor has requested addresses for the properties which the Receiver has requested from Mr. Echade and his counsel. It is the Receiver's understanding that information will be received by August 15, 2022.

One of the tracts involved has a lien on the property by the equivalent of Morocco's Drug Enforcement Agency. Accordingly, the Receiver is reluctant to incur any material expenses associated with the possible disposition of these properties. Finally, the estimated value of these properties is net anticipated selling expenses.

## CONCLUSION

It was the Receiver's intent to file this Status Report on July 31, 2022. Due to electronic court filing system upgrade and launch of the Next Generation of CM/EFC, the Receiver was not able to access the electric filing system until the morning of August 1, 2022. The next status

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report will be submitted to the Court on January 31, 2023. If significant developments occur in

the interim, the Receiver will file a report before that date.

Respectfully submitted,

GUY HOHMANN

By: /s/ Guy Hohmann

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# **RECEIVER FOR THE PROPHETMAX AND IB CAPITAL RECEIVERSHIP ESTATES**

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

On August 1, 2022, I electronically submitted the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court of the U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas, using the electronic case filing system of the court. I hereby certify that I have served all counsel and/or pro se parties of record electronically or by another manner authorized by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 5(b)(2).

<u>/s/ Guy Hohmann</u> Guy Hohmann