

5 November 2024

Dear Investor

# CHANGE TO THE SYNERGY CI FUND OF FUNDS RANGE

The purpose of this letter is to obtain your approval to change the **Synergy Ci Conservative Fund of Funds, Synergy Ci Moderate Fund of Funds** and the **Synergy Ci Growth Fund of Funds** ("the Funds of Funds") into the **Synergy Ci Conservative Fund, Synergy Ci Moderate Fund** and **Synergy Ci Growth Fund** ("the Funds") respectively.

If you are in any doubt as to what action to take, please consult your financial advisor or Synergy on 011 807 1178.

#### **Our Proposal:**

We propose making the following changes:

- Change Synergy Ci Conservative Fund of Funds to the Synergy Ci Conservative Fund
- Change Synergy Ci Moderate Fund of Funds to the Synergy Ci Moderate Fund
- Change Synergy Ci Growth Fund of Funds to the Synergy Ci Growth Fund

#### The benefit of the change for investors

Synergy Multi Managers (Pty) Ltd ("Synergy") currently manages in the region of R2.2 billion in four collective investment scheme portfolios and have built up a solid track record over many years of managing these portfolios.

The scale and skillset developed over time allows Synergy to broaden the range of investment instruments that may be managed, in the best interests of investors. In order to retain the investment benefits that are applicable to the Funds of Funds while enabling Synergy to invest in a broader range of investment options, it is proposed to change the Funds of Funds into standard funds. Standard funds will allow Synergy more investment flexibility including the ability to invest in by investing directly in local and global equities, non-equities and other permissible securities, supplemented by investment in underlying funds, in order to reduce the overall cost (TIC) of the Funds.

Once changed from fund of funds, Synergy can continue to make use of its skills acquired over the many years of managing multi-managed portfolios, while incorporating the portfolio construction and cost benefits of standard funds. The added investment flexibility will enable Synergy to take greater control of the composition of the Funds while still ensuring that investors are exposed to the skills of the best investment managers, where appropriate.

In order to give effect to this change, we are required to ballot all the investors who are invested in the Synergy Ci Funds of Funds. In order to proceed with the ballot, Ci was required to obtain a letter of noobjection from the Financial Sector Conduct Authority ("FSCA"), following an application and motivation to the FSCA that the proposed change will benefit investors and will not prejudice investors.

#### Investment management of the Synergy Ci Fund range

Synergy will continue to manage the assets of the Funds as has been the case since inception. In addition, the Funds will be managed in accordance with their new investment policy.

Collective Intelligence

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# Effective date of ballot and cut-off date for instructions prior to the implementation of the proposed change

All investors in the Synergy Ci Fund of Funds on record as at **25 October 2024** will be balloted. The proposed change to the Synergy Ci Fund of Funds will be effective on **3 February 2025**, provided that the necessary approval is received from investors and the FSCA.

## Charges, performance and unit pricing

- 1. Investors will not be liable to pay any specific fees, charges, taxes or brokerage as a result of the change to the portfolio.
- 2. The change in the investment policy of the portfolio will not constitute a Capital Gains Tax (CGT) event for tax purposes.
- 3. The amended portfolio will determine future performance and unit pricing.

## **Distribution dates:**

The distribution dates will remain the same. Kindly refer to **Annexure A** to this letter for details of the distribution dates.

## Valuation and transaction cut-off times:

There will be no change to the valuation and transaction cut-off times. The valuation point is 17:00 daily. The cut-off time for transactions is 14:00.

## Change to the name and Investment Policy

A fund of funds is a portfolio that invests in other collective investment scheme portfolios and a standard fund is a portfolio that invests directly in equity securities, non-equity securities and other permissible securities. A standard fund may also invest a portion of the portfolio in other collective investment scheme portfolios.

# Synergy Ci Conservative Fund of Funds

The name and investment policy of the **Synergy Ci Conservative Fund of Funds** will change to become the **Synergy Ci Conservative Fund**. Synergy proposes that the existing Synergy Ci Conservative Fund of Funds changes from a multi asset low equity fund of funds to a multi asset low equity standard fund.

By changing this portfolio to a multi asset low equity standard portfolio, the investors will continue to have exposure to the various asset classes with a maximum exposure to equity securities being 40%. Rather than investing in a number of underlying funds, the portfolio will invest into equity securities, non-equity securities and other permissible securities providing more flexibility and greater outcomes. This will allow the portfolio to be managed more cost effectively, thereby reducing the overall investment costs to investors.

## Synergy Ci Moderate Fund of Funds

The name and investment policy of the **Synergy Ci Moderate Fund of Funds** will change to become the **Synergy Ci Moderate Fund**. Synergy propose that the existing Synergy Ci Moderate Fund of Funds changes from a multi asset medium equity fund of funds to a multi asset medium equity standard fund.

By changing this portfolio to a multi asset medium equity standard portfolio, the investors will continue to have exposure to the various asset classes with a maximum exposure to equity securities being 60%. Rather than investing in a number of underlying funds, the portfolio will invest into equity securities, non-equity securities and other permissible securities providing more flexibility and greater outcomes. This will allow the portfolio to be managed more cost effectively, thereby reducing the overall investment costs to investors.

#### Synergy Ci Growth Fund of Funds

The name and investment policy of the **Synergy Ci Growth Fund of Funds** will change to become the **Synergy Ci Growth Fund**. Synergy propose that the existing Synergy Ci Growth Fund of Funds changes from a multi asset high equity fund of funds to a multi asset high equity standard fund.

By changing this portfolio to a multi asset high equity standard portfolio, the investors will continue to have exposure to the various asset classes with a maximum exposure to equity securities being 75%. Rather than investing in a number of underlying funds, the portfolio will invest into equity securities, non-equity securities and other permissible securities providing more flexibility and greater outcomes. This will allow the portfolio to be managed more cost effectively, thereby reducing the overall investment costs to investors.

## Explanation of fees

Although the Service Charges of certain portfolio classes may increase, it is anticipated that the Total Investment Charge will decrease over time, as a result of the increased flexibility in terms of the nature of the underlying investments that Synergy may include. The TIC is the sum of a portfolio's Total Expense Ratio ("TER") and Transaction Costs ("TC"), comprising annual management fees, fees charged by underlying funds and direct instrument trading costs.

Synergy acknowledges the need for sensible investment management that meets the needs of their clients and reduces overall TIC, and by making the proposed changes, they will be more effective in achieving this objective for their clients.

Cost reduction opportunities come from investing directly in securities such as equities, non-equities and cash, rather than underlying funds which also levy their own service charges. The service charge of the underlying funds is added to the TIC, which may result in a higher TIC.

#### Your rights as investor

The rights of the investor are firmly entrenched in the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act. In terms of Section 98 of the Act and Clause 67 of the Deed, the Authority requires that:

- 1. all investors be advised, in writing, of the details of the proposed change to the portfolio, and
- 2. all investors be given an opportunity to vote in favour of or against the amendment proposal.

Please vote by completing the enclosed ballot form and return it to the auditors in the enclosed selfaddressed envelope or scan and email the form directly to the auditors at za\_ci\_collective\_ballot@pwc.com by 18 December 2024.

# Note: Investors holding at least 25% in value, excluding the Manager, must respond in writing.

Please note that, in terms of the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act, the FSCA will not consent to the change to the portfolio unless he or she is satisfied that the majority of investors consent to the change.

If you are not comfortable with the change proposal and do not wish to switch your investment to any of the other Synergy Ci Fund of Funds range, you may elect to redeem your units at any time and withdraw your funds at the NAV price, as defined in the Deed.

# Note: electing to redeem your units may constitute a CGT event for which you could be liable to pay CGT at your next income tax assessment.

If you choose not to switch or withdraw your investment prior to **18 December 2024**, the change proposal, as set out in this letter (to the extent that it is approved by investors and the FSCA) will automatically apply to your investment.

Investors will no doubt be reassured to know that the Trustees (approved by the FSCA in terms of the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act) of the Ci Collective Investment Scheme have formally

consented to the ballot process as a means of determining the wishes of the majority of the investors as set out in this letter.

# For more information:

If you have any queries or wish to know more about the proposed change referred to in Annexure A, or should you wish to exercise your right to switch or sell any of your investments, please contact your financial advisor or Synergy on 011 807 1178.

Yours sincerely

Peter Dreyer Director

# Annexure A

The changes to the Investment policy are indicated in bold in the table below:

Synergy Ci Conservative Fund of Funds	Synergy Ci Conservative Fund	Impact
Investment Policy	Investment Policy	
The investment objective of the Synergy Ci Conservative Fund of Funds is to provide investors with income and conservative capital growth with a focus on capital preservation.	The Synergy Ci Conservative Fund is a multi-asset low equity portfolio. The investment objective of the portfolio is to provide investors with income and conservative capital growth with a focus on capital preservation.	No Change
The portfolio will have an equity exposure of a maximum of 40% of the portfolio's net asset value, however, if this limit is breached inadvertently due to for example, market movements, corporate actions or large cash flows, the Manager shall rectify the non-compliance within the time periods prescribed in applicable law. The composition of the portfolio shall reflect the investment structure of a retirement fund with a low risk profile and will comply with prudential investment guidelines to the extent allowed by the Act.	The portfolio maintains a low risk profile and the portfolio's equity exposure will be limited to a maximum of 40% of the portfolio's net asset value. The portfolio will comply with prudential investment guidelines to the extent allowed by the Act.	No Change
Investments to be included in the portfolio will, apart from assets in liquid form, consist solely of participatory interests in portfolios of collective investment schemes or other similar collective investment schemes registered in the Republic of South Africa or of participatory interests in collective investment schemes or other similar schemes operated in territories with a regulatory environment which is to the satisfaction of the Manager and the Trustee of a sufficient standard to provide investor protection which is at least equivalent to that in South Africa.	Investments to be included in the portfolio may, apart from assets in liquid form, consist of equity securities, non-equity securities, convertible stock, preference shares and property securities as well as any other securities which are considered consistent with the portfolio's primary objective and that the Act may allow from time to time. The portfolio may also include participatory interests in portfolios of collective investment schemes or other similar collective investment schemes registered in the Republic of South Africa or of participatory interests in collective investment schemes or other similar schemes operated in territories with a regulatory environment which is to the satisfaction of the Manager and the Trustee of a sufficient standard to provide investor protection which is at least equivalent to that in South Africa.	No Change
The portfolio may from time to time invest in listed and unlisted financial instruments, in accordance with the provisions of the Act, and the Regulations thereto, as amended from time to time, in order to achieve the portfolio's investment objective. The Manager may also include unlisted forward currency, interest rate and exchange rate swap transactions for efficient portfolio management purposes.	The portfolio may from time to time invest in listed and unlisted financial instruments, in accordance with the provisions of the Act, and the Regulations thereto, as amended from time to time, in order to achieve the portfolio's investment objective.	
The Manager will be permitted to invest on behalf of the portfolio in offshore investments as legislation permits.	The Manager will be permitted to invest on behalf of the portfolio in offshore investments as legislation permits.	

Synergy Ci Conservative Fund of Funds	Synergy Ci Conservative Fund	Impact
The Trustee shall ensure that the investment policy set	The Trustee shall ensure that the investment policy set	
out in this Supplemental Deed is carried out.	out in this supplemental deed is carried out.	
For the purpose of this portfolio, the Manager shall	For the purpose of this portfolio, the Manager shall	
reserve the right to close the portfolio to new investors	reserve the right to close the portfolio to new investors	
on a date determined by the Manager. This will be done	on a date determined by the Manager. This will be done	
to efficiently manage the portfolio in accordance with its	to efficiently manage the portfolio in accordance with its	
mandate. The Manager may, once a portfolio has been	mandate. The Manager may, once a portfolio has been	
closed, open that portfolio again to new investors on a	closed, open that portfolio again to new investors on a	
date determined by the Manager.	date determined by the Manager.	
Nothing in this supplemental deed shall preclude the	Nothing in this supplemental deed shall preclude the	
Manager from varying the ratios of securities or assets	Manager from varying the ratios of securities or assets	
in liquid form in changing economic environment or	in liquid form in changing economic environment or	
market conditions, or to meet the requirements in terms	market conditions, or to meet the requirements in terms	
of legislation and from retaining cash or placing cash on	of legislation and from retaining cash or placing cash on	
deposit in terms of the deed and this supplemental	deposit in terms of the deed and this supplemental	
deed.	deed.	
Portfolio Benchmark	Portfolio Benchmark	No
Average of the ASISA SA Multi-Asset Low Equity	Average of the ASISA SA Multi-Asset Low Equity	Change
Category	Category	
Service Charges (ex VAT)	Service Charges (ex VAT)	Investors
Class A: 0.80% - Retail Direct	Class A: 0.90% - Retail Direct	will
Class B: 0.75% - LISP	Class B: 0.85% - LISP	experience a fee
(The abovementioned fees exclude the cost of the	(The abovementioned fees include all annual	increase of
underlying funds)	management fees of the portfolio, and excludes only the	0.10% p.a.
	cost of any underlying funds that may be included from	
	time to time)	
Performance Fees	Performance Fees	No
None	None	Change
Distribution	Distribution	No
31 March, 30 June, 30 September and 31 December	31 March, 30 June, 30 September and 31 December	Change
ASISA Category	ASISA Category	No
South African – Multi Asset – Low Equity	South African – Multi Asset – Low Equity	Change

Synergy Ci Moderate Fund of Funds	Synergy Ci Moderate Fund	Impact
Investment Policy	Investment Policy	
The investment objective of the Synergy Ci Moderate Fund of Funds is to provide investors with moderate capital growth.	The Synergy Ci Moderate Fund is a multi-asset medium equity portfolio. The investment objective of the portfolio is to provide investors with moderate capital growth.	
The portfolio will have an equity exposure of a maximum of 60% of the portfolio's net asset value. The composition of the portfolio shall reflect the investment structure of a retirement fund with a moderate risk profile and will comply with prudential investment guidelines to the extent allowed by the Act.	The portfolio maintains a moderate risk profile and the portfolio's equity exposure will be limited to a maximum of 60% of the portfolio's net asset value. The portfolio will comply with prudential investment guidelines to the extent allowed by the Act.	
Investments to be included in the portfolio will, apart from assets in liquid form, consist solely of participatory interests in portfolios of collective investment schemes or other similar collective investment schemes registered in the Republic of South Africa or of participatory interests in collective investment schemes or other similar schemes operated in territories with a regulatory environment which is to the satisfaction of the	Investments to be included in the portfolio may, apart from assets in liquid form, consist of equity securities, non-equity securities, convertible stock, preference shares and property securities as well as any other securities which are considered consistent with the portfolio's primary objective and that the Act may allow from time to time.	
Regulatory environment which is to the satisfaction of the Manager and the Trustee of a sufficient standard to provide investor protection which is at least equivalent to that in South Africa.	The portfolio may also include participatory interests in portfolios of collective investment schemes or other similar collective investment schemes registered in the Republic of South Africa or of participatory interests in collective investment schemes or other similar schemes operated in territories with a regulatory environment which is to the satisfaction of the Manager and the Trustee of a sufficient standard to provide investor protection which is at least equivalent to that in South Africa.	
The portfolio may from time to time invest in listed and unlisted financial instruments, in accordance with the provisions of the Act, and the Regulations thereto, as amended from time to time, in order to achieve the portfolio's investment objective. The Manager may also include unlisted forward currency, interest rate and exchange rate swap transactions for efficient portfolio management purposes.	The portfolio may from time to time invest in listed and unlisted financial instruments, in accordance with the provisions of the Act, and the Regulations thereto, as amended from time to time, in order to achieve the portfolio's investment objective.	
The Manager will be permitted to invest on behalf of the portfolio in offshore investments as legislation permits.	The Manager will be permitted to invest on behalf of the portfolio in offshore investments as legislation permits.	
The Trustee shall ensure that the investment policy set out in this Supplemental Deed is carried out.	The Trustee shall ensure that the investment policy set out in this supplemental deed is carried out.	
For the purpose of this portfolio, the Manager shall reserve the right to close the portfolio to new investors on a date determined by the Manager. This will be done to efficiently manage the portfolio in accordance with its mandate. The Manager may, once a portfolio has been	For the purpose of this portfolio, the Manager shall reserve the right to close the portfolio to new investors on a date determined by the Manager. This will be done to efficiently manage the portfolio in accordance with its mandate. The Manager may, once a portfolio has been	

Synergy Ci Moderate Fund of Funds	Synergy Ci Moderate Fund	Impact
closed, open that portfolio again to new investors on a	closed, open that portfolio again to new investors on a	
date determined by the Manager.	date determined by the Manager.	
Nothing in this supplemental deed shall preclude the Manager from varying the ratios of securities or assets in liquid form in changing economic environment or market conditions, or to meet the requirements in terms of legislation and from retaining cash or placing cash on deposit in terms of the deed and this supplemental deed.	Nothing in this supplemental deed shall preclude the Manager from varying the ratios of securities or assets in liquid form in changing economic environment or market conditions, or to meet the requirements in terms of legislation and from retaining cash or placing cash on deposit in terms of the deed and this supplemental deed.	
Portfolio Benchmark	Portfolio Benchmark	No
Average of the ASISA SA Multi-Asset Medium Equity Category	Average of the ASISA SA Multi-Asset Medium Equity Category	Change
Service Charges (ex VAT)	Service Charges (ex VAT)	Investors
Class A: 0.80% - Retail Direct	Class A: 0.90% - Retail Direct	will
Class B: 0.75% - LISP	Class B: 0.85% - LISP	experience
(The abovementioned fees exclude the cost of the underlying funds)	(The abovementioned fees include all annual management fees of the portfolio, and excludes only the cost of any underlying funds that may be included from time to time)	a fee increase of 0.10% p.a.
Performance Fees	Performance Fees	No
None	None	Change
Distribution	Distribution	No
30 June & 31 December	30 June & 31 December	Change
ASISA Category	ASISA Category	No
South African – Multi Asset – Medium Equity	South African – Multi Asset – Medium Equity	Change

Synergy Ci Growth Fund of Funds	Synergy Ci Growth Fund	Impact
<b>Investment Policy</b> The investment objective of the Synergy Ci Growth Fund of Funds is to provide investors with long term capital growth.	<b>Investment Policy</b> The Synergy Ci Growth Fund is a multi-asset high equity portfolio. The investment objective of the portfolio is to provide investors with long term capital growth.	
The portfolio will have an equity exposure of a maximum of 75% of the portfolio's net asset value. The composition of the portfolio shall reflect the investment structure of a retirement fund with a moderate risk profile and will comply with prudential investment guidelines to the extent allowed by the Act.	The portfolio maintains a high risk profile and the portfolio's equity exposure will be limited to a maximum of 75% of the portfolio's net asset value. The portfolio will comply with prudential investment guidelines to the extent allowed by the Act.	
Investments to be included in the portfolio will, apart from assets in liquid form, consist solely of participatory interests in portfolios of collective investment schemes or other similar collective investment schemes registered in the Republic of South Africa or of participatory interests in collective investment schemes or other similar schemes operated in territories with a regulatory environment which is to the satisfaction of the	Investments to be included in the portfolio may, apart from assets in liquid form, consist of equity securities, non-equity securities, convertible stock, preference shares and property securities as well as any other securities which are considered consistent with the portfolio's primary objective and that the Act may allow from time to time.	
Manager and the Trustee of a sufficient standard to provide investor protection which is at least equivalent to that in South Africa.	The portfolio may also include participatory interests in portfolios of collective investment schemes or other similar collective investment schemes registered in the Republic of South Africa or of participatory interests in collective investment schemes or other similar schemes operated in territories with a regulatory environment which is to the satisfaction of the Manager and the Trustee of a sufficient standard to provide investor protection which is at least equivalent to that in South Africa.	
The portfolio may from time to time invest in listed and unlisted financial instruments, in accordance with the provisions of the Act, and the Regulations thereto, as amended from time to time, in order to achieve the portfolio's investment objective. The Manager may also include unlisted forward currency, interest rate and exchange rate swap transactions for efficient portfolio management purposes.	The portfolio may from time to time invest in listed and unlisted financial instruments, in accordance with the provisions of the Act, and the Regulations thereto, as amended from time to time, in order to achieve the portfolio's investment objective.	
The Manager will be permitted to invest on behalf of the portfolio in offshore investments as legislation permits.	The Manager will be permitted to invest on behalf of the portfolio in offshore investments as legislation permits.	
The Trustee shall ensure that the investment policy set out in this Supplemental Deed is carried out.	The Trustee shall ensure that the investment policy set out in this supplemental deed is carried out.	
For the purpose of this portfolio, the Manager shall reserve the right to close the portfolio to new investors on a date determined by the Manager. This will be done to efficiently manage the portfolio in accordance with its mandate. The Manager may, once a portfolio has been	For the purpose of this portfolio, the Manager shall reserve the right to close the portfolio to new investors on a date determined by the Manager. This will be done to efficiently manage the portfolio in accordance with its mandate. The Manager may, once a portfolio has been	

Synergy Ci Growth Fund of Funds	Synergy Ci Growth Fund	Impact
closed, open that portfolio again to new investors on a	closed, open that portfolio again to new investors on a	
date determined by the Manager.	date determined by the Manager.	
Nothing in this supplemental deed shall preclude the Manager from varying the ratios of securities or assets in liquid form in changing economic environment or market conditions, or to meet the requirements in terms of legislation and from retaining cash or placing cash on	Nothing in this supplemental deed shall preclude the Manager from varying the ratios of securities or assets in liquid form in changing economic environment or market conditions, or to meet the requirements in terms of legislation and from retaining cash or placing cash on	
deposit in terms of the deed and this supplemental	deposit in terms of the deed and this supplemental	
deed.	deed.	
Portfolio Benchmark	Portfolio Benchmark	No
Average of the ASISA SA Multi-Asset High Equity	Average of the ASISA SA Multi-Asset High Equity	Change
Category	Category	
Service Charges (ex VAT)	Service Charges (ex VAT)	Investors
Class A: 0.80% - Retail Direct	Class A: 0.90% - Retail Direct	will experience
Class B: 0.75% - LISP	Class B: 0.85% - LISP	a fee
(The abovementioned fees exclude the cost of the	(The abovementioned fees include all annual	increase of
underlying funds)	management fees of the portfolio, and excludes only the	0.10% p.a.
	cost of any underlying funds that may be included from	
	time to time)	
Performance Fees	Performance Fees	No
None	None	Change
Distribution	Distribution	No
30 June & 31 December	30 June & 31 December	Change
ASISA Category	ASISA Category	No
South African – Multi Asset – High Equity	South African – Multi Asset – High Equity	Change

## **Ballot Form**

Please complete the voting table below and send to the auditors using the enclosed envelope or e-mail them at za\_ci\_collective\_ballot@pwc.com by 18 December 2024.

I, the undersigned,

Full Names\*:

(*Please print full names and surname*)

Investor number/Investment number:

Identity number/ Registration number of company/trust:

Name of Linked Investment Services Provider (if applicable) and account Number(s):

do hereby vote to **accept/reject** the proposed change to the Synergy Ci Fund of Funds range in terms of Section 98 of the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act No. 45 of 2002, as set out in the letter of **5 November 2024** from Ci Collective Investments (RF) (Pty) Ltd.

#### Please tick the appropriate box (only for the portfolio in which you hold participatory units).

Change	Accept	Reject
Change Synergy Ci Conservative Fund of Funds to the Synergy Ci Conservative Fund		
Change Synergy Ci Moderate Fund of Funds to the Synergy Ci Moderate Fund		
Change Synergy Ci Growth Fund of Funds to the Synergy Ci Growth Fund		

Signed at \_\_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024

(Please sign in full)

Capacity if signing on behalf of a third party

\* If you are signing in a representative capacity, please insert your own name, the name of the investor / trust / deceased estate / company / close corporation / retirement annuity fund / pension fund / preservation fund on whose behalf you are signing, and your designation.