

Investment Policy for

CHILDHOOD

WORLD CHILDHOOD FOUNDATION

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

World Childhood Foundation (Childhood) has a long term commitment to protecting children's rights to a safe childhood and to work for better living conditions for children living in disadvantaged environments worldwide.

This document describes how Childhood, given its conditions, should act in its asset management in order to effectively seek to meet the set commitment.

These regulations will be effective from 2013-06-03 and replaces the previous Investment Policy established 2009-03-03.

1.2 PURPOSE OF THE INVESTMENT POLICY

A well-defined investment policy is a steering instrument and an aid for the persons working with asset management, both internally and externally. Defining and clarifying responsibility, authority, rules and levels of risk creates conditions for rapid and accurate decision making.

1.3 UPDATING THE INVESTMENT POLICY

The Investment Policy will be kept updated regularly to reflect the current conditions at Childhood and the developments on the financial markets. The policy will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary.

2 COMMITMENTS

2.1 OVERALL OBJECTIVE

Childhood awards project grants annually. The project grants of the entire Childhood organisation amounted to about 9.2 million USD in 2012. Childhood's administrative expenses in Sweden amounted to about 2.4 million SEK in 2012.

The objective of the capital management is to cover the administrative cost and possibly contribute to fundraising costs. In order to meet the commitment, the overall objective is to effectively take advantage of the growth in the global financial markets.

2.2 CAPITAL

At present time Childhoods total capital amounts to approximately 60 million SEK. These total assets consist of two parts; Co-Founder Capital and Committed capital.

2.2.1 CO-FOUNDER CAPITAL

Childhood's Co-founder capital constitutes the basis of the long-term business, with the purpose of being able to run the business as such. Return on the Co-Founder Capital finances Childhood's administrative costs. The capital amounts to approx. 52 million SEK 2012-12-31.

2.2.2 COMMITTED CAPITAL

Childhoods Committed Capital is invested funds intended for projects and expenses directly attributable to projects. The capital amounted to approximately 8 million 2012-12-31.

2.3 REQUIRED RATE OF RETURN

Based on Childhood's commitment to ensure the administrative costs, and given Childhood's current conditions, a yield of approximately 3.5% per year in nominal terms is required. In addition to this, Childhood's ambition is to create a space for greater administrative costs, subject to the size of future operations. In this endeavor a revised rate of a return equal to 5% per year in nominal terms is considered.

The required rate of return of 5% in nominal terms applies as target for the management of Childhood's total capital. The required rate of return should be viewed long-term, but should nonetheless be evaluated each year to ensure that it complies with Childhood's long-term strategy and commitments.

2.4 TIME FRAME

In light of Childhood's long-term commitment, the asset management of Childhood's portfolio should therefore also be of a long-term nature.

3 INVESTMENT STRATEGY FOR ASSET MANAGEMENT

In this chapter the chosen strategy is described, namely how Childhood should invest its capital in order to meet its commitment over time. Changes in the strategy may affect the possibility to meet the established commitment and should therefore be preceded by an impact assessment, see chapter 4.10 Impact Assessment.

Childhood's total portfolio consists of Co-founder Capital and Committed Capital. The asset management, with the required rate of return described under section 2.3 Required Rate of Return, includes both these parts. The Committed Capital shall always be included in the fixed income securities, as it is covered within a shorter time horizon, 1-3 years.

3.1 PERMITTED ASSET CLASSES

3.1.1 FIXED INCOME SECURITIES

Childhood may invest in fixed income securities denominated in Swedish kronor or foreign securities where the currency risk against the Swedish krona is hedged. This rule may be transgressed in the case of the foreign exchange risk being a desirable part of the exposure and of the expected increase in value.

3.1.2 EQUITIES

Childhood can only invest in equities that are publicly traded, meaning equity that is regularly traded on an authorized market that is subject to supervision by the authorities. Deviations from stock market listing may be done in the event of new issues, provided that the equities are intended to be listed promptly on the exchange.

3.1.3 ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS

Alternative investments are assets that have low correlation with asset classes and fixed income securities. By investing in alternative investments with a low correlation the overall portfolio risk is reduced. Examples of alternative investment funds are assets such as hedge funds, commodities and real estate.

3.1.4 LIQUID ASSETS

Liquid assets are funds in deposit accounts, bank accounts and day deposits. Other time deposits are allocated to fixed income securities.

3.2 PERMITTED FORMS OF OWNERSHIP

3.2.1 DIRECT OWNERSHIP

Investments may be made in direct ownership of the asset class equities and fixed income securities.

3.2.2 INVESTMENTS FUNDS

Investments may be made in funds that have the Swedish Financial Supervisory Authority's (FI) or equivalent foreign authority's permission and whose investment policy complies with the regulations of this policy.

3.2.3 STRUCTURED INSTRUMENTS

As an alternative to direct investment in individual securities, investment in so-called structured instruments can be made. When purchasing structured instruments such as Certificates Index, index-linked bonds or similar, the issuer must have a low credit risk, see Table 11 in section 4.6 – Credit Risk. For the credit risk to be applicable, SPV¹ issuers are excluded. When placed in structured instruments, the portfolios limits on the equities of the asset classes should be taken into account in accordance to Section 3.3 - Normal portfolio. In this regard, e.g. an index-linked bond is denoted as belonging to the portfolio.

3.2.4 DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS

Derivative instruments refer to options, futures and swaps. Derivatives may only be used to reduce portfolio risk for example by; hedging an investment directly in an underlying asset.

A position in the derivative instruments cannot be so great that a purchase or sale of underlying instruments would result in other limits in this investment policy being exceeded.

To hedge the portfolio's assets, the manager may deal in options and termination agreements referring to currency against the Swedish krona.

3.3 NORMAL PORTFOLIO

The allocation between asset classes is expressed as a normal portfolio which reflects Childhood's strategy in asset management. The normal portfolio corresponds to the composition of the portfolio required in order for the expected return to equal the required return over time.

ASSET CLASSES	ALLOCATION
	Normal (%)
Equities	25
Fixed Income Securities	60
Alternative investments	15

Tabell 1 – Normal portfolio

The allocation in Childhood's portfolio is allowed to deviate from the normal portfolio in accordance to Table 2 below:

ASSET CLASSES	LIMITS	
	Min (%)	Max (%)
Equities	20	30
Fixed Income Securities	55	65
Alternative investments	10	20

Table 2 – The normal portfolios limits

3.3.1 FIXED INCOME PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION

The fixed income portfolio shall be invested in SEK-denominated and SEK-hedged fixed income securities. This rule may be transgressed in the case of foreign exchange risk being a desirable part of the exposure and the expected increase in value, for example, investment in bonds issued in emerging markets.

¹ SPV – Special Purpose Vehicle, a company designed specifically for a financial solution ex. to issue a bond.

The fixed income portfolio can be divided into different types of issuers, distinguishing the securities issued by companies, government or mortgage lenders. The risk in the fixed income portfolio is managed by limitations in duration (Table 5) and in the credit rating limits (Section 4.6 Table 9 and 10).

The fixed income portfolio should follow the allocation between corporate bonds and nominal and real government and mortgage bonds as indicated in the table below. Real fixed income securities refer to bonds where returns are inflation protected.

TYPE OF FIXED INCOME SECURITIES	ALLOCATION
	Normal (%)
Nominal Swedish Government- and mortgage bonds	50
Real Swedish Government- and mortgage bonds.	20
Corporate Bonds	30

Table 3 – Allocation Fixed Income Securities

The allocation in the fixed income portfolio may deviate in accordance to the table below:

FIXED INCOME SECURITIES	Min (%)	Max (%)
Nominal Swedish Government – and mortgage bonds	45	55
Real Swedish Government- and mortgage bonds.	15	25
Corportate Bonds	25	35

Table 4 – Portfolios limits

Regarding the allocation of corporate bonds the goal should be that the portfolio achieves good diversification with respect to individual issuers, sectors and regions.

3.3.2 DURATION

The concept of duration is used to indicate an asset's sensitivity to interest rates. The average duration of the fixed income portfolio shall roughly correspond to the actual duration of the portfolio's benchmark. That means an average duration of nominal government and mortgage bonds at about 3.5 years and for inflation-linked government bonds about 8 years. In the case of corporate bonds the duration varies depending on the choice of market and product type and is allowed to be lower than the chosen benchmark.

The limits on the fixed income portfolio indicate the limits within which the duration for each asset class is allowed to vary, see Table 5 below:

INCOME FIXED	DURATION LIMITS	
	Min	Max
Corporate Bonds	0	Index + 2 år
Nominal Swedish Government- and mortgage bonds	Index – 1 år	Index + 1 år
Real Swedish Government- and mortgage bonds.	Index – 1 år	Index + 1 år

Table 5 – Duration limits

3.3.3 EQUITY PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION

In managing the portfolio a neutral portfolio structure in terms of geographical allocation is assumed. This will be based on each region's current market weight in the MSCI All Country World Index, see Table 6, with the exception that the proportion of Swedish shares is overweighed and set at 20%. MSCI All Country World Index is updated once a month, below is the current percentage at the policy's latest update.

EQUITIES	ALLOCATION (Actual Share %)
Sweden	20
Europe excl. Sweden	18
USA	42
Japan	6
Pacific excl. Japan	4
Emerging Markets	10
Total	100

Table 6 – Equities Portfolio geographical distribution
Based on the weights for the MSCI All Country World Index for 2012-08-31, excluding overweighed Sweden.

For the equity portfolio each region may vary a maximum of +/- 5 percentage points from the current allocation as per the global index.

3.3.4 THE ALTERNATIVE PORTFOLIOS COMPOSITION

The goal of the composition of the alternative portfolio is that it as a whole will have a low correlation in relation to the equity and bond portfolio.

3.4 CHOICE OF BENCHMARK

The benchmark used in the evaluation of the management shall to a reasonable extent cover the markets they are to represent. The benchmark used for the equity portfolio shall in all cases be calculated including reinvestment of dividends. An additional risk comparison can, if desired, be carried out in cases where parts of the equity portfolio is capital guaranteed, as the equity portfolio will be of lower risk than the chosen benchmark.

The following index should be used to evaluate the equity portfolio:

MARKET	BENCHMARK INDEX	WEIGHT
Sweden	SIX Return Index - SIXRX	20%
Foreign shares	MSCI World Total Return Net (or region specific MSCI TR Net)	80%

Tabell 7

Below index should be used for evaluation of the fixed income portfolio:

MARKET	BENCHMARK INDEX	WEIGHT
Real Interest Bonds	OMRX Real	20 %
Nominal Bonds	OMRX Bond	50 %
Corporate Bonds	Relevant Benchmark index	30 %

Tabell 8

Which benchmark index used for the corporate bonds depends on which products are held. The objective here is that benchmark index should reflect the portfolio's characteristics in terms of geographical exposure, credit rating and duration in the highest possible.

For evaluation of alternative investments, the general principle will be that benchmark index to a reasonable degree should correspond to the underlying asset. In cases where such a benchmark index is not relevant benchmark index shall include e.g. risk free rate + 2% units.

3.5 MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION

3.5.1 STORAGE OF SECURITIES

Portfolio's assets shall be kept at:

- Securities Companies that have FI authorization to receive securities for safekeeping, according to Chapter 2. 2 § p.1 Securities Market Act (2007:528), or
- Foreign institutions that have authorization corresponding to what is specified in paragraph 1, and which are under the supervision of authorities or other relevant bodies.

3.5.2 MANAGERS

Managers can be internal or external.

- An internal manager refers to Childhood.
- An external manager is a legal entity which administers Childhood's capital in accordance with Childhoods directives. External managers must meet the requirements of an approved counterparty in accordance to section 3.5.4. Counterparties.

3.5.3 MANAGEMENT STYLE

The portfolio shall be managed based on Childhoods set objectives while at the same time a cost effective solution is sought. The portfolio must also be designed to avoid risks that are not expected to give contribution to the return. In light of this shall:

- the equity portfolio predominantly (min. 80%) be managed close to index².
- the fixed income portfolio be managed close to index, with the exception of corporate bonds.
- strategic allocation between asset classes not be transferred to trustees but regulated in the investment policy.
- Only one trustee per region is contracted.

Active management should be used only in markets where index management does not function properly with regard to cost and precision in adherence to index or where indexing after market is not desirable because of the nature of the asset classes.

3.5.4 COUNTERPARTIES

Approved counterparties in transactions with the portfolios assets are:

- Securities institutions that have FI:s authorization for investment services and activities, as per Chapter 2. 1 § p.1-4 Securities Market Act (2007:528),
- A foreign institution that has authority corresponding to the above mentioned and are under the supervision of authorities or other relevant bodies.
- Derivative contracts may only be entered into with counterparties that have a high rating (at least equivalent to Standard & Poor's or Moody's Level A for long securities). In contrast to credit constraints in the fixed

² Index management at a low cost

income portfolio (see Section 4.6.) counterparts without a rating from Standard & Poor's or Moody's are not approved.

Transactions shall be made on a payment versus delivery based principle. Exceptions to this rule are allowed at times when the normal procedure is different, such as in connection with new issues.

3.5.5 VALUE HEDGING OF SHAREHOLDING

There are possibilities to hedge for shareholdings that are in the form of structured instruments. In order to maintain a sustainable long-term strategy, specific shareholdings that are to be hedged must have reached cumulative expected return, taking into account the cost of the hedging. Consideration must therefore be given to how the holding's market development has been since its inception.

3.5.6 OBJECTIVES FOR PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT COSTS

A cost-effective management is an important part of achieving good returns in relation to selected risk level. Therefore, in the implementation of Childhoods management should assignments be procured with the total cost of the management as a central evaluation parameter, given that all other demands on the management's assignment are met.

3.6 ETHICS

For ethical reasons Childhood does not allow investments in companies whose main business is the production and / or sale of war material, pornography, tobacco or alcohol products.

Also, investments are not allowed in companies that clearly violate the requirements of the international conventions to which Sweden is a signatory. The conventions primarily referred to are;

- the Conventions on Human Rights
- The UNCRC (United nations convention on the right of the child)
- the ILO Conventions
- International Environmental Conventions.

Note that these restrictions differ from the guidelines Childhood follow regarding partners and donors where Childhood due to the nature of the cooperation's has an opportunity to influence.

4 RISK MANAGEMENT

Investments usually mean taking a risk. If the asset management is efficient a higher expected return is obtained through a heightened level of risk, and a lower risk is obtained at the expense of a lower expected return. In order to reduce portfolio risk the limitations described in this chapter applies. Additionally, the portfolio's risk is conveniently regulated through asset allocation and limits.

4.1 MARKET RISK

Market risk is the risks associated with movements in the underlying markets in which the portfolio is invested.

4.2 FOREIGN EXCHANGE RISK

The starting point for the management of Childhoods portfolio is that to the greatest extent, with regard to costs, limit the currency risk management. The reason for this is that Childhoods commitment is defined in SEK.

Regarding the Committed Capital the commitment is defined largely in foreign currency. In such instances, the assets shall be invested in securities denominated in the respective foreign currency, or hedged against the SEK.

4.3 INTEREST RATE RISK

Interest rate risk means that the market value of fixed income securities fall when interest rates rise, and vice versa. Interest rate risk measures the portfolio's exposure to changes in the market. Interest rate risk is managed by the portfolio's duration (see Section 3.3.2).

4.4 EQUITY RISK

Equity risk is the risk that stock prices evolve in an unfavorable way for the value of the portfolio. Equity risk is reduced by scattering in different geographical markets (see 3.3.3 Equity Portfolio Composition).

4.5 LIQUIDITY RISK

Investments will mainly be made in securities that are highly liquid, ie. where trades can be made on short notice and where the difference between the buy and sell price does not exceed 10%. Exceptions are structured instruments.

4.6 CREDIT RISK

To reduce the risk of the borrower not fulfilling its payment obligations, the following restrictions apply when investing in fixed income securities and structured instruments. Regarding fixed income securities are defined short-term debt and temporary investments in liquid assets with maturities of less than one year, while long-term investments are defined as strategic debt holdings (even those with less than 1 year) and temporary investments with maturities longer than 1 year.

The rating refers to credit ratings issued by credit rating agencies Standard & Poor's or Moody's. In cases where such ratings are not available, for example in corporate bonds, approved credit rating in accordance with the above credit criteria issued by another actor, so called shadow rating. The aim is that credit ratings from reliable traders will be available for all the securities in the fixed income portfolio. Rating from an actor which also acts as bookrunner³ of the securities in question will not be accepted.

³ The financial actor that has issued the bond, and as such promotes it.

Tables 9 to 11 shows the lowest permissible rating.

Temporary short-term interest-bearing investments (up to 1 year)

RATING	FÖRDELNING	
	Min %	Max %
A-1, K1 and/or P-1	-	100
A-2 and/or P-2	-	20

Table 9 - Rating in accordance with Standard & Poor's alternatively Moody's criteria.⁴

Long term interest-bearing investments (exceeding 1 year)

RATING	ALLOCATION	
	Min %	Max %
AAA/Aaa	50	100
AA/Aa	-	50
A/A	-	50
BBB/Baa2	-	25
BB/Ba		10
B/B		10
CCC-C/Caa-Ca		5

Table 10 - Rating in accordance to Standard & Poor's alternatively Moody's criteria.

Structured Instruments

RATING	ALLOCATION	
	Min %	Max %
AAA/Aaa	-	100
AA/Aa	-	100
A/A	-	10

Table 10 - Rating in accordance to Standard & Poor's alternatively Moody's criteria

4.7 ISSUER RISK

To avoid concentration of the same credit risk, should no more than 10% of the total portfolio market value be exposed to a single issuer. Exceptions are made for the Swedish government, Swedish Export Credit Corporation and Municipality Invest.

4.8 TRANSPARENCY

All Childhoods investments are to be transparent, which means that it should be clear to which underlying asset class the investments are exposed, and that it at all times should be possible to measure the actual size of exposure.

4.9 OTHER

- Short selling of individual securities is not permitted.
- Lending of security holdings is not permitted.
- Borrowing for investment in securities is not permitted.

4.10 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Impact assessment is an account of the financial implications of the investment strategy Childhood has assumed. In the event of determining changes in Childhoods investment strategy, a new impact assessment should be designed.

⁴ In the event of a so-called "split rating" the shares of the lowest rating level applies. Rating Requirements are replaced by a government guarantee / bail, if applicable.

4.10.1 MEASUREMENT OF RISK AND RETURN

Based on the allocation of the investment strategy, see 3.3 - Normal portfolio, an expected annual return of 4.5% is obtained for the portfolio and an expected annual standard deviation of 4.0%. Based on these values the portfolios expected results⁵ are accounted for in Table 12.

Probability of results	Indexed amount	Min	Max
95%	100	96	116
99%	100	91	120

Table 12 – Based on data from Bloomberg 1997-2012

Based on the calculations in the table above it can be concluded that the portfolio value of about 50 million can be expected with a 95% probability to be in the range of 48-58 million SEK in one year.

⁵ The outcomes are based on the assumption that the expected return is normally distributed N (0.045; 0.040) ie 4.5% expected return and an expected standard deviation of 4%.

5 REBALANCING

Over time, the portfolio allocation changes because the market value of the components of the portfolio develops. The portfolio will thus continuously be monitored so that the included asset classes are neither under nor exceeding any limit.

When an asset is under or over their limits the portfolio must be rebalanced as soon as possible, with regard to costs. In the event of a rebalancing an adjustment is to be made so that the holding is equal to the percentage specified in the normal portfolio. Decisions on rebalancing are taken by Childhood.

5.1 TIME FOR REBALANCING

Childhood shall make decisions about rebalancing promptly, but with regard to costs. This means that a rebalancing can be done over time in order to not involve unnecessarily high costs.

It also means that Childhood may defer from an implementation of rebalancing if the portfolio weights for other reasons can be expected to return to normal in the near future. Times when it may be appropriate to defer from rebalancing can for example be that there are planned inflows or maturity to the portfolio, or that a review of the normal portfolio allocation is in progress.

In the event that rebalancing takes longer than one month, the reason why should be commented upon in the monthly report.

6 ACCOUNTABILITY AND FOLLOW UP

6.1 PLACEMENT POLICY

Childhoods Board sets the investment policy and decides on changes in it. The Secretary General is responsible for ensuring that the policy is updated, if necessary at least once per year, and prepare proposals for new policy before the Board.

6.2 MANAGMENT

Managers hold responsibility for the ongoing asset management in accordance with the investment policy.

6.3 PROCUREMENT MANAGER

The Secretary General is responsible for the procurement of external managers as well as the decommissioning of such. Decisions on changes, in cases where it does not occur as a result of breach of contract or other reasons requiring immediate action, is taken by the Board.

6.4 REPORTING/EVALUATION

Managers are responsible for reporting on the distribution of placements and results are sent to Childhood as soon as possible after the end of each month. The Secretary-General is responsible for the report on the allocation of the portfolio and development is presented to the Board's Executive Committee at each meeting and to the Board three to four times per year.

6.5 REVIEW OF MANAGMENT

The Board through its Executive Committee ensures, evaluates and continuously monitors that the asset management occurs in accordance to the defined investment policy.

6.6 REBALANCING

If it is discovered that any limit in the policy has been exceeded, the Executive Committee should as soon as possible with regard to the costs, decide on a rebalancing to permissible levels.

APPENDIX 1 – DEFINITIONS OF CREDIT RATINGS FROM STANDARD & POOR'S ("S&P") AND MOODY'S

Moody's evaluates company's long-term debt on a scale where Aaa has the best grade and C the worst. Each credit class is segmented in turn with a number, 1, 2 or 3, where 1 is best and 3 worst.

S & P evaluates company's long-term debt on a scale where AAA is the highest rating, and D is the lowest. Within each class the credit ratings are segmented by plus and minus.

MOODY'S⁶

Aaa

Obligations rated Aaa are judged to be of the highest quality, with minimal credit risk.

Aa

Obligations rated Aa are judged to be of high quality and are subject to very low credit risk.

A

Obligations rated A are considered upper-medium grade and are subject to low credit risk.

Baa

Obligations rated Baa are subject to moderate credit risk. They are considered medium-grade and as such may possess certain speculative characteristics.

Ba

Obligations rated Ba are judged to have speculative elements and are subject to substantial credit risk.

B

Obligations rated B are considered speculative and are subject to high credit risk.

Caa

Obligations rated Caa are judged to be of poor standing and are subject to very high credit risk.

Ca

Obligations rated Ca are highly speculative and are likely in, or very near, default, with some prospect of recovery of principal and interest.

C

Obligations rated C are the lowest rated class of bonds and are typically in default, with little prospect for recovery of principal or interest.

STANDARD & POOR'S⁷ ("S&P")

The issue ratings definitions are expressed in terms of default risk. As such, they pertain to senior obligations of an entity.

AAA

⁶ Källa: www.moodys.com

⁷ Källa: www.standardandpoors.com

An obligation rated 'AAA' has the highest rating assigned by Standard & Poor's. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is extremely strong.

AA

An obligation rated 'AA' differs from the highest-rated obligations only in small degree. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is very strong.

A

An obligation rated 'A' is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher-rated categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is still strong.

BBB

An obligation rated 'BBB' exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

BB, B, CCC, CC, and C

Obligations rated 'BB', 'B', 'CCC', 'CC', and 'C' are regarded as having significant speculative characteristics. 'BB' indicates the least degree of speculation and 'C' the highest. While such obligations will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these may be outweighed by large uncertainties or major exposures to adverse conditions.

BB

An obligation rated 'BB' is less vulnerable to nonpayment than other speculative issues. However, it faces major ongoing uncertainties or exposure to adverse business, financial, or economic conditions, which could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

B

An obligation rated 'B' is more vulnerable to nonpayment than obligations rated 'BB', but the obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. Adverse business, financial, or economic conditions will likely impair the obligor's capacity or willingness to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

CCC

An obligation rated 'CCC' is currently vulnerable to nonpayment and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. In the event of adverse business, financial, or economic conditions, the obligor is not likely to have the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

CC

An obligation rated 'CC' is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment.

C

The 'C' rating may be used to cover a situation where a bankruptcy petition has been filed or similar action has been taken, but payments on this obligation are being continued.

D

An obligation rated 'D' is in payment default. The 'D' rating category is used when

payments on an obligation are not made on the date due even if the applicable grace period has not expired, unless Standard & Poor's believes that such payments will be made during such grace period. The 'D' rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of a similar action if payments on an obligation are jeopardized.

Plus (+) or minus (-)

The ratings from 'AA' to 'CCC' may be modified by the addition of a plus or minus sign to show relative standing within the major rating categories.