



MARYLAND
STATE RETIREMENT
and PENSION SYSTEM

STATE RETIREMENT AGENCY
120 East Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21202
Tel: 410-625-5555
1-800-492-5909
TDD/TTY 410-625-5535
sra.maryland.gov

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Nancy K. Kopp
Chairman

Peter Franchot
Vice Chairman

David S. Blitzstein
James A. Bush, Jr.
John W. Douglass
T. Eloise Foster
Robert R. Hagans, Jr.
Kenneth B. Haines
James M. Harkins
Linda A. Herman
F. Patrick Hughes
Theresa Lochte
Richard E. Norman
Harold Zirkin
Thurman W. Zollicoffer, Jr.

R. Dean Kenderdine
Executive Director
Secretary To The Board

August 28, 2014

Honorable Edward J. Kasemeyer
Chair, Budget & Taxation Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 3 West
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Honorable Verna L. Jones-Rodwell
Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Pensions
Miller Senate Office Building, Room 420
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Honorable Norman H. Conway
Chair, Appropriations Committee
House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Honorable Melony G. Griffith
House Chair, Joint Committee on Pensions
House Office Building, Room 207
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairmen Kasemeyer, Conway, Jones-Rodwell, and Griffith:

As required by the 2008 Divestiture from Iran and Sudan Act (the "Act"), the State Retirement and Pension System is to submit a semi-annual report describing the actions taken by the System as a result of the Act by October 1st and April 1st of each year. Due to a necessary change to the date of the System's Corporate Governance Committee meeting, the System is unable to submit the report by October 1, 2014. The report will be submitted by October 22, 2014 after the System's Board of Trustees has been able to consider the necessary actions related to the Act. The report designation is MSAR #6882.

Should you require additional information please call me at (410) 625-5600.

Sincerely,

R. Dean Kenderdine
Secretary to the Board

RDK/tv

cc: The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Warren Deschenaux
Board of Trustees



MARYLAND
STATE RETIREMENT
and PENSION SYSTEM

October 21, 2014

STATE RETIREMENT AGENCY

120 East Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21202
Tel: 410-625-5555
1-800-492-5909
TDD/TTY 410-625-5535
sra.maryland.gov

Honorable Edward J. Kasemeyer
Chair, Budget & Taxation Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 3 West
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Honorable Norman H. Conway
Chair, Appropriations Committee
House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Nancy K. Kopp
Chairman

Peter Franchot
Vice Chairman

Honorable Verna L. Jones-Rodwell
Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Pensions
Miller Senate Office Building, Room 420
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Honorable Melony G. Griffith
House Chair, Joint Committee on Pensions
House Office Building, Room 207
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

David S. Blitzstein
James A. Bush, Jr.
John W. Douglass
T. Eloise Foster
Robert R. Hagans, Jr.
Kenneth B. Haines
James M. Harkins
Linda A. Herman
F. Patrick Hughes
Theresa Lochte
Richard E. Norman
Harold Zirkin
Thurman W. Zollicoffer, Jr.

Dear Chairmen Kasemeyer, Conway, Jones-Rodwell, and Griffith:

As required by the 2008 Divestiture from Iran and Sudan Act (the "Act"), I am submitting the required semi-annual report for the period April 1, 2014 through October 21, 2014 (the "Reporting Period"). This report, prepared by the State Retirement and Pension System, describes the actions taken by the System as a result of the Act, which is codified at State Personnel and Pensions Article §21-123.1(g) under the provisions of Chapter 342 of the Acts of 2008 (SB 214). The report is submitted in accordance with the State Government Article §2-1246 of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The report designation is MSAR #6882.

The Act requires that the Board of Trustees review its investments to determine "the extent to which funds in eligible accounts are invested in companies doing business in Iran or Sudan." The Act states that the Board shall divest itself of any company doing business in Iran or Sudan, or in any security issued by Iran or Sudan, and may not make any new investments in any company that is doing business in Iran or Sudan; provided, however, that the Act does not require the Board of Trustees to take action unless the Board of Trustees determines, in good faith, that the action is consistent with the fiduciary responsibilities of the Board of Trustees as described in the State pension article. In addition, the Act requires that the Board submit a report describing its compliance with the Act to the Senate Budget and Taxation and House Appropriations Committees as well as the Joint Committee on Pensions semi-annually.

This report includes the following:

1. a summary of correspondence with companies engaged by the Board of Trustees during the Reporting Period;
2. all divestment actions taken by the Board of Trustees during the Reporting Period in accordance with the Act;

R. Dean Kenderdine
Executive Director
Secretary To The Board

October 21, 2014
Page Two

3. a list of companies doing business in Iran or Sudan which the Board of Trustees has determined to be ineligible for investments of net new funds under the terms of the Act; and
4. other developments relevant to investment in companies doing business in Iran or Sudan.

Should you require additional information please call me at (410) 625-5600.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Dean Kenderdine', written over a horizontal line.

R. Dean Kenderdine
Secretary to the Board

Attachment

RDK/js

cc: The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Warren Deschenaux
Board of Trustees

Maryland State Retirement and Pension System
Implementation of the 2008 Divestiture from Iran and Sudan Act
(Annotated Code of Maryland, State Personnel and Pensions Article, § 21-123.1)
As of October 21, 2014

The 2008 Divestiture from Iran and Sudan Act (the “Act”) requires the Board of Trustees of the Maryland State Retirement and Pension System (the “Retirement System”) to submit semi-annual reports to the Senate Budget and Taxation and House Appropriations Committees as well as the Joint Committee on Pensions regarding the Retirement System’s implementation of the Act, which is codified at SPP § 21-123.1 of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

The Act requires that the Board of Trustees of the Retirement System (the “Board of Trustees”) review its investments to determine “the extent to which funds in eligible accounts are invested in companies doing business in Iran or Sudan.” An “eligible account” is an actively managed separate account. The Act states that the Board of Trustees shall divest itself of any company doing business in Iran or Sudan, or in any security issued by Iran or Sudan, and may not make any new investments in any company that is doing business in Iran or Sudan; provided, however, that the Act does not require the Board of Trustees to take action unless the Board of Trustees determines, in good faith, that the action is consistent with the fiduciary responsibilities of the Board of Trustees as described in the State pension article.

This is the required semi-annual report for the period commencing April 1, 2014 and ending October 21, 2014 (the “Reporting Period”), and includes the following:

- 1) A summary of correspondence with companies engaged by the Board of Trustees during the Reporting Period;
- 2) All divestment actions taken by the Board of Trustees in accordance with the Act during the Reporting Period;
- 3) A list of companies doing business in Iran or Sudan which the Board of Trustees has determined during the Reporting Period to be ineligible for investments of net new funds under the terms of the Act; and
- 4) Other developments relevant to investment in companies doing business in Iran or Sudan.

1. A summary of correspondence with companies engaged by the Board of Trustees during the Reporting Period.

The Retirement System has engaged MSCI ESG Research Inc. (“MSCI ESG”) to periodically provide a list of companies doing business in Iran and/or Sudan (“Focus List”), and to manage the engagement process for the Retirement System. MSCI ESG provided a Focus List dated as of June 30, 2014.

As of the end of the Reporting Period, there were no companies on the Focus List held in eligible accounts. See Section 3 of this report.

2. All divestment actions taken by the Board of Trustees during the Reporting Period.

The Board of Trustees took no new divestment action during the Reporting Period. See Section 3 of this report.

3. Companies doing business in Iran or Sudan which the Board of Trustees has determined during the Reporting Period to be ineligible for investments of net new funds under the terms of the Act.

At its meeting on October 21, 2014, the Board of Trustees determined that the following 22 companies are not eligible for investment and directed that managers of eligible accounts be notified of the restriction on investment.

<u>OPERATING IN SUDAN OR IRAN</u>	<u>COMPANY NAME</u>	<u>BUSINESS ACTIVITY as defined in SPP 21-123.1</u>	<u>HOME COUNTRY</u>
Sudan	ASEC Company for Mining (ASCOM) SAE	Mineral extraction activities	Egypt
Sudan	AviChina Industry & Technology Co Ltd	Production of military equipment	China
Sudan	Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited	Oil related	India
Both	China National Petroleum Corporation	Investment greater than \$20 million; petroleum/gas related (Iran); Oil related (Sudan)	China
Iran	Daelim Industrial Co., Ltd.	Investment greater than \$20 million; petroleum/gas related	Korea
Sudan	El Sewedy Electric Co	Oil related	Egypt
Sudan	Energy House Holding Company	Oil related	Kuwait
Sudan	Harbin Power Equipment Co Ltd	Oil related	China
Iran	Hyundai Heavy Industries	Investment greater than \$20 million; petroleum/gas related	Korea
Sudan	Jiangxi Hongdu Aviation Industry Co., Ltd.	Production of military equipment	China
Sudan	Kuwait Finance House	Oil related	Kuwait
Sudan	LS Industrial Systems Co., Ltd	Power production activities	Korea
Sudan	Managem S.A.	Mineral extraction activities	Morocco
Sudan	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited	Oil related	India
Sudan	Oil India Ltd	Oil related	India

<u>OPERATING IN SUDAN OR IRAN</u>	<u>COMPANY NAME</u>	<u>BUSINESS ACTIVITY as defined in SPP 21-123.1</u>	<u>HOME COUNTRY</u>
Sudan	Orca Gold Inc.	Mineral extraction activities	Canada
Sudan	Petroliam Nasional Berhad	Oil related	Malaysia
Sudan	PT Pertamina (Persero)	Oil related	Indonesia
Sudan	Regency Mines PLC	Mineral extraction activities	UK
Sudan	Schneider Electric SA	Power production activities	France
Sudan	Sirocco Energy	Oil related	Australia
Sudan	Statesman Resources Ltd	Oil related	Canada

4. Other developments relevant to investments in companies doing business in Iran or Sudan.

- A. In discharging their responsibilities under the Act, the Board of Trustees and its Corporate Governance Committee receive and review information gathered through the engagement process, as well as input from (i) the System's external investment managers, (ii) Meketa Investment Group, Inc., the System's general investment consultant, (iii) legal counsel and (iv) staff of the Investment Division.

The information presented to the Board of Trustees and its Corporate Governance Committee considers a wide array of factors, including:

1. Explicit/initial and implicit/ongoing divestment costs on both an individual and aggregate level;
2. Company impact on aggregate, fund-level returns and managers; and
3. Representation of companies in the relevant investment benchmarks, including:
 - i. Representation of companies in sectors and industries; and
 - ii. Representation of companies in various investment benchmarks.

- B. MSCI ESG has informed the System that four companies, identified below, are no longer doing business in either Sudan or Iran, and has removed them from the Focus List:

<u>OPERATING IN SUDAN OR IRAN</u>	<u>COMPANY NAME</u>	<u>BUSINESS ACTIVITY as defined in SPP 21-123.1</u>	<u>HOME COUNTRY</u>
Iran	China Communications Construction Company Limited	Investment greater than \$20 million; petroleum/gas related	China
Sudan	China Petroleum & Chemical Corporation	Oil related	China

<u>OPERATING IN SUDAN OR IRAN</u>	<u>COMPANY NAME</u>	<u>BUSINESS ACTIVITY as defined in SPP 21-123.1</u>	<u>HOME COUNTRY</u>
Iran	Maire Tecnimont S.p.A.	Investment greater than \$20 million; petroleum/gas related	Italy
Iran	Shanghai Zhenhua Heavy Industry Co., Ltd.	Investment greater than \$20 million; petroleum/gas related	China

The System's external investment managers are permitted to purchase securities issued by these companies. Based on the MSCI ESG Focus List used by the System for its semi-annual reporting, the total number of companies that have stopped doing business in either Iran or Sudan since the enactment of the 2008 Divestiture from Iran and Sudan Act is 106.

- C. The Board of Trustees recognizes that it has a continuing monitoring and reporting obligation. MSCI ESG is providing ongoing monitoring services, and the Corporate Governance Committee will continue to be assisted by the general investment consultant, State Retirement Agency staff and legal counsel in reviewing matters regarding the Act.