



**Date:** November 20, 2020  
**TO:** MIAX PEARL Equities Members  
**FROM:** MIAX PEARL Equities Listings Department  
**Re:** iShares Trust - KWT

MIAX PEARL, LLC (“Exchange”) commenced trading of equity securities on September 25, 2020 followed by a security-by-security phase-in period. This Product Circular is being issued to advise you that the following security has been approved for trading pursuant to unlisted trading privileges (“UTP”) on the Exchange as a UTP Derivative Security pursuant to Exchange Rule 2900, and will begin trading on MIAX PEARL during the phase-in period. See the [Exchange’s Website](#) for the phase-in schedule.

<u>Security (the “Fund”)</u>	<u>Symbol</u>
Ishares MSCI Kuwait ETF	KWT

**Issuer/Trust:** iShares Trust

**Issuer Website:** <https://www.ishares.com/>

**Primary Listing Exchange:** CBOE BZX Exchange

The purpose of this Product Circular is to outline various rules and policies that will be applicable to trading in this new product pursuant to the Exchange’s unlisted trading privileges, as well as to provide certain characteristics and features of the Shares. For a more complete description of the Issuer, the Shares and the underlying market instruments or indexes, visit the Issuer Website, consult the Prospectus available on the Issuer Website, examine the Issuer Registration Statement or review the most current information bulletin issued by the Primary Listing Exchange. The Issuer Website, the Prospectus, the Issuer Registration Statement and the Primary Exchange Circular are hereafter collectively referred to as the “Issuer Disclosure Materials.”

**Background Information on the Fund**

The iShares MSCI Kuwait ETF (the “Fund”) seeks to track the investment results of a broad-based equity index with exposure to Kuwait, as defined by the index provider.

The Fund seeks to track the investment results of the MSCI All Kuwait Select Size Liquidity Capped Index (the “Underlying Index”), which is designed to measure the performance of the Kuwait equity universe. The Underlying Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index with a capping methodology applied to avoid concentration. The Underlying Index targets to include at least 30 securities and 25 issuers. MSCI Inc. (the “Index Provider” or “MSCI”) begins with the MSCI All Kuwait 30

Index (the “Parent Index”), which consists of equity securities of companies that (i) are classified in Kuwait according to the MSCI Global Investable Market Index Methodology, together with equity securities of companies that (ii) are either headquartered or listed in Kuwait and have a significant linkage to Kuwait (based on the geographic distribution of any of the following criteria: the company’s shareholder base, revenues, assets, management, employee base, history and country of incorporation), as defined and measured by MSCI, or (iii) have an economic exposure (based on the geographic distribution of a company’s revenues) greater than 10% to Kuwait, as defined and measured by MSCI, where the criteria outlined in (i) and (ii) do not result in the target number of securities and issuers.

The MSCI Global Investable Market Index Methodology generally classifies a company as being in Kuwait if it is incorporated in Kuwait and its securities have a primary listing in Kuwait. In the event that a company is incorporated outside of Kuwait but its securities have a primary listing in Kuwait, the Index Provider will consider additional factors, including but not limited to the geographic distribution of the company’s shareholder’s base or operations, the location of its headquarters and the company’s history. In considering a company’s history, MSCI reviews where the company originated from when the company started its operations, as well as who the founders were and their nationality.

The Index Provider generally applies a capping methodology to the Underlying Index so that no single issuer exceeds 25% of the Underlying Index weight, and all issuers with a weight above 5% do not cumulatively exceed 50% of the Underlying Index weight. However, this capping methodology does not apply to constituents that (1) are not classified as a large- or mid-capitalization securities as per the MSCI Global Investment Market Index Methodology and (2) have a 3-month annual traded value ratio (“ATVR”) less than or equal to 20%. ATVR is a measure of traded value in a security as a proportion of its free float-adjusted market capitalization. Constituents meeting both of these criteria are represented at their weight in the Parent Index, and therefore will not be subject to the capping methodology of the Underlying Index discussed above. The Underlying Index includes large-, mid- and small-capitalization companies and may change over time. As of January 16, 2020, a significant portion of the Underlying Index is represented by securities of companies in the financials industry or sector. The components of the Underlying Index are likely to change over time.

BFA uses a “passive” or indexing approach to try to achieve the Fund’s investment objective. Unlike many investment companies, the Fund does not try to “beat” the index it tracks and does not seek temporary defensive positions when markets decline or appear overvalued.

Indexing may eliminate the chance that the Fund will substantially outperform the Underlying Index but also may reduce some of the risks of active management, such as poor security selection. Indexing seeks to achieve lower costs and better after-tax performance by aiming to keep portfolio turnover low in comparison to actively managed investment companies.

BFA uses a representative sampling indexing strategy to manage the Fund. “Representative sampling” is an indexing strategy that involves investing in a representative sample of securities that collectively has an investment profile similar to that of an applicable underlying index. The securities selected are expected to have, in the aggregate, investment characteristics (based on factors such as market capitalization and industry weightings), fundamental characteristics (such as return variability and yield) and liquidity measures similar to those of an applicable underlying index. The Fund may or may not hold all of the securities in the Underlying Index.

The Fund generally will invest at least 90% of its assets in the component securities of the Underlying

Index and in investments that have economic characteristics that are substantially identical to the component securities of the Underlying Index (i.e., depositary receipts representing securities of the Underlying Index) and may invest up to 10% of its assets in certain futures, options and swap contracts, cash and cash equivalents, including shares of money market funds advised by BFA or its affiliates, as well as in securities not included in the Underlying Index, but which BFA believes will help the Fund track the Underlying Index. The Fund seeks to track the investment results of the Underlying Index before fees and expenses of the Fund.

The Underlying Index is sponsored by MSCI, which is independent of the Fund and BFA. The Index Provider determines the composition and relative weightings of the securities in the Underlying Index and publishes information regarding the market value of the Underlying Index.

The Fund will concentrate its investments (i.e., hold 25% or more of its total assets) in a particular industry or group of industries to approximately the same extent that the Underlying Index is concentrated. For purposes of this limitation, securities of the U.S. government (including its agencies and instrumentalities) and repurchase agreements collateralized by U.S. government securities are not considered to be issued by members of any industry.

The Fund is an ETF. Individual shares of the Fund may only be bought and sold in the secondary market through a broker-dealer. Because ETF shares trade at market prices rather than at NAV, shares may trade at a price greater than NAV (a premium) or less than NAV (a discount). An investor may incur costs attributable to the difference between the highest price a buyer is willing to pay to purchase shares of the Fund (bid) and the lowest price a seller is willing to accept for shares of the Fund (ask) when buying or selling shares in the secondary market (the “bid-ask spread”).

Prior to trading in the secondary market, shares of the Fund are “created” by NAV by market makers, large investors and institutions only in block-size Creation Units or multiples thereof. Each “creator” or authorized participant (an “Authorized Participant”) has entered into an agreement with the Fund’s distributor, an affiliate of BFA. An Authorized Participant is a member or participant of a clearing agency registered with the SEC, which has a written agreement with the Fund or one of its service providers that allows such member or participant to place orders for the purchase and redemption of Creation Units.

Only an Authorized Participant may create or redeem Creation Units with the Fund. Authorized Participants may create or redeem Creation Units for their own accounts or for customers, including, without limitation, affiliates of the Fund.

### **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the discussion in the prospectus for the Fund of the principal risks of an investment in the Fund. These include tracking error risk (factors causing a Fund’s performance to not match the performance of its underlying index), market trading risk (for example, trading halts, trading above or below net asset value), investment style risk, sector risk, investment approach risk, non-diversification risk, issuer-specific risk, management risk, concentration risk, equity securities risk, sector risk and passive investment risk.

### **Exchange Rules Applicable to Trading in the Shares**

Trading in the Shares on MIAX PEARL is subject to MIAX PEARL trading rules.

### **Trading Hours**

The value of the Index underlying the Shares will be disseminated to data vendors every 15 seconds during the Regular Trading Session.

The Shares will trade on MIAX PEARL between 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Please note that trading in the Shares during the Exchange's Pre-Market and Post-Market Sessions ("Extended Market Sessions") may result in additional trading risks which include: (1) that the current underlying indicative value may not be updated during the Extended Market Sessions, (2) lower liquidity in the Extended Market Sessions may impact pricing, (3) higher volatility in the Extended Market Sessions may impact pricing, (4) wider spreads may occur in the Extended Markets Sessions, and (5) because the indicative value is not calculated or widely disseminated during the Extended Market Sessions, an investor who is unable to calculate an implied value for the Shares in those sessions may be at a disadvantage to market professionals.

### **Dissemination of Data**

The Consolidated Tape Association will disseminate real time trade and quote information for the Shares to Tape B.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Listing Market</b>	<b>Trading Symbol</b>	<b>IOPV Symbol</b>	<b>NAV Symbol</b>
Ishares MSCI Kuwait ETF	CBOE BZX Exchange	KWT	KWT.IV	KWT.NV

### **Delivery of a Prospectus**

MIAX PEARL Equity Members should be mindful of applicable prospectus delivery requirements under the federal securities laws with respect to transactions in the Fund. Prospectuses may be obtained through the Fund's website. The prospectus for the Fund does not contain all of the information set forth in the Fund's Registration Statement (including the exhibits to the Registration Statement), parts of which have been omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information about the Fund, please refer to its Registration Statement.

In the event that the Fund relies upon an order by the SEC exempting the Shares from certain prospectus delivery requirements under Section 24(d) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 and in the future make available a written product description, MIAX PEARL Rules requires that MIAX PEARL Equity Members provide to all purchasers of Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of such securities, in a form prepared by the Issuer of the Fund, no later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in the Shares is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, MIAX PEARL Equity Members shall include such a written description with any sales material relating to the Shares that is provided to customers or the

public. Any other written materials provided by an MIAX PEARL Equity Member to customers or the public making specific reference to the Shares as an investment vehicle must include a statement in substantially the following form: “A circular describing the terms and characteristics of [the UTP Exchange Traded Products] has been prepared by the [open-ended management investment company name] and is available from your broker. It is recommended that you obtain and review such circular before purchasing [the UTP Exchange Traded Products].”

A MIAX PEARL Equity Member carrying an omnibus account for a non-member broker-dealer is required to inform such non-member that execution of an order to purchase Shares for such omnibus account will be deemed to constitute agreement by the non-member to make such written description available to its customers on the same terms as are directly applicable to MIAX PEARL Equity Member under this rule.

Upon request of a customer, MIAX PEARL Members also shall provide a copy of the Prospectus.

### **Suitability**

Trading in the securities on the Exchange will be subject to the provisions of MIAX PEARL Rule 2107 and other applicable suitability rules. Equity Members recommending transactions in the securities to customers should make a determination that the recommendation is suitable for the customer.

### **Trading Halts**

MIAX PEARL will halt trading in the Shares of a security in accordance with MIAX PEARL Rules. The grounds for a halt under MIAX PEARL Rules include a halt by the primary market because the intraday indicative value of the security and/or the value of its underlying index are not being disseminated as required, or a halt for other regulatory reasons. In addition, MIAX PEARL will stop trading the Shares of a security if the primary market de-lists the security.

### **Exemptive, Interpretive and No-Action Relief Under Federal Securities Regulations**

The Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) has issued letters granting exemptive, interpretive and no-action relief from certain provisions of rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for exchange-traded securities listed and traded on a registered national securities exchange that meet certain criteria.

AS WHAT FOLLOWS IS ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE RELIEF OUTLINED IN THE NO-ACTION LETTERS REFERENCED ABOVE, THE EXCHANGE ADVISES INTERESTED PARTIES TO CONSULT THE NO- ACTION LETTERS FOR MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION REGARDING THE MATTERS COVERED THEREIN AND THE APPLICABILITY OF THE RELIEF GRANTED IN RESPECT OF TRADING IN SECURITIES. INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD ALSO CONSULT THEIR PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS.

### **Regulation M Exemptions**

Generally, Rules 101 and 102 of Regulation M prohibit any “distribution participant” and its “affiliated purchasers” from bidding for, purchasing, or attempting to induce any person to bid for or purchase any security which is the subject of a distribution until after the applicable restricted period, except as

specifically permitted in Regulation M. The provisions of the Rules apply to underwriters, prospective underwriters, brokers, dealers, and other persons who have agreed to participate or are participating in a distribution of securities.

The SEC has granted an exemption from Rule 101 under Regulation M to permit persons participating in a distribution of shares of the above-mentioned Fund to engage in secondary market transactions in such shares during their participation in such a distribution. In addition, the SEC has granted relief under Regulation M to permit persons who may be deemed to be participating in the distribution of Shares of the above-mentioned Fund (i) to purchase securities for the purpose of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations of Fund Shares and (ii) to tender securities for redemption in Creation Unit Aggregations. Further, the SEC has clarified that the tender of Fund Shares to the Fund for redemption does not constitute a bid for or purchase of any of the Fund's securities during the restricted period of Rule 101. The SEC has also granted an exemption pursuant to paragraph (e) of Rule 102 under Regulation M to allow the redemption of Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations during the continuous offering of Shares.

#### **Rule 10b-10 (Customer Confirmations for Creation or Redemption of Fund Shares)**

Broker-dealers who handle purchases or redemptions of Fund Shares in Creation Unit size for customers will be permitted to provide such customers with a statement of the number of Creation Unit Aggregations created or redeemed without providing a statement of the identity, number and price of shares of the individual securities tendered to the Fund for purposes of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations ("Deposit Securities") or the identity, number and price of shares to be delivered by the Trust for the Fund to the redeeming holder ("Redemption Securities"). The composition of the securities required to be tendered to the Fund for creation purposes and of the securities to be delivered on redemption will be disseminated each business day and will be applicable to requests for creations or redemption, as the case may be, on that day. This exemptive relief under Rule 10b-10 with respect to creations and redemption is subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Confirmations to customers engaging in creations or redemptions must state that all information required by Rule 10b-10 will be provided upon request;
- 2) Any such request by a customer for information required by Rule 10b-10 will be filed in a timely manner, in accordance with Rule 10b-10(c); and
- 3) Except for the identity, number, and price of shares of the component securities of the Deposit Securities and Redemption Securities, as described above, confirmations to customers must disclose all other information required by Rule 10b-10(a).

#### **Rule 10b-17 (Untimely Announcement of Record Dates)**

The SEC has granted an exemption from the requirements of Rule 10b-17 that will cover transactions in the Shares.

#### **Section 11(d)(1); Rule 11d1-2 (Customer Margin)**

The SEC has taken a no-action position under Section 11(d)(1) that will permit broker-dealers that do not create Shares but engage in both proprietary and customer transactions in such Shares exclusively in the secondary market to extend or maintain or arrange for the extension or maintenance of credit on the Shares, in connection with such secondary market transactions. For broker-dealers that engage in the creation of Shares, the SEC has also taken a no-action position under Rule 11d1-2 that will cover the extension or maintenance or the arrangement for the extension or maintenance of credit on the Shares that have been owned by the persons to whom credit is provided for more than 30 days.

#### **Rule 14e-5**

An exemption from Rule 14e-5 has been granted to permit any person acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a component security of the Fund (1) to redeem Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations from the issuer that may include a security subject to such tender offer and (2) to purchase Fund Shares during such tender offer. In addition, a no-action position has been taken under Rule 14e-5 if a broker-dealer acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a security of the Fund purchases or arranges to purchase such securities in the secondary market for the purpose of tendering such securities to purchase one or more Creation Unit Aggregations of Shares, if made in conformance with the following:

- 1) such bids or purchases are effected in the ordinary course of business, in connection with a basket of 20 or more securities in which any security that is the subject of a distribution, or any reference security, does not comprise more than 5% of the value of the basket purchase; or
- 2) purchases are effected as adjustments to such basket in the ordinary course of business as a result of a change in the composition of the underlying index; and
- 3) such bids or purchases are not effected for the purpose of facilitating such tender offer.

#### **SEC Rule 15c1-5 and 15c1-6 (Disclosure of Control and interest in Distributions)**

The SEC has taken a no-action position under Rule 15c1-5 that will permit a broker-dealer to execute transactions in Shares without disclosing any control relationship with an issuer of a component security. In addition, the SEC has taken a no-action position under Rule 15c1-6 that will permit a broker dealer to execute transactions in the Shares without disclosing its participation or interest in a primary or secondary distribution of a component security.

This Product Circular is not a statutory prospectus. MIAX PEARL Equity Members should consult the prospectus for a security and the security's website for relevant information.

Please direct product listing questions to MIAX PEARL Equities Listings at [Listings@MIAXOptions.com](mailto:Listings@MIAXOptions.com) or (609) 897-7308.

Please direct regulatory questions to the MIAX PEARL Regulatory Department at [Regulatory@MIAXOptions.com](mailto:Regulatory@MIAXOptions.com) or (609) 897-7309.