#### SFDR ANNEX

Template pre-contractual disclosure for the financial products referred to in Article 8, paragraphs 1, 2 and 2a, of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 and Article 6, first paragraph, of Regulation (EU) 2020/852

Sustainable investment means an investment in an economic activity that contributes to an environmental or social objective. provided that the investment does not significantly harm any environmental or social objective and that the investee companies follow good governance practices.

The **EU Taxonomy** is a classification system laid down in Regulation (EU) 2020/852, establishing a list of environmentally sustainable economic activities. That Regulation does not lay down a list of socially sustainable economic activities. Sustainable investments with an environmental objective might be aligned with the Taxonomy or not.

Product name: Neuberger Berman Climate Transition Multi-Asset Credit Fund (the "Portfolio")

Legal entity identifier: 549300QIZLH5TCSYJ835

## Environmental and/or social characteristics

Does this financial product have a sustainable investment objective? [tick and fill in as relevant, the percentage figure represents the minimum commitment to sustainable investments]			
	Yes		* No
	It will make a minimum of sustainable investments with an environmental objective:%  in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy  in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy		It promotes Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics and while it does not have as its objective a sustainable investment, it will have a minimum proportion of% of sustainable investments  with an environmental objective in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy  with an environmental objective in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy  with a social objective
	It will make a minimum of sustainable investments with a social objective:%	×	It promotes E/S characteristics, but will not make any sustainable investments



# What environmental and/or social characteristics are promoted by this financial product?

As part of the investment process, the Investment Manager considers a variety of environmental and social characteristics, as detailed below. These environmental and social characteristics are considered using a proprietary Neuberger Berman ESG rating system (the "NB ESG Quotient"). The NB ESG Quotient is built around the concept of sector specific ESG risk and opportunity, and produces an overall ESG rating for issuers by assessing them against certain ESG metrics.

Foundational to the NB ESG Quotient is the proprietary Neuberger Berman ("**NB**") materiality matrix, which focuses on the ESG characteristics that are considered to be the most likely to be the material drivers of ESG risk and opportunity for each sector. The NB materiality matrix enables the Investment Manager to

derive the NB ESG Quotient rating, to compare sectors and issuers relative to their environmental and social characteristics.

The Investment Manager uses the NB ESG Quotient to promote the environmental and social characteristics listed below. Pursuant to this, the Investment Manager will engage with issuers with a poor NB ESG Quotient with the aim to seek improvement in the underlying environmental and social characteristics (which make up the NB ESG Quotient) over time.

The following environmental and social characteristics are considered, where relevant to the specific industry and issuer, as part of the NB ESG Quotient rating:

### Investment Grade:

Environmental Characteristics: biodiversity & responsible land usage; carbon footprint reduction; environmental management; greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions; opportunities in clean technologies; opportunities in green building; opportunities in renewable energy; responsible raw material sourcing; responsible & transparent underwriting; toxic emissions & waste; waste management; and water management.

In aiming to align the Portfolio with a net zero goal, the Investment Manager will promote the reduction of the Portfolio's carbon footprint across scope 1, 2, and material scope 3 GHG emissions. <sup>1</sup>

Social Characteristics: access to finance; access to medicines; affordability & fair pricing; business ethics & transparency of government relations; chemical safety; community relations; controversial sourcing; corporate behaviour; drug safety & side effects management; ethical marketing & practices; health & nutrition; health & safety; human capital development; labour management; data privacy & security; product safety & quality; and litigation & related controversy.

#### Non-Investment Grade:

- Environmental Characteristics: biodiversity & responsible land usage; carbon footprint reduction; GHG
  emissions; opportunities in clean technologies; opportunities in green building; responsible raw material
  sourcing; recycling practices & trends; toxic emissions & waste; waste management; and water
  management.
- Social Characteristics: access to finance; access to healthcare; access to medicines; business ethics & transparency of government relations; chemical safety; community relations; controversial sourcing; corporate behaviour; drug safety & side effects management; health & nutrition; health & safety; human capital development; labour management; data privacy & security; product safety & quality; and quality of care & patient satisfaction.

### **Emerging Market Debt**:

- **Environmental Characteristics:** biodiversity & land usage; carbon emissions; opportunities in clean technologies; water stress; toxic emissions & waste; financing environmental impact; product carbon footprint; environmental policy; environmental management system; GHG reduction programme; green procurement policy; and non-GHG air emissions programmes.
- **Social Characteristics**: health & safety; human capital development; labor management; privacy & data security; product safety & quality; financial products safety; discrimination policy; community involvement programmes; diversity programmes; and human rights policy.

Performance in relation to these environmental and social characteristics will be measured through the NB ESG Quotient, and will be reported in aggregate in the Portfolio's mandatory periodic report template (as per the requirements of Article 11 of SFDR).

The NB materiality matrix will evolve over time and all sector specific ESG characteristics included therein are reviewed annually to ensure that the most pertinent sector specific ESG characteristics are captured through the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Scope 1 emissions are direct emissions from an issuer's owned or controlled sources (such as emissions created directly by the issuer's business processes or from vehicles owned by the issuer). Scope 2 emissions are indirect emissions from the generation of electricity, steam, heating and cooling consumed by the issuer. Scope 3 emissions are all other indirect emissions that occur in an issuer's value chain (such as emissions from products or services consumed by the issuer, disposal of its waste, employee commuting, distribution and transport of its products or its investments).

NB materiality matrix. Accordingly, the environmental and social characteristics considered as part of the NB ESG Quotient are subject to change. For the avoidance of doubt, if the environmental or social characteristics considered as part of the NB ESG Quotient change, this pre-contractual disclosure document will be updated accordingly.

Exclusions are also applied (as further set out below) as part of the construction and ongoing monitoring of the Portfolio. These represent additional environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Portfolio.

A reference benchmark has not been designated for the purpose of attaining the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the Portfolio.

## What sustainability indicators are used to measure the attainment of each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by this financial product?

As part of the investment process, the Investment Manager considers a variety of sustainability indicators to measure the environmental and/or social characteristics promoted by the Portfolio. These are listed below:

#### I. The NB ESG Quotient:

The NB ESG Quotient (as explained above) is used to measure the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Portfolio. Foundational to the NB ESG Quotient is the proprietary NB materiality matrix (as explained above), which focuses on the ESG characteristics that are considered to be the most likely to be the material drivers of ESG risk for each sector. Each sector criteria is constructed using third party and internally derived ESG data and supplemented with internal qualitative analysis, leveraging the Investment Manager's analyst team's significant sector expertise.

The NB ESG Quotient assigns weightings to environmental, social and governance factors for each sector to derive the NB ESG Quotient rating. Pursuant to this, the Investment Manager will engage with issuers with a poor NB ESG Quotient with the aim to seek improvement in the underlying environmental and social characteristics (which make up the NB ESG Quotient) over time.

### II. Climate Value-at-Risk:

Climate Value-at-Risk ("CVaR") measures the exposure to transition and physical climate risks. CVaR is a scenario analysis tool evaluating economic risks under various degree scenarios (i.e., the amount of warming targeted) and potential regulatory environments in varying countries. On a holistic basis the results are evaluated by the Investment Manager's portfolio managers and analysts. CVaR provides a framework for identifying climate-risk over the long-term to assist in understanding how issuers can shift their operations and risk practices over time. The scenario analysis can serve as a starting point for further bottom-up analysis and identifying potential climate-related risks to address through issuers engagement. Due to data limitations, CVaR is not applied across all issuers held by the Portfolio and is instead limited to the issuers for which the Investment Manager has sufficient and reliable data. The analysis from CVaR is reviewed at least once a year.

## III. ESG exclusion policies:

To ensure that the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the Portfolio can be attained, the Portfolio will not invest in securities issued by issuers whose activities breach the Neuberger Berman Controversial Weapons Policy and the Neuberger Berman Thermal Coal Involvement Policy. In addition to the application of the Neuberger Berman Thermal Coal Involvement Policy, the Investment Manager will prohibit the initiation of new investment positions in securities issued by issuers that (i) derive more than 25% of their revenue from thermal coal mining; or (ii) are expanding new thermal coal power generation. Furthermore, investments held by the Portfolio will not invest in securities issued by issuers whose activities have been identified as breaching the Neuberger Berman Global Standards Policy which excludes violators of (i) the United Nations Global Compact Principles ("UNGC Principles"), (ii) the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises ("OECD Guidelines"), (iii) the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights ("UNGPs") and (iv) the International Labour Standards ("ILO Standards"). The Neuberger Berman Sustainable Exclusion Policy is also applied when determining what investments to make for the Portfolio.

Sustainability indicators measure how the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product are attained.

The Investment Manager may seek to exclude specific issuers or whole industries showing lack of alignment with the transition to a low carbon economy.

The Investment Manager will exclude investments in issuers who are involved in adult entertainment and/or unethical lending. The Investment Manager will engage with high-risk issuers and may remove these from the portfolio if no sufficient action is taken. Further details on these ESG exclusion policies are set out in the "Sustainable Investment Criteria" section of the main body of the Prospectus.

The Investment Manager will track and report on the performance of the above sustainability indicators namely, (i) the NB ESG Quotient; (ii) the CVaR; and (iii) the adherence to the ESG exclusion lists applied to the Portfolio. These sustainability indicators will be used to measure the attainment of each of the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Portfolio and will be included in the Portfolio's mandatory periodic report (as per the requirements of Article 11 of SFDR).

What are the objectives of the sustainable investments that the financial product partially intends to make and how does the sustainable investment contribute to such objectives?

N/A – the Portfolio does not commit to holding sustainable investments.

How do the sustainable investments that the financial product partially intends to make, not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective?

N/A – the Portfolio does not commit to holding sustainable investments.

How have the indicators for adverse impacts on sustainability factors been taken into account?

N/A

How are the sustainable investments aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights? Details:

The Portfolio does not commit to holding sustainable investments, however the Investment Manager will not invest in issuers whose activities have been identified as breaching the OECD Guidelines, ILO Standards, UNGC Principles and UNGPs, captured through the Neuberger Berman Global Standards Policy as detailed above.

The EU Taxonomy sets out a "do not significant harm" principle by which Taxonomy-aligned investments should not significantly harm EU Taxonomy objectives and is accompanied by specific EU criteria.

The "do no significant harm" principle applies only to those investments underlying the financial product that take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities. The investments underlying the remaining portion of this financial product do not take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities.

Any other sustainable investments must also not significantly harm any environmental or social objectives.

The Portfolio does not commit to holding Taxonomy aligned investments.

Principal adverse impacts are the most significant negative impacts of investment decisions on sustainability factors relating to environmental, social and employee matters, respect for human rights, anticorruption and antibribery matters.



Does this financial product consider principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors?

Yes

🗶 No



The investment

strategy guides

decisions based on factors such as

objectives and risk

investment

investment

tolerance.

## What investment strategy does this financial product follow?

The Portfolio aims to achieve a target average return of 3.0%-5.0% in excess of the Sterling Overnight Index Average (SONIA) after fees (comprising of all fees and expenses payable by the Portfolio) over a market cycle (typically 3-5 years). The Portfolio seeks to achieve its investment objective primarily by investing in fixed income securities/debt securities, as detailed below and money market instruments issued by governments and their agencies and corporations worldwide including within Emerging Market Countries. Securities will typically be dealt or traded on Recognised Markets globally without any particular focus on any one industrial sector. Securities may be rated investment grade, below investment grade or non-rated by a Recognised Rating Agency.

In aiming to align the Portfolio with a net zero goal, the Investment Manager intends to reduce the Portfolio's carbon footprint across scope 1, 2, and material scope 3 GHG emissions, equating to a 20% reduction by 2025, 50% reduction by 2030 relative to a 2019 baseline and a subsequent decline to net zero by 2050. The 2019 baseline may be subject to re-calculation as data quality and disclosure expands over time, particularly with respect to scope 3 emissions. Further details on NB's commitment to the Net Zero Asset Managers Initiative are contained in the "Sustainability Related Disclosures" section of the Prospectus.

The Investment Manager considers and evaluate ESG characteristics, as an important component of their credit analysis discipline, when making investment decisions. The Investment Manager utilises the NB ESG Quotient criteria as part of the Portfolio construction and investment management process. As noted above, NB ESG Quotient assigns weightings to environmental, social and governance characteristics for each sector to derive the NB ESG Quotient rating. Pursuant to this, the Investment Manager will engage with issuers with a poor NB ESG Quotient rating with the aim to seek improvement in the underlying environmental and social characteristics (which make up the NB ESG Quotient) over time.

The ESG analysis is performed internally, with the support of third-party data, and is not outsourced.

In addition, credit worthiness of corporate issuers only is complemented by fundamental analysis aimed at assessing the issuer's financial performance such as revenue/earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, and amortisation ("EBITDA") growth, cash flow growth, capital expenditures, leverage trends and liquidity profile.

What are the binding elements of the investment strategy used to select the investments to attain each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by this financial product?

ESG characteristics are considered at three different levels:

I. Integrating proprietary ESG analysis:

The NB ESG Quotient ratings are generated for issuers in the Portfolio. The NB ESG Quotient rating for issuers is utilised to help to better identify risks and opportunities in the overall credit and value assessment.

The NB ESG Quotient is a key component of the internal credit ratings and can help to identify business risks (including ESG risks), which would cause deterioration in an issuer's credit profile. Internal credit ratings can be notched up or down based on the NB ESG Quotient rating, and this

Т

20

is monitored by the Investment Manager as an important component of the investment process for the Portfolio.

By integrating the investment team's proprietary ESG analysis (the NB ESG Quotient) into their internal credit ratings, there is a direct link between their analysis of material ESG characteristics and portfolio construction activities across their strategy.

Pursuant to this, the Investment Manager will engage with issuers with a poor NB ESG Quotient rating with the aim to seek improvement in the underlying environmental and social characteristics (which make up the NB ESG Quotient) over time.

### II. Engagement:

The Investment Manager engages directly with management teams of issuers through a robust ESG engagement program. The Investment Manager views this direct engagement with issuers, as an important part of its investment process (including the investment selection process). Issuers that are not receptive to engagement are less likely to be held (or to continue to be held) by the Portfolio.

This program is focused on in-person meetings and conference calls to understand ESG risks, opportunities, and assess good corporate governance practices of issuers. As part of the direct engagement process, the Investment Manager may set objectives for the issuers to attain. These objectives as well as the issuers' progress with respect to same are monitored and tracked by the Investment Manager through an internal NB engagement tracker.

In addition, constructive engagements are undertaken with issuers which have high impact controversies, or which have a poor NB ESG Quotient rating, in order to assess whether those ESG controversies or what the Investment Manager deems as weak ESG efforts, are being addressed adequately.

The Investment Manager firmly believes this consistent engagement with issuers can help reduce credit risk and promote positive sustainable corporate change. It is an important tool to identify and better understand an issuer's risk factors and performance. The Investment Manager also uses it to promote change, when necessary, which they believe will result in positive outcomes for creditors and broader stakeholders. Direct engagement when paired with other inputs, creates a feedback loop that allows analysts in the investment team to evolve their ESG scoring process and prioritise risks that are most relevant to a sector.

#### III. ESG sectoral exclusion policies:

To ensure that the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Portfolio can be attained, the Portfolio will apply the ESG exclusion policies referenced above.

What is the committed minimum rate to reduce the scope of the investments considered prior to the application of that investment strategy?

N/A

What is the policy to assess good governance practices of the investee companies?

Governance factors that the Investment Manager tracks may include: (i) senior management experience and sector expertise; (ii) ownership/board experience and alignment of incentives; (iii) corporate strategy and balance sheet strategy; (iv) financial and accounting strategy & disclosure; and (v) regulatory / legal track record.

Engagement with management is an important component of the Portfolio's investment process, and the Investment Manager engages directly with management teams of issuers through a robust ESG engagement program. This program is focused on in-person meetings and conference calls to understand risks, opportunities and assess good corporate governance practices of investee issuers. The Investment Manager views this direct engagement with issuers, as an important part of its investment process.

While the prioritisation assessment is ongoing, the timing of the engagement may be reactionary in certain cases, opportunistic in cases of industry events or pre-planned meetings, or proactive where time

Good governance practices include sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance.

allows and without undue restrictions such as during quiet periods or M&A events that may prevent outreach actions. Ultimately, the Investment Manager aims to prioritise engagement that is expected, based on the Investment Manager's subjective analysis, to have a high impact on the protection of and improvement to the value of the Portfolio, be it through the advancement of actionable disclosure, understanding of risks and risk management at an issuer, or through influence and action to mitigate risks (including sustainability risks) and take advantage of investment opportunities.



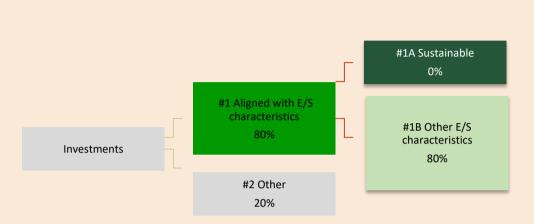
## What is the asset allocation planned for this financial product?

Asset allocation describes the share of investments in specific assets.

[include note only for financial products referred to in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852

Taxonomy-aligned activities are expressed as a share of:

- reflecting the share of revenue from green activities of investee companies
- capital
  expenditure
  (CapEx) showing
  the green
  investments made
  by investee
  companies, e.g. for
  a transition to a
  green economy.
- operational expenditure (OpEx) reflecting green operational activities of investee companies.



**#1** Aligned with E/S characteristics includes the investments of the financial product used to attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product.

**#2** Other includes the remaining investments of the financial product which are neither aligned with the environmental or social characteristics, nor are qualified as sustainable investments.

The category **#1 Aligned with E/S characteristics** covers:

- The sub-category **#1A Sustainable** covers sustainable investments with environmental or social objectives.
- The sub-category **#1B Other E/S characteristics** covers investments aligned with the environmental or social characteristics that do not qualify as sustainable investments.

The Portfolio aims to hold a minimum of 80% investments that are aligned with the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the Portfolio. The Portfolio does not commit to holding sustainable investments. The Portfolio aims to hold a maximum of 20% investments that are not aligned with the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the Portfolio and are not sustainable investments, and which fall into the "Other" section of the Portfolio.

The "Other" section in the Portfolio is held for a number of reasons that the Investment Manager feels will be beneficial to the Portfolio, such as, but not limited to, achieving risk management, and/or to ensure adequate liquidity, hedging and collateral cover. The "Other" section may also include investments or asset classes for which the Investment Manager does not have sufficient data to confirm that they are aligned with the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the Portfolio. Further details on the "Other" section are set out below.

Please note that while the Investment Manager aims to achieve the asset allocation targets outlined above, these figures may fluctuate during the investment period and ultimately, as with any investment target, may not be attained.

The exact asset allocation of this Portfolio will be reported in the Portfolio's mandatory periodic report SFDR template, for the relevant reference period. This will be calculated based on the average of the four quarter ends.

The Investment Manager has calculated the proportion of environmentally and/or socially aligned investments in the Portfolio by reference to the proportion of issuers in the Portfolio: i) that hold an NB ESG Quotient rating or a third party equivalent ESG rating that is used as part of the portfolio construction and investment management process of the Portfolio; and/or ii) with whom

[include note only for the financial products referred to in Article 6, first paragraph, of Regulation (EU) 2020/852

Enabling activities directly enable other activities to make a substantial contribution to an environmental objective.

Transitional activities are activities for which low-carbon alternatives are not yet available and among others have greenhouse gas emission levels corresponding to the best

performance.

[include note for financial products referred to in Article 6, first paragraph, of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 that invest in environmental economic activities that are not environmentally sustainable economic activities]

are sustainable investments with an environmental objective that do not take into account the criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities under the EU Taxonomy.

the Investment Manager has engaged directly. The calculation is based on a mark-to-market assessment of the Portfolio. This calculation may rely on incomplete or inaccurate issuer or third party data.

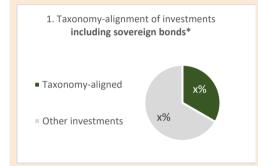
## How does the use of derivatives attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product?

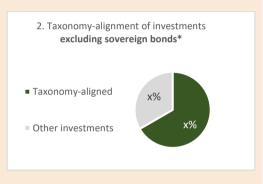
While the Portfolio may use derivatives for efficient portfolio management, investment purposes and/or hedging, it will not use derivatives to promote environmental or social characteristics.



To what minimum extent are sustainable investments with an environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

The two graphs below show in green the minimum percentage of investments that are aligned with the EU Taxonomy. As there is no appropriate methodology to determine the Taxonomy-alignment of sovereign bonds\*, the first graph shows the Taxonomy alignment in relation to all the investments of the financial product including sovereign bonds, while the second graph shows the Taxonomy alignment only in relation to the investments of the financial product other than sovereign bonds.





 $^st$  For the purpose of these graphs, 'sovereign bonds' consist of all sovereign exposures

N/A - The analysis and disclosure requirements introduced by the Taxonomy Regulation are very detailed and compliance with them requires the availability of multiple, specific data points in respect of each investment which the Portfolio makes. The Investment Manager is not committing that the Portfolio will invest in investments that qualify as environmentally sustainable for the purposes of the Taxonomy Regulation. As such, the minimum proportion of the Portfolio's investments that contribute to environmentally sustainable economic activities for the purposes of the Taxonomy Regulation will be 0%. It cannot be excluded that some of the Portfolio's holdings qualify as Taxonomy-aligned investments. Disclosures and reporting on Taxonomy alignment will develop as the EU framework evolves and data is made available by issuers.

What is the minimum share of investments in transitional and enabling activities?

N/A



What is the minimum share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective that are not aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

N/A



What is the minimum share of socially sustainable investments?

N/A



What investments are included under "#2 Other", what is their purpose and are there any minimum environmental or social safeguards?

"Other" includes the remaining investments of the financial product (including but not limited to any derivatives or any security collateralized by a pool of similar assets or receivables listed in the Supplement for the Portfolio above) which are neither aligned with the environmental or social characteristics, nor are qualified as sustainable investments.

The "Other" section in the Portfolio is held for a number of reasons that the Investment Manager feels will be beneficial to the Portfolio, such as, but not limited to, achieving risk management, and/or to ensure adequate liquidity, hedging and collateral cover.

As noted above, the Portfolio will be invested in compliance with ESG exclusion policies, on a continuous basis. This ensures that investments made by the Portfolio seek to align with international environmental and social safeguards such as the UNGC Principles, UNGPs, OECD Guidelines and ILO Standards.

The Investment Manager believes that these policies prevent investment in issuers that most egregiously violate environmental and/or social minimum standards and ensures that the Portfolio can successfully promote its environmental and social characteristics.

The above steps ensure that robust environmental and social safeguards are in place.



Is a specific index designated as a reference benchmark to determine whether this financial product is aligned with the environmental and/or social characteristics that it promotes?

N/A

How is the reference benchmark continuously aligned with each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product?

N/A

How is the alignment of the investment strategy with the methodology of the index ensured on a continuous basis?

N/A

How does the designated index differ from a relevant broad market index?

N/A

Where can the methodology used for the calculation of the designated index be found?

N/A

[include note for financial products where an index has been designated as a reference benchmark for the purpose of attaining the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product]

Reference benchmarks are indexes to measure whether the financial product attains the environmental or social characteristics that they promote.



## Where can I find more product specific information online?

Product overviews, factsheets, KIIDs and other literature can be found on the NB website, in our dedicated 'Investment Strategies' section at <a href="https://www.nb.com">www.nb.com</a>.

## More product-specific information can be found on the website:

https://www.nb.com/en/global/esg/reporting-policies-and-disclosures#0A63D195342B424C8C1F115547F2784A