

The Directors accept responsibility for the information contained in this document. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the Directors (who have taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information contained in this document is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information.

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## **iShares III Public Limited Company**

*(An umbrella investment company with variable capital and having segregated liability between its Funds incorporated with limited liability in Ireland under registration number 452278 and authorised by the Central Bank pursuant to the European Communities (Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities) Regulations 2011, as amended)*

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## **FIRST ADDENDUM**

**Dated 1 December 2022**

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**This addendum (the "Addendum") forms part of, and should be read in the context of, and together with, the prospectus of the Company dated 1 September 2022 (the "Prospectus"), and any Supplements and addenda to the Prospectus. Distribution of this document is not authorised unless it is accompanied by a copy of the latest annual report and audited financial statements and, if published thereafter, the latest unaudited semi-annual report and unaudited financial statements. Such reports will form part of the Prospectus.**

If you are in any doubt about the action to be taken or the contents of this Addendum please consult your stockbroker, bank manager, lawyer, accountant or other independent professional adviser authorised under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 immediately.

## Amendments to the Prospectus

The Prospectus shall be amended as follows:

### FUND DESCRIPTIONS

The "*SFDR*" sub-section of the "*Fund Descriptions*" section shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

#### *SFDR*

BlackRock intends to comply with transparency requirements relating to principal adverse sustainability impacts on sustainability factors ("**PAIs**") (as set out in the Regulatory Technical Standards (RTS) under the SFDR) in respect of the Funds within the timeframe set out in the SFDR. PAIs are identified under the SFDR as the material impacts of investment decisions on sustainability factors relating to environmental, social and employee matters, respect for human rights, and anti-corruption and anti-bribery matters.

The following Funds have been categorised as Article 8 funds under the SFDR, i.e. funds that promote environmental and/or social characteristics provided that companies in which the investments are made follow good governance practices ("**Article 8 Funds**"): the Multi-Asset Funds (namely, BlackRock ESG Multi-Asset Conservative Portfolio UCITS ETF, BlackRock ESG Multi-Asset Growth Portfolio UCITS ETF, BlackRock ESG Multi-Asset Moderate Portfolio UCITS ETF), iShares \$ Asia Investment Grade Corp Bond UCITS ETF, iShares \$ Corp Bond ESG Paris-Aligned Climate UCITS ETF, iShares \$ Development Bank Bonds UCITS ETF, iShares € Aggregate Bond ESG UCITS ETF, iShares € Corp Bond ESG Paris-Aligned Climate UCITS ETF, iShares € Corp Bond ex-Financials 1-5yr ESG UCITS ETF, iShares € Govt Bond Climate UCITS ETF, iShares Global Aggregate Bond ESG UCITS ETF, iShares Global Govt Bond Climate UCITS ETF, iShares MSCI Pacific ex-Japan ESG Enhanced UCITS ETF, iShares MSCI World Paris-Aligned Climate UCITS ETF, iShares MSCI World Small Cap ESG Enhanced UCITS ETF and iShares S&P 500 ESG UCITS ETF.

In addition, the following Article 8 Funds invest a portion of their assets in sustainable investments: iShares € Aggregate Bond ESG UCITS ETF and iShares Global Aggregate Bond ESG UCITS ETF. In identifying which underlying holdings are sustainable investments, BlackRock will have regard to the index provider's assessment of sustainable investments in the relevant Fund's Benchmark Index methodology.

The following Funds seek to track the performance of a Benchmark Index which is labelled by the index provider as either an EU Climate Transition benchmark or an EU Paris-aligned benchmark (within the meaning of the Benchmarks Regulation): iShares \$ Corp Bond ESG Paris-Aligned Climate UCITS ETF, iShares € Corp Bond ESG Paris-Aligned Climate UCITS ETF, iShares MSCI Pacific ex-Japan ESG Enhanced UCITS ETF, iShares MSCI World Paris-Aligned Climate UCITS ETF and iShares MSCI World Small Cap ESG Enhanced UCITS ETF. Where an index provider has labelled the Benchmark Index as either an EU Climate Transition benchmark or an EU Paris-aligned benchmark, the methodology of the Benchmark Index has to be constructed in accordance with the minimum standards prescribed by the Benchmarks Regulation in respect of the criteria for the selection, weighting and, where applicable, exclusion of the underlying assets, to align with the climate commitments laid down in the Paris Agreement.

*In relation to Article 8 Funds (except for the Multi-Asset Funds):*

They take into consideration PAIs that, based on the Investment Manager's assessment, are built into the index methodologies of their Benchmark Indices. PAIs are taken into consideration through one or more of the following: (i) where the Benchmark Index applies ESG exclusionary screens, through certain of such ESG exclusionary screens excluding companies with exposure to certain PAIs that exceed the thresholds specified by the index provider, (ii) where the Benchmark Index uses ESG controversy scores to exclude companies that fall below a minimum score, through such scores taking into consideration PAIs, (iii) where the Benchmark Index applies certain climate related features, through such climate related features considering climate transition related PAIs, and/or (iv) where the Benchmark Index incorporates sustainable investments, through such sustainable investments taking into consideration PAIs in the assessment of "do no significant harm". Further information on the PAIs considered in the index methodology of each Article 8 Fund can be found on the website for the relevant Benchmark Index. Website addresses are set out in Benchmark Index descriptions below.

*In relation to the Multi-Asset Funds:*

The underlying index funds that the Multi-Asset Funds invest in may include certain underlying index funds that are SFDR Article 8 and Article 9 funds managed by BlackRock. Such SFDR Article 8 and Article 9 underlying funds take into consideration PAIs that, based on BlackRock's assessment, are built into the index methodologies of the Benchmark Indices tracked by the underlying funds. PAIs are taken into consideration through one or more of the following: (i) where the Benchmark Index applies ESG exclusionary screens, through certain of such ESG exclusionary screens excluding companies with exposure to certain PAIs that exceed the thresholds specified by the index provider, (ii) where the Benchmark Index uses ESG controversy scores to exclude companies that fall below a minimum score, through such scores taking into consideration PAIs, (iii) where the Benchmark Index applies certain climate related features, through such climate related features considering climate transition related PAIs, and/or (iv) where the Benchmark Index incorporates sustainable investments, through such sustainable investments taking into consideration PAIs in the assessment of "do no significant harm". Further

information on the PAIs considered in the index methodology of each underlying Article 8 and Article 9 fund can be found on the website for the relevant Benchmark Index.

BlackRock evaluates underlying investments in companies according to the good governance criteria outlined in SFDR where relevant data is available and as appropriate given the underlying investment type. These criteria relate to sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance. BlackRock may consider additional factors relating to good governance in its assessment of the sustainability related characteristics of underlying issuers depending on the particular ESG strategy applicable to the Fund.

*In relation to BlackRock-managed underlying funds of Multiple-Asset Funds referred to above and Article 8 Funds (except for the Multi-Asset Funds):*

BlackRock carries out due diligence on index providers and engages with them on an ongoing basis with regard to index methodologies including their assessment of good governance criteria set out by SFDR which include sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance at the level of investee companies.

While index providers of the Benchmark Indices of the Funds provide descriptions of what each Benchmark Index is designed to achieve, index providers do not generally provide any warranty or accept any liability in relation to the quality, accuracy or completeness of data in respect of their benchmark indices, nor any guarantee that the published indices will be in line with their described benchmark index methodologies. Errors in respect of the quality, accuracy and completeness of the data may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected for a period of time, in particular where the indices are less commonly used.

*In addition, in relation to Article 8 Funds which invest in sustainable investments:*

In identifying which underlying holdings are sustainable investments, BlackRock will have regard to the index provider's assessment of sustainable investments in the relevant Fund's Benchmark Index methodology.

In addition to exposure to sustainable investments, the sustainable investments within an Article 8 Fund, will have to comply with the requirement to do no significant harm to environmental or social factors, as set out in the methodology of the Fund's Benchmark Index.

#### Taxonomy Regulation

*All Funds except for Article 8 Funds:*

The investments underlying these Funds do not take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities.

*Article 8 Funds:*

The Funds do not currently commit to investing more than 0% of their assets in investments in environmentally sustainable economic activities within the meaning of the Taxonomy Regulation.

The "do no significant harm" principle applies only to those underlying investments of the Funds that take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities. The remaining investments of the Funds do not take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities. As set out above, the Funds' investments do not currently take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable investments."

The Prospectus shall otherwise remain unamended and in full force and effect.

Date: 1 December 2022