FRIDAY, 16 APRIL 2021

irfa dispatch

THE RETIREMENT INDUSTRY NEWSLETTER

TABLE OF CONTENT

LOCAL NEWS

Billions in pension funds yet to be claimed

Durban - About five million South Africans are yet to claim their pension benefits which have accrued to at least R42 billion and can be traced back to as far as the apartheid years and the migrant labour system. According to the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA), a financial institutions regulator, the majority of the beneficiaries are miners who came from different countries and provinces seeking greener pastures. They are believed to be African and low income earners, given the average amounts per individual beneficiary.

Some are likely to have changed jobs but did not update their personal information or were not informed by employers of the benefits. Others are those who might have left their funds prior to the passing of the surplus apportionment law in 2001. The top administrators and funds with the highest unclaimed benefits are Metal Industries Benefit Fund Administrators, Alexander Forbes Financial Services, Liberty Group Limited, Sanlam Life Insurance, Old Mutual Life Assurance Company, Mineworkers Provident Fund and the Mines 1970 Unclaimed Benefits Preservation Pension and Provident Fund.

Tembisa Gebeda-Marele, head of communications and reputation at FSCA, said the organisation assisted beneficiaries through a track-and-trace team as well as a search engine freely accessible via SMS, email and a toll-free number where they can make enquiries. “Since the implementation of the unclaimed benefits search engine, 40 322 possible matches have been identified and an asset value of approximately R1.2 billion was paid to 14 558 members after valid claims were submitted to the relevant funds,” she said. Another initiative by the financial sector stakeholders, which aims to educate the country about how to access possible unclaimed pension funds, is the Money Smart Week South Africa (MSWSA) which took place over a week ago.

Kabelo van de Merwe, project lead of unclaimed benefits at Liberty Group, said unclaimed benefits were monies from a retirement fund that had not been claimed for a period of 24 months from the time the money is due for payment. She blamed the lack of knowledge and education for the millions of rands not having been rightfully claimed. “Liberty encourages all citizens to always check their pay slips to learn about the total amount being deducted to contribute to a retirement fund. It is also important for the employee to keep their information updated with their employer, which includes contact details and residential information.

“Citizens are also encouraged to communicate with their families and ensure that they are informed about the money being invested and saved for their retirement,” she said. Van der Merwe explained that claimants who had recently retired, had left employment or were dependants of someone deceased, who was a contributor to a pension fund, had to follow a strict process and that certain documents were required to validate that the money was going to the right person. “Additional procedures are followed by Sars to ensure that the correct tax amounts are deducted whether the beneficiary chooses to transfer the money to a different retirement fund or receive a cash payout.”

Personal Finance | 11 April 2021

Proposed amendments to Regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act: what this means for workers’ pensions

Simply put, Regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act governs the way managers of pension funds invest in various asset classes, to safeguard workers retirement savings against risky investments. In summary, the proposed amendments to this regulation, which was closed for public comment on 29 March 2021, provides an alternative to prescribed assets for investment as we know it, including establishing a minimum floor for a pension fund’s investment to be held in government stock, with the aim to leverage this for economic development in growth. We take a bird’s eye view of Regulation 28 as it stands, and what the proposed amendments mean for workers’ pensions, as well as for the institutional investors who must look after their retirement savings.

Overview of Regulation 28

To reduce risk and safeguard workers’ savings, retirement funds are required to invest in a diverse range of instruments and asset classes, such as equities, bonds and cash. Regulation 28 of the South African Pension Funds Act governs this by limiting the percentage that institutional investors or managers of pension funds may invest in these various instruments and asset classes as well as geographical areas. As it stands for example, institutional investors may only invest up to 30% in assets around the globe, excluding of Africa, a limitation which may sometimes actually be to the detriment of the fund.

Proposed amendments and what they

• Infrastructure

‘Infrastructure’ per se is not defined as a specific category in the current regulation, and institutional investors may obtain exposure across several instruments and assets such as bonds, equities, immovable property, private equity and other. The proposed amendment is to introduce a more precise definition of infrastructure with various limits and aggregate limits for exposure in all these instruments and asset classes already permitted through Regulation 28. This will also help to establish better parameters for the purposes of data collation and measurement. Should this come into effect, the proposed overall investment limit in infrastructure across all categories will be 45% for domestic exposure, and an additional 10% for exposure in the rest of Africa, with a 25% aggregate limit per issuer or entity.

• Split of hedge funds, private equity and other assets

The proposed amendments will split "hedge funds, private equity and any other assets" that are not listed in the current schedule into "hedge funds, private equity and any other assets not listed in the schedule" in stand-alone asset classes. This will enable the introduction of specific limits of exposure to each of these asset classes. The limits for exposure to "hedge funds and any other assets not listed in the schedule," have remained the same as follows: Hedge funds (2.5% per hedge fund, 5% per fund of hedge funds (FoHF), with an aggregate limit of 10% for hedge funds and 2.5% for "other assets.") As a result of the split in assets, the limit of 15% of exposure in "hedge funds, private equity and any other assets not listed in the schedule" has been removed though. The amendments do however propose a change in the limits of "private equity" exposure, as set out in the table below:

Table 1: Limits of exposure to private equity

	Current	Proposed
Aggregate limit	10%	15%
Private equity funds	2.5%	5%
Funds of private equity funds	5%	10%
Infrastructure private equity funds	Via current limit - 2.5%	5%
Infrastructure funds of private equity funds	Via current limit - 5%	7.5%

Pros and cons

"From an investment perspective, we believe that whilst revisiting this regulation, which was last reviewed in 2011, government should have also considered revising the current limitation of 30% to global exposure (excluding the additional Africa allocation)," says Gerrit Craucamp, Head of Investment Strategy at Novare Actuaries and Consultants, a subsidiary of Novare Holdings. "The rationale being that this limitation prevents investors from taking sufficient advantage of a league of offshore investment opportunities and exposure to global industries, technology and innovations that are not available locally. This in turn counteracts some of the attempts for diversification, and prohibits investors from generating better returns."

Craucamp explains that whilst the proposed amendments are increasing the investment limit in "private equity" and "unlisted infrastructure equity", the draft amendment in its current form is also effectively reducing the current investment limit in "infrastructure equity" and "unlisted infrastructure debt" which could result in unintended consequences. A fund can for example currently invest 100% of its assets in "infrastructure debt", which is guaranteed by the government, but the new proposed amendments will limit this exposure to 25%. Similarly, a fund can currently invest up to 15% of its assets in "unlisted non-guaranteed infrastructure debt", whereas the proposed amendments will limit this exposure to 3%.

Craucamp notes that except for the points mentioned previously, the proposed amendments of Regulation 28 of the Pension Act Fund is however no doubt a positive move in the right direction, as it presents the potential to yield a win-win for both our socio-economy and investors. He explains that this approach is however by no means new in the investment space. Whilst they are illiquid, infrastructure projects indeed have the potential to provide an alternative source of competitive risk-adjusted returns for its members, especially in the current economic landscape which is marked by low-return asset classes.

This is also most likely why the pension fund industry is already significantly invested in government stocks on the JSE. For example, "of the ±R1.1-trillion under management (excluding the Government Employees Pension Fund), pension funds hold ±R202bn in government stock and another R28bn in state-owned enterprises and municipalities." It is also this very fact that was a key driver behind the launch of the first Novare SA Impact Fund. Whilst the primary goal of a private equity fund is typically to generate optimal ROI, this impact fund will have a dual primary objective, which is to generate optimal ROI and achieve positive, measurable impact on both the environment and our society, by among others, investing in critical infrastructure development projects that form part of our National Development Plan.

In conclusion

In essence, Novare supports the proposed amendments to Regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act, but would like to appeal to institutional investors to remain focused on what matters most. "When fund managers opt to invest in infrastructure projects, the key consideration should always be whether it meets the feasibility, investment and governance criteria of the fund's investment strategy, and whether it serves the best interest of the people whose pension savings they are managing," Craucamp concludes.

FA News | 15 April 2021

Is sustainable investing going mainstream?

Some say that it doesn't matter what you think about investing in terms of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) principles as it is already taking shape in the global investment arena. According to Morningstar, flows into ESG funds quadrupled in 2019 in comparison to 2018. This trend seemed to accelerate in 2020. Part of this has been driven by regulation, particularly in the case of Europe. However, I also think that we as humans have played a role in this as well, as we reflected on our impact on the environment and our social impact in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. With this in mind, there seem to be two main questions when it comes to ESG investing:

1) Will I make money? – Will integrating ESG be beneficial or detrimental to the financial performance of a company?
2) Am I only doing this to feel good? – Hoping to decrease our negative footprint on the world.
With the release of the new tranche of the Glacier Sustainable World Enhancer, we thought it would be fitting to unpack the index a bit and focus on a few of the counters or companies in the index. We advocate for this to be part of a client's diversified portfolio, with an emphasis on ESG as a theme. The concept of ESG investing is constantly evolving, influenced by new information, regulation and consumer expectations. However, one can argue that initially ESG investing was about protecting the environment, but it has morphed to embrace a comprehensive definition which includes themes such as no poverty, zero hunger and gender equality. Today, it is more about a focus on delivering competitive investment returns that are also sustainable.

The Solactive Sustainable Development Goals World Index
The overall objective of the index is to select a diversified selection of companies that display high environmental, social and governance standards with a positive financial outlook. These companies also contribute to the achievement of the 17 United Nations sustainable development goals (SDGs).

Index methodology: this is assessed by Vigeo Eiris, (international provider of ESG research and services)
1) ESG control – exclusion of companies:
• involved in alcohol, guns, gambling, pornography, tobacco or if they are involved in critical controversies.
• that are part of the most intensive carbon emitters unless they have a robust energy transition strategy.
2) Selection of companies contributing to the SDGs –

• a significant part of their activity is dedicated to sustainable products.

• Or, they are leading sustainable behaviour in their sector.

3) Financial filters –

There are filters on liquidity, low volatility, as well as geographical and sectoral diversification.

What is the final result?

The end result is an equally weighted index comprising of 50 companies that are rebalanced on a yearly basis. There is an element of volatility control with the aim of generating stable performance. The index targets a volatility close to 8%, which is managed by switching between the equity index and cash. In practice, if volatility is low, then the index will be predominately invested in the equity index and very little cash, and vice versa.

At first glance of the 50 companies, there are some familiar counters such as CVS Health Corporation, Danone, Loreal, SAP, Novartis and Colgate-Palmolive. With the broader counters in mind, an investor ends up with exposure to the medical industry, pharmaceutical industry, biotechnology, energy (renewables) and transport. Let's take a closer look at two of the counters: CapitaLand Limited and Orsted.

Where is the company based?	Headquartered and listed in Singapore.
What do they do?	CapitaLand is one of Asia's largest diversified real estate groups.
Additional comments	They started their sustainability journey in 2000.
	CapitaLand has a 2030 Sustainability Master Plan. It aims to build a resilient and resource-efficient real estate portfolio, enable thriving and future-adaptive communities, and accelerate sustainability innovation and collaboration.

Where is the company based?	Headquarters are in Denmark.
What do they do?	Orsted is the largest energy company in Denmark.
Additional comments	Twelve years ago, Orsted (previously called DONG Energy) made most of its money from fossil fuels. Today, it is the world's leading offshore-wind power producer.
	Their vision is to create a world that runs entirely on green energy.

Click **here** to watch a video for more information on the Solactive Sustainable Development Goals World RC 8 EUR Index.

References:

- Investing in an ESG World – UBS Asset Management
- Investor Presentation – Capital Land
- Investor Presentation – Orsted
- Solactive

FA News | 15 April 2021

Contractual RAs cost you more than flexible alternatives

Apart from the obligations that contractual retirement annuities (RAs) impose on you to keep contributing for the full term of the contract, there is a further downside to these products: their costs. Personal Finance found that the costs on a contractual product may be about 2% more a year than on a flexible unit-trust RA .Last week, Personal Finance covered the case of Mr C, who, at the age of 61 had been sold a Discovery Invest RA that committed him to a 10-year investment term with a 10%-a-year escalation on his R10 000 monthly contribution.

Charles McAllister, a Certified Financial Planner and executive director of Centric Wealth Advisory in Cape Town, took up his case (see “A case against contractual retirement annuities”). Discovery Invest offers a contractual product that provides the broker with a large upfront commission (the type Mr C was sold) and an “as-and-when” product (which Mr C was unaware of), which pays only a monthly commission to the broker. The deal with the contractual product is that if you keep up contributions to the end of the term, a substantial portion of the annual administration fee (3.5% plus VAT in Mr C’s case), including returns on that portion, is refunded: a benefit called Fee PayBack.

However, even with Fee PayBack, the administration fee is considerably higher than that on a non-contractual unit-trust RA available from an asset management company. To provide a comparison, McAllister obtained three quotes for a hypothetical John Smith: on Discovery Invest’s contractual RA, its as-and-when RA, and a unit-trust RA from a well-known asset manager. Mr Smith would turn 64 in January 2022, selecting to retire at age 75, and the product was to commence on April 1, 2021. Each quote contains an Effective Annual Cost (EAC) table, which details costs expressed as an annual percentage of assets under management over different periods and on expiry.

Quote 1: Discovery Invest Core Retirement Plan (upfront commission)

- Monthly contribution of R10 000, escalating at 10% a year.
- Invested entirely in the Discovery Balanced Fund (investment management fee: 2.13%).
- Adviser's fee: R29 586 upfront lump sum plus R287.50 a month. According to the EAC table, this equates to 1.61% a year over the term of the policy.
- Administration fee: 2.42% a year, which reduces to 0.64% over the term of the policy after Fee PayBack.
- Overall EAC over whole term, after Fee PayBack: 4.38%

Quote 2: Discovery Invest Core Retirement Plan (as-and-when commission)

- Monthly contribution of R10 000, escalating at 10% a year.
- Invested entirely in the Discovery Balanced Fund (investment management fee: 2.13%).
- Adviser's fee: 5.75% (including VAT) of the monthly contribution. According to the EAC table, this equates to 1.22% a year over the term of the policy.
- Administration fee: 0.64% a year
- Overall EAC over whole term: 3.99% a year

Quote 3: Asset Manager X Retirement Annuity (unit-trust RA)

- Monthly contribution of R10 000, escalating at 10% a year.
- Invested entirely in the asset manager's balanced fund (investment management fee: 1.01%).
- Adviser's fee: 3.45% (including VAT) of the monthly contribution plus 0.58% a year. According to the EAC table, this equates to 1.30% over 10 years.
- Administration fee: 0.24% a year
- Overall EAC over the whole term: 2.55% a year

McAllister says Quote 3 from the asset manager was not the cheapest available and, "to compare apples with apples", he asked for the maximum adviser fee on contributions. "This is generally not the norm, as most practices would charge an upfront planning fee once off, then an ongoing fee depending on their fee schedule," he says. Even so, the difference in costs between 4.38% a year and 2.55% a year is significant. Assuming a before-costs return of 10% a year, after 10 years, Mr Smith will have accrued R2 460 517 under Quote 1 and R2 685 089 under Quote 3, a difference of 9% (my calculations, assuming costs as a reduction of return, using thecalculatorsite.com).

Although costs should not be the only consideration when taking out an RA, the higher they are, the harder your money will have to work in order to beat inflation. While the investment management fee depends on what underlying fund/s you choose and a provider's administration fee is relatively fixed, the fee your adviser receives is negotiable under the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act, enabling you to bring down costs further.

Personal Finances | 13 April 2021

Your checklist a year before retirement

Even if you are looking forward to the end of your working life, the idea of retirement can be daunting. There is often an instinctive fear of moving into a stage of life where you may end up consuming your capital, as well as anxieties about a diminishing lifestyle. Like most challenges in life, preparation is key.

Here is a pre-retirement checklist to help ensure you're on track:

Refine your budget

Your financial situation will most likely change during retirement so it's important to have a clear and defined budget. Before retirement, it was up to you to build a savings pot to fund the lifestyle you wanted in retirement. Once you retire, you will need to deal with what you have and adjust your lifestyle to what you can afford. Work-related expenses, such as travelling and office attire, will fade away, but your spending might increase in other areas, such as medical expenses. By refining your budget in advance, you will have a better idea of how to manage your money during retirement, instead of allowing it to control you.

A few things to think about:

- Calculate a sustainable income that will last your retirement years by consulting an appropriate retirement planning tool or speaking to your financial advisor
- Bear in mind that your expenses will change in retirement
- You should consider making some changes before they are forced on you, such as trading in your fancy wheels for a more affordable vehicle, or downsizing to a smaller home.

Understand your healthcare plan

The reality of ageing can be daunting, especially when considering factors such as medical aid costs and healthcare needs. Remember: Getting old is a privilege denied to many. As the proportion of older people in our population increases, so does the overall burden of illnesses that tend to hit the elderly. In its report on mid-year population estimates in 2020, Statistics SA noted that population estimates indicate that the proportion of elderly people, defined as those aged 60 and older, has grown from 7.6% in 2002 to 9.1% in 2020. The report adds: "In recent years, South Africa has moved from a country suffering mostly mortalities from communicable diseases such as tuberculosis and HIV/Aids – which are often concentrated at younger ages – to scenarios where most causes of death are attributable to non-communicable diseases manifesting at late ages, such as strokes or heart disease." If you don't have a good healthcare plan in place, your retirement could become a costly exercise of paying off medical bills, not to mention the potential for further stress-related illness. You will be much better off, financially and emotionally, if you know in advance what your medical plan covers.

Here are a few things to consider:

- Healthcare needs and costs usually increase after the age of 55, especially if you or your spouse is a chronic disease patient
- Cover you have for medical costs and/or disability during your working life may come to an end when you retire. According to Mica Townsend, business development manager and employee benefits sonsultant at 10X Investments, "Even employees with excellent healthcare cover as part of their remuneration will need to check if these benefits follow them into retirement."
-

Decide between a living annuity and a guaranteed annuity

A key decision as you are approaching retirement is how best to draw an income from your retirement savings. There are two main product choices available to you: an insurance-type product called a guaranteed annuity and an investment-type product called a living annuity. These products meet different needs so you will need to decide which one is best for you. You will need to consider a host of factors that are specific to you, including your health, age and life expectancy; how much you have saved; your desired income; whether you prefer a secure or a flexible income; the needs of a financially dependent spouse; and whether you want to leave money to heirs.

This table summarises differences between the two product types:

YOUR RETIREMENT OBJECTIVES	GUARANTEED ANNUITY	LIVING ANNUITY
Inflation protection	✓ *	Not guaranteed
Longevity protection	✓	Not guaranteed
Flexibility to change your income or investments	✗	✓ **
Leave an estate	✗ ***	✓

* Assuming that the guaranteed annuity is inflation-linked
** Subject to legislation and regulatory limits on income of 2.5% to 17.5%
*** Some policies give you limited estate protection

Think about your estate

You should regularly update your will and any nomination forms on your policies to reflect your latest intentions and circumstances. The principal concern for many will be to secure their partner financially before considering any other bequests. However, it is important to always keep information about all your dependants and beneficiaries up-to-date. **Full Report:** ***https://www.moneyweb.co.za/mymoney/retirement/your-checklist-a-year-before-retirement/***

Moneyweb | 10 April 2021

Under the new pension regulations, can you borrow money from your provident fund?

You can borrow funds to buy a property, renovate a property, pay off a housing loan, or to guarantee a housing loan. You cannot use the funds for any other purpose

I would like to know under the new pension regulations, are we able to borrow money on our provident fund?

Dear reader,

Thank you for your question regarding the new Pension Fund Act regulations.

Section 19 of the Pension Funds Act has not been changed by the new regulations and still provides the following:

Section 19(5) of the Pension Funds Act permits the granting or guaranteeing of housing loans. The purpose of this section is to enable trustees to assist members to finance their genuine housing needs. Under this section, you can borrow funds to buy a property, renovate a property or pay off a housing loan. Alternatively, it can be used to guarantee a housing loan. You cannot use the funds for any other purpose. The intention of a retirement fund is to provide a savings vehicle whereby funds can be saved for retirement. The government provides you with an income deduction of up to 27.5% for the contributions that you make to the retirement fund.

The government wants fewer individuals to be dependent on it once they reach retirement age. For this reason, they have created retirement plans and offer a huge tax saving should you invest in them. A provident fund or any retirement fund is registered as a retirement fund with the Financial Sector Conduct Authority and the South African Revenue Service. This is a requirement of the Pension Funds Act under which retirement funds fall. Each retirement fund has its own set of rules applicable to that fund. Your provident fund and all other retirement funds are governed under the rules registered for them.

In closing, there has been a proposed amendment to the Pension Funds Act to enable a registered fund to furnish a member of the fund with a guarantee to secure a loan, of which the guarantee may not exceed 75% of their share in the value of the fund to support the member in times of crisis like the Covid-19 outbreak. Each retirement fund can incorporate the provision of Section 19(5) as it is into their retirement fund rules. If the provision is not made in your company's retirement fund rules, you cannot make a housing loan against your provident fund.

Moneyweb | 15 April 2021

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

EPF account: Pension benefit rules that EPFO members may consider

After contributing for at least 10 years in EPF account, one can become eligible for ₹1,000 to ₹7,500 monthly pension under the EPS benefit

The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has made it mandatory for each and every EPFO member to contribute 12 per cent of its basic salary in one's Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) account. According to tax and investment experts, EPF account is a government-backed mandatory retirement fund accumulation tool for an investor but it also gives pension benefit under EPS (Employees' Pension Scheme). They said that as per EPS Pension rule, one can become eligible for ₹1,000 to ₹7,500 monthly pension under the EPS benefit, provided the EPFO member has contributed in EPF account for at least 10 years.

Speaking on the EPS scheme eligibility criteria under EPFO norms; Harsh Roongta, Head at Fee Only Investment Advisers said, "To become eligible for EPS benefit under EPFO rules, one needs to contribute in one's EPF account for at least 10 continuous years. So, it's advisable for EPF account holder to continue with the EPF account at new organisation at the time of job switch. Going for EPF withdrawal is not advisable at the time of job switch." Roongta — who is a SEBI registered investment advisor too — went on to add, "When an employee contributes 12 per cent of its basic in EPF, similar amount is contributed by its recruiter too. But, out of 12 per cent recruiters' contribution, only 3.67 goes into EPF. Rest 8.33 per cent goes in EPS."

EPS Pension Calculator

Highlighting the pension benefit under EPS pension rules, Harsh Roongta said that as per the EPFO pension rule, one can get ₹1,000 to ₹7,500 monthly pension after contributing in one's EPF account till he or she attains 58 years of age. On how one's pension is calculated under EPS scheme; SEBI registered tax and investment expert Jitendra Solanki said, "To calculate monthly pension of the EPF account holder, the formula used is [(Pensionable salary + Pensionable Service)/70]. In simple words, pension will be higher if the period of EPF contribution is high and pension will be lower if the year of EPF contribution is low."

Solanki also said that one becomes eligible for monthly pension after attaining 50 years, but in that case one's pension will get reduced by 4 per cent for every year falling short of 58 years. For example, if an EPF account holder opts EPS pension benefit at the age of 55, then his or her pension will get reduced by 12 per cent (4x3). so, one should opt for pension only after 58 years of age.

Live Mint | 11 April 2021

New York pension fund divests $7 mln from Canadian oil sands firms

New York’s state pension fund is restricting investment in six Canadian oil sands companies because they have not shown they are prepared for a transition to a low-carbon future, the fund’s Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli said on Monday. The New York State Common Retirement Fund will divest more than $7 million in securities already held in the companies, and not make any further investments in them, DiNapoli said in a statement. Canada's oil sands hold the world's third-largest crude reserves and have some of the highest emissions intensity per barrel, due to the carbon-intensive production process of extracting tar-like bitumen from the ground.

Climate-focused investors are putting increasing pressure on the companies to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions or face divestment. In December, the fund said it would help curb climate change by transitioning its investments to net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2040, making it the first U.S. pension fund to set the goal by that date. "We have carefully reviewed companies in the oil sands industry and are restricting investments in those that do not have viable plans to adapt to the low-carbon future," DiNapoli said. "Companies responsible for large greenhouse gas emissions like those in this industry, pose significant risks for investors."

The companies are Imperial Oil (IMO.TO), Canadian Natural Resources Ltd (CNQ.TO), MEG Energy Corp (MEG.TO), Athabasca Oil Corp (ATH.TO), Japan Petroleum Exploration Ltd (1662.T), and Cenovus Energy Inc (CVE.TO). A seventh company mentioned in DiNapoli's statement, Husky Energy, was acquired by Cenovus in January. New York State continues to invest in oil sands producer Suncor Energy (SU.TO). The fund is the third-largest pension fund in the United States with an estimated valuation of about $248 billion. "The smart money, led by New York, is headed away from the climate-damaging energy sectors of the past, and into the future with clean, safe renewable energy," said Richard Brooks, Climate Finance Director at Stand.Earth.

Reuters | 13 April 2021

Switchboard: 011 450 1670 / 081 445 8722
Fax: 011 450 1579
Email: reception@irfa.org.za
Website: www.irf.org.za

2nd Floor Leppan House
No 1 Skeen Boulevard
Bedfordview 2008