

For Immediate Release

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**Legg Mason Launches Legg Mason Permal Global Absolute Fund with
up to 10% Annual Return* with Low Volatility**

Singapore – 26 May 2010 – Legg Mason has added the **Legg Mason Permal Global Absolute Fund** (“the Fund”) to the Legg Mason range of Global Funds, giving investors in Singapore the opportunity to generate absolute returns through a flexible macro style investment strategy. The Fund has an absolute return target of 8-10%* per annum (over a full market cycle of 3-5 years), with low volatility of 6-8%*. The Fund is managed by Permal, a wholly-owned affiliate of Legg Mason, and one of the world’s largest alternative management firms.

The **Legg Mason Permal Global Absolute** fund is a daily liquidity UCITS III vehicle that takes a macro approach to multi-asset investing, enabling it to take advantage of the ever changing economic environment. Rated AA by Standard & Poor’s**, the Fund employs a flexible investment strategy and can invest in a range of asset classes, including global equities, global fixed income, currencies, commodities, real estate and infrastructure, eligible hedge fund strategies and cash. Not fixed to any key parameters, bar those laid out by UCITS, the Fund can invest long and short in a wide range of UCITS eligible asset classes, focusing on Exchange Traded Funds, listed closed-ended funds, UCITS open-ended funds and Foreign Exchange.

To establish the portfolio, Permal uses both quantitative inputs and qualitative analysis. The quantitative provides the initial investment guidelines for the Fund, while the experience and market views of Permal’s Investment Committee provides a more forward-looking and timely assessment of markets, seeking to add value to the overall portfolio.

“We are excited to introduce this innovative new Fund that provides a compelling absolute return solution to investors in Singapore. Furthermore, we are extremely delighted to have Permal managing this Fund,” said Lennie Lim, Managing Director and Head of Asia Distribution, Legg Mason Global Asset Management.

“The uncertainty and volatility in today’s markets are ideally suited to the macro investment strategy. This is an all weather fund that looks to exploit macroeconomic changes and dislocations, through a variety of investments and exposures in the fixed income, equity, currency, and commodity markets. Flexibility and liquidity are key attributes to giving the Fund its absolute return focus.” said Bo Kratz, Managing Director for Permal Asia.

“Here we are combining the best of Permal’s quantitative analysis, with the fundamental top down macroeconomic views of our senior Investment Committee. It is the latter qualitative stage that seeks to generate the alpha within the portfolio and is the same team that determines Permal’s market views across all our portfolios. They bring to the table considerable investment experience, as well as having access to a number of the top investment experts from around the world.” Mr Kratz added.

The **Legg Mason Permal Global Absolute Fund** offers access to a global, multi-asset, macro style within a UCITS framework. Consequently, it offers regulation, transparency and greater protection for investors. “The Fund’s other attractive feature is that it offers daily liquidity, trading and valuation. This gives investors the confidence that they can – under normal market conditions – withdraw their money whenever they wish”, concluded Mr. Lim.

Fund Details

Sub-Investment Advisors	Permal Investment Management Services Limited and Legg Mason Global Asset Allocation, LLC
Inception Date	24 September 2009
Investment Universe	UCITS funds, ETFs, listed closed-ended funds, FX, futures, index swaps, credit default swaps, total return swaps, cross currency swaps and other transferable securities listed or traded on Regulated Markets
Domicile	Dublin, Ireland
Base Currency	US Dollar
Fund Size	US\$ 34 million
Number of Holdings	18
Preliminary Charge	Up to 5.00%
Management Fee	Up to 1.25% p.a.
Mode of Subscription	Cash only
Trading Frequency	Daily

* *These are targets and there is no guarantee that they will be met.*

** *Rated “AA” by standard & Poor’s in their latest review in January 2010.*

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Notes to Editors

About Permal

Permal, which has approximately \$20 billion under management, was acquired by Legg Mason in 2005, and has achieved an impressive track record since 1973, when it pioneered the use of hedge fund managers within multi-manager funds. Today, Permal’s investment capabilities cover a wide range of strategies, regions and risk/return objectives, in multi-strategy and single-strategy portfolios. Permal has offices in the major global financial centres, including New York, London, Paris, Dubai, Tokyo, Singapore and Hong Kong.

About Legg Mason

Legg Mason, Inc., headquartered in Baltimore, USA, is a global investment management firm with assets under management totalling \$684.5 billion at the end of March 2010. Serving clients in 180 countries, Legg Mason is the 10th largest asset manager in the world¹. Legg Mason’s wholly-owned, independently operated investment subsidiaries manage equity and fixed income assets across the world’s major markets. Collectively they offer a broad spectrum of asset management styles.

¹ *Legg Mason is the 10th largest asset manager in the world based on worldwide assets under management as of 31 December 2008. Source: Pensions & Investments May 2009 ranking.*

Important Information

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