

Volta Finance Limited (VTA / VTAS) – July 2023 monthly report

NOT FOR RELEASE, DISTRIBUTION, OR PUBLICATION, IN WHOLE OR PART, IN OR INTO THE UNITED STATES

Guernsey, 16 August 2023

AXA IM has published the Volta Finance Limited (the “Company” or “Volta Finance” or “Volta”) monthly report for June 2023. The full report is attached to this release and will be available on Volta’s website shortly (www.voltafinance.com).

PERFORMANCE and PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY

July saw further performance for the CLO asset class as a whole, leading to +3.82% performance for Volta.

Looking at Volta over the last 12 months, the performance is +12.8% through its financial year. This was mainly driven by the carry of the CLO asset class (c.92% of Volta’s assets excluding cash), both from strong CLO Equity distributions as well as from the continued increase in base rates (Euribor and Libor/SOFR) for CLO debt tranches. Overall, macro sentiment was supportive through July with US and European central banks providing more dovish outlook as headline inflations tempered at the same time as GDP proved more resilient than expected. This supported risky assets including leverage loans as well as CLO.

Volta’s underlying sub asset classes monthly performances** were as follow: +1.3% for Bank Balance Sheet transactions, +5.6% for CLO Equity tranches, +4.7% for CLO Debt tranches and 8.9% for Cash Corporate Credit and ABS (which represent slightly less than 2.0% of the fund’s NAV). This month again, being long USD against Euro was detrimental to the performance and contributed to circa -0.4% of the monthly performance.

From a market activity perspective, YTD CLO primary issuance is still down c.25% in the US and c.20% in Europe. From this point, we expect September to be more active as the spread compression continues during the summer (albeit not at the AAA level) and resets of some 2022 deals start to be in the money. We also expect more calls of old US CLO that have already been amortizing over the last year given the current rally in the loan market and the absence of ability for the CLO manager to reinvest proceeds in discounted loans or to participate in restructurings.

In July, loan default rates continued their upward trajectory (reaching 1.75% in the US and 1.5% in Europe according to Morningstar at the end of July) but were still below historical averages. Downgrades followed the same trend, leading to an expectation of c.10% of CCC assets in the US leverage loan index by year end according to BofA.

Regarding Volta’s portfolio, as expected, CLO Equity distributions increased in July by 13% compared to April this year, contributing to the largest 6-month rolling cashflow generation for Volta since 2021 (€25.3m). Given more loan prepayments expected forward and corporates required to refinance loans due to mature in 2025, we view this level of cashflow generation still slightly increasing over the next 6 months.



Through the month, we purchased 1 additional BB position for €2.25m (target IRR of c.12%) and invested c.€0.8m into the European CLO warehouse we have in place.

As of end of July 2023, Volta's NAV was €236.0m, i.e. €6.45 per share.

**It should be noted that approximately 1.51% of Volta's GAV comprises investments for which the relevant NAVs as at the month-end date are normally available only after Volta's NAV has already been published. Volta's policy is to publish its NAV on as timely a basis as possible to provide shareholders with Volta's appropriately up-to-date NAV information. Consequently, such investments are valued using the most recently available NAV for each fund or quoted price for such subordinated notes. The most recently available fund NAV or quoted price was 1.08% as at 30 June 2023, 0.43% as at 31 March 2023.*

*** "performances" of asset classes are calculated as the Dietz-performance of the assets in each bucket, taking into account the Mark-to-Market of the assets at period ends, payments received from the assets over the period, and ignoring changes in cross-currency rates. Nevertheless, some residual currency effects could impact the aggregate value of the portfolio when aggregating each bucket.*

CONTACTS

For the Investment Manager

AXA Investment Managers Paris

François Touati

francois.touati@axa-im.com

+33 (0) 1 44 45 80 22

Company Secretary and Administrator

BNP Paribas S.A, Guernsey Branch

guernsey.bp2s.volta.cosec@bnpparibas.com

+44 (0) 1481 750 853

Corporate Broker

Cenkos Securities plc

Andrew Worne

Daniel Balabanoff

+44 (0) 20 7397 8900

ABOUT VOLTA FINANCE LIMITED

Volta Finance Limited is incorporated in Guernsey under The Companies (Guernsey) Law, 2008 (as amended) and listed on Euronext Amsterdam and the London Stock Exchange's Main Market for listed securities. Volta's home member state for the purposes of the EU Transparency Directive is the Netherlands. As such, Volta is subject to regulation and supervision by the AFM, being the regulator for financial markets in the Netherlands.

Volta's Investment objectives are to preserve its capital across the credit cycle and to provide a stable stream of income to its Shareholders through dividends that it expects to distribute on a quarterly basis. The Company currently seeks to achieve its investment objectives by pursuing exposure predominantly to CLO's and similar asset classes. A more diversified investment strategy across structured finance assets may be pursued opportunistically. The Company has appointed AXA Investment Managers Paris an investment management company with a division specialised in structured credit, for the investment management of all its assets.

ABOUT AXA INVESTMENT MANAGERS

AXA Investment Managers (AXA IM) is a multi-expert asset management company within the AXA Group, a global leader in financial protection and wealth management. AXA IM is one of the largest European-based asset managers with 2,623 professionals and €817 billion in assets under management as of the end of September 2022.

This press release is published by AXA Investment Managers Paris ("AXA IM"), in its capacity as alternative investment fund manager (within the meaning of Directive 2011/61/EU, the "AIFM Directive") of Volta Finance Limited (the "Volta Finance") whose portfolio is managed by AXA IM.

This press release is for information only and does not constitute an invitation or inducement to acquire shares in Volta Finance. Its circulation may be prohibited in certain jurisdictions and no recipient may circulate copies of this document in breach of such limitations or restrictions. This document is not an offer for sale of the securities referred to herein in the United States or to persons who are "U.S. persons" for purposes of Regulation S under the U.S. Securities Act of



VOLTA FINANCE
Limited

1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), or otherwise in circumstances where such offer would be restricted by applicable law. Such securities may not be sold in the United States absent registration or an exemption from registration from the Securities Act. Volta Finance does not intend to register any portion of the offer of such securities in the United States or to conduct a public offering of such securities in the United States.

This communication is only being distributed to and is only directed at (i) persons who are outside the United Kingdom or (ii) investment professionals falling within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005 (the "Order") or (iii) high net worth companies, and other persons to whom it may lawfully be communicated, falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order (all such persons together being referred to as "relevant persons"). The securities referred to herein are only available to, and any invitation, offer or agreement to subscribe, purchase or otherwise acquire such securities will be engaged in only with, relevant persons. Any person who is not a relevant person should not act or rely on this document or any of its contents. Past performance cannot be relied on as a guide to future performance.

This press release contains statements that are, or may be deemed to be, "forward-looking statements". These forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology, including the terms "believes", "anticipates", "expects", "intends", "is/are expected", "may", "will" or "should". They include the statements regarding the level of the dividend, the current market context and its impact on the long-term return of Volta Finance's investments. By their nature, forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties and readers are cautioned that any such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance. Volta Finance's actual results, portfolio composition and performance may differ materially from the impression created by the forward-looking statements. AXA IM does not undertake any obligation to publicly update or revise forward-looking statements.

Any target information is based on certain assumptions as to future events which may not prove to be realised. Due to the uncertainty surrounding these future events, the targets are not intended to be and should not be regarded as profits or earnings or any other type of forecasts. There can be no assurance that any of these targets will be achieved. In addition, no assurance can be given that the investment objective will be achieved.

The figures provided that relate to past months or years and past performance cannot be relied on as a guide to future performance or construed as a reliable indicator as to future performance. Throughout this review, the citation of specific trades or strategies is intended to illustrate some of the investment methodologies and philosophies of Volta Finance, as implemented by AXA IM. The historical success or AXA IM's belief in the future success, of any of these trades or strategies is not indicative of, and has no bearing on, future results.

The valuation of financial assets can vary significantly from the prices that the AXA IM could obtain if it sought to liquidate the positions on behalf of the Volta Finance due to market conditions and general economic environment. Such valuations do not constitute a fairness or similar opinion and should not be regarded as such.

Editor: AXA INVESTMENT MANAGERS PARIS, a company incorporated under the laws of France, having its registered office located at Tour Majunga, 6, Place de la Pyramide - 92800 Puteaux. AXA IMP is authorized by the *Autorité des Marchés Financiers* under registration number GP92008 as an alternative investment fund manager within the meaning of the AIFM Directive.
