Applicants agree not to make any material changes to the Plans that affect the application without prior SEC approval.

Applicants' Legal Analysis

1. Section 17(a) of the Act provides that it is unlawful for any affiliated person of a registered investment company, or any affiliated person of such a person, acting as principal, knowingly to sell any security to, or purchase any security from the company. Section 2(a)(3) of the Act defines the term "affiliated person" of another person to include: (a) any person directly or indirectly owning, controlling, or holding with the power to vote, 5% or more of the outstanding voting securities of the other person; (b) any person 5% or more of whose outstanding voting securities are directly or indirectly owned, controlled, or held with power to vote, by the other person; (c) any person directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by, or under common control with, the other person; and (d) if the other person is an investment company, any investment adviser of the person.

2. Rule 17a–8 under the Act exempts from the prohibitions of section 17(a) of the Act mergers, consolidations, or purchases or sales of substantially all of the assets of registered investment companies that are affiliated persons solely by reason of having a common investment adviser, common directors, and/or common officers, provided that certain conditions are satisfied.

3. Applicants state that they cannot rely on rule 17a–8 under the Act because the Funds may be affiliated for reasons other than those set forth in the rule. The Funds may be affiliated persons of each other because FANB, as fiduciary for its customers, owns of record 25% or more of the outstanding securities of each Fund.

4. Section 17(b) of the Act provides that the SEC may exempt a transaction from section 17(a) of the Act if evidence establishes that (a) the terms of the proposed transaction including the consideration to be paid, are reasonable and fair and do not involve overreaching on the part of any person concerned; (b) the proposed transactions is consistent with the policy of each registered investment company concerned, and (c) the proposed transaction is consistent with the general purposes of Act.

5. Applicants request an order under section 17(b) of the Act exempting them from section 17(a) of the Act to the extent necessary to consummate the Reorganization. Applicants submit that the Reorganization satisfies the

provisions in section 17(b) of the Act. Applicants state that the Boards have determined that the Reorganization is in the best interests of each Fund's shareholders and that the interests of the existing shareholders will not be diluted as a result of the Reorganization. In addition, applicants state that the exchange of the Acquired Funds' shares for the Acquiring Funds' shares will be based on the relative NAVs.

For the SEC, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–31229 Filed 11–20–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 23537; 812–11320]

Kemper Global/International Series, Inc., et al.; Notice of Application

November 17, 1998.

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission").

ACTION: Notice of an application under sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") for an exemption from section 17(a) of the Act.

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION: Kemper Global/International Series, Inc. (the "Company") and Scudder Kemper Investments, Inc. (the "Adviser") seek an order to permit in-kind redemptions of shares of The Growth Fund of Spain (the "Fund"), a portfolio of the Company, by certain affiliated shareholders of the Fund.

APPLICANTS: Company and Adviser. **FILING DATES:** The application was filed on September 23, 1998 and amended on November 12, 1998.

HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING: An order granting the application will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the Commission's Secretary and serving applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on December 10, 1998, and should be accompanied by proof of service on the applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the Commission's Secretary.

ADDRESSES: Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549.
Applicants, c/o William J. Kotapish, Esq., Dechert Price & Rhoads, 1775 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006–2401.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Emerson S. Davis, Sr., Senior Counsel, at (202) 942–0714, or George J. Zornada, Branch Chief, at (202) 942–0564 (Division of Investment Management, Office of Investment Company Regulation).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained for a fee from the Commission's Public Reference Branch, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549 (telephone (202) 942–8090).

Applicants' Representations

1. The Company, a Maryland corporation, is registered under the Act as an open-end management investment company and operates as a series company. The Fund will be established as a new series of the Company and will be a successor to The Growth Fund of Spain, Inc., a closed-end management investment company that will convert to an open-end management investment company and reorganize as the Fund. The reorganization is expected to occur on December 11, 1998. The Fund will invest primarily in equity securities of Spanish issuers. The Adviser is registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and serves as investment adviser to the Fund.

2. Applicants state that four shareholders are expected to own 5% or more of the outstanding shares of the Fund.¹ Applicants request relief to permit the Fund to satisfy redemption requests made by any shareholders of the Fund who, at the time of such redemption requests, are "affiliated persons" of the Fund solely by reason of owning, controlling, or holding with the power to vote, five percent or more of the Fund's shares ("Affiliated Shareholders") by distributing portfolio securities in-kind. The relief sought would not extend to shareholders who are "affiliated persons" of the Fund within the meaning of sections 2(a)(3)(B) through (F) of the Act.

3. The Fund's prospectus and statement of additional information provide that, in limited circumstances, the Fund may satisfy all or part of a redemption request by distribution in-

 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ These shareholders are: Bankgesellshaft Berlin AG (11.30%), Cargill Financial Markets PLC (9.34%), FMR Corporation (5.31%), and Stichting Azko Pensioenfonds (5.5%).

kind of portfolio securities. The board of directors of the Fund ("Board"), including all of the directors who are not "interested persons" as defined in section 2(a)(19) of the Act, has determined that it would be in the best interests of the Fund and its shareholders to pay to an Affiliated Shareholder the redemption price for its shares in-kind.²

Applicants' Legal Analysis

- 1. Section 17(a)(2) of the Act prohibits an affiliated person of a registered investment company, or an affiliated person of such person, acting as principal, from knowingly purchasing any security or other property (except securities of which the seller is the issuer) from the registered investment company. Section 2(a)(3)(A) of the Act defines an "affiliated person" to include any person owning 5% or more of the outstanding voting securities of the other person. Applicants state that to the extent that an in-kind redemption could be deemed to involve the purchase of portfolios securities (of which the Fund is not the issuer) by an Affiliated Shareholder, the proposed redemption in-kind would be prohibited by section 17(a)(2).
- 2. Section 17(b) of the Act provides that, notwithstanding section 17(a) of the Act, the Commission shall exempt a proposed transaction from section 17(a) if evidence establishes that: (a) the terms of the proposed transaction are reasonable and fair and do not involve overreaching; (b) the proposed transaction is consistent with the policy of each registered investment company involved; and (c) the proposed transaction is consistent with the general purpose of the Act.
- 3. Section 6(c) of the Act provides that the Commission may exempt any person, security or transaction, or any class or classes of persons, securities or transactions, from the provisions of the Act, to the extent that such exemption is necessary or appropriate in the public interest and consistent with the protection of investors and the purposes fairly intended by the policy and provisions of the Act.
- 4. Applicants request an order under sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Act exempting applicants from section 17(a) of the Act to permit Affiliated Shareholders to redeem their shares inkind. The requested order would not apply to redemptions by shareholders who are affiliated persons of the Fund

- within the meaning of sections 2(a)(3)(B) through (F) of the Act.
- 5. Applicants submit that the terms of the proposed in-kind redemptions by Affiliated Shareholders meet the standards set forth in sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Act. Applicants assert that neither the Fund nor the Affiliated Shareholders will have any choice as to the type of consideration to be received in connection with a redemption request, and neither the Adviser nor the Affiliated Shareholder will have any opportunity to select the specific portfolio securities to be distributed. Applicants further state that the portfolio securities to be distributed in the proposed in-kind redemptions will be valued according to an objective, verifiable standard and the in-kind redemptions are consistent with the investment policies of the Fund. Applicants also state that the proposed in-kind redemptions are consistent with the general purposes of the Act because the Affiliated Shareholders would not receive any advantage not available to other redeeming shareholders.

Applicants' Conditions

Applicants agree that any order granting the requested relief will be subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The securities distributed pursuant to a redemption in-kind (the "In-Kind Securities") will be limited to securities that are traded on a public securities market or for which quoted bid and asked prices are available.
- 2. The In-Kind Securities will be distributed to Affiliated Shareholders on a pro rata basis after excluding: (a) Securities which, if distributed, would be required to be registered under the Securities Act of 1933; (b) securities issued by entities in countries which restrict or prohibit the holding of securities by non-nationals other than through qualified investment vehicles, such as the Fund; and (c) certain portfolio assets (such as forward foreign currency exchange contracts, futures and options contracts, and repurchase agreements) that, although they may be liquid and marketable, involve the assumption of contractual obligations, require special trading facilities or can only be traded with the counterparty to the transaction in order to effect a change in beneficial ownership. Cash will be paid for that portion of the Fund's assets represented by cash equivalents (such as certificates of deposits, commercial paper and repurchase agreements) and other assets which are not readily distributable (including receivables and prepaid expenses), net of all liabilities

- (including accounts payable). In addition, the Fund will distribute cash in lieu of securities held in its portfolio not amounting to round lots (or which would not amount to round lots if included in the in-kind distribution), fractional shares, and accruals on such securities.
- 3. The In-Kind Securities will be valued in the same manner as they would be valued for the purposes of computing the Fund's net asset value, which, in the case of securities traded on a public securities market for which quotations are available, is their last reported sales price on the exchange on which the securities are primarily traded or at the last sales price on the national securities market, or, if the securities are not listed on an exchange or the national securities market, or, if there is no such reported price, the average of the most recent bid and asked price (or, if no such price is available, the last quoted bid price).
- 4. The Board, including a majority of the directors who are not "interested persons" (as defined in section 2(a)(19) of the Act) of the Fund, will determine no less frequently than annually: (a) Whether the In-Kind Securities, if any, have been distributed in accordance with conditions 1 and 2; (b) whether the In-Kind Securities, if any, have been valued in accordance with condition 3; and (c) whether the distribution of any such In-Kind Securities is consistent with the policies of the Fund as reflected in the prospectus. In addition, the Board shall make and approve such changes as the Board deems necessary in its procedures for monitoring applicants' compliance with the terms and conditions of this application.
- 5. The Fund will maintain and preserve for a period of not less than six years from the end of the fiscal year in which the proposed in-kind redemption occurs, the first two years in an easily accessible place, a written record of each redemption that includes the identity of the Affiliated Shareholder, a description of each security distributed, the terms of the distribution, and the information or materials upon which the valuation was made.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, pursuant to delegated authority.

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–31228 Filed 11–20–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

 $^{^2}$ The Fund has elected to be governed by the provisions of rule 18f-1 under the Act.