

PUTNAM MASTER INTERMEDIATE INCOME TRUST  
Form SC TO-C  
November 16, 2007

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

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**SCHEDULE TO  
TENDER OFFER STATEMENT**

**UNDER SECTION 14(D)(1) OR SECTION 13(E)(1) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

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**PUTNAM MASTER INTERMEDIATE INCOME TRUST**

(Name Of Subject Company (Issuer))

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**PUTNAM MASTER INTERMEDIATE INCOME TRUST**

(Name of Filing Persons (Offeror))

**Common Shares of Beneficial Interest Without Par Value**

(Title of Class of Securities)

**746909100**

(CUSIP Number of Class of Securities)

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**Charles E. Porter  
Executive Vice President  
Putnam Master Intermediate Income Trust  
One Post Office Square  
Boston, Massachusetts 02109  
(617) 292-1000**

(Name, address and telephone number of person authorized  
to receive notices and communications on behalf of filing persons)

***with copies to:***

**John W. Gerstmayr, Esq.  
Ropes & Gray LLP  
One International Place  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110  
(617) 951-7000**

**CALCULATION OF FILING FEE**

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Transaction Valuation

Amount Of Filing Fee

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Not Applicable\*

Not Applicable\*

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\* A filing fee is not required in connection with this filing as it relates solely to preliminary communications made before the commencement of a tender offer.

Check the box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing with which the offsetting fee was previously paid. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

Amount Previously Paid: N/A  
Form or Registration No.: N/A  
Filing Party: N/A  
Date Filed: N/A

Check the box if the filing relates solely to preliminary communications made before the commencement of a tender offer.

Check the appropriate boxes below to designate any transactions to which the statement relates:

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third-party tender offer subject to Rule 14d-1.

issuer tender offer subject to Rule 13e-4.

going-private transaction subject to Rule 13e-3.

amendment to Schedule 13D under Rule 13d-2.

Check the following box if the filing is a final amendment reporting the results of the tender offer:

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACTS:**

SHAREHOLDERS  
1-800-225-1581

MEDIA  
Sinead Martin: 617-760-8515

**PUTNAM ANNOUNCES UPCOMING TENDER OFFER FOR PUTNAM MASTER INTERMEDIATE INCOME TRUST**

BOSTON, Massachusetts (November 16, 2007) -- Putnam Investments and the Board of Trustees of the Putnam Funds announced today that the Trustees have authorized Putnam Master Intermediate Income Trust (NYSE: PIM) to conduct a tender offer, to be commenced in the first quarter of 2008, for 15% of the fund's outstanding shares, with a purchase price set at 99% of the per-share net asset value (NAV) calculated as of the expiration date of the offer. Putnam and the Trustees also announced details of the fund's upcoming annual shareholder meeting.

The Trustees considered that the tender offer would give shareholders an opportunity to sell at least some of their shares at a price close to NAV, and that the tender offer price of 99% of NAV would help offset the costs of the offer that would be borne by remaining shareholders. The tender offer will be subject to the exercise by the Trustees of their fiduciary duties in the event of a material change in circumstances. The Trustees approved the tender offer on the basis of Putnam's recommendation following discussions between Putnam and a significant shareholder of the fund.

The fund will hold its annual shareholder meeting at 11:00 a.m. on January 31, 2008 at the offices of the fund. The agenda for the meeting will include the election of nominees for

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Trustees of the fund and a required proposal to convert the fund to an open-end investment company, which the Trustees are recommending that shareholders vote against. A proxy statement containing more detailed information about the annual meeting, the fund's nominees for election as Trustees and the Trustees' recommendations will be mailed to fund shareholders in advance of the annual meeting and filed with the SEC.

In recommending against the conversion of the fund to an open-end fund, the Trustees considered, among other factors, their belief that the closed-end structure affords the fund and its investors potential investment advantages not available to open-end funds, as well as their authorization of tender offers by the fund. Shareholders of the fund and other Putnam closed-end funds have consistently rejected conversion proposals in recent years by substantial margins.

Pursuant to the fund's Agreement and Declaration of Trust, a conversion proposal is submitted to fund shareholders when the fund's shares trade at average discounts of 10% or more from net asset value over the last 12 weeks of the fund's fiscal year. This provision was triggered for the fund's fiscal year ended September 30, 2007. Approval of a conversion proposal requires the vote of a majority of the fund's outstanding shares.

### **About Putnam Investments:**

At Putnam Investments, the top priority remains prudently managing money for our retail and institutional clients worldwide. Since 1937, the company's values have been rooted in a profound sense of responsibility for the money entrusted to it. Putnam uses a research-driven team approach to seek consistent, dependable, superior investment results over time, although there is no guarantee a fund will meet its objectives. Putnam is committed to doing what's right for investors, including maintaining stringent investor protections for every Putnam fund.

Founded in 1937, Putnam Investments is one of the world's oldest and largest money management firms. As of October 31, 2007, Putnam managed \$195 billion in assets, of which \$120 billion is for mutual fund investors and \$75 billion is for institutional accounts. Putnam has offices in Boston, London and Tokyo. For more information, go to [www.putnam.com](http://www.putnam.com)

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The foregoing is not a solicitation of any proxy. To receive a free copy of the definitive proxy statement relating to the annual shareholder meeting after the proxy statement has been filed with the SEC, please call 1-800-225-1581. The proxy statement will also be available without charge on the SEC's website ([www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov)). Read the proxy statement carefully before submitting your proxy, as the proxy statement will contain important information about the matters to be voted upon. To obtain information about the Trustees of the fund, including information about their ownership of fund shares, you may call Putnam Investments at 1-800-225-1581.

This announcement is not a recommendation, an offer to purchase or a solicitation of an offer to sell shares of the fund. The fund has not commenced the self-tender offer described in this press release. Upon commencement of the tender offer, the Fund will file with the Securities and Exchange Commission a tender offer statement on Schedule TO and related exhibits, including an offer to purchase, letter of transmittal, and other related documents. Shareholders of the fund should read the offer to purchase and the tender offer statement on Schedule TO and related exhibits when such documents are filed and become available, as they will contain important information about the fund's tender offer. Shareholders can obtain these documents when they are filed and become available free of charge from the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov), or from Putnam Investments by directing a request to Putnam Investments' shareholder servicing group at 1-800-225-1581.

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