KKR & Co. L.P. Form S-4/A March 21, 2014

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 21, 2014

Registration No. 333-193359

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Amendment No. 4 to

Form S-4

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

KKR & CO. L.P.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)

6282 (Primary Standard Industrial Classification Code Number) 9 West 57th Street, Suite 4200 New York, New York 10019 Telephone: (212) 750-8300 **26-0426107** (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

David J. Sorkin, Esq. General Counsel KKR & Co. L.P. 9 West 57th Street, Suite 4200 New York, New York 10019 Telephone: (212) 750-8300

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:

Gary I. Horowitz, Esq. Joseph H. Kaufman, Esq. Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP 425 Lexington Avenue Edward D. Herlihy, Esq. David E. Shapiro, Esq. Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz 51 West 52nd Street

New York, New York 10017-3954New York, New York 10019Telephone: (212) 455-2000Telephone: (212) 403-1000Facsimile: (212) 455-2502Facsimile: (212) 403-2000Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale of the securities to the public:As soon as practicable after the effectiveness of
this registration statement and the satisfaction or waiver of all other conditions to the closing of the merger described herein.

If the securities being registered on this form are being offered in connection with the formation of a holding company and there is compliance with General Instruction G, check the following box. o

If this form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. o

If this form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer ý	Accelerated filer o	Non-accelerated filer o	Smaller reporting company o
		(Do not check if a	
		smaller reporting company)	

If applicable, place an X in the box to designate the appropriate rule provision relied upon in conducting this transaction:

Exchange Act Rule 13e-4(i) (Cross-Border Issuer Tender Offer)	0
Exchange Act Rule 14d-1(d) (Cross-Border Third-Party Tender Offer)	0

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

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The information in this proxy statement/prospectus is subject to completion and amendment. A registration statement relating to the securities described in this proxy statement/prospectus has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These securities may not be sold nor may offers to buy these securities be accepted prior to the time the registration statement becomes effective. This proxy statement/prospectus shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of any offer to buy nor shall there be any sale of these securities in any jurisdiction, in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction.

PRELIMINARY SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED MARCH 21, 2014

MERGER PROPOSAL YOUR VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT

March 24, 2014

Dear KFN Common Shareholder:

On December 16, 2013, KKR Financial Holdings LLC, which is referred to as KFN, and KKR & Co. L.P., which is referred to as KKR, entered into a merger agreement pursuant to which KFN will become an indirect subsidiary of KKR. The KFN board of directors has determined, upon the unanimous recommendation of a transaction committee of the KFN board of directors composed solely of independent directors, that the merger agreement are fair to and in the best interests of KFN and its common shareholders, and has approved the merger agreement and the merger.

If the merger is completed, each outstanding KFN common share will be converted into the right to receive 0.51 common units representing limited partner interests of KKR, which are referred to as KKR common units. The consideration to be received by KFN common shareholders is valued at \$12.79 per KFN common share based on KKR's closing price as of December 16, 2013, representing a 35% premium to KFN's closing price on such date. The common shares of KFN are traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "KFN," and the KKR common units are traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "KKR."

Immediately following completion of the merger, based on the number of outstanding KFN common shares (including restricted shares) outstanding as of March 18, 2014, it is expected that KFN common shareholders will own approximately 25.8% of the outstanding KKR common units (or 13.1% of the outstanding KKR common units, if you include KKR common units that could be deemed to be beneficially owned by KKR principals and other persons through KKR Holdings L.P. by virtue of certain exchange rights).

We are holding a special meeting of KFN common shareholders on April 30, 2014 at 9:00 a.m., local time, at The Bently Reserve, Gateway Room, 301 Battery Street, San Francisco, California 94111, to obtain your vote to adopt the merger agreement. Your vote is very important, regardless of the number of common shares you own. The merger cannot be completed unless the holders of at least a majority of the outstanding KFN common shares, including a majority of the outstanding KFN common shares, vote for the adoption of the merger agreement at the special meeting.

The KFN board of directors, upon the unanimous recommendation of a transaction committee of the KFN board of directors composed solely of independent directors, recommends that KFN common shareholders vote "FOR" the adoption of the merger agreement and "FOR" the adjournment of the KFN special meeting if necessary to solicit additional proxies if there are not sufficient votes to adopt the merger agreement at the time of the KFN special meeting.

On behalf of the KFN board of directors, I invite you to attend the special meeting. Whether or not you expect to attend the KFN special meeting in person, we urge you to submit your proxy as promptly as possible through one of the delivery methods described in the accompanying proxy statement/prospectus.

In addition, we urge you to read carefully the accompanying proxy statement/prospectus (and the documents incorporated by reference into the accompanying proxy statement/prospectus) which includes important information about the merger agreement, the proposed merger, KFN,

KKR and the

special meeting. Please pay particular attention to the section titled "Risk Factors" beginning on page 104 of the accompanying proxy statement/prospectus.

On behalf of the KFN board of directors, thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Craig Farr

Chief Executive Officer and Director

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the merger or the securities to be issued under the accompanying proxy statement/prospectus, passed upon the merits or fairness of the merger or determined that the accompanying proxy statement/prospectus is accurate or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The accompanying proxy statement/prospectus is dated March 24, 2014 and is first being mailed to the common shareholders of KFN on or about March 24, 2014.

555 California Street, 50th Floor San Francisco, CA 94104

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF COMMON SHAREHOLDERS

To the Common Shareholders of KKR Financial Holdings LLC:

Notice is hereby given that a special meeting of common shareholders of KKR Financial Holdings LLC, which is referred to as KFN, a Delaware limited liability company, will be held on April 30, 2014 at 9:00 a.m., local time, at The Bently Reserve, Gateway Room, 301 Battery Street, San Francisco, California 94111, solely for the following purposes:

Proposal 1: to consider and vote on a proposal to adopt the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of December 16, 2013 (as it may be amended from time to time), which is referred to as the merger agreement, by and among KFN, KKR & Co. L.P., which is referred to as KKR, KKR Fund Holdings L.P. and Copal Merger Sub LLC, a direct, wholly owned subsidiary of KKR Fund Holdings L.P., a copy of which agreement is attached as Annex A to the proxy statement/prospectus accompanying this notice; and

Proposal 2: to consider and vote on a proposal to approve the adjournment of the KFN special meeting, if necessary to solicit additional proxies if there are not sufficient votes to adopt the merger agreement at the time of the special meeting.

These items of business, including the merger agreement and the proposed merger, are described in detail in the accompanying proxy statement/prospectus. The KFN board of directors has determined that the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, including the merger, are fair to and in the best interests of KFN and its common shareholders and recommends that KFN common shareholders vote "FOR" the proposal to adopt the merger agreement and "FOR" the adjournment of the KFN special meeting if necessary to solicit additional proxies in favor of such adoption.

Only common shareholders of record as of the close of business on February 26, 2014, the record date for the special meeting, are entitled to notice of the KFN special meeting and to vote at the KFN special meeting or at any adjournment or postponement thereof. A list of common shareholders entitled to vote at the special meeting will be available in our offices located at 555 California Street, 50th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94104, during regular business hours for a period of ten days before the special meeting, and at the place of the special meeting during the special meeting.

Adoption of the merger agreement by the KFN common shareholders is a condition to the consummation of the merger and requires the affirmative vote of holders of at least a majority of the outstanding KFN common shares, including a majority of the outstanding KFN common shares held by common shareholders other than KKR and its affiliates. Therefore, your vote is very important. **Your failure to vote your shares will have the same effect as a vote "AGAINST" the adoption of the merger agreement.**

By order of the board of directors,

Nicole J. Macarchuk General Counsel San Francisco, California March 24, 2014

YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT!

WHETHER OR NOT YOU EXPECT TO ATTEND THE KFN SPECIAL MEETING IN PERSON, WE URGE YOU TO SUBMIT YOUR PROXY AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE (1) THROUGH THE INTERNET, (2) BY TELEPHONE OR (3) BY MARKING, SIGNING AND DATING THE ENCLOSED PROXY CARD AND RETURNING IT IN THE POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE PROVIDED. You may revoke your proxy or change your vote at any time before the KFN special meeting. If your common shares are held in the name of a bank, broker or other fiduciary, please follow the instructions on the voting instruction card furnished to you by such record holder.

We urge you to read the accompanying proxy statement/prospectus, including all documents incorporated by reference into the accompanying proxy statement/prospectus, and its annexes carefully and in their entirety. If you have any questions concerning the merger, the adjournment vote, or the special meeting or the accompanying proxy statement/prospectus, would like additional copies of the accompanying proxy statement/prospectus or need help voting your KFN common shares, please contact KFN's proxy solicitor, Innisfree M&A Incorporated, toll-free at (888) 750-5834.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This proxy statement/prospectus incorporates by reference important business and financial information about KKR and KFN from other documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, referred to in this proxy statement/prospectus as the SEC, that are not included in or delivered with this proxy statement/prospectus. See "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page 234 of this proxy statement/prospectus.

Documents incorporated by reference are available to you without charge upon written or oral request. You can obtain any of these documents by requesting them in writing or by telephone from the appropriate party at the following addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses.

KKR & Co. L.P. Attention: Investor Relations 9 West 57th Street, Suite 4200 New York, New York 10019 (877) 610-4910 Email: Investor-Relations@kkr.com KKR Financial Holdings LLC Attention: Investor Relations 555 California Street, 50th Floor San Francisco, CA 94104 (855) 374-5411 Email: KFN.IR@kkr.com

To receive timely delivery of the requested documents in advance of the KFN special meeting, you should make your request no later than April 23, 2014.

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This document, which forms part of a registration statement on Form S-4 filed with the SEC by KKR (Registration No. 333-193359), constitutes a prospectus of KKR under Section 5 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, which is referred to in this proxy statement/prospectus as the Securities Act, with respect to the KKR common units to be issued pursuant to the merger agreement. This document also constitutes a notice of meeting and a proxy statement under Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which is referred to in this proxy statement/prospectus as the Exchange Act, with respect to the special meeting of KFN common shareholders, at which KFN common shareholders will be asked to consider and vote on, among other matters, a proposal to adopt the merger agreement.

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference into this proxy statement/prospectus. No one has been authorized to provide you with information that is different from that contained in, or incorporated by reference into, this proxy statement/prospectus. This proxy statement/prospectus is dated March 24, 2014. The information contained in this proxy statement/prospectus is accurate only as of that date or, in the case of information in a document incorporated by reference, as of the date of such document, unless the information specifically indicates that another date applies. Neither the mailing of this proxy statement/prospectus to KFN common shareholders nor the issuance by KKR of its common units pursuant to the merger agreement will create any implication to the contrary.

This proxy statement/prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to buy, any securities, or the solicitation of a proxy, in any jurisdiction in which or from any person to whom it is unlawful to make any such offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction.

The information concerning KKR contained in this proxy statement/prospectus or incorporated by reference has been provided by KKR, and the information concerning KFN contained in this proxy statement/prospectus or incorporated by reference has been provided by KFN.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Set forth below are questions that you, as a common shareholder of KKR Financial Holdings LLC, which is referred to in this proxy statement/prospectus as KFN, may have regarding the merger described below, the adjournment proposal and the KFN special meeting, and brief answers to those questions. You are urged to read carefully this proxy statement/prospectus and the other documents referred to in this proxy statement/prospectus in their entirety, including the merger agreement, which is attached as Annex A to this proxy statement/prospectus, and the documents incorporated by reference into this proxy statement/prospectus, because this section may not provide all of the information that is important to you with respect to the merger, the adjournment proposal and the special meeting. You may obtain a list of the documents incorporated by reference into this proxy statement/prospectus in the section titled "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page 234.

Q:

Why am I receiving this proxy statement/prospectus?

A:

KKR & Co. L.P., which is referred to in this proxy statement/prospectus as KKR, and KFN have agreed to a merger, which we refer to in this proxy statement/prospectus as the merger, pursuant to which KFN will become an indirect subsidiary of KKR and the common shares of KFN will cease to be publicly traded. In order to complete the merger, KFN common shareholders must vote to adopt the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of December 16, 2013, among KFN, KKR, KKR Fund Holdings L.P., a subsidiary of KKR which is referred to in this proxy statement/prospectus as Fund Holdings, and Copal Merger Sub LLC, a subsidiary of Fund Holdings which is referred to in this proxy statement/prospectus as Merger Sub, which agreement, as it may be amended from time to time, is referred to in this proxy statement/prospectus as the merger agreement. KFN is holding a special meeting of its common shareholders to obtain such shareholder approval.

In the merger, KKR will issue common units representing limited partner interests in KKR, which are referred to this proxy statement/prospectus as KKR common units, as the consideration to be paid to holders of KFN common shares. This document is being delivered to you as both a proxy statement of KFN and a prospectus of KKR in connection with the merger. It is the proxy statement by which the KFN board of directors is soliciting proxies from you to vote on the adoption of the merger agreement at the special meeting or at any adjournment or postponement of the special meeting, and the approval of the adjournment of the special meeting under certain circumstances. It is also the prospectus by which KKR will register the KKR common units to be received by you in the merger.

Q:

What am I being asked to vote on?

A:

KFN's common shareholders are being asked to vote on the following proposals:

Proposal 1: to adopt the merger agreement, a copy of which is attached as Annex A to this proxy statement/prospectus; and

Proposal 2: to approve the adjournment of the KFN special meeting, if necessary to solicit additional proxies if there are not sufficient votes to adopt the merger agreement at the time of the special meeting.

The approval of the proposal to adopt the merger agreement by a majority of the outstanding KFN common shares, including a majority of the outstanding KFN common shares held by shareholders other than KKR and its affiliates, is a condition to the completion of the merger. The approval of the proposal to adjourn the KFN special meeting is not a condition to the obligations of KFN or KKR to complete the merger.

Q:

Does KFN's board of directors recommend that its common shareholders adopt the merger agreement?

A:

Yes. The KFN board of directors, upon the unanimous recommendation of a transaction committee of the KFN board of directors consisting solely of independent directors, which is referred to in this proxy statement/prospectus as the KFN transaction committee, has approved the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the merger, and determined that these transactions are fair to and in the best interests of the KFN common shareholders. Therefore, the KFN board of directors recommends that you vote "**FOR**" the proposal to adopt the merger agreement at the special meeting. See "Special Factors Recommendation of the KFN Board of Directors and Reasons for the Merger; Fairness of the Merger" beginning on page 38 of this proxy statement/prospectus.

In considering the recommendation of the KFN board of directors with respect to the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the merger, you should be aware that directors and executive officers of KFN are parties to agreements or participants in other arrangements that give them interests in the merger that may be different from, or in addition to, your interests as a common shareholder of KFN, including certain indemnification, exculpation and expense advancement rights provided pursuant to the merger agreement. You should consider these interests in voting on this proposal. These different interests are described under "Special Factors Interests of Directors and Executive Officers of KFN in the Merger" beginning on page 97 of this proxy statement/prospectus.

Q:

Does KFN's board of directors recommend that its common shareholders approve the adjournment of the KFN special meeting, if necessary?

A:

Yes. KFN's board of directors recommends that you vote "**FOR**" the proposal to adjourn the KFN special meeting if necessary to solicit additional proxies if there are not sufficient votes to adopt the merger agreement at the time of the KFN special meeting. See "Approval of Adjournment of the KFN Special Meeting" beginning on page 231 of this proxy statement/prospectus.

Q:

What will happen in the merger?

A:

In the merger, Merger Sub, a direct, wholly owned subsidiary of Fund Holdings that was formed solely for the purpose of the merger, will be merged with and into KFN. KFN will be the surviving entity in the merger and will be an indirect subsidiary of KKR following completion of the merger. KFN's outstanding preferred shares will remain outstanding as preferred shares of KFN following the merger.

Q:

What will I receive in the merger?

A:

If the merger is completed, each of your KFN common shares will be cancelled and converted automatically into the right to receive 0.51 KKR common units. KFN common shareholders will receive cash for any fractional KKR common units that they would otherwise receive in the merger.

Based on the closing price for KKR common units on the New York Stock Exchange, which is referred to in this proxy statement/prospectus as the NYSE, on December 16, 2013, the last trading day prior to the public announcement of the merger agreement, the merger consideration represented approximately \$12.79 in value for each KFN common share, implying a 35% premium to KFN's closing price as of December 16, 2013. Based on the closing price of \$23.46 for KKR common units on the NYSE on March 20, 2014, the most recent practicable trading day prior to the date of this proxy statement/prospectus, the merger consideration represented approximately \$11.96 in value for each KFN common share. Because KFN common shareholders will receive a

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fixed fraction of a KKR common unit in exchange for each common share of KFN held by such KFN common shareholder, the value of the merger consideration that KFN common shareholders will receive in the merger will depend on the market price of KKR common units at the time the merger is completed. The market price of KKR common units will fluctuate prior to the merger, and the market price of KKR common units when received by KFN common shareholders after the merger is completed could be greater or less than the current market price of KKR common units or the market price of KKR common units at the time of the special meeting. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 104 of this proxy statement/prospectus.

Q:

What will happen to my KFN options, phantom shares, restricted shares and preferred shares in the merger?

A:

If the merger is completed, each outstanding KFN option to acquire common shares, whether vested or unvested, will be cancelled and converted into the right to receive an amount in cash equal to the excess of (1) the cash value of the number of KKR common units that a holder of a KFN common share would be entitled to receive (determined by reference to the average closing price of a KKR common unit over the 10 trading day period ending on the trading day immediately preceding the closing date), over (2) the exercise price per KFN common share subject to the option immediately prior to the merger. Each KFN phantom share will automatically be converted into the right to receive 0.51 KKR common units for each KFN common share subject to such award, but such KKR common units will remain subject to the terms of the award plan following the merger. Each restricted KFN common share will be automatically converted in the merger into 0.51 restricted KKR common units having the same terms and conditions as applied to such restricted KFN common shares. The board of directors of KFN has the ability under the merger. Each preferred share of KFN will remain an outstanding preferred share of KFN, as the surviving entity in the merger, following the merger. See "The Merger Agreement Treatment of Equity Awards" beginning on page 140 of this proxy statement/prospectus.

Q:

What happens if the merger is not completed?

A:

If the merger agreement is not adopted by KFN common shareholders or if the merger is not completed for any other reason, you will not receive any form of consideration for your KFN common shares in connection with the merger. Instead, KFN will remain an independent public company and its common shares will continue to be listed and traded on the NYSE. If the merger agreement is terminated under specified circumstances, KFN may be required to pay Merger Sub or its designee a termination payment of \$26,250,000 or to reimburse KKR in respect of certain of its expenses related to the merger, as described under "The Merger Agreement Termination Payment and Expenses" beginning on page 143 of this proxy statement/prospectus.

Q:

Will I continue to receive future distributions on my KFN common shares?

A:

Before completion of the merger, KFN expects to continue to pay distributions to its common and preferred shareholders, depending on market conditions, KFN's liquidity needs, legal and contractual restrictions on the payment of distributions (including a restriction in the merger agreement on KFN paying a quarterly distribution in excess of \$0.22 per KFN common shar