

# TRAVERS SMITH

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**Company No: 2375296**

**COMPANIES ACTS 1985 AND 2006**

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**PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES**

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**ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

**-of-**

**NUMIS CORPORATION PLC**

**(Adopted by Special Resolution passed on 21 June 2023)**

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## COMPANIES ACTS 1985 AND 2006

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## PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

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## ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

Adopted by Special Resolution passed on

21 June 2023

- of -

## NUMIS CORPORATION PLC

(the "Company")

### 1. EXCLUSION OF OTHER REGULATIONS

This document comprises the articles of association of the Company and no regulations set out in any statute or statutory instrument concerning companies shall apply as articles of association of the Company.

### 2. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

#### 2.1 In these Articles, if not inconsistent with the context, the following words shall have the following meanings:

"Act" means the Companies Act 2006.

"Articles" means these articles of association, as amended from time to time by special resolution.

"Auditors" means the auditors of the Company from time to time.

"cash memorandum account" means an account so designated by the operator of the relevant system.

"Chairman" means the chairman elected in accordance with Article 42.

"clear days" means in relation to a period of a notice means that period excluding the day when the notice is deemed to be received (or, if earlier, received) and the day of the meeting.

"**company**" includes any body corporate.

"**Conflict Situation**" means a situation in which a Director has, or can have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or may possibly conflict, with the interests of the Company, including in relation to the exploitation of any property, information or opportunity and regardless of whether the Company could take advantage of the property, information or opportunity itself, but excluding a situation which could not reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest.

"**Directors**" means the directors of the Company from time to time.

"**Group**" means the Company and its subsidiary undertakings from time to time (and "**member of the Group**" means each any of them).

"**hybrid meeting**" means a general meeting held and conducted by both physical attendance by Members and/or proxies at a particular place and by Members and/or proxies also being able to attend and participate by electronic means without needing to be in physical attendance at that meeting.

"**interest in shares**" has the meaning given to it in sections 820 to 825 of the Act.

"**Member**" means a registered holder(s) of shares, whether in certificated or uncertificated form.

"**month**" means a calendar month.

"**the office**" means the registered office of the Company from time to time.

"**officer**" means a Director, the Secretary or a manager of the Company, but not the Auditors.

"**Parent Undertaking**" means a parent undertaking within the meaning of section 1162 of the Act.

"**physical meeting**" means a general meeting held and conducted by physical attendance by Members and/or proxies at a particular place.

"**the register**" means the register of Members required to be kept by the Company by the Statutes.

"**Regulations**" means the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001 (SI 2001 No. 3755).

"**relevant system**" means a computer based system, and procedures, enabling title to shares to be evidenced and transferred without a written instrument, as defined in the Regulations.

"**the seal**" means the common seal of the Company and, as appropriate, any official seal kept by the Company by virtue of the Statutes.

**"the Secretary"** means the secretary of the Company or, if there are joint secretaries, any of the joint secretaries, and includes an assistant, deputy or temporary secretary and any person appointed by the Directors to perform any of the duties of the Secretary of the Company.

**"share"** means a share in the capital of the Company, whether held in certificated or uncertificated form.

**"the Statutes"** means the Act, every statutory modification or re-enactment of that act from time to time in force and every other act or statutory instrument from time to time in force concerning limited companies and affecting the Company.

**"subsidiary"** means a subsidiary within the meaning contained in section 1159 of the Act.

**"subsidiary undertaking"** means a subsidiary undertaking within the meaning contained in section 1162 of the Act.

**"Uncertificated Proxy Instruction"** means a properly authenticated dematerialised instruction, and/or other instruction or notification, which is sent by means of the relevant system and received by such participant in that system acting on behalf of the Company as the Directors may prescribe, in such form and subject to such terms and conditions as may from time to time be prescribed by the Directors (subject always to the facilities and requirements of the relevant system).

**"United Kingdom"** Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

**"year"** means a calendar year.

**2.2** In these Articles, if not inconsistent with the context:

**2.2.1** references to any act being done (including a consent or approval being given, a determination being made or a discretion being exercised) by the Directors shall be construed as referring to the Directors acting by resolution duly passed at a meeting of the Directors, or otherwise passed as permitted by these Articles;

**2.2.2** references to an uncertificated share or to a share (or to a holding of shares) being in, or held in, uncertificated form are references to that share being an uncertificated unit of a security (within the meaning of the Regulations) which is from time to time recorded in the register as being held in uncertificated form;

**2.2.3** references to a certificated share or to a share (or to a holding of shares) being in, or held in, certificated form are references to that share being a certificated unit of a security (within the meaning of the Regulations);

**2.2.4** references to issued shares of any class (whether of the Company or of any other company) shall not include any shares of that class held as treasury shares;

- 2.2.5** without prejudice to Article 2.2.18, references to "electronic means", "electronic form" and "hard copy" shall be construed in accordance with the Act;
- 2.2.6** references to an "address" in relation to a communication in electronic form includes any number or address used for the purpose of such communication;
- 2.2.7** any reference to a conflict of interest includes a conflict of interest and duty and a conflict of duties;
- 2.2.8** any notice, consent, approval or other document or information required to be given in writing may be given in writing in hard copy form or electronic form, save where expressly provided otherwise in these Articles or by the Statutes;
- 2.2.9** references to any notice, consent, approval or other document or information being "signed" or to a "signature" include references to its being executed under hand or under seal or by any other method and, in the case of any such communication in electronic form, include references to its bearing an electronic signature or otherwise bearing the name of the sender;
- 2.2.10** for the purposes of Articles 11.3 and 79 to 81, references to a document include a notice;
- 2.2.11** references to a "recognised investment exchange" shall have the meaning attributed to it by section 285(1) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000;
- 2.2.12** a reference to a person being "connected" with another shall have the meaning attributed to it by section 252 of the Act;
- 2.2.13** words importing the masculine gender shall include the feminine gender and vice versa;
- 2.2.14** words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice versa;
- 2.2.15** references to persons shall include companies and unincorporated associations;
- 2.2.16** references to amounts being (or having been) paid in respect of a share shall (where the context permits) include references to amounts credited as paid;
- 2.2.17** references to any statute, statutory provision or statutory instrument shall be construed as including a reference to any statutory modification or re-enactment of it for the time being in force;
- 2.2.18** words or expressions which are not defined in these Articles but which are defined in the Statutes shall, if not inconsistent with the subject or context,



bear the same meaning in these Articles (but excluding any modification of the Statutes not in force at the date of the adoption of these Articles); and

**2.2.19** any phrase introduced by the terms "including", "include", "in particular" or any similar expression shall be construed as illustrative and shall not limit the sense of the words preceding those terms.

**2.3** In these Articles:

**2.3.1** powers of delegation shall not be restrictively construed but the widest interpretation shall be given to them;

**2.3.2** no power of delegation shall be limited by the existence or, except where expressly provided by the terms of delegation, the exercise of that or any other power of delegation; and

**2.3.3** except where expressly provided by the terms of delegation, the delegation of a power shall not exclude the concurrent exercise of that power by any other body or person who is for the time being authorised to exercise it under these Articles or under another delegation of the power.

### **3. LIMITED LIABILITY AND REGISTERED OFFICE**

**3.1** The liability of the Members is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid on the shares held by them.

**3.2** The Company's registered office is to be situated in England and Wales.

### **4. SHARE RIGHTS**

Subject to the Statutes and without prejudice to any special rights conferred on the holders of any existing shares or of any class of shares (which rights may only be varied or abrogated in accordance with Article 9), any shares in the Company may be issued with or have attached to them such rights or restrictions as the Company may from time to time determine by ordinary resolution (or in the absence of any such determination, as the board of Directors may determine).

### **5. POWER TO ISSUE REDEEMABLE SHARES; TREASURY SHARES**

**5.1** Subject to the Statutes and to any rights conferred on the holders of any existing shares or of any class of shares, any shares may be issued on terms that they are to be redeemed, or may be redeemed at the option of the Company or the Member, on such terms and conditions and in such manner as the Directors may determine from time to time.

**5.2** Notwithstanding anything contained in these Articles, but subject to any rights specifically conferred on the holders of any class of shares from time to time, the rights attached to any class of shares shall be deemed not to be varied or abrogated by anything done by the Company pursuant to this Article 5.

**5.3** The Company may not exercise any right in respect of treasury shares held by it, including any right to attend or vote at meetings, to demand a poll, to participate in any offer by the Company to shareholders or to receive any distribution (including in a winding-up), but without prejudice to its right to sell the treasury shares, to transfer the shares for the purposes of or pursuant to an employees' share scheme, to receive an allotment of shares as fully paid bonus shares in respect of the treasury shares or to receive any amount payable on redemption of any redeemable treasury shares.

## **6. ISSUE OF NEW SHARES**

**6.1** The Company has the power to allot and issue shares in the capital of the Company and to grant rights to subscribe for, or to convert any security into, shares in the capital of the Company pursuant to those rights. That power shall, subject to these Articles and to the provisions of the Statutes relating to the allotment of shares, pre-emption rights and otherwise and to any resolution of the Company in general meeting passed pursuant to those provisions, be exercisable by the Directors.

**6.2** The Directors may at any time after the allotment of any share but before any person has been entered in the register as the holder of it:

**6.2.1** recognise a renunciation of that share by the allottee in favour of some other person and may accord to any allottee of a share a right to effect such renunciation; and/or

**6.2.2** allow the rights represented thereby to be participating securities;

in each case, upon and subject to such terms and conditions as the Directors may think fit.

## **7. UNDERWRITING COMMISSION AND BROKERAGE**

The Company may pay commissions and brokerage to the full extent permitted by the Statutes and may, at the Directors' discretion, satisfy any obligation to pay commissions or brokerage in cash or wholly or in part by the issue of shares credited as fully paid.

## **8. FRACTIONS OF SHARES**

If on any consolidation (or any consolidation and division) of shares any Members would become entitled to any fractions of a share, the Directors may deal with the fractions in any manner they think fit. In particular, the Directors may, subject to the Statutes, sell all or any of such fractions for the best price reasonably obtainable to any person (including subject to the provisions of the Statutes, the Company) and distribute the net proceeds among the Members entitled to such fractions in due proportion. In giving effect to any such sales, the Directors may, subject to the Statutes, authorise some person to transfer the shares sold to the purchaser of those shares and the purchaser shall be registered as the holder of the shares comprised in any such transfer and shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money, nor shall his title to the shares be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in the proceedings relating to the sale. Notwithstanding the above, where any Member's entitlement to a portion of the proceeds of sale amounts to less than

[£5.00], that Member's portion may, at the Directors' discretion, be distributed to an organisation which is a charity for the purposes of the law of England and Wales.

## **9. VARIATION OF CLASS RIGHTS**

**9.1** If at any time there are different classes of shares, the rights attached to any class (unless otherwise provided by the terms of issue of the shares of that class) may, subject to the provisions of the Statutes conferring a right to object to variation, (and whether or not the Company is being wound up), be varied or abrogated in such manner (if any) as is provided by those rights, or with the consent in writing of the holders of three quarters of the issued shares of that class, or with the sanction of a special resolution passed at a separate general meeting of the holders of the shares of the class, but not otherwise.

**9.2** Section 334 of the Act and the provisions of these Articles relating to general meetings shall, with necessary modifications, apply to every such separate general meeting, but so that:

**9.2.1** the quorum of such meetings (except for adjourned meetings) shall be two persons holding or representing by proxy at not less than one third in nominal value of the issued shares of the class (calculated excluding any shares held as treasury shares); and

**9.2.2** any holder of shares of the class in question present in person or by proxy may demand a poll and every such holder shall on a poll have one vote for every share of the class held by him.

**9.3** This Article 9 shall apply to the variation or abrogation of the special rights attached to some only of the shares of any class as if each group of shares of the class differently treated formed a separate class, the special rights of which were to be varied or abrogated.

**9.4** For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of these Articles relating to general meetings shall apply, with necessary modifications, to any separate meeting of the holders of shares of a class held otherwise than in connection with the variation or abrogation of the rights attached to shares of that class.

**9.5** The rights attached to any class of shares shall not (unless otherwise provided by the rights attached to the shares of that class) be deemed to be varied by the creation or issue of further shares ranking in some or all respects *pari passu* with them (but in no respect in priority to them) or by the purchase or redemption by the Company of any of its own shares.

## **10. SHARE CERTIFICATES**

**10.1** Every Member (except a person in respect of whom the Company is not by law required to complete and have ready for delivery a certificate) shall be entitled without payment to one certificate in hard copy form for all the shares registered in his name or, if shares of more than one class are registered in his name, to a separate certificate for each class of shares so registered. Every certificate shall specify the number and class of shares in

respect of which it is issued, the distinctive numbers, if any, of such shares and the nominal value of amounts paid up on each share.

**10.2** A certificate shall be delivered to a holder of certificated shares within two months after the allotment or, as the case may be, the lodging with the Company of the transfer, of the shares concerned. A certificate shall be delivered in accordance with, and in the time period permitted by, the Regulations to any holder of uncertificated shares following the change of those shares to certificated form.

**10.3** Every certificate for shares or any other form of security shall be executed by the Company in such manner as the Directors may authorise having regard to the terms of issue and the requirements of the recognised investment exchange on which the Company's shares are dealt or traded. The Directors may determine that the signatures of one or more of the Directors or of the Secretary may be affixed to such certificates by mechanical or electronic means or may be printed on them, or that the certificate need not be signed by any person. No certificate shall be issued representing shares of more than one class.

**10.4** Where some only of the shares comprised in a share certificate are transferred, the old certificate shall be cancelled and a new certificate for the balance of the shares issued in lieu without charge.

**10.5** Subject to Article 10.6:

**10.5.1** if any Member requires additional certificates, he shall pay for each additional certificate such reasonable out-of-pocket expenses as the Directors determine;

**10.5.2** if a Member holding two or more certificates in respect of his shareholding requires the cancellation of any of those certificates, and the issue of one or more replacement certificates comprising different numbers of shares, he shall pay for each replacement certificate such reasonable out-of-pocket expenses as the Directors determine.

**10.6** If any certificate is defaced, worn-out, lost or destroyed, a new certificate shall be issued without charge (other than exceptional out-of-pocket expenses) and the person requiring the new certificate shall first surrender the defaced or worn-out certificate or give such evidence of the loss or destruction of the certificate and such indemnity to the Company as the Directors may determine.

## **11. JOINT HOLDERS OF SHARES**

**11.1** Where two or more persons are registered as the holders of any share, they shall be deemed to hold the same as joint tenants with benefit of survivorship save that:

**11.1.1** the maximum number of persons who may be registered as joint holders of any shares is four; and

- 11.1.2** the joint holders of any share shall be liable, severally as well as jointly, in respect of all payments which are to be made in respect of such share.
- 11.2** Any one of joint holders may give valid receipts for any dividend, bonus, return of capital or other money payable in respect of a share to the joint holders.
- 11.3** Only the person whose name stands first in the register as one of the joint holders of any share shall be entitled to delivery of the certificate relating to such share (if that share is held in certificated form), or to receive documents and information from the Company. Any document or information given or made available to such person shall be deemed to be given or made available to all the joint holders.
- 11.4** Any one of the joint holders of any share from time to time conferring a right to vote may vote either personally or by proxy at any meeting in respect of such share as if he were the sole holder, provided that if more than one of the joint holders is present at any meeting, either personally or by proxy, the person whose name stands first in the register as one of such holders, and no other, shall be entitled to vote in respect of the share.
- 11.5** Anything to be agreed or specified by the holder of any share may, save where expressly stated otherwise in a document or information relating to the matter in question, be validly agreed or specified by the person whose name stands first in the register as one of the joint holders of any share. Schedule 5, Part 6, paragraph 16(2) of the Act shall apply accordingly.

## **12. TRUSTS NOT RECOGNISED**

Save as required by statute or as provided in these Articles, the Company shall be entitled to treat the person whose name appears upon the register in respect of any share or any interest in any fractional part of a share as the absolute owner of that share or fractional part of a share, and shall not be under any obligation to recognise any trust or equity or equitable claim to, or partial interest in, such share or fractional part of a share, whether or not it shall have express or other notice of any such interest.

## **13. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS IN SHARES**

**13.1** In this Article 13, unless inconsistent with the context, the following words shall have the following meanings:

**13.1.1** **section 793 notice:** a notice given by or on behalf of the Company requiring disclosure of interests in shares pursuant to section 793 of the Act;

**13.1.2** **restrictions:** one or more, as the case may be, of the restrictions referred to in Article 13.3;

**13.1.3** **interested:** has the meaning ascribed to it by sections 820 to 825 of the Act and so that a person other than the Member holding a share shall be treated as appearing to be interested in the share if the Member has informed the Company that the person is, or may be, so interested, or if the Directors (after

taking account of any information obtained from the Member or, pursuant to a section 793 notice, from any other person) know or have reasonable cause to believe that the person is, or may be, so interested;

**13.1.4 market transfer:** in relation to any share, a transfer pursuant to:

- (a) a sale of the share on a recognised investment exchange or on any stock exchange outside the United Kingdom on which shares of that class are listed or normally traded;
- (b) a sale of the whole beneficial interest in the share to a person whom the Directors are satisfied is unconnected with the existing holder or with any other person appearing to be interested in the share; or
- (c) an acceptance of a takeover offer (as defined in section 974 of the Act) which relates to the share.

**13.2** If a Member or any person appearing to be interested in any share has been given a section 793 notice and, in respect of any share specified in the notice (a "**default share**"), has been in default for a period of 14 days after the section 793 notice has been given in supplying to the Company the information required by the notice, the restrictions referred to below shall apply. Those restrictions shall continue for such period as the Directors may specify, but shall end not more than seven days after the earlier of:

**13.2.1** the Company being notified that the default shares have been sold pursuant to a market transfer; or

**13.2.2** due compliance, to the satisfaction of the Directors, with the section 793 notice.

**13.3** The restrictions referred to above are as follows:

**13.3.1** if the default shares in which any one person is interested or appears to the Company to be interested represent less than 0.25 per cent. of the issued shares of the relevant class, the Member holding the default shares shall not be entitled, in respect of those shares, to attend or to vote, either personally, by representative or by proxy, at any general meeting or class meeting of the Company;

**13.3.2** if the default shares in which any one person is interested or appears to the Company to be interested represent at least 0.25 per cent. of the issued shares of the relevant class, the Member holding the default shares shall not be entitled, in respect of those shares:

- (a) to attend or to vote, either personally, by representative or by proxy, at any general meeting or class meeting of the Company;
- (b) to receive any dividend or other distribution; or

(c) to transfer or agree to transfer any of those shares or any rights in them.

- 13.4** The restrictions in Articles 13.3.1 and 13.3.2 shall not prejudice the right of either the Member holding the default shares or, if different, any person having a power of sale over those shares to sell or agree to sell those shares under a market transfer.
- 13.5** If any dividend or other distribution is withheld under Article 13.3.2(b), the Member shall be entitled to receive it as soon as practicable after the restrictions cease to apply. The Member shall not be entitled to interest during the intervening period.
- 13.6** The Directors shall not be liable to any person as a result of having imposed restrictions or having failed to determine that such restrictions shall cease to apply if the Directors acted in good faith.
- 13.7** The Company shall not be treated as having received the information required by a section 793 notice in accordance with the terms of such section 793 notice in circumstances where the Directors know or have reasonable cause to believe that the information provided is false or materially incorrect.
- 13.8** Shares issued in right of default shares in respect of which a Member from time to time being subject to restrictions under this Article shall on issue become subject to the same restrictions whilst held by that Member as the default shares in right of which they are issued. For this purpose, shares which the Company offers or procures to be offered to shareholders pro rata (or pro rata ignoring fractional entitlements and shares not offered to certain Members by reason of legal or practical problems associated with offering shares outside the United Kingdom) shall be treated as shares issued in right of default shares.
- 13.9** The Directors shall at all times have the right, at their discretion, to suspend, in whole or in part, any restrictions arising pursuant to this Article either permanently or for a given period and to pay to a trustee any dividend payable in respect of any default shares or in respect of any shares issued in right of default shares. Notice of suspension, specifying the restriction suspended and the period of suspension shall be given to the relevant Member in writing within seven days after any decision to implement such a suspension.
- 13.10** The provisions of this Article are without prejudice to, and shall not affect, the right of the Company to apply any of the provisions referred to in Part 22 of the Act.

#### **14. UNCERTIFICATED SHARES**

- 14.1** Save where the London Stock Exchange otherwise agrees, all shares shall be eligible for electronic settlement, which includes settlement by a relevant system.
- 14.2** Shares of a class shall not be treated as forming a separate class from other shares of that class merely because any such shares are held from time to time in uncertificated form or are permitted in accordance with the Regulations to become a participating security.

**14.3** Subject to the Regulations and the facilities and requirements of the relevant system, the Directors shall have power to make such arrangements as they may think fit in order for any class of share to be a participating security, and the Company may issue shares of that class in uncertificated form and permit such shares to be transferred by means of the relevant system to the fullest extent available from time to time or determine that shares of any class shall cease to be held in uncertificated form and transferred by means of the relevant system. No provision of these Articles shall have effect to the extent that it is inconsistent with:

**14.3.1** the holding of shares in uncertificated form;

**14.3.2** the transfer of title to shares by means of the relevant system; or

**14.3.3** the Regulations.

**14.4** Without prejudice to the generality of Article 14.3, notwithstanding any provision of these Articles and subject always to the Regulations, where any class of share is a participating security:

**14.4.1** the register relating to such class shall be maintained at all times in the United Kingdom;

**14.4.2** shares of such class held by the same holder or joint holder in certificated form and in uncertificated form shall be treated as separate holdings, unless the Directors otherwise determine;

**14.4.3** shares of such class may be changed from certificated to uncertificated form, and from uncertificated to certificated form, in accordance with the Regulations;

**14.4.4** the Company shall comply with the requirements of the Regulations in relation to the rectification of and changes to the register relating to such class;

**14.4.5** the provisions of these Articles with respect to meetings, including meetings of the holders of shares of such class, shall have effect subject to the provisions of the Regulations;

**14.4.6** the Directors may, by notice in writing to the holder of any uncertificated shares of such class, require that holder to change the form of such shares to certificated form within such period as may be specified in the notice; and

**14.4.7** the Directors may require that any fractional entitlements to shares arising on a consolidation (or consolidation and division) of shares held in uncertificated form are held in certificated form, and are entered into the register accordingly.

## **15. CALLS ON SHARES**



- 15.1** Subject to the terms of allotment, the Directors may from time to time make calls upon the Members in respect of all or any moneys unpaid on their shares (whether in respect of the nominal amount or, when permitted, any premium). Each Member shall, subject to receiving not less than 14 days' notice, specifying the time or times and place for payment, pay the amount called on his shares to the Company and at the times and places appointed by the Directors.
- 15.2** A call shall be deemed to have been made at the time when the resolution of the Directors authorising the call was passed and may be payable by instalments or postponed or revoked either wholly or in part as the Directors may determine. A person on whom a call is made shall remain liable for calls made on him even if the shares in respect of which that call was made are subsequently transferred.
- 15.3** On the issue of shares the Directors may differentiate between the holders of such shares in the amount of calls to be paid and in the time of payment of such calls.
- 15.4** If a call is not paid on or before the due date for payment, the person from whom it is due shall pay interest on the amount unpaid, from the due date for payment to the date of actual payment, at such rate as the Directors may decide (not exceeding three per cent. per annum above the base rate of Barclays Bank plc, on the date due for payment), but the Directors may waive payment of the interest, wholly or in part.
- 15.5** A sum which by the terms of allotment of a share is payable on allotment, or at a fixed time, or by instalments at fixed times, shall for the purposes of these Articles be deemed to be a call duly made and payable on the date or dates fixed for payment and, in case of non-payment, these Articles shall apply as if that sum had become payable by virtue of a call duly made and notified.
- 15.6** The Directors may, if they think fit, receive all or any part of the moneys payable on a share on behalf of the Company beyond the sum actually called up on it if the Member is willing to make payment in advance and, on any moneys so paid in advance, may (until they would otherwise be due) pay interest at such rate as may be agreed between the Directors and the Member not exceeding (unless the Company by ordinary resolution directs) five per cent. per annum or, if higher, the appropriate rate (as defined in section 592 of the Act) paying the sum in advance but, for the avoidance of doubt, no dividend shall be payable in respect of any money so paid in advance.

## **16. FORFEITURE OF SHARES**

- 16.1** If any Member fails to pay in full any call or instalment of a call on the day appointed for payment of it, the Directors may, at any time after that day, while any part of the call or instalment remains unpaid, give notice to him requiring him to pay so much of the call or instalment as is unpaid, together with interest accrued and any expenses incurred by reason of such non-payment.
- 16.2** The notice shall specify a further day (not being earlier than 14 days from the date of the notice) on or before which such unpaid call or instalment and all interest accrued and

expenses incurred by reason of non-payment are to be paid, and it shall also specify the place where payment is to be made. The notice shall state that, in the event of non-payment at or before such time at the place specified, the shares in respect of which such call or instalment is payable will be liable to forfeiture.

**16.3** No Member who has been served with such a notice shall be entitled to vote at any general meeting or class meeting of the Company in respect of the shares that such notice relates to.

**16.4** If the requirements of any such notice are not complied with, any shares in respect of which such notice has been given may (before the payment required by the notice has been made), be forfeited by a resolution of the Directors to that effect, and any such forfeiture shall extend to all dividends declared in respect of the shares so forfeited but not actually paid before such forfeiture.

**16.5** The Directors may accept surrender of any share liable to be forfeited under these Articles.

**16.6** When any share has been forfeited, notice of the forfeiture shall be given to the person who was before forfeiture the holder of the share. No forfeiture shall be invalidated by any omission or neglect to give such notice.

**16.7** Subject to the Statutes, any share forfeited or surrendered shall be deemed to be the property of the Company, no voting rights shall be exercised in respect of it and the Directors may cancel the same or, within three years of such forfeiture or surrender, sell, re-allot or otherwise dispose of the same in such manner as they think fit either to the person who was before the forfeiture or surrender the holder of it, or to any other person, and either with or without any past or accruing dividends and, in the case of re-allotment, with or without any money paid on it by the former holder being credited as paid up on it.

**16.8** Any share not disposed of in accordance with Article 16.8 within a period of three years from the date of its forfeiture or surrender shall be automatically cancelled, subject always to, and in accordance with, the Statutes.

**16.9** Any person whose shares have been forfeited or surrendered shall cease to be a Member in respect of those shares, but shall remain liable to pay to the Company all moneys which at the date of the forfeiture or surrender were presently payable by him to the Company in respect of the shares, together with interest on such moneys at the rate fixed by the conditions of the allotment of the shares in question or, if no rate is fixed, at such rate as the Directors shall determine, down to the date of payment, but his liability shall cease if and when the Company receives payment in full of all such moneys in respect of the shares, together with any such interest. The Directors may, if they think fit, waive the payment of such money and/or interest or any part of it.

## **17. LIEN ON PARTLY PAID SHARES**

**17.1** The Company shall have a first and paramount lien upon all the shares, other than fully paid shares, registered in the name of each Member (whether solely or jointly with other persons) for any amount payable in respect of such shares, whether presently payable or

not, and such lien shall apply to all dividends from time to time declared or other moneys payable in respect of such shares.

**17.2** Unless otherwise agreed, the registration of a transfer of a share shall operate as a waiver of the Company's lien, if any, on such share.

**17.3** The Company shall in no circumstances have a lien over any fully paid shares.

**17.4** For the purpose of enforcing such lien, the Directors may, subject (in the case of uncertificated shares) to the provisions of the Regulations, sell the shares subject to such lien, in such manner as they think fit, but no such sale shall be made until all or any part of the sum outstanding on the shares shall have become payable and until notice in writing stating, and demanding payment of, the sum payable and giving notice of the intention to sell in default of such payment shall have been given to such Member and default shall have been made by him in the payment of the sum payable for 14 days after such notice.

**17.5** The net proceeds of any sale made in accordance with Article 17.4, after payment of the costs of sale, shall be applied in or towards satisfaction of such part of the amount then payable in respect of the shares sold. The residue, if any, shall (upon surrender to the Company for cancellation of the certificate for any certificated shares sold, and subject to a like lien for sums not presently payable as existed upon the shares before the sale) be paid to the Member or as he shall direct in writing or the person (if any) entitled by transmission to the shares immediately before the sale.

## **18. EVIDENCE OF FORFEITURE, SURRENDER OR SALE TO SATISFY LIEN**

**18.1** An entry in the Directors' minute book of the forfeiture or surrender of any shares, or that any shares have been sold to satisfy a lien, shall be sufficient evidence, against all persons claiming to be entitled to such shares, that the said shares were properly forfeited, surrendered or sold. Such entry, the receipt of the Company for the price of such shares and, if such shares are in certificated form, the appropriate share certificate shall constitute a good title to such shares, and the name of the purchaser or other person entitled shall be entered in the register as a Member, and he shall be entitled, if such shares are in certificated form, to a certificate of title to the shares. The purchaser shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money, nor shall his title to the shares be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in the proceedings in reference to the forfeiture, surrender or sale.

**18.2** For giving effect to the sale of any forfeited or surrendered share, or the sale of any share to satisfy a lien, the Directors may, subject (in the case of uncertificated shares) to the provisions of the Regulations and the facilities and requirements of the relevant system, authorise some person to transfer any such shares to their purchaser. The remedy (if any) of the former holder of such shares, and of any person claiming under or through him, shall be against the Company and in damages only.

## **19. TRANSFER OF SHARES**

- 19.1** Subject to these Articles, a Member may transfer all or any of his shares in any manner which is permitted by the Statutes and is from time to time approved by the Directors.
- 19.2** All transfers of certificated shares may be effected by transfer in writing in any usual or common form or in any other form acceptable to the Directors. The instrument of transfer (if any) shall be executed or authenticated by or on behalf of the transferor and, if the certificated shares transferred are not fully paid, by or on behalf of the transferee. An instrument of transfer need not be under seal.
- 19.3** Subject to these Articles, a Member may transfer all or any of his uncertificated shares by means of the relevant system or in any other manner which is permitted by the Statutes and is from time to time approved by the Directors and the Company shall register such transfer in accordance with the Statutes.
- 19.4** The transferor shall be deemed to remain the holder of the shares transferred until the name of the transferee is entered in the register in respect of those shares.
- 19.5** The maximum number of persons who may be registered as joint holders of a share is four.
- 19.6** No fee shall be charged in respect of the registration of any transfer, probate, letters of administration, certificate of marriage or death, power of attorney or other document or instruction relating to or affecting the title to any shares.
- 19.7** Any instruments of transfer which are registered shall, subject to Article 83.1, be retained by the Company, but any instrument of transfer which the Directors refuse to register shall (except in any case of fraud) be returned to the persons depositing the same.

## **20. POWER TO REFUSE REGISTRATION OF TRANSFERS**

- 20.1** The Directors may, in their discretion, refuse to register any transfer of certificated shares of any class which are not fully paid provided that, where any such shares are admitted to trading on any recognised investment exchange, such discretion may not be exercised in such a way as to prevent dealings in the shares of that class from taking place on an open and proper basis.
- 20.2** The Directors may also refuse to register any transfer of a certificated share, unless the instrument of transfer, is (i) duly stamped or certified or otherwise shown to the satisfaction of the Board to be exempt from stamp duty, (ii) deposited at the office or such other place as the Directors may appoint, and (iii) accompanied by the certificate for the shares to which it relates if it has been issued, and such other evidence as the Directors may reasonably require to show the right of the transferor to make the transfer.
- 20.3** The Directors may, in their discretion, refuse to register any transfer of an uncertificated share where permitted by the Regulations.
- 20.4** The Directors may refuse to register any transfer of shares unless it is in respect of only one class of shares.

- 20.5** The Directors may refuse to register any transfer of shares to joint transferees, unless such transfer is in favour of not more than four such transferees.
- 20.6** If the Directors refuse to register a transfer they shall send to the transferee notice of the refusal, together with the reasons for the refusal, as soon as practicable and in any event within two months of:
- 20.6.1** in the case of a certificated share, the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company; or
- 20.6.2** in the case of an uncertificated share, the date on which an instruction in respect of such transfer was duly received by the Company through the relevant system.
- 20.7** Nothing in these Articles shall preclude the Directors from recognising a renunciation of the allotment of any share by the allottee in favour of some other person.
- 21. TRANSMISSION OF SHARES**
- 21.1** If a Member dies, the survivor(s), where the deceased was a joint holder, or his personal representatives, where he was a sole or the only surviving holder, shall be the only person or persons recognised by the Company as having any title to his shares, but nothing in these Articles shall release the estate of a deceased holder from any liability in respect of any share held by him solely or jointly.
- 21.2** Any person becoming entitled to a share by reason of the death or bankruptcy of a Member or of any other event giving rise to a transmission by operation of law may, upon such evidence being produced as may be required by the Directors, elect either to be registered as a Member in respect of such share, or to make such transfer of the share as the relevant Member could have made.
- 21.3** If the person so becoming entitled shall elect to be registered himself he shall give to the Company a notice bearing his signature to that effect.
- 21.4** The Directors shall, in either case, have the same right to refuse or suspend registration as they would have had if the event giving rise to transmission had not occurred and the notice of election or transfer were a transfer by the relevant Member.
- 21.5** Any person becoming entitled to a share by reason of the death or bankruptcy of a Member or of any other event giving rise to transmission shall be entitled to the same dividends and other advantages to which he would be entitled if he were the registered holder of the share, except that he shall not, unless and until he is registered as a Member in respect of the share or unless the Directors otherwise determine, be entitled in respect of it to receive notice of, or to exercise any right conferred by membership in relation to, general meetings of the Company.
- 21.6** The Directors may at any time give notice requiring any such person to elect either to be registered himself or to transfer such share to some other person and, if such notice is not

complied with within 90 days after service, the Directors may after that time withhold payment of all dividends and other moneys payable in respect of such share until the requirements of the notice have been complied with.

## **22. UNTRACED MEMBERS**

**22.1** Subject to the Statutes, the Company may sell at the best price reasonably obtainable at the time of sale any share of a Member or any share to which a person is entitled by transmission if:

**22.1.1** during a period of at least 12 years prior to the sending of the notice referred to in Article 22.1.3 at least three cash dividends have become payable in respect of the share to be sold and have been sent by the Company in accordance with Article 72;

**22.1.2** during that period of at least 12 years no cash dividend payable in respect of the share has been claimed, no cheque, warrant, order or other payment for a dividend has been cashed, no dividend sent by means of a funds transfer system has been paid and no communication has been received by the Company from the Member or the person entitled by transmission to the share;

**22.1.3** the Company has after expiration of that period, sent a notice of its intention to sell such share to the registered address or last known address of the Member or of the person entitled to the share by transmission at which service of notices might be effected in accordance with these Articles is located and, before sending such notice, the Company is satisfied that it has taken such steps as it considers reasonable in the circumstances to trace the Member or other person entitled, including engaging, if considered appropriate in relation to such share, a professional asset reunification company or other tracing agent; and

**22.1.4** the Company has not, during the period of three months after the date of sending the notice and prior to the exercise of the power of sale, received any communication from the Member or person entitled by transmission.

**22.2** The Company's power of sale shall extend to any further share which, on or before the date of sending any notice pursuant to Article 22.1.3, is issued in respect of a share to which Article 22.1 applies (or in respect of any share to which this Article 22.2 applies) if the conditions set out in Articles 22.1.2 to 22.1.4 are satisfied in relation to the further share (but as if the references to a period of 12 years were references to a period beginning on the date of allotment of the further share and ending on the date of sending any notice referred to above).

**22.3** In order to give effect to any such sale, the Directors may, subject (in the case of uncertificated shares) to the provisions of the Regulations and the facilities and requirements of the relevant system, authorise some person to transfer any such shares

to the purchaser of them. The purchaser shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money, nor shall his title to any such share be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in the proceedings relating to the sale.

- 22.4** The net proceeds of such sale shall be a permanent debt of the Company and the Company shall be deemed to be a debtor and not a trustee in respect of them for such Member or other person. Such proceeds may either be employed in the business of the Company or invested in such investments (other than shares of the Company or its parent undertaking (if any)) as the Directors may from time to time think fit. The Company shall not be required to pay interest on such proceeds or to account for any amounts earned on such proceeds.

## **23. GENERAL MEETINGS**

- 23.1** The Company shall in each year hold a general meeting as its annual general meeting in addition to any other meetings in that year in accordance with the Statutes. The annual general meeting shall be held at such time and place as the Directors shall appoint.

- 23.2** The Directors may, whenever they think fit, and shall on the request of the Members in accordance with the Act, proceed with proper expedition to convene a general meeting.

- 23.3** If, at any time, there shall not be present in the United Kingdom and capable of acting sufficient Directors to form a quorum, the Directors in the United Kingdom capable of acting, or if there shall be no such Directors then any two Members, may convene a general meeting in the same manner as nearly as possible as that in which general meetings may be convened by the Directors, and the Company at such meeting shall have power to elect Directors.

- 23.4** In the case of a general meeting called in pursuance of a requisition, unless such meeting shall have been called by the Directors, no business other than that stated in the requisition as the object of the meeting shall be transacted.

- 23.5** Each Director shall be entitled to attend and speak at any general meeting and at any separate general meeting of the Company.

## **24. NOTICE AND FORM OF GENERAL MEETINGS**

### **Notice of General Meetings**

- 24.1** An annual general meeting shall be called by at least 21 clear days' notice. Subject to the Statutes, any other general meeting shall be called by at least 14 clear days' notice.

- 24.2** Notice of every general meeting shall be given to:

- 24.2.1** all Members on the register on the close of business on a day determined by the Directors, being not more than 21 days before the day on which the notice of meeting is despatched, other than any Member who, under the provisions of these Articles or the terms of issue of the shares they hold, is not entitled to receive such notices (whether pursuant to Article 79 or 80 or otherwise);

**24.2.2** the Auditors; and

**24.2.3** each Director.

**24.3** The notice shall specify (i) the place, the date and the time of meeting (including any satellite meeting place arranged for the purpose of Article 27.1, which shall be identified by such notice) and (ii) where the meeting is a hybrid meeting, details of the facilities for attendance and participation by electronic means at the meeting. The notice shall be given in the manner provided in these Articles or in such other manner (if any) as may be prescribed by the Company in general meeting to such persons as are under these Articles entitled to receive such notices from the Company. Every notice calling an annual general meeting shall specify the meeting as such. Every notice convening a general meeting for the purpose of considering one or more special resolutions shall set out the text of such resolution or resolutions.

**24.4** In every notice calling a meeting of the Company or of the holders of shares of any class there shall appear with reasonable prominence a statement informing each Member:

**24.4.1** of his rights under the Act to appoint another person as his proxy to exercise all or any of his rights to attend and to speak and vote at a meeting of the Company;

**24.4.2** that he may appoint more than one proxy in relation to a meeting, provided that each proxy is appointed to exercise rights attached to a different share or shares held by such Member; and

**24.4.3** that a proxy need not be a Member.

**24.5** The accidental failure to give notice of any meeting, or the accidental failure to send or supply any document or other information relating to any meeting to any person entitled to receive the notice document or other information, or the non-receipt by any such person of any such notice, document or information shall be disregarded for the purpose of determining whether notice of the meeting or resolution has been duly given and shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

#### **Form of General Meetings**

**24.6** The Directors may decide in relation to any general meeting (including a postponed or adjourned meeting) whether the general meeting is to be held as a physical meeting or as a hybrid meeting and shall, for the avoidance of doubt, be under no obligation to convene a meeting as a hybrid meeting whatever the circumstances.

**24.7** Subject to the requirements of the Act, the Directors may make such arrangements as they may decide in connection with the facilities for participation by electronic means in a hybrid meeting. In the case of a hybrid meeting, the provisions of these Articles shall be treated as modified to permit any such arrangements and, in particular:



**24.7.1** references in these Articles to attending and being present at the meeting, including in relation to the quorum for the meeting and the right to vote at the meeting, shall be treated as including participating in the meeting by electronic means;

**24.7.2** the meeting shall be duly constituted and its proceedings valid if the chairman of the meeting is satisfied that adequate facilities have been made available so that all persons (being entitled to do so) attending the hybrid meeting by electronic means, may:

- (a) participate in the business for which the meeting has been convened;
- (b) hear all persons who speak at the meeting whether by the use of microphones, loudspeakers, audio-visual communications equipment or otherwise; and
- (c) be heard by all other persons attending and participating at the meeting

but under no circumstances shall the inability of one or more Members or proxies to access, or continue to access, the facilities for participation in the meeting despite adequate facilities being made available by the Company, affect the validity of the meeting or any business conducted at the meeting;

**24.7.3** all resolutions put to Members at a hybrid meeting, including in relation to procedural matters, shall be decided on a poll;

**24.7.4** the Directors may authorise any voting application, system or facility in respect of the electronic platform for the hybrid general meetings as they may see fit; and

**24.7.5** if it appears to the Chairman of the meeting that the electronic facilities for a hybrid meeting have become inadequate for the purpose of holding the meeting then the Chairman of the meeting may, with or without the consent of the meeting, interrupt or adjourn the meeting (before or after it has started) and the provisions in Articles 26 shall apply to any such adjournment. All business conducted at the hybrid meeting up to the point of the adjournment shall be valid.

**24.8** In relation to electronic participation at a general meeting, the right of a Member to participate electronically shall include without limitation the right to speak, vote on a poll, be represented by a proxy and have access (including electronic access) to all documents which are required by the Act or these Articles to be made available at the meeting.

**24.9** If, after the sending of notice of a hybrid meeting but before the meeting is held (or after the adjournment of a hybrid meeting but before the adjourned meeting is held), the Directors consider that it is impracticable or unreasonable to hold the meeting at the time

specified in the notice of meeting using the electronic facilities stated in the notice of meeting or made available prior to the meeting, they may change the meeting to a physical meeting, change the electronic facilities (and make details of the new facilities available in the manner stated in the notice of meeting), and/or postpone the time at which the meeting is to be held.

**24.10** An adjourned general meeting or postponed general meeting may be held as a physical meeting or a hybrid meeting irrespective of the form of the general meeting which was adjourned or postponed.

**24.11** Without prejudice to the generality of Article 29, the Directors or the Chairman of the meeting may make any arrangement and impose any requirement or restriction they or he consider appropriate to ensure the security of a hybrid meeting including, without limitation, requirements for evidence of identity that is:

- (a) necessary to ensure the identification of those taking part and the security of the electronic communication, and
- (b) proportionate to those objectives.

## **25. CHAIRMAN AND QUORUM AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

**25.1** The Chairman (if any) of the Directors shall preside as Chairman at every general meeting of the Company. If there is no such Chairman, or if at any meeting he is not present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting or he is unwilling to act as Chairman, the Directors present shall choose one of their number present to be Chairman and, if there is only one Director present and willing to act, he shall be Chairman or if no Director is present and willing to act, the Members shall choose one of their number (whether present in person, by proxy or (in the case of a corporate Member) by representative) to be Chairman.

**25.2** No business, other than the appointment of a Chairman of the meeting, shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum of Members is present. Such quorum shall consist of not less than three Members present in person, by representative (in the case of a corporate Member) or by proxy and entitled to vote.

## **26. ADJOURNMENT OF GENERAL MEETINGS**

**26.1** If, within 15 minutes from the time appointed for a general meeting, or such longer interval as the Chairman of the meeting may think fit to allow, a quorum is not present or, if during the meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting, if convened by or on the requisition of Members, shall be dissolved. In any other case it shall stand adjourned to such day and to such time and place (being not less than seven, nor more than 30, days afterwards) as the Chairman of the meeting may determine. In default of such determination, it shall be adjourned to the same day in the next week or, if that day is not a business day, the next following business day at the same time and place. If, at such adjourned meeting, a quorum is not present within 15 minutes from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.

**26.2** The Chairman of the meeting may, with the consent of any general meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting without setting an alternative date or time, or from time to time and from place to place. No business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business which might lawfully have been transacted at the meeting from which the adjournment took place. Where a meeting is adjourned without a date being fixed, the time and place for any adjourned meeting shall be fixed by the Directors.

**26.3** The Chairman of the meeting may at any time without the consent of the meeting adjourn any meeting (whether or not it has commenced or a quorum is present) either without setting an alternative date or time or to such time and place as the Directors or the Chairman may decide if it appears to him that:

**26.3.1** the number of persons wishing to attend cannot be conveniently accommodated in the place(s) appointed for the meeting;

**26.3.2** the unruly conduct of persons attending the meeting prevents or is likely to prevent the orderly continuation of the business of the meeting;

**26.3.3** an adjournment is otherwise necessary or desirable so that the business of the meeting may be properly conducted; or

**26.3.4** a proposal of importance is made for the consideration of which a larger attendance of Members is desirable.

**26.4** When a meeting is adjourned for 30 days or more or without setting an alternative date or time, seven clear days' notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given in the same manner as in the case of an original meeting. Save as aforesaid, it shall not be necessary to give any notice of an adjourned meeting or of the business to be transacted at such meeting.

## **27. GENERAL MEETINGS AT MORE THAN ONE PLACE**

**27.1** The Directors may resolve to enable persons entitled to attend a general meeting to do so by simultaneous attendance and participation at a satellite meeting place anywhere in the world. Members present in person or by proxy at satellite meeting places shall be counted in the quorum for, and entitled to vote at, the general meetings in question, and that meeting shall be duly constituted and its proceedings valid if the Chairman of the meeting is satisfied that adequate facilities are available throughout the general meeting to ensure that Members attending at all meeting places are able to:

**27.1.1** participate in the business for which the meeting has been convened;

**27.1.2** hear and see all persons who speak (whether by the use of microphones, loudspeakers, audio-visual communications equipment, electronic means or otherwise) in the principal meeting place and any satellite meeting place; and

**27.1.3** be heard and seen by all other persons so present in the same way.

The Chairman of the meeting shall be present at, and the meeting shall be deemed to take place at, the principal meeting place, such principal meeting place to be stated by the notice of meeting.

**27.2** If it appears to the Chairman of the meeting that the facilities at the principal meeting place or any satellite meeting place have become inadequate for the purposes referred to in Article 27.1, then the Chairman may, without the consent of the meeting, interrupt or adjourn the general meeting. All business conducted at the general meeting up to the time of the adjournment shall be valid. The provisions of Article 26.3 shall apply to the adjournment.

**27.3** The Directors may from time to time make any arrangements for controlling the level of attendance at any venue for which arrangements have been made pursuant to this Article 27 (including the issue of tickets or the imposition of some other means of selection) as they in their discretion consider appropriate, and may from time to time change those arrangements. The entitlement of any Member to be present at such venue in person or by proxy shall be subject to any such arrangement then in force and stated by the notice of meeting or adjourned meeting to apply to the meeting.

**27.4** For the purposes of this Article 27, the right of a Member to participate in the business of any general meeting shall include the right to speak, vote on a show of hands, demand or join in demanding a poll, vote on a poll, be represented by a proxy and have access to all documents which are required by the Statutes or these Articles to be made available at the meeting.

## **28. POSTPONEMENT OF GENERAL MEETINGS**

**28.1** If, after the giving of notice of a general meeting but before the meeting is held, or after the adjournment of a general meeting but before the adjourned meeting is held (whether or not notice of the adjourned meeting is required), the Directors decide that it is impracticable or undesirable for any reason to hold the meeting at the declared place (or any of the declared places, in the case of a meeting to which Article 27.1 applies) and/or at the declared date or time and, if applicable, the electronic platform(s) set out in the notice of meeting, they may change the place (or any of the places, in the case of a meeting to which Article 27.1 applies) and, if applicable, the electronic platform(s) and/or postpone the date and time at which the meeting is to be held. If such a decision is made, the Directors may then change the place (or any of the places, in the case of a meeting to which Article 27.1 applies) and, if applicable, the electronic platform(s) and/or postpone the date and time of the postponed meeting again if they decide that it is reasonable to do so. In either case:

**28.1.1** no business shall be transacted at any postponed meeting other than the business which might lawfully have been transacted at the meeting which was postponed;

**28.1.2** at least 14 clear days' notice (or, in the case of a postponed annual general meeting, at least 21 clear days' notice) of the postponed meeting shall be

given in accordance with Article 24. It shall not, however, be necessary to give notice of the nature of the business to be transacted at the postponed meeting;

**28.1.3** the Directors shall, so far as practicable, make arrangements for notices of the change of place and, if applicable, electronic platform(s) and/or postponement to appear at the original place and at the original time and date; and

**28.1.4** notwithstanding Article 36.1 but subject to Article 36.2, an appointment of a proxy may be delivered at any time not less than 48 hours before any new time appointed for holding the postponed meeting.

## **29. SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

The Directors:

**29.1** may direct that Members, proxies or other persons wishing to attend any general meeting should submit to such searches or other security arrangements or restrictions as the Directors shall in their discretion consider appropriate in the circumstances; and

**29.2** shall be entitled in their discretion to refuse entry to, or eject from, such general meeting any Member, proxy or other person who fails to submit to such searches or otherwise to comply with such security arrangements or restrictions.

## **30. VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

**30.1** Subject to Article 24.7.3, at any general meeting every question shall be decided by a show of hands unless a poll is (before a resolution is put to the vote on a show of hands, or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) directed by the Chairman of the meeting or demanded by:

**30.1.1** at least five Members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote; or

**30.1.2** one or more Members present in person or by proxy representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the Members having the right to vote on the resolution in question; or

**30.1.3** one or more Members present in person or by proxy holding shares in the Company conferring a right to vote on the resolution in question, being shares on which an aggregate sum has been paid up equal to not less than ten per cent. of the total sum paid up on all the shares conferring that right.

**30.2** The demand for a poll may be withdrawn with the consent of the Chairman, and in the event that such demand is withdrawn following a show of hands on the resolution in question, the result of the show of hands shall remain valid.

**30.3** A declaration by the Chairman that a resolution has been carried or not carried, or carried or not carried by a particular majority, and an entry to that effect in the minute book of

the Company, shall, in the absence of manifest error, be conclusive evidence of the facts, without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against such resolution.

### **31. AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTIONS AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

**31.1** If an amendment shall be proposed to any resolution under consideration but shall in good faith be ruled out of order by the Chairman of the meeting, the proceedings on the substantive resolution shall not be invalidated by any error in such ruling.

**31.2** In the case of a resolution duly proposed as a special resolution, no amendment to it (other than an amendment to correct a patent error) may in any event be considered or voted upon.

**31.3** In the case of a resolution duly proposed as an ordinary resolution, no amendment to it (other than an amendment to correct a patent error) may be considered or voted upon unless either at least 48 hours prior to the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which such ordinary resolution is to be proposed notice in writing of the terms of the amendment and intention to move the same has been lodged at the office or the Chairman in his discretion decides that it may be considered or voted upon.

### **32. POLL**

**32.1** If a poll is duly directed or demanded it may be taken immediately or (subject to the provisions of Article 32.2) at such other time (but not more than 30 days after such direction or demand) and place and in such manner as the Chairman of the meeting may direct, and the result of such poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was directed or demanded. Provided that the time and place at which the poll is to occur is declared by the Chairman at the meeting at which the poll is directed or demanded, no notice need be given of a poll not taken immediately.

**32.2** A poll demanded upon the election of a Chairman of the meeting or upon a question of adjournment shall be taken immediately. Any business other than that upon which a poll has been demanded may be proceeded with pending the taking of the poll.

### **33. VOTES OF MEMBERS**

**33.1** Subject to the Act, any specific provisions of these Articles and any special terms as to voting upon which any shares may from time to time be held:

**33.1.1** on a show of hands every Member (being an individual) present in person or (being a corporate Member) present by a representative and every proxy duly appointed by one or more Members entitled to vote on the resolution shall have one vote, save that a proxy shall have one vote for and one voter against the resolution if:

(a) the proxy has been duly appointed by more than one Member entitled to vote on the resolution; and

- (b) the proxy has been:
  - (i) instructed by one or more of those Members to vote for the resolution and by one or more other of those Members to vote against it; or
  - (ii) instructed by one or more of those Members to vote in one way and is given discretion as to how to vote by one or more other of those Members (and wishes to use that discretion to vote in the other way);

**33.1.2** on a poll, every Member (being an individual) present in person or by one or more duly appointed proxies or (being a corporate Member) by representative or by one or more duly appointed proxies shall have one vote for every share held by him. Where a Member appoints more than one proxy, such proxies taken together shall not have more extensive voting rights than such Member could exercise in person.

**33.2** On a poll:

**33.2.1** votes may be given either personally or by proxy;

**33.2.2** a person entitled to more than one vote need not use all his votes, or cast all the votes he casts, in the same way.

**33.3** In the case of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, no person shall have a second or casting vote.

**33.4** A Member incapable by reason of mental disorder or otherwise of managing and administering his property and affairs may vote, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, by his receiver or other person appointed by any court of competent jurisdiction to act on his behalf. Any such person may, on a poll, vote by proxy provided that such evidence as the Directors may require of the authority of the person claiming to vote shall have been delivered to such address or location (including any number) and within such time period as is required by Article 36.1 for the appointment of the proxy. Such evidence shall either accompany the appointment of proxy to which it relates or clearly indicate the appointment of proxy to which it relates.

**33.5** No Member shall be entitled to vote at any general meeting either on a show of hands or on a poll (in person or by proxy) unless all calls or other sums presently payable by him in respect of the shares held by him in the Company have been paid.

**33.6** If any objection shall be raised as to the qualification of any person or it is alleged that any votes have been counted which should not have been counted or that any votes have not been counted which ought to have been counted, the objection or allegation shall not vitiate the decision on any resolution unless it is raised at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is given or tendered or at which the alleged error

occurs. Any objection or allegation made in due time shall be referred to the Chairman of the meeting, whose decision shall be final and conclusive.

#### **34. CORPORATE REPRESENTATIVES**

**34.1** Any company which is a Member may, by resolution of its directors or other governing body, authorise a person or persons to act as its representative or representatives at any meeting of the Company, or at any meeting of any class of Members. The exercise, or purported exercise, by a person or persons so authorised of any power on behalf of the company which he represents shall be subject to the Statutes.

#### **35. APPOINTMENT OF A PROXY**

**35.1** A proxy shall be appointed in writing either:

**35.2** by means of completion and delivery of the usual or common form of instrument of proxy, or such other form as may be approved by the Directors from time to time, executed:

**35.2.1** under the hand of the appointor (which, in the case of the joint holders of any share may be any one of the joint holders); or

**35.2.2** if the appointor is a corporate Member either under its common seal or under the hand of a duly authorised officer of the corporate Member; or

**35.2.3** under the hand of the duly authorised attorney of any appointor referred to in Articles 35.2.1 or 35.2.2; or

**35.3** otherwise, and subject to such terms and conditions (including as to security), as the Directors shall determine from time to time (including in electronic form)

provided that any form of proxy shall provide for voting either for or against the resolutions to be proposed at the meeting at which the proxy is to vote.

**35.4** Any person may be appointed to act as proxy. A proxy need not be a Member.

**35.5** The appointment of a proxy to vote on a matter at a meeting of the Company, authorises the proxy to demand or join in demanding a poll on that matter.

**35.6** A vote cast or act done in accordance with the terms of an appointment of a proxy shall be valid notwithstanding the previous death or insanity of the appointor, or revocation of the proxy, or of the authority under which the proxy was executed, or the transfer of the share in respect of which the proxy is given, unless notice in writing of such death, insanity, revocation or transfer shall have been received by the Company at the office (or such other place as may be specified for delivery of the appointment of the proxy in or by way of the note to the notice convening the meeting) at least one hour before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting or poll at which the vote was given or the act was done.



**35.7** Any vote cast by a proxy who does not vote in accordance with any instructions given by the Member by whom he is appointed shall be treated as being valid and the Company shall not be bound to enquire whether a proxy has complied with the instructions he has been given.

**36. DELIVERY OF A PROXY**

**36.1** The appointment of a proxy, shall:

**36.1.1** in the case of an instrument in hard copy, be delivered to the office (or such other address or location in the United Kingdom as may be specified for that purpose in or by way of note to the notice convening the meeting) not less than 48 hours before the time fixed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the instrument is authorised to vote; or

**36.1.2** in the case of an appointment in electronic form, be communicated so as to be delivered to an address or location (including any number) specified in the notice convening the meeting (or in any instrument of proxy sent out, or invitation in electronic form to appoint a proxy issued by or on behalf of the Company in relation to the meeting) not less than 48 hours before the time fixed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the appointment proposes to vote. In the case of any Uncertificated Proxy Instruction permitted pursuant to Article 36.4, the appointment shall include an identification number of a participant in the relevant system concerned;

**36.1.3** in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be delivered in accordance with Articles 36.1.1 or 36.1.2 (as the case may be) not less than 24 hours before the time appointed for the taking of the poll; or

**36.1.4** in the case of a poll not taken immediately but taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be delivered at the meeting at which the poll was demanded to the Chairman, the Secretary, any Director or the scrutineer.

**36.2** The Directors may, in their sole discretion, determine from time to time that in calculating the periods referred to in Article 36.1 (and Article 28.1.4) no account shall be taken of any part of a day that is not a working day.

**36.3** If the appointment of a proxy is executed under a power of attorney or other authority, such power of attorney or other authority (or a notarially certified copy of it) shall also be delivered to such address or location (including any number) and within such time period as is required by Article 36.1 for the appointment of the proxy. Such power of attorney or other authority (or certified copy of it) shall either accompany the appointment of proxy to which it relates or clearly indicate the appointment of proxy to which it relates.

**36.4** Without limitation to any of the provisions of these Articles, in relation to any shares which are held in uncertificated form, the Directors may from time to time permit appointments

of a proxy to be made by electronic means in the form of an Uncertificated Proxy Instruction and may in a similar manner permit supplements to, or amendments or revocations of, any such Uncertificated Proxy Instruction to be made by like means. The Directors may in addition prescribe the method of determining the time at which any such Uncertificated Proxy Instruction is to be treated as received by the Company or such participant. The Directors may treat any such Uncertificated Proxy Instruction which purports to be or is expressed to be sent on behalf of a holder of a share as sufficient evidence of the authority of the person sending that instruction to send it on behalf of that holder.

- 36.5** An appointment of a proxy which is not delivered in a manner permitted by Articles 36.1 to 36.4 shall be treated as invalid. An appointment of proxy in electronic form found by the Company to contain a computer virus shall not be accepted by the Company and shall be invalid.
- 36.6** The appointment of a proxy relating to a meeting, having once been delivered in a manner permitted by Articles 36.1 to 36.4, shall be valid in respect of any adjournment of that meeting.
- 36.7** The appointment of a proxy relating to more than one meeting (including any adjournment), having once been delivered in a manner permitted by Articles 36.1 to 36.4 for the purposes of any meeting, shall not be required to be delivered again for the purposes of any subsequent meeting to which it relates.
- 36.8** In the event that more than one appointment of a proxy relating to the same share is delivered in a manner permitted by Articles 36.1 to 36.4 for the purposes of the same meeting, the appointment last delivered or received (whether in electronic form or not) shall prevail in conferring authority on the person named in it to attend the meeting and vote.
- 36.9** The delivery of an appointment of a proxy shall not preclude a Member from attending and voting at the meeting or at any adjourned meeting.

## **37. DIRECTORS**

- 37.1** Unless and until the Company in general meeting by ordinary resolution shall otherwise determine, the number of Directors shall not be subject to any maximum but shall be not less than three.
- 37.2** Any person who is willing to act as a Director, and is permitted by law to do so, may be appointed to be a director:
- 37.2.1** by an ordinary resolution of the Members of the Company; or
- 37.2.2** by a decision of the Directors.
- 37.3** A Director shall not require a share qualification. A Director shall be entitled to receive notice of and attend and speak at all general meetings of the Company and at all separate

general meetings of the holders of any class of shares in the capital of the Company notwithstanding that he is not a Member.

## **38. POWERS AND DUTIES OF DIRECTORS**

**38.1** The business of the Company shall be managed by the Directors who may exercise all such powers of the Company as are not required to be exercised by the Company in general meeting, subject to the provisions of these Articles and of the Statutes and to such regulations as may be prescribed by the Company by special resolution but no regulation made by the Company by special resolution shall invalidate any prior act of the Directors which would have been valid if such regulation had not been made.

**38.2** The general powers conferred upon the Directors by Article 38.1 shall not be deemed to be abridged or restricted by any specific power conferred upon the Directors by any other Article.

## **39. SUMMONING MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORS**

**39.1** A Director may, and the Secretary on the requisition of a Director shall, at any time summon a meeting of the Directors.

**39.2** Notice of a meeting of the Directors shall be deemed to be duly given to a Director if it is given to him personally (including by telephone) or by word of mouth or electronically or in writing to his last known address or to any other address given by him to the Company for that purpose.

**39.3** It shall not be necessary to give notice of a meeting of the Directors to any Director who is for the time being absent from the United Kingdom if he has not provided an address for the purpose of communications by electronic means or otherwise. Where such address is outside the United Kingdom, the Company shall not be obliged to give the Director a longer period of notice than that given to Directors within the United Kingdom. Any Director may waive notice of any meeting, whether in advance of such meeting or retrospectively.

## **40. PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS**

**40.1** The Directors may meet together for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit, and determine the quorum necessary for the transaction of business. Until otherwise determined, two Directors shall constitute a quorum. A meeting of the Directors at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all powers and discretions from time to time being exercisable by the Directors.

**40.2** Any Director may participate in a meeting of the Directors or of a committee of the Directors by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment or by electronic means, provided that all the Directors participating in the meeting can communicate simultaneously and in an interactive manner with each other. The Directors participating in this manner shall be deemed to be present in person at such meeting and shall accordingly be counted in the quorum and entitled to vote. Subject to the Statutes, all business transacted in such manner by the Directors or a committee of the Directors

shall, for the purpose of these Articles, be deemed to be validly and effectively transacted at a meeting of the Directors or a committee of the Directors notwithstanding that fewer than two Directors or alternate Directors are physically present at the same place. Such a meeting shall be deemed to take place at such place as the Directors shall at such meeting resolve or, in the absence of any such resolution, where the largest group of those participating is assembled or, if there is no such group, where the Chairman of the meeting then is.

**40.3** Questions arising at any meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In case of an equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

#### **41. CHAIRMAN OF THE DIRECTORS**

**41.1** The Directors may elect a chairman (the "**Chairman**") and a deputy chairman of their meetings, and determine the period for which each is to hold office but if no such Chairman is elected, or if at any meeting the Chairman is not present within five minutes after the time appointed for holding the same, the Directors present shall choose one of their number to be Chairman of such meeting.

**41.2** If at any time there is more than one deputy chairman the right in the absence of the Chairman to preside as chairman at a meeting of the Directors or of the Company shall be determined as between the deputy chairmen present (if more than one) by seniority in length of appointment or otherwise as resolved by the Directors.

#### **42. EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

**42.1** The Directors may from time to time appoint one or more of their number to an executive office, including the offices of Chairman, deputy chairman, managing director, joint managing Director, assistant managing director, chief executive Officer, finance director or manager or any other salaried office for such period and on such terms as they think fit. Without prejudice to any claim a Director may have for damages for breach of any contract of service between him and the Company, the appointment of any Director under this Article shall be subject to determination if he ceases from any cause to be a Director or (subject to the terms of any contract between him and the Company) if the Directors resolve that his term of office as an executive Director be determined.

**42.2** The Directors may entrust to and confer upon a Director holding such executive office any of the powers exercisable by them as Directors upon such terms and conditions and with such restrictions as they think fit, and either collaterally with or to the exclusion of their own powers, and may from time to time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary all or any of such powers but no person dealing in good faith and without notice of the revocation or variation shall be affected by it.

#### **43. DELEGATION TO COMMITTEES**

**43.1** The Directors may delegate any of their powers, authorities or discretions to committees, consisting of such one or more of their body as they think fit.

**43.2** Such committees may also consist of persons who are not Directors provided that the majority of the members of any such committee shall consist of Directors and the presence of at least one Director shall be required for a quorum at any meeting of such committee and no resolution of any such committee shall be effective unless approved by a majority of the Directors present. Insofar as any such power or discretion is delegated to a committee, any reference in these Articles to the exercise by the Directors of the power or discretion so delegated shall be read and construed as if it were a reference to its exercise by such committee.

**43.3** Any committee so formed shall, in the exercise of the powers and discretions so delegated and in its conduct of its meetings, conform to any regulations that may be imposed on it by the Directors and may, if and to the extent expressly permitted by such regulations, sub-delegate all or any of the powers or discretions delegated to it. Those of these Articles which deal with meetings and proceedings of Directors shall, so far as not altered by any regulations made by the Directors, apply also to the meetings and proceedings of any committee consisting of two or more Members.

#### **44. ALTERNATE DIRECTORS**

**44.1** Any Director (other than an alternate Director) may at any time appoint another Director, or any other person approved by the Directors and willing to act, to be an alternate Director of the Company and may at any time remove any alternate Director appointed by him from office.

**44.2** An alternate Director so appointed may be repaid by the Company such expenses as might properly have been paid to him if he had been a Director but shall not be entitled to receive any remuneration from the Company in respect of his services as an alternate Director except such part (if any) of the remuneration otherwise payable to his appointor as such appointor may by notice in writing to the Company from time to time direct. An alternate Director shall not be required to hold any share qualification, nor be counted in reckoning the maximum and minimum number of Directors allowed or required by these Articles but shall otherwise be subject to the provisions of these Articles with regard to Directors.

**44.3** An alternate Director shall (subject to his giving to the Company an address at which notices may be given to him) be entitled to receive notices of all meetings of the Directors and to attend and vote as a Director at any such meetings at which the Director appointing him is not personally present, and generally to perform all the functions of his appointor as a Director.

**44.4** A Director acting as an alternate for one or more other Directors:

**44.4.1** shall be counted only once for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum for the purposes of Article 40.1;

**44.4.2** shall have, in addition to his own vote, one vote for each Director for whom he acts as alternate.

- 44.5** An alternate Director shall cease to be an alternate Director if his appointor ceases for any reason to be a Director, provided that if any Director retires by rotation but is re-elected by the meeting at which such retirement took effect, any appointment made by him pursuant to this Article which was in force immediately prior to his retirement shall continue to operate after his re-election as if he had not retired.
- 44.6** The appointment of an alternate Director shall automatically determine on the happening of any event which, if he were a Director, would cause him to vacate such office or if he resigns his office by notice to the Company.
- 44.7** All appointments and removals of alternate Directors shall be effected in writing signed by the Director making or revoking such appointment delivered to or left or received at the office and shall take effect in accordance with the terms of the notice (subject to any approval required by Article 44.1) on receipt of such notice at the office.
- 44.8** Every alternate Director shall be an officer of the Company, and shall alone be responsible to the Company for his own acts and defaults, and he shall not be deemed to be the agent of or for the Director appointing him.

**45. DECISIONS IN WRITING SIGNED BY ALL THE DIRECTORS**

A resolution in writing signed by all the Directors from time to time being entitled to receive notice of a meeting of Directors shall be as effective for all purposes as a resolution of the Directors passed at a meeting duly convened and held. Any such resolution may consist of several documents in like form each signed by one or more of such Directors. Such a resolution need not be signed by an alternate Director if it is signed by the Director who appointed him and need not be signed by the appointing Director if signed by his alternate. Any such resolution shall be annexed or attached to the Directors' minute book.

**46. AUTHORISATION OF DIRECTORS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

- 46.1** If a Conflict Situation arises, the Directors may authorise it for the purposes of section 175 of the Act by a resolution of the Directors made in accordance with these Articles.
- 46.2** Any authorisation made for the purposes of this Article 46 shall be effective only if:
- 46.2.1** any requirement as to the quorum at a meeting at which the Conflict Situation is authorised is met without counting the Director or any other Director to whom the Conflict Situation relates; and
  - 46.2.2** the Conflict Situation was authorised without any such Director voting or would have been authorised if his or their votes had not been counted.
- 46.3** At the time of the authorisation, or at any time afterwards, the Directors may impose any limitations or conditions or grant the authority subject to such terms which (in each case) they consider appropriate and reasonable in all the circumstances, including that:
- 46.3.1** any information obtained by a Director concerned, other than in his capacity as a Director or employee of the Company, which is confidential in relation to

a third party, need not be disclosed or used for the benefit of the Company where such disclosure or use would constitute a breach of confidence;

**46.3.2** no Director concerned shall, by reason of his being a Director or his doing anything as a Director, be accountable to the Company for any remuneration or other benefit received from a third party as a result of the Conflict Situation;

**46.3.3** no Director concerned shall be required or entitled to attend those parts of meetings of the Directors or meetings of a committee of the Directors at which matters to which the Conflict Situation relates are discussed; and

**46.3.4** no Director concerned shall be entitled to receive any papers or other documents in relation to, or concerning, matters to which the Conflict Situation relates.

Subject to any such limitations, conditions or terms, any authorisation given by the Directors shall be deemed to be given to the fullest extent permitted by the Statutes.

**46.4** Any authorisation made for the purposes of this Article may be revoked or varied at any time in the absolute discretion of the Directors.

**46.5** A Director shall not be in breach of the duties he owes to the Company by virtue of sections 171 to 177 of the Act or otherwise because of anything done or omitted to be done in accordance with the provisions of this Article or the terms of any authorisation given by the Directors in accordance with this Article.

## **47. PERMITTED INTERESTS**

**47.1** Subject to the provisions of these Articles and the Statutes, and provided that he has declared to the Directors the nature and extent of any interest of his if so required by these Articles and the Statutes:

**47.1.1** a Director may, notwithstanding his office, enter into or be interested in any transaction or arrangement with the Company and may have or be interested in dealings of any nature whatsoever with the Company;

**47.1.2** a Director is authorised to hold any office or place of profit under the Company in conjunction with the office of Director for such period, and on such terms as to remuneration and otherwise, as the Directors may determine;

**47.1.3** a Director or any firm or body corporate in which he is interested is authorised to act in a professional capacity for the Company and he or such firm or body corporate shall be entitled to remuneration for professional services as if he were not a Director, provided that neither any Director nor any such firm or body corporate may act as the Auditors;

- 47.1.4** a Director is authorised to be or become a director or other officer or servant of, or otherwise interested in, any other entity promoted by the Company or in which the Company may be in any way interested and shall not (in the absence of agreement to the contrary) be liable to account to the Company for any emoluments or other benefits received or receivable by him as director, or officer or servant of, or from his interest in, such other company; and
- 47.1.5** a Director is authorised to be or become a director of any other company in which the Company does not have an interest and which cannot reasonably be regarded as giving rise to a conflict of interest at the time of his appointment as a director of that other company.
- 47.2** A Director shall not require any separate authorisation by the Directors pursuant to Article 46 for matters falling within this Article 47, although the Directors may at any time impose any limitations, conditions or terms in relation to such matters which (in each case) they consider appropriate and reasonable in all the circumstances.
- 47.3** A Director shall not be in breach of the duties he owes to the Company by virtue of sections 171 to 177 of the Act or otherwise because of anything done or omitted to be done or any remuneration or other benefits received or receivable by him in accordance with the provisions of this Article 47.
- 48. DIRECTORS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- 48.1** A Director who is in any way, whether directly or indirectly, interested in:
- 48.1.1** any proposed transaction or arrangement with the Company; or
- 48.1.2** any transaction or arrangement which has been entered into by the Company shall declare the nature and extent of his interest to the other Directors in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes and this Article 48.
- 48.2** For the purposes of this Article 48:
- 48.2.1** a transaction or arrangement of the kind described in sections 197, 198, 200, 201 or 203 of the Act made with a Director or a person connected with such Director shall, if it would not otherwise be so treated (and whether or not prohibited by that section), be treated as a transaction or arrangement in which that Director is interested; and
- 48.2.2** a Director shall be deemed interested in any transaction or arrangement in which any person connected with him is interested, whether directly or indirectly.
- 48.3** A Director need not declare an interest:



- 48.3.1** if he is not aware of it or if he is not aware of the transaction or arrangement in question (and for these purposes a Director is treated as being aware of matters of which he ought reasonably to be aware);
- 48.3.2** if it cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest;
- 48.3.3** if, or to the extent that, the other Directors are already aware of it (and for this purpose the other Directors are treated as aware of anything of which they ought reasonably to be aware); or
- 48.3.4** if, or to the extent that, it concerns terms of his service contract that have been or are to be considered:
  - (a) by a meeting of the Directors; or
  - (b) by a committee of the Directors appointed for the purpose under these Articles.

#### **49. RESTRICTIONS ON DIRECTORS VOTING AND COUNTING IN THE QUORUM**

**49.1** Save as set out in this Article 49, a Director shall not vote on, nor be counted in the quorum in relation to, any resolution of the Directors relating to any transaction or arrangement in respect of which is permitted under Article 47, which he is required to make a declaration of interest pursuant to Article 48, or would be so required but for Articles 48.3.3 or 48.3.4.

**49.2** Subject to any limitations, conditions or terms attaching to any authorisation given by the directors pursuant to Article 46, the prohibition in Article 49.1 shall not apply to any resolution relating to any transaction, arrangement or matter in respect of which the interest of the Director in question arises only from one or more of the following matters:

- 49.2.1** his interest in shares or debentures or other securities in the Company;
- 49.2.2** his interest in any other company attributable to his interest in shares or debentures or other securities in the Company itself;
- 49.2.3** any proposal to give him any security, guarantee or indemnity in respect of money lent or obligations incurred by him for the benefit of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings;
- 49.2.4** any proposal to give a third party any security, guarantee or indemnity in respect of a debt or obligation of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings for which he has assumed responsibility in whole or in part under a guarantee or indemnity or by the giving of security;
- 49.2.5** his entitlement as a holder of shares, debentures or other securities to participate in an offer for subscription or purchase of shares or debentures or other securities in the Company or in any of its subsidiary undertakings or his proposed participation in the underwriting or sub-underwriting of any such offer;

- 49.2.6** his interest in any present or proposed capacity in any arrangement which the Company has in place, or proposes to put in place, for the benefit of employees of, or persons that provide services to, the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings provided that the arrangement does not award him any privilege or benefit not generally awarded to the persons to whom such arrangement relates;
- 49.2.7** any proposal for the Company to give him an indemnity (other than an indemnity referred to in Article 49.2.3) where all other Directors are also being offered indemnities on substantially the same terms;
- 49.2.8** his interest as an insured under any insurance policy which the Company proposes to purchase or maintain for the benefit of any or all Directors or for the benefit of persons including Directors;
- 49.2.9** any proposal for the Company to fund expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him in defending proceedings referred to in section 205 of the Act or in connection with an application for relief referred to in that section or for the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings to take any action to enable such expenditure not to be incurred, in each case where all other Directors are also being offered substantially the same arrangements; and
- 49.2.10** his interest, direct or indirect and whether as an officer, employee, shareholder, creditor or otherwise, in any other company with which the Company proposes to enter into any transaction or arrangement (save that any such company shall not include any company in which he, so far as he is aware, holds an interest in shares representing one per cent. or more of the issued equity share capital of such company (or of any other company through which such interest is derived) or of the voting rights available to members of the relevant company).

**49.3** For the purposes of Article 49.2 there shall be treated as the interests of the Director in question any interest of a person connected with him (other than the Company itself, if applicable). Accordingly, references in Article 49.2 to:

- 49.3.1** (i) any interest, benefit or entitlement which the Director has or may have; or (ii) any obligation incurred by the Director or for which he has assumed responsibility; or (iii) any proposal to give the Director anything or any transaction or arrangement to which he is or may be a party or in which he participates or may participate

shall be deemed to include references to:

- 49.3.2** (i) the interests, benefits or entitlements of any such connected person; or (ii) an obligation incurred or responsibility assumed by any such connected person; or (iii) any proposal to give any such connected person something or

for that person to be a party to or participate in any transaction or arrangement.

**49.4** Where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment (including fixing or varying the terms of appointment) of two or more Directors to offices or employments with the Company, such proposals may be divided and considered in relation to each Director separately and in such cases, each of the Directors concerned shall be entitled to vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of each resolution except that concerning his own appointment.

**49.5** If any question shall arise at any meeting as to:

**49.5.1** whether a Director is required to declare an interest pursuant to Article 48 or the Statutes, or would be so required but for Articles 48.3.3 or 48.3.4; or

**49.5.2** whether a Director is entitled to vote or is prohibited from voting pursuant to Article 49

and such question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting, such question shall be referred to the Chairman of the meeting and his ruling in relation to any other Director shall be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature and extent of the interest which the Director is required to declare pursuant to Article 48, or would be so required but for Articles 48.3.3 or 48.3.4, has not been fairly disclosed to the meeting.

**49.6** Subject to the Statutes, the Company may by ordinary resolution:

**49.6.1** suspend or relax to any extent, either generally or in respect of any particular matter, any provision of this Article 49; and

**49.6.2** ratify any transaction not duly authorised by reason of a contravention of this Article 49.

## **50. BENEFITS IN TRANSACTIONS OR ARRANGEMENTS**

No transaction, arrangement or dealing which is permitted by Article 47 or authorised by Article 48 shall be liable to be avoided, nor shall any Director so transacting, dealing or being so interested be in breach of the duties he owes to the Company or liable to account to the Company or its Members for any remuneration payable or profit arising out of any such transaction, arrangement or dealing to which he is a party or in which he is interested by reason of his being a Director or the fiduciary relationship thereby established.

## **51. REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES OF DIRECTORS**

**51.1** The Directors (other than a Director who is an employee of the Company or any subsidiary of the Company) shall be paid out of the funds of the Company by way of fees for their services as Directors such sums (if any) as the Directors shall from time to time determine, not exceeding an aggregate sum equal to £450,000 (or such larger amount as the Company may by ordinary resolution from time to time determine) in any financial year of the

Company (excluding any amount payable under any other provision of these Articles or any service agreement with any subsidiary of the Company). Any such remuneration shall be divided amongst such Directors as they shall agree or, in default of agreement, equally.

**51.2** The Company may repay to any Director all such reasonable expenses as he may incur in attending and returning from meetings of the Directors, or of any committee of the Directors, or general meetings, or otherwise in or about the business of the Company or in the discharge of his duties as a Director.

**51.3** Any Director who is appointed to any executive office or who serves on any committee or who otherwise performs services which in the opinion of the Directors are outside the scope of the ordinary duties of a Director may be paid, in addition to any remuneration to which he may be entitled under Article 51.1, such remuneration by way of salary, percentage of profits or otherwise, and/or may receive such other benefits, as the Directors may determine.

**52. DIRECTORS' POWER TO FILL CASUAL VACANCY**

The Directors shall have power at any time to appoint any other person to be a Director of the Company, either to fill a vacancy or as an addition to the board of Directors, but so that the total number of Directors shall not at any time exceed the maximum number (if any) fixed in accordance with Article 37.1. Any Director so appointed shall hold office only until the next following annual general meeting, when he shall retire but shall be eligible for election. Any Director who retires under this Article shall not be taken into account in determining the number of Directors who are to retire by rotation at the relevant annual general meeting.

**53. ACTS OF DIRECTORS VALID ALTHOUGH APPOINTMENT DEFECTIVE**

All acts done by any meeting of the Directors or of a committee of Directors, or by any persons acting as Directors or alternate Directors, shall as regards all persons dealing in good faith with the Company, notwithstanding that it is afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment of any such Directors or persons acting as Directors or alternate Directors or that they or any of them were disqualified or had vacated office or were not entitled to vote, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed and was qualified to be a Director of the Company and had continued to be a Director or alternate Director and had been entitled to vote.

**54. DIRECTORS' RETIREMENT BY ROTATION**

**54.1** At every annual general meeting after the date of adoption of these Articles there shall retire from office:

**54.1.1** one third of the Directors for the time being, or if their number is not three or a multiple of three then the number nearest to one third, the Directors to so retire in each year being those who have been longest in office since their appointment or (if more recent) their last election, but as between persons

who were elected or re-elected on the same day those to retire shall (unless otherwise agreed between them) be determined by lot; and

**54.1.2** such additional Director or Directors as the board of Directors may require to retire in order to ensure (so far as practicable) that each Director offers himself for re-election no less often than once every three years.

**54.2** A retiring Director shall be eligible for re-election.

**54.3** At the annual general meeting at which any Director retires pursuant to Article 54.1 the Company may appoint a person to the vacated office, fill any vacancies in the office of Director or appoint additional Directors, provided that the maximum number (if any) fixed in accordance with Article 37.1 is not exceeded. The Company may also at any general meeting, if notice has been duly given, fill any vacancies in the office of Director, or appoint additional Directors, provided that the maximum number (if any) fixed in accordance with Article 37.1 is not exceeded.

**54.4** No person, other than a Director retiring at the meeting or a person who is recommended by the Directors for election, shall be eligible for election to the office of Director at any general meeting unless, not less than seven nor more than 42 days before the day appointed for the meeting, there shall have been left at the office notice in writing, signed by a Member duly qualified to attend and vote at such meeting, of his intention to propose such person for election, and also notice in writing signed by that person of his willingness to be elected.

**54.5** If at any general meeting at which an election of Directors should take place the place of any retiring Director is not filled, such retiring Director shall (unless a resolution for his re-election shall have been put to the meeting and lost) continue in office until the annual general meeting in the next year, and so on from time to time until his place has been filled, unless at any such meeting it shall be determined to reduce the number of Directors in office.

**55. REMOVAL OF A DIRECTOR BY THE COMPANY IN GENERAL MEETING**

The Company may, in accordance with and subject to the provisions of the Statutes, by ordinary resolution, of which special notice has been given in accordance with section 312 of the Act, remove any Director (including a managing or other executive Director) before the expiration of his period of office (notwithstanding anything in these Articles or in any agreement between the Company and such Director but without prejudice to any claim for damages in respect of the breach of any such agreement), and may by ordinary resolution appoint another person in his place.

**56. DISQUALIFICATION OF DIRECTORS**

The office of a Director shall be vacated if the Director:

- 56.1** is declared bankrupt or applies for an interim order under the Insolvency Act 1986 or makes a proposal for the adoption of a voluntary arrangement under the Insolvency Act 1986;
- 56.2** [has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a Director and may remain so for more than three months, and this is confirmed in a written opinion to the Company from a registered medical practitioner who is treating the Director;]
- 56.3** becomes prohibited from being a Director by reason of any order made under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986;
- 56.4** is convicted of an indictable offence (not being an offence which, in the opinion of the Directors, does not affect his character or position as a Director of the Company);
- 56.5** is absent from meetings of the Directors for a continuous period of six months (without leave having been given by a resolution of the Directors) and the Directors resolve that his office be vacated;
- 56.6** resigns his office by notice in writing left or received at the office or he in writing offers to resign and the Directors accept such resignation;
- 56.7** is removed from office under section 168 of the Act or as provided in Article 55; or
- 56.8** is requested in writing by all of the other Directors to resign his office

but any act done in good faith by a Director whose office is so vacated shall be valid unless, prior to the doing of such act, written notice shall have been given to the Company or an entry shall have been made in the Directors' minute book stating that such Director has ceased to be a Director of the Company.

**57. DIRECTORS MAY ACT NOTWITHSTANDING VACANCY**

The continuing Directors may act notwithstanding any vacancy in their body, but if and so long as the number of Directors is reduced below the number fixed by or pursuant to these Articles as the necessary quorum of Directors, the continuing Directors may act for the purpose of increasing the number of Directors to that number, or of summoning a general meeting of the Company, but for no other purpose. If there are no Directors able or willing to act, then any two Members may summon a general meeting for the purpose of appointing Directors.

**58. SECRETARY**

- 58.1** The Directors shall appoint, and may remove at their discretion, a Secretary, or two persons to act jointly as Secretary and shall fix his or their remuneration and terms and conditions of employment.
- 58.2** Anything required or authorised to be done by the Secretary by the Statutes or these Articles may if there are joint Secretaries in office be done by either of them.

**58.3** A provision of the Statutes or these Articles requiring or authorising a thing to be done by a Director and the Secretary shall not be satisfied by its being done by the same person acting both as Director and as, or in place of, the Secretary.

**59. ATTORNEYS**

The Directors may from time to time by power of attorney executed under the seal or otherwise by the Company as its deed appoint any company, firm or person or body of persons to be the attorney or attorneys of the Company for such purposes and with such powers, authorities and discretions (not exceeding those vested in or exercisable by the Directors under these Articles) and for such period and subject to such conditions as they may think fit, and any such powers of attorney may contain such provisions for the protection of persons dealing with any such attorney as the Directors may decide and may also authorise any such attorney to delegate all or any of the powers, authorities and discretions vested in him.

**60. AUTHENTICATION OF DOCUMENTS**

**60.1** Any Director or the Secretary or any person appointed by the Directors for the purpose shall have power to authenticate any documents affecting the constitution of the Company and any resolutions passed by the Company or the Directors or any committee and any books, records, documents and accounts relating to the business of the Company, and to certify copies of them or extracts from them as true copies or extracts. Where any books, records, documents or accounts are elsewhere than at the office, the manager or other officer of the Company having the custody of them shall be deemed to be a person appointed by the Directors under this Article.

**60.2** A document purporting to be a copy of a resolution of the Directors or an extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Directors which is certified as such in accordance with Article 60.1 shall be conclusive evidence in favour of all persons dealing with the Company that such resolution has been duly passed or, as the case may be, that such extract is a true and accurate record of a duly constituted meeting of the Directors.

**61. SEAL**

**61.1** The Directors shall provide for the safe custody of the seal. The seal shall not be affixed to any instrument except by the express authority of a resolution of the Directors or of a committee of the Directors. Every instrument to which the seal is so affixed (subject to the provisions of Article 10) shall be signed by two Directors, or one Director and the Secretary, or by such other person or persons as the Directors may appoint for the purpose.

**61.2** Subject always to Article 10, certificates for shares of the Company and (subject to the terms or conditions of their issue) debentures or other forms of security may at the discretion of the Directors be issued without any signature or counter-signature.

**61.3** The Company may exercise the powers conferred by the Statutes with regard to having an official seal for use abroad and such powers shall be vested in the Directors.

## **62. PENSIONS AND BENEFITS**

**62.1** Without prejudice to the generality of Article 38, the Directors may give or award pensions, annuities, gratuities and superannuation or other allowances or benefits to any persons who are or have at any time been employed by or in the service of the Company (including Directors who have held any executive office under the Company) and to the wives, husbands, civil partners, widows, widowers, children and other relatives and dependants of any such persons and may set up, establish, join with other companies (being subsidiary undertakings of the Company or companies with which it is associated in business), support and maintain pension, superannuation or other funds or schemes (whether contributory or non-contributory) for the benefit of such persons or any of them or any class of them.

**62.2** Any Director shall be entitled to receive and retain for his own benefit any such pension, annuity, gratuity, allowance or other benefit. Any such pension or the participation in any such funds or schemes may, as the Directors consider desirable, be granted to an employee either (i) before, and in anticipation of, or (ii) upon, or at any time after, his actual retirement.

## **63. PROVISIONS FOR EMPLOYEES ON CESSATION OR TRANSFER OF BUSINESS**

**63.1** The Directors may, subject to Article 63.2, exercise the power to make provision for the benefit of persons employed or formerly employed by the Company or any of its subsidiaries in connection with the cessation or the transfer to any person of the whole or part of the undertaking of the Company or that subsidiary.

**63.2** Any exercise by the Directors of the power to make provision of the kind referred to in Article 63.1 (including, without prejudice to the provisions of Article 51) for the benefit of directors, former directors or shadow directors employed or formerly employed by the Company or any of its subsidiaries must be approved by an ordinary resolution of the Company before any payment to or for the benefit of such persons is made.

## **64. SUBSIDIARY UNDERTAKINGS**

The Directors may arrange that any branch of the business carried on by the Company or any other business in which the Company may be interested shall be carried on as or through one or more subsidiary undertakings, and they may, on behalf of the Company, make such arrangements as they think advisable for taking the profits or bearing the losses of any branch or business so carried on or for financing, assisting or subsidising any such subsidiary undertaking or guaranteeing its contracts, obligations or liabilities, and they may appoint, remove and re-appoint any persons (whether Directors or not) to act as directors, managing directors or managers of any such subsidiary undertaking or any other company in which the Company may be interested and may determine the remuneration (whether by way of salary, commission on profits or otherwise) of any persons so appointed, and any Directors may retain any remuneration so payable to them.

## **65. LOCAL AND OTHER DIRECTORS**



The Directors may, from time to time, pursuant to this Article appoint any other persons to any post with such descriptive title including that of director (whether as local, associate, executive, group, divisional, departmental, deputy, assistant, advisory director or otherwise) as the Directors may determine and may define, limit, vary and restrict the powers, authorities and discretions of persons so appointed and may fix and determine their remuneration and duties, and subject to any contract between him and the Company may remove from such post any person so appointed. A person so appointed shall not be a Director of the Company for any of the purposes of these Articles or of the Statutes.

## **66. OVERSEAS BRANCH REGISTER**

The Company may exercise the powers conferred upon it by the Statutes with regard to the keeping of an overseas branch register, and the Directors may (subject to the provisions of the Statutes) make and vary such provisions as they may think fit respecting the keeping of any such register.

## **67. BORROWING POWERS**

**67.1** Subject to the provisions of this Article, the Directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow or raise money and to mortgage or charge its undertaking, property and uncalled capital or any part thereof and (subject to the provisions of the Statutes) to issue debentures and other securities whether outright or as security (principal or collateral) for any debt, liability or obligation of the Company or any third party.

**67.2** The Directors shall restrict the borrowings of the Company and exercise all voting and other rights or powers of control exercisable by the Company in relation to its subsidiary undertakings (if any) so as to secure (as regards subsidiary undertakings so far as by such exercise it can secure) that the aggregate amount remaining undischarged of all moneys borrowed by the Group (exclusive of moneys borrowed by a member of the Group from and owing to another member of the Group) shall not at any time without the previous sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company exceed an amount equal to five times the aggregate of:

**67.2.1** the nominal amount paid up on the issued share capital of the Company (including any shares held as treasury shares); and

**67.2.2** the amounts standing to the credit of the consolidated capital and revenue reserves (including any share premium account, capital redemption reserve, revaluation reserve, merger reserve and any positive balance on profit and loss account/retained earnings) of the Group, whether distributable or undistributable,

all as shown in the then latest audited consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its subsidiary undertakings, but after:

**67.2.3** making such adjustments as may be appropriate in respect of any variation in the interest of the Company in subsidiary undertakings and in such issued and paid up share capital and reserves since the date of its latest audited balance

sheet and so that for this purpose if any proposed allotment of shares by the Company for cash has been underwritten or agreed to be subscribed then such shares shall be deemed to have been allotted and the amount (including any premium) of the subscription moneys payable (not being moneys payable later than six months after the date of allotment) shall be deemed to have been paid up on the date when the issue of shares was underwritten or agreed to be subscribed (or, if the underwriting or subscription agreement was conditional, the date on which it became unconditional);

- 67.2.4** excluding, so far as not already excluded, (a) any sums set aside for future taxation; and (b) amounts attributable to minority and other outside interests in subsidiary undertakings;
- 67.2.5** deducting (a) an amount equal to any distribution by the Company or any other member of the Group (other than to another member of the Group) out of profits earned up to and including the date of such latest audited balance sheet which have been declared, recommended or made since that date except so far as provided for in such balance sheet; (b) goodwill and other intangible assets (other than goodwill arising on consolidation); and (c) any negative balance on profit and loss account/retained earnings;
- 67.2.6** excluding the effect of the classification of any element of preference share capital as a financial liability in accordance with any applicable accounting standard;
- 67.2.7** excluding the effect of any retirement defined benefits scheme surplus or deficit which would otherwise be reflected in accordance with any applicable accounting standard; and
- 67.2.8** making such other adjustments (if any) as the Auditors may consider appropriate or necessary.
- 67.3** For the purposes of this Article, "moneys borrowed" shall be deemed to include not only borrowings but the following, except in so far as otherwise taken into account:

  - 67.3.1** the nominal amount of any issued share capital and the principal amount of any debentures or borrowed moneys of any body, whether corporate or unincorporated, the beneficial interest in which is not for the time being owned by a member of the Group and the payment or repayment of which is the subject of a guarantee, security or indemnity given by a member of the Group;
  - 67.3.2** the outstanding amount raised by acceptances by any bank or accepting house under any acceptance credit opened on behalf of and in favour of any member of the Group (other than acceptances relating to the purchase or sale of goods in the usual course of trading);

- 67.3.3** the principal amount of any debenture (whether secured or unsecured) of any of member of the Group owned otherwise than by a member of the Group;
- 67.3.4** the principal amount of any preference share capital of any subsidiary undertaking owned otherwise than by a member of the Group;
- 67.3.5** any fixed or minimum premium payable on final repayment of any borrowing or deemed borrowing of any member of the Group;
- 67.3.6** the minority proportion of moneys borrowed by any member of the Group and owing to a partly-owned subsidiary undertaking;

but shall be deemed not to include:

- 67.3.7** borrowings for the purpose of repaying the whole or any part of moneys borrowed by any member of the Group for the time being outstanding and which are to be applied within six months of being so borrowed, pending their application for such purpose within such period;
- 67.3.8** borrowings for the purpose of financing any contract in respect of which any part of the price receivable by any of the Company and its subsidiary undertakings is guaranteed or insured by the Export Credits Guarantee Department of the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform or by any other governmental department, firm or institution fulfilling a similar function, to an amount not exceeding that part of the price receivable thereunder which is so guaranteed or insured;
- 67.3.9** the minority proportion of moneys borrowed by a partly-owned subsidiary undertaking which is not owing to a member of the Group;
- 67.3.10** any amounts which, but for the provisions of this Article 67.3, would be taken into account as moneys borrowed by any undertaking which became a subsidiary undertaking of the Company after the date of its most recent audited consolidated balance sheet, to the extent that such amounts do not exceed its borrowings outstanding on the date on which it became a subsidiary undertaking, but only until six months after such date;
- 67.3.11** any client money held by any member of the Group in trust for clients under any applicable law or regulation;
- 67.3.12** borrowings to the extent they are cash-collateralised or that cash or cash equivalents are set aside or deposited (including, without limitation, cash amounts held in escrow) for the purpose of securing, covering or repaying such borrowings;
- 67.3.13** any element of preference shares classified as a financial liability in accordance with any applicable accounting standard; and

**67.3.14** sums which fall to be treated as borrowed moneys of any member of the Group by reason only of any current statement of standard accounting practice or other accountancy principle or practice,

and moneys borrowed and outstanding in or calculated by reference to a currency other than sterling shall for the purposes of this Article be translated into sterling by reference to the rate of exchange used for the conversion of such currency in the latest audited balance sheet of the relevant company or, if no rate of exchange was applied in such balance sheet for the relevant currency, by reference to the relevant rate of exchange on the date of such balance sheet determined on such basis as the Auditors may determine or approve.

**67.4** Where any calculation pursuant to this Article 67 is required in connection with or for the purposes of a transaction whereby an entity will become or cease to be a subsidiary undertaking of the Company pursuant to or contemporaneously with such transaction, such entity shall be treated as if it had already become or ceased to be a subsidiary undertaking.

**67.5** A report by the Auditors (a) as to the aggregate amount which may at any one time in accordance with the provisions of this Article 67 be owing by the Group without such sanction as is provided for herein, or (b) as to the actual amount of moneys borrowed, or of any other amount to be calculated pursuant to this Article, at any time, or (c) to the effect that the limit imposed by this Article has not been or would not be exceeded at any particular time, shall be conclusive and shall be binding upon the Company, its Members and all persons dealing with the Company. Nevertheless, for the purposes of this Article the directors may act in reliance on a bona fide estimate of the amount of adjusted capital and reserves (as described in Article 67.2) at any time and if, as a result the limit imposed by this Article is inadvertently exceeded, an amount of moneys borrowed equal to the excess may be disregarded until the expiry of 120 days after the date on which the Directors become aware that such a situation has or may have arisen.

**67.6** As used herein the expression "**Group**" means the Company and its subsidiary undertakings, and "member of the Group" shall be construed accordingly.

**67.7** No person dealing with the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings shall by reason of the foregoing provisions be concerned to see or inquire whether the limit set out in this Article is observed and no debt incurred or security given in excess of such limit shall be invalid or ineffectual, unless the lender or the recipient of the security had at the time when the debt was incurred or security given express notice that the limit hereby imposed had been or would thereby be exceeded.

**68. BONDS, DEBENTURES, ETC. TO BE SUBJECT TO CONTROL OF DIRECTORS**

Subject to the provisions of the Statutes, any debentures or other securities issued or to be issued by the Company shall be under the control of the Directors, who may issue them upon such terms and conditions and in such manner and for such consideration as they shall consider to be for the benefit of the Company.

## **69. DIVIDENDS**

**69.1** Subject to the Statutes and the rights of the holders of any shares entitled to any priority, preference or special privileges, and to the terms of issue of any shares:

**69.1.1** all dividends shall be declared and paid to the Members in proportion to the amounts paid up (as to nominal value) on the shares held by them respectively. No amount paid on a share in advance of calls shall be treated for the purposes of this Article as paid on the share; and

**69.1.2** all dividends shall be apportioned and paid proportionately to the amounts paid up (as to nominal value) on the shares during any portion or portions of the period in respect of which the dividend is paid but if any share is issued on terms providing that it shall rank for dividend from a particular date, or *pari passu* as regards dividends with a share already issued, it shall rank accordingly.

**69.2** In respect of each dividend to be paid by the Company the Directors may determine a record date, and the dividend shall be payable to those persons registered as Members at the close of business on the record date in respect of that dividend, and the amount payable to each Member shall be determined by reference to the number of shares (or, where appropriate, the number of shares of the relevant class) registered in his name at that time.

**69.3** The Directors shall lay before the Company in general meeting a recommendation as to the amount (if any) which they consider should be paid by way of dividend, and the Company in general meeting may declare the dividend to be paid, but such dividend shall not exceed the amount recommended by the Directors.

**69.4** No dividend or interim dividend shall be paid otherwise than out of profits available for distribution in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes.

**69.5** No dividend, interim dividend or other moneys payable on or in respect of a share shall bear interest as against the Company.

## **70. INTERIM DIVIDENDS**

**70.1** The Directors may from time to time pay to the Members, or any class of Members, such interim dividends as appear to the Directors to be justified by the profits of the Company.

**70.2** If at any time the capital of the Company is divided into different classes of shares, the Directors may pay such interim dividends in respect of those shares in the capital of the Company which confer on their holders deferred or non-preferred rights as well as in respect of those shares which confer on their holders preferential or special rights with regard to dividends, and provided that the Directors act *bona fide* they shall not incur any responsibility to the holders of any shares for any damage that they may suffer by reason of the payment of an interim dividend on any shares.

**70.3** The Directors may also pay half yearly or at other suitable intervals to be determined by them any dividend which may be payable at a fixed rate if they are of the opinion that the profits justify the payment.

**71. RIGHT TO RETAIN DIVIDEND IN CERTAIN CASES**

**71.1** The Directors may retain any dividend or other moneys payable on or in respect of a share on which the Company has a lien and may apply the same in or towards satisfaction of the debts, liabilities or engagements in respect of which the lien exists.

**71.2** The Directors may retain the dividends payable upon shares in respect of which any person is, under the provisions as to the transmission of shares contained in these Articles, entitled to become a Member, or which any person is under those provisions entitled to transfer, until such person shall become a Member in respect of such shares or shall transfer the same.

**72. METHOD OF PAYMENT OF DIVIDENDS**

**72.1** Any dividend or other money payable in respect of a share may be paid by cheque or warrant or similar financial instrument sent by ordinary post to the registered address of the person entitled or, if two or more persons are the holders of the share or are jointly entitled to it by reason of the death or bankruptcy of the holder, to the registered address of that one of those persons who is first named in the register or to such person and to such address as the person or persons entitled may in writing direct. Every cheque or warrant or similar financial instrument shall be made payable to, or to the order of, the person or persons entitled or to such other person as the person or persons entitled may in writing direct.

**72.2** Any such dividend or other money may be paid by any other method (including by direct debit, bank transfer or otherwise electronically) which the Directors consider appropriate (including in respect of uncertificated shares, where the Directors are authorised to do so by or on behalf of the holder or joint holders in such manner as the Directors shall from time to time consider sufficient, by means of the relevant system concerned and subject always to the facilities and requirements of that relevant system).

**72.3** Payment by direct debit, bank transfer or otherwise electronically pursuant to Article 72.2 shall be made to the bank or other account of the person otherwise entitled to receive payment by cheque or warrant or similar financial instrument pursuant to this Article 72 details of which account have been provided to the Company in writing by the person entitled to receive the same, save in respect of payments through a relevant system which shall be made in such manner as is consistent with the facilities and requirements of the relevant system, including by the sending of an instruction to the operator of the relevant system to credit the cash memorandum account of the person entitled to receive payment or to such other person as the person or persons entitled may in writing direct.

**72.4** The Company may cease to send any cheque or warrant or similar financial instrument (or to use any other method of payment, including payment by means of a relevant system)

for any dividend payable in respect of a share if, in respect of at least two consecutive dividends payable on that share, the cheque or warrant or similar financial instrument has been returned undelivered or remains uncashed (or that other method of payment has failed), or after only one occasion if reasonable enquiries by the Company have failed to establish any new postal address or account of the registered holder, but, subject to the provisions of these Articles, shall recommence sending cheques or warrants or similar financial instruments (or using another method of payment) for dividends payable on that share if the person or persons entitled so request.

**72.5** Payment by such cheque or warrant or similar financial instrument or the collection of funds from, or transfer of funds by, any bank or other person so authorised on behalf of the Company in accordance with such direct debit or bank transfer or by electronic means (including the making of a payment in accordance with the facilities and requirements of a relevant system) shall be an absolute discharge to the Company.

**72.6** Any one of joint holders or other persons jointly entitled to a share as aforesaid may give valid receipts for any dividend or other money payable in respect of the share.

**72.7** Payment by the Directors of any unclaimed dividend or other moneys payable on or in respect of a share into a separate account shall not constitute the Company a trustee in respect of it and any dividend unclaimed after a period of 12 years from the date of declaration of such dividend, or from the date such dividend becomes due for payment, shall be forfeited and shall revert to the Company.

### **73. DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS IN KIND**

A general meeting declaring a dividend may, upon the recommendation of the Directors, direct that it shall be satisfied wholly or partly by the distribution of specific assets (and, in particular, of paid up shares or debentures of any other company) and, where any difficulty arises in regard to the distribution, the Directors may (i) settle the same as they think fit and fix the value for distribution of any assets, (ii) determine that cash shall be paid to any Member upon the basis of the value so fixed in order to adjust the rights of Members and (iii) may vest any assets in trustees.

### **74. RESERVE FUND**

Before recommending a dividend the Directors may set aside any part of the net profits of the Company to a reserve fund, and may apply the same either by employing it in the business of the Company or by investing it in such manner as they think fit, and the income arising from such reserve fund shall be treated as part of the gross profits of the Company. Such reserve fund may, subject to the Statutes, be applied for the purpose of maintaining the property of the Company, replacing wasting assets, meeting contingencies, forming an insurance fund, equalising dividends, paying special dividends or bonuses, or for any other purpose for which the profits of the Company may lawfully be used, and until the same shall be so applied it shall be deemed to remain undistributed profit. The Directors may also carry forward to the accounts of the succeeding year or years any profit or balance of profits which they shall not think fit to distribute or to place to reserve.

## **75. CAPITALISATION OF RESERVES**

**75.1** Subject to the provisions of the Statutes, the Company in general meeting may upon the recommendation of the Directors resolve that it is desirable to capitalise any part of the amount from time to time standing to the credit of any of the Company's reserve funds or reserve accounts (including any undistributable reserves) or to the credit of the profit and loss account (not being required for the payment of or provision for any fixed preferential dividend) and accordingly that such sum be applied:

**75.1.1** on behalf of the Members who would have been entitled to it if distributed by way of dividend and in the same proportion either in or towards paying up any amounts from time to time unpaid on any shares held by such Members respectively or paying up in full shares or debentures of the Company to be allotted and issued credited as fully paid up to and among such Members in the proportion aforesaid or partly in the one way and partly in the other; or

**75.1.2** otherwise as directed by such resolution

and in each case the Directors shall give effect to such resolution. Provided that a share premium account and a capital redemption reserve may, for the purposes of this Article, only be applied in the paying up of shares to be allotted to Members as fully paid shares.

**75.2** The following provisions of this Article (which are without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of Article 75.1) apply:

**75.2.1** where a person is granted pursuant to an employees' share scheme a right to subscribe for shares in the Company in cash at a subscription price less than their nominal value; or

**75.2.2** where, pursuant to an employees' share scheme, the terms on which any person is entitled to subscribe in cash for shares in the Company are adjusted as a result of a capitalisation issue, rights issue or other variation of capital so that the subscription price is less than their nominal value.

**75.3** In any such case the Directors:

**75.3.1** may transfer to a reserve account a sum equal to the deficiency between the subscription price and the nominal value of the shares ("the cash deficiency") from the profits or reserves of the Company which are available for distribution and not required for the payment of any preferential dividend; and

**75.3.2** (subject to Article 75.5) if such transfer is made, shall not apply that reserve account for any purpose other than paying up the cash deficiency upon the allotment of those shares.

**75.4** Whenever the Company is required to allot shares pursuant to such a right to subscribe, the Directors may (subject to the Statutes) appropriate to capital out of the reserve



account an amount equal to the cash deficiency applicable to those shares, apply that amount in paying up the deficiency on the nominal value of those shares and allot those shares credited as fully paid to the person entitled to them.

**75.5** If any person ceases to be entitled to subscribe for shares as described above, the restrictions on the reserve account shall cease to apply in relation to such part of the account as is equal to the amount of the cash deficiency applicable to those shares.

**75.6** No right shall be granted under any employees' share scheme under Article 75.2.1 and no adjustment shall be made as mentioned in Article 75.2.2 unless there are sufficient profits or reserves of the Company available for distribution and not required for the payment of any preferential dividend to permit the transfer to a reserve account in accordance with Articles 75.1 to 75.6 of an amount sufficient to pay up the cash deficiency applicable to the shares concerned.

**75.7** Following the passing of a resolution as referred to in Article 75.1, the Directors may do all acts and things considered necessary or expedient to give effect to any such capitalisation, with full power to the Directors to make such provisions as they think fit for the case of shares becoming distributable in fractions (including provisions whereby, in whole or in part, fractional entitlements are disregarded or the benefit of fractional entitlements accrues to the Company rather than to the Members concerned). The Directors may authorise any person to enter, on behalf of all the Members interested, into an agreement with the Company providing for such capitalisation and matters incidental thereto and any agreement made under such authority shall be effective and binding on all concerned.

## **76. CAPITALISATION OF RESERVES IN RELATION TO OPTION ADJUSTMENT**

Notwithstanding any other provisions contained in these Articles, if an adjustment is made to the option price payable by an option holder under any employees' share scheme operated by the Company which results in the adjusted price per share payable on the exercise of any option in respect of any share being less than the nominal value of such share ("**the adjusted price**"), the Directors may upon the allotment of any share in respect of and following the exercise of the relevant option ("**the New Share**") capitalise any sum standing to the credit of any of the Company's reserve accounts which is available for distribution (excluding any share premium account, capital redemption reserve or other undistributable reserve) by appropriating such sum to the option holders concerned and applying such sum on their behalf in paying up in full an amount equal to the difference between the adjusted price and the nominal value of the New Share. The Directors may take such steps as they consider necessary to ensure that the Company has sufficient reserves available for such application. No further authority of the Company in general meeting shall be required.

## **77. SCRIP DIVIDENDS**

**77.1** Subject to approval by the Company in general meeting and subject to these Articles, the Directors may at their discretion resolve that the Members will have the option to elect to receive in lieu of any dividend on any shares from capital of the Company (or part of it) an

allotment of additional ordinary shares in the capital of the Company credited as fully paid provided that the approval by the Company in general meeting may not be given for a period in excess of five years.

- 77.2** A Member may exercise such option to elect in respect of one dividend only or (if the Directors resolve that Members should be so permitted) in respect of all future dividends (a "**continuing election**"). Subject to Article 77.4, any such continuing election shall cease to have effect upon being revoked by notice in writing delivered by the Member to, or received at, the office or such other place as the Company may direct from time to time.
- 77.3** The number of ordinary shares in the capital of the Company to be allotted in lieu of any amount of dividend shall be determined by the Directors so that the value of such shares shall equal (as nearly as possible without exceeding) such amount and for this purpose the value of an ordinary share shall be deemed to be the average of the middle market quotations of such shares as shown in the Daily Official List of the London Stock Exchange (adjusted as below) on the ex-dividend date and on the next four business days and each such middle market quotation as is not "ex-dividend" shall be adjusted by deducting therefrom the cash amount of such dividend per share.
- 77.4** The Directors, after determining the maximum number of ordinary shares in the capital of the Company to be allotted, shall give notice to the Members of the option to elect accorded to them and shall send with such notice forms of election which specify the procedure to be followed and the place at which and the latest date and time by which duly completed forms of election must be lodged in order to be effective. If appropriate such notice will also refer to the fact that any continuing elections remain in effect and specify the place at which and the latest date and time by which notices of revocation must be lodged if the continuing election is not to apply in respect of the dividend in question.
- 77.5** The Directors shall allot to the holders of those shares in respect of which the share election has been or is duly exercised in lieu of the dividend (or that part of the dividend in respect of which the right of election has been accorded) such number of additional ordinary shares in the capital of the Company determined in accordance with this Article 77 and for such purpose the Directors shall appropriate and capitalise out of any reserve or fund (including any share premium account or capital redemption reserve or profit and loss account) as they shall determine an amount equal to the aggregate nominal amount of the additional ordinary shares to be so allotted and apply the same in paying up in full the appropriate number of ordinary shares for allotment and distribution to and amongst those Members who have given notices of election, such additional ordinary shares to rank *pari passu* in all respects with the fully paid ordinary shares in the capital of the Company then in issue save only as regards participation in the relevant dividend.
- 77.6** The Directors may do all acts and things considered necessary or expedient to give effect to any such capitalisation, with full power to the Directors to make such provisions as they think fit for the case of shares becoming distributable in fractions (including provisions whereby, in whole or in part, fractional entitlements are disregarded or the benefit of fractional entitlements accrues to the Company rather than to the Members concerned).

The Directors may authorise any person to enter, on behalf of all the Members interested, into an agreement with the Company providing for such capitalisation and matters incidental thereto and any agreement made under such authority shall be effective and binding on all concerned.

**77.7** The Directors may on any occasion determine that rights of election shall not be made available to any Members with registered addresses in any territory where, in the absence of a registration statement or other special formalities, the circulation of an offer of rights of election would or might be unlawful and in such event the provisions aforesaid shall be construed subject to such determination.

## **78. INSPECTION OF ACCOUNTING RECORDS**

The Directors may from time to time determine whether and to what extent and at what times and places, and on what conditions, the accounting records of the Company, or any of them, shall be open to the inspection of the Members (not being Directors), and the Members shall have only such rights of inspection as are given to them by the Statutes or by ordinary resolution of the Company or by such determination of the Directors.

## **79. COMMUNICATION OF DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION**

**79.1** The company communications provisions (as defined in the Act) shall, subject to Articles 79 to 82, also apply to any document or information not otherwise authorised or required to be sent or supplied by or to a company under the Companies Acts (as defined in the Act) but to be sent or supplied by or to the Company pursuant to these Articles.

**79.2** The provisions of section 1168 of the Act (hard copy and electronic form and related expressions) shall apply to the Company as if the words "and the Articles" were inserted after the words "the Companies Acts" in sections 1168(1) and 1168(7).

**79.3** The Company may, subject to the provisions of the Act and these Articles, send or supply notices, documents or information to Members by electronic means and/or by making those documents or that information available on a website.

**79.4** Any document or information (including a share certificate) which is sent or supplied by the Company in hard copy form, or in electronic form but to be delivered other than by electronic means, and which is sent by pre-paid post and properly addressed, shall be deemed to have been received by the intended recipient at the expiration of 24 hours after the time it was posted (or 48 hours where first class mail or an equivalent service is not employed for Members with a registered address in the UK). In proving such receipt, it shall be sufficient to show that such document or information was properly addressed, pre-paid and posted.

**79.5** Any document or information which is sent or supplied by the Company by electronic means shall be deemed to have been received by the intended recipient 24 hours after it was transmitted, and in proving such receipt it shall be sufficient to show that such document or information was properly addressed.

- 79.6** Any document or information which is sent or supplied by the Company by means of a website shall be deemed to have been received when the material was first made available on the website or, if later, when the recipient received (or is deemed to have received) notice of the fact that the material was available on the website.
- 79.7** The provisions of this Article 79 shall have effect in place of the company communications provisions (as defined in the Act) relating to deemed delivery of documents or information.
- 79.8** Proof that a document or information sent by electronic means was sent in accordance with guidance issued by the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators shall be conclusive evidence that the document or information was properly addressed and that the document or information was sent or supplied.
- 79.9** A document or other information in electronic form found by the Company to contain a computer virus shall not be accepted by the Company and shall be invalid.
- 79.10** A document or other information may be communicated by the Company to the person entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a Member by communicating it to the representative or representatives of the deceased, or trustee of the bankrupt (either under the Member's name or under the title of the representative or representatives of the deceased or the trustee of the bankrupt or like description) either:
- 79.10.1** to the address or address or location (including any number) for communication in electronic form (if any) agreed by the Company with the person claiming to be so entitled for the purpose of such communication; or
- 79.10.2** (until such an address or location (including any number) has been so agreed) by delivering the document or information in any manner in which the same might have been given if the death or bankruptcy had not occurred.
- 79.11** No Member shall be entitled to have a document or information delivered to him at any address not within the United Kingdom. Any Member whose registered address is not within the United Kingdom may, by notice in writing, supply to the Company an address within the United Kingdom for the sending or supplying of any document or information, including, where applicable in each case, any notification that a document or information is available on a website. A Member who has no registered postal address within the United Kingdom and has not given notice of such a postal address pursuant to this Article 79.11 shall not be entitled to receive any document or information from the Company, unless (i) the Company agrees to communicate with him by alternative means of communication and (ii) the Member has notified the Company in writing that he will accept communication by such alternative means of communication.

## **80. FAILURE TO NOTIFY CONTACT DETAILS**

- 80.1** If the Company sends two consecutive documents or pieces of information to a Member over a period of not less than 12 months and:
- 80.1.1** each of them is returned undelivered; or

**80.1.2** the company receives notification that neither of them has been delivered;

that Member ceases to be entitled to receive documents or information from the Company.

**80.2** A Member who has ceased to be entitled to receive documents or information from the Company shall become entitled to receive documents or information again by sending the Company:

**80.2.1** a new address to be recorded in the register; or

**80.2.2** if the Member has agreed that the Company should use a means of communication other than sending things to such an address, the information that the Company needs to use that means of communication effectively.

## **81. FAILURE IN COMMUNICATION**

The Company shall not be responsible for any failure in communication beyond its control. Any accidental failure to send any document or information to any person entitled to it under these Articles, or the non-receipt by any such person of such document or information, shall be disregarded.

## **82. SUSPENSION OF POSTAL SERVICES**

If at any time by reason of the suspension or curtailment of postal services within the United Kingdom the Company is unable to give notice by post in hard copy form of a General Meeting, such notice shall be deemed to have been given to all Members entitled to receive such notice in hard copy form if such notice is advertised in at least one national newspaper and such notice shall be deemed to have been given on the day when the advertisement appears. In any such case, the Company shall (i) make such notice available on its website from the date of such advertisement until the conclusion of the meeting or any adjournment thereof and (ii) send confirmatory copies of the notice by post to such Members if at least seven days prior to the meeting the posting of notices again becomes practicable.

## **83. DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS**

**83.1** Subject to compliance with the rules (as defined in the Regulations) applicable to shares in uncertificated form the Company shall be entitled to destroy the following documents at the following times:

**83.1.1** registered instruments of transfer or dematerialised instructions transferring shares and any other documents which were the basis for making an entry on the register: at any time after the expiration of six years from the date of their registration;

**83.1.2** allotment letters: at any time after the expiration of six years from the date of their issue;

- 83.1.3** dividend mandates, powers of attorney, grants of probate and letters of administration: at any time after the account to which the relevant mandate, power of attorney, grant of probate or letters of administration related has been closed;
- 83.1.4** proxy forms (whether lodged in electronic form or otherwise): where no poll is held, at any time after the expiration of one month after the date of the meeting to which the proxy relates; where a poll is held, at any time after the expiration of one year after the date of the meeting to which the proxy relates.
- 83.1.5** notifications of change of address: at any time after the expiration of three years from the date on which the change is recorded by the Company; and
- 83.1.6** cancelled share certificates: at any time after the expiration of one year from the date the cancellation is made by the Company.
- 83.2** Any document referred to above may, subject to the Statutes, be destroyed before the end of the relevant period so long as a copy of such document (whether made electronically, by microfilm, by digital imaging or by any other means) has been made and is retained until the end of the relevant period.
- 83.3** It shall conclusively be presumed in favour of the Company:
- 83.3.1** that every entry in the register purporting to be made on the basis of any such documents so destroyed was duly and properly made;
- 83.3.2** that every such document so destroyed was valid and effective and had been duly and properly registered, cancelled, or recorded, as the case may be, in the books or records of the Company.
- 83.4** The provisions of Articles 83.1 and 83.3 shall apply to the destruction of a document in good faith and without notice of any claim (regardless of the parties to it) to which the document might be relevant.
- 83.5** Nothing in this Article 83 shall be construed as imposing upon the Company any liability in respect of the destruction of any such document earlier than as aforesaid or in any other circumstances, which would not attach to the Company in the absence of this Article 83.
- 83.6** References in this Article 83 to the destruction of any document include the disposal of it in any manner.
- 84. INDEMNITIES, INSURANCE AND FUNDING OF DEFENCE PROCEEDINGS**
- 84.1** This Article 84 shall have effect, and any indemnity provided by or pursuant to it shall apply, only to the extent permitted by, and subject to the restrictions of, the Act. It does not allow for or provide (to any extent) an indemnity which is more extensive than is permitted by the Act and any such indemnity is limited accordingly. This Article 84 is also without prejudice to any indemnity to which any person may otherwise be entitled.

**84.2** The Company may indemnify any person who is a Director or other officer of the Company and may indemnify any person who is a director or other officer of any associated company (as defined in Section 256 of the Act) of the Company out of the assets of the Company from and against any loss, liability or expense incurred by him or them in relation to the Company or any associated company of the Company by reason of his being or having been a director of the Company or any such company.

**84.3** The Company may indemnify any person who is a director of a company that is a trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined in section 235(6) of the Act) out of the assets of the Company from and against any loss, liability or expense incurred by him or them in connection with such company's activities as trustee of the scheme.

**84.4** The Directors may purchase and maintain insurance at the expense of the Company for the benefit of any person who is or was at any time a director or other officer of the Company or of any associated company of the Company or a trustee of any pension fund or employee benefits trust for the benefit of any employee of the Company or of any associated company of the Company.

**84.5** The Directors may, subject to the provisions of the Statutes, exercise the powers conferred on them by sections 205 and 206 of the Act to:

**84.5.1** provide funds to meet expenditure incurred or to be incurred in defending any proceedings, investigation or action referred to in those sections or in connection with an application for relief referred to in section 205; or

**84.5.2** take any action to enable such expenditure not to be incurred.

**84.6** In this Article 84, "associated company" has the meaning given to it in section 256 of the Act.

## **85. WINDING UP**

**85.1** The Directors have the power in the name of the Company to present a petition to the Court for the Company to be wound up.

**85.2** If the Company shall be wound up, the assets remaining after payment of the debts and liabilities of the Company and the costs of the liquidation shall be applied, first, in repaying to the Members the amounts paid up on the shares held by them respectively, and the balance (if any) shall be distributed among the Members in proportion to the number of shares held by them respectively. Provided always that the provisions of this Article shall be subject to the rights of the holders of shares (if any) issued upon special conditions.

**85.3** In a winding up, any part of the assets of the Company, including any shares in or securities of other companies, may, with the sanction of a special resolution of the Company, be divided by the liquidator among the Members of the Company in specie, or may, with the like sanction, be vested in trustees for the benefit of such Members, and the liquidation of

the Company may be closed and the Company dissolved but so that no Member shall be compelled to accept any shares on which there is any liability.

## **86. SCHEME OF ARRANGEMENT**

**86.1** In this Article 86, the "Scheme" means the scheme of arrangement dated 18 May 2023 under Part 26 of the Companies Act 2006 between the Company and the registered holders of all Numis Shares which were in issue at the date of the scheme document or otherwise are eligible under the Scheme (the "**Scheme Shareholders**") in its original form or with or subject to any modification, addition or condition agreed by the Company and Deutsche Bank AG (the "**Purchaser**") and approved or imposed by the Court and (save as defined in this Article 86) expressions defined in the Scheme shall have the same meanings in this Article 86.

**86.2** Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, if the Company issues any Numis Shares or transfers any Numis Shares out of treasury (other than to the Purchaser or its nominee(s)) on or after the Voting Record Time and before the Scheme Record Time, such Numis Shares shall be issued, transferred or registered subject to the terms of the Scheme (and shall be Scheme Shares for the purposes thereof) and the holders of such Numis Shares shall be bound by the Scheme accordingly.

**86.3** Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, subject to the Scheme becoming Effective, if any shares are issued, transferred out of treasury or transferred to any person (other than under the Scheme or to the Purchaser or its nominee(s)) (a "**New Member**") at or after the Scheme Record Time (each a "**Transfer Share**"), they will be issued or transferred on terms that they shall (on the Effective Date or, if later, on the issue or transfer (but subject to the terms of Article 86.4 below)) be immediately transferred to the Purchaser (or such person as it may direct), who shall be obliged to acquire each Transfer Share in consideration for and conditional on the payment to the New Member by or on behalf of the Purchaser of an amount in cash for each Transfer Share equal to the Cash Consideration to which the New Member would have been entitled under the Scheme had such Transfer Share been a Scheme Share.

**86.4** On any reorganisation of, or material alteration to, the share capital of the Company (including, without limitation, any subdivision and/or consolidation), the value of the consideration per Transfer Share to be paid under Article 86.3 shall be adjusted by the Directors in such manner as the auditors of the Company or an investment bank selected by the Company may determine to be appropriate to reflect such reorganisation or alteration. References in this Article 86 to shares or Numis Shares shall, following such adjustment, be construed accordingly.

**86.5** To give effect to any transfer required by Article 86.3, the Company may appoint any person as attorney and/or agent for the New Member to transfer the Transfer Shares to the Purchaser and/or its nominee(s) and do all such other things and execute and deliver all such documents or deeds as may in the opinion of such attorney or agent be necessary or desirable to vest the Transfer Shares in the Purchaser or its nominee(s) and pending such vesting to exercise all such rights attaching to the Transfer Shares as the Purchaser



may direct. If an attorney or agent is so appointed, the New Member shall not thereafter (except to the extent that the attorney or agent fails to act in accordance with the directions of the Purchaser) be entitled to exercise any rights attaching to the Transfer Shares unless so agreed in writing by the Purchaser. The attorney or agent shall be empowered to execute and deliver as transferor a form or instrument of transfer or instructions of transfer on behalf of the New Member (or any subsequent holder) in favour of the Purchaser and the Company may give a good receipt for the consideration of the Transfer Shares and may register the Purchaser as holder thereof and issue to it certificate(s) for the same. The Company shall not be obliged to issue a certificate to the New Member for the Transfer Shares. The Purchaser shall send a cheque drawn on a UK clearing bank in favour of the New Member (or any subsequent holder), or by any alternative method communicated by the Purchaser to the New Member, for the purchase price of such Transfer Shares within 14 days after the time on which the Transfer Shares are issued or transferred to the New Member.

**86.6** If the Scheme shall not have become Effective by the applicable date referred to in (or otherwise set in accordance with) clause 6.2 of the Scheme, this Article 86 shall cease to be of any effect.

**86.7** Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, both the Company and the board of directors of the Company shall refuse to register the transfer of any Scheme Shares effected between the Scheme Record Time and the Effective Date other than to the Purchaser and/or its nominee(s) pursuant to the Scheme.