

# HOTAI FINANCE CO., LTD. (HFC)

## The Corporate Governance Best Practice Principles for the Company

2023.12.14

### Chapter I General Principles

#### Article 1

The Company in order to establish a sound corporate governance system hereby formulates these corporate governance principles and establishes an effective corporate governance framework with reference to the Corporate Governance Best Practice Principles for TWSE/TPEX Listed Companies and disclose them through the Market Observation Post System (MOPS).

#### Article 2

When setting up the corporate governance system, in addition to compliance with laws and regulation and its articles of incorporation as well as its contracts signed with TWSE/TPEX and relevant rules, the Company shall obey the following principles:

1. Protect the rights and interests of shareholders;
2. Strengthen the power of the board of directors;
3. Respect the rights and interests of stakeholders;
4. Enhance information transparency.

#### Article 3

The Company shall follow the Criteria Governing Establishment of Internal Control Systems by Public Reporting Companies and take into consideration the overall operational activities of the Company and its subsidiaries to design and fully implement an internal control system and shall conduct continuing reviews of the system, in order to ensure the continued effectiveness of its design and implementation in light of changes in its internal and external environments.

The Company shall perform full self-assessments of its internal control system. Its board of directors and management shall review the results of the self-assessment by each department at least annually and the reports of the internal audit department on a quarterly basis. The audit committee shall also attend to and supervise these matters. Directors shall periodically hold discussions with their internal auditors about reviews

of internal control system deficiencies. A record of the discussions shall be kept, and the discussions shall be followed up, improvements implemented, and a report submitted to the board of directors. The Company is advised to establish channels and mechanisms of communication between the independent directors and/or the audit committee and chief internal auditors, and the convener of the audit committee shall report their communication with the audit committee and chief internal auditors at the shareholders' meeting.

The management of the Company shall pay special attention to the internal audit department and its personnel, fully empower them and urge them to conduct audits effectively, to evaluate problems of the internal control system and assess the efficiency of its operations to ensure that the system can be operate effectively on an ongoing basis and to assist the board of directors and the management in performing their duties effectively so as to ensure a sound corporate governance system.

In order to ensure the internal control system and enhance the professionalism of the internal auditors' substitutes so as to enhance and maintain the quality of audits and the effects of audits implemented, the Company shall set up the substitutes of the internal auditors.

### **Article 3-1**

The Company may establish the dedicated (concurrent) corporate governance unit or personnel to be in charge of corporate governance affairs, and appoint a chief corporate governance officer as the supervisor to be in charge of corporate governance affairs in accordance with the regulations prescribed by the competent authority and Taiwan Stock Exchange Corporation. Said officer shall be a qualified, practice-eligible lawyer or accountant or have been in a managerial position for at least three years in a securities-, financial-, futures-related institution or a public company in handling legal affairs, legal compliance affairs, internal audit affairs, financial affairs, stock affairs or corporate governance affairs.

It is required that the corporate governance affairs mentioned in the preceding paragraph include at least the following items:

1. Handling matters relating to board meetings and shareholders meetings by law;
2. Producing minutes of board meetings and shareholders meetings;
3. Assisting in onboarding and continuous development of directors;
4. Furnishing information required for business execution by directors;

5. Assisting directors with legal compliance; and
6. Reporting to the board of directors the results of examination as to whether the qualifications of independent directors at the time of their nomination and election and during their term of office conform to applicable laws and regulations.
7. Handling matters related to director changes.
8. Other matters set out in the articles of incorporation or contracts.

## **Chapter II Protection of Shareholders' Rights and Interests**

### **Section 1 Encouraging Shareholders to Participate in Corporate Governance**

#### **Article 4**

The corporate governance system of the Company shall be designed to protect shareholders rights and interests and treat all shareholders equally.

The Company shall establish a corporate system which ensures shareholders' rights of being fully informed of, participating in and making decisions over important matters of the Company.

#### **Article 5**

The Company shall convene shareholders meetings in accordance with the Company Act and the relevant laws and regulations, and provide comprehensive rules for such meetings. The Company shall faithfully implement resolutions adopted by shareholders meetings in accordance with the rules for the meetings.

Resolutions adopted by shareholders meetings of the Company shall comply with laws and regulations and its articles of incorporation.

#### **Article 6**

The board of directors of the Company shall properly arrange the agenda items and procedures for shareholders meetings, and formulate the principles and procedures for shareholder nomination of directors and submission of shareholder proposals.

Arrangements shall be made to hold shareholders meetings at a convenient location, advisably with videoconferencing available and sufficient time allowed and sufficient number of suitable personnel assigned to handle attendance registrations. No arbitrary requirements shall be imposed on shareholders to provide additional evidentiary documents beyond those showing eligibility to attend. Shareholders shall be granted reasonable time to deliberate each proposal and an appropriate chance to make statements.

For a shareholders meeting called by the board of directors, it is advisable that the board chairperson chair the meeting, that a majority of the directors (including at least one independent director) attend in person, and that at least one member of other functional committees attend as representative and that attendance details be recorded in the shareholders meeting minutes.

#### **Article 7**

The Company shall encourage its shareholders to actively participate in corporate governance. It is advisable that the Company engage a professional shareholder services agent to handle shareholders meeting matters, so that shareholders meetings can proceed on a legal, effective and secured basis. The Company shall seek all ways and means, including fully exploiting technologies for information disclosure, to upload annual reports, annual financial statements, notices, agendas and supplementary information of shareholders meetings in both Chinese and English concurrently, and shall adopt electronic voting as having obtained approval of being listed via filing for application, in order to enhance shareholders' attendance rates at shareholders meetings and ensure their exercise of rights at such meetings in accordance with laws. The Company is advised to avoid raising extraordinary motions and amendments to original proposals at a shareholders meeting, and it is advised to adopt a candidate nomination system for the election of directors. The Company is advised to arrange its shareholders to vote on each separate proposal in the shareholders meeting agenda, and following conclusion of the meeting, to enter the voting results the same day, namely the numbers of votes cast for and against and the number of abstentions, on MOPS.

#### **Article 8**

The Company, in accordance with the Company Act and other applicable laws and regulations, shall record in the shareholders meeting minutes the date and place of the meeting, the name of the chairperson, the method of adopting resolutions, and a summary of the essential points of the proceedings and the results of the meeting. With respect to the election of directors, the meeting minutes shall record the method of voting adopted for such election and the total number of votes for the elected directors.

The shareholders meeting minutes shall be properly and perpetually kept by the Company during its legal existence, and is advised to be sufficiently disclosed on its website.

**Article 9**

The chairperson of the shareholders meetings shall be fully familiar and comply with the rules governing the proceedings of the shareholders meetings established by the Company. The chairperson shall ensure the proper progress of the proceedings of the meetings and may not adjourn the meetings at will.

In order to protect the interests of most shareholders, if the chairperson declares the adjournment of the meeting in a manner in violation of rules governing the proceedings of the shareholders meetings, it is advisable for the members of the board of directors other than the chairperson of the shareholders meeting to promptly assist the attending shareholders meeting in electing a new chairperson of the shareholders meeting to continue the proceedings of the meeting, by a resolution to be adopted by a majority of the votes represented by the shareholders attending the said meeting in accordance with the legal procedures.

**Article 10**

The Company shall place high importance on the shareholder right to know, and shall faithfully comply with applicable regulations regarding information disclosure in order to provide shareholders with regular and timely information on company financial conditions and operations, insider shareholdings, and corporate governance status through MOPS or the website established by the Company.

To treat all shareholders equally, it is advisable that the Company concurrently disclose the information under the preceding paragraph in English.

To protect its shareholders rights and interests and ensure their equitable treatment, the Company shall adopt internal rules prohibiting company insiders from trading securities using information not disclosed to the market.

It is advisable that a stock exchange control measure on the day when company financial reports or performance contents are known to company insiders is included in the internal rules in the preceding paragraph, including (but not limited to) the directors of the Company shall not trade the Company's stock during the closed

periods, which are 30 days before the announcement of the annual financial reports and 15 days before the announcement of the quarterly financial report.

#### **Article 11**

The shareholders shall be entitled to profit distributions by the Company. In order to ensure the investment interests of shareholders, the shareholders meeting may, pursuant to Article 184 of the Company Act, examine the statements and books prepared and submitted by the board of directors and the reports submitted by the audit committee, and may decide profit distributions and deficit offsetting plans by resolution. In order to proceed with the above examination, the shareholders meeting may appoint an inspector.

The shareholders may, pursuant to Article 245 of the Company Act, apply with the court to select an inspector in examining the accounting records, assets, particulars, documents and records of specific transaction of the Company.

The board of directors, audit committee and managers of the Company shall fully cooperate in the examination conducted by the inspectors in the aforesaid paragraphs without any circumvention, obstruction or rejection.

#### **Article 12**

In entering into material financial and business transactions such as acquisition or disposal of assets, lending funds, and making endorsements or providing guarantees, the Company shall proceed in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations and establish operating procedures in relation to these material financial and business transactions which shall be reported to and approved by the shareholders meeting so as to protect the interests of the shareholders.

When the Company is involved in a merger, acquisition or public tender offer, in addition to proceeding in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations, it shall pay attention to not only the fairness, rationality, etc. of the plan and transaction of the merger, acquisition or public tender offer, but also information disclosure and the soundness of its financial structure thereafter.

When the management or a major shareholder of the Company is involved in a merger or acquisition, a legal opinion by independent lawyer should be issued to review if members of the audit committee to review the merger and acquisition in the

preceding paragraph have met the regulations of Article 3 of the Regulations Governing Appointment of Independent Directors and Compliance Matters for Public Companies, to ensure they are not a related party to a counterparty of the merger and acquisition transaction or do not have such interest that would influence their independence, whether the design and implementation of the relevant procedure meet the applicable laws, and if a full disclosure has been made in accordance with the applicable laws.

Qualifications of the lawyer in the preceding paragraph shall meet the requirements in Article 3 of the Regulations Governing Appointment of Independent Directors and Compliance Matters for Public Companies, and the lawyer should not be a related party to a counterparty of the merger and acquisition transaction or should not have such interest that would influence their independence.

The relevant personnel of the Company handling the matters in the preceding paragraph shall pay attention to the occurrence of any conflicts of interest and the need for recusal.

### **Article 13**

In order to protect the interests of the shareholders, it is advisable that the Company designate personnel exclusively dedicated to handling shareholder proposals, inquiries and disputes.

The Company shall properly deal with any legal action duly instituted by shareholders in which it is claimed that shareholder rights and interests were damaged by a resolution adopted at a shareholders meeting or a board of directors meeting in violation of applicable laws and regulations or its articles of incorporation, or that such damage was caused by a breach of applicable laws and regulations or its articles of incorporation by any directors or managers in performing their duties.

It is advisable that the Company adopt internal procedures for appropriate handling of matters referred to in the preceding two paragraphs and that it keep relevant written records for future reference and incorporate the procedures in its internal control system for management purposes.

## **Section 2 Establishing a Mechanism for Interaction with Shareholders**

### **Article 13-1**

The board of directors of the Company is responsible for establishing a mechanism for interaction with shareholders to enhance mutual understanding of the development of corporate objectives.

#### **Article 13-2**

In addition to communicating with shareholders through shareholders meetings and encouraging shareholders to participate in such meetings, the board of director of the Company together with officers and independent directors shall engage with shareholders in an efficient manner to ascertain shareholders' views and concerns, and expound corporate policies explicitly, in order to gain shareholders' support.

### **Section 3 Corporate Governance Relationships Between the Company and Related Parties**

#### **Article 14**

The Company shall clearly identify the objectives and the division of authority and responsibilities between it and its affiliated enterprises with respect to management of personnel, assets, and financial matters, and shall properly carry out risk assessments and establish appropriate firewalls.

#### **Article 15**

Unless otherwise provided by the laws and regulations, a manager of the Company may not serve as a manager of its affiliated enterprises.

A director who engages in any transaction for oneself or on behalf of another person that is within the scope of the corporate operations shall explain the major content of such actions to the shareholders meeting and obtain its consent.

#### **Article 16**

The Company shall establish sound objectives and systems for management of finance, operations, and accounting in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. It shall further, together with its affiliated enterprises, properly conduct an overall risk assessment of major banks they deal with and customers and suppliers, and implement the necessary control mechanisms to reduce credit risk.

#### **Article 17**



When the Company and its its related parties and shareholders enter into financial or business dealings or transactions, a written agreement governing the relevant financial and business operations between them shall be made in accordance with the principle of fair dealing and reasonableness. Price and payment terms shall be definitely stipulated when contracts are signed, and non-arm's length transactions and improper channeling of interests shall be prohibited.

The content of the written agreement mentioned in the preceding paragraph shall include regulatory procedures governing transactions such as purchase and sale of goods, acquisition and disposal of assets, loans of funds, and provision of endorsements and guarantee etc. Relevant material transactions shall be approved by a resolution of the board of directors and approved or reported to the shareholders' meeting.

#### **Article 18**

A corporate shareholder having controlling power over the Company shall comply with the following provisions:

1. It shall bear a duty of good faith to other shareholder and shall not directly or indirectly cause the Company to conduct any business which is contrary to normal business practice or not profitable;
2. Its representative shall follow the rules implemented by the Company with respect to the exercise of rights and participation of resolution, so that at a shareholders meeting, the representative shall exercise his/her voting right in good faith and for the best interest of all shareholders and shall exercise the fiduciary duty and duty of care of a director;
3. It shall comply with relevant laws and regulations and its articles of incorporation in nominating directors and shall not act beyond the authority granted by the shareholders meeting or board meeting;
4. It shall not improperly intervene in corporate decision making or obstruct corporate management activities;

5. It shall not restrict or impede the management or production of the Company by methods of unfair competition such as monopolizing corporate procurement or foreclosing sales channels;

6. The representative that is designated when a corporate shareholder has been elected as a director shall meet the corporate requirements for professional qualifications, and arbitrary replacement of the corporate shareholder's representative is inappropriate.

### **Article 19**

The Company shall retain at all times a register of major shareholders who own a relatively high percentage of shares and have controlling power, and of the persons with ultimate control over those major shareholders.

The Company shall disclose periodically important information about its shareholders holding more than 10 percent of the outstanding shares of the Company relating to the pledge, increase or decrease of share ownership, or other matters that may possibly trigger a change in the ownership of their shares.

The major shareholder indicated in the first paragraph refers to those who own 5 percent or more of the outstanding shares of the Company or the shareholding stake thereof is on the top 10 list, provided however that the Company may set up a lower shareholding threshold according to the actual shareholding stake that may control, the Company.

## **Chapter III Enhancing the Functions of the Board of Directors**

### **Section 1 Structure of the Board of Directors**

#### **Article 20**

The board of director of the Company shall direct corporate strategies, supervise the management, and be responsible to the Company and shareholders. The various procedures and arrangements of its corporate governance system shall ensure that, in exercising its authority, the board of directors complies with laws and regulations, its articles of incorporation, or resolutions of its shareholders meetings.

The structure of the Company's board of directors shall be determined by choosing an appropriate number of board members, not less than five, in consideration of its business scale, the shareholdings of its major shareholders and practical operational needs.

The composition of the board of directors shall be determined by taking diversity into consideration. It is advisable that directors concurrently serving as company officers not exceed one-third of the total number of the board members, and that an appropriate policy on diversity based on its business, operations, operating dynamics and development needs be formulated and include, without being limited to, the following two general standards:

1. Basic requirements and values; Gender, age, nationality, and culture; and
2. Professional knowledge and skills: A professional background (e.g. law, accounting, industry, finance, marketing or technology), professional skills, and industry experience.

All members of the board shall have the knowledge, skills and experience necessary to perform their duties. To achieve the ideal goal of corporate governance, the board of directors shall possess the following abilities:

1. Ability to make operational judgments;
2. Ability to perform accounting and financial analysis;
3. Ability to conduct management and administration;
4. Ability to conduct crisis management;
5. Knowledge of the industry;
6. An international market perspective;
7. Ability to lead; and

8. Ability of decision-making.

#### **Article 21**

The Company shall, according to the principles for the protection of shareholder rights and interests and equitable treatment of shareholders, establish a fair, just and open procedure for the election of directors, encourage shareholder participation, and adopt the cumulative voting mechanism pursuant to the Company Act in order to fully reflect shareholders' views.

Unless the competent authority otherwise grants an approval, a spousal relationship or a familiar relationship within the second degree of kinship may not exist among more than half of the directors of the Company.

When the number of directors falls below five due to the discharge of a director for any reason, the Company shall hold a by-election for director at the following shareholders meeting. When the number of directors falls short by one-third of the total number prescribed by its articles of incorporation, the Company shall convene a special shareholders meeting within 60 days of the occurrence of that fact for a by-election for director(s).

The aggregate shareholding percentage of all of the directors of the Company shall comply with the laws and regulations. Restrictions on the share transfer of each director, the creation or release of the pledge and changes over the shares held by each director shall be subject to the relevant laws and regulations, and the relevant information shall be fully disclosed.

#### **Article 22**

The Company is advised to specify in its articles of incorporation that it adopts the candidate nomination system for elections of directors in accordance with the regulations prescribed by the competent authority, carefully review the qualifications of a nominated candidate and the existence of any other matters set forth in Article 30 of the Company Act, and act in accordance with Article 192-1 of the Company Act.

#### **Article 23**

Clear distinctions shall be drawn between the responsibilities and duties of the chairperson of the board of the Company and those of its general manager.

It is inappropriate for the chairperson to also act as the general manager or other equivalent position (highest managerial position). If the chairperson also acts as the general manager or other equivalent position (highest managerial position) or the general manager or other equivalent position (highest managerial position) are spouses or relatives within one degree of consanguinity, it is advisable that the number of independent directors be increased and there be a majority of the members of the board of directors who are not employees or managers.

The Company with a functional committee shall clearly define the responsibilities and duties of the committee.

## **Section 2 Independent Director System**

### **Article 24**

The Company shall appoint more than two independent directors in accordance with its articles of incorporation. It is advisable that independent directors be not less than one-fifth of the total number of directors, and the consecutive term of independent directors be not exceed three.

Independent directors shall possess professional knowledge and there shall be restrictions on their shareholdings. Applicable laws and regulations shall be observed and, in addition, it is not advisable for an independent director to hold office concurrently as a director (independent director included) or supervisor of more than five other TWSE/TPEX listed companies. Independent directors shall also maintain their independence within the scope of their directorial duties, and may not have any direct or indirect interest in the Company.

If the Company and its group enterprises and organizations, and another company and its group enterprises and organizations nominate for each other any director or managerial officer as a candidate for an independent director of the other, the Company shall, at the time it receives the nominations for independent directors, disclose the fact and explain the suitability of the candidate for independent director. If the candidate is elected as an independent director, the Company shall disclose the number of votes cast in favor of the elected independent director.

The “group enterprises and organizations” in the preceding paragraph comprise the subsidiaries of the Company, any foundation to which the Company cumulative direct or indirect contribution of funds exceeds 50 percent of its endowment, and other institutions or juristic persons that are effectively controlled by the Company.

Change of status between independent directors and non-independent directors during their term of office is prohibited.

The professional qualifications, restrictions on both shareholding and concurrent positions held, determination of independence, method of nomination and other requirements with regard to the independent directors shall be set forth in accordance with the Securities and Exchange Act, the Regulations Governing Appointment of Independent Directors and Compliance Matter for Public Companies and the Taiwan Stock Exchange or GreTai Securities Market rules.

## **Article 25**

The Company shall submit the following matters to the board of directors for approval by resolution as provided in the Securities and Exchange Act, when an independent director has a dissenting opinion for qualified opinion, it shall be noted in the minutes of the directors meeting:

1. Adoption or amendment of the internal control system pursuant to Article 14-1 of the Securities and Exchange Act;
2. Adoption or amendment, pursuant to Article 36-1 of the Securities and Exchange Act, of handling procedures for financial or operational actions of material significance, such as acquisition or disposal of assets, derivatives trading, extension of monetary loans to others, or endorsements or guarantees for others;
3. Matters bearing on the personal interest of a director;
4. Material asset or derivative transaction;
5. Material monetary loan, endorsement, or provision of guarantee;

6. Offering, issuance or private placement of any equity-type securities;
7. Hiring, discharge or compensation of an attesting CPA;
8. Appointment or discharge of a financial, accounting or internal auditing officer;  
and
9. Any other material matter so required by the competent authority.

#### **Article 26**

The Company shall stipulate the scope of duties of the independent directors and empower them with manpower and physical support related to the exercise of their power. The Company or other board members shall not obstruct, reject or circumvent the performance of duties by the independent directors.

The Company shall stipulate the remuneration of the directors according to applicable laws and regulations. The remuneration of directors shall fully reflect the personal performance and the long-term management performance of the Company, and shall also take the overall operational risks of the Company into consideration. Different but reasonable remuneration from that of other directors may be set forth for the independent directors.

### **Section 3 Functional Committees**

#### **Article 27**

For the purpose of developing supervisory functions and strengthening management mechanisms, the board of directors of the Company, in consideration of its corporate scale, type of business/operations and the number of its board members, may set up functional committees for auditing, remuneration, nomination, risk management or any other functions, and based on concepts of corporate social responsibility and sustainable operation, may set up environmental protection, social responsibility or other committees, and expressly provide for them in its articles of incorporation.

Functional committees shall be responsible to the board of directors and submit their proposals to the board of directors for approval, provided that performance of supervisor's duties by the audit committee pursuant to Article 14-4, paragraph 4 of the Securities and Exchange Act shall be excluded.

Functional committees shall adopt an organizational charter to be approved by the board of directors. The organizational charter shall contain the numbers, terms of office, and powers of committee members, as well as the meeting rules and resources to be provided by the Company for exercise of power by the committee.

### **Article 28**

The Company shall establish an audit committee.

Such audit committee shall be composed of the entire number of independent directors. It shall not be fewer than three persons in number, one of whom shall be convener, and at least one of whom shall have accounting or financial expertise.

The exercise of power by the audit committee and independent directors and related matters shall be set forth in accordance with the Securities and Exchange Act, the Regulations Governing the Exercise of Powers by Audit Committees of Public Companies and the TWSE or TPEx rules and regulations.

### **Article 28-1**

The Company shall establish a remuneration committee, and it is advisable that more than half of the committee members be independent directors. The professional qualifications for the committee members, the exercise of their powers of office, the adoption of the organizational charter and related matters shall be handled pursuant to the Regulations Governing the Appointment and Exercise of Powers by the Remuneration Committee of a Company Whose Stock is Listed on the Stock exchange or Traded over the Counter.



## **Article 28-2**

The Company is advised to establish and announce channels for internal and external whistleblowers and have whistleblower protection mechanisms in place. The unit that handles whistleblowers' reporting shall be independent, provide encrypted protection for the files furnished by whistleblowers, and appropriately restrict access to such files. It shall also formulate internal procedures and incorporate those procedures into the Company's internal control system for management purposes.

## **Article 29**

To improve the quality of its financial reports, the Company shall establish the position of deputy to its principal accounting officer.

To enhance the professional abilities of the deputy accounting officer in the preceding paragraph, the deputy's continuing education shall proceed following the schedule of the principal accounting officer.

Accounting personnel handling the preparation of financial reports shall also participate in relevant professional development courses for 6 hours or more each year. Those courses may be its internal training activities or may be professional courses offered by professional development institutions for principal accounting officers.

The Company shall select its external auditor a professional, responsible and independent attesting CPA who shall perform regular reviews of the financial conditions and internal control measures of the Company. With regard to any irregularity or deficiency discovered and disclosed in a timely manner by the auditor during the review and concrete measures for improvement or prevention suggested by the auditor, the Company shall faithfully implement improvement actions. It is advisable that the Company establish channels and mechanisms of communication between its independent directors or audit committee and the attesting CPA, and to incorporate procedures for that purpose into its internal control system for management purposes.

The Company shall, based on Audit Quality Indicators (AQIs) as reference, evaluate the independence and suitability of the CPA engaged by the Company regularly, and no less frequently than once annually. In the event that the Company engages the

same CPA without replacement for 7 years consecutively, or if the CPA is subject to disciplinary actions or other circumstances prejudicial to the CPA's independence, the Company shall evaluate the necessity of replacing the CPA and submit its conclusion to the board of directors.

### **Article 30**

It is advisable that the Company engage a professional and competent legal counsel to provide adequate legal consultation services to the Company, or to assist the directors and the management in improving their knowledge of the law, for the purposes of preventing any infraction of laws or regulations by the Company or its staff and ensuring that corporate governance matters proceed pursuant to the relevant legal framework and the prescribed procedures.

When, as a result of performing their lawful duties, directors or the management are involved in litigation or a dispute with shareholders, the Company shall retain a legal counsel to provide assistance as circumstances require.

The audit committee or an independent director may retain the service of legal counsel, CPA or other professionals on behalf of the Company to conduct a necessary audit or provide consultation on matters in relation to the exercise of their power, at the expense of the Company.

## **Section 4 Rules for the Proceedings and Decision-Making Procedures of Board Meetings**

### **Article 31**

The board of directors of the Company shall meet at least once every quarter, or convene at any time in case of emergency. To convene a board meeting, a meeting notice which specifies the purposes of the meeting shall be sent to each director no later than 7 days before the scheduled date. Sufficient meeting materials shall also be prepared and enclosed in the meeting notice. If the meeting materials are deemed inadequate, a director may ask the unit in charge to provide more information or request a postponement of the meeting with the consent of the board of directors.

The Company shall adopt rules of procedure for board meetings which shall follow the Regulations Governing Procedure for Board of Directors Meetings of Public

Companies with regard to the content of deliberations, procedures, matters to be recorded in the meeting minutes, public announcements and other matters for compliance.

### **Article 32**

Company directors shall exercise a high degree of self-discipline. If a director or a juristic person represented by the director is an interested party with respect to any proposal for a board meeting, the director shall state the important aspects of the interested party relationship at the meeting. When the relationship is likely to prejudice the interests of the Company, the director may not participate in discussion or voting on that proposal and shall enter recusal during the discussion and voting. The director may also not act as another director's proxy to exercise voting rights on that matter.

Matters requiring the voluntary recusal of a director shall be clearly set forth in the rules of procedure for board meetings.

### **Article 33**

When a board meeting is convened to consider any matter submitted to it pursuant to Article 14-3 of the Securities and Exchange Act, an independent director of the Company shall attend the board meeting in person, and may not be represented by a non-independent director via proxy. When an independent director has a dissenting or qualified opinion, it shall be noted in the minutes of the board of directors meeting; if the independent director cannot attend the board meeting in person to voice his/her dissenting or qualified opinion, he/she should provide a written opinion before the board meeting unless there are justifiable reasons for failure to do so, and the opinion shall be noted in the minutes of the board of directors meeting.

In any of the following circumstances, decisions made by the board of directors shall be noted in the meeting minutes, and in addition, publicly announced and filed on MOPS two hours before the beginning of trading hours on the first business day after the date of the board meeting:

1. An independent director has a dissenting or qualified opinion which is on record or stated in a written statement;

2. The matter was not approved by the audit committee (if the Company has set up an audit committee) but had the consent of more than two-third of all directors.

During a board meeting, managers from relevant departments who are not directors may, in view of the meeting agenda, sit in at the meetings, make reports on the current business conditions of the Company and respond to inquiries raised by the directors. Where necessary, a CPA, legal counsel or other professional may be invited to sit in at the meetings to assist the directors in understanding the conditions of the Company for the purpose of adopting an appropriate resolution, provided that they shall leave the meeting when deliberation or voting takes place.

#### **Article 34**

Staff personnel of the Company attending board meetings shall collect and correctly record the meeting minutes in detail, as well as a summary, the method of resolution, and voting results of all the proposals submitted to the board meeting in accordance with relevant regulations.

The minutes of the board of directors meetings shall be signed by the chairperson and secretary of the meeting and sent to each director within 20 days after the meeting. The director attendance records shall be made part of the meeting minutes, and shall be treated as important corporate records and kept safe permanently during the life of the Company.

The minutes of the board of directors meetings shall be signed by the chairperson and secretary of the meeting and sent to each director within 20 days after the meeting. The director attendance records are made part of the meeting minutes and shall be treated as important corporate records and kept safe permanently during the life of the Company.

Meeting minutes may be produced, distributed and preserved by electronic means.

The Company shall record on audio or video tape the entire proceedings of a board of directors meeting and preserve the recordings for at least 5 years, in electronic form or otherwise.

If before the end of the preservation period referred to in the preceding paragraph a lawsuit arises with respect to a resolution of a board of directors meeting, the relevant audio or video recordings shall be preserved for a further period in which case the preceding paragraph shall not apply.

Where a board of directors meeting is held via teleconference or video conference, the audio or video recordings of the meeting form a part of the meeting minutes and shall be reserved permanently.

When either a resolution of the board of directors in violation of laws and regulations or its articles of incorporation or a resolution adopted in the shareholders meeting causes an injury to the Company, dissenting directors whose dissent can be proven by the minutes or written statements will not be held liable for damages.

### **Article 35**

The Company shall submit the following matters to its board of directors for discussion:

1. Corporate business plans;
2. Annual and semi-annual financial reports, with exception of semi-annual financial reports which, under relevant laws and regulations, need not be CPA audited and attested;
3. Adoption of or amendment to its internal control system pursuant to Article 14-1 of the Securities and Exchange Act, and evaluation of effectiveness of its internal control system;
4. Pursuant to Article 36-1 of the Securities and Exchange Act, adoption of or amendment(s) to procedures for handling financial or operational actions of material significance, such as acquisition or disposal of assets, derivatives trading, extension of monetary loans to others, and endorsements or guarantees for others;
5. Its offering, issuance or private placement of any equity-type securities;

6. Its performance assessment and the standard of remuneration of the managerial officers;
7. Its structure and system of director's remuneration;
8. Its appointment or discharge of a financial, accounting or internal audit officer;
9. Its donation to a related party or a major donation to a non-related party, provided that a public-interest donation of disaster relief for a major natural disaster may be submitted to the next board meeting for retroactive recognition; and
10. Any matter required by Article 14-3 of the Securities and Exchange Act or any other law and regulation or articles of incorporation to be approved by resolution at a shareholders meeting or to be approved by resolution at a meeting of the board of directors or any such significant matter as may be prescribed by the competent authority.

Except for matters that must be submitted to the board of directors for discussion under the preceding paragraph, when the board of directors is in recess, it may delegate the exercise of its power to others in accordance with law and regulations or its articles of incorporation. However, the level of delegation or the content or matters to be delegated shall be clearly specified, and general authorization is not permitted.

### **Article 36**

The Company shall ask the appropriate corporate department or personnel to execute matters pursuant to board of directors' resolutions in a manner consistent with the planned schedule and objectives. It shall also follow up on those matters and faithfully review their implementation.

The board of directors shall remain informed of the progress of implementation and receive reports in subsequent meetings to ensure the actual implementation of the board's management decisions.

## **Section 5 Fiduciary, Duty of Care and Responsibility of Directors**

### **Article 37**

All board members shall faithfully conduct corporate affairs and perform the duty of care of a good administrator. In conducting said affairs, they shall exercise their powers with a high level of self-discipline and prudence. Unless matters are otherwise reserved by law or matters to be approved at shareholders meetings by its articles of incorporation, they shall ensure that all matters are handled according to the resolutions of board of directors.

It is advisable that the Company formulate rules and procedures for board of directors performance assessments, and that each year it conduct regularly scheduled performance assessments of the board of directors and individual directors through self-assessments, peer-to-peer assessments, engagement of outside professional institutions or any appropriate manner. It is advisable that the performance assessments of the board of directors shall include the following aspects and that appropriate assessment indicators be developed in consideration of its needs:

1. Degree of participation in corporate operations;
2. Improvement in the quality of decision making by the board of directors;
3. Composition and structure of the board of directors;
4. Election and continuing professional education of directors; and
5. Internal control.

It is advisable that performance assessments of board members (self-assessments or peer-to-peer assessments) include the following aspects, with appropriate adjustments made on the basis of its needs:

1. Grasp of corporate goals and missions;
2. Recognition of the duties of a director;
3. Degree of participation in corporate operations;
4. Internal relationships management and communication;

5.Election of the directors and their continuing professional education;

6. Internal control.

It is advisable that performance assessments of functional committees shall cover the following aspects, subject to changes according to its needs:

1.Degree of participation in corporate operations;

2.Recognition of the duties of the functional committee;

3.Improvement in the quality of decision making by the functional committee;

4.Composition of the functional committee and its members' election and appointment;

5.Internal control.

The Company is advised to submit the results of performance assessments to the board of directors and use them as reference in determining compensation for individual directors, their nomination and additional office term.

### **Article 38**

If a resolution of the board of directors violates law and regulations or its articles of incorporation, then at the request of shareholders holding shares continuously for a year or an independent director to discontinue the implementation of the resolution, members of the board shall take appropriate measures or discontinue the implementation of such resolution as soon as possible.

Upon discovering the likelihood that the Company would suffer the material injury, members of the board of directors shall immediately report to the audit committee or an independent director member of the audit committee in accordance with the foregoing paragraph.

### **Article 39**



The Company shall take out directors liability insurance with respect to liabilities resulting from exercising their duties during their term of occupancy so as to reduce and spread the risk of material harm to the Company and shareholders arising from the wrongdoings or negligence of a director.

The Company shall report the insured amount, coverage, premium rate and other major contents of the liability insurance it has taken out or renewed for directors at the next board meeting.

#### **Article 40**

Members of the board of directors are advised to participate in training courses on finance, risk management, business, commerce, accounting, law or corporate social responsibility offered by institutions designated in the Rules Governing Implementation of Continuing Education for Directors and Supervisors of TWSE/TPEX Listed Companies which cover subjects relating to corporate governance upon becoming directors and throughout their terms of occupancy. They shall also ensure that employees at all levels will enhance their professionalism and knowledge of law.

### **Chapter IV Respecting Stakeholders' Rights**

#### **Article 41**

The Company shall maintain channels of communication with its banks and other creditors, employees, consumers, suppliers, community or other stakeholders of the Company, respect and safeguard their legal rights and interests and designate a stakeholder section on its website.

When any of a stakeholder's legal rights or interest is harmed, the Company shall handle the matter in a proper manner and in good faith.

#### **Article 42**

The Company shall provide sufficient information to banks and its creditors to facilitate their evaluation of the operational and financial conditions of the Company and its decision-making process. When any of their legal rights or interests is

harmed, the Company shall respond with a responsible attitude and assist creditors in obtaining compensation through proper means.

#### **Article 43**

The Company shall establish channels of communication with employees and encourage them to communicate directly with the management or directors so as to reflect their opinions about its business and financial conditions or on its material decision-making concerning their welfare.

#### **Article 44**

In developing its normal business and maximizing the shareholders' interest, the Company shall pay attention to consumers' interests, environmental protection of the community and public interest issues, and shall give serious regard to its social responsibility (CSR).

### **Chapter V Improving Information Transparency**

#### **Section 1 Enhancing Information Disclosure**

#### **Article 45**

Disclosure of information is a major responsibility of the Company. The Company shall perform its obligations faithfully in accordance with relevant laws and regulations and the TWSE/TPEX rules.

The Company shall establish an Internet-based reporting system for public information, appoint personnel responsible for gathering and disclosing the information, and establish a spokesperson system so as to ensure the proper and timely disclosure of information about policies that might affect the decisions of shareholders and stakeholders.

#### **Article 46**

In order to enhance the accuracy and timelines of the material information disclosed, the Company shall appoint a spokesperson and acting spokesperson(s) who understand thoroughly its financial and business conditions and who are capable of

coordinating among departments for gathering relevant information and representing the Company in making statements independently.

The Company shall appoint one or more acting spokespersons who shall represent the Company, when the spokesperson cannot perform his/her duties, in taking statements independently, provided that the order of authority is established to avoid any confusion.

In order to implement the spokesperson system, the Company shall unify the process of making external statements. The Company shall require the management and employees to maintain the confidentiality of financial and operational secrets and prohibit their disclosure of any such information at will.

The Company shall disclose the relevant information immediately whenever there is any change to the position of a spokesperson or acting spokesperson(s).

#### **Article 47**

In order to keep shareholders and stakeholders fully informed, the Company shall utilize the convenience of the Internet and set up a website containing the information regarding its finance and operations and its corporate governance. It is also advisable for the Company to furnish its finance, corporate governance and other relevant information in English.

To avoid misleading information, the aforesaid website shall be maintained by specified personnel, and the recorded information shall be accurate, detailed and updated on a timely basis.

#### **Article 48**

The Company shall hold an investor conference in compliance with the TWSE/TPEX rules and shall keep an audit or video record of the meeting. The financial and business information disclosed in the investor conference shall be disclosed on MOPS and provided for inquiry through the website established by the Company or through other channels in accordance with the TWSE/TPEX rules.

## **Section 2 Disclosure of Information on Corporate Governance**

### **Article 49**

The Company's website should set up a special area to disclose and update the following corporate governance-related information from time to time:

1. Board of Directors: such as the resumes of board members and their responsibilities, the diversity policy and implementation of board members;
2. Functional committees: such as the resumes of the members of each functional committee and their responsibilities;
3. Corporate governance-related regulations: such as the Articles of Incorporation, the procedures for the board of directors, and charters of functional committees and other corporate governance-related regulations;
4. Important information regarding corporate governance: such as information of appointment of the chief corporate governance officer.

## **Chapter VI Supplementary Provision**

### **Article 50**

The Company shall, at all times, monitor domestic and international developments in corporate governance as a basis for review and improvement of its corporate governance mechanisms, so as to enhance their effectiveness.

### **Article 51**

The corporate social responsibility practice principles of the Company shall be implemented after the board of directors grants the approval. The same procedure shall be followed when the principles have been amended.