#### A PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

#### ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

Of

#### DIALOG SEMICONDUCTOR PLC<sup>1</sup>

(Adopted by Special Resolution passed on 5 May 2010)

#### **PRELIMINARY**

Table A

1. The regulations in Table A as in force at the date of the incorporation of the Company shall not apply to the Company.

Definitions

2. In these Articles, except where the subject or context otherwise requires:

**Act** means the Companies Act 2006 including any modification or reenactment of it for the time being in force;

*Articles* means these articles of association as altered from time to time by special resolution;

auditors means the auditors of the Company;

*the board* means the directors or any of them acting as the board of directors of the Company;

**CI** means an interest in the shares in the capital of the Company which interest is traded and settled through Clearstream;

**CI Holder** means the holder of a CI;

CI Record Date shall have the meaning given to it in Article 45.2;

 $<sup>1\,</sup>$  The Company changed name from DIALOG SEMICONDUCTOR (HOLDINGS) LIMITED by Special Resolution dated 2 August 1999.

The Company changed name from KITCHANGE LIMITED by Special Resolution dated 27 February 1998.

CI Register means the electronic register of CI Holders established and maintained by the Company;

CI Voting Instruction shall have the meaning given in Article 74;

**CI Voting Instruction Receipt Time** shall have the meaning given to it in Article 75;

**CI Voting Notice** shall have the meaning given in Article 75;

*clear days* in relation to the giving of a notice means the period excluding the day on which a notice is given or deemed to be given and the day for which it is given or on which it is to take effect;

*Clearstream* means the Cascade electronic clearing and settlement system operated by Clearstream Banking AG facilitating the trading, clearing and settlement of securities traded on the FSE and any successor to such system and/or operator;

*Clearstream Nominee* means Clearstream Banking AG and/or any other entity or entities which hold(s) legal title to the shares in the capital of the Company to which the CI Holders are beneficially entitled;

Clearstream Nominee's Overall Holding means the aggregate of the shares for the time being registered in the name of the Clearstream Nominee;

*Clearstream Rules* means the terms and conditions under which the Company's shares clear and settle in Clearstream;

Companies Acts has the meaning given by section 2 of the Act and includes any enactment passed after that Act which may, by virtue of that or any other such enactment, be cited together with the Act as the "Companies Acts" (with or without the addition of an indication of the date of any such enactment);

*director* means a director of the Company;

dividend means dividend or bonus;

entitled by transmission means, in relation to a share in the capital of the Company, entitled as a consequence of the death or bankruptcy of the holder or otherwise by operation of law;

**FSE** means the Frankfurt Stock Exchange and any successor to the FSE on which the Company's shares are listed and traded in Germany;

**holder** in relation to a share in the capital of the Company means the member whose name is entered in the Register as the holder of that share;

member means a member of the Company;

**Member Voting Record Time** shall have the meaning given to it in Article 45.1;

office means the registered office of the Company;

paid means paid or credited as paid;

**Register** means the register of members of the Company;

*seal* means the common seal of the Company and includes any official seal kept by the Company by virtue of section 49 or 50 of the Act;

**secretary** means the secretary of the Company and includes a joint, assistant, deputy or temporary secretary and any other person appointed to perform the duties of the secretary; and

*United Kingdom* means Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

#### Construction

3. References to a document or information being *sent*, *supplied* or *given* to or by a person mean such document or information, or a copy of such document or information, being sent, supplied, given, delivered, issued or made available to or by, or served on or by, or deposited with or by that person by any method authorised by these Articles, and *sending*, *supplying* and *giving* shall be construed accordingly.

References to writing mean the representation or reproduction of words, symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether in electronic form or otherwise, and *written* shall be construed accordingly.

Words denoting the singular number include the plural number and vice versa; words denoting the masculine gender include the feminine gender; and words denoting persons include corporations.

Words or expressions contained in these Articles which are not defined in these articles but are defined in the Act have the same meaning as in the Act (but excluding any modification of the Act not in force at the date of adoption of these Articles) unless inconsistent with the subject or context.

Subject to the preceding paragraph, references to any provision of any enactment or of any subordinate legislation (as defined by section 21(1) of the Interpretation Act 1978) include any modification or re-enactment of that provision for the time being in force.

Headings and marginal notes are inserted for convenience only and do not affect the construction of these Articles.

In these Articles, (a) powers of delegation shall not be restrictively construed but the widest interpretation shall be given to them; (b) the word **board** in the context of the exercise of any power contained in these Articles includes any committee consisting of one or more directors, any director holding executive office and any local or divisional board, manager or agent of the Company to which or, as the case may be, to whom the power in question has been delegated; (c) 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 (d) 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.

#### **LIMITED LIABILITY**

Limited liability

4. The liability of the members is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid on the shares held by them.

#### SHARE CAPITAL

Shares with special rights

5. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and without prejudice to any rights attached to any existing shares or class of shares, any share may be issued with such rights or restrictions as the Company may by ordinary resolution determine or, subject to and in default of such determination, as the board shall determine.

Residual allotment powers

- 6. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts relating to authority, pre-emption rights or otherwise and of any resolution of the Company in general meeting passed pursuant to those provisions, and, in the case of redeemable shares, the provisions of Article 7:
- (a) all shares for the time being in the capital of the Company shall be at the disposal of the board; and
- (b) the board may allot (with or without conferring a right of renunciation), grant options over, or otherwise dispose of them to such persons on such terms and conditions and at such times as it thinks fit.

Redeemable shares

7. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, and without prejudice to any rights attached to any existing shares or class of shares, shares may be issued which are to be redeemed or are to be liable to be redeemed at the option of the Company or the holder. The board may

determine the terms, conditions and manner of redemption of shares provided that it does so before the shares are allotted.

Commissions

8. The Company may exercise all powers of paying commissions or brokerage conferred or permitted by the Companies Acts. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, any such commission or brokerage may be satisfied by the payment of cash or by the allotment of fully or partly paid shares or partly in one way and partly in the other.

Trusts not recognised

9. Except as required by law, the Company shall recognise no person as holding any share on any trust and (except as otherwise provided by these Articles or by law) the Company shall not be bound by or recognise any interest in any share (or in any fractional part of a share) except the holder's absolute right to the entirety of the share (or fractional part of the share).

#### VARIATION OF RIGHTS

Method of varying rights

10.1 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, if at any time the capital of the Company is divided into different classes of shares, the rights attached to any class may (unless otherwise provided by the terms of allotment of the shares of that class) be varied or abrogated, whether or not the Company is being wound up, either with the consent in writing of the holders of three-quarters in nominal value of the issued shares of the class, which consent shall be in hard copy form or in electronic form sent to such address (if any) for the time being specified by or on behalf of the Company for that purpose, or in default of such specification to the office, and may consist of several documents, each executed or authenticated in such manner as the board may approve by or on behalf of one or more holders, or a combination of both 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).

When rights deemed to be varied

- 10.2 For the purposes of this Article, if at any time the capital of the Company is divided into different classes of shares, unless otherwise expressly provided by the rights attached to any share or class of shares, those rights shall be deemed to be varied by:
- (a) the reduction of the capital paid up on that share or class of shares otherwise than by a purchase or redemption by the Company of its own shares; and
- (b) the allotment of another share ranking in priority for payment of a dividend or in respect of capital or which confers on its holder voting rights more favourable than those conferred by that share or class of shares,

but shall not be deemed to be varied by the creation or issue of another share ranking equally with, or subsequent to, that share or class of shares or by the purchase or redemption by the Company of its own shares.

#### **SHARE CERTIFICATES**

## Members' rights to

- 11. Every member, on becoming the holder of any share, shall be entitled, without payment, to one certificate for all the shares of each class held by him (and, on transferring a part of his holding of shares of any class, to a certificate for the balance of his holding of shares). He may elect to receive one or more additional certificates for any of his shares if he pays for every certificate after the first a reasonable sum determined from time to time by the board. Every certificate shall:
- (a) be executed under the seal or otherwise in accordance with Article 137 or in such other manner as the board may approve; and
- (b) specify the number, class and distinguishing numbers (if any) of the shares to which it relates and the amount or respective amounts paid up on the shares.

The Company shall not be bound to issue more than one certificate for shares held jointly by more than one person and delivery of a certificate to one joint holder shall be a sufficient delivery to all of them. Shares of different classes may not be included in the same certificate.

### Replacement certificates

12. If a share certificate is defaced, worn out, lost or destroyed, it may be renewed on such terms (if any) as to evidence and indemnity and payment of any exceptional out-of-pocket expenses reasonably incurred by the Company in investigating evidence and preparing the requisite form of indemnity as the board may determine but otherwise free of charge, and (in the case of defacement or wearing out) on delivery up of the old certificate.

#### LIEN

## Company to have lien on shares

13. The Company shall have a first and paramount lien on every share (not being a fully paid share) for all moneys payable to the Company (whether presently or not) in respect of that share. The board may at any time (generally or in a particular case) waive any lien or declare any share to be wholly or in part exempt from the provisions of this Article. The Company's lien on a share shall extend to any amount (including without limitation dividends) payable in respect of it.

## **Enforcement of lien by sale**

14.1 The Company may sell, in such manner as the board determines, any share on which the Company has a lien if a sum in respect of which the lien exists is presently payable and is not paid within 14 clear days after notice has been given to the holder of the share, or to the person entitled to

it by transmission, demanding payment and stating that if the notice is not complied with the share may be sold.

Giving effect to sale

14.2 To give effect to that sale the board may authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer in respect of the share sold to, or in accordance with the directions of, the buyer. The buyer shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money and his title to the share shall not be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings in relation to the sale.

Application of proceeds

14.3 The net proceeds of the sale, after payment of the costs, shall be applied in or towards payment or satisfaction of so much of the sum in respect of which the lien exists as is presently payable. Any residue shall (on surrender to the Company for cancellation of the certificate in respect of the share sold and subject to a like lien for any moneys not presently payable as existed on the share before the sale) be paid to the person entitled to the share at the date of the sale.

#### CALLS ON SHARES

Power to make calls

15. Subject to the terms of allotment, the board may from time to time make calls on the members in respect of any moneys unpaid on their shares (whether in respect of nominal value or premium). Each member shall (subject to receiving at least 14 clear days' notice specifying when and where payment is to be made) pay to the Company the amount called on his shares as required by the notice. A call may be required to be paid by instalments. A call may be revoked in whole or part and the time fixed for payment of a call may be postponed in whole or part as the board 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 the call was made are subsequently transferred.

Time when call made

16. A call shall be deemed to have been made at the time when the resolution of the board authorising the call was passed.

Liability of joint holders

17. The joint holders of a share shall be jointly and severally liable to pay all calls in respect of it.

Interest payable

18. If a call or any instalment of a call remains unpaid in whole or in part after it has become due and payable the person from whom it is due and payable shall pay interest on the amount unpaid from the day it became due and payable until it is paid. Interest shall be paid at the rate fixed by the terms of allotment of the share or in the notice of the call or, if no rate is fixed, the rate determined by the board, not exceeding 15 per cent. per annum, or, if higher, the appropriate rate (as defined in the Act), but the

board may in respect of any individual member waive payment of such interest wholly or in part.

Deemed calls

19. An amount payable in respect of a share on allotment or at any fixed date, whether in respect of nominal value or premium or as an instalment of a call, shall be deemed to be a call duly made and notified and payable on the date so fixed or in accordance with the terms of the allotment. If it is not paid the provisions of these Articles shall apply as if that amount had become due and payable by virtue of a call duly made and notified.

Differentiation on calls

20. Subject to the terms of allotment, the board may make arrangements on the issue of shares for a difference between the allottees or holders in the amounts and times of payment of calls on their shares.

Payment of calls in advance

21. The board may, if it thinks fit, receive from any member all or any part of the moneys uncalled and unpaid on any share held by him. Such payment in advance of calls shall extinguish the liability on the share in respect of which it is made to the extent of the payment. The Company may pay on all or any of the moneys so advanced (until they would but for such advance become presently payable) interest at such rate agreed between the board and the member not exceeding (unless the Company by ordinary resolution otherwise directs) 15 per cent. per annum or, if higher, the appropriate rate (as defined in the Act).

#### FORFEITURE AND SURRENDER

Notice requiring payment of call

22. If a call or any instalment of a call remains unpaid in whole or in part after it has become due and payable, the board may give to the person from whom it is due not less than 14 clear days' notice requiring payment of the amount unpaid together with any interest which may have accrued and any costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Company by reason of such non-payment. The notice shall name the place where payment is to be made and shall state that if the notice is not complied with the shares in respect of which the call was made will be liable to be forfeited.

Forfeiture for non-compliance

23. If that notice is not complied with, any share in respect of which it was given may, at any time before the payment required by the notice has been made, be forfeited by a resolution of the board. The forfeiture shall include all dividends or other moneys payable in respect of the forfeited share which have not been paid before the forfeiture. When a share has been forfeited, notice of the forfeiture shall be sent to the person who was the holder of the share before the forfeiture. Where the forfeited share is held in certificated form, an entry shall be made promptly in the Register opposite the entry of the share showing that notice has been sent, that the share has been forfeited and the date of forfeiture. No forfeiture shall be

invalidated by the omission or neglect to give that notice or to make those entries.

Sale of forfeited shares

24. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, a forfeited share shall be deemed to belong to the Company and may be sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of on such terms and in such manner as the board determines, either to the person who was the holder before the forfeiture or to any other person. At any time before sale, re-allotment or other disposal, the forfeiture may be cancelled on such terms as the board thinks fit. Where for the purposes of its disposal a forfeited share is to be transferred to any person, the board may authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer of the share to that person. The Company may receive the consideration given for the share on its disposal and may register the transferee as holder of the share.

Liability following forfeiture 25. A person shall cease to be a member in respect of any share which has been forfeited and shall surrender the certificate for any forfeited share to the Company for cancellation. The person shall remain liable to the Company for all moneys which at the date of forfeiture were presently payable by him to the Company in respect of that share with interest on that amount at the rate at which interest was payable on those moneys before the forfeiture or, if no interest was so payable, at the rate determined by the board, not exceeding 15 per cent. per annum or, if higher, the appropriate rate (as defined in the Act), from the date of forfeiture until payment. The board may waive payment wholly or in part or enforce payment without any allowance for the value of the share at the time of forfeiture or for any consideration received on its disposal.

Surrender

26. The board may accept the surrender of any share which it is in a position to forfeit on such terms and conditions as may be agreed. Subject to those terms and conditions, a surrendered share shall be treated as if it had been forfeited.

Extinction of rights

27. The forfeiture of a share shall involve the extinction at the time of forfeiture of all interest in and all claims and demands against the Company in respect of the share and all other rights and liabilities incidental to the share as between the person whose share is forfeited and the Company, except only those rights and liabilities expressly saved by these Articles, or as are given or imposed in the case of past members by the Companies Acts.

Evidence of forfeiture or surrender

28. A statutory declaration by a director or the secretary that a share has been duly forfeited or surrendered on a specified date shall be conclusive evidence of the facts stated in it as against all persons claiming to be entitled to the share. The declaration shall (subject if necessary to the execution of an instrument of transfer or transfer by means of the relevant

system, as the case may be) constitute a good title to the share. The person to whom the share is disposed of shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money, if any, and his title to the share shall not be affected by any irregularity in, or invalidity of, the proceedings in reference to the forfeiture, surrender, sale, re-allotment or disposal of the share.

#### TRANSFER OF SHARES

Form and execution of transfer of certificated shares 29. Without prejudice to any power of the Company to register as shareholder a person to whom the right to any share has been transmitted by operation of law, the instrument of transfer of a share may be in any usual form or in any other form which the board may approve and shall be signed by or on behalf of the transferor and, unless the share is fully paid, by or on behalf of the transferee. An instrument of transfer need not be under seal.

Transfers of partly paid shares

30. The board may, in its absolute discretion, refuse to register the transfer of a share which is not fully paid, provided that the refusal does not prevent dealings in shares in the Company from taking place on an open and proper basis.

Invalid transfers of shares

- 31. The board may also refuse to register the transfer of a share unless the instrument of transfer:
- (a) is lodged, duly stamped (if stampable), at the office or at another place appointed by the board accompanied by the certificate for the share to which it relates and such other evidence as the board may reasonably require to show the right of the transferor to make the transfer;
- (b) is in respect of only one class of shares; and
- (c) is in favour of not more than four transferees.

Notice of refusal to register

32. If the board refuses to register a transfer of a share, it shall send the transferee notice of its refusal within two months after the date on which the instrument of transfer was lodged with the Company.

No fee payable on registration

33. No fee shall be charged for the registration of any instrument of transfer or other document relating to or affecting the title to a share.

Retention of transfers

34. The Company shall be entitled to retain an instrument of transfer which is registered, but an instrument of transfer which the board refuses to register shall be returned to the person lodging it when notice of the refusal is given.

#### TRANSMISSION OF SHARES

#### Transmission

35. If a member dies, the survivor or survivors where he was a joint holder, and his personal representatives where he was a sole holder or the only survivor of joint holders, shall be the only persons recognised by the Company as having any title to his interest. Nothing in these Articles shall release the estate of a deceased member (whether a sole or joint holder) from any liability in respect of any share held by him.

### Elections permitted

36.1 A person becoming entitled by transmission to a share may, on production of any evidence as to his entitlement properly required by the board, elect either to become the holder of the share or to have another person nominated by him registered as the transferee. If he elects to become the holder he shall give notice to the Company to that effect. If he elects to have another person registered, he shall execute an instrument of transfer of the share to that person. If he elects to have himself or another person registered he shall take any action the board may require (including without limitation the execution of any document) to enable himself or that person to be registered as the holder of the share. All the provisions of these Articles relating to the transfer of shares apply to that notice or instrument of transfer as if it were an instrument of transfer executed by the member and the death or bankruptcy of the member or other event giving rise to the transmission had not occurred.

## Elections required

36.2 The board may at any time give notice requiring any such person to elect either to be registered himself or to transfer the share. If the notice is not complied with within 60 days, the board may after the expiry of that period withhold payment of all dividends or other moneys payable in respect of the share until the requirements of the notice have been complied with.

## Rights of persons entitled by transmission

37. A person becoming entitled by transmission to a share shall, on production of any evidence as to his entitlement properly required by the board and subject to the requirements of Article 36, have the same rights in relation to the share as he would have had if he were the holder of the share, subject to Article 145. That person may give a discharge for all dividends and other moneys payable in respect of the share, but he shall not, before being registered as the holder of the share, be entitled in respect of it to receive notice of, or to attend or vote at, any meeting of the Company or to receive notice of or to attend or vote at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares in the capital of the Company.

#### ALTERATION OF SHARE CAPITAL

#### New shares subject to these Articles

- 38. All shares created by an increase in the Company's share capital, by consolidation, division or sub-division of its share capital or the conversion of stock into paid-up shares shall be:
- (a) subject to all the provisions of these Articles including, without limitation, provisions relating to payment of calls, lien, forfeiture, transfer and transmission; and
- (b) unclassified, unless otherwise provided by these Articles, by the resolution creating the shares or by the terms of allotment of the shares.

### Fractions arising

39. Whenever any fractions arise as a result of a consolidation or subdivision of shares, the board may on behalf of the members deal with the fractions as it thinks fit. In particular, without limitation, the board may sell shares representing fractions to which any members would otherwise become entitled to any person (including, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company) and distribute the net proceeds of sale in due proportion among those members. The board may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares to, or in accordance with the directions of, the buyer. The buyer shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase moneys and his title to the shares shall not be affected by any irregularity in, or invalidity of, the proceedings in relation to the sale.

#### **GENERAL MEETINGS**

### General meetings

40. Except where stated otherwise, a reference to a general meeting includes a reference to an annual general meeting. The board shall convene and the Company shall hold annual general meetings in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Acts.

#### Class meetings

- 41. All provisions of these Articles relating to general meetings of the Company shall, mutatis mutandis, apply to every separate general meeting of the holders of any class of shares in the capital of the Company, except that:
- (a) the necessary quorum shall be two persons holding or representing by proxy at least one-third in nominal value of the issued shares of the class or, at any adjourned meeting of such holders, one holder present in person or by proxy, whatever the amount of his holding, who shall be deemed to constitute a meeting;

- (b) any holder of shares of the class present in person or by proxy may demand a poll; and
- (c) each holder of shares of the class shall, on a poll, have one vote in respect of every share of the class held by him.

For the purposes of this Article, where a person is present by proxy or proxies, he is treated only as holding the shares in respect of which those proxies are authorised to exercise voting rights.

Convening general meetings

42. The board may call general meetings whenever and at such times and places as it shall determine. On the requisition of members pursuant to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the board shall promptly convene a general meeting in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Acts. If there are insufficient directors in the United Kingdom to call a general meeting any director of the Company may call a general meeting, but where no director is willing or able to do so, any two members of the Company may summon a meeting for the purpose of appointing one or more directors.

#### NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS

Period of notice

43.1 An annual general meeting shall be called by at least 21 clear days' notice. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, all other general meetings may be called by at least 14 clear days' notice.

Recipients of notice

43.2 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the provisions of these Articles and to any restrictions imposed on any shares, the notice shall be given to all the members, to all the CI Holders, to each of the directors and to the auditors.

Contents of notice: general

44.1 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the notice shall specify the time, date and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be dealt with.

Contents of notice: additional requirements

44.2 In the case of an annual general meeting, the notice shall specify the meeting as such. In the case of a meeting to pass a special resolution, the notice shall specify the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution.

Record time for shareholders

45.1 For the purpose of determining whether a person is entitled as a member to attend or vote at a meeting and how many votes such person may cast, the Company may specify in the notice of the meeting a time (the *Member Voting Record Time*) not more than 48 hours before the time fixed for the meeting, by which a person who holds shares must be entered on the Register in order to have the right to attend or vote at the meeting or to appoint a proxy to do so.

### Record time for

- 45.2 For the purpose of determining whether a person is entitled as a CI Holder to:
- (a) exercise the rights conferred by Article 74; and
- (b) receive a CI Voting Notice in accordance with Article 75; and
- (c) in cases where the Company has made arrangements to pay dividends directly to CI Holders, be paid dividends,

and, where relevant, the number of CIs in respect of which he is so entitled, the Company may determine that the CI Holders so entitled shall be the persons entered on the CI Register at the close of business on any date specified for the particular purpose (each, a *CI Record Date*).

Interruption or adjournment where facilities inadequate 46.1 If it appears to the chairman of the general meeting that the facilities at the meeting place have become inadequate for the purposes referred to in Article 44.1, then the chairman may, without the consent of the meeting, interrupt or adjourn the general meeting. All business conducted at that general meeting up to the time of that adjournment shall be valid. The provisions of Article 52.2 shall apply to that adjournment.

Change in place and/or time of meeting

- 46.2 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 board decides that it is impracticable or unreasonable for a reason beyond its control to hold the meeting at the declared place and/or time, it may change the place and/or postpone the time at which the meeting is to be held. If such a decision is made, the board may then change the place and/or postpone the time again if it decides that it is reasonable to do so. In either case:
- (a) no new notice of the meeting need be given, but the board shall, if practicable, advertise the date, time and place of the meeting in at least two newspapers having a national circulation and shall make arrangements for notices of the change of place and/or postponement to appear at the original place and/or at the original time; and
- (b) notwithstanding Article 80(a) but provided that the board may specify, in any case, that in calculating the period of 48 hours, no account shall be taken of any part of a day that is not a working day, a proxy appointment in relation to the meeting may be deposited at the office or to such other place as may be specified by or on behalf of the Company in accordance with Article 80(a) or, if in electronic form, be received at the address (if any) specified by or on behalf of the Company in accordance with Article 80(b) at any time not less

than 48 hours before any new time appointed for holding the meeting.

Accidental omission to give notice etc.

47. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting or resolution, or to give any notification where required by the Companies Acts or these Articles in relation to the publication of a notice of meeting on a website, or to send a form of proxy where required by the Companies Acts or these Articles, or to send a CI Voting Notice to any person entitled to receive it, or the non-receipt, for any reason by that person of any such notice or resolution or notification or form of proxy or CI Voting Notice, or the non-receipt by the Company of a completed form of proxy, or of completed CI Voting Instructions, in each case whether or not the Company is aware of such omission or non-receipt, shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

#### PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

**Quorum** 

- 48. No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present, but the absence of a quorum shall not preclude the choice or appointment of a chairman, which shall not be treated as part of the business of the meeting. Save as otherwise provided by these Articles, two qualifying persons present at a meeting and entitled to vote on the business to be transacted shall be a quorum, unless:
- (a) each is a qualifying person only because he is authorised under the Companies Acts to act as a representative of a corporation in relation to the meeting, and they are representatives of the same corporation; or
- (b) each is a qualifying person only because he is appointed as proxy of a member in relation to the meeting, and they are proxies of the same member.

For the purposes of this Article a "qualifying person" means (i) a person who is a member of the Company, (ii) a person authorised under the Companies Acts to act as a representative of the corporation in relation to the meeting, or (iii) a person appointed as proxy of a member in relation to the meeting.

If quorum not present

49. If such a quorum is not present within five minutes (or such longer time not exceeding 30 minutes as the chairman of the meeting may decide to wait) from the time appointed for the meeting, or if during a meeting such a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting, if convened on the requisition of members, shall be dissolved, and in any other case shall stand adjourned to such time and place as the chairman of the meeting may, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, determine. The adjourned

meeting shall be dissolved if a quorum is not present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting.

Chairman

50. The chairman, if any, of the board or, in his absence, any deputy chairman of the Company or, in his absence, some other director nominated by the board, shall preside as chairman of the meeting. If neither the chairman, deputy chairman nor such other director (if any) is present within five minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting or is not willing to act as chairman, the directors present shall elect one of their number to be chairman. If there is only one director present and willing to act, he shall be chairman. If no director is willing to act as chairman, or if no director is present within five minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the members and CI Holders present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote and the persons authorised to act as a representative of a corporation in relation to the meeting shall choose a member or CI Holder present in person or a proxy of a member or a CI Holder or a person authorised to act as a representative of a corporation in relation to the meeting to be chairman.

Directors entitled to speak

51. A director shall, notwithstanding that he is not a member, be entitled to attend and speak at any general meeting and at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares in the capital of the Company.

Adjournments: chairman's powers

- 52.1 The chairman may, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place. No business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place. In addition (and without prejudice to the chairman's power to adjourn a meeting conferred by Article 46.1), the chairman may adjourn the meeting to another time and place without such consent if it appears to him that:
- (a) it is likely to be impracticable to hold or continue that meeting because of the number of members wishing to attend who are not present; or
- (b) the unruly conduct of persons attending the meeting prevents or is likely to prevent the orderly continuation of the business of the meeting; or
- (c) an adjournment is otherwise necessary so that the business of the meeting may be properly conducted.

Adjournments: procedures

52.2 Any such adjournment may, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, be for such time and to such other place as the chairman

may, in his absolute discretion determine, notwithstanding that by reason of such adjournment some members may be unable to be present at the adjourned meeting. Any such member may nevertheless appoint a proxy for the adjourned meeting either in accordance with Article 80 or by means of a document in hard copy form which, if delivered at the meeting which is adjourned to the chairman or the secretary or any director, shall be valid even though it is given at less notice than would otherwise be required by these Articles. When a meeting is adjourned for 30 days or more or for an indefinite period, at least seven clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time and place of the adjourned meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted. Otherwise it shall not be necessary to give any notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned meeting.

## Methods of voting

- 53. A resolution put to the vote of a general meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless, before or on the declaration of the result of a vote on the show of hands or on the withdrawal of any other demand for a poll, a poll is duly demanded. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, a poll may be demanded by:
- (a) the chairman of the meeting; or
- (b) (except on the election of the chairman of the meeting or on a question of adjournment) at least five members or CI Holders present in person or by proxy having the right to vote on the resolution; or
- (c) any member, members, CI Holder or CI Holders present in person or by proxy representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the members and CI Holders having the right to vote on the resolution; or
- (d) any member, members, CI Holder or CI Holders present in person or by proxy holding shares conferring a right to vote on the resolution being shares on which an aggregate sum has been paid up equal to not less than one-tenth of the total sum paid up on all the shares conferring that right.

The appointment of a proxy to vote on a matter at a meeting authorises the proxy to demand, or join in demanding, a poll on that matter. In applying the provisions of this Article, a demand by a proxy counts (i) for the purposes of paragraph (b) of this Article, as a demand by the member or CI Holder, (ii) for the purposes of paragraph (c) of this Article, as a demand by a member or CI Holder representing the voting rights that the proxy is authorised to exercise, and (iii) for the purposes of paragraph (d) of this

Article, as a demand by a member or CI Holder holding the shares or interests in shares to which those rights are attached.

### Amendments to resolutions

- 54. In the case of a resolution to be proposed as a special resolution no amendment may be made, at or before the time at which the resolution is put to the vote, to the form of the resolution as set out in the notice of meeting, except to correct a patent error or as may otherwise be permitted by law.
- (a) In the case of a resolution to be proposed as an ordinary resolution no amendment may be made, at or before the time at which the resolution is put to the vote, unless:
  - (i) in the case of an amendment to the form of the resolution as set out in the notice of meeting, notice of the intention to move the amendment is received at the office at least 48 hours before the time fixed for the holding of the relevant meeting; or
  - (ii) in any case, the chairman of the meeting in his absolute discretion otherwise decides that the amendment or amended resolution may properly be put to the vote.

The giving of notice under subparagraph (i) above shall not prejudice the power of the chairman of the meeting to rule the amendment out of order.

- (b) With the consent of the chairman of the meeting, a person who proposes an amendment to a resolution may withdraw it before it is put to the vote.
- (c) If the chairman of the meeting rules a resolution or an amendment to a resolution admissible or out of order (as the case may be), the proceedings of the meeting or the resolution in question shall not be invalidated by any error in his ruling. Any ruling by the chairman of the meeting in relation to a resolution or an amendment to a resolution shall be final and conclusive.

### Declaration of result

55. Unless a poll is duly demanded (and the demand is not withdrawn before the poll is taken) a declaration by the chairman that a resolution has been carried or carried unanimously, or by a particular majority, or lost, or not carried by a particular majority shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against the resolution.

### Withdrawal of demand for poll

56. The demand for a poll may be withdrawn before the poll is taken, but only with the consent of the chairman. A demand so withdrawn shall

not be taken to have invalidated the result of a show of hands declared before the demand was made. If the demand for a poll is withdrawn, the chairman or any other member entitled may demand a poll.

**Conduct of poll** 

57. Subject to Article 58, a poll shall be taken as the chairman directs and he may, and shall if required by the meeting, appoint scrutineers (who need not be members) and fix a time and place for declaring the result of the poll. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.

When poll to be taken

58. A poll demanded on the election of a chairman or on a question of adjournment shall be taken at the meeting at which it is demanded. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken either at the meeting or at such time and place as the chairman directs not being more than 30 days after the poll is demanded. The demand for a poll shall not prevent the continuance of a meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which the poll was demanded. If a poll is demanded before the declaration of the result of a show of hands and the demand is duly withdrawn, the meeting shall continue as if the demand had not been made.

Notice of poll

59. No notice need be given of a poll not taken at the meeting at which it is demanded if the time and place at which it is to be taken are announced at the meeting. In any other case at least seven clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time and place at which the poll is to be taken.

Effectiveness of special and ordinary resolutions

60. Where for any purpose an ordinary resolution of the Company is required, a special resolution shall also be effective.

#### VOTES OF MEMBERS AND CI HOLDERS

Right to vote

- 61. Subject to any rights or restrictions attached to any shares and to Article 78, on a vote on a resolution on a show of hands:
- (a) every member and CI Holder who is present in person shall have one vote;
- (b) subject to paragraph (c), every proxy present who has been duly appointed by one or more members and/or one or more CI Holders entitled to vote on the resolution has one vote;
- (c) a proxy has one vote for and one vote against the resolution if:
  - (i) the proxy has been duly appointed by more than one member, one member and one CI Holder or more than one CI Holder entitled to vote on the resolution; and

(ii) the proxy has been instructed by one or more of those members or CI Holders to vote for the resolution and by one or more other of those members or CI Holders to vote against it

Subject to any rights or restrictions attached to any shares, on a vote on a resolution on a poll every member present in person or by proxy shall have one vote for every share of which he is the holder.

Votes of joint holders 62. In the case of joint holders of a share, the vote of the senior who tenders a vote, whether in person or by proxy, shall be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders. For this purpose seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names of the holders stand in the Register.

Member under incapacity

63. A member in respect of whom an order has been made by a court or official having jurisdiction (whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere) in matters concerning mental disorder may vote, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, by his receiver, curator bonis or other person authorised for that purpose appointed by that court or official. That receiver, curator bonis or other person may, on a show of hands or on a poll, vote by proxy. The right to vote shall be exercisable only if evidence satisfactory to the board of the authority of the person claiming to exercise the right to vote has been delivered to the office, or at another place specified in accordance with these Articles for the delivery of proxy appointments, not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the right to vote is to be exercised, provided that the Company may specify, in any case, that in calculating the period of 48 hours, no account shall be taken of any part of a day that is not a working day.

Calls in arrears

64. No member shall be entitled to vote at a general meeting or at a separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares in the capital of the Company, either in person or by proxy, in respect of any share held by him unless all moneys presently payable by him in respect of that share have been paid.

Section 793 of the Act: restrictions if in default 65.1 If at any time the board is satisfied that any member, or any other person appearing to be interested in shares held by such member, has been duly served with a notice under section 793 of the Act (a section 793 notice) and is in default for the prescribed period in supplying to the Company the information thereby required, or, in purported compliance with such a notice, has made a statement which is false or inadequate in a material particular, then the board may, in its absolute discretion at any time thereafter by notice (a direction notice) to such member direct that:

- (a) in respect of the shares in relation to which the default occurred (the *default shares*, which expression includes any shares issued after the date of the section 793 notice in respect of those shares) the member shall not be entitled to attend or vote either personally or by proxy at a general meeting or at a separate meeting of the holders of that class of shares or on a poll; and
- (b) where the default shares represent at least ¼ of one per cent. in nominal value of the issued shares of their class, the direction notice may additionally direct that in respect of the default shares:
  - (i) no payment shall be made by way of dividend and no share shall be allotted pursuant to Article 144;
  - (ii) no transfer of any default share shall be registered unless:
    - (A) the member is not himself in default as regards supplying the information requested and the transfer when presented for registration is accompanied by a certificate by the member in such form as the board may in its absolute discretion require to the effect that after due and careful enquiry the member is satisfied that no person in default as regards supplying such information is interested in any of the shares the subject of the transfer; or
    - (B) the transfer is an approved transfer.

#### Copy of notice to interested persons

65.2 The Company shall send a copy of the direction notice to each other person appearing to be interested in the default shares, but the failure or omission by the Company to do so shall not invalidate such notice.

# When restrictions cease to have effect

- 65.3 Any direction notice shall cease to have effect not more than seven days after the earlier of receipt by the Company of:
- (a) a notice of an approved transfer, but only in relation to the shares transferred; or
- (b) all the information required by the relevant section 793 notice, in a form satisfactory to the board.

## Board may cancel restrictions

65.4 The board may at any time give notice cancelling a direction notice.

#### Provisions supplementary to Article 65

- 66.1 For the purposes of Article 65:
- (a) a person shall be treated as appearing to be interested in any shares if the member holding such shares has sent to the Company a

notification under section 793 of the Act which either (i) names such person as being so interested or (ii) fails to establish the identities of all those interested in the shares, and (after taking into account the said notification and any other relevant section 793 notification) the Company knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the person in question is or may be interested in the shares;

- (b) the prescribed period is 14 days from the date of service of the section 793 notice; and
- (c) a transfer of shares is an approved transfer if:
  - (i) it is a transfer of shares pursuant to an acceptance of a takeover offer (within the meaning of section 974 of the Act); or
  - (ii) the board is satisfied that the transfer is made pursuant to a sale of the whole of the beneficial ownership of the shares the subject of the transfer to a party unconnected with the member and with any other person appearing to be interested in the shares; or
  - (iii) the transfer results from a sale made through a recognised investment exchange as defined in the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 or any other stock exchange outside the United Kingdom on which the Company's shares are normally traded.

Part 22 of the

66.2 Nothing contained in Article 65 limits the power of the Company under Part 22 of the Act.

**Errors in voting** 

67. If any votes are counted which ought not to have been counted, or might have been rejected, the error shall not vitiate the result of the voting unless it is pointed out at the same meeting, or at any adjournment of the meeting, and, in the opinion of the chairman, it is of sufficient magnitude to vitiate the result of the voting.

Objection to voting

68. No objection shall be raised to the qualification of any voter except at the meeting or adjourned meeting or poll at which the vote objected to is tendered. Every vote not disallowed at such meeting shall be valid and every vote not counted which ought to have been counted shall be disregarded. Any objection made in due time shall be referred to the chairman whose decision shall be final and conclusive.

Supplementary provisions on voting

69. On a poll, votes may be given either personally or by proxy. A member entitled to more than one vote need not, if he votes, use all his votes or cast all the votes he uses in the same way.

#### PROXIES AND CORPORATE REPRESENTATIVES

## Appointment of proxy; form of proxy

- 70. The appointment of a proxy shall be in writing and shall be in any usual form or in any other form which the board may approve. Subject thereto, the appointment of a proxy may be:
- (a) in hard copy form; or
- (b) in electronic form to the electronic address provided by or on behalf of the Company for this purpose.

## Execution of proxy

71. The appointment of a proxy, whether made in hard copy form or in electronic form, shall be executed in such manner as may be approved by or on behalf of the Company from time to time. Subject thereto, the appointment of a proxy shall be executed by the appointor or any person duly authorised by the appointor or, if the appointor is a corporation, executed by a duly authorised person or under its common seal or in any other manner authorised by its constitution.

## Proxies; other provisions

72. The board may, if it thinks fit, but subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, at the Company's expense send hard copy forms of proxy for use at the meeting and issue invitations in electronic form to appoint a proxy in relation to the meeting in such form as may be approved by the board. The appointment of a proxy shall not preclude a member from attending and voting in person at the meeting or poll concerned. A member may appoint more than one proxy to attend on the same occasion provided that each such proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by that member.

#### Proxy; Clearstream Nominee

73. The Clearstream Nominee can appoint more than one person to be its proxy.

## CI voting and proxy arrangements

- 74. Subject to Article 79, at every general meeting of the Company each person who is a CI Holder at the relevant CI Record Date shall have the right, in respect of the number of CIs held by them at the relevant CI Record Date, to direct the Clearstream Nominee:
- (a) as to how it should vote with respect to resolutions described in a notice of general meeting;
- (b) to appoint him as its proxy; or
- (c) to appoint as its proxy a person nominated by him, each a *CI Voting Instruction*.

## Notices in relation to CI Voting

75. The Company shall send a notice (a *CI Voting Notice*) to each CI Holder on the CI Register at the relevant CI Record Date informing them of

their rights under Article 74 and of the time by which CI Voting Instructions must be received by the Company (*CI Voting Instruction Receipt Time*). Any CI Voting Instruction received after the CI Voting Instruction Receipt Time shall be void.

Same rights

76. Subject to these Articles, a proxy appointed by the Clearstream Nominee shall have the same rights (and be subject to the same restrictions) as a proxy appointed by any other member.

### Effect of voting instructions

- 77. Where CI Voting Instructions are received by the CI Voting Instruction Receipt Time, then:
- (a) in the case where a CI Holder has given directions pursuant to Article 74(a), the number of votes that shall be cast by the Clearstream Nominee on a poll on their behalf shall be equal to the number of CIs in respect of which that direction has been given or, if less, the number of CIs standing to the name of that CI Holder in the CI Register at the relevant CI Record Date; and
- (b) in the case where a CI Holder has given a direction in accordance with Articles 74(b) or (c) to the effect that he or (as the case may be) some other person should be appointed as a proxy of the Clearstream Nominee, the Clearstream Nominee shall appoint the person so nominated as its proxy and the number of votes that may be cast by that proxy on a poll shall be equal to the number of CIs in respect of which the direction has been given or, if less, the number of CIs standing to the name of that CI Holder in the CI Register at the relevant CI Record Date.

### Adjustment to votes

78. If it appears in relation to a particular resolution at a particular meeting that the aggregate number of votes cast by or on behalf of the Clearstream Nominee would without an adjustment exceed the Clearstream Nominee's Overall Holding at the relevant Member Voting Record Time then such adjustments shall be made to the aggregate number of votes cast for or against the resolution so that the total number of votes cast by or on behalf of the Clearstream Nominee does not exceed that Clearstream Nominee's Overall Holding at the Member Voting Record Time. The chairman of the meeting has discretion to make such adjustments as are fair and equitable and any such adjustments made in good faith shall be conclusive and binding on all persons interested.

For the avoidance of doubt votes cast by or on behalf of the Clearstream Nominee shall include votes cast by any proxy appointed by it.

#### Determination of questions relating to CIs

79. Subject and without prejudice to the Clearstream Rules, and the provisions of Articles 40 and 74, if in any circumstances other than those

provided for in those Articles any question shall arise as to whether any person has been validly appointed to vote (or exercise any other right) in respect of a holding of CIs or as to the number of CIs in respect of which he is entitled to do so, then:

- (a) if such question arises at or in relation to a general meeting it shall be determined by the chairman of the meeting or in such other manner as may have been prescribed by regulations or procedures made or established by the board under Article 86; and
- (b) if it arises in any other circumstances it shall be determined by the board and any such determination if made in good faith shall be final and conclusive and binding on all persons interested.

#### Delivery/receipt of proxy appointment

- 80. Without prejudice to Article 46.2(b) or to the second sentence of Article 52, the appointment of a proxy shall:
- (a) if in hard copy form, be delivered by hand or by post to the office or such other place within the United Kingdom or otherwise as may be specified by or on behalf of the Company for that purpose:
  - (i) in the notice convening the meeting; or
  - (ii) in any form of proxy sent by or on behalf of the Company in relation to the meeting,

not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting (or any postponed time appointed for holding the meeting pursuant to Article 46) at which the person named in the appointment proposes to vote; or

- (b) if in electronic form, be received at any address to which the appointment of a proxy may be sent by electronic means pursuant to a provision of the Companies Acts or to any other address specified by or on behalf of the Company for the purpose of receiving the appointment of a proxy in electronic form:
  - (i) in the notice convening the meeting, or
  - (ii) in any form of proxy sent by or on behalf of the Company in relation to the meeting, or
  - (iii) in any invitation to appoint a proxy issued by the Company in relation to the meeting;
  - (iv) on a website that is maintained by or on behalf of the Company and identifies the Company,

not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting (or any postponed time appointed for holding the meeting pursuant to Article 46) at which the person named in the appointment proposes to vote

- (c) in either case where a poll is taken more than 48 hours after it is demanded, be delivered or received as aforesaid after the poll has been demanded and not less than 24 hours before the time appointed for the taking of the poll; or
- (d) if in hard copy form, where a poll is not taken forthwith but is taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be delivered at the meeting at which the poll was demanded to the chairman or to the secretary or to any director.

In calculating the periods mentioned in this Article, the board may specify, in any case, that no account shall be taken of any part of a day that is not a working day.

Authentication of proxy appointment not made by holder

- 81. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, where the appointment of a proxy is expressed to have been or purports to have been made, sent or supplied by a person on behalf of the holder of a share:
- (a) the Company may treat the appointment as sufficient evidence of the authority of that person to make, send or supply the appointment on behalf of that holder; and
- (b) that holder shall, if requested by or on behalf of the Company at any time, send or procure the sending of reasonable evidence of the authority under which the appointment has been made, sent or supplied (which may include a copy of such authority certified notarially or in some other way approved by the board), to such address and by such time as may be specified in the request and, if the request is not complied with in any respect, the appointment may be treated as invalid.

Validity of proxy appointment

82. A proxy appointment which is not delivered or received in accordance with Article 80 shall be invalid. No proxy appointment shall be valid more than twelve months after the date stated in it as the date of its receipt save that, unless the contrary is stated in it, a proxy appointment shall be valid for use at an adjourned meeting or a poll after a meeting or an adjourned meeting even after 12 months, if it was valid for the original meeting. When two or more valid proxy appointments are delivered or received in respect of the same share for use at the same meeting, the one which was delivered or received shall be treated as replacing or revoking the others as regards that share, provided that if the Company determines

that it has insufficient evidence to decide whether or not a proxy appointment is in respect of the same share, it shall be entitled to determine which proxy appointment (if any) is to be treated as valid. Subject to the Companies Acts, the Company may determine at its discretion when a proxy appointment shall be treated as delivered or received for the purposes of these Articles.

Rights of proxy

- 83.1 A proxy appointment shall be deemed to entitle the proxy to exercise all or any of the appointing member's rights to attend and to speak, to vote at the meeting and to demand, or join in demanding, a poll at a meeting of the Company in respect of the shares to which the proxy appointment relates. The proxy appointment shall, unless it provides to the contrary, be valid for any adjournment of the meeting as well as for the meeting to which it relates.
- 83.2 The Company shall not be required to check whether a proxy or corporate representative votes in accordance with any instructions given by the member by whom he is appointed. Any failure to vote as instructed shall not invalidate the proceedings on the resolution.

Corporate representatives

- 84. Any corporation or corporation sole which is a member of the Company (in this Article the *grantor*) may (in the case of a corporation, by resolution of its directors or other governing body or by authority to be given under seal or under the hand of an officer duly authorised by it) authorise such person or persons as it thinks fit to act as its representative or representatives at any meeting of the Company or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares. A director, the secretary or other person authorised for the purpose by the secretary may require all or any such persons to produce a certified copy of the resolution of authorisation or other authority before permitting him to exercise his powers. Such persons are entitled to exercise (on behalf of the grantor) the same powers as the grantor could exercise if it were an individual member of the Company. Where a grantor authorises more than one person:
- (a) on a vote on a resolution on a show of hands at a meeting of the Company, each authorised person has the same voting rights as the grantor would be entitled to; and
- (b) where paragraph (a) does not apply and more than one authorised person purports to exercise a power in respect of the same shares:
  - (i) if they purport to exercise the power in the same way as each other, the power is treated as exercised in that way; and
  - (ii) if they do not purport to exercise the power in the same way as each other, the power is treated as not exercised.

### Revocation of authority

- 85. The termination of the authority of a person to act as a proxy or duly authorised representative of a corporation does not affect:
- (a) whether he counts in deciding whether there is a quorum at a meeting;
- (b) the validity of anything he does as chairman of a meeting;
- (c) the validity of a poll demanded by him at a meeting; or
- (d) the validity of a vote given by that person,

unless notice of the termination was delivered or received by the Company as set out in the following sentence at least three hours before the start of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote is given or the poll demanded or (in the case of a poll taken otherwise than on the same day as the meeting or adjourned meeting) the time appointed for taking the poll. Such notice of termination shall be either by means of a document in hard copy form delivered to the office or to such other place as may be specified by or on behalf of the Company in accordance with Article 80(a) or in electronic form received at the address specified by or on behalf of the Company in accordance with Article 80(b), regardless of whether any relevant proxy appointment was effected in hard copy form or in electronic form.

## Verification procedures of proxies

- 86. From time to time the directors may (consistently with the Companies Acts and the Articles) make such regulations and establish such procedures as they consider appropriate to receive and verify the appointment or revocation of a proxy. Any such regulations may be general, or specific to a particular meeting. Without limitation, any such regulations may include provisions that the directors (or some person or persons appointed by them) may conclusively determine any matter or dispute relating to:
- (a) the appointment or revocation, or purported appointment or revocation, of a proxy; and/or
- (b) any instruction contained or allegedly contained in any such appointment, and any such regulations may also include rebuttable or conclusive presumptions of any fact concerning those matters. The directors may from time to time modify or revoke any such regulations as they think fit, provided that no subsisting valid appointment or revocation of a proxy or any vote instruction shall thereby be rendered invalid.

Limitation of liabilities in connection with proxies

87. To the extent permitted by law, each of the directors, the secretary and each person employed or, directly or indirectly, retained or used by the Company in the processes of receiving and validating the appointment and revocation of proxies or otherwise dealing with CI Voting Instructions shall not be liable to any persons other than the Company in respect of any acts or omission (including negligence) occurring in the execution or purported execution of his tasks relating to such processes, provided that he shall have no such immunity in respect of any act done or omitted to be done in bad faith.

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF CI REGISTER; TREATMENT OF CI HOLDERS

Establishment of CI Register

88. The board shall establish and (for so long as the Company remains listed on the FSE) maintain the CI Register.

Legal framework governing CIs 89. For so long as the Company remains listed on the FSE, the provisions of these Articles and the Clearstream Rules shall govern the relationship between CI Holders and the Company. Notwithstanding any provisions of these Articles, the board shall be authorised to vary or depart from any provision of these Articles concerning the holding of CIs if and to the extent necessary to comply with the Clearstream Rules.

No recognition of trusts etc.

90. Except as required by law, no CI Holder shall be recognised by the Company as holding any interest in CIs upon any trust and the Company shall be entitled to treat any person entered in the CI Register as the only person (other than the Clearstream Nominee) who has any interest in the CIs standing to the name of that CI Holder.

#### **NUMBER OF DIRECTORS**

Limits on number of directors 91. Unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution, the number of directors (other than alternate directors) shall be not less than four nor more than ten in number.

#### APPOINTMENT AND RETIREMENT OF DIRECTORS

Number of directors to retire

- 92. At every annual general meeting one-third of the directors or, if their number is not three or a multiple of three, the number nearest to one-third shall retire from office; but:
- (a) if any director has at the start of the annual general meeting been in office for more than three years since his last appointment or reappointment, he shall retire; and
- (b) if there is only one director who is subject to retirement by rotation, he shall retire.

### Which directors to retire

93. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and these Articles, the directors to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or re-appointment. As between persons who became or were last re-appointed directors on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot. The directors to retire on each occasion (both as to number and identity) shall be determined by the composition of the board at the date of the notice convening the annual general meeting. No director shall be required to retire or be relieved from retiring or be retired by reason of any change in the number or identity of the directors after the date of the notice but before the close of the meeting.

#### When director deemed to be re-appointed

94. If the Company does not fill the vacancy at the meeting at which a director retires by rotation or otherwise, the retiring director shall, if willing to act, be deemed to have been re-appointed unless at the meeting it is resolved not to fill the vacancy or unless a resolution for the reappointment of the director is put to the meeting and lost.

### Eligibility for election

- 95. No person other than a director retiring by rotation shall be appointed a director at any general meeting unless:
- (a) he is recommended by the board; or
- (b) not less than seven nor more than 42 days before the date appointed for the meeting, notice by a member qualified to vote at the meeting (not being the person to be proposed) has been given to the Company of the intention to propose that person for appointment stating the particulars which would, if he were so appointed, be required to be included in the Company's register of directors, together with notice by that person of his willingness to be appointed.

## Separate resolutions on appointment

96. Except as otherwise authorised by the Companies Acts, the appointment of any person proposed as a director shall be effected by a separate resolution.

## Additional powers of the Company

97. Subject as aforesaid, the Company may by ordinary resolution appoint a person who is willing to act to be a director either to fill a vacancy or as an additional director. The appointment of a person to fill a vacancy or as an additional director shall take effect from the end of the meeting.

### Appointment by

98. The board may appoint a person who is willing to act to be a director, either to fill a vacancy or as an additional director and in either case whether or not for a fixed term, provided that the appointment does not cause the number of directors to exceed the number, if any, fixed by or

in accordance with these Articles as the maximum number of directors. Irrespective of the terms of his appointment, a director so appointed shall hold office only until the next following annual general meeting (unless his appointment has been approved at a general meeting held prior to the annual general meeting) and shall not be taken into account in determining the directors who are to retire by rotation at any such annual general meeting. If not re-appointed at the general meeting at which his reappointment is proposed, he shall vacate office at its conclusion.

Position of retiring directors

99. A director who retires at an annual general meeting may, if willing to act, be re-appointed. If he is not re-appointed, he shall retain office until the meeting appoints someone in his place, or if it does not do so, until the end of the meeting.

No share qualification

100. A director shall not be required to hold any shares in the capital of the Company by way of qualification.

#### **ALTERNATE DIRECTORS**

Power to appoint alternates

101. Any director (other than an alternate director) may appoint any other director, or any other person approved by resolution of the board and willing to act, to be an alternate director and may remove from office an alternate director so appointed by him.

Alternates entitled to receive notice

102. An alternate director shall be entitled to receive notice of all meetings of the board and of all meetings of committees of the board of which his appointor is a member, to attend and vote at any such meeting at which his appointor is not personally present, and generally to perform all the functions of his appointor (except as regards power to appoint an alternate) as a director in his absence. It shall not be necessary to give notice of such a meeting to an alternate director who is absent from the United Kingdom.

Alternates representing more than one director 103. A director or any other person may act as alternate director to represent more than one director, and an alternate director shall be entitled at meetings of the board or any committee of the board to one vote for every director whom he represents (and who is not present) in addition to his own vote (if any) as a director, but he shall count as only one for the purpose of determining whether a quorum is present.

Expenses and remuneration of alternates

104. An alternate director may be repaid by the Company such expenses as might properly have been repaid 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 to the Company from time to time direct. An alternate director

shall be entitled to be indemnified by the Company to the same extent as if he were a director.

## Termination of appointment

- 105. An alternate director shall cease to be an alternate director:
- (a) if his appointor ceases to be a director (but, if a director retires but is reappointed or deemed to have been re-appointed at the meeting at which he retires, any appointment of an alternate director made by him which was in force immediately prior to his retirement shall continue after his reappointment); or
- (b) on the happening of any event which, if he were a director, would cause him to vacate his office as director; or
- (c) if he resigns his office by notice to the Company.

## Method of appointment and revocation

106. Any appointment or removal of an alternate director shall be by notice to the Company by the director making or revoking the appointment and shall take effect in accordance with the terms of the notice (subject to any approval required by Article 99) on receipt of such notice by the Company which shall, be in hard copy form or in electronic form sent to such address (if any) for the time being specified by or on behalf of the Company for that purpose.

## Alternate not an agent of appointor

107. Except as otherwise expressly provided in these Articles, an alternate director shall be deemed for all purposes to be a director. Accordingly, except where the context otherwise requires, a reference to a director shall be deemed to include a reference to an alternate director. An alternate director shall alone be responsible for his own acts and defaults and he shall not be deemed to be the agent of the director appointing him.

#### **POWERS OF THE BOARD**

## Business to be managed by board

108. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and these Articles and to any directions given by special resolution, the business of the Company shall be managed by the board which may pay all expenses incurred in forming and registering the Company and may exercise all the powers of the Company, including without limitation the power to dispose of all or any part of the undertaking of the Company. No alteration of the Articles and no such direction shall invalidate any prior act of the board which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made or that direction had not been given. The powers given by this Article shall not be limited by any special power given to the board by these Articles. A meeting of the board at which a quorum is present may exercise all powers exercisable by the board.

Exercise by Company of voting rights 109. The board may exercise the voting power conferred by the shares in any body corporate held or owned by the Company in such manner in all respects as it thinks fit (including without limitation the exercise of that power in favour of any resolution appointing its members or any of them directors of such body corporate, or voting or providing for the payment of remuneration to the directors of such body corporate).

#### **DELEGATION OF POWERS OF THE BOARD**

Committees of the board

The board may delegate any of its powers to any committee 110. consisting of one or more directors. The board may also delegate to any director holding any executive office such of its powers as the board considers desirable to be exercised by him. Any such delegation shall, in the absence of express provision to the contrary in the terms of delegation, be deemed to include authority to sub-delegate to one or more directors (whether or not acting as a committee) or to any employee or agent of the Company all or any of the powers delegated and may be made subject to such conditions as the board may specify, and may be revoked or altered. The board may co-opt on to any such committee persons other than directors, who may enjoy voting rights in the committee. The co-opted members shall be less than one-half of the total membership of the committee and a resolution of any committee shall be effective only if a majority of the members present are directors. Subject to any conditions imposed by the board, the proceedings of a committee with two or more members shall be governed by these Articles regulating the proceedings of directors so far as they are capable of applying.

Local boards,

The board may establish local or divisional boards or agencies for 111. managing any of the affairs of the Company, either in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, and may appoint any persons to be members of the local or divisional boards, or any managers or agents, and may fix their remuneration. The board may delegate to any local or divisional board, manager or agent any of the powers, authorities and discretions vested in or exercisable by the board, with power to sub-delegate, and may authorise the members of any local or divisional board, or any of them, to fill any vacancies and to act notwithstanding vacancies. Any appointment or delegation made pursuant to this Article may be made on such terms and subject to such conditions as the board may decide. The board may remove any person so appointed and may revoke or vary the delegation but no person dealing in good faith and without notice of the revocation or variation shall be affected by it.

Agents

112. The board may, by power of attorney or otherwise, appoint any person to be the agent of the Company for such purposes, with such powers, authorities and discretions (not exceeding those vested in the board) and on such conditions as the board determines, including without

limitation authority for the agent to delegate all or any of his powers, authorities and discretions, and may revoke or vary such delegation.

Offices including the title "director"

113. The board may appoint any person to any office or employment having a designation or title including the word "director" or attach to any existing office or employment with the Company such a designation or title and may terminate any such appointment or the use of any such designation or title. The inclusion of the word "director" in the designation or title of any such office or employment shall not imply that the holder is a director of the Company, and the holder shall not thereby be empowered in any respect to act as, or be deemed to be, a director of the Company for any of the purposes of these Articles.

#### DISQUALIFICATION AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

Disqualification as a director

- 114. A person ceases to be a director as soon as:
- (a) that person ceases to be a director by virtue of any provision of the Act or is prohibited from being a director by law;
- (b) a bankruptcy order is made against that person;
- (c) a composition is made with that person's creditors generally in satisfaction of that person's debts;
- (d) a registered medical practitioner who is treating that person gives a written opinion to the Company stating that that person has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a director and may remain so for more than three months:
- (e) by reason of that person's mental health, a court makes an order which wholly or partly prevents that person from personally exercising any powers or rights which that person would otherwise have:
- (f) notification is received by the company from the director that the director is resigning or retiring from office as director, and such resignation or retirement has taken effect in accordance with its terms;
- (g) that person has been absent for more than six consecutive months without permission of the board from meetings of the board held during that period and his alternate director (if any) has not attended in his place during that period and the board resolves that his office be vacated; or

(h) that person receives notice signed by not less than three quarters of the other directors stating that that person should cease to be a director. In calculating the number of directors who are required to give such notice to the director, (i) an alternate director appointed by him acting in his capacity as such shall be excluded; and (ii) a director and any alternate director appointed by him and acting in his capacity as such shall constitute a single director for this purpose, so that notice by either shall be sufficient.

Power of Company to remove director

115. The Company may, without prejudice to the provisions of the Companies Acts, by ordinary resolution remove any director from office (notwithstanding any provision of these Articles or of any agreement between the Company and such director, but without prejudice to any claim he may have for damages for breach of any such agreement). No special notice need be given of any resolution to remove a director in accordance with this Article and no director proposed to be removed in accordance with this Article has any special right to protest against his removal. The Company may, by ordinary resolution, appoint another person in place of a director removed from office in accordance with this Article. Any person so appointed shall, for the purpose of determining the time at which he or any other director is to retire by rotation, be treated as if he had become a director on the day on which the director in whose place he is appointed was last elected a director. In default of such appointment the vacancy arising on the removal of a director from office may be filled as a casual vacancy.

#### REMUNERATION OF NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Ordinary remuneration

116. The ordinary remuneration of the directors who do not hold executive office for their services (excluding amounts payable under any other provision of these Articles and excluding the value of any options granted to them pursuant to any share option scheme approved by ordinary resolution of the Company) shall not exceed in aggregate £450,000 per annum or such higher amount as the Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution determine. Subject thereto, each such director shall be paid a fee (which shall be deemed to accrue from day to day) at such rate as may from time to time be determined by the board.

Additional remuneration for special services 117. Any director who does not hold executive office and who serves on any committee of the board, by the request of the board goes or resides abroad for any purpose of the Company or otherwise performs special services which in the opinion of the board are outside the scope of the ordinary duties of a director, may (without prejudice to the provisions of Article 116) be paid such extra remuneration by way of salary, commission or otherwise as the board may determine.

#### **DIRECTORS' EXPENSES**

Directors may be paid expenses 118. The directors may be paid all travelling, hotel, and other expenses properly incurred by them in connection with their attendance at meetings of the board or committees of the board, general meetings or separate meetings of the holders of any class of shares or of debentures of the Company or otherwise in connection with the discharge of their duties.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

Appointment to executive office

119. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the board may appoint one or more of its body to be the holder of any executive office (except that of auditor) in the Company and may enter into an agreement or arrangement with any director for his employment by the Company or for the provision by him of any services outside the scope of the ordinary duties of a director. Any such appointment, agreement or arrangement may be made on such terms, including without limitation terms as to remuneration, as the board determines. The board may revoke or vary any such appointment but without prejudice to any rights or claims which the person whose appointment is revoked or varied may have against the Company because of the revocation or variation.

Termination of appointment to executive office

120. Any appointment of a director to an executive office shall terminate if he ceases to be a director but without prejudice to any rights or claims which he may have against the Company by reason of such cessation. A director appointed to an executive office shall not cease to be a director merely because his appointment to such executive office terminates.

Emoluments to be determined by the board 121. The emoluments of any director holding executive office for his services as such shall be determined by the board, and may be of any description, including without limitation admission to, or continuance of, membership of any scheme (including any share acquisition scheme) or fund instituted or established or financed or contributed to by the Company for the provision of pensions, life assurance or other benefits for employees or their dependants, or the payment of a pension or other benefits to him or his dependants on or after retirement or death, apart from membership of any such scheme or fund.

## DIRECTORS' INTERESTS RELATING TO TRANSACTIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE COMPANY

Directors may contract with the Company 122.1 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, and provided that he has disclosed to the board the nature and extent of any material interest of his, a director notwithstanding his office:

- (a) may be a party to, or otherwise interested in, any transaction or arrangement with the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested:
- (b) may act by himself or his firm in a professional capacity for the Company (otherwise than as auditor) and he or his firm shall be entitled to remuneration for professional services as if he were not a director;
- (c) may be a director or other officer of, or employed by, or a party to any transaction or arrangement with, or otherwise interested in, any body corporate promoted by the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested; and
- (d) shall not, by reason of his office, be accountable to the Company for any benefit which he derives from any such office or employment or from any such transaction or arrangement or from any interest in any such body corporate and no such transaction or arrangement shall be liable to be avoided on the ground of any such interest or benefit.

## Notification of interests

## 122.2 For the purposes of this Article:

- (a) a general notice given to the board that a director is to be regarded as having an interest of the nature and extent specified in the notice in any transaction or arrangement in which a specified person or class of persons is interested shall be deemed to be a disclosure that the director has an interest in any such transaction of the nature and extent so specified; and
- (b) an interest of which a director has no knowledge and of which it is unreasonable to expect him to have knowledge shall not be treated as an interest of his.

## **DIRECTORS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

# Directors' conflicts of interest

123.1 If a situation (the *Conflict Situation*) arises where a director (the *Interested Director*) has or can reasonably be regarded to have a direct or indirect interest that conflicts or possibly may conflict with the interests of the Company (including, without limitation, in relation to the exploitation of any property, information or opportunity) this Article applies if the conflict of interest does not arise in relation to a transaction or arrangement with the Company to which Article 122 relates.

## Authorisation of conflicts

123.2 The directors may resolve to authorise the Conflict Situation and to authorise the continuing performance by the Interested Director of his duties subject to such terms as they see fit.

- 123.3 At a meeting to authorise a Conflict Situation:
- (a) the Interested Director and any other interested directors shall not be counted in the quorum;
- (b) the resolution to authorise a Conflict Situation shall be passed without the Interested Director or other interested directors voting on the resolution; and
- (c) when voting to authorise a Conflict Situation the directors must act in a manner which they consider, in good faith, is most likely to promote the success of the Company.

## Consequences of authorisation

- 123.4 A director shall not, unless agreed by him, be accountable to the Company for any benefit which he derives from any matter authorised by the directors under this Article and no transaction or agreement shall be liable to be avoided on the grounds of any such benefit.
- 123.5 Where a Conflict Situation has been authorised by the directors, subject to the terms of the authorisation agreed by the directors, an Interested Director will not be in breach of a duty if:
- (a) he receives confidential information from a third party as a result of the Conflict Situation and does not disclose that information to the Company or use it to the Company's benefit where to do so would be a breach of confidence to the third party; or
- (b) he takes mitigating action when the Conflict Situation arises by not attending board meetings or not reading board papers.

## **GRATUITIES, PENSIONS AND INSURANCE**

## Gratuities and pensions

124.1 The board may (by establishment of, or maintenance of, schemes or otherwise) provide benefits, whether by the payment of gratuities or pensions or by insurance or otherwise, for any past or present director or employee of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings or any body corporate associated with, or any business acquired by, any of them, and for any member of his family (including a spouse and a former spouse) or any person who is or was dependent on him, and may (as well before as after he ceases to hold such office or employment) contribute to any fund and pay premiums for the purchase or provision of any such benefit.

#### **Insurance**

124.2 Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 166, the board may exercise all the powers of the Company to purchase and maintain insurance for or for the benefit of any person who is or was:

- (a) a director, officer, or employee of the Company, or any body which is or was the holding company or subsidiary undertaking of the Company, or in which the Company or such holding company or subsidiary undertaking has or had any interest (whether direct or indirect) or with which the Company or such holding company or subsidiary undertaking is or was in any way allied or associated; or
- (b) a trustee of any pension fund in which employees of the Company or any other body referred to in Article 124.2(a) is or has been interested.

including without limitation insurance against any liability incurred by such person in respect of any act or omission in the actual or purported execution or discharge of his duties or in the exercise or purported exercise of his powers or otherwise in relation to his duties, powers or offices in relation to the relevant body or fund.

## Directors not liable to account

124.3 No director or former director shall be accountable to the Company or the members for any benefit provided pursuant to this Article. The receipt of any such benefit shall not disqualify any person from being or becoming a director of the Company.

## Section 247 of the Act

125. The board may make provision for the benefit of any persons employed or formerly employed by the Company or any of its subsidiaries in connection with the cessation or the transfer of the whole or part of the undertaking of the Company or that subsidiary. Any such provision shall be made by a resolution of the board in accordance with section 247 of the Act.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD

## Convening meetings

126. Subject to the provisions of these Articles, the board may regulate its proceedings as it thinks fit. A director may, and the secretary at the request of a director shall, call a meeting of the board by giving notice of the meeting to each director. Notice of a board meeting shall be deemed to be given to a director if it is given to him personally or by word of mouth or sent in hard copy form to him at his last known address or such other address (if any) as may for the time being be specified by him or on his behalf to the Company for this purpose, or in electronic form to such address (if any) for the time being specified by him or on his behalf to the Company by him to the Company for this purpose. Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In the case of an equality of votes, the chairman shall have a second or casting vote. Any director may waive notice of a meeting and any such waiver may be retrospective. Any notice pursuant to this Article need not be in writing if the board so determines and any such determination may be retrospective.

**Ouorum** 

127. The quorum for the transaction of the business of the board may be fixed by the board and unless so fixed at any other number shall be two. A person who holds office only as an alternate director shall, if his appointor is not present, be counted in the quorum. Any director who ceases to be a director at a board meeting may continue to be present and to act as a director and be counted in the quorum until the termination of the board meeting if no director objects.

Powers of directors if number falls below minimum 128. The continuing directors or a sole continuing director may act notwithstanding any vacancies in their number, but, if the number of directors is less than the number fixed as the quorum, the continuing directors or director may act only for the purpose of filling vacancies or of calling a general meeting.

Chairman and deputy chairman

129. The board may appoint one of their number to be the chairman, and one of their number to be the deputy chairman, of the board and may at any time remove either of them from such office. Unless he is unwilling to do so, the director appointed as chairman, or in his stead the director appointed as deputy chairman, shall preside at every meeting of the board at which he is present. If there is no director holding either of those offices, or if neither the chairman nor the deputy chairman is willing to preside or neither of them is present within five minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, the directors present may appoint one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.

Validity of acts of the board

130. All acts done by a meeting of the board, or of a committee of the board, or by a person acting as a director or alternate director, shall, notwithstanding that it be afterwards discovered that there was a defect in the appointment of any director or any member of the committee or alternate director or that any of them were disqualified from holding office, 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 and had continued to be a director or, as the case may be, an alternate director and had been entitled to vote.

Resolutions in writing

- 131. A resolution in writing signed or approved by all the directors entitled to receive notice of and vote at a meeting of the board or of a committee of the board (not being less than the number of directors required to form a quorum of the board) shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the board or (as the case may be) a committee of the board duly convened and held. For this purpose:
- (a) a resolution may be by means of a hard copy or communication in electronic form sent to such address (if any) notified by the Company for that purpose;

- (b) a resolution may consist of several hard copy documents or communications in electronic form to the same effect each signed or approved by one or more directors or a combination of both;
- (c) a resolution signed or approved by an alternate director need not also be signed by or approved by his appointor; and
- (d) a resolution signed or approved by a director who has appointed an alternate director need not also be signed or approved by the alternate director in that capacity.

Meetings by telephone, etc.

132. Without prejudice to the first sentence of Article 126, a person entitled to be present at a meeting of the board or of a committee of the board shall be deemed to be present for all purposes if he is able (whether directly, by telephone or by any other means, electronic or otherwise) to speak to and be heard by all those present or deemed to be present simultaneously. A director so deemed to be present shall be entitled to vote and be counted in a quorum accordingly. Such a meeting shall be deemed to take place where it is convened to be held or (if no director is present in that place) where the largest group of those participating is assembled, or, if there is no such group, where the chairman of the meeting is. The word *meeting* in these Articles shall be construed accordingly.

Directors' power to vote on contracts in which they are interested 133. Except as otherwise provided by these Articles, a director may vote at a meeting of the board or a committee of the board on any resolution of the board concerning a matter in which he has an interest.

### **SECRETARY**

Appointment and removal of secretary

134. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the secretary shall be appointed by the board for such term, at such remuneration and on such conditions as it may think fit. Any secretary so appointed may be removed by the board, but without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of any contract of service between him and the Company.

#### **MINUTES**

Minutes required to be kept

- 135.1 The board shall cause minutes to be made in books kept for the purpose of:
- (a) all appointments of officers made by the board; and
- (b) all proceedings at meetings of the Company, the holders of any class of shares in the capital of the Company, the board and committees of the board, including the names of the directors present at each such meeting.

Conclusiveness of minutes

135.2 Any such minutes, if purporting to be signed or authenticated by the chairman of the meeting to which they relate or of the meeting at which they are read or the secretary, shall be sufficient evidence of the proceedings at the meeting without any further proof of the facts stated in them.

## THE SEAL

Authority required for execution of deed 136. The seal shall only be used by the authority of a resolution of the board. The board may determine who shall sign any document executed under the seal. If they do not, it shall be signed by at least one director and the secretary or by at least two directors. Any document may be executed under the seal by impressing the seal by mechanical means or by printing the seal or a facsimile of it on the document or by applying the seal or a facsimile of it by any other means to the document. A document signed, with the authority of a resolution of the board, by a director and the secretary or by two directors and expressed (in whatever form of words) to be executed by the Company has the same effect as if executed under the seal.

Certificates for shares and debentures

137. The board may by resolution determine either generally or in any particular case that any certificate for shares or debentures or representing any other form of security executed in accordance with Article 11 may have any signature affixed to it by some mechanical or electronic means, or printed on it or, in the case of a certificate executed under the seal, need not bear any signature.

#### REGISTERS

Overseas and local registers

138. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company may keep an overseas or local or other register in any place, and the board may make, amend and revoke any regulations it thinks fit about the keeping of that register.

Authentication and certification of copies and extracts

- 139. Any director or the secretary or any other person appointed by the board for the purpose shall have power to authenticate and certify as true copies of and extracts from:
- (a) any document comprising or affecting the constitution of the Company, whether in hard copy form or electronic form;
- (b) any resolution passed by the Company, the holders of any class of shares in the capital of the Company, the board or any committee of the board, whether in hard copy form or electronic form; and

(c) any book, record and document relating to the business of the Company, whether in hard copy form or electronic form (including without limitation the accounts).

If certified in this way, a document purporting to be a copy of a resolution, or the minutes or an extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Company, the holders of any class of shares in the capital of the Company, the board or a committee of the board, whether in hard copy form or electronic form, shall be conclusive evidence in favour of all persons dealing with the Company in reliance on it or them that the resolution was duly passed or that the minutes are, or the extract from the minutes is, a true and accurate record of proceedings at a duly constituted meeting.

### **DIVIDENDS**

Declaration of dividends

140. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company may by ordinary resolution declare dividends in accordance with the respective rights of the members, but no dividend shall exceed the amount recommended by the board.

Interim dividends 141. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the board may pay interim dividends if it appears to the board that they are justified by the profits of the Company available for distribution. If the share capital is divided into different classes, the board may pay interim dividends on shares which confer deferred or non-preferred rights with regard to dividend as well as on shares which confer preferential rights with regard to dividend, but no interim dividend shall be paid on shares carrying deferred or non-preferred rights if, at the time of payment, any preferential dividend is in arrear. The board may also pay at intervals settled by it any dividend payable at a fixed rate if it appears to the board that the profits available for distribution justify the payment. If the board acts in good faith it shall not incur any liability to the holders of shares conferring preferred rights for any loss they may suffer by the lawful payment of an interim dividend on any shares having deferred or non-preferred rights.

Apportionment of dividends

142. Except as otherwise provided by the rights attached to shares, all dividends shall be declared and paid according to the amounts paid up on the shares on which the dividend is paid; but no amount paid on a share in advance of the date on which a call is payable shall be treated for the purposes of this Article as paid on the share. All dividends shall be apportioned and paid proportionately to the amounts paid up on the shares during any portion or portions of the period in respect of which the dividend is paid; but, if any share is allotted or issued on terms providing that it shall rank for dividend as from a particular date, that share shall rank for dividend accordingly.

## Dividends in specie

dividend 143. general meeting declaring a may, the Α recommendation of the board, by ordinary resolution direct that it shall be satisfied wholly or partly by the distribution of assets, including without limitation paid up shares or debentures of another body corporate. The board may make any arrangements it thinks fit to settle any difficulty arising in connection with the distribution, including without limitation (a) the fixing of the value for distribution of any assets, (b) the payment of cash to any member on the basis of that value in order to adjust the rights of members, and (c) the vesting of any asset in a trustee.

# Scrip dividends: authorising resolution

144.1 The board may, if authorised by an ordinary resolution of the Company (the *Resolution*), offer any holder of shares the right to elect to receive shares, credited as fully paid, instead of cash in respect of the whole (or some part, to be determined by the board) of all or any dividend specified by the Resolution. The offer shall be on the terms and conditions and be made in the manner specified in Article 144.2 or, subject to those provisions, specified in the Resolution.

#### Scrip dividends: procedures

144.2 The following provisions shall apply to the Resolution and any offer made pursuant to it and Article 144.1.

- (a) The Resolution may specify a particular dividend, or may specify all or any dividends declared within a specified period.
- (b) Each holder of shares shall be entitled to that number of new shares as are together as nearly as possible equal in value to (but not greater than) the cash amount (disregarding any tax credit) of the dividend that such holder elects to forgo (each a *new share*). For this purpose, the value of each new share shall be:
  - (i) equal to the *average quotation* for the Company's ordinary shares, that is, the average of the middle market quotations for those shares on the FSE, as derived from the Börsen-Zeitung, on the day on which such shares are first quoted *ex* the relevant dividend and the four subsequent dealing days; or
  - (ii) calculated in any other manner specified by the Resolution,

but shall never be less than the par value of the new share.

A certificate or report by the auditors as to the value of a new share in respect of any dividend shall be conclusive evidence of that value.

(c) On or as soon as practicable after announcing that any dividend is to be declared or recommended, the board, if it intends to offer an election in respect of that dividend, shall also announce that

intention. If, after determining the basis of allotment, the board decides to proceed with the offer, it shall notify the holders of shares of the terms and conditions of the right of election offered to them, specifying the procedure to be followed and place at which, and the latest time by which, elections or notices amending or terminating existing elections must be delivered in order to be effective.

- (d) The board shall not proceed with any election unless the board has sufficient authority to allot shares and sufficient reserves or funds that may be appropriated to give effect to it after the basis of allotment is determined.
- (e) The board may exclude from any offer any holders of shares where the board believes the making of the offer to them would or might involve the contravention of the laws of any territory or that for any other reason the offer should not be made to them.
- (f) The dividend (or that part of the dividend in respect of which a right of election has been offered) shall not be payable in cash on shares in respect of which an election has been made (the *elected shares*) and instead such number of new shares shall be allotted to each holder of elected shares as is arrived at on the basis stated in Article 144.2(b). For that purpose the board shall appropriate out of any amount for the time being standing to the credit of any reserve or fund (including without limitation the profit and loss account), whether or not it is available for distribution, a sum equal to the aggregate nominal amount of the new shares to be allotted and apply it in paying up in full the appropriate number of new shares for allotment and distribution to each holder of elected shares as is arrived at on the basis stated in Article 144.2(b).
- (g) The new shares when allotted shall rank equally in all respects with the fully paid shares of the same class then in issue except that they shall not be entitled to participate in the relevant dividend.
- (h) No fraction of a share shall be allotted. The board may make such provision as it thinks fit for any fractional entitlements including without limitation payment in cash to holders in respect of their fractional entitlements, provision for the accrual, retention or accumulation of all or part of the benefit of fractional entitlements to or by the Company or to or by or on behalf of any holder or the application of any accrual, retention or accumulation to the allotment of fully paid shares to any holder.
- (i) The board may do all acts and things it considers necessary or expedient to give effect to the allotment and issue of any share

pursuant to this Article or otherwise in connection with any offer made pursuant to this Article and may authorise any person, acting on behalf of the holders concerned, to enter into an agreement with the Company providing for such allotment or issue and incidental matters. Any agreement made under such authority shall be effective and binding on all concerned.

(j) The board may, at its discretion, amend, suspend or terminate any offer pursuant to this Article.

# Permitted deductions and retentions

145. The board may deduct from any dividend or other moneys payable to any member in respect of a share any moneys presently payable by him to the Company in respect of that share. Where a person is entitled by transmission to a share, the board may retain any dividend payable in respect of that share until that person (or that person's transferee) becomes the holder of that share.

#### Procedure for payment to holders and others entitled

146.1 Any dividend or other moneys payable in respect of a share may be paid:

- (a) in cash; or
- (b) by cheque or warrant made payable to or to the order of the holder or person entitled to payment; or
- (c) by any direct debit, bank or other funds transfer system to the holder or person entitled to payment or, if practicable, to a person designated by notice to the Company by the holder or person entitled to payment; or
- (d) by any other method approved by the board and agreed (in such form as the Company thinks appropriate) by the holder or person entitled to payment.

## Joint entitlement

146.2 If two or more persons are registered as joint holders of any share, or are entitled by transmission jointly to a share, the Company may:

- (a) pay any dividend or other moneys payable in respect of the share to any one of them and any one of them may give effectual receipt for that payment; and
- (b) for the purposes of Article 146.1, rely in relation to the share on the written direction, designation or agreement of, or notice to the Company by, any one of them.

## Payment by post

146.3 A cheque or warrant may be sent by post to:

- (a) where a share is held by a sole holder, the registered address of the holder of the share; or
- (b) if two or more persons are the holders, to the registered address of the person who is first named in the register; or
- (c) if a person is entitled by transmission to the share, as if it were a notice to be given under Article 158; or
- (d) in any case, to such person and to such address as the person entitled to payment may by notice in writing to the Company direct.

## Discharge to Company and

146.4 Payment of a cheque or warrant by the bank on which it was drawn or the transfer of funds by the bank instructed to make the transfer shall be a good discharge to the Company. Every cheque or warrant sent or transfer of funds by the relevant bank in accordance with these Articles shall be at the risk of the holder or person entitled. The Company shall have no responsibility for any sums lost or delayed in the course of payment by any method used by the Company in accordance with Article 146.1.

## Interest not payable

147. No dividend or other moneys payable in respect of a share shall bear interest against the Company unless otherwise provided by the rights attached to the share.

## Unclaimed distributions

- 148.1 All dividends or other sums which are:
- (a) payable in respect of shares, and
- (b) unclaimed after having been declared or become payable,

may be invested or otherwise made use of by the directors for the benefit of the Company until claimed.

148.2 The payment of any such dividend or other sum into a separate account does not make the Company a trustee in respect of it.

## 148.3 If:

- (a) twelve years have passed from the date on which a dividend or other sum became due for payment; and
- (b) the distribution recipient has not claimed it,
- 148.4 the distribution recipient is no longer entitled to that dividend or other sum and it ceases to remain owing by the Company.

#### CAPITALISATION OF PROFITS AND RESERVES

## Power to capitalise

- 149. The board may with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company:
- (a) subject to the provisions of this Article, resolve to capitalise any undistributed profits of the Company not required for paying any preferential dividend (whether or not they are available for distribution) or any sum standing to the credit of any reserve or other fund, including without limitation the Company's share premium account and capital redemption reserve, if any;
- (b) appropriate the sum resolved to be capitalised to the members or any class of members on the record date specified in the relevant resolution who would have been entitled to it if it were distributed by way of dividend and in the same proportions;
- (c) apply that sum on their behalf either in or towards paying up the amounts, if any, for the time being unpaid on any shares held by them respectively, or in paying up in full shares, debentures or other obligations of the Company of a nominal amount equal to that sum but the share premium account, the capital redemption reserve, and any profits which are not available for distribution may, for the purposes of this Article, only be applied in paying up shares to be allotted to members credited as fully paid;
- (d) allot the shares, debentures or other obligations credited as fully paid to those members, or as they may direct, in those proportions, or partly in one way and partly in the other;
- (e) where shares or debentures become, or would otherwise become, distributable under this Article in fractions, make such provision as they think fit for any fractional entitlements including without limitation authorising their sale and transfer to any person, resolving that the distribution be made as nearly as practicable in the correct proportion but not exactly so, ignoring fractions altogether or resolving that cash payments be made to any members in order to adjust the rights of all parties;
- (f) authorise any person to enter into an agreement with the Company on behalf of all the members concerned providing for either:
  - (i) the allotment to the members respectively, credited as fully paid, of any shares, debentures or other obligations to which they are entitled on the capitalisation; or

(ii) the payment up by the Company on behalf of the members of the amounts, or any part of the amounts, remaining unpaid on their existing shares by the application of their respective proportions of the sum resolved to be capitalised,

and any agreement made under that authority shall be binding on all such members; and

(g) generally do all acts and things required to give effect to the ordinary resolution.

## RECORD DATES

Record dates for dividends, etc.

150. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the Company or the board may fix any date as the record date for any dividend, distribution, allotment or issue, which may be on or at any time before or after any date on which the dividend, distribution, allotment or issue is declared, paid or made.

#### ACCOUNTS

Rights to inspect records

151. No member shall (as such) have any right to inspect any accounting records or other book or document of the Company except as conferred by statute or authorised by the board or by ordinary resolution of the Company or order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

Delivery of annual accounts

152. Subject to the Companies Acts, a copy of the Company's annual accounts, together with a copy of the directors' report for that financial year and the auditors' report on those accounts, at least 21 clear days before the date of the meeting at which copies of those documents are to be laid in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts, shall be delivered or sent by post or by electronic means, or made available on a website (the address of which shall be notified to the member (or other relevant person) each time by post or by electronic means), to every member and to every holder of the Company's debentures of whose address the Company is aware, and to every other person who is entitled to receive notice of meetings from the Company under the provisions of the Companies Acts or of these Articles or, in the case of joint holders of any share or debenture, to one of the joint holders.

#### **NOTICES**

When notice required to be in writing

153. Any notice to be given to or by any person pursuant to these Articles shall be in writing except that a notice calling a meeting of the board need not be in writing.

Methods of Company sending notices etc. 154. Subject to Article 153 and unless otherwise provided by these Articles, the Company shall send or supply a document or information that is required or authorised to be sent or supplied to a member or any other person by the Company by a provision of the Companies Acts or pursuant to these Articles or to any other rules or regulations to which the Company may be subject in such form and by such means as it may in its absolute discretion determine provided that the provisions of the Act which apply to sending or supplying a document or information required or authorised to be sent or supplied by the Companies Acts shall, the necessary changes having been made, also apply to sending or supplying any document or information required or authorised to be sent by these Articles or any other rules or regulations to which the Company may be subject.

Methods of member etc. of sending notices etc.

- 155. Subject to Article 153 and unless otherwise provided by these Articles, a member or a person entitled by transmission to a share shall send a document or information pursuant to these Articles to the Company in such form and by such means as such member or person may in their absolute discretion determine provided that:
- (a) the determined form and means are permitted by the Companies Acts for the purpose of sending or supplying a document or information of that type to a company pursuant to a provision of the Companies Acts; and
- (b) unless the board otherwise permits, any applicable condition or limitation specified in the Companies Acts, including without limitation as to the address to which the document or information my be sent, is satisfied.

Unless otherwise provided by these Articles or required by the board, such document or information shall be authenticated in the manner specified by the Companies Acts for authentication of a document or information sent in the relevant form.

Notices etc. to joint holders

156. In the case of joint holders of a share, all documents or information shall be sent to the joint holder whose name stands first in the Register in respect of the joint holding. Any document or information so sent shall be deemed for all purposes sent to all the joint holders. A member whose registered address is not within the United Kingdom and who gives to the Company an address within the United Kingdom at which documents or information may be given to him, shall be entitled to have (provided that, in the case of a document or information sent by electronic means, including without limitation any notification required by the Companies Acts that the document or information is available on a website, the Company so agrees, which agreement the Company shall be entitled to withhold in its absolute discretion including, without limitation, in circumstances in which the

Company considers that the sending of the document or information to such address using electronic means would or might infringe the laws of any other jurisdiction) but otherwise:

- (a) no such member shall be entitled to receive any document or information from the Company; and
- (b) without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, any notice of a general meeting of the Company which is in fact sent or purports to be sent to such member shall be ignored for the purpose of determining the validity of the proceedings at such general meeting.

Deemed receipt of notice

157. A member present, either in person or by proxy, at any meeting of the Company or of the holders of any class of shares in the capital of the Company shall be deemed to have been sent notice of the meeting and, where requisite, of the purposes for which it was called.

Notices etc. to persons entitled by transmission 158. A document or information may be sent or supplied by the Company to the person or persons entitled by transmission to a share by sending it in any manner the Company may choose authorised by these Articles for the sending of a document or information to a member, addressed to them by name, or by the title of representative of the deceased, or trustee of the bankrupt or by any similar description at the address, if any, in the United Kingdom supplied for that purpose by or on behalf of the person or persons claiming to be so entitled. Until such an address has been supplied, a document or information may be sent in any manner in which it might have been sent if the death or bankruptcy or other event giving rise to the transmission had not occurred.

Transferees etc. bound by prior notice

159. Every person who becomes entitled to a share shall be bound by any notice in respect of that share which, before his name is entered in the Register, has been sent to a person from whom he derives his title, provided that no person who becomes entitled by transmission to a share shall be bound by any direction notice sent under Article 65.1 to a person from whom he derives his title.

When notices etc. deemed served

- 160. Proof that a document or information sent in hard copy form was properly addressed, prepaid and posted shall be conclusive evidence that the document or information was sent or supplied. Proof that a document or information sent or supplied by electronic means was properly addressed shall be conclusive evidence that the document or information was sent or supplied. A document or information sent by the Company to a member in hard copy form by post shall be deemed to have been received:
- (a) if sent by first class post from an address in the United Kingdom to another address in the United Kingdom or, as the case may be, from

an address in another country to another address in that other country, on the day following that on which the document or information was posted;

- (b) if sent by airmail from an address in the United Kingdom to an address outside the United Kingdom, on the third day following that on which the document or information was posted; and
- (c) in any other case, on the fifth day following that on which the document or information containing it was posted.

When notices etc. by electronic communication or website deemed served 161. Any document or information sent or supplied by the Company in electronic form shall be deemed to have been given on the day it was sent by or on behalf of the Company. Any document or information sent or supplied by the Company by means of a website, shall be deemed to have been given 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.

Notices etc. during disruption of services

Subject to the Companies Acts, if at any time the Company is unable effectively to convene a general meeting by notices sent through the post, by electronic means or by making it available on the website as a result of the suspension or curtailment of postal services or the relevant communication system, notice of general meeting may be sufficiently given by advertisement. Any notice given by advertisement for the purpose of this Article shall be advertised in at least one newspaper having a national circulation in the United Kingdom and/or the Federal Republic of Germany. If advertised in more than one newspaper, the advertisements shall appear on the same date. Such notice shall be deemed to have been sent to all persons who are entitled to have notice of meetings sent to them on the day when the advertisement appears. In any such case, the Company shall send confirmatory copies of the notice by post or by electronic means to the persons entitled to receive them or, where applicable, notify the affected persons on the website, if at least seven days before the meeting the sending or supply of notices by post by electronic means or making it avaliable on the website again becomes practicable.

## **DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS**

Power of Company to destroy documents

- 163.1 The Company shall be entitled to destroy:
- (a) all instruments of transfer of shares which have been registered, and all other documents on the basis of which any entry is made in the Register, at any time after the expiration of six years from the date of registration;

- (b) all dividend mandates, variations or cancellations of dividend mandates, and notifications of change of address at any time after the expiration of two years from the date of recording;
- (c) all share certificates which have been cancelled at any time after the expiration of one year from the date of the cancellation;
- (d) all paid dividend warrants and cheques at any time after the expiration of one year from the date of actual payment;
- (e) all proxy appointments which have been used for the purpose of a poll at any time after the expiration of one year from the date of use; and
- (f) all proxy appointments which have not been used for the purpose of a poll at any time after one month from the end of the meeting to which the proxy appointment relates and at which no poll was demanded.

# Presumption in relation to destroyed documents

163.2 It shall conclusively be presumed in favour of the Company that:

- (a) every entry in the Register purporting to have been made on the basis of an instrument of transfer or other document destroyed in accordance with Article 163.1 was duly and properly made;
- (b) every instrument of transfer destroyed in accordance with Article 163.1 was a valid and effective instrument duly and properly registered;
- (c) every share certificate destroyed in accordance with Article 163.1 was a valid and effective certificate duly and properly cancelled; and
- (d) every other document destroyed in accordance with Article 163.1 was a valid and effective document in accordance with its recorded particulars in the books or records of the Company,

## but:

- (e) the provisions of this Article apply only to the destruction of a document in good faith and without notice of any claim (regardless of the parties) to which the document might be relevant;
- (f) nothing in this Article shall be construed as imposing on the Company any liability in respect of the destruction of any document earlier than the time specified in Article 163.1 or in any other circumstances which would not attach to the Company in the absence of this Article; and

(g) any reference in Article 163 to the destruction of any document includes a reference to its disposal in any manner.

## WINDING UP

#### Liquidator may distribute in specie

- 164. If the Company is wound up, the liquidator may, with the sanction of a special resolution of the Company and any other sanction required by the Insolvency Act 1986:
- (a) divide among the members in specie the whole or any part of the assets of the Company and may, for that purpose, value any assets and determine how the division shall be carried out as between the members or different classes of members:
- (b) vest the whole or any part of the assets in trustees for the benefit of the members; and
- (c) determine the scope and terms of those trusts,

but no member shall be compelled to accept any asset on which there is a liability.

#### Disposal of assets by liquidator

165. The power of sale of a liquidator shall include a power to sell wholly or partially for shares or debentures or other obligations of another body corporate, either then already constituted or about to be constituted for the purpose of carrying out the sale.

#### **INDEMNITY**

# Indemnity to directors and officers

166. The Company may indemnify the directors and other officers of the Company in respect of any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, brought against them by reason of their being directors or officers of the Company and to the fullest extent permitted by the Companies Acts.

# ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF DIALOG SEMICONDUCTOR PLC

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