

Company No. 02867684

The Companies Acts 2006
and
Public Company Limited by Shares

NEW ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
of
ADVANCED MEDICAL SOLUTIONS
GROUP PLC

**(as amended by Special Resolution passed on [◆] August
2026)**

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NEW ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

of
ADVANCED MEDICAL SOLUTIONS
GROUP PLC¹

**(as amended by Special Resolution passed on [◆] August
2026)**

1 Table "A" not to apply

No regulations for management of a company set out in any schedule to any statute concerning companies or contained in any regulations or instrument made pursuant to a statute shall apply to the Company, but the following shall be the Articles of Association of the Company.

2 Interpretation

2.1 In these Articles:

Act means, subject to Article 2.3, the Companies Act 2006 for the time being in force

these Articles means these Articles of Association as altered or varied from time to time (and
Article means one of these Articles)

Auditors means the auditors for the time being of the Company or, in the case of joint auditors, any one of them

Board means the Board of Directors for the time being of the Company or the Directors present at a duly convened meeting of Directors at which a quorum is present

Chairman means the chairman (if any) of the Board or, where the context requires, the chairman of a general meeting of the Company

¹ The name of the Company was changed from Innovative Technologies Group plc by Special Resolution of the members on 12 November 1998.

clear days means (in relation to the period of a notice) that period, excluding the day when the notice is given or deemed to be given and the day for which it is given or on which it is to take effect

Company means Advanced Medical Solutions Group plc

Depository means a custodian or other person (or a nominee for such custodian or other person) appointed under contractual arrangements with the Company or other arrangements approved by the Board whereby such custodian or other person or nominee holds or is interested in shares of the Company or rights or interests in shares of the Company and issues securities or other documents of title or otherwise evidencing the entitlement of the holder thereof to or to receive such shares, rights or interests, provided and to the extent that such arrangements have been approved by the Board for the purpose of these Articles, and shall include, where approved by the Board, the trustees (acting in their capacity as such) of any employees' share scheme established by the Company or any other scheme or arrangement principally for the benefit of employees or those in the service of the Company and/or its subsidiaries or their respective businesses, which the Board has approved

Director means a Director for the time being of the Company

execution means includes any mode of execution (and "executed" shall be construed accordingly)

holder means (in relation to any share) the member whose name is entered in the Register as the holder or, where the context permits, the members whose names are entered into the Register as the joint holders, of that share

member means a member of the Company or, where the context requires, a member of the Board or of any committee

Office means the registered office for the time being of the Company

paid up means paid up or credited as paid up

recognised person means a recognised clearing house or a nominee of a recognised clearing house or of a recognised investment exchange who is designated as mentioned in section 778 of the Act

Register means the register of members of the Company to be kept pursuant to section 113 of the Act or, as the case may be, any overseas branch register kept pursuant to Article 119

Regulations means the Uncertified Securities Regulations 2001

Secretary means the Secretary for the time being of the Company or any other person appointed to perform any of the duties of the Secretary of the Company including (subject to the provisions of the Act) a joint, temporary, assistant or deputy Secretary

Share means a share of the Company

London Stock Exchange means London Stock Exchange plc

United Kingdom means Great Britain and Northern Ireland

writing or written means includes printing, typewriting, lithography, photography and any other mode or modes of representing or reproducing words in a legible and non-transitory form

2.2 Unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) words in the singular include the plural, and vice versa;
- (b) words importing the masculine gender include the feminine gender;
- (c) a reference to a person includes a body corporate and an unincorporated body of persons.

2.3 A reference to any statute or provision of a statute shall include any orders, regulations or other subordinate legislation made under it and shall, unless the context otherwise requires, include any statutory modification or re-enactment of it for the time being in force.

2.4 Save as aforesaid, and unless the context otherwise requires, words or expressions contained in these Articles shall bear the same meaning as in the Act.

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

2.6 The headings are inserted for convenience only and shall not affect the construction of these Articles.

3 Registered Office

The Office shall be at such place in England and Wales as the Board shall from time to time appoint.

Share Capital

4 Liability of members

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

5 Allotment

Subject to the provisions of the Act and to any relevant authority of the Company in general meeting required by the Act, unissued shares at the date of adoption of these Articles and any shares hereafter created shall be at the disposal of the Board, which may allot (with or without conferring rights of renunciation), grant options over, offer or otherwise deal with or dispose of them or rights to subscribe for or convert any security into shares to such persons (including the Directors themselves), at such times and generally on such terms and conditions as the Board may decide, provided that no share shall be issued at a discount.

6 Redeemable shares

Subject to the provisions of the Act and to any special rights for the time being attached to any existing shares, any share may be issued which is, or at the option of the Company or of the holder of such share is liable, to be redeemed on such terms and in such manner as these Articles may provide.

7 Power to attach rights

Subject to the provisions of the Act and to any special rights for the time being attached to any existing shares, any shares may be allotted or issued with or have attached to them such preferred, deferred or other special rights or restrictions, whether in regard to dividend, voting, transfer, return of capital or otherwise, as the Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution determine or, if no such resolution has been passed or so far as the resolution does not make specific provision, as the Board may determine.

8 Share warrants

8.1 The Company may, with respect to any fully paid shares, issue a warrant (a "share warrant") stating that the bearer of the warrant is entitled to the shares specified in it and may provide (by coupons or otherwise) for the payment of future dividends on the share included in a share warrant.

8.2 The powers referred to in Article 8.1 may be exercised by the Board, which may determine and vary the conditions on which share warrants shall be issued, and in particular on which:

- (a) a new share warrant or coupon will be issued in the place of one damaged, defaced, worn out or lost (provided that no new share warrant shall be issued to replace one that has been lost unless the Board is satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the original has been destroyed);
- (b) the bearer of a share warrant shall be entitled to receive notice of and to attend, vote and demand a poll at general meetings;
- (c) dividends will be paid; and
- (d) a share warrant may be surrendered and the name of the holder entered in the Register in respect of the shares specified in it.

Subject to such conditions and to these Articles, the bearer of a share warrant shall be deemed to be a member for all purposes. The bearer of a share warrant shall be subject to the conditions for the time being in force and applicable thereto, whether made before or after the issue of such share warrant.

9 Commission and brokerage

The Company may in connection with the issue of any shares exercise all powers of paying commission and brokerage conferred or permitted by the Act. Subject to the provisions of the Act, any such commission or brokerage may be satisfied by the payment of

cash, the allotment of fully or partly paid shares, the grant of an option to call for an allotment of shares or any combination of such methods.

10 Trusts not to be recognised

Except as otherwise expressly provided by these Articles, as required by law or as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction, the Company shall not recognise any person as holding any share on any trust, and (except as aforesaid) the Company shall not be bound by or recognise (even if having notice of it) any equitable, contingent, future, partial or other claim to or interest in any share except an absolute right of the holder of the whole of the share.

Share Certificates

11 Right to certificates

- 11.1 On becoming the holder of any share, every person (except a recognised person in respect of whom the company is not by law required to complete and have ready for delivery a certificate) shall be entitled, without charge, to have issued within 2 months after allotment or lodgement of a transfer (unless the terms of issue of the shares provide otherwise) one certificate for all the shares of each class registered in his name. Such certificate shall specify the number, class, and distinguishing numbers (if any) of the shares in respect of which it is issued and the amount or respective amounts paid up thereon and shall be issued either under the Seal (which may be affixed to it or printed on it) or in such other manner having the same effect as if issued under a seal as the Board may approve.
- 11.2 If and so long as all the issued shares of the Company or all the issued shares of a particular class are fully paid up and rank *par passu* for all purposes then none of those shares shall bear a distinguishing number. In all other cases each share shall bear a distinguishing number.
- 11.3 The Company shall not be bound to issue more than one certificate in respect of shares held jointly by two or more persons. Delivery of a certificate to the person first named on the register shall be sufficient delivery to all joint holders.
- 11.4 Where a member (other than a recognised person) has transferred part only of the shares comprised in a certificate, he shall be entitled without charge to a certificate for the balance of such shares.
- 11.5 No certificate shall be issued representing shares of more than one class, or in respect of shares held by a recognised person.

12 Replacement certificates

- 12.1 Any two or more certificates representing shares of any one class held by any member may at his request be cancelled and a single new certificate for such shares issued in lieu without charge on surrender of the original certificates for cancellation.
- 12.2 If any member shall surrender for cancellation a share certificate representing shares held by him and request the Company to issue in lieu two or more share certificates

representing such shares in such proportions as he may specify, the Board may, if it thinks fit, comply with such request.

- 12.3 Share certificates may be renewed or replaced on such terms as to provision of evidence and indemnity (with or without security) and to payment of any exceptional out of pocket expenses, including those incurred by the Company in investigating such evidence and preparing such indemnity and security, as the Board may decide, and on surrender of the original certificate (where it is defaced or worn out), but without any further charge.
- 12.4 In the case of shares held jointly by several persons, any such request as is mentioned in this Article 12 may be made by any one of the joint holders.

Lien of Shares

13 Lien on shares not fully paid

The Company shall have a first and paramount lien on any of its shares which are not fully paid, to the extent and in the circumstances permitted by the Act. The Board may waive any lien which has arisen and may resolve that any share shall for some limited period be exempt wholly or partially from the provisions of this Article.

14 Enforcement of lien by sale

- 14.1 The Board may sell all or any of the shares subject to any lien at such time or times and in such manner as it may determine. However, no sale shall be made until such time as the moneys in respect of which such lien exists or some part thereof are or is presently payable or the liability or engagement in respect of which such lien exists is liable to be presently fulfilled or discharged, and until a demand and notice in writing stating the amount due or specifying the liability or engagement and demanding payment or fulfilment or discharge thereof and giving notice of intention to sell in default shall have been served on the holder or the persons (if any) entitled by transmission to the shares, default in payment, fulfilment or discharge shall have been made by him or them for 14 clear days after service of such notice. For giving effect to any such sale, the Board may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares sold in the name and on behalf of the holder or the persons entitled by transmission in favour of the purchaser or as the purchaser may direct. The purchaser shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money, and the title of the transferee to the shares shall not be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings in reference to the sale.

15 Application of proceeds of sale

The net proceeds of any sale of shares subject to any lien, after payment of the costs, shall be applied in or towards satisfaction of so much of the amount due to the Company, or of the liability or engagement (as the case may be) as is presently payable or is liable to be presently fulfilled or discharged. The balance (if any) shall (on surrender to the Company for cancellation of the certificate for the shares sold, and subject to a like lien for any moneys not presently payable or any liability or engagement not liable to be presently fulfilled or discharged as existed on the shares before the sale) be paid to the holder or the person (if any) entitled by transmission to the shares so sold (without interest).

Calls on Shares

16 Calls

Subject to the terms of allotment of shares, the Board may from time to time make calls on the members in respect of any moneys unpaid on the shares or any class of shares held by them respectively (whether in respect of nominal value or premium) and not payable on a date fixed by or in accordance with the terms of issue. Each member shall (subject to receiving at least 14 clear days' notice specifying when and where payment is to be made and whether or not by instalments) be liable to pay the amount of every call so made on him as required by the notice. A call shall be deemed to have been made at the time when the resolution of the Board authorising such call was passed or (as the case may require) any person to whom power has been delegated pursuant to these Articles serves notice of exercise of such power. A call may be required to be paid by instalments and may, before receipt by the Company of any sum due thereunder, be either revoked or postponed in whole or part as regards all or any such members as the Board may determine. A person on whom a call is made shall remain liable notwithstanding the subsequent transfer of the shares in respect of which the call was made. The joint holders of a share shall be jointly and severally liable for the payment of all calls in respect thereof.

17 Interest on calls

If the whole of the sum payable in respect of any call is not paid on or before the day appointed for payment, the person from whom it is due and payable shall pay all costs, charges and expenses that the Company may have incurred by reason of such non-payment, together with interest on the unpaid amount from the day appointed for payment thereof to the time of actual payment at the rate fixed by the terms of the allotment of the share or in the notice of the call or, if no rate is so fixed, at such rate, not exceeding 15% per annum (compounded on a 6 monthly basis), as the Board shall determine. The Board may waive payment of such costs, charges, expenses or interest in whole or in part.

18 Rights of member when call unpaid

Unless the Board otherwise determines, no member shall be entitled to receive any dividend or to be present and vote at any general meeting either personally or (save as proxy for another member) by proxy, or be reckoned in a quorum, or to exercise any other privilege as a member unless and until he shall have paid all calls for the time being due and payable on every share held by him, whether alone or jointly with any other person, together with interest and expenses (if any).

19 Sums due on allotment treated as calls

Any sum payable in respect of a share on allotment or at any fixed date, whether in respect of the nominal value of the share or by way of premium or as an instalment of a call, shall for all purposes of these Articles be deemed to be a call duly made. If it is not paid, the provisions of these Articles shall apply as if such amount had become due and payable by virtue of a call.

20 Power to differentiate

The Board may make arrangements on the allotment or issue of shares for a difference as between the allottees or holders of such shares in the amount and time of payments of calls.

21 Payment in advance of calls

The Board may, if it thinks fit, receive from any member willing to advance the same all or any part of the moneys uncalled and unpaid on the shares held by him. Such payment in advance of calls shall extinguish pro tanto the liability on the shares on which it is made. The Company may pay interest on the money paid in advance, or so much of it as exceeds the amount for the time being called up on the shares in respect of which such advance has been made, at such rate as the Board may decide. The Board may at any time repay the amount so advanced on giving to such member not less than 3 months' notice in writing of its intention in that behalf, unless before the expiration of such notice the amount so advanced shall have been called up on the shares in respect of which it was advanced.

22 Delegation of power to make calls

If any uncalled capital of the Company is included in or charged by any mortgage or other security, the Board may delegate on such terms as it thinks fit to the person in whose favour such mortgage or security is executed, or to any other person in trust for him, the power to make calls on the members in respect of such uncalled capital, to sue in the name of the Company or otherwise for the recovery of moneys becoming due in respect of calls so made and to give valid receipts for such moneys. The power so delegated shall subsist during the continuance of the mortgage or security, notwithstanding any change of Directors, and shall be assignable if expressed so to be.

23 Indemnity against claims in respect of shares

23.1 Whenever any law for the time being of any country, state or place imposes or purports to impose any immediate or future or possible liability on the Company to make any payment, or empowers any government or taxing authority or government official to require the Company to make any payment, in respect of any shares held either jointly or solely by any member or in respect of any dividends or other monies due or payable or accruing due or which may become due or payable to such member by the Company or in respect of any such shares or for or on account or in respect of any member, and whether in consequence of:

- (a) the death of such member;
- (b) the non-payment of any income tax or other tax by such member;
- (c) the non-payment of any estate, probate, succession, death, stamp, or other duty by the executor or administrator of such member or by or out of his estate; or
- (d) any other act or thing; the Company in every such case:
 - (i) shall be fully indemnified by such member or his executor or administrator from all liability arising by virtue of such law; and
 - (ii) may recover as a debt due from such member or his executor or administrator (wherever constituted or residing) any monies paid by the Company under or in consequence of any such law, together with interest thereon at the rate of 15% per annum thereon from the date of payment to the date of repayment.

Nothing contained in this Article shall prejudice or affect any right or remedy which any law may confer or purport to confer on the Company and as between the Company and every such member as aforesaid, his executor, administrator, and estate wherever constituted or situated, any right or remedy which such law shall confer or purport to confer on the Company shall be enforceable by the Company.

Forfeiture of Shares

24 Notice if call not paid

If any member fails to pay the whole of any call or any instalment of any call on or before the day appointed for payment, the Board may at any time serve a notice in writing on such member or any person entitled to the shares by transmission, requiring payment, on a date not less than 14 clear days from the date of the notice, of the amount unpaid and any interest which may have accrued thereon and any costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Company by reason of such non-payment. The notice shall name the place where the payment is to be made and state that, if the notice is not complied with, the shares in respect of which such call was made will be liable to be forfeited.

25 Forfeiture for non-compliance

If the notice referred to in Article 24 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 to that effect. Such forfeiture shall include all dividends declared or other moneys payable in respect of the forfeited shares and not paid before the forfeiture.

26 Notice after forfeiture

When any share has been forfeited, notice of the forfeiture shall be served on the person who was before forfeiture the holder of the share or the person entitled to such share by transmission (as the case may be). An entry of such notice having been given and of the forfeiture with the date thereof shall forthwith be made in the Register in respect of such share. However, no forfeiture shall be invalidated by any omission to give such notice or to make such entry as aforesaid.

27 Forfeiture may be annulled

The Board may, at any time before any share so forfeited has been cancelled or sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of, annul the forfeiture, on the terms that payment shall be made of all calls and interest due thereon and all expenses incurred in respect of the share and on such further terms (if any) as the Board shall see fit.

28 Surrender

The Board may accept a surrender of any share liable to be forfeited. In such case references in these Articles to forfeiture shall include surrender.

29 Disposal of forfeited shares

Every share which shall be forfeited shall thereupon become the property of the Company. Subject to the provisions of the Act, any such share may be sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of, either to the person who was before forfeiture the holder thereof or entitled thereto or to any other person, on such terms and in such manner as the Board shall determine. The Board may, for the purposes of the disposal, authorise some person to transfer the share in question and may enter the name of the transferee in respect of the transferred share in the Register notwithstanding the absence of any share certificate being lodged in respect thereof and may issue a new certificate to the transferee. An instrument of transfer executed by that person shall be as effective as if it had been executed by the holder of, or the person entitled by transmission to, the share. The Company may receive the consideration (if any) given for the share on its disposal.

30 Effect of forfeiture

A shareholder whose shares have been forfeited shall cease to be a member in respect of the shares forfeited and shall surrender to the Company for cancellation the certificate for such shares. He shall nevertheless be liable to pay to the Company all calls made and not paid on such shares at the time of forfeiture, and interest thereon from the date of the forfeiture to the date of payment, in the same manner in all respects as if the share had not been forfeited, and to satisfy all (if any) claims, demands and liabilities which the Company might have enforced in respect of the shares at the time of forfeiture, without any reduction or allowance for the value of the shares at the time of forfeiture or for any consideration received on their disposal.

31 Extinction of claims

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 holder whose share is forfeited and the Company, except only such of those rights and liabilities as are by these Articles expressly saved, or as are by the Act given or imposed in the case of past members.

32 Evidence of forfeiture

A statutory declaration by a Director or the Secretary that a share has been forfeited in pursuance of these Articles, and stating the date on which it was forfeited, shall, as against all persons claiming to be entitled to the share adversely to the forfeiture thereof, be conclusive evidence of the facts therein stated. The declaration, together with the receipt of the Company for the consideration (if any) given for the share on the sale or disposition thereof and a certificate for the share under the Seal delivered to the person to whom the same is sold or disposed of, shall (subject if necessary to the execution of an instrument of transfer) constitute a good title to the share. Subject to the execution of any necessary transfer, such person shall be registered as the holder of the share and shall be discharged from all calls made prior to such sale or disposition and shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money or other consideration (if any), nor shall his title to the share be affected by any act, omission or irregularity relating to or connected with the proceedings in reference to the forfeiture or disposal of the share. Such person shall not (except by express agreement with the Company)

become entitled to any dividend which might have accrued on the share before the completion of the sale or disposition thereof.

Transfer of Shares

33 Form of Transfer

Each member may transfer all or any of his shares by instrument of transfer in writing in any usual form or in any form approved by the Board. Such instrument shall be executed by or on behalf of the transferor and (in the case of a transfer of a share which is not fully paid up) by or on behalf of the transferee. The transferor shall be deemed to remain the holder of such share until the name of the transferee is entered in the Register in respect of it.

34 Right to refuse registration

34.1 The Board may, in its absolute discretion and without giving any reason, refuse to register any share transfer unless:

- (a) it is in respect of a share which is fully paid up;
- (b) it is in respect of a share on which the Company has no lien;
- (c) it is in respect of only one class of shares;
- (d) it is in favour of a single transferee or not more than four joint transferees;
- (e) it is duly stamped (if so required); and
- (f) it is delivered for registration to the Office or such other place as the Board may from time to time determine, accompanied (except in the case of a transfer by a recognised person where a certificate has not been issued) by the certificate for the shares to which it relates and such other evidence as the Board may reasonably require to prove the title of the transferor and the due execution by him of the transfer or, if the transfer is executed by some other person on his behalf, the authority of that person to do so; provided that the Board shall not refuse to register any transfer or renunciation of partly paid shares which are listed on the London Stock Exchange on the grounds that they are partly paid shares in circumstances where such refusal would prevent dealings in such shares from taking place on an open and proper basis.

35 Notice of refusal

If the Board refuses to register a transfer of a share it shall, within 2 months after the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company, send notice of the refusal to the transferee. Any instrument of transfer which the Board refuses to register shall (except in the case of suspected fraud) be returned to the person depositing it. All instruments of transfer which are registered may be retained by the Company.

36 Closing of Register

The registration of transfers of shares or any class of shares may be suspended at such times and for such periods (not exceeding 30 days in any year) as the Board may from time

to time determine. Notice of closure of the Register shall be given in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

37 Fees on registration

No fee shall be charged for registration of a transfer or on the registration of any probate, letters of administration, certificate of death or marriage, power of attorney, notice or other instrument relating to or affecting the title to any shares.

38 Other powers in relation to transfers

38.1 Nothing in these Articles shall preclude the Board:

- (a) from recognising a renunciation of the allotment of any share by the allottee in favour of some other person; or
- (b) if empowered by these Articles to authorise any person to executed an instrument of transfer of a share, from authorising any person to transfer that share in accordance with any procedures implemented pursuant to Article 14.

Transmission of Shares

39 On death

If a member dies, the survivors or survivor, where he was a joint holder, and his executors or administrators, where he was a sole or the only survivor of joint holders, shall be the only persons recognised by the Company as having any title to his shares. Nothing in these Articles shall release the estate of a deceased member from any liability in respect of any share which has been solely or jointly held by him.

40 Election of person entitled by transmission

40.1 Any person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of any member, or of any other event giving rise to a transmission of such entitlement by operation of law, may, on such evidence as to his title being produced as the Board may require, elect either to become registered as a member or to have some person nominated by him registered as a member. If he elects to become registered himself, he shall give notice to the company to that effect. If he elects to have some other person registered, he shall execute an instrument of transfer of such share to that person. All the provisions of these Articles relating to the transfer of shares shall apply to the notice or instrument of transfer (as the case may be) as if it were an instrument of transfer executed by the member and his death, bankruptcy or other event as aforesaid had not occurred. Where the entitlement of a person to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or of any other event giving rise to its transmission by operation of law is proved to the satisfaction of the Board, the Board shall within 2 months after proof cause the entitlement of that person to be noted in the Register.

41 Rights on transmission

Where a person becomes entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of any member, or of any other event giving rise to a transmission of such entitlement by operation of

law, the rights of the holder in relation to such share shall cease. However, the person so entitled may give a good discharge for any dividends and other moneys payable in respect of it and shall have the same rights to which he would be entitled if he were the holder of the share, except that he shall not, before he is 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 at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares of the Company. 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 thereafter withhold payment of all dividends and other moneys payable in respect of such share until the requirements of the notice have been complied with.

Destruction of Documents

42 Destruction of Documents

42.1 The Company may destroy:

- (a) any instrument of transfer, after 6 years from the date on which it is registered;
- (b) any dividend mandate or any variation or cancellation thereof or any notification of change of name or address, after 2 years from the date on which it is recorded;
- (c) any share certificate, after 1 year from the date on which it is cancelled; and
- (d) any other document on the basis of which any entry in the Register is made, after 6 years from the date on which an entry was first made in the Register in respect of it provided that the Company may destroy any such type of document after such shorter period as the Board may determine if a copy of such document is retained on microfilm or other similar means.

42.2 It shall be conclusively presumed in favour of the Company that every entry in the Register purporting to have been made on the basis of a document so destroyed was duly and properly made, that every instrument of transfer so destroyed was duly registered, that every share certificate so destroyed was duly cancelled, that every other document so destroyed had been properly dealt with in accordance with its terms and was valid and effective in accordance with the particulars in the records of the Company, provided that:

- (a) this Article 44 shall apply only to the destruction of a document in good faith and without notice of any claim (regardless of the parties to it) to which the document might be relevant;
- (b) nothing in this Article 44 shall be construed as imposing on the Company any liability in respect of the destruction of any such document otherwise than as provided for this in Article 44 which would not attach to the Company in the absence of this Article 44; and
- (c) references in this Article 44 to the destruction of any document include references to the disposal of it in any manner.

Alteration of Share Capital

43 Increase, consolidation, cancellation and sub-division

43.1 The Company in general meeting may from time to time by ordinary resolution:

- (a) increase its share capital by such sum to be divided into shares of such amount as the resolution prescribes;
- (b) consolidate and divide all or any of its share capital into shares of larger nominal amount than its existing shares;
- (c) cancel any shares which at the date of the passing of the resolution have not been taken or agreed to be taken by any person, and diminish the amount of its share capital by the amount of the shares so cancelled; and
- (d) subject to the provisions of the Act, sub-divide its shares or any of them into shares of smaller amount, and may by such resolution determine that, as between the shares resulting from such sub-division, one or more of the shares may, as compared with the others, have any such preferred, deferred or other special rights or be subject to any such restrictions as the Company has power to attach to unissued or new shares.

44 Fractions

44.1 Whenever as the result of any consolidation, division or sub-division of shares any difficulty arises, the Board may settle it as it thinks fit, and in particular (but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) where the number of shares held by any holder is not an exact multiple of the number of shares to be consolidated into a single share and as a result of such consolidation such holder would become entitled to a fraction of a consolidated share:

- (a) the Board may determine which of the shares of such holder are to be treated as giving rise to such fractional entitlement and may decide that any of those shares shall be consolidated with any of the shares of any other holder or holders which are similarly determined by it to be treated as giving rise to a fractional entitlement for such other holder or holders, into a single consolidated share and the Board may, on behalf of all such holders, sell such consolidated share for the best price reasonably obtained to any person (including the Company) and distribute the net proceeds of sale after deduction of the expenses of sale in due proportion among those holders (except that any amount otherwise due to a holder, being less than £3 or such other sum as the Board may from time to time determine, may be retained for the benefit of the Company); or
- (b) provided that the necessary unissued shares are available, the Board may issue to such holder credited as fully paid by way of capitalisation the minimum number of shares required to round up his holding to an exact multiple of the number of shares to be consolidated into a single share (such issue being deemed to have been effected prior to consolidation); and the amount required to pay up such shares shall be appropriated at the Board's discretion from any of the sums standing to the credit of any of the Company's reserve accounts (including share premium account and capital redemption reserve) or to the credit of profit and loss account and capitalised by applying the same in paying up the share.

- 44.2 For the purposes of any sale of consolidated shares pursuant to Article 42.1, the Board may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares to, or in accordance with, the directions of the purchaser, and the transferee shall not be bound to see the application of the purchase money, nor shall his title to the shares be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings in reference to the sale.

45 Reduction of capital

Subject to the provisions of the Act to any rights for the time being attached to any shares, the Company may by special resolution reduce its share capital or any capital redemption reserve or share premium account in any manner.

46 Purchase of own shares

Subject to the provisions of the Act and to any rights for the time being attached to any shares, the Company may purchase any of its own shares of any class (including any redeemable shares). Any shares to be so purchased may be selected in any manner whatsoever, provided that if at the relevant date proposed for approval of the proposed purchase there shall be in issue any shares of a class entitling the holders to convert into equity share capital of the Company (other than those which are only convertible into shares which as respects dividend and capital carry a right to participate only up to a specified amount in a distribution), then no such purchase shall take place unless it has been sanctioned by a special resolution passed at a separate general meeting (or meetings if there is more than one class) of the holders of such class of convertible shares.

Variation of Class Rights

47 Sanction to variation

- 47.1 If at any time the share capital of the Company is divided into shares of different classes, any of the rights for the time being attached to any share or class of shares in the Company (and notwithstanding that the Company may be or be about to be in liquidation) may be varied or abrogated in such manner (if any) as may be provided by such rights or, in the absence of any such provision, either with the consent in writing of the holders of not less than three-quarters in nominal value of the issued shares of the class or with the sanction of a special resolution passed at a separate general meeting of the holders of shares of the class duly convened and held as provided (but not otherwise).
- 47.2 The foregoing provisions of this Article shall apply also to the variation or abrogation of the special rights attached to some only of the shares of any class as if each group of shares of the class differently treated formed a separate class the separate rights of which are to be varied.

48 Class meetings

Subject to the provisions of the Act, all the provisions in these Articles as to general meetings shall mutatis mutandis apply to every meeting of the holders of any class of shares. The quorum at every such meeting shall be not less than two persons holding or representing by proxy at least one-third of the nominal amount paid up on the issued shares of the class. Every holder of shares of the class, present in person or by proxy, may demand a poll. Each such holder shall on a poll be entitled to one vote for every share of the class held by him. If at any adjourned

meeting of such holders such quorum as aforesaid is not present, not less than one person holding shares of the class who is present in person or by proxy shall be a quorum.

49 Deemed variation

Subject to the terms on which any shares may be issued, the rights or privileges attached to any class of shares shall be deemed to be varied or abrogated by the reduction of the capital paid up on such shares or by the allotment of further shares ranking in priority thereto in any respect but shall not be deemed to be varied or abrogated by the creation or issue of any new shares ranking *par passu* in all respects (save as to the date from which such new shares shall rank for dividend) with or subsequent to those already issued or by the purchase or redemption by the Company of its own shares in accordance with the provisions of the Act and these Articles.

General Meetings

50 Annual general meetings

Subject to the provisions of the Act, annual general meetings shall be held at such time and place as the Board may determine.

51 General meetings

All general meetings of the Company, other than annual general meetings, shall be called general meetings.

52 Convening of a general meeting

The Board may convene a general meeting whenever it thinks fit. A general meeting shall also be convened on such requisition, or in default may be convened by such requisitionists, as provided by sections 303 to 305 of the Act. At any meeting convened on such requisition or by such requisitionists no business shall be transacted except that stated by the requisition or proposed by the Board. If there are not within the United Kingdom sufficient members of the Board to convene a general meeting, any Director, or any member of the Company, may call a general meeting.

53 Notice of general meeting

53.1 An annual general meeting shall be convened by not less than 21 clear days' notice in writing. All other general meetings shall be convened by not less than 14 clear days' notice in writing.

53.2 Subject to the provisions of the Act, and notwithstanding that it is convened by shorter notice than that specified in this Article 53, a general meeting shall be deemed to have been duly convened if it is so agreed:

- (a) in the case of an annual general meeting, by all the members entitled to attend and vote at the meeting; and
- (b) in the case of any other meeting, by a majority in number of the members having a right to attend and vote at the meeting, being a majority together holding not less than 95% in nominal value of the shares giving that right.

53.3 The notice shall specify:

- (a) whether the meeting is an annual general meeting or a general meeting;
- (b) the place, the day and the time of the meeting;
- (c) in the case of special business, the general nature of that business;
- (d) if the meeting is convened to consider a special resolution, the intention to propose the resolution as such; and
- (e) with reasonable prominence, that
 - (i) a member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint one or more proxies to attend, speak and, on a poll, vote instead of him;
 - (ii) a holder of more than one ordinary share may appoint different proxies in relation to each or any of those ordinary shares; and
 - (iii) that a proxy need not be a member.

53.4 The notice shall be given to the members (other than any who, under the provisions of these Articles or of any restrictions imposed on any shares, are not entitled to receive notice from the Company), to the Directors and to the Auditors.

54 Omission to send notice

The accidental omission to send a notice of meeting or, in cases where it is intended that it be sent out with the notice, an instrument of proxy to, or the non-receipt of either by, any person entitled to receive the same shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

55 Special business

55.1 All business that is transacted at a general meeting shall be deemed special, except the following transactions at an annual general meeting:

- (a) the declaration of dividends;
- (b) the receipt and consideration of the annual accounts and the reports of the Directors and the Auditors;
- (c) the election or re-election of Directors;
- (d) the fixing of the Directors' fees pursuant to Article 105;
- (e) the re-appointment of the Auditors retiring (unless they were last appointed otherwise than by the Company in general meeting) and the fixing of the remuneration of the Auditors or the determination of the manner in which such remuneration is to be fixed.

Proceedings at General Meetings

56 Quorum

No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present when the meeting proceeds to business. Two persons entitled to attend, speak and to vote on the business to be transacted, each being a member or a proxy for a member or a duly authorised representative of a corporation which is 9,rneAer, shall be a quorum.

57 If quorum not present

If within 15 minutes (or such longer interval as the Chairman in his absolute discretion thinks fit) from the time appointed for the holding of a general meeting a quorum is not present, or if during a meeting such a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting, if convened on the requisition of members, shall be dissolved. In any other case, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place, or to such other day and at such time and place as the Chairman (or, in default, the Board) may determine. If at such adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within 15 minutes from the time appointed for holding the meeting, one person entitled to vote on the business to be transacted, being a member or a proxy for a member or a duly authorised representative of a corporation which is a member, shall be quorum.

58 Chairman

The Chairman of the Board shall preside at every general meeting of the Company. If there be no such Chairman or if at any meeting he shall not be present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, or shall be unwilling to act as Chairman, the Deputy Chairman (if any) of the Board shall if present and willing to act preside at such meeting. If no Chairman or Deputy Chairman shall be so present and willing to act, the Director present shall choose one of their number to act or, if there be only one Director present, he shall be Chairman if willing to act. If there be no Director present and willing to act, the members present and entitled to vote shall choose one of their number to be Chairman of the meeting.

59 Directors may attend and speak

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 of the Company.

60 Power to adjourn

The Chairman may, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present, and shall, if so directed by the meeting, adjourn any meeting from time to time (or indefinitely) and from place to place as the meeting shall determine. However, without prejudice to any other power which he may have under these Articles or at common law, the Chairman may, without the need for the consent of the meeting, interrupt or adjourn any meeting from time to time and from place to place or for an indefinite period if he is of the opinion that it has become necessary to do so in order to secure the proper and orderly conduct of the meeting, to give all persons entitled to do so a reasonable opportunity of attending, speaking and voting at the meeting or to ensure that the business of the meeting is properly disposed of.

61 Notice of adjourned meeting

Where a meeting is adjourned indefinitely, the Board shall fix the time and place for the adjourned meeting. Whenever a meeting is adjourned for 14 days or more or indefinitely, 7 clear days' notice at the least, specifying the place, the day and time of the adjourned meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted, shall be given in the same manner as in the case of an original meeting. Save as aforesaid, no member shall be entitled to any notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at any adjourned meeting.

62 Business of adjourned meeting

No business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.

63 Accommodation of members at meeting

63.1 The Board may, for the purpose of controlling the level of attendance and ensuring the safety of those attending at any place specified for the holding of a general meeting, from time to time make such arrangements as the Board shall in its absolute discretion consider to be appropriate and may from time to time vary any such arrangements or make new arrangements in place therefor. The entitlement of any member or proxy to attend a general meeting at such place shall be subject to any such arrangements as may be for the time being approved by the Board. In the case of any meeting to which such arrangements apply the Board may, when specifying the place of the meeting:

- (a) direct that the meeting be held at a place specified in the notice at which the Chairman of the meeting shall preside (**Principal Place**); and
- (b) make arrangements for simultaneous attendance and participation at other places by members otherwise entitled to attend the general meeting but excluded therefrom under the provisions of this Article or who wish to attend at any of such other places, provided that persons attending at the Principal Place and at any of such other places shall be able to see, and hear and be seen and heard by, persons attending at the Principal Place and at such other places, by any means.

Such arrangements for simultaneous attendance may include arrangements for controlling the level of attendance in any manner aforesaid at any of such other places, provided that they shall operate so that any such excluded members as aforesaid are able to attend at one of such other places. For the purposes of all other provisions of these Articles any such meeting shall be treated as being held and taking place at the Principal Place.

Voting

64 Method of voting

64.1 At any general meeting a resolution put to a vote of the meeting shall be decided on at a show of hands, unless (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) a poll is duly demanded. Subject to the provisions of the Act, a poll may be demanded by:

- (a) the Chairman of the meeting; or

- (b) by at least five members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote at the meeting; or
- (c) a member or members present in person or by proxy representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the members having the right to vote at the meeting; or
- (d) a member or members present in person or by proxy holding shares conferring a right to vote at the meeting, 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.

65 Chairman's declaration conclusive on show of hands

Unless a poll is duly demanded and the demand is not withdrawn, a declaration by the Chairman of the meeting that a resolution on a show of hands been carried, or carried unanimously or by a particular majority, or lost, or not carried by a particular majority, and an entry to that effect in the book containing the minutes of proceedings of the Company, shall be conclusive evidence thereof, without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against such resolution.

66 Objection to error in voting

No objection shall be raised to the qualification of any voter or to the counting of, or failure to count, any vote, except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is given or tendered or at which the error occurs. Any objection or error shall be referred to the Chairman of the meeting and shall only vitiate the decision of the meeting on any resolution if the Chairman decides that the same is of sufficient magnitude to vitiate the resolution or may otherwise have affected the decision of the meeting. The decision of the Chairman on such matters shall be final and conclusive.

67 Amendment to resolutions

If an amendment shall be proposed to any resolution under consideration but shall in good faith be ruled out of order by the Chairman of the meeting, any error in such ruling shall not invalidate the proceedings on the substantive resolution. In the case of a resolution duly proposed as a special resolution, no amendment thereto (other than a mere clerical amendment to correct a patent error) may in any event be considered or voted on.

68 Procedure on a poll

- 68.1 Any poll duly demanded on the election of a Chairman of a meeting or on any question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith. A poll duly demanded on any other matter shall be taken in such manner (including the use of ballot or voting papers or tickets) and at such time and place, not being more than 30 days from the date of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the poll was demanded, as the Chairman shall direct. No notice need be given of a poll not taken immediately if the time and place at which it is to be taken are announced at the meeting at which it is demanded. In any other case at least 7 clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time and place at which the poll is to be taken. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.

- 68.2 The demand for a poll (other than on the election of a Chairman or any question of adjournment) shall not prevent the continuance of the meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which a poll has been demanded. If a poll is demanded before the declaration of the result on a show of hands and the demand is duly withdrawn, the meeting shall continue as if the demand had not been made.
- 68.3 The demand for a poll may, before the poll is taken, be withdrawn, but only with the consent of the Chairman. A demand so withdrawn shall validate the result of a show of hands declared before the demand was made.
- 68.4 On a poll votes may be given in person 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.

69 Votes of members

- 69.1 Subject to the provisions of the Act, to any special terms as to voting on which any shares may have been issued or may for the time being be held and to any suspension or abrogation of voting rights pursuant to these Articles, at any general meeting every member who is present in person or by proxy shall on a show of hands have one vote and every member present in person or by proxy shall on a poll have one vote for each share of which he is the holder, save that, if a member appoints more than one proxy, the proxies appointed by that member shall have only one vote between them.
- 69.2 If two or more persons are joint holders of a share, then in voting on any question 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.
- 69.3 Where in England or elsewhere a receiver or other person (by whatever name called) has been appointed by any court claiming jurisdiction in that behalf to exercise powers with respect to the property or affairs of any member on the ground (however formulated) of mental disorder, the Board may in its absolute discretion, on or subject to production of such evidence of the appointment as the Board may require, permit such receiver or other person to vote in person or, on a poll, by proxy on behalf of such member at any general meeting. Evidence to the satisfaction of the Board of the authority of the person claiming to exercise the right to vote shall be deposited at the Office, or at such other place as is specified in accordance with these Articles for the deposit of instruments of proxy, 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, and in default the right to vote shall not be exercisable.

70 Casting vote

In the case of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the Chairman of the meeting at which the show of hands takes place or at which the poll was demanded shall be entitled to a second or casting vote in addition to any other vote that he may have.

71 Restriction on voting rights for unpaid calls etc.

No member shall, unless the Board otherwise determines, be entitled to vote at a general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares, either in person or by proxy, in

respect of any share held by him or to exercise any right as a member unless all calls or other sums presently payable by him in respect of that share in the Company have been paid to the Company.

72 Voting by proxy

Any person (whether a member of the Company or not) may be appointed to act as a proxy. Deposit of an instrument of proxy shall not preclude a member from attending and voting in person at the meeting in respect of which the proxy is appointed or at any adjournment thereof.

73 Form of proxy

73.1 An instrument appointing a proxy shall:

- (a) be in writing in any common form or in such other form as the Board may approve, under the hand of the appointor or of his attorney duly authorised in writing or, if the appointor is a corporation, under its common seal or under the hand of some officer or attorney duly authorised in that behalf or, if permitted by the Board, in electronic form in the manner and form and subject to such terms and conditions as the Board may decide;
- (b) be deemed (subject to any contrary direction contained in the same) to confer authority to demand or join in demanding a poll and to vote on any resolution or amendment of a resolution put to the meeting for which it is given, as the proxy thinks fit, but shall not confer any further right to speak at the meeting, except with the permission of the Chairman (or as otherwise determined by the Board where the relevant shares are held by a Depositary);
- (c) unless the contrary is stated therein, be valid as well for any adjournment of the meeting as for the meeting to which it relates; and
- (d) where it is stated to apply to more than one meeting, be valid for all such meetings as well as for any adjournment of any such meetings.

74 Receipt of proxy

74.1 The instrument appointing a proxy and the power of attorney or other authority (if any) under which it is signed, or a copy of such authority certified notarially or in some other way approved by the Board, shall:

- (a) be received at such address as maybe specified in the notice convening the meeting or in any other information issued by the Company in relation to the meeting (or, if no such address is specified, at the office) not less than 48 hours before the time fixed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the appointee proposes to vote; or
- (b) in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it is demanded, be 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

- (c) in the case of a poll which is not taken at the meeting at which it is demanded but is taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, either be received by the Chairman of the meeting or by any Director at the meeting at which the poll is demanded or, be received at such address and by such time as the Chairman may direct at the meeting at which the poll is demanded; and an instrument of proxy not deposited or delivered in a manner so permitted shall be invalid. No instrument appointing a proxy shall be valid after the expiry of 12 months from the date named in it as the date of its execution, except at an adjourned meeting or on a poll demanded at a meeting or an adjourned meeting in cases where the meeting was originally held within 12 months from such date.

74.2 A proxy may be appointed by electronic communication to such address as may be notified by or on behalf of the Company for that purpose, or by any other lawful means from time to time authorised by the Directors. Any means of appointing a proxy which is authorised by or under this Article shall be subject to any terms, limitations, conditions or restrictions that the Directors may from time to time prescribe.

74.3 Without limiting any other provision of these Articles, in relation to an uncertificated share the Directors may from time to time:

- (a) permit appointments of a proxy to be made by means of an Uncertificated Proxy Instruction;
- (b) where a proxy has been appointed by means of an Uncertificated Proxy Instruction, permit the revocation of the appointment by means of an Uncertificated Proxy Instruction;
- (c) prescribe the method for determining the time at which any such Uncertificated Proxy Instruction is to be treated as received by the Company (or a participant in the relevant system concerned on its behalf); and
- (d) treat any such Uncertificated Proxy Instruction which purports to be or is expressed to be sent on behalf of a holder of a share as sufficient evidence of the authority of the person sending that instruction to send it on behalf of that holder.

74.4 For the purposes of sub-article 74.3, "Uncertificated Proxy Instruction" means an electronic communication in the form of:

- (a) an instruction which is properly authenticated as determined by the Regulations;
- (b) any other instruction or notification; or
- (c) any supplemented or amended instruction or notification,

in each case sent by means of the relevant system concerned and received by such participant in that system acting on behalf of the Company (and in such form and on such terms and conditions) as the Directors may determine subject to the facilities and requirements of that system.

- 74.5 The Board may, but shall not be bound to, require such further evidence as it thinks fit of the authenticity and integrity of any signature on a proxy appointment and, if the signatory is an agent or, where the appointor is a corporation, an officer, of his authority.
- 74.6 The Board may decide, either generally or in any particular case, to treat a proxy appointment as valid notwithstanding that the appointment or any of the information required by this Article has not been received in accordance with the requirements of this Article.
- 74.7 Subject to sub-article 74.6, if the proxy appointment and any of the information required by this article are not received in accordance with the requirements of this article, the appointee shall not be entitled to vote in respect of the shares in question.

75 More than one proxy may be appointed

- 75.1 A member may appoint more than one proxy to attend on the same occasion. When two or more valid but differing instruments of proxy are delivered in respect of the same share for use at the same meeting and in respect of the same matter, the one which is last validly delivered (regardless of its date or of the date of its execution) shall be treated as replacing and revoking the other or others as regards that share. If the Company is unable to determine which instrument was last validly delivered, none of them shall be treated as valid in respect of that share.

76 Board may supply proxy cards

The Board may at the expense of the Company send, by post or otherwise, provide instruments of proxy (reply-paid or otherwise) to members for use at general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares, either in blank or nominating in the alternative any one or more of the Directors or any other persons. If for the purpose of any meeting invitations to appoint as proxy a person or one of a number of persons specified in the invitations are issued at the expense of the Company, such invitations shall, subject to Article 54, be issued to all (and not some only) of the members entitled to be sent a notice of the meeting and to vote thereat by proxy.

77 Revocation of proxy

A vote given or poll demanded in accordance with the terms of an instrument of proxy shall be valid notwithstanding the death or mental disorder of the principal or the revocation of the instrument of proxy, or of the authority under which the instrument of proxy was executed, or the transfer of the share in respect of which the instrument of proxy is given, unless notice in writing of such death, mental disorder, revocation or transfer shall have been received by the Company at the Office, or at such other place as has been appointed for the deposit of instruments of proxy, at least 48 hours before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting or the taking of the poll at which the instrument of proxy is used.

78 Corporate representative

A corporation (whether or not a company within the meaning of the Act) which is a member may, by resolution of its directors or other governing body, authorise such person (or if, but only if, such corporation is a Depositary voting in its capacity as such, persons) as it thinks fit to act as its representative (or, as the case may be, representatives) at any meeting of

the Company or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares. Any person so authorised shall be entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of the corporation (in respect of that part of the corporation's holdings to which the authority relates) as the corporation could exercise if it were an individual member. The corporation shall for the purposes of these Articles be deemed to be present in person at any such meeting if a person so authorised is present at it; and all references to attendance and voting in person shall be construed accordingly. A Director, the Secretary or some person authorised for the purpose by the Secretary may require the representative to produce a certified copy of the resolution so authorising him before permitting him to exercise his powers.

79 Failure to disclose interests in shares

79.1 If a member, or any other person appearing to be interested in shares held by that member, has been issued with a notice pursuant to section 793 of the Act and has failed in relation to any shares (**default shares**) to give the Company the information thereby required within the prescribed period from the date of the notice, the following sanctions shall apply unless the Board otherwise determines:

- (a) the member shall not be entitled in respect of the default shares to be present or to vote (either in person or by representative or proxy) at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares or on any poll or to exercise any other right conferred by membership in relation to any such meeting or poll; and
- (b) where the default shares represent at least 0.25% of their class:
 - (i) any dividend or other money payable in respect of the shares shall be withheld by the Company, which shall not have any obligation to pay interest on it, and the member shall not be entitled to elect, pursuant to Article 152, to receive shares instead of that dividend; and
 - (ii) no transfer, other than an excepted transfer, of any shares held by the member shall be registered unless:
 - (A) the member is not himself in default as regards supplying the information required; and
 - (B) the member proves to the satisfaction of the Board that no person in default as regards supplying such information is interested in any of the shares the subject of the transfer.

79.2 Where the sanctions under Article 79.1 apply in relation to any shares, they shall cease to have effect (and any dividends withheld under Article 79.1(b) shall become payable):

- (a) if the shares are transferred by means of an excepted transfer; or
- (b) at the end of the period of 1 week (or such shorter period as the Board may determine) following receipt by the Company of the information required by the notice mentioned in that clause and the Board being fully satisfied that such information is full and complete.

- 79.3 Where, on the basis of information obtained from a member in respect of any share held by him, the Company issues a notice pursuant to section 793 of the Act to any other person, it shall at the same time send a copy of the notice to the member, but the accidental omission to do so, or the non-receipt by the member of the copy, shall not invalidate or otherwise affect the application of Article 79.1.
- 79.4 Where default shares in which a person appears to be interested are held by a Depositary, the provisions of this Article 79 shall be treated as applying only to those shares held by the Depositary in which such person appears to be interested and not (insofar as such person's apparent interest is concerned) to any other shares held by the Depositary.
- 79.5 Where the member on which a notice under section 793 of the Act is served is a Depositary acting in its capacity as such, the obligations of the Depositary as a member of the Company shall be limited to disclosing to the Company such information relating to any person appearing to be interested in the shares held by it as has been recorded by it pursuant to the arrangements entered into by the Company or approved by the Board pursuant to which it was appointed as a Depositary.
- 79.6 For the purposes of this Article 79:
- (a) a person, other than the member holding a share, shall be treated as appearing to be interested in that share if the member has informed the Company that the person is, or may be, so interested, or if the Company (after taking account of any information obtained from the member or, pursuant to a notice under section 793 of the Act, from anyone else) knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the person is, or may be, so interested;
 - (b) "interested" shall be construed as it is for the purpose of section 793 of the Act;
 - (c) reference to a person having failed to give the Company the information required by a notice, or being in default as regards supplying such information, includes reference:
 - (i) to his having failed or refused to give all or any part of it; and
 - (ii) to his having given information which he knows to be false in a material particular or having recklessly given information which is false in a material particular;
 - (d) the **prescribed period** means:
 - (i) in a case where the default shares represent at least 0.25% of their class, 14 days; and
 - (ii) in any other case, 28 days;
 - (e) an **excepted transfer** means, in relation to any shares held by a member:

- (i) a transfer by way of or pursuant to acceptance of a takeover offer for the Company (within the meaning of section 974 of the Act); or
- (ii) a transfer in consequence of a sale made through a recognised investment exchange (as defined in the Financial Services Act 1986) or any other stock exchange outside the United Kingdom on which the Company's shares are normally traded; or
- (iii) a transfer which is shown to the satisfaction of the Board to be made in consequence of a sale of the whole of the beneficial interest in the shares to a person who is unconnected with the member and with any other person appearing to be interested in the shares.

79.7 Nothing contained in this Article 79 shall be taken to limit the powers of the Company under section 794 of the Act.

Untraced Members

80 Power of sale

80.1 The Company shall be entitled to sell at the best price reasonably obtainable any share of a member, or any share to which a person is entitled by transmission, if and provided that:

- (a) during the period of 12 years prior to the date of the publication of the advertisements referred to in clause (b) below (or, if published on different dates, the earlier or earliest thereof) no cheque, order or warrant in respect of such share sent by the Company through the post in a pre-paid envelope addressed to the member or to the person entitled by transmission to the share, at his address on the Register or other last known address given by the member or person to which cheques, orders or warrants in respect of such share are to be sent has been cashed and the Company has received no communications in respect of such share from such member or person, provided that during such period of 12 years the Company has paid at least three cash dividends (whether interim or final) and no such dividend has been claimed by the person entitled to it;
- (b) on or after expiry of the said period of 12 years the Company has given notice of its intention to sell such share by advertisements in two newspapers of which one shall be a national daily newspaper published in the United Kingdom and the other shall be a newspaper circulating in the area of the address on the Register or other last known address of the member or the person entitled by transmission to the share;
- (c) the said advertisements, if not published on the same day, shall have been published within 30 days of each other;
- (d) during the further period of 3 months following the date of publication of the said advertisements (or, if published on different dates, the later or latest thereof) and prior to the exercise of the power of sale the Company has not received any communication in respect of such share from the member or person entitled by transmission; and

- (e) the Company has given notice to the London Stock Exchange of its intention to make such sale, if shares of the class concerned are listed or dealt in on that exchange.

80.2 To give effect to any sale of shares pursuant to this Article the Board may authorise some person to transfer the shares in question and may enter the name of the transferee in respect of the transferred shares in the Register notwithstanding the absence of any share certificate being lodged in respect thereof and may issue a new certificate to the transferee. An instrument of transfer executed by that person shall be as effective as if it had been executed by the holder of, or the person entitled by transmission to, the shares. The purchaser shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase moneys, nor shall his title to the shares be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in the proceedings relating to the sale.

80.3 If during the period of 12 years referred to in Article 80.1, or during any period ending on the date when all the requirements of Articles 80.1(a) to (d) have been satisfied, any additional shares have been issued in respect of those held at the beginning of, or previously so issued during, any such period and all the requirements of 80.1(a) to (d) have been satisfied in regard to such additional shares, the Company shall also be entitled to sell the additional shares.

81 Application of proceeds of sale

The Company shall account to the member or other person entitled to such share for the net proceeds of such sale by carrying all moneys in respect thereof to a separate account. The Company shall be deemed to be a debtor to, and not a trustee for, such member or other person in respect of such moneys. Moneys carried to such separate account may either be employed in the business of the Company or invested in such investments as the Board may from time to time think fit. No interest shall be payable to such member or other person in respect of such moneys and the Company shall not be required to account for any money earned on them.

President

82 Appointment of President

The Board may appoint any person who is or has been a Director and who in the opinion of the Board has rendered outstanding services to the Company to be President and may determine the period for which he is to hold office. Any such appointment may be made on such terms as to remuneration and otherwise as the Board may think fit and may be terminated by the Board.

83 Duties of President

It shall be the duty of the President to advise the Board on such matters as he or it may deem to be of interest to the Company. The President shall not by virtue of his office as such have any powers or duties in relation to the management of the business of the Company and shall not by virtue of his office as such be a Director.

Appointment, Retirement and Removal of Directors

84 Number of Directors

Unless and until otherwise determined by the Company by ordinary resolution, the number of Directors (other than any alternate Directors) shall be not more than ten or less than two.

85 Power of Company to appoint Directors

Subject to the provisions of these Articles, 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 addition to the existing Board, but the total number of Directors shall not exceed any maximum number fixed in accordance with these Articles.

86 Power of Board to appoint Directors

Without prejudice to the power of the Company to appoint any person to be a Director pursuant to these Articles, the Board shall have power at any time to appoint any person who is willing to act as a Director, either to fill a vacancy or as an addition to the existing Board, but the total number of Directors shall not exceed any maximum number fixed in accordance with these Articles. Any Director so appointed shall retire at the annual general meeting of the Company next following such appointment and shall not be taken into account in determining the number of Directors who are to retire by rotation at such meeting.

87 Appointment of executive Directors

Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Board may from time to time appoint one or more of its body to hold any employment or executive office (including that of Managing Director) for such term (subject to the provisions of the Act) and subject to such other conditions as the Board thinks fit in accordance with Article 112. The Board may revoke or terminate any such appointment without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of contract between the Director and the Company.

88 Eligibility of new Directors

88.1 No person, other than a Director retiring (by rotation or otherwise), shall be appointed or re-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 clear days before the date appointed for the meeting, notice duly executed by a member (other than the person to be proposed) qualified to vote at the meeting has been given to the Company of the intention to propose that person for appointment or re-appointment, stating the particulars which would, if he were so appointed or re-appointed, be required to be included in the Company's register of Directors, together with notice executed by that person of his willingness to be appointed or re-appointed, is lodged at the Office.

89 Share qualification

A Director shall not be required to hold any shares of the Company.

90 Resolution for appointment

A resolution for the appointment of two or more persons as Directors by a single resolution shall be void unless an ordinary resolution that it shall be so proposed has first been agreed to by the meeting without any vote being given against it.

91 Retirement by rotation

At each annual general meeting of the Company one-third of the Directors or, if their number is not three or a multiple of three, the number nearest to but not exceeding one-third shall retire from office. If there are fewer than three Directors, one Director shall retire from office.

92 Directors subject to retirement by rotation

Subject to the provisions of these Articles, all the Directors shall be subject to retirement by rotation in accordance with Article 93 and the Directors to retire at a particular annual general meeting shall include, so far as necessary to obtain the number required, first, any Director who wishes to retire and not offer himself for re-election and secondly, those Directors who have been longest in office since their last appointment or re-appointment. As between two or more Directors who have been in office an equal length of time, the Director to retire shall, in default of agreement between them, 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 start of business on the date of the notice convening the annual general meeting notwithstanding any change in the number or identity of the Directors after that time but before the close of the meeting.

93 Position of retiring Director

A Director who retires at an annual general meeting (whether by rotation or otherwise) may, if willing to act, be re-appointed. If he is not re-appointed or deemed to have been 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.

94 Deemed re-appointment

At any general meeting at which a Director retires by rotation the Company may fill the vacancy and, if it does not do so, the retiring Director shall, if willing, be deemed to have been re-appointed unless it is expressly resolved not to fill the vacancy or a resolution for the re-appointment of the Director is put to the meeting and lost.

95 Removal by ordinary resolution

The Company may by ordinary resolution remove any Director before the expiration of his period of office in accordance with the Act, but without prejudice to any claim for damages which he may have for breach of any contract of service between him and the Company, and may (subject to these Articles) by ordinary resolution appoint another person who is willing to act to be a Director in his place. Any person so appointed shall be treated, for the purposes of determining the time at which he or any other Director is to retire, as if he had become a Director on the day on which the person in whose place he is appointed was last appointed, or re-appointed a Director.

96 Vacation of office by Director

96.1 Without prejudice to the provisions for retirement (by rotation or otherwise) contained in these Articles, the office of a Director shall be vacated if:

- (a) he resigns by notice in writing delivered to the Secretary at the Office or tendered at a Board Meeting;
- (b) he ceases to be a Director by virtue of any provision of the Act, is removed from office pursuant to these Articles or becomes prohibited by law from being a Director;
- (c) he becomes bankrupt, has an interim receiving order made against him, makes any arrangement or compounds with his creditors generally or applies to the court for an interim order under section 253 of the Insolvency Act 1986 in connection with a voluntary arrangement under that Act;
- (d) an order is made by any court of competent jurisdiction on the ground (howsoever formulated) of mental disorder for his detention or for the appointment of a guardian or receiver or other person to exercise powers with respect to his affairs or he is admitted to hospital in pursuance of an application for admission for treatment under the Mental Health Act 1983 or, in Scotland, under the Mental Health (Scotland) Act 1984 and the Board resolves that his office be vacated; both he and his alternate Director appointed pursuant to the provisions of these Articles (if any) are absent, without the permission of the Board, from Board meetings for 6 consecutive months and the Board resolves that his office be vacated; or he is requested to resign by notice in writing addressed to him at his address as shown in the register of Directors and signed by all the other Directors (without prejudice to any claim for damages which he may have for breach of any contract between him and the Company).

97 Resolution as to vacancy conclusive

A resolution of the Board declaring a Director to have vacated office under the terms of Article 98 shall be conclusive as to the fact and grounds of vacation stated in the resolution.

Alternate Directors

98 Appointment

98.1 Each Director (other than an alternate Director) may, by notice in writing delivered to the Secretary at the Office, or in any other manner approved by the Board, appoint any other Director or any person approved for that purpose by the Board and willing to act, to be his alternate.

98.2 No appointment of an alternate Director shall be effective until his consent to act as a Director in the form prescribed by the Act has been received at the Office.

98.3 An alternate Director need not hold a share qualification and shall not be counted in reckoning any maximum number of Directors allowed by these Articles.

99 Participation in Board meetings

Every alternate Director shall (subject to his giving to the Company an address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be served on him) be entitled to receive notice of all meetings of the Board and all committees of the Board of which his appointor is a member and, in the absence from such meetings of his appointor, to attend and vote at such meetings and to exercise all the powers, rights, duties and authorities of his appointor. A Director acting as alternate Director shall have a separate vote at Board meetings for each Director for whom he acts as alternate Director, but he shall count as only one for the purpose of determining whether a quorum is present.

100 Alternate Director responsible for own acts

Every person acting as an alternate Director shall be an officer of the Company, shall alone be responsible to the Company for his own acts and defaults and shall not be deemed to be the agent of the Director appointing him.

101 Interests of alternate Director

An alternate Director shall be entitled to contract and be interested in and benefit from contracts or arrangements with the Company and to be repaid expenses and to be indemnified to the same extent mutatis mutandis as if he were a Director. However, he shall not be entitled to receive from the Company any fees for his services as alternate, except only such part (if any) of the fee payable on his appointor as such appointor may by notice in writing to the Company direct. Subject to this Article, the Company shall pay to an alternate Director such expenses as might properly have been paid to him if he had been a Director.

102 Revocation of appointment

102.1 An alternative Director shall cease to be an alternative Director:

- (a) if his appointor revokes his appointment; or
- (b) if his appointor ceases for any reason to be a Director, provided that if any Director retires but is re-appointed or deemed to be re-appointed at the same meeting, any valid appointment of an alternate Director which was in force immediately before his retirement shall remain in force; or
- (c) if any event happens in relation to him which, if he were a Director otherwise appointed, would cause him to vacate office.

Director's Remuneration, Expenses and Pensions

103 Directors' fees

The Directors (other than alternate Directors) shall be entitled to receive by way of fees for their services as Directors such sum as the Board may from time to time determine. Such sum (unless otherwise directed by the resolution of the Company by which it is voted) shall be divided among the Directors in such proportions and in such manner as the Board may determine or, in default of such determination, equally (except that in such event any Director holding office for

less than the whole of the relevant period in respect of which the fees are paid shall only rank in such division in proportion to the time during such period for which he holds office). Any fees payable pursuant to this Article shall be distinct from any salary, remuneration or other amounts payable to a Director pursuant to any other provisions of these Articles and shall accrue from day to day.

104 Expenses

Each Director shall be entitled to be repaid all reasonable travelling, hotel and other expenses properly incurred by him in or about the performance of his duties as Director, including any expenses incurred in attending meetings of the Board or any committee of the Board or general meetings or separate meetings of the holders of any class of shares or of debentures of the Company.

105 Additional remuneration

If by arrangement with the Board any Director shall perform or render any special duties or services outside his ordinary duties as a Director and not in his capacity as a holder of employment or executive office, he may be paid such reasonable additional remuneration (whether by way of salary, commission, participation in profits or otherwise) as the Board may from time to time determine,

106 Remuneration of executive Directors

The salary or remuneration of any Director appointed to hold any employment or executive office in accordance with the provisions of these Articles may be either a fixed sum of money, or may altogether or in part be governed by business done or profits made or otherwise determined by the Board, and may be in addition to or in lieu of any fee payable to him for his services as Director pursuant to these Articles.

107 Pensions and other benefits

The Board may exercise all the powers of the Company to provide pensions or other retirement or superannuation benefits and to provide death or disability benefits or other allowances or gratuities (whether by insurance or otherwise) for, or to institute and maintain any institution, association, society, club, trust, other establishment or profit-sharing, share incentive, share purchase or employees' share scheme calculated to advance the interests of the Company or to benefit, any person who is or has at any time been a Director of the Company or any company which is a holding company or a subsidiary undertaking of or allied to or associated with the Company or any such holding company or subsidiary undertaking or any predecessor in business of the Company or of any such holding company or subsidiary undertaking, and for any member of his family (including a spouse or former spouse) and any person who is or was dependent on him. For such purpose the Board may establish, maintain, subscribe and contribute to any scheme, institution, association, club, trust or fund and pay premiums and, subject to the provisions of the Act, lend money or make payments to, guarantee or give an indemnity in respect of, or give any financial or other assistance in connection with any of the aforesaid matters. The Board may procure any of such matters to be done by the Company either alone or in conjunction with any other person. Any Director or former Director shall be entitled to receive

and retain for his own benefit any pension or other benefit provided under this Article and shall not be obliged to account for it to the Company.

Powers and Duties of the Board

108 Powers of the Board

Subject to the provisions of the Act, and these Articles and to any directions given by special resolution of the Company, the business of the Company shall be managed by the Board, which may exercise all the powers of the Company, whether relating to the management of the business or not. No alteration of these Articles and no such direction given by the Company shall invalidate any prior act of the Board which would have been valid if such alteration had not been made or such direction had not been given. Provisions contained elsewhere in these Articles as to any specific power of the Board shall not be deemed to limit the general powers given by this Article.

109 Powers of Directors being less than minimum number

If the number of Directors is less than the minimum for the time being prescribed by these Articles, the remaining Director or Directors shall act only for the purposes of appointing an additional Director or Directors to make up such minimum or of convening a general meeting of the Company for the purpose of making such appointment. If there are no Director or Directors able or willing to act, any two members may summon a general meeting for the purpose of appointing Directors. Subject to the provisions of these Articles, any additional Director so appointed shall hold office only until the dissolution of the annual general meeting of the Company next following such appointment unless he is re-elected during such meeting.

110 Powers of executive Directors

110.1 The Board may from time to time:

- (a) delegate or entrust to and confer on any Director holding executive office (including a Managing Director) such of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate) for such time, on such terms subject to such conditions as it thinks fit; and
- (b) revoke, withdraw, alter or vary all or any of such powers.

111 Delegation to committees

111.1 The Board may delegate any of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate) for such time on such terms and subject to such conditions as it thinks fit to any committee consisting of one or more Directors and (if thought fit) one or more other persons, provided that:

- (a) a majority of the members of the committee shall be Directors; and
- (b) no resolution of a committee shall be effective unless a majority of those present when it is passed are Directors or alternate Directors.

- 111.2 The Board may confer such powers either collaterally with, or to the exclusion of and in substitution for, all or any of the powers of the Board in that respect and may from time to time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary any of such powers and discharge any such committee in whole or in part. Insofar as any power, authority or discretion is so delegated, any reference in these Articles to the exercise by the Board of such power, authority or discretion shall be construed as if it were a reference to the exercise of such power, authority or discretion by such committee.

112 Local management

The Board may establish any local divisional boards or agencies for managing any of the affairs of the Company in any specified locality, either in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, and may appoint any persons to be members of such local or divisional board, or any managers or agents, and may fix their remuneration. The Board may delegate to any local or divisional board, manager or agent so appointed any of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate) and may authorise the members for the time being of any such local or divisional board, or any of them, to fill any vacancies and to act notwithstanding vacancies; and any such appointment or delegation may be made for such time, on such terms and subject to such conditions as the Board may think fit. The Board may confer such powers either collaterally with, or to the exclusion of and in substitution for, all or any of the powers of the Board in that respect and may from time to time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary all or any of such powers. Subject to any terms and conditions expressly imposed by the Board, the proceedings of any local or divisional board or agency with two or more members shall be governed by such of these Articles as regulate the proceedings of the Board, so far as they are capable of applying.

113 Power of attorney

The Board may, by power of attorney or otherwise, appoint any person or persons to be the agent of the Company and may delegate to any such person or persons any of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate), in each case for such purposes and for such time, on such terms (including as to remuneration) and subject to such conditions as it thinks fit. The Board may confer such powers either collaterally with, or to the exclusion of and in substitution for, all or any of the powers of the Board in that respect and may from time to time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary any of such powers.

114 Associate Directors

The Board may appoint any person (not being a Director) 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 designation or title and may terminate any such appointment or the use of 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 such person is, or is deemed to be, or is empowered in any respect to act as, a Director for any of the purposes of the Act or these Articles.

115 Exercise of voting power

The Board may exercise or cause to be exercised the voting power conferred by the shares in any other company held or owned by the Company, or any power of appointment to be exercised by the Company, in such manner in all respects as it thinks fit (including the exercise of the

voting power or power of appointment in favour of the appointment of any Director as a director or other officer or employee of such company or in favour of the payment of remuneration to the directors, officers or employees of such company).

116 Provision for employees

The Board may exercise any power conferred on the Company by the Act to make provision for the benefit of persons employed or formerly employed by the Company or any of its subsidiaries in connection with the cessation or the transfer to any person of the whole or part of the undertaking of the Company or that subsidiary.

117 Overseas registers

Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Board may exercise the powers conferred on the Company with regard to the keeping of an overseas branch register and may make and vary such regulations as it thinks fit respecting the keeping of any such register.

118 Borrowing powers

118.1 Subject as provided in this Article 120, the Board may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money and to mortgage or charge all or any part of the undertaking, property and assets (present or future) and uncalled capital of the Company and, subject to the provisions of the Act, to issue debentures and other securities, whether outright or as collateral security for any debt, liability or obligation of the Company or of any third party.

118.2 The Board shall restrict the borrowings of the Company and exercise all voting and other rights and powers of control exercisable by the Company in respect subsidiaries so as to procure (as regards its subsidiaries in so far as it can procure by such exercise) that the aggregate principal amount at any one time outstanding in respect of moneys borrowed by the Group (exclusive of moneys borrowed by one Group company from another and after deducting cash deposited) shall not at any time, without the previous sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company, exceed an amount equal to two and one half (2-Y2) times the Adjusted Capital and Reserves.

118.3 For the purposes only of this Article 120:

(a) **Adjusted Capital and Reserves** means a sum equal to the aggregate from time to time of:

- (i) the amount paid up (or credited as paid up) on the allotted or issued share capital of the Company; and
- (ii) the amount standing to the credit of the capital and revenue reserves, whether or not distributable (including, without limitation, any revaluation reserve, merger reserve, share premium account or capital redemption reserve), after adding thereto or deducting therefrom any balance standing to the credit or debit of the profit and loss account;

all as shown in relevant balance sheet, but after:

- (iii) making such adjustments as may be appropriate to reflect:

- (A) any variation in the amount of the paid up share capital, the share premium account or the capital redemption reserve since the date of the relevant balance sheet and so that for the purpose of making such adjustments, if any proposed allotment of shares by the Company for cash has been underwritten, then such shares shall be deemed to have been allotted and the amount (including the premium) of the subscription monies payable in respect thereof (not being monies payable later than 6 months after the date of allotment) shall be deemed to have been paid up to the extent so underwritten on the date when the issue of such shares was underwritten (or, if such underwriting was conditional, the date on which it became unconditional);
 - (B) any variation since the date of the relevant balance sheet of the companies comprising the Group;
- (iv) excluding (so far as not already excluded):
 - (A) amounts attributable to the proportion of the issued equity share capital of any subsidiary which is not attributable, directly or indirectly, to the Company;
 - (B) any sum set aside for taxation (other than deferred taxation);
- (v) deducting:
 - (A) sums equivalent to the book values of goodwill and other intangible assets shown in the relevant balance sheet; and
 - (B) the amount of any distribution declared, recommended or made by any Group company to a person other than a Group company out of profits accrued up to and including the date of (and not provided for in) the relevant balance sheet;
- (b) **cash deposited** means an amount equal to the aggregate of the amounts beneficially owned by Group companies which are deposited for the time being with any bank or other person (not being a Group company) and which are repayable to any Group company on demand or within 3 months of such demand, subject, in the case of amounts deposited by a partly-owned subsidiary, to the exclusion of a proportion thereof equal to the proportion of its issued equity share capital which is not attributable, directly or indirectly, to the Company;
- (c) **Group** means the Company and its subsidiary undertakings from time to time;
- (d) **Group company** means any company in the Group;
- (e) **money borrowed** include not only moneys borrowed but also the following except in so far as otherwise taken into account:
 - (i) the nominal amount of any issued share capital and the principal amount of any debenture or borrowings of any person, the beneficial interest in which or right

to repayment to which is not for the time being owned by a Group company but the payment or repayment of which is the subject of a guarantee or indemnity by a Group company or is secured on the assets of a Group company;

- (ii) the principal amount raised by any Group company by acceptances or under any acceptance credit opened on its behalf by any bank or acceptance house (not being a Group company) other than acceptances and acceptance credits relating to the purchase of goods or services in the ordinary course of trading and outstanding for 6 months or less;
- (iii) the principal amount of any debenture (whether secured or unsecured) of any Group company owned otherwise than by a Group company;
- (iv) the principal amount of any preference share capital of any subsidiary owned otherwise than by a Group company;
- (v) any fixed or minimum premium payable on final repayment of any borrowing or deemed borrowing (but any premium payable on final repayment of an amount not to be taken into account as moneys borrowed shall not be taken into account); and
- (vi) any fixed amount in respect of a hire-purchase agreement or of a finance lease payable in either case by a Group company which would be shown at the material time as an obligation in a balance sheet prepared in accordance with the accounting principles used in the preparation of the relevant balance sheet (and for the purpose of this clause (vi) finance lease means a contract between a lessor and a Group company as lessee or sub-lessee where substantially all the risks and rewards of the ownership of the asset leased or sub-leased are to be borne by that company and **hire-purchase agreement** means a contract of hire-purchase between a hire-purchase lender and a Group company as hirer);

but do not include:

- (vii) moneys borrowed by any Group company for the purpose of repaying, within 6 months of being first borrowed, the whole or any part of any moneys borrowed and then outstanding (including any premium payable on final repayment) of that or any other Group company pending their application for such purpose within that period;
- (viii) moneys borrowed by any Group Company for the purpose of financing any contract in respect of which any part of the price receivable under the contract by that or any other Group company is guaranteed or insured up to an amount equal to that part of the price receivable under the contract which is so guaranteed or insured;
- (ix) an amount equal to the moneys borrowed of any company outstanding immediately after it becomes a Group company, provided that it became a Group company during the 6 months preceding the calculation;

- (x) an amount equal to the amount secured on an asset immediately after it was acquired by a Group company, provided that it was acquired during the 6 months preceding the calculation;
- (xi) notwithstanding clause (i) to (vi) above, the proportion of moneys borrowed by a Group company (and not owing to another Group company) which is equal to the proportion of its issued equity share capital not attributable, directly or indirectly, to the Company;
- (xii) the amount of any moneys borrowed which are for the time being deposited with any governmental authority in any part of the world in connection with import deposits or any similar governmental scheme to the extent that the Group company making such deposit retains its interest in such deposit; and
- (xiii) any sum advanced or paid to any Group company (or its agents or nominees) by customers of any Group company as unexpended customer receipts or progress payments pursuant to any contract between such customer and a Group company;

and in clauses (vii) to (xiii) above references to amounts of moneys borrowed include references to amounts which, but for the exclusion under those clauses, would fall to be included;

- (f) **relevant balance sheet** means the latest published audited consolidated balance sheet of the Group but, where the Company has no subsidiary undertakings, it means the balance sheet and profit and loss account of the Company and, where the Company has subsidiary undertakings but there are no consolidated accounts of the Group, it means the respective balance sheets and profit and loss accounts of the companies comprising the Group; (or until there shall have been a first audited consolidated balance sheet of the Group, such pro-forma consolidated balance sheet of the Group as shall have been included in any prospectus delivered to the Registrar of Companies);
- (g) **subsidiary undertaking** means a subsidiary undertaking (within the meaning of the Act) of the Company (except a subsidiary undertaking which is excluded from consolidation by virtue of the provisions of section 405 of the Act); and "Group" and "Group company" and references to any company which becomes a Group company or to companies comprising the Group shall, in such a case, be construed so as to include subsidiary undertakings (except a subsidiary undertaking which is excluded from consolidation as aforesaid) and "equity share capital" shall be construed in relation to a subsidiary undertaking without a share capital in the same manner as "shares" are defined in relation to an undertaking without a share capital under section 1161(2) of the Act.

118.4 When the aggregate amount of moneys borrowed required to be taken into account for the purposes of this Article 120 on any particular day is being ascertained, any of such moneys denominated or repayable in a currency other than sterling shall be converted for the purpose of calculating the sterling equivalent either:

- (a) at the rate of exchange used for the conversion of that currency in the relevant balance sheet; or
- (b) if no rate was so used, at the middle market rate of exchange prevailing at the close of business in London on the date of that balance sheet; or
- (c) where the repayment of such moneys is expressly covered by a forward purchase contract, currency option, back-to-back loan, swap or other arrangements taken out and entered into to reduce the risk associated with fluctuations in exchange rates, at the rate of exchange specified in that document;

but if the amount in sterling resulting from conversion at that rate would be greater than that resulting from conversion at the middle market rate prevailing in London at the close of business on the business day immediately preceding the day on which the calculation falls to be made, the latter rate shall apply instead.

- 118.5 A report or certificate of the Auditors as to the amount of the Adjusted Capital and Reserves or the amount of moneys borrowed falling to be taken into account for the purposes of this Article 120 or to the effect that the limit imposed by this Article 120 has not been or will not be exceeded at any particular time or times or as a result of any particular transaction or transactions shall be conclusive evidence of the amount or of that fact. Nevertheless, the Board may at any time act in reliance on a bona fide estimate of the amount of the Adjusted Capital and Reserves; and if in consequence the limit on borrowings set out in this Article is inadvertently exceeded, an amount borrowed equal to the excess may be disregarded until the expiration of 60 days after the date on which (by reason of a determination of the Auditors or otherwise) the Board became aware that such a situation has or may have arisen,
- 118.6 No debt incurred or security given in respect of moneys borrowed in excess of the limit imposed by this Article 120 shall be invalid or ineffectual, except in the case of express notice to the lender or recipient of the security at the time when the debt was incurred or security given that the limit had been or would thereby be exceeded, but no lender or other person dealing with the Company shall be concerned to see or enquire whether such limit is observed.

Proceedings of Directors and Committees

119 Board meetings

Subject to the provisions of these Articles, the Board may meet for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate its proceedings as it thinks fit.

120 Notice of Board meetings

One Director may, and the Secretary at the request of a Director shall, summon a Board meeting at any time. A Director may waive the requirement that notice be given to him of any Board meeting, either prospectively or retrospectively. It shall not be necessary to give notice of a Board meeting to a Director who is absent from the United Kingdom unless he has requested the Board in writing that notices of Board meetings shall during his absence be given to him at any address in the United Kingdom notified to the Company for this purpose, but he shall not, in such event, be entitled to a longer period of notice than if he had been present in the United Kingdom at that address.

121 Quorum

The quorum necessary for the transaction of business may be determined by the Board and until otherwise determined shall be two persons, each being a Director or an alternate Director. A duly convened meeting of the Board at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all or any of the authorities, powers, and discretions for the time being vested in or exercisable by the Board.

122 Chairman of Board

The Board may appoint one or more of its body Chairman or Joint Chairman and one or more of its body Deputy Chairman of its meetings and may determine the period for which he is or they are to hold office and may at any time remove him or them from office. If no such Chairman or Deputy Chairman is elected, or if at any meeting neither a Chairman nor a Deputy Chairman is present within five minutes of the time appointed for holding the same, the Directors present shall choose one of their number to be Chairman of such meeting. In the event of two or more Joint Chairman or, in the absence of a Chairman, two or more Deputy Chairmen being present, the Joint Chairman or Deputy Chairman to act as Chairman of the meeting shall be decided by those Directors present. Any Chairman or Deputy Chairman may also hold executive office under the Company.

123 Voting

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

124 Participation by telephone

Any Director or his alternate may validly participate in a meeting of the Board or a committee of the Board through the medium of conference telephone or similar form of communication equipment, provided that all persons participating in the meeting are able to hear and speak to each other throughout such meeting. A person so participating shall be deemed to be present in person at the meeting and shall accordingly be counted in a quorum and be entitled to vote. Such a meeting shall be deemed to take place where the largest group of those participating is assembled or, if there is no group which is larger than any other group, where the Chairman of the meeting then is.

125 Resolution in writing

125.1 A resolution in writing executed by all the Directors for the time being entitled to receive notice of a Board meeting and not being less than a quorum, or by all the members of a committee of the Board for the time entitled to receive notice of such committee meeting and not being less than a quorum of that committee, shall be as valid and effective for all purposes as a resolution duly passed at a meet* of the Board (or committee, as the case may be). Such a resolution:

- (a) may consist of several documents in the same form each executed by one or more of the Directors or members of the relevant committee, including executions evidenced by means of facsimile transmission;

- (b) need not be signed by an alternate Director if it is signed by the Director who appointed him;
- (c) if signed by an alternate Director, need not also be signed by his appointor;
- (d) to be effective, need not be designed by a Director who is prohibited by these Articles from voting thereon, or by his alternate.

126 Proceedings of committees

All committees of the Board shall, in the exercise of the powers delegated to them and in the transaction of business, conform to any mode of proceedings and regulations which the Board may prescribe and subject thereto shall be governed by such of these Articles as regulate the proceedings of the Board as are capable of applying.

127 Minutes of proceedings

127.1 The Board shall cause minutes to be made in books kept for the purpose of recording:

- (a) all appointments of officers and committees made by the Board and of any such officer's salary or remuneration; and
- (b) the names of Directors present at every meeting of the Board, of a committee of the Board, of the Company or of the holders of any class of shares or debentures of the Company, and all orders, resolutions and proceedings of such meetings.

127.2 Any such minutes, if purporting to be signed by the Chairman of the meeting at which the proceedings were held or by the Chairman of the next succeeding meeting or the Secretary, shall be prima facie evidence of the matters stated in such minutes without any further proof.

128 Validity of proceedings

128.1 All acts done by a meeting of the Board, or of a committee of the Board, or by any person acting as a Director, alternate Director or member of a committee shall, notwithstanding that it is afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment of any person or persons acting as aforesaid, or that they or any of them were or was disqualified from holding office or not entitled to vote, or had in any way vacated their or his office, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed, and was duly qualified and had continued to be a Director or alternate Director or member.

Directors' Interests

129 Conflicts of interest

129.1 For the purposes of section 175 of the Act, the Board may authorise any matter proposed to it in accordance with these Articles which would, if not authorised, involve a breach of duty by a Director under that section, including, without limitation, any matter which relates to a situation in which a Director has, or can have, an interest which conflicts, or possibly may conflict, with the interests of the Company.

129.2 Any such authorisation will be effective only if

- (a) any requirement as to quorum at the meeting at which the matter is concerned is met without counting the Director in question or any other interested Director; and
- (b) the matter was agreed to without their voting or would have been agreed to if their votes had not been counted.

129.3 The Board may (whether at the time of the giving of the authorisation or subsequently) make any such authorisation subject to any limits or conditions it expressly imposes but such authorisation is otherwise given to the fullest extent permitted.

129.4 The Board may vary or terminate any such authorisation at any time.

129.5 For the purposes of these Articles, a conflict of interest includes a conflict of interest and duty and a conflict of duties, and interest includes both direct and indirect interests.

130 Director may have interests

130.1 Subject to the provisions of the Act and provided that Article 133 is complied with, a Director, notwithstanding his office:

- (a) may enter into or otherwise be interested in any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal with the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested, either in regard to his tenure of any office or place of profit or as vendor, purchaser or otherwise;
- (b) may hold any other office or place of profit under the Company (except that of Auditor or of auditor of a subsidiary of the Company) in conjunction with the office of Director and may act by himself or through his firm in a professional capacity for the Company, and in any such case on such terms as to remuneration and otherwise as the Board may arrange, either in addition to or in lieu of any remuneration provided for by any other Article;
- (c) may be a Director or other officer, or employed by, or a party to any transaction or arrangement with or otherwise interested in, any company promoted by the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested or as regards which the Company has any powers of appointment; and
- (d) shall not be liable to account to the Company for any profit, remuneration or other benefit realised by any such office, employment, contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal; and no such contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal shall be avoided on the grounds of any such interest or benefit.

131 Disclosure of interests to Board

131.1 Unless the circumstances referred to in sections 177(5), 177(6), 182(5) or 182(6) of the Act apply (in which case no disclosure is required), a Director who, to his knowledge, is in any way (directly or indirectly) interested in any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal with the Company shall declare the nature and extent of his interest by:

- (a) notice in writing under section 184 of the Act;
- (b) general notice under section 185 of the Act; or

- (c) at the meeting of the Board at which the question of entering into the contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal is first considered, if he knows his interest then exists or, in any other case, at the first meeting of the Board after he knows that he is or has become so interested.

131.2 For the purposes of this Article:

- (a) a general notice given to the Board by a Director that he is to be regarded as having an interest (of the nature and extent specified in the notice) in any contract, transaction, arrangement or proposal in which a specified person or class of persons is interested shall be deemed to be a sufficient disclosure under this Article in relation to such contract, transaction, arrangement or proposal; 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.

132 General Duties

132.1 A Director shall be under no duty to the Company with respect to any information which he obtains or has obtained otherwise than as a Director of the Company and in respect of which he owes a duty of confidentiality to another person. However, to the extent that his relationship with that other person gives rise to a conflict of interest or possible conflict of interest, this Article applies only if the existence of that relationship has been approved by the Board pursuant to Article 131. In particular, the Director shall not be in breach of the general duties he owe to the Company by virtue of sections 171 to 177 of the Act because he fails to:

- (a) disclose any such information to the Board or to any Director or other officer or employee of the Company, and/or
- (b) use or apply any such information in performing his duties as a Director of the Company.

132.2 Where the existence of a Director's relationship with another person has been approved by the Board pursuant to Article 131 and his relationship with that person gives rise to a conflict of interest or possible conflict of interest, the Director shall not be in breach of the general duties he owes to the Company by virtue of sections 171 to 177 of the Act because he:

- (a) absents himself from meetings of the Board at which any matter relating to the conflict of interest or possible conflict of interest will or may be discussed or from the discussion of any such matter at the meeting or otherwise, and/or
- (b) makes arrangements not to receive documents and information relating to any matter which gives rise to the conflict of interest or possible conflict of interest sent or supplied by the Company and/or for such documents and information to be received and read by a professional adviser; for so long as he reasonably believes such conflict of interest (or possible conflict of interest) subsists.

133 Interested Director not to vote or count for quorum

133.1 Save as provided in this Article, a Director shall not vote on, or be counted in the quorum in relation to, any resolution of the Board or of a committee of the Board concerning any contract, arrangement, transaction or any proposal whatsoever to which the Company is or is to be a party and **in** which he has an interest which (together with any interest of any person connected with him within the meaning of section 252 of the Act) is to his knowledge a material interest otherwise than by virtue of his interests in shares or debentures or other securities of or otherwise in or through the Company, unless the resolution concerns any of the following matters:

- (a) the giving to him of any guarantee, security or indemnity in respect of money lent to or obligations incurred by him at the request of or for the benefit of the Company or any of its subsidiaries;
- (b) the giving to a third party of any guarantee, security or indemnity in respect of a debt or obligation of the Company or any of its subsidiaries for which he himself has assumed responsibility in whole or in part, either alone or jointly with others, under a guarantee or indemnity or by the giving of security;
- (c) any proposal concerning an offer of shares or debentures or other securities of or by the Company or any of its subsidiaries in which offer he is or may be entitled to participate as a holder of securities or in the underwriting or sub-underwriting of which he is to participate;
- (a) any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal concerning any other body corporate in which he (together with persons connected with him within the meaning of section 252 of the Act) does not to his knowledge have an interest in one percent or more of the issued equity share capital of any class of such body corporate or of the voting rights available to members of such body corporate;
- (b) any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal relating in any way to a retirement benefits scheme which has been approved by or is subject to and conditional on approval by the Board of Inland Revenue for taxation purposes;
- (c) any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal for the benefit of employees of the Company or any of its subsidiaries which does not award him any privilege or benefit not generally awarded to the employees to whom such arrangement relates; or
- (d) any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal concerning the purchase and/or maintenance of any insurance policy pursuant to Article 169.

134 Director's interest in own appointment

A Director shall not vote or be counted in the quorum on any resolution of the Board or committee of the Board concerning his own appointment (including fixing or varying the terms of his appointment or its termination) as the holder of any office or place of profit with the Company or any company in which the Company is interested. Where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment (including fixing or varying the terms of appointment or its termination) of two or more Directors to offices or places of profit with the Company or any company in which the Company is interested, such proposals may be divided and a separate

resolution considered in relation to each Director. In such case each of the Directors concerned (if not otherwise debarred from voting under these Articles) shall be entitled to vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of each resolution except that concerning his own appointment.

135 Chairman ruling conclusive on Director's interest

If any question arises at any meeting as to the materiality of a Director's interest (other than the Chairman's interest) or as to the entitlement of any Director (other than the Chairman) to vote or be counted in a quorum, and such question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting or being counted in the quorum, such question shall be referred to the Chairman of the meeting. The Chairman's ruling in relation to the Director concerned shall be final and conclusive.

136 Directors' resolution conclusive on Chairman's interest

If any question arises at any meeting as to the materiality of the Chairman's interest or as to the entitlement of the Chairman to vote or be counted in a quorum, and such question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting or being counted in the quorum, such question shall be decided by resolution of the Directors or committee members present at the meeting (excluding the Chairman), whose majority vote shall be final and conclusive.

137 Company may suspend or relax provisions

Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Company may by ordinary resolution suspend or relax the provisions of Articles 131 to 138, either generally or in respect of any particular matter, or ratify any transaction not duly authorised by reason of a contravention of these Articles.

138 Definitions

138.1 For the purpose of Articles 131 to 139:

- (a) an interest of a person who is for the purposes of the Act connected (which word shall have the meaning given to it by section 252 of the Act) with a Director shall be treated as an interest of the Director; and
- (b) in relation to an alternate Director, an interest of his appointor shall be treated as an interest of the alternate Director in addition to any interest which the alternate Director otherwise has.

139 Deed without sealing

A document signed by a Director and by the Secretary or by two Directors and expressed (in whatever form of words) to be executed by the Company as a deed shall have the same effect as if it were executed under the common seal of the Company, provided that no instrument shall be so signed which makes it clear on its face that it is intended by the person or persons making it to have effect as a deed without the authority of a resolution of the Board or of a committee of the Board authorised in that behalf. An instrument or document which is executed by the Company as a deed shall not be deemed to be delivered by the Company solely as a result of it having been executed by the Company.

The Secretary

140 The Secretary

- 140.1 Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Board shall appoint a Secretary or Joint Secretaries and shall have power to appoint one or more persons to be an Assistant or Deputy Secretary at such remuneration and on such terms and conditions ,as thinks fit.
- 140.2 No person shall be appointed to hold office as Secretary who is:
- (a) the sole Director of the Company; or
 - (b) a corporation the sole director of which is the sole Director of the Company; or
 - (c) the sole director of a corporation which is the sole Director of the Company.
- 140.3 Any provision of the Act or of these Articles requiring or authorising a thing to be done by or to a Director and the Secretary shall not be satisfied by its being done by or to the same person acting both as Director and as, or in place of, the Secretary.

Dividends and Other Payments

141 Declaration of dividends

Subject to the provisions of the Act and of these Articles, the Company may by ordinary resolution declare dividends to be paid to members according to their respective rights and interests in the profits of the Company. However, no dividend shall exceed the amount recommended by the Board.

142 Interim dividends

Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Board may declare and pay such interim dividends (including any dividend payable at a fixed rate) as appears to the Board to be justified by the profits of the Company available for distribution. If at any time the share capital of the Company is divided into different classes, the Board may pay such interim dividends on shares which rank after shares conferring preferential rights with regard to dividend as well as on shares conferring preferential rights, unless at the time of payment any preferential dividend is in arrear. Provided that the Board acts in good faith, it shall not incur any liability to the holders of shares conferring preferential rights for any loss that they may suffer by the lawful payment of any interim dividend on any shares ranking after those with preferential rights.

143 Entitlement to dividend

Except as otherwise provided by the rights attached to shares, all dividends shall be declared and paid according to the amounts paid up (otherwise than in advance of calls) on the shares on which the dividend is paid. Subject as aforesaid, 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 issued on terms providing that it shall rank for dividend as from a particular date, it shall rank for dividend accordingly.

144 Calls or debts may be deducted from dividends

The Board may deduct from any dividend or other money payable to any person on or in respect of a share all such sums as may be due from him to the Company on account of calls or otherwise in relation to the shares of the Company.

145 Distribution in specie

145.1 The Board may, with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company, direct that payment of any dividend declared may be satisfied wholly or partly by the distribution of assets, and in particular of paid up shares or debentures of any other company, or in any one or more of such ways. Where any difficulty arises in regard to such distribution, the Board may settle it as it thinks fit. In particular, the Board may:

- (a) issue fractional certificates (or ignore fractions);
- (b) fix the value for distribution of such assets or any part thereof and determine that cash payments may be made to any members on the footing of the value so fixed, in order to adjust the rights of members; and
- (c) vest any such assets in trustees on trust for the persons entitled to the dividend.

146 Dividends not to bear interest

Unless otherwise provided by the rights attached to the share, no dividend or other moneys payable by the Company or in respect of a share shall bear interest as against the Company.

147 Method of payment

147.1 The Company may pay any dividend, interest or other sum payable in respect of a share in cash or by direct debit, bank transfer, cheque, dividend warrant, or money order and may send the same by post or other delivery service to the registered address (or in the case of a Depositary, subject to the approval of the Board, such persons and addresses) of the member or person entitled to it (or, if two or more persons are holders of the share or are jointly entitled to it by reason of the death or bankruptcy of the member or otherwise by operation of law, to the registered address of such of those persons as is first named in the Register) or to such person and such address as such member or person or persons may direct in writing. Every cheque, warrant or order is sent at the risk of the person entitled to the money represented by it and shall be made payable to the order of the person or persons entitled, or to such other person as the person or persons entitled may direct in writing. Payment of the cheque, warrant or order shall be a good discharge to the Company. If any such cheque, warrant or order has or shall be alleged to have been lost, stolen or destroyed, the Board may, at the request of the person entitled thereto, issue a replacement cheque or warrant or order, subject to compliance with such conditions as to evidence and indemnity and the payment of out of pocket expenses of the Company in connection with the request as the Board may think fit. Any joint holder or other person jointly entitled to a share may give an effective receipt for any dividend or other moneys payable in respect of such share. Any such dividend, interest or other sum may also be paid by any other method as the Board considers appropriate.

147.2 The Board may, at its discretion, make provisions to enable such Depositary and/or member as the Board shall from time to time determine to receive dividends duly declared in a currency or currencies other than sterling. For the purposes of the calculation of the amount receivable in respect of any dividend, the rate of exchange to be used to determine the foreign currency equivalent of any sum payable as a dividend shall be such market rate selected by the Board as it shall consider appropriate ruling at the close of business in London on the date which is the business day last preceding;

- (a) in the case of a dividend to be declared by the Company in general meeting, the date on which the Board publicly announces its intention to recommend that specific dividend; and
- (b) in the case of any other dividend, the date on which the Board publicly announces its intention to pay that specific dividend, provided that where the Board considers the circumstances to be appropriate it shall determine such foreign currency equivalent by reference to such market rate or rates or the mean of such market rates prevailing at such time or times or on such other date or dates, in each case falling before the time of the relevant announcement, as the Board may select.

148 Uncashed dividends

If cheques, warrants or orders for dividends or other sums payable in respect of a share sent by the Company to the person entitled thereto are returned to the Company or left uncashed on two consecutive occasions, the Company shall not be obliged to send any dividends or other moneys payable in respect of that share due to that person until he notifies the Company of an address to be used for the purpose.

149 Unclaimed dividends

All dividends, interest, or other sum payable and unclaimed for 12 months after having become payable may be invested or otherwise made use of by the Board for the benefit of the Company until claimed and the Company shall not be constituted a trustee in respect thereof. All dividends unclaimed for a period of 12 years after having become due for payment shall (if the Board so resolves) be forfeited and shall cease to remain owing by the Company.

150 Payment of scrip dividends

150.1 The Board may, with the prior authority of any ordinary resolution of the Company and subject to such conditions as the Board may determine, offer to any holders of Ordinary Shares the right to elect to receive Ordinary Shares, credited as fully paid, instead of the whole (or some part, to be determined by the Board) of any dividend specified by the ordinary resolution. The following provisions shall apply:

- (a) the said resolution may specify a particular dividend, or may specify all or any dividends declared within a specified period or periods;
- (b) the entitlement of each holder of Ordinary Shares to new Ordinary Shares shall be such that the relevant value of the entitlement shall be as nearly as possible equal to (but not greater than) the cash amount (disregarding any tax credit) of the dividend that such holder would have received by way of dividend. For this purpose "relevant value" shall

be calculated by reference to the average of the middle market quotations for the Ordinary Shares on the London Stock Exchange, as derived from the Daily Official List, for the day on which the Ordinary Shares are first quoted "ex" the relevant dividend and the four subsequent dealing days, or in such other manner as the Board may determine on such basis as it considers to be fair and reasonable. A certificate or report by the Auditors as to the amount of the relevant value in respect of any dividend shall be conclusive evidence of that amount;

- (c) no fractions of a share shall be allotted;
- (d) the Board shall, after determining the basis of allotment, notify the holders of Ordinary Shares in writing of the right of election offered to them, and specify the procedure to be followed and place at which, and the latest time by which, elections must be lodged in order to be effective;
- (e) the Board may exclude from any offer any holders of Ordinary Shares or any Ordinary Shares held by a Depositary or any Ordinary Shares on which dividends are payable in foreign currency where the Board considers that the making of the offer to them or in respect of such shares 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 or in respect of such shares;
- (f) the Board may determine that every duly effected election in respect of any Ordinary Shares shall be binding on every successors in title to the holder thereof;
- (g) the dividend (or that part of the dividend in respect of which a right of election has been offered) shall not be payable on Ordinary Shares in respect of which an election has been duly made (**elected Ordinary Shares**) and instead additional Ordinary Shares shall be allotted to the holders of the elected Ordinary Shares on the basis of allotment determined as aforesaid. For such purpose the Board may capitalise, out of any amount for the time being standing to the credit of any reserve or fund (including any share premium account or capital redemption reserve) or of any of the profits which could otherwise have been applied in paying dividends in cash as the Board may determine, a sum equal to the aggregate nominal amount of the additional Ordinary Shares to be allotted on that basis and apply it in paying up in full the appropriate number of unissued Ordinary Shares for allotment and distribution to the holders of the elected Ordinary Shares on that basis. A Board resolution capitalising any part of such reserve or fund or profits shall have the same effect as if such capitalisation had been declared by ordinary resolution of the Company in accordance with Article 154 and in relation to any such capitalisation the Board may exercise all the powers conferred on them by Article 154 without need of such ordinary resolution;
- (h) the additional Ordinary Shares so allotted shall rank *pari passu* in all respect with each other and with the fully paid Ordinary Shares in issue on the record date for the dividend in respect of which the right of election has been offered, except that they will not rank for any dividend or other distribution or other entitlement which has been declared, paid or made by reference to such record date; and

- (i) the Board may terminate, suspend or amend any offer of the right to elect to receive Ordinary Shares in lieu of any cash dividend at any time.

151 Reserves

The Board may, before recommending any dividend (whether preferential or otherwise) but having regard to section 842 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, carry to reserve out of the profits of the Company such sums as it thinks fit. All sums standing to reserve may be applied from time to time, at the discretion of the Board, for any other purpose to which the profits of the Company may properly be applied, and pending such application may, at the like discretion, either be employed in the business of the Company or be invested in such investments as the Board thinks fit. The Board may divide the reserve into such special funds as it thinks fit, and may consolidate into one fund any special funds or any parts of any special funds into which the reserve may have been divided as it thinks fit. Any sum which the Board may carry to reserve out of the unrealised profits of the Company shall not be mixed with any reserve to which profits available for distribution have been carried. The Board may also, without placing the same to reserve, carry forward any profits which it may think prudent not to distribute.

152 Capitalisation of reserves

152.1 The Board may, with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company:

- (a) subject as provided in this Article, resolve to capitalise any undivided 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 fund of the Company which is available for distribution or standing to the credit of share premium account or capital redemption reserve or other undistributable reserve;
- (b) appropriate the sum resolved to be capitalised to the holders of Ordinary Shares in proportion to the nominal amounts of the shares (whether or not fully paid) held by them respectively which would entitle them to participate in a distribution of that sum if the shares were fully paid and the sum were then distributable and were distributed by way of dividend and apply such 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 unissued shares or debentures of the Company of a nominal amount equal to that sum, and allot the shares or debentures credited as fully paid to those holders of Ordinary Shares or as they may direct, in those proportions, or partly in one way and partly in the other, provided that:
 - (i) the share premium account, the capital redemption reserve, any other undistributable reserve and any profits which are not available for distribution may, for the purposes of this Article, only be applied in paying up unissued shares to be allotted to holders of Ordinary Shares credited as fully paid; and
 - (ii) in a case where any sum is applied in paying amounts for the time being unpaid on any shares of the Company or in paying up in full debentures of the Company, the amount of the net assets of the Company at that time is not less than the aggregate of the called up share capital of the Company and its

undistributable reserves as shown in the latest audited accounts of the Company or such other accounts as may be relevant and would not be reduced below that aggregate by the payment thereof;

- (c) resolve that any shares so allotted to any member in respect of a holding by him of any partly paid shares shall, so long as such shares remain partly paid, rank for dividends only to the extent that such partly paid shares rank for dividends;
- (d) make such provision by the issue of fractional certificates (or by ignoring fractions or by accruing the benefit thereof to the Company rather than to the holders of Ordinary Shares concerned) or by payment in cash or otherwise as it thinks fit in the case of shares or debentures becoming distributable in fractions;
- (e) authorise any person to enter on behalf of all the holders of Ordinary Shares concerned into an agreement with the Company providing for either:
 - (i) the allotment to them respectively, credited as fully paid up, of any shares or debentures to which they may be entitled on such capitalisation; or
 - (ii) the payment up by the Company on behalf of such holders by the application thereto of their respective proportions of the reserves or profits resolved to be capitalised, of the amounts or any part of the amounts remaining unpaid on their existing shares (any agreement made under such authority being effective and binding on all such holders); and
- (f) generally do all acts and things required to give effect to such resolution.

153 Record dates

Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, but without prejudice to the rights attached to any shares, the Company or the Board may fix any date as the record date for any dividend, distribution, allotment or issue. Such record date may be on or at any time before _any date on which such dividend, distribution, allotment or issue is paid or made and on or at any time before or after any date on which such dividend, distribution, allotment or issue is declared.

Accounts

154 Accounting records

The Board shall cause accounting records to be kept in accordance with the Act.

155 Inspection of records

No member (other than a Director) shall have any right to inspect any accounting record or other document of the Company unless he is authorised to do so by statute, by order of the court, by the Board or by ordinary resolution of the Company.

156 Accounts to be sent to members

Except as provided in Article 159, a printed copy of the Directors' and Auditors' reports accompanied by printed copies of the annual accounts shall, not less than 21 clear days before

the annual general meeting before which they are to be laid, be delivered or sent by post to every member and holder of debentures of the Company and to the Auditors and to every other person who is entitled to receive notice of general meetings. However, this Article shall not require a copy of those documents to be sent to any person who under the provisions of these Articles is not entitled to receive notices from the Company or of whose address the Company is unaware or to any holder of debentures of whose address the Company is unaware or to more than one of the joint holders of any shares or debentures. If all or any of the shares in or debentures of the Company are listed or dealt in on any stock exchange, there shall at the same time be forwarded to the Secretary of that stock exchange such number of copies of each of those documents as the regulations of that stock exchange may require.

157 Summary financial statements

The Company may, in accordance with section 426 of the Act and any regulations made under it, send a summary financial statement to any member instead of or in addition to the documents referred to in Article 158. Where it does so, the statement shall be delivered or sent by post to the member not less than 21 clear days before the annual general meeting before which those documents are to be laid.

Communications

158 Means of communication to be used

- 158.1 Subject to these Articles, anything sent or supplied by or to the Company under the Articles maybe sent or supplied in any way in which the Act provides for documents or information which are authorised or required by any provision of the Act to be sent or supplied to the Company.
- 158.2 Subject to these Articles, any notice or document to be sent or supplied to a Director in connection with the taking of decisions by Directors may also be sent or supplied by the means by which that Director has asked to be sent or supplied with such notices or documents for the time being.
- 158.3 A Director may agree with the Company that notices or documents sent to that Director in a particular way are deemed to have been received within a specified time or their being sent, and for the specified time to be less than 48 hours.

Notices

159 Notices to be in writing

Any notice to be given to or by any person pursuant to these Articles shall be in writing, except that a notice convening a Board meeting need not be in writing.

160 Service of notice on members

- 160.1 The Company may give any notice or document (including a share certificate) to a member, either personally or by sending it by post or other delivery service in a prepaid envelope addressed to the member at his registered address or by leaving it at that address or in any such manner and form permitted by the Act. In the case of a member registered on an overseas branch

register any such notice or document may be posted either in the United Kingdom or in the territory in which such branch register is maintained.

- 160.2 In the case of joint holders of a share, all notices or documents shall **be** given to the joint holder whose name stands first in the Register in respect of the joint holding. Notice so given shall be sufficient notice to all the joint holders.
- 160.3 Where a member (or, in the case of joint holders, the person first named in the Register) has a registered address outside the United Kingdom but has notified the Company of an address within the United Kingdom at which notices or other documents may be given to him, he shall be entitled to have notices given to him at that address; but otherwise no such member shall be entitled to receive any notice or document from the Company.
- 160.4 If on three consecutive occasions notices or other documents have been sent through the post to any member at his registered address or his address for the service of notice but have been returned undelivered, such member shall not thereafter be entitled to receive notices or other documents from the Company until he shall have communicated with the Company and supplied in writing a new registered address or address within the United Kingdom for the service of notices.

161 Notice in case of death, bankruptcy or mental disorder

The Company may give notice to the person entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or otherwise by operation of law, by sending or delivering it in any manner authorised by these Articles for the giving of notice to a member, addressed to that person by name, or by the title of representative of the deceased or trustee of the bankrupt or representative by operation of law or by any like description, at the address (if any) within the United Kingdom supplied for the purpose by the person claiming to be so entitled. Until such an address has been so supplied, a notice may be given in any manner in which it might have been given if the death or bankruptcy or operation of law had not occurred.

162 Evidence of service

- 162.1 Any member present, in person or by proxy, at any meeting of the Company or of the holders of any class of shares of the Company shall be deemed to have received due notice of such meeting, and, where requisite, of the purposes for which such meeting was called.
- 162.2 Any notice, certificate or other document, addressed to a member at his registered address or address for service in the United Kingdom shall, if sent by post, be deemed to have been served or delivered on the day after the day when it was put in the post (or, where second-class mail is employed, on the second day after the day when it was put in the post). In proving such service or delivery it shall be sufficient to prove that the envelope containing the notice or document was properly addressed and put into the post as a prepaid letter. Any notice, certificate or other document not sent by post but delivered or left at a registered address or address for service in the United Kingdom shall be deemed to have been served or delivered on the day on which it was so delivered or left.

163 Notice binding on transferees

Every person who, by operation of law, transfers or by any other means becomes entitled to a share shall be bound by any notice in respect of that share (other than a notice given by the Company under section 793 of the Act) which, before his name is entered in the Register, has been duly given to a person from whom he derives his title.

164 Notice by advertisement

Any notice to give given by the Company to the members or any of them, and not otherwise provided for by these Articles, shall be sufficiently given if given by advertisement in at least one leading daily newspaper published in the United Kingdom and, where the Company keeps an overseas branch register, in at least one leading daily newspaper published in the territory in which such register is maintained. Any notice given by advertisement shall be deemed to have been served at noon on the day on which the advertisement first appears.

165 Suspension of postal services

If at any time by reason of the threat of or of the suspension, interruption or curtailment of postal services within the United Kingdom the Company is or would be unable effectively to convene a general meeting by notices sent through the post, a general meeting may be convened by a notice advertised in at least two leading daily newspapers (at least one of which shall be a national newspaper) and, where the Company keeps an overseas branch register, in at least one leading daily newspaper published in the territory in which such register is maintained. Such notice shall be deemed to have been duly served on all members entitled thereto at noon on the day on which the first advertisement appears. In any such case the Company shall send confirmatory copies of the notice by post if, at least 7 days prior to the meeting, the posting of notices to addresses throughout the United Kingdom again becomes practicable.

Winding Up

166 Division of assets

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 law, 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. Any such division may be otherwise than in accordance with the existing rights of the members, but if any division is resolved otherwise than in accordance with such rights, the members shall have the same right of dissent and consequential rights as if such resolution were a special resolution passed pursuant to section 110 of the Insolvency Act 1986. The liquidator may, with the like sanction, vest the whole or any part of the whole of the assets in trustees on such trusts for the benefit of the members as he with the like sanction shall determine, but no member shall be compelled to accept any assets on which there is a liability.

167 Transfer or sale under section 110 Insolvency Act 1986

A special resolution sanctioning a transfer or sale to another company duly passed pursuant to section 110 of the Insolvency Act 1986 may in the like manner authorise the distribution of any shares or other consideration receivable by the liquidator among the members otherwise than in

accordance with their existing rights, and any such determination shall be binding on all the members, subject to the right of dissent and consequential rights conferred by the said section.

Indemnity

168 Right to indemnity

168.1 Without prejudice to any indemnity to which he may otherwise be entitled, every person who is or was a Director, Secretary or other Relevant Office of the Company shall be indemnified out of the Company's assets against all liability incurred by him as such or as a Director, Secretary or Relevant Officer of an associated company:

- (a) in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in respect of alleged negligence, default, breach of duty, breach of trust or otherwise in relation to the Company or an associated company or its or their affairs, in which judgement is given in his favour or in which he is acquitted or in defending or settling any such proceedings which are otherwise disposed of on terms previously agreed with the Board or on terms otherwise approved by the Board without a finding or admission of negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust on his part; or
- (b) in connection with any application under the Statutes in which relief is granted to him by the court; or
- (c) in connection with the activities of the Company or an associated company in its capacity as a trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined in section 235(6) of the Act) provided that this Article shall not grant, or entitle any such person to, indemnification to the extent that it would cause this Article, or any part of it, to be void under the Statutes.

168.2 Without prejudice to any indemnity to which he may otherwise be entitled (including, for the avoidance of doubt, any indemnity under or pursuant to these Articles) and to the extent permitted by the Statutes, the Board shall have power in the name and on behalf of the Company to:

- (a) grant on such terms as it sees fit to any person who is or was a Director, Secretary, or other Relevant Officer of the Company an indemnity or indemnities out of the assets of the Company in respect of any liability incurred by him as such or as a Director, Secretary or Relevant Officer of an associated company and to amend, vary or extend the terms of any indemnity so granted, again on such terms as the Board sees fit; and/or
- (b) enter into and amend, vary or extend such arrangements as it sees fit:
 - (i) to provide any person who is or was a Director, Secretary or other Relevant Officer of the Company with loans to meet expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him in defending any criminal or civil proceedings brought against him as such or as a Director, Secretary or Relevant Officer of an associated company or in connection with any application for relief under the Statutes, provided that the Director, Secretary or Relevant Officer repays such loans if he is convicted in any criminal proceedings or if judgement is given against

him in any civil proceedings brought by the Company or an associated company; or

- (ii) to enable any such person to avoid incurring any such expenditure,

168.3 For the purposes of this Article 168:

- (a) **Relevant Officer** means any Director, former Director or other officer of the Company or an associated company (other than in either case any person, whether or not an officer of the Company or an associated company, engaged by the Company or an associated company as auditor);
- (b) companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate;
- (c) **Statutes** means the Act and every other statute, statutory instrument, regulation or order for the time being in force concerning companies registered under the Act.

169 Power to insure

Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Board may purchase and maintain insurance at the expense of the Company for the benefit of any person who is or was at any time a Director or other officer or employee of the Company or of any other company which is a subsidiary or subsidiary undertaking of the Company or in which the Company has an interest whether direct or indirect or who is or was at any time a trustee of any pension fund or employee benefits trust in which any employee of the Company or of any such other company or subsidiary undertaking is or has been interested indemnifying such person against any liability which may attach to him or loss or expenditure which he may incur in relation to anything done or alleged to have been done or omitted to be done as a Director, officer, employee or trustee.

170 Scheme of Arrangement

170.1 In this Article 170:

- (a) the "**Scheme**" means the scheme of arrangement dated 20 July 2026 between the Company and the holders of the Scheme Shares (as defined in the Scheme) under Part 26 of the Companies Act 2006 and as approved by the holders of the Scheme Shares at the meeting convened by the Court (as defined in the Scheme) and as may be modified or amended in accordance with its terms, and (save as otherwise defined in this Article), expressions defined in the Scheme shall have the same meanings in this Article; and
- (b) "**Bidco**", "**Scheme Record Time**", "**Scheme Shares**", "**Effective**", "**Effective Date**" and "**Court**" shall have the meanings respectively given to them in the Scheme.

170.2 Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles or the terms of any resolutions whether ordinary or special passed by the Company in general meeting, if the Company issues any Shares or transfers any Shares from treasury (other than to Bidco, any subsidiary of Bidco, any parent undertaking of Bidco or any subsidiary of such parent undertaking or any nominee(s) of Bidco (each a "**Bidco Company**")) on or after the adoption of this Article and before the Scheme Record Time, such Shares shall be issued or transferred from treasury subject to the terms of

the Scheme and shall be Scheme Shares for the purposes of the Scheme and the original or any subsequent holder of such Shares shall be bound by the Scheme accordingly.

- 170.3 Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, if any shares in the Company are issued, transferred from treasury or otherwise transferred to any person (other than a Bidco Company or its nominee(s)) (a "**New Member**") at or after the Scheme Record Time (the "**Post-Scheme Shares**"), such Post-Scheme Shares shall, subject to the Scheme becoming Effective, be immediately transferred to Bidco (or such person as Bidco may direct) (the "**Purchaser**") by the New Member (or any nominee of such New Member) in consideration of the payment to the New Member of an amount in cash (or cash equivalent) for each Post-Scheme Share equal to the cash consideration which such New Member would have been entitled to receive had each Post-Scheme Share been a Scheme Share (as applicable, after deduction of any tax and national insurance or social security contributions which an employer or any other company is required to withhold or account for in respect of either that consideration or the issue or transfer of such shares (the "**Relevant Deductions**")).
- 170.4 On any reorganisation of, or material alteration to, the share capital of the Company (including, without limitation, any subdivision and/or consolidation) effected after the Effective Date, the value of the consideration per Post-Scheme Share to be paid under Article 170.3 above shall be adjusted by the Board in such manner as the auditors of the Company or an independent investment bank selected by the Company may determine to be fair and reasonable to reflect such reorganisation or alteration. Any references in this Article to shares in the Company shall, following such adjustment, be construed accordingly.
- 170.5 To give effect to any transfer of Post-Scheme Shares required by this Article, the Company may appoint any person as attorney and/or agent for the New Member (or any subsequent holder or any nominee of such New Member or any such subsequent holder) to execute and deliver as transferor a form or forms of transfer or other instrument(s) or instruction(s) of transfer on behalf of the New Member to transfer the Post-Scheme Shares to the Purchaser or its nominee(s) and do all such other things and execute and deliver all such documents or deeds as may in the opinion of such attorney or agent be necessary or desirable to vest the Post-Scheme Shares in the Purchaser or its nominee(s) and pending such vesting to exercise all such rights attaching to the Post-Scheme Shares as the Purchaser may direct. If an attorney or agent is so appointed, the New Member (or any subsequent holder or any nominee of such New Member or any such subsequent holder) shall not thereafter (except to the extent that such attorney or agent fails to act in accordance with the directions of the Purchaser) be entitled to exercise any rights attaching to the Post-Scheme Shares unless so agreed in writing by the Purchaser. The attorney or agent shall be empowered to execute and deliver as transferor a form or forms of transfer or other instrument(s) or instruction(s) of transfer on behalf of the New Member (or any subsequent holder or any nominee of such New Member or any such subsequent holder) in favour of the Purchaser or its nominee(s) and the Company may give a good receipt for the purchase price of the Post-Scheme Shares and may register the Purchaser or its nominee(s) as holder thereof and issue to it certificates for the same. The Company shall not be obliged to issue a certificate to the New Member (or any subsequent holder or any nominee of such New Member or any such subsequent holder) for the Post-Scheme Shares. The Purchaser shall settle the consideration due to the New Member pursuant to Article 170.3 above by sending a cheque drawn on a UK clearing bank (or shall procure that such a cheque is sent) in favour of the New Member (or the relevant transferee or nominee) for the purchase price of each Post-Scheme Share, or by an

alternative method communicated by the Purchaser to the New Member, and in each case, as soon as practicable and in any event, subject to Article 170.6 below, no later than 14 days after the date on which such Post-Scheme Shares are acquired by the Purchaser.

- 170.6 Where the payment of any consideration for Post-Scheme Shares to a New Member requires Relevant Deductions to be made and the Company determines that such payment is to be made through payroll to the relevant New Member, such payment shall be effected as soon as reasonably practicable after the date on which such Post-Scheme Shares are issued to the New Member (but is not required to be effected within 14 days after the date on which such Post-Scheme Shares are issued to the New Member).
- 170.7 If the Scheme shall not have become Effective by the applicable date referred to in (or otherwise set in accordance with) clause 6.2 of the Scheme (or such later date, if any, as Bidco and the Company may agree and the Court and the Panel on Takeovers and Mergers may allow, if such consent is required), this Article 170 shall be of no effect.
- 170.8 Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, neither the Company nor the Board shall register the transfer of any Scheme Shares effected between the Scheme Record Time and the Effective Date of the Scheme other than to the Purchaser or its nominee(s) pursuant to the Scheme.