

# EASTLAND EQUITY BHD BOARD CHARTER

This Charter is developed to:

- provide a clear statement of the roles, responsibilities, processes and operations of the Board for the Board and management; and
- ensure the practices of the Board are consistent with the best practice of corporate governance.

## **1. Size, Composition and Nomination**

The size of the Board is stipulated in the Articles of Association of the Company. The size of the Board must commensurate with the credential, knowledge, views and experience needed for effective functioning of the Board and the regulator's requirement of the independent directors.

The Board acknowledges the important of gender diversity in the board composition. In its selection of board members, the Board provides equal opportunity to all candidates who meet the criteria and other qualities vi-a-vis the Group present business portfolios and prospective investments. Candidates for directorship will be nominated for appointment to the Board based on their identified skills, knowledge, professionalism, character and experience to meet the needs of the Board. The detailed profiles of nominated directors will be presented to the Board by the Nomination Committee to assist the Board in making their selection decision.

All new Directors appointed to the Board shall undertake a formal induction program coordinated by the Nomination Committee and Managing Director/ CEO..

## **2. Roles and Responsibilities of the Board**

Broadly, all directors owe fiduciary duties to the Company and must exercise reasonable care, skill and diligence in the best interest of the Company in discharging its following principal responsibilities:

- i. Reviewing and adopting a strategic plan for the company;
- ii. Overseeing the conduct of the company's business;

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- iii. Identifying principal risks and ensuring the implementation of appropriate internal controls and mitigation measures;
- iv. Succession planning;
- v. Overseeing the development and implementation of shareholder communications policy for the Company; and
- vi. Reviewing the adequacy and the integrity of the management information and internal controls system of the company

The Board's role includes, but not limited to the following matters. The Board may choose to delegate some of these responsibilities to one or more of its Board Committees. This delegation of responsibilities will be reflected in the terms of reference of the respective Board Committees.

## 2.1 Strategic Functions

- **Strategic planning:** Approving the Group's strategy, objectives, associated performance indicators and targets and approving any subsequent material variations.
- **Business planning:** Approving and adopting the business plan including operating budgets, capital budgets, performance indicators and approving any subsequent variations.
- **Funding:** Contributing to and approving a strategy for the Group funding, including funding targets, timelines and avenues and appropriately involving itself in liaison and communication with potential sources of funding.
- **Change management:** Overseeing the Company's capacity to identify and respond to changes in its economic and operating environments.

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- **Major projects:** Approving and monitoring major projects including corporate restructures/re-organisations, major capital expenditure, capital management, acquisitions and divestitures and any significant initiatives or opportunities that arise.
- **Stakeholder liaison:** Appropriately involving itself in liaison and communication with key stakeholders.
- **Performance monitoring:** Overseeing the conduct and performance of the Company and subsidiaries to ensure they are being properly and appropriately managed. To discharge this duty the Board will give specific and regular attention to:
  - i) monitor performance against the strategic and business plans;
  - ii) monitor performance against peer and competitor companies; and
  - iii) enquire and follow up areas of poor performance and their cause.

## 2.2 Governance and Board Matters

- **Delegations of authority:** Reviewing, approving and, where appropriate, revising the delegations of authority from the Board to the Executive Directors and significant delegations from the Executive Directors to executives. These delegations must be clearly convey to empower the Executive Directors and the executive team to run Company.
- **Committees:** Overseeing the work of the Board Committees including determining the need for specific Committees, reviewing the need for those Committees on an ongoing basis, receiving reports from, reviewing the work of, and considering the recommendations made by each Committee.
- **Self assessment:** Developing and implementing a formal process for the Board to assess its performance. This policy will include an external assessment when appropriate.

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- **Information needs:** Dictating its information needs to management including the form, timing, content and style of Board papers and ensuring these are fully addressed on an ongoing basis.
- **Succession planning:** Ensuring that appropriate plans are in place for the succession of the CEO, senior management and Board members.
- **Other matters:** Attending to corporate governance matters including the identification and nomination to the members of new Directors to fill Board vacancies and to any other matters identified as reserved to the Board.

### 2.3 Risk Management, Compliance and Internal Controls

- **Risk management:** Defining the Company's risk appetite, approving and overseeing the operation of the Company's corporate risk management framework, assessing its effectiveness, understanding and reviewing the major/significant risks facing the Company and monitoring their management.
- **Internal controls:** Overseeing, reviewing and monitoring the operation, adequacy and effectiveness of the Company's reporting systems and the overall framework of internal controls established by the Executive Directors including operational, accounting and financial reporting controls.
- **Operational compliance:** Approving, reviewing and monitoring compliance with corporate policies.
- **Legal compliance:** Overseeing, reviewing and monitoring the operation of the Company's procedures to ensure compliance with relevant legislation is actively promoted within the Group. Attention shall also be given to privacy and occupational health and safety programs.

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- **Reputation:** Being aware of and, where appropriate, reviewing any litigation, actions, transactions and issues, papers and reports to external/third parties which impact on the Company and may attract adverse public, government, regulatory or other interest.
- **Encourage the reporting of unlawful or unethical behavior:** Maintaining a firm stance in encouraging the reporting of unlawful or unethical behavior and ensuring that employees and management are assured of protection where violations are reported in good faith.

### 2.4 Financial

- **Financial oversight:** Overseeing all aspects of the Group's financial position including giving specific attention to the quantum, nature and terms of Company's debt facilities and its ability to meet its debts and other obligations as they fall due.
- **Financial reporting:** Approving the annual audited financial statements, the quarterly financial statements, and the theme and text of the Company's annual report.
- **Audit:** Selecting Company's external auditors for approval by the members, ratifying the appointment of the internal auditor and approving their respective scopes of work.
- **Related party transactions:** Reviewing and monitoring all related party transactions to identify whether consideration should be given to seeking stakeholder approval and ensuring compliance with the market regulations.

### 2.5 Human Resource

- **Executive appointment and termination:** Ratifying the appointment of any member of top executive Management and their dismissal.

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- **Executive performance and development:** Ensuring an appropriate process is in place to recruit, review the performance of, remunerate, train and develop executives and to provide for management succession.
- **Executive compensation:** Reviewing and approving the compensation, equity and incentive schemes in place for the executives to ensure they are appropriate and competitive.
- **Ethical behavior:** Reviewing, approving and monitoring compliance with the Company Code of Ethics, which provides guidance regarding ethical behaviour, including approving all proposed revisions or waivers.

## 3. Position Description

### 3.1 The Chairperson

The Board is empowered by the Company to appoint a Chairperson. There must be clear division of roles between the Chairperson and the CEO. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Directors present must elect a Director present to chair the meeting.

#### **The Role of the Chairperson**

The role of the Chairperson is to ensure that the Board is functioning effectively and to undertake the following activities:

- Monitor the workings of the Board, especially the conduct of Board meetings.
- Ensure that all relevant issues for the effective running of the Company's business are on the agenda.
- Ensure that quality information to facilitate decision-making is delivered to Board members on a timely basis.
- Encourage all Directors to play an active role in Board activities.
- Chair general meetings of shareholders.

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- Liaise with the Chief Executive Officer and the Company Secretary on the agenda for Board meetings.

### **3.2 Chief Executive Officer**

Chief Executive Officer is the chief executive director. The key responsibilities of the Chief Executive Officer are:

- develop strategic direction of the Company;
- ensure Board decisions are implemented and Board directions are responded to;
- provide directions in the implementation of short and long-term business plans;
- provide strong leadership; i.e. effectively communicating a vision, management philosophy and business strategy to the employees;
- keep Board fully informed of all important aspects of the Company's operations and ensure sufficient information is distributed to Board members; and
- ensure day-to-day business affairs of the Company are effectively managed.

### **3.3 Independent Director**

An independent director must fulfill the provisions and definition of independent director of the Listing Requirements at all times and must declare their independence to the Board annually.

The tenure of an independent director should not exceed a cumulative term of nine years. Upon completion of the nine years, an independent director may continue to serve on the board subject to the director's re-designation as a non-independent director. In the event the Board retains an independent director, who has served in that capacity for more than nine years, the Board must justify and seek shareholders' approval.

The responsibilities of an independent director are:

- provide and enhance the necessary independence and objectivity to the board;

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- ensure effective checks and balances on the board;
- mitigate any possible conflict of interest in policy-making process and the day-to-day management of the Company;
- constructively challenge and contribute to the development of business strategy and direction of the Company; and
- ensure that adequate systems and controls to safeguard the interests of the Company are in place.

## **4. Relationship between the Board and Management**

Subject to the formal delegations of authority, the Board delegates responsibility for the operation and management of the Company business to the Executive Directors and the management team. Management is accountable to the Board and is to fulfill this responsibility through the provision of reports, briefings and presentations on a regular basis throughout the year.

Other executive and top management shall attend Board meetings by standing invitation.

The Board will adopt appropriate structures and procedures to ensure it retains its independence and functions independently of management. This will include the Non-Executive Directors meeting in the absence of management on a periodic, scheduled basis.

Non-Executive Directors may communicate with members of the senior management team at any time. However, unless the matter relates to operation of Board Committees or duties of the Company Secretary, in the ordinary course of communications between the Non-Executive Directors and the senior management should be through Chief Executive Officer and the Chair.

## **5. Investor and Stakeholder Liaison**

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The Board's investor and shareholder liaison objective is to ensure that there is effective communications with its shareholders, the financial communities and other stakeholders that fairly and accurately reflect the Group. This is to help the Company to achieve a fair market value for its securities and optimum cost of capital and at the same time to facilitate investors and potential investors to make informed investment decisions.

The Board's investor and stakeholders relations initiatives are designed and driven by the following principles:

- The Board will always report its financial results and material developments to the Exchange, its shareholders and other stakeholders in an open, timely and comprehensive manner;
- The Board will communicate only through its designated spokespersons;
- The Board will leverage its website as an additional communications channel;
- The Board will proactively address reports and rumors, so as to avoid unnecessary speculation in its securities;
- The Board will give reasonable access to analysts and the media to help them have informed opinions of the Group, but will not seek to influence those opinions or to give information that is not available to the general public;
- The Board will meet with its shareholders in the Company's Annual General Meeting and Extraordinary General Meeting to inform, and obtain feedback from shareholders.

### **6. Board Committees**

The Board may from time to time establish appropriate Committees to assist it in the discharge of its responsibilities. However, the Board will not delegate any of its decision making authority to those Committees.

The Board has established the following Committees:

- Audit Committee
- Nomination Committee; and
- Remuneration Committee.

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Each formally constituted Committee will have written terms of reference, approved by the Board. Formal minutes of each Committee meeting will be prepared and circulated to each of the Directors within the time frame set out in the relevant Committee's terms of reference, together with a clear list of recommendations and/or other matters and issues for the consideration of the full Board at the next Directors' meeting.

Where a Committee meeting is necessarily held a short time in advance of a Board meeting, for example where the Audit Committee completes its review of the financial statements only shortly in advance of the Board meeting to approve those accounts, the Board will accept a verbal report from the Chairperson of the Committee. However, this must be followed by formal written minutes within the prescribed timeframe.

The Board has sole responsibility for the appointment of Directors to Committees and expects that, over time, the Directors will rotate on and off various Committees taking into account the needs of the Committees, legislative requirements, skill sets and the experience of the individual Directors.

The role, function, performance and membership of each Committee will be reviewed on an annual basis as part of the Board's appraisal process.

### **7. Meetings and Minutes**

Board meetings are held on a regular basis, as determined annually in advance by the Board. The agenda for each meeting is dictated by the needs of the Board and the matters set out in the annual agenda for attention at a particular meeting.

An additional Board meeting can be convened by the Company Secretary at the request of any Director at any time by giving all Directors seven days notice in writing. A meeting may, with the consent of all Directors, be convened with less notice.

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Personal attendance of Board members at meetings is preferred. But, the Board and Board Committees may hold meetings at two or more venues using any technology (for example: teleconferencing) that gives all members of the Board or the relevant Board Committee a reasonable opportunity to participate in the meeting.

In addition to the above, subject to relevant laws and guidelines, the following should be observed by Board:

- To meet on a quarterly basis, but in any event, no less than once in every three (3) months, or whenever deemed necessary;
- All directors must attend at least 50% of the Board meetings held in each financial year or such other percentage as may be prescribed by the Listing Requirements;
- the quorum of the meetings shall be met pursuant to the Articles of Association of the Company;
- the Board is also allowed to carry out the resolution by way of circulation;
- the participation of the director can be facilitated by means of video or telephone conferencing;
- Head of the respective division units and relevant management personnel may be invited to attend the Board meetings;
- The Company Secretary shall be appointed as Secretary of the Board Meeting and minutes of meetings shall be taken and documented; and
- Information should be supplied to the directors at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting in order for them to discharge their duties.

### **8. Access of Information and Resources**

The Board shall:

- have complete, adequate and timely information prior to Board meetings and on an ongoing basis;
- have the resources required to perform its duties;
- have full and unrestricted access to any information pertaining to the Group; and

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- be able to obtain independent professional or other advice at the expenses of the Company.

### **9. Continuing Education Program and Training**

Directors are expected to undertake continuing professional education to enable them to discharge their duties effectively. While management, Company Secretary, Internal and External Auditors will brief the Board on changes in the legislative, regulatory or industry framework which impact the Company, this is not a substitute for the Directors' efforts to seek continuous knowledge of the changes in the market regulations.

Based on the result of appraisal, the Nomination Committee would assist the Board to undertake an assessment of the training needs of each director.

### **10. Performance Appraisal**

Regular reviews of directors' effectiveness and performance are important for governance improvement of the Board. The Board reviews and evaluates individual directors' performance, its own performance and the performance of its Committees at least annually against measurable and qualitative indicators based on the report of the Nomination Committee.

### **11. Remuneration**

The Board is responsible to establish formal and transparent remuneration policies and procedures to attract and retain directors. The Board shall remunerate its members and senior management reasonably and fairly based on the market conditions, the Group performance, level responsibilities and skill sets of the individual and the Group's business strategy and long-term objectives in order to attract and maintain talented and motivated Directors and key senior management staff members.

The Board should establish a Remuneration Committee and to draw the advice from experts, if necessary to review the remuneration of the Board and senior management.

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## **12. Conflict of Interests**

Directors are required to take all reasonable steps to avoid actual, potential or perceived conflict of interests with the Company's interest.

Should there be actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest between a Company and a director, or a person connected with Director such as a spouse, other family member, or a related Company, the interested director shall make full disclosure in bona fide and act honestly in the best interest of the Company and shall not participate in deliberations and shall abstain himself from casting his votes in any matter arising there from.

## **13. Indemnity and Insurance**

The Directors and officers of the Company are entitled to be indemnified against liabilities arising from their holding of office in the Company. In this respect, the Company will consider the appropriate insurance policy to mitigate this risk.

## **14. Publication of the Board Charter and Committee Charters**

The Charter will be available to all Directors. A copy of this Charter shall be published on the Company's website.

## **15. Review of the Board Charter**

The Board will review this Charter and the terms of reference of its Committees annually and make any necessary or desirable amendments to ensure they remain consistent with the Board's objectives, current regulation requirements and governance best practice. Changes of the provisions in the Charter shall be adopted by the Board with a formal resolution.

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Annually, Board shall also conduct an appraisal and evaluate its performance vis-à-vis the provisions in the board charter. This review shall be administered by the Nomination Committee and reported back to the Board.