

241343

COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
OF
CAVENDISH TEXTILES LIMITED



(Adopted by Special Resolution passed 7 July 1994)
(Amended by Special Resolution passed 22 July 1996)

1. Insofar as they deal with the matters contained herein neither the regulations contained in Table A in force at the date of registration of the Company nor those regulations contained in Table A in the Companies (Tables A to F) Regulations 1985 as amended (the 1985 Regulations) shall apply to the Company but Table A of the 1985 Regulations shall apply in respect of any matter not specifically contained herein.

For the avoidance of doubt it is hereby declared that where there is any conflict between the provisions contained in these Articles and Table A of the 1985 Regulations, these Articles shall prevail.

2. In these regulations

"the Act" means the Companies Act 1985 (as amended by the Companies Act 1989) including any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof for the time being in force.

"the articles" means the Articles of the Company of Association as from time to time amended.

"clear days" in relation to the period of a notice means 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.

"executed" includes any mode of execution.

"office" means the registered office of the Company.

"the holder" in relation to shares means the member whose name is entered in the register of members as the holder of the shares.

"the seal" means the common seal of the Company.

"Secretary" means the secretary of the Company or any other person appointed to perform the duties of the secretary of the Company, including a joint, assistant or deputy secretary.

"the United Kingdom" means Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

"the Company" means the Company to which these articles relate.

Unless the context otherwise requires, words or expressions contained in these regulations bear the same meaning as in the Act but excluding any statutory modification thereof not in force when these regulations become binding on the Company.

Words denoting the singular shall include the plural and vice versa. Words denoting the masculine shall include the feminine. Words denoting persons shall include bodies corporate and unincorporate.

SHARE CAPITAL

3. The share capital of the Company at the date of the adoption of the articles is £1,000 divided into 1,000 ordinary shares of £1.

4. Subject to the provisions of the Act and without prejudice to any rights attached to any existing shares, any share may be issued with such rights or restrictions as the Company may by ordinary resolution determine.

5. Subject first to article 62 and then to section 80 of the Act, all unissued shares shall be at the disposal of the directors and they may allot, grant options over or otherwise dispose of them to such persons, at such times, and on such terms as they think proper, and section 89(1) of the Act shall not apply.

6. Except as required by law, no person shall be recognised by the Company as holding any share upon any trust and (except as otherwise provided by the articles or by law) the Company shall not be bound by or recognise any interest in any share except an absolute right to the entirety thereof in the holder.

7. The Company may by ordinary resolution alter the conditions of the Memorandum of Association in any of the ways permitted by section 121 of the Act and, subject to the provisions of the Act, may by special resolution reduce in any way its share capital, any capital redemption reserve and any share premium account.

8. The instrument of transfer of a share may be in any usual form or in any other form which the directors may approve and shall be executed by or on behalf of the transferor.

GENERAL MEETINGS

9. All general meetings other than annual general meetings shall be called extraordinary general meetings.

10. The directors may whenever they think fit, and on requisition in accordance with the Act shall, proceed with proper expedition to convene an extraordinary general meeting.

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS

11. An annual general meeting and an extraordinary general meeting called for the passing of a special resolution or a resolution appointing a person as a director shall be called by at least twenty-one clear days' notice. All other extraordinary general meetings shall be called by at least fourteen clear days' notice but a general meeting may be called by shorter notice if so agreed by a majority of members together holding not less than 95 per cent in nominal value of the shares in the Company.

12. The notice shall be given to all the members and to the directors and shall specify the time day and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted and, in the case of an annual general meeting, shall specify the meeting as such.

13. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

14. No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum of members is present. A quorum for a general meeting shall be a member or members present in person or by proxy and holding or representing the holder or holders of not less than fifty per cent of the shares in the capital of the Company.

15. The chairman (if any) of the board of directors shall preside as chairman at every general meeting of the Company or if there is no such chairman or if he is not present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for the holding of the meeting or is unwilling to act as chairman the members present may elect one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.

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

17. Every member present in person or by proxy shall have one vote for each share of which he is the holder.

18. Subject to the provisions of the Act, all or any of the members may participate in a general meeting by means of a conference telephone or any communication equipment which allows all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other. Any person so participating shall be deemed to be present in person at the meeting and shall be entitled to vote and to be counted in a quorum accordingly. Such a meeting shall be deemed to take place where the largest group of those participating is assembled, or, if there is no such group, where the chairman of the meeting is then present.

19. A resolution in writing executed by or on behalf of each member who would have been entitled to vote upon it if it had been proposed at a general meeting at which he was present shall be as effectual as if it had been passed at a general meeting duly convened and held and may consist of several instruments in the like form each executed by or on behalf of one or more members. In the case of a corporation a resolution in writing may be signed on its behalf by a director or the secretary thereof or by its duly appointed attorney or duly authorised representative.

VOTES OF MEMBERS

20. The instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing under the hand of the appointor or of his attorney duly authorised in writing or if the appointor is a corporation either under seal or under the hand of an officer or attorney duly authorised. A proxy need not be a member of the Company.

21. The instrument appointing a proxy may be in such form as the directors may specify, failing which it may be in any usual or common form.

NUMBER OF DIRECTORS

22. Unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution, the number of directors (other than alternate directors) shall not be subject to any maximum but shall be not less than two.

ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

23. Any director (other than an alternate director) may appoint any other director, or any other person approved by resolution of the directors and willing to act, to be an alternate director and may remove from office an alternate director so appointed by him. An alternate director shall be entitled to receive notice of all meetings of directors and of all meetings of committees of directors of which his appointor is a member, to attend and vote at any such meeting at which the director appointing him is not personally present, and generally to perform all the functions of his appointor as a director in his absence but shall not be entitled to receive any remuneration from the Company for his services as an alternate director. But it shall not be necessary to give notice of such a meeting to an alternate director who is absent from the United Kingdom.

24. An alternate director shall cease to be an alternate director if his appointor ceases to be a director; but, if a director retires by rotation or otherwise but is reappointed or deemed to have been reappointed at the meeting at which he retires, any appointment of an alternate director made by him which was in force immediately prior to his retirement shall continue after his reappointment.

25. Any appointment or removal of an alternate director shall be by notice to the Company signed by the director making or revoking the appointment or in any other manner approved by the directors.

26. Save as otherwise provided in the articles, an alternate director shall be deemed for all purposes to be a director and shall alone be responsible for his own acts and defaults and he shall not be deemed to be the agent of the director appointing him.

POWERS OF DIRECTORS

27. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the memorandum and the articles and to any directions given by special resolution, the business of the Company shall be managed by the directors who may exercise all the powers of the Company. No alteration of the memorandum or articles and no such direction shall invalidate any prior act of the directors which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made or that direction had not been given. The powers given by this regulation shall not be limited by any special power given to the directors by the articles and a meeting of directors at which a quorum is present may exercise all powers exercisable by the directors.

28. The directors may, by power of attorney or otherwise, appoint any person to be the agent of the Company for such purposes and on such conditions as they determine, including authority for the agent to delegate all or any of his powers.

DELEGATION OF DIRECTORS' POWERS

29. The directors may delegate any of their powers to any committee consisting of one or more directors and to such other persons as they see fit. They may also delegate to any managing director or any director holding any other executive office such of their powers as they consider desirable to be exercised by him. Any such delegation may be made subject to any conditions the directors may impose, and either collaterally with or to the exclusion of their own powers and may be revoked or altered. Subject to any such conditions, the proceedings of a committee with one or more members shall be governed by the articles regulating the proceedings of directors so far as they are capable of applying. Insofar as any such power or discretion is so delegated, any reference in these articles to the exercise by the directors of such power or discretion shall be read and construed as if it were a reference to such committee.

APPOINTMENT AND RETIREMENT OF DIRECTORS

30. The directors may appoint a person who is willing to act to be a director either to fill a casual vacancy or as an additional director. A director so appointed shall not retire at the annual general meeting next following his appointment.

31. A director shall not be required to retire by rotation.

DISQUALIFICATION AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

32. The office of a director shall be vacated if-

- (a) he ceases to be a director by virtue of any provision of the Act or he becomes prohibited by law from being a director;
or
- (b) he becomes bankrupt or makes any arrangement or composition with his creditors generally; or
- (c) he is, or may be, suffering from mental disorder and either-
 - (i) he is admitted to hospital in pursuance of an application for admission for treatment under the Mental Health Act 1983 or, in Scotland, an application for admission under the Mental Health (Scotland) Act 1960, or
 - (ii) an order is made by a court having jurisdiction (whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere) in matters concerning mental disorder for his detention or for the appointment of a receiver, curator bonis or other person to exercise powers with respect to his property or affairs; or
- (d) he resigns his office by notice to the Company or if he be requested in writing by all the other directors to resign;
or
- (e) he shall for more than six consecutive months have been absent without permission of the directors from meetings of directors held during that period and the directors resolve that his office be vacated.

REMUNERATION OF DIRECTORS

33. The directors shall not be entitled to remuneration for their services as directors.

DIRECTORS' EXPENSES

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

DIRECTORS' APPOINTMENTS AND INTERESTS

35. Subject to the provisions of the Act, and provided that he has disclosed to the directors the nature and extent of any material interest he may have, a director notwithstanding his office:-

- (a) may be a party to, or otherwise interested in, any transaction or arrangement with the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested;
- (b) may be a director or other officer of, or employed by, or a party to any transaction or arrangement with, or otherwise interested in, any body corporate promoted by the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested; and
- (c) shall not, by reason of his office, be accountable to the Company for any benefit which he derives from any such office or employment or from any such body corporate and no such transaction or arrangement shall be liable to be avoided on the ground of any such interest or benefit.

36. For the purposes of the preceding article, a general notice given to the directors that a director is to be regarded as having an interest of the nature and extent specified in the notice in any transaction or arrangement in which a specified person or class of persons is interested shall be deemed to be a disclosure that the director has an interest in any such transaction of the nature and extent so specified. 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.

PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS

37. Subject to the provisions of the articles, the directors may regulate their proceedings as they think fit. A director may, and the secretary at the request of a director shall, call a meeting of the directors. It shall not be necessary to give notice of a meeting to a director who is absent from the United Kingdom. Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In the case of an equality of votes, the chairman shall have a second or casting vote. A director who is also an alternate director shall be entitled in the absence of his appointor to a separate vote on behalf of his appointor in addition to his own vote.

38. The quorum for the transaction of the business of the directors may be fixed by the directors and unless so fixed at any other number shall be two. A person who holds office only as an alternate director shall, if his appointor is not present, be counted in the quorum.

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

40. The directors may appoint one of their number to be the chairman of the board of directors and may at any time remove him from that office. Unless he is unwilling to do so, the director so appointed shall preside at every meeting of directors at which he is present. But if there is no director holding that office, or if the director holding it is unwilling to preside or is not present within five minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, the directors present may appoint one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.

41. All acts done by a meeting of directors, or of a committee of directors, or by a person acting as a director shall, notwithstanding that it be afterwards discovered that there was a defect in the appointment of any director or that any of them were disqualified from holding office, or had vacated office, or were not entitled to vote, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed and was qualified and had continued to be a director and had been entitled to vote.

42. A resolution in writing signed by all the directors entitled to receive notice of a meeting of directors or of a committee of directors shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of directors or (as the case may be) a committee of directors duly convened and held and may consist of several documents in the like form each signed by one or more directors; but a resolution signed by an alternate director need not also be signed by his appointor and, if it is signed by a director who has appointed an alternate director, it need not be signed by the alternate director in that capacity.

43. All or any of the directors may participate in a meeting of the directors by means of a conference telephone or any communication equipment which allows all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other. Any person so participating shall be deemed to be present in person at the meeting and shall be entitled to vote and to be counted in a quorum accordingly. Such a meeting shall be deemed to take place where the largest group of those participating is assembled, or, if there is no such group, where the chairman of the meeting is present.

44. Save as otherwise provided by the articles, a director shall not vote at a meeting of directors or of a committee of directors on any resolution concerning matter in which he has, directly or indirectly, an interest or duty which is material and which conflicts or may conflict with the interests of the Company unless his interest or duty arises only because the case falls within one or more of the following paragraphs-

- (a) the resolution relates to the giving to him of a guarantee, security, or indemnity in respect of money lent to, or an obligation incurred by him for the benefit of, the Company or any of its subsidiaries;
- (b) the resolution relates to the giving to a third party of a guarantee, security, or indemnity in respect of an obligation of the Company or any of its subsidiaries for which the director has assumed responsibility in whole or part and whether alone or jointly with others under a guarantee or indemnity or by the giving of security;

- (c) his interest arises by virtue of his subscribing or agreeing to subscribe for any shares, debentures or other securities of the Company or any of its subsidiaries, or by virtue of his being, or intending to become, a participant in the underwriting or sub-underwriting of an offer of any such shares, debentures, or other securities by the Company or any of its subsidiaries for subscription, purchase or exchange;
- (d) the resolution relates in any way to a retirement benefits scheme which has been approved, or is conditional upon approval, by the Board of Inland Revenue for taxation purposes.

For the purposes of this regulation, an interest of a person who is, for any purpose of the Act (excluding any statutory modification thereof not in force when this regulation becomes binding on the Company), connected with a director shall be treated as an interest of the director and, in relation to an alternate director, an interest of his appointor shall be treated as an interest of the alternate director without prejudice to any interest which the alternate director has otherwise.

45. A director shall not be counted in the quorum present at a meeting in relation to a resolution on which he is not entitled to vote.

46. The Company may by ordinary resolution suspend or relax to any extent, either generally or in respect of any particular matter, any provision of the articles prohibiting a director from voting at a meeting of directors or of a committee of directors.

47. Where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment of two or more directors to offices or employments with the Company or any body corporate in which the Company is interested the proposals may be divided and considered in relation to each director separately and (provided he is not for another reason precluded from voting) each of the directors concerned shall be entitled to vote and be counted in the quorum in respect of each resolution except that concerning his own appointment.

48. If a question arises at a meeting of directors or of a committee of directors as to the right of a director to vote, the question may, before the conclusion of the meeting, be referred to the chairman of the meeting and his ruling in relation to any director other than himself shall be final and conclusive.

SECRETARY

49. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the secretary shall be appointed by the directors for such term, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit; and any secretary so appointed may be removed by them.

MINUTES

50. The directors shall cause minutes to be made in books kept for the purpose of all proceedings at meetings of the Company, of the holders of any class of shares in the Company, and of the directors, and of committees of directors, including the names of the directors present at each such meeting.

THE SEAL

51. The common seal shall only be used by the authority of the directors or of a committee of directors authorised by them.

Any instrument to which the seal is affixed shall be signed by a director or the Company Secretary or his deputy howsoever designated. Where the Act so permits, any instrument authorised by them and signed by the Company Secretary or his deputy howsoever designated or signed by one or more persons acting under the authority of a specific resolution of the Board and expressed to be executed by the Company shall have the same effect as if executed under seal.

DIVIDENDS

52. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Company may by ordinary resolution declare dividends in accordance with the respective rights of the members, but no dividend shall exceed the amount recommended by the directors.

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

54. A general meeting declaring a dividend may, upon the recommendation of the directors, direct that it shall be satisfied wholly or partly by the distribution of specific assets.

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

56. Any dividend which has remained unclaimed for twelve years from the date when it became due for payment shall, if the directors so resolve, be forfeited and cease to remain owing by the Company.

CAPITALISATION OF PROFITS

57. The directors may with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company-

- (a) subject as hereinafter provided, 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 the Company's share premium account or capital redemption reserve;

- (b) appropriate the sum resolved to be capitalised to the members who would have been entitled to it if it were distributed by way of dividend and in the same proportions 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 members, or as they may direct, in those proportions, or partly in one way and partly in the other: but the share premium account, the capital redemption reserve, and any profits which are not available for distribution may, for the purposes of this regulation, only be applied in paying up unissued shares to be allotted to members credited as fully paid.

NOTICES

58. Unless any provision of the Act or these Articles otherwise requires, any notice to be given to or by any person pursuant to these Articles need not be in writing.

59. Every person who becomes entitled to a share shall be bound by any notice in respect of that share which, before his name is entered in the register of members, has been duly given to a person from whom he derives his title.

WINDING UP

60. If the Company is wound up, the liquidator may, with the sanction of an extraordinary resolution of the Company and any other sanction required by the Act, 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. The liquidator may, with the like sanction, vest the whole or any part of the assets in trustees upon such trusts for the benefit of the members as he with the like sanction determines, but no member shall be compelled to accept any assets upon which there is a liability.

INDEMNITY

61. Subject to the provisions of the Act but without prejudice to any indemnity to which a director may otherwise be entitled, every director auditor Secretary or other officer of the Company shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Company against any liability incurred by him in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in his favour or in which he is acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to him by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the Company.

THE PARENT COMPANY

62. Whenever John Lewis Partnership plc (hereinafter called the "Parent Company"), and/or any subsidiaries of the Parent Company, hold, in aggregate, not less than 90 per cent of the issued ordinary shares in the Company, the following provisions shall apply and to the extent of any inconsistency shall have overriding effect as against all other provisions of these articles:-

- (a) the Parent Company acting by its Chairman may at any time and from time to time appoint any person to be a director or other officer but so that any such appointment shall be deemed an act of the Company;
- (b) no unissued shares shall be issued or agreed to be issued without the consent of the Parent Company; and
- (c) any or all powers of the directors shall be restricted in such respects and to such extent as the Parent Company may by notice to the Company from time to time prescribe.

Any such appointment, consent or notice shall be in writing served on the Company and signed on behalf of the Parent Company by its Chairman or some other person duly authorised for the purpose. No person dealing with the Company shall be concerned to see or enquire as to whether the powers of the directors have been in any way restricted hereunder or as to whether any requisite consent of the Parent Company has been obtained and no obligation incurred or security given or transaction effected by the Company to or with any third party shall be invalid or ineffectual unless the third party had at the time express notice that the incurring of such obligation or the giving of such security or the effecting of such transaction was in excess of the powers of the directors.