
PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

Memorandum

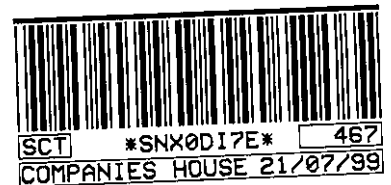
and

Articles of Association

of

FirstGroup plc

Incorporated as FirstBus plc on 31 March 1995
Name changed to FirstGroup plc on 23 December 1997



PAULL & WILLIAMSONS
SOLICITORS, ABERDEEN

THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

Memorandum of Association

of

FirstGroup plc

- * I. The name of the Company is "FirstGroup plc".
- II. The Company is to be a public company.
- III. The Registered Office of the Company will be situate in Scotland.
- IV. The objects for which the Company is established are:-
- (1) (a) to act as a group holding company and to co-ordinate the administration, management, supervision, control, trade and any and all other activities of any and every kind or nature of any company or companies or group of companies now or hereafter formed which may be related to or associated with the Company or any of its related or associated companies, including any subsidiary or subsidiaries of the Company or of any such associated or related company or companies;
- (b) to acquire and hold either in the name of the Company or in that of any nominee, businesses and properties of all kinds, shares, stocks, debentures, debenture stocks, bonds, notes, obligations and securities issued or guaranteed by any company wherever incorporated or carrying on business or by any government, public body or authority and to acquire the same by original subscription, contract, tender, purchase, exchange, underwriting, participation in syndicates or otherwise and whether or not fully paid up, and to subscribe for the same, subject to such terms and conditions if any as may be thought fit and to exercise and enforce all rights and powers conferred by or incident to the ownership thereof and to provide managerial and other executive supervisory and consultancy services for or in relation to any company or business in which the Company is interested upon such terms as may be thought fit.
- (2) to carry on any other business which may be advantageously carried on in connection

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with any of the objects of the Company.

- (3) to acquire and take over the whole or any part of the business and liabilities of any person, firm or company carrying on any other business which the Company is authorised to carry on or possessed of any property or rights suitable for any of the objects of the Company.
- (4) to subscribe for, take, purchase and otherwise acquire and hold, shares stocks, debentures and other interests in any company having objects similar to those of the Company.
- (5) to purchase, take on feu, lease, hire, take in exchange and acquire otherwise any property and rights which may be advantageous purpose for the of the business of the Company.
- (6) to improve, manage, exploit, develop, turn to account and otherwise deal with all or any part of the business, property and rights of the Company.
- (7) to sell, feu, let, hire, license, give in exchange and otherwise dispose of all or any part of the business, property and rights of the Company.
- (8) to apply for, register, purchase and otherwise acquire any patent rights, licences, trade marks, trade names, designs, inventions, copyrights and secret processes which may be advantageous for the purposes of the business of the Company.
- (9) to lend money or give credit to any person, firm or company on such terms as may seem expedient and with or without security, to enter into guarantees, contracts of indemnity or suretyships of all kinds on behalf of any person, firm or company and to receive money on deposit upon such terms as the Board of Directors may approve.
- (10) to borrow and raise money in such manner as the Board of Directors shall think fit and to guarantee and/or give security for the payment of money by or the performance of obligations of all kinds of the Company or any other person, firm or company, including any company which is the holding company of the Company or is a subsidiary of the Company or of any such holding company or otherwise is allied to or associated with the Company in such manner as the Board of Directors may think fit, and in particular, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing to guarantee and/or give security by way of mortgage, charge, standard security, lien or other security upon the whole or any part of the Company's property or assets (whether present or future) including its uncalled capital.
- (11) to draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, negotiate, execute and issue cheques, promissory notes, bills of exchange, bills of lading, warrants, debentures and other negotiable or transferable instruments.
- (12) to establish, maintain and contribute to any pension or superannuation fund for the benefit of, and to give or procure the giving of any donation, pension, allowance or remuneration to, and to make any payment for or towards the insurance of, any individual, who is or was at any time in the employment of the Company or of any company which is its holding company or is a subsidiary of the Company or of any such holding company or otherwise is allied to or associated with the Company, or who is or was at any time director or officer of the Company or of such other company, or who was at any time the proprietor or in the employment of any business acquired by

the Company or such other company, and the wife, widow, relatives and dependants of any such individual; to establish, subsidise and subscribe to any profit sharing or share purchase scheme, institution, association, club and fund which may benefit any such person.

- (13) to promote any Act of Parliament, Provisional Order and other authority to enable the Company to carry on its business, alter its constitution and achieve any other purpose which may promote the Company's interests, and to oppose or object to any application or proceedings which may prejudice the Company's interests.
- (14) to enter into any arrangement with any organisation, government or authority which may be advantageous for the purposes of the business of the Company and to obtain from any such organisation, government or authority any charter, right, privilege and concessions.
- (15) to enter into partnership or any other arrangement for sharing profit, co-operation, or mutual assistance with any person, firm or company.
- (16) to give and accept as consideration for any business, property and rights acquired or disposed of, any shares, debentures or securities.
- (17) to distribute in kind among the members of the Company any property of the Company.
- (18) to promote any company which may seem advantageous for the purposes of the business of the Company.
- (19) to effect insurance against risks of all kinds.
- (20) to invest moneys of the Company not immediately required for the purposes of its business in such investments and securities (including land in any part of the world) and that in such manner as may from time to time be considered advantageous and to dispose of and vary such investments and securities.
- (21) to subscribe and guarantee money for charitable, benevolent and artistic objects.
- (22) to carry out any of these objects in any part of the world as principal, agent, contractor, trustee or in any other capacity and through an agent, contractor, sub-contractor, trustee or any person, firm or company acting in any other capacity and either alone or in conjunction with others.
- (23) to do anything which may be deemed incidental or conducive to the attainment of any of the objects of the Company.

And it is hereby declared that the objects of the Company specified in each sub-clause of this clause are separate and distinct objects of the Company and shall not be in any way limited by reference to any other sub-clause or the order in which they occur or the name of the Company.

In this clause where the context so admits:

"property" means any property, heritable or moveable, real or personal, wherever situated.

V. The liability of the members is limited.

* VI The Share Capital of the Company is £12,500,000 divided into 250,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 5p each.

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- * (1) By Special Resolution of the members of the Company passed on 3rd June 1996 the authorised share capital of the Company was increased to £17,500,000 divided into 350,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 5p each
- (2) By Ordinary Resolution passed on 31st July 1997 the authorised share capital of the Company was further increased to £21,250,000 by the creation of 75,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 5p each

We, the Subscribers to this Memorandum of Association, wish to be formed into a company pursuant to this Memorandum; and we agree to take the number of Shares shown opposite our respective names.

Names, addresses and descriptions

Number of Shares of taken
Subscribers by each
Subscriber

SIDNEY BARRIE
15 Kirkbrae Avenue
Cults
Aberdeen
AB1 9RF

(1)
One

Solicitor

MARTIN JAMES McINTYRE
34 Caroline Apartments
Forbes Street
Aberdeen
AB2 4WN

(1)
One

Solicitor

Dated this Thirtieth day of March Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-five.

Witness to the above signatures:-

SANDRA ELIZABETH MIDDLETON
Investment House
6 Union Row
Aberdeen

Company Registrar

PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

Articles of Association

of

FirstGroup plc

PRELIMINARY

1 **Table "A" not to apply**

- 1.1 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, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the following meanings:

"**Act**" means subject to paragraph 2.3 of these Articles, the Companies Act 1985 and, where the context requires, every other statute from time to time in force concerning companies and affecting the Company.

"**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.

"**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 FirstGroup plc.

"Depository" means a custodian or other person (or a nominee for such custodian or other person) appointed under contractual arrangement 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.

"dividend" means a distribution or a bonus.

"execution" means 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 in the Register as the joint holders, of that share.

"the London Stock Exchange" means The International Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland Limited or any other principal stock exchange in the United Kingdom for the time being.

"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 185(4) of the Act.

"Register" means the register of members of the Company to be kept pursuant to section 352 of the Act or, as the case may be, any overseas branch register kept pursuant to Article 118.

"Seal" means the common seal of the Company or any official seal kept by the Company by virtue of section 40 of the Act.

"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.

"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 save that the word "company" shall include any body corporate.

2.5 Where for any purpose an ordinary resolution of the Company is required, a special resolution or an extraordinary resolution shall also be effective, and, subject to the Act, where an extraordinary resolution 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**

3.1 The Office shall be at such place in Scotland as the Board shall from time to time appoint.

SHARE CAPITAL

4 **Authorised share capital**

4.1 The authorised share capital of the Company is £21,250,000 divided into 425,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 5p each.

5 **Allotment**

5.1 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 and for such consideration as the Board may decide, provided that no share shall be issued at a discount.

6 **Redeemable shares**

6.1 Subject to the provision 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**

- 7.1 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 of 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 shares 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**

- 9.1 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**

- 10.1 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 or any interest in a fractional part of a share except an absolute right of the holder to the whole of the share.

11 Financial Assistance

The Company may give financial assistance for the acquisition of shares in the Company to the extent that it is not restricted or otherwise permitted by the Act.

SHARE CERTIFICATES

12 Right to certificates

- 12.1 Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, title to any securities of the Company may be evidenced and transferred without a written instrument in accordance with the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 1995 or any amendment thereof, or any further regulations made under the Companies Acts 1985 or 1989. The Board shall have power to implement any arrangements it may think fit for such evidencing and transfer which accord with those regulations.
- 12.2 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 two months after allotment or lodgment 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 and having regard to the provisions of the Act and the rules and regulations of the London Stock Exchange as the Board may approve.
- 12.3 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 pari 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.
- 12.4 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.
- 12.5 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.
- 12.6 No certificate shall be issued representing shares of more than one class, or in respect of shares held by a recognised person.

13 Replacement certificates

- 13.1 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.
- 13.2 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.

- 13.3 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.
- 13.4 In the case of shares held jointly by several persons, any such request as is mentioned in this Article 13 may be made by any one of the joint holders.

LIEN ON SHARES

14 Lien on shares not fully paid

- 14.1 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 section 150 of 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.

15 Enforcement of lien by sale

- 15.1 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 save that 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 of 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, and 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.

16 Application of proceeds of sale

- 16.1 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 (immediately before the sale) of the shares so sold or the person (if any) entitled by transmission to the shares immediately before the sale (without interest).

CALLS ON SHARES

17 Calls

- 17.1 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 provided that no call on a share shall be payable within one month from the date fixed for the payment of the last preceding call. 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.

18 Interest on calls

- 18.1 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 reasonable 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 if no rate is so fixed, at such rate, not exceeding 15 per cent per annum (compounded on a 6 monthly basis), as the Board shall determine and specify in the notice of the call. The Board may waive payment of such costs, charges, expenses or interest in whole or in part.

19 Rights of member when call unpaid

- 19.1 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).

20 Sums due on allotment treated as calls

- 20.1 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, notified and payable on the date on which, by the terms of allotment or in the notice of call, it becomes payable. 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 duly made and notified.

21 Power to differentiate

- 21.1 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 payment of calls.

22 Payment in advance of calls, delegation of power to make calls and indemnity against claims in respect of shares

22.1 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 (if any) not exceeding 15 per cent per annum, as the Board may decide. The Board may at any time repay the amount so advanced on giving to such member not less than three 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.

22.2 If any uncalled capital of the Company is included in or charged by any charge or other security, the Board may delegate on such terms as it thinks fit to the person in whose favour such charge 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 charge or security, notwithstanding any change of Directors, and shall be assignable if expressed so to be.

22.3 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 personal representative 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 personal representative from all liability arising by virtue of such law; and
- (ii) may recover as a debt due from such member or his executor or personal representative (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 cent 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, personal representative 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

23 Notice if call not paid

- 23.1 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 on 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.

24 Forfeiture for non-compliance

- 24.1 If the notice referred to in Article 23 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. Forfeiture shall be deemed to occur at the time of the passing of the said resolution of the Board.

25 Notice after forfeiture

- 25.1 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.

26 Forfeiture may be annulled

- 26.1 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.

27 Surrender

- 27.1 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.

28 Disposal of forfeited shares

- 28.1 Every share which shall be forfeited shall thereupon become the property of the Company but the Company shall not exercise any voting rights in respect of such share. 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 execute an instrument of transfer in

respect of 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.

29 Effect of forfeiture

- 29.1 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 at such rate (not exceeding 15 per centum per annum as the Board may decide) from the date of the forfeiture to the date of payment, in the same manner in all respects as if the shares 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.

30 Extinction of claims

- 30.1 The forfeiture of a share shall include the forfeiture of all dividends and other payments or distributions declared in respect of the forfeited shares and not paid or distributed before forfeiture.

31 Evidence of forfeiture

- 31.1 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, re-allotment or other disposal thereof and a certificate for the share under the Seal delivered to the person to whom the same is sold, re-allotted, 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, re-allotment or disposal 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, re-allotment or other disposal thereof.

TRANSFER OF SHARES

32 Form of transfer

- 32.1 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. All instruments of transfer, when registered, may (subject to Article 42.1(a)) be retained by the Company.

33 **Right to refuse registration**

33.1 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 but the Board shall not exercise its powers to refuse to register a transfer of a partly paid share in a manner which would prevent dealings in such shares from taking place on an open and proper basis;
- (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.

34 **Notice of refusal**

34.1 If the Board refused to register a transfer of a share it shall, within two 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 refused 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.

35 **Closing of Register**

35.1 The registration of transfers of shares or of 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.

36 **Fees of registration**

36.1 No fee shall be charged for registration of a transfer or on the registration of any confirmation, 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.

37 **Other powers in relation to transfers**

37.1 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 execute an instrument of transfer of a share, from authorising any person to transfer that share in accordance with any procedures implemented pursuant to Articles 15.1, 28.1, 44.2 and 80.2.

38. **Evidence of Title to Securities**

- 38.1 Provided that insofar as the regulations made from time to time under the Act so permit, nothing in these Articles shall require title to any securities of the Company to be evidenced or transferred by a written instrument. The Board shall have the power to implement any arrangements it may think fit for evidencing and transfer which accord with those regulations.

TRANSMISSION OF SHARES

39 **On death**

- 39.1 If a member dies, the survivors or survivor, where he was a joint holder, and his executors or personal representatives, 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 two months after proof cause the entitlement of that person to be noted in the Register.

41 **Rights on transmission**

- 41.1 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 six 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 two years from the date on which it is recorded by the Company;
- (c) any share certificate, after one 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 six years from the date on which an entry was first made in the Register in respect of it.

Provided (i) 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 which copy shall not be destroyed before the expiration of the relevant period(s) specified in this Article; (ii) the Board shall procure that adequate precautions are taken against falsification of such document; and (iii) the Board shall procure that adequate facilities exist to enable reproductions of such document to be taken.

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 42 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 42 shall be construed as imposing on the Company any liability in respect of the destruction of any such document otherwise than as provided for in this Article 42 which would not attach to the Company in the absence of this Article 42; and
- (c) references in this Article 42 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 share 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 member would become entitled to fractions of a share the Board may deal with the fractions as it thinks fit, and in particular (but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing):

- (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 44.1, 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 to 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**

- 45.1 Subject to the provisions of the Act and 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**

- 46.1 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 dividends 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 an extraordinary 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 of 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 an extraordinary resolution passed at a separate general meeting of the holders of shares of the class duly convened and held as hereinafter 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**

- 48.1 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 save that (i) 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; (ii) every holder of shares of the class, present in person or by proxy, may demand a poll; (iii) each such holder shall on a poll be entitled to one vote for every share of the class held by him and (iv) 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**

- 49.1 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 pari 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

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

51 Extraordinary general meetings

- 51.1 All general meetings, other than annual general meetings, shall be called extraordinary general meetings.

52 Convening of extraordinary general meeting

- 52.1 The Board may convene an extraordinary general meeting whenever it thinks fit. An extraordinary general meeting shall also be convened on such requisition, or in default may be convened by such requisitionists, as provided by section 368 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 meetings

- 53.1 An annual general meeting and an extraordinary general meeting convened for the passing of a special resolution shall be convened by not less than 21 clear days' notice in writing. All other extraordinary 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 per cent 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 an extraordinary 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 or extraordinary resolution, the intention to propose the resolution as such; and
- (e) with reasonable prominence, that a member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint one or more proxies to attend and, on a poll, vote instead of him and that a proxy need not also 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**

54.1 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 104;
- (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 and
- (f) the giving, variation or renewal of any authority of the Board for the purposes of section 80 of the Act or any power pursuant to section 89 of the Act.

PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

56 **Quorum**

56.1 No business (other than the appointment of a Chairman of the meeting) shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present when the meeting proceeds to business. Subject to the provisions of Article 57 two persons entitled to attend 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 a member, shall be a quorum.

57 **If quorum not present**

57.1 If within 15 minutes (or such longer interval as the Chairman in his absolute discretion thinks

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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 ceased 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 or, if during the adjourned meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the adjourned meeting shall be dissolved.

58 **Chairman**

- 58.1 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 Directors 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 **Director may attend and speak**

- 59.1 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**

- 60.1 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 he 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 speaking and voting at the meeting or to ensure that the business of the meeting is properly disposed of.

61 **Notice of adjourned meeting**

- 61.1 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 indefinitely, seven 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**

- 62.1 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 and security at meeting**

- 63.1 If it appears to the Chairman that the meeting place specified in the notice convening the meeting is inadequate to accommodate all members entitled and wishing to attend, the meeting shall nevertheless be duly constituted and its proceedings valid provided that the Chairman is satisfied that adequate facilities are available to ensure that any member who is unable to be accommodated is nonetheless able to participate in the business for which the meeting has been convened and to hear and see all persons present who speak (whether by the use of microphones, loud-speakers, audio-visual communications equipment or otherwise), whether in the meeting place or elsewhere, and to be heard and seen by all other persons so present in the same manner.
- 63.2 The Board may, if it considers necessary for the security of members and other persons attending any general meeting, require persons attending such general meeting to submit to such searches as the Board may reasonably determine in order to prevent any weapons, explosives or other dangerous instruments or substances from being carried into such general meeting. Any member or other person who refuses to submit to such searches may be refused entry to such general meeting.

VOTING

64 Method of voting

- 64.1 At any general meeting a resolution put to a vote of the meeting shall be decided on 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 declarations conclusive on show of hands

- 65.1 Unless a poll is duly demanded and the demand is not withdrawn, a declaration by the Chairman of the meeting that a resolution has 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

- 66.1 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

- 67.1 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 or extraordinary resolution, no amendment thereto (other than a mere clerical amendment to correct a patent error) may in any event be considered or voted on. In the case of a resolution duly proposed as an ordinary resolution no amendment thereto (other than a mere clerical amendment to correct a patent error or an amendment proposed or approved by the Board) may be considered or voted upon unless notice in writing of the amendment has been lodged at the Office at least 48 hours before the general meeting at which such resolution is to be considered.

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 seven 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 and 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 (being an individual) is present in person or (being a corporation) is present by a duly authorised representative not being himself a member entitled to vote shall on a show of hands have one vote and every member present in person or by proxy or (being a corporation) by a duly authorised representative shall on a poll have one vote for each share of which he is the holder.

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 a curator bonis, 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 curator bonis, 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**

70.1 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.**

71.1 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**

72.1 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 office or attorney duly authorised in that behalf;
- (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 **Deposit 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 deposited at the Office or at such other place within the United Kingdom as is specified in the notice convening the meeting or in any instrument of proxy sent out by the Company in relation to the meeting not less than 48 hours before the time of the holding of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the instrument proposes to vote; or
- (b) in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it is demanded, be deposited 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) where the poll is not taken forthwith but is taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be delivered at the meeting at which the poll was demanded to the Chairman of the meeting or to any Director.

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.

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 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**

76.1 The Company shall send, by post or otherwise, instruments of proxy (reply-paid or otherwise) to all persons entitled to notice of and to attend and vote at any 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. Such forms of proxy shall provide for voting

both for and against all resolutions to be proposed at the meeting other than the resolutions relating to the procedure of the meeting. The accidental omission to send an instrument of proxy or the non-receipt thereof by any member entitled to attend and vote at any meeting shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

77 Revocation of proxy

- 77.1 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

- 78.1 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 212 of the Act and has failed in relation to any shares ("the default shares" which expression shall include any further shares which are issued in respect of such shares unless a separate notice is issued in respect of such further shares) to give the Company the information thereby required within the prescribed period from the date of service of the notice then the Board may serve on the holder of such default shares a notice (in this Article called a "disenfranchisement notice") whereupon the following sanctions shall apply (unless the Board determines otherwise):-
- (a) the member shall not with effect from the service of the disenfranchisement notice 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 per cent 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 150, 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;

(b) at the end of the period of one week (or such short period as the Board may determine) following receipt by the Company of the information required by the notice mentioned in that paragraph and the Board being fully satisfied that such information is full and complete; or

(c) if the disenfranchisement notice has been withdrawn by the Board serving on the holder of the default shares a notice in writing in relation thereto.

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 212 of the Act to any other person and such person fails to give the Company the information thereby required within the prescribed period and the Board serves a disenfranchisement notice upon such 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 212 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 had 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 212 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 212 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 per cent 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 14 of the Company Securities (Insider Dealing) Act 1985); 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 216 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 sub-paragraph (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 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 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 three 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 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 paragraphs (a) to (d) of Article 80.1 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 paragraphs (b) to (d) of Article 80.1 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

81.1 The Company shall account to the member or other person entitled to such shares 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**

- 82.1 The Board may appoint any person who 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**

- 83.1 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**

- 84.1 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 fifteen or less than two.
- 84.2 Subject to the remaining provisions of this Article 84, the Board shall ensure that, at all times, one employee of the Group (as defined in Article 119 of these Articles) who has been elected by the employees of the Group and who has been approved by the remaining Directors shall be appointed as a Director. Such Director shall be subject to all of the provisions of these Articles relating to Directors. Any such employee Director shall vacate his office upon ceasing to be an employee of the Group and the Board shall ensure that another employee Director is appointed to replace such Director.
- 84.3 The employee Director shall be elected by the employees of the Group on terms to be approved by the Board, including inter alia, the term of office of such employee Director.
- 84.4 Any such employee Director shall vacate his office on the happening of any of the events outlined in Article 97 of these Articles.

85 **Power of Company to appoint Directors**

- 85.1 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 and may also determine the rotation in which any additional Directors are to retire 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**

- 86.1 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 then be eligible for election, but shall not be taken into account in determining the number of Directors who are to retire by

rotation at such meeting under the provisions in that behalf contained in these Articles, and unless so elected shall vacate office at the conclusion of such meeting.

87 **Appointment of executive Directors**

87.1 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 111. 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 35 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**

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

90 **Resolution for appointment**

90.1 A resolution for the appointment of two or more persons as Directors by a single resolution shall not be moved 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 and any resolution moved in contravention of this provision shall be void. For the purpose of this Article, a resolution for approving a person's appointment or for nominating a person for appointment as a Director shall be treated as a resolution for his appointment.

91 **Retirement by rotation**

91.1 Subject to Article 92.2, at each Annual General Meeting of the Company, one-third of the Directors who are subject to retirement by rotation 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 who are subject to retirement by rotation, one Director shall retire from office.

92 **Directors subject to retirement by rotation**

92.1 Subject to the provisions of the Act and of these Articles, the Directors to retire by rotation at each 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 reappointment. 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.

- 92.2 Notwithstanding the other provisions of these Articles, the Directors who are to retire by rotation at an annual general meeting of the Company shall always include any Director who, if he was not to retire and offer himself for re-election until the next annual general meeting, would fail to have retired and offered himself for re-election for over a three-year period by the date of notice of such meeting.

93 **Position of retiring Director**

- 93.1 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**

- 94.1 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 **No retirement on account of age**

- 95.1 No person shall be or become incapable of being appointed a Director by reason of his having attained the age of 70 or any other age, nor shall any special notice be required in connection with the appointment or the approval of the appointment of such person. No Director shall vacate his office at any time by reason of the fact that he has attained the age of 70 or any other age; and section 293 of the Act shall not apply to the Company. Where any general meeting of the Company is convened at which, to the knowledge of the Board, a Director will be proposed for appointment or re-appointment who will at the date of the meeting be 70 or more, the Board shall give notice of his age in the notice convening the meeting or in any document accompanying the notice, but the accidental omission to do so shall not invalidate any proceedings or any appointment or re-appointment of that Director at that meeting.

96 **Removal by ordinary resolution**

- 96.1 The Company may by ordinary resolution of which special notice has been given in accordance with section 379 of the Act 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.

Vacation of office by Director

97.1 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 curator bonis, 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, the Mental Health (Scotland) Act 1984 and the Board resolves that his office be vacated;
- (e) 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 six consecutive months and the Board resolves that his office be vacated; or
- (f) 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).

Resolution as to vacancy conclusive

98.1 A resolution of the Board declaring a Director to have vacated office under the terms of Article 97 shall be conclusive as to the fact and grounds of vacation stated in the resolution.

ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

99 **Appointments**

- 99.1 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 and may in like manner remove from office an alternate director so appointed by him.
- 99.2 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.
- 99.3 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.

100 **Participation in Board meetings**

- 100.1 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 on 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 purposes of determining whether a quorum is present.

101 **Alternate Director responsible for own acts**

- 101.1 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.

102 **Interests of alternate Director**

- 102.1 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 unless the Company by ordinary resolution otherwise determines be entitled to receive from the Company any fees for his services as alternate, except only such part (if any) of the fee payable to 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.

103 **Revocation of appointment**

- 103.1 An alternate Director shall cease to be an alternate 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.

DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION, EXPENSES AND PENSIONS

104 Directors' fees

- 104.1 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 (not exceeding £100,000 per annum or such other sum as the Company in general meeting shall 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.

105 Expenses

- 105.1 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.

106 Additional remuneration

- 106.1 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.

107 Remuneration of executive Directors

- 107.1 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.

108 Pensions and other benefits

- 108.1 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

109. Powers of the Board

109.1 Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Memorandum of Association of the Company 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 the Memorandum of Association or 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.

110 Powers of Directors being less than minimum number

110.1 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.

111 Powers of executive Directors

111.1 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 and subject to such conditions as it thinks fit; and
- (b) revoke, withdraw, alter or vary all or any of such powers.

112 Delegation to committees

112.1 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 a 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.

112.2 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.

112.3 Subject to Article 112.1 above, a committee may at its discretion co-opt additional persons to serve on the committee upon such terms and for such duration as the committee may determine.

113 **Local management**

113.1 The Board may establish any local or 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 any 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 other than the power to borrow and make calls (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 and remove any person so appointed. 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.

114 **Power of attorney**

114.1 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.

115 **Associate directors**

- 115.1 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 define, limit, vary or restrict the powers, authorities and discretions of persons so appointed and may terminate any such appointment subject to any contract between him and the Company 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 or a member of any committee of the Board for any of the purposes of the Act or these Articles.

116 **Exercise of voting power**

- 116.1 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).

117 **Provision for employees**

- 117.1 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.

118 **Overseas registers**

- 118.1 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.

119 **Borrowing powers**

- 119.1 Subject as provided in this Article 119, 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 and 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 for any debt, liability or obligation of the Group or of any third party.
- 119.2 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 of its subsidiary undertakings so as to procure (as regards its subsidiary undertakings in so far as it can procure by such exercise) that the aggregate principal amount of the Net Borrowings of the Group shall not, without the previous sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company, exceed the greater of (i) £1,000,000,000 and (ii) an amount equal to the aggregate of £462 million (being historic goodwill as at 31 March 1998 previously written off) and three times the Adjusted Capital and Reserves.
- 119.3 For the purposes of this Article 119:-
- (a) "the 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 reserves of the Group, whether or not distributable (including, without limitation, any revaluation reserve, merger reserve, share premium account or capital redemption reserve) after adding or deducting any balance standing to the credit or debit of the profit and loss account;

all as shown in the Latest Balance Sheet but after (without double counting);

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

- (A) any variation in the amount of the paid up share capital and reserves arising from the issue of redemption of shares since the date of the Latest 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 of such shares (provided such monies are payable not later than six 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 Latest Balance Sheet of the companies comprising the Group;
- (C) where the calculation is required for the purposes or in connection with a transaction under or in connection with which any company is to become, or cease to be, a subsidiary undertaking, such adjustments as would be appropriate if such transaction had been carried into effect;

(iv) excluding (so far as not already excluded):-

- (A) amounts attributable to the proportion of the nominal value of the issued equity share capital of any Group company owned by or attributable, directly or indirectly, to another Group company;
- (B) any sum set aside for taxation (including deferred taxation);

(v) deducting (so far as not already deducted or provided for);

- (A) sums equivalent to the book values of intangible assets (other than goodwill) as shown in the Latest 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 Latest Balance Sheet;

- (vi) making such adjustments (if any) as the Board (supported by the Auditors) may consider appropriate.

(b) “Available Cash” means:-

- (i) cash in hand or on deposit with any bank or financial institution to the extent beneficially owned by any Group company which is:-
 - (A) free of restrictions on withdrawal (other than, in the case of cash deposits, notice periods which are cancellable by the relevant Group company); or
 - (B) held as collateral or security for Borrowings by any Group Company;
- (ii) securities issued or guaranteed by the UK government;

but excluding any amounts of cash which are attributable to the proportion of the nominal value of the issued equity share capital of a Group company not owned by or attributable directly or indirectly to another Group company.

(c) “Borrowings” means:-

- (i) the aggregate (without double counting) on a consolidated basis of the following:-
 - (A) the outstanding principal amount of any moneys borrowed by any Group company and the outstanding overdraft debit balance of any Group company;
 - (B) the outstanding principal amount of any debenture, bond, note, loan stock or other debt security of any Group company;
 - (C) the outstanding principal amount of any acceptance under any acceptance credit opened by a bank or other financial institution in favour of any Group company other than acceptances relating to the purchase of goods or services in the ordinary course of trading and outstanding for six months or less;
 - (D) the outstanding principal amount of all indebtedness of any Group company in connection with the sale or discounting of receivables but only to the extent of the recourse to a Group company;
 - (E) the outstanding principal amount of all indebtedness of any Group company arising from any advance or deferred payment arrangement arranged primarily as a method of raising finance or financing the acquisition of an asset;
 - (F) the capitalised element of the indebtedness of any Group company in respect of a finance lease or hire purchase agreement entered into primarily as a method of raising finance or financing the acquisition of the asset leased or hired and for the purposes of this sub-paragraph

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(F) "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 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;

(G) any fixed or minimum premium payable on the repayment or redemption of any instrument referred to in Article 119.3 (c)(i)(B); and

(H) the outstanding principal amount of any indebtedness of any person of a type referred to in Article 119.3(c)(i)(A) to (G) (inclusive) which is the subject of a guarantee or indemnity against financial loss by any Group company;

(ii) but excluding:-

(A) any obligation owed by one Group company to another Group company;

(B) any amounts of Borrowings which are attributable to the proportion of the nominal amount of a Group company's issued equity share capital not owned by another Group company;

(C) obligations owed by Group companies under contract hire or operating leases of assets and for the purposes of this sub-paragraph (C) contract hire or operating leases of assets shall mean such contracts for the financing of the acquisition of assets leased or hired which are not finance leases or hire purchase agreements within the definition in Article 119.3 (c)(i)(F) above;

(D) any amounts of Borrowings by any Group company for the purpose of repaying, within six months of being first borrowed, the whole or part of any amounts of Borrowings 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;

(E) any amounts of Borrowings 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 Group company is guaranteed or insured up to an amount equal to but not exceeding that part of the price receivable under the contract which is so guaranteed or insured;

(F) an amount equal to the amount of any Borrowings of any company outstanding immediately after it becomes a Group company, provided that it became a Group company during the six months preceding the calculation;

(G) an amount equal to the amount secured on an asset immediately after it was acquired by a Group company;

(H) amounts borrowed or raised which are for the time being deposited with HM Customs & Excise or any other body designated by any relevant legislation or order in connection with import deposits or any similar governmental scheme to the extent that a member of the Group retains an interest therein.

(d) "Group" means the Company and its subsidiary undertakings from time to time.

(e) "Group company" means any company in the Group.

(f) "Latest Balance Sheet" means the latest consolidated balance sheet of the Group as shown in its published audited consolidated accounts for the financial year or its published unaudited semi-annual consolidated accounts for a half-year.

(g) "Net Borrowings" means Borrowings less Available Cash.

(h) "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 229 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 259(2)(b) and (c) of the Act.

119.4 When the aggregate amount of Net Borrowings required to be taken into account for the purposes of this Article 119 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 Latest 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 the Latest 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.

119.5 A report or certificate of the Auditors as to the amount of the Adjusted Capital and Reserves or the amount of the Net Borrowings falling to be taken into account for the purposes of this Article 119 or to the effect that the limit imposed by this Article 119 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 the Net Borrowings; and if in consequence the limit on the 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 situation has or may have arisen.

- 119.6 No debt incurred or security given in respect of Borrowings in excess of the limit imposed by this Article 119 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.
- 119.7 The Company shall not be in breach of the borrowing limit under this Article 119 by reason of the limit being exceeded as a result of any fluctuation in rates of exchange or any other matter wholly outwith the control of the Company provided that within six months of the Directors becoming aware of any such fluctuations or change which would but for this provision have caused such a breach the aggregate principal amount as aforesaid is reduced to an amount not exceeding the said limit.

PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES

120 Board Meetings

- 120.1 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.

121 Notice of Board Meetings

- 121.1 One Director may, and the Secretary at the request of a Director shall, summon a Board meeting at any time. Notice of a Board Meeting shall be deemed to be properly given to a Director if it is given to him personally or by word of mouth or sent in writing to him at his last known address given by him to the Company for this purpose. A Director may waive the requirements 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 an 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.

122 Quorum

- 122.1 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 Director or other person who is present at a meeting of the Board in more than one capacity (that is to say as both Director and an alternate Director or as an alternate for more than one Director) shall not be counted as two or more for the purpose unless at least one other Director or alternate Director is also present. 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.

123 **Chairman of the Board**

- 123.1 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 Chairmen 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.

124 **Voting**

- 124.1 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. 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 and an alternate Director who is appointed by two or more Directors shall be entitled to a separate vote on behalf of each of his appointors, in their absence.

125 **Participation by telephone**

- 125.1 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. Subject to the Act, all business transacted in such manner by the Board or a committee of the Board shall for the purpose of these Articles be deemed to be validly and effectively transacted at a meeting of the Board or a committee of the Board notwithstanding that fewer than two Directors or alternate Directors (or such other quorum requirement as may be applicable) are physically present in the same place. 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.

126 **Resolution in writing**

- 126.1 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 being 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 meeting 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 signed by a Director who is prohibited by these Articles from voting thereon, or by his alternate.

127 **Proceedings of committees**

127.1 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.

128 **Minutes of proceedings**

128.1 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.

128.2 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.

129 **Validity of proceedings**

129.1 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, alternate Director or member.

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS

130 **Director may have interests**

130.1 Subject to the provisions of the Act and provided that Article 131 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 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 of his interest 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 purpose 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 **Interested Director not to vote or count for quorum**

132.1 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 is material or a duty which conflicts or may conflict with the interests of the Company unless his duty or interest arises only because the resolution relates to one of the matters set out in the following sub-paragraphs in which case he shall be entitled to vote and be counted in the quorum:

- (a) the giving to him of any guarantee, security or indemnity in respect of money lent 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 any 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) the subscription or purchase by him of any shares, debentures or other securities of the Company or any of its subsidiaries pursuant to any offer or invitation to each of the members or debenture holders of the Company or any class of them or to the public or any section of them in which offer or invitation the Director is entitled to participate as a holder of securities or the underwriting or sub-underwriting by him of any such shares, debentures or other securities;
- (d) any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal to which the Company is or is to be a party concerning any other company (including any subsidiary of the Company) (a "relevant company") in which he (together with any person connected with him within the meaning of section 346 of the Act) is interested, directly or indirectly (and whether as an officer or shareholder, creditor or otherwise) provided that he is not directly or indirectly the holder of or beneficially interested in one per cent or more of either a relevant company or an intermediate company (any such interest being deemed for the purposes of this Article to be a material interest in all circumstances); for the purposes of this paragraph (d):
 - (i) an intermediate company means a company having an interest in a relevant company which would be material if held by a Director;
 - (ii) a Director shall be deemed to have an interest in one per cent or more of a relevant company or an intermediate company if directly or indirectly he is the holder of or beneficially interested in one per cent or more of any class of equity share capital or of the voting rights available to members of either such company; and
 - (iii) there shall be disregarded any shares held by a Director as bare or custodian trustee and in which he has no beneficial interest, any shares comprised in a trust in which the Director's interest is in reversion or is in remainder (if and so long as some other person is entitled to receive the income from the trust) and any shares comprised in any authorised unit trust scheme in which the Director is interested only as a unit holder;
- (e) any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal for the benefit of employees of the Company or any of its subsidiaries under which the Director benefits in a similar manner to employees and which does not accord to any Director as such any privilege or advantage not accorded to the employees to whom it relates; and
- (f) any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal concerning the purchase and/or maintenance of any insurance policy pursuant to Article 168.

132.2 An interest of a person who is, for any purpose of the Act (excluding any such modification thereof not in force when these Articles became 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 otherwise has.

133 **Director's interest in own appointment**

133.1 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.

133.2 The Board may exercise the voting power conferred by the shares in any company held or owned by the Company in such manner in all respects as it thinks fit (including the exercise thereof in favour of any resolution appointing the Directors or any of them directors of such company, or voting or providing for the payment of remuneration to the directors of such company).

134 **Chairman's ruling conclusive on Director's interest**

134.1 If any question arises at any meeting of the Board or any committee of the Board 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 before the conclusion of the meeting be referred to the Chairman of the meeting. The Chairman's ruling in relation to the Director concerned shall be final and conclusive.

135 **Directors' resolution conclusive on Chairman's interest**

135.1 If any question arises at any meeting of the Board or any committee of the Board 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 before the conclusion of the meeting 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.

136 **Definitions**

136.1 For the purposes of Article 130 to 136:

- (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 346 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.

THE SEAL

137 **Application of Seal**

137.1 The Seal shall be used only by the authority of a resolution of the Board or of a committee of the Board so authorised. The Board may determine whether any instrument to which the Seal is affixed and shall be signed and, if it is to be signed, who shall sign it. Unless otherwise so determined:

- (a) share certificates and, subject to the provisions of any instrument constituting the same, certificates issued under the Seal in respect of any debentures or other securities but excluding letters of allotment or script certificates, shall be executed by the Board but the Board may by resolution determine that any signatures may be affixed to or printed on any such certificate by any means approved by the Board or that such certificates need not bear any signature; and
- (b) every other instrument to which the Seal is affixed shall be signed by (i) one Director and shall be countersigned by the Secretary or by a second Director or (ii) by any two persons appointed by the Board for the purpose.

137.2 Every certificate or share warrant shall be issued under the Seal or in such other manner as the Board, having regard to the terms of issue, the Act and the regulations of the London Stock Exchange, may authorise; all references in these Articles to the Seal shall be construed accordingly.

138 **Deed without sealing**

138.1 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 Seal, 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.

139 **Official seal for use abroad**

Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Company may have an official seal for use in any place abroad and the Company may by an instrument executed by the Company appoint any agent or committee abroad to be the duly authorised agent or committee of the Company for the purpose of affixing and using such official seal or any seal kept by the Company by virtue of section 40 of the Act, and may impose such restrictions on the use thereon as it may think fit.

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 it 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

- 141.1 Subject to the provisions of the Act and of these Articles, the Company may by ordinary resolution declare that out of profits available for distribution dividends 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.
- 141.2 All dividends and interest shall be paid (subject to any lien of the Company) to those members whose names shall be on the Register on the date at which such dividends shall be declared or at the date at which such interest shall be payable respectively, or at such other date as the Company by ordinary resolution of the Board may determine, notwithstanding any subsequent transfer or transmission of shares.
- 141.3 The Board may pay the dividends or interest payable on shares in respect of which any person is by transmission entitled to be registered as holder to such person upon production of such certificate and evidence as would be required if such person desired to be registered as a member in respect of such shares.

142 Interim dividends

- 142.1 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 and the position of the Company. 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.

Entitlement to dividends

- 143.1 Except as otherwise provided by the rights attached to shares, all dividends shall be declared and paid according to the amounts paid up or credited as 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 or be entitled to dividends declared after a particular date, it shall rank for or be entitled to dividends accordingly.

144 **Calls or debts may be deducted from dividends**

- 144.1 The Board may deduct from any dividend or money payable to any member 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 specific assets, and in particular of fully 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**

- 146.1 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 where an authority in that behalf shall have been received by the Company in such form as the Company shall consider sufficient to such other person as the person or persons entitled may direct in writing. Payment of the cheque, warrant or order to the person entitled or to the

person specified in such authority 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 as 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 other date or dates, in each case falling before the time of the relevant announcement, as the Board may select.

148 **Uncashed dividends**

148.1 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 three 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**

149.1 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 an 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:

- 55
- (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 may be determined by ordinary resolution but shall never be less than the par value of the new Ordinary Share. 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 and the Board may make such provision as it thinks fit for dealing with the case of shares otherwise becoming distributable in fractions such power to include the right for the Company to retain small amounts the cost of distribution of which would be disproportionate to the amounts involved;
 - (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 which shares would or might involve the contravention of the laws of any territory or that such exclusions or restrictions are necessary or expedient;
 - (f) the Board may determine that every duly effected election in respect of any Ordinary Shares shall be binding on every successor 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 ("the 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 152 and in relation to any such capitalisation the Board may exercise all the powers conferred on them by Article 152 without need of such ordinary resolution;

- 30
- (h) the additional Ordinary Shares so allotted shall rank pari passu in all respects 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 (including the relevant dividend and the share election in lieu of such dividend) which has been declared, paid or made by reference to such record date;
 - (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; and
 - (j) the Board may do such acts and things which it considers necessary or expedient to give effect to any such capitalisation and may authorise any person to enter on behalf of all the members interested into an agreement with the Company providing for such capitalisation and any incidental matters and any agreements to be made shall be binding on all concerned.

151 **Reserves**

151.1 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 and so that it shall not be necessary to keep any investment constituting the reserve separate or constituent from any other investment of the Company. 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 or 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 payment in cash or otherwise as it thinks fit in the case of shares or debentures becoming distributable in fractions such power to include the right for the Company to retain small amounts the cost of distribution of which would be disproportionate to the amount involved;
- (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

153.1

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 within six months before any date on which dividend, distribution, allotment or issue is paid or made and on or at any time within six months before or after any date on which such dividend, distribution, allotment or issue is declared.

ACCOUNTS

154 **Accounting records**

- 154.1 The Board shall cause accounting records to be kept in accordance with the Act and shall keep such other books and registers as are necessary to comply with the Act.

155 **Inspection of records**

- 155.1 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**

- 156.1 Except as provided in Article 157, 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 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**

- 157.1 The Company may, in accordance with section 251 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 156. 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.

NOTICES

158 **Notices to be in writing**

- 158.1 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 or a meeting of a committee of the Board need not be in writing.

159 **Service of notice on members**

- 159.1 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. 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.

159.2 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.

159.3 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.

159.4 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 notices 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.

159.5 Any notice to be given to a member may be given by reference to the Register as it stands at any time within the period of 15 days before the notice is given and no change in the Register after that time shall invalidate the giving of the notice.

160 **Notice in case of death, bankruptcy or mental disorder**

160.1 The Company may on supply of such evidence as the Board may reasonably require to show title to that share 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. Such service of notice shall for all purposes be deemed a sufficient service of such notice on all persons interested in the share.

161 **Evidence of service**

161.1 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.

161.2 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.

162 **Notice binding on transferees**

- 162.1 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 212 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.

163 **Notice by advertisement**

- 163.1 Any notice to be 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 national daily newspaper published in the United Kingdom and, where the Company keeps an overseas branch register, in at least one national 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.

164 **Suspension of postal services**

- 164.1 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 national daily newspapers (at least one of which shall be published in London) and, where the Company keeps an overseas branch register, in at least one national 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 of such advertisements appears. If in any such case the Company shall send confirmatory copies of the notice by post if, at least seven days prior to the meeting, the posting of notices to addresses throughout the United Kingdom again becomes practicable.

WINDING UP

165 **Division of assets**

- 165.1 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 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.

166 **Transfer or sale under section 110 Insolvency Act 1986**

- 166.1 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

167 Right to indemnity

- 167.1 Subject to the provisions of the Act, but without prejudice to any indemnity to which he may be otherwise entitled, every Director, alternate Director, Auditor, Secretary or other officer of the Company shall be entitled to be indemnified out of the assets of the Company against all costs, charges, losses, damages and liabilities incurred by him in the actual or purported execution or discharge of his duties or exercise of his powers or otherwise in relation thereto, including (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) any liability incurred defending any proceedings (whether civil or criminal) which relate to anything done or omitted or alleged to have been done or omitted by him as an officer or employee of the Company and in which judgment is given in his favour or in which he is acquitted or which are otherwise disposed of without any finding or admission of any material breach of duty on his part or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to him by any court of competent jurisdiction from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty of care or trust in relation to the affairs of the Company.

168 Power to insure

- 168.1 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, subsidiary undertaking or holding company, 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 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.

Names, Addresses and Descriptions of Subscribers

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Dated this Thirtieth day of March Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-five.

Witness to the above signatures:-

SANDRA ELIZABETH MIDDLETON
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Aberdeen

Company Registrar

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

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