No.9782 of 2006

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
THE HON. MR. JUSTICE BRIGGS

Dated: Wednesday the 31st day of January 2007

#### IN THE MATTER OF LONDON MERCHANT SECURITIES PLC



E11 1-2-07 COMPANIES HOUSE -and-

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

UPON THE PETITION of the above named London Merchant Securities plc (the "Company") whose registered office is situate at Carlton House, 33 Robert Adam Street, London W1U 3HR on 11 January 2007 preferred unto this Court

AND UPON HEARING Counsel for the Company

AND UPON READING the said Petition and the evidence

THE COURT CONFIRMS in accordance with the provisions of the above mentioned Act the reduction of the capital of the Company from £100,000,000 to £17,437,278 resolved on and effected by a Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company held on 10 January 2007

AND THE COURT HEREBY APPROVES the Minute set forth in the First Schedule hereto

AND IT IS ORDERED that this Order be produced to the Registrar of Companies and that an Office Copy hereof be delivered to him together with a copy of the said Minute

AND THIS COURT AUTHORISES pursuant to Section 139(3) of the said Act the reregistration of the Company as a private company without it having passed the special resolution required by the said Act AND DIRECTS that in connection with such reregistration the memorandum and articles of association of the Company be altered as set forth in the Second Schedule hereto

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AND IT IS ORDERED that the Registrar of Companies be directed pursuant to Section 139(2) of the said Act to register this Order confirming the reduction of capital of the Company notwithstanding that it has the effect of bringing the nominal value of the Company's allotted share capital below the authorised minimum

AND IT IS ORDERED that notice of the registration by the Registrar of Companies of this Order and of the said Minute be published by the Company once in "The Financial Times" newspaper within 21 days after such registration.

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### THE FIRST SCHEDULE BEFORE REFERRED TO MINUTE APPROVED BY THE COURT

3,246,688,400 (1,219,964,560)

"The capital of London Merchant Securities plc was by virtue of a Special Resolution and with the sanction of an Order of the High Court of Justice dated 31 January 2007 reduced from £100,000,000 divided into \*\*NOTIFE COURT A Shares of 25/280p each, 88,003,595,680 B Shares of 25/280p each, \*\*2,426,696,346 C Shares of 25/280p each and 69,749,112 Ordinary Shares of 25p each to £17,437,278 divided into 69,749,112 Ordinary Shares of 25p each. At the date of the registration of this Minute 1 of the Ordinary Shares of 25p has been issued and the remaining Ordinary Shares of 25p each are unissued. By virtue of a Scheme of Arrangement and of the said Special Resolution the capital of the Company on the registration of this Minute will be increased to £100,000,000 by the creation of 330,250,888 new ordinary shares of 25p each none of which have been issued."

#### THE SECOND SCHEDULE BEFORE REFERRED TO

#### COMPANY NO. 7064

## THE COMPANIES ACT 1985 AND 1989 MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

of

#### LONDON MERCHANT SECURITIES LIMITED

- 1. The name of the Company is "LONDON MERCHANT SECURITIES LIMITED".1
- 2. The Registered Office of the Company will be situate in England.
- 3. The objects for which the Company is established are:
  - (1) To carry on the business of an investment company and for that purpose to acquire and hold either in the name of the Company or in that of any nominee shares, stocks, debentures, debenture stock, bonds, notes, obligations and securities issued or guaranteed by any company wherever incorporated or carrying on business and debentures, debenture stock, bonds, notes, obligations and securities issued or guaranteed by any government, sovereign ruler, commissioners, public body or authority, supreme, dependent, municipal, local or otherwise in any part of the world.
  - (2) To acquire any such shares, stock, debentures, debenture stock, bonds, notes, obligations or securities 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.
  - (3) To exercise and enforce all rights and powers conferred by or incidental to the ownership of any such shares, stock, obligations or other securities including

#### <sup>1</sup> NOTES

- By a Special Resolution duly passed the Company changed its name from THE LONDON AND HANSEATIC BANK LIMITED to THE LONDON MERCHANT BANK LIMITED with effect from the 22nd November 1916.
- 2. By a Special Resolution duly passed on the 3rd August 1939 the Company changed its name to LONDON MERCHANT SECURITIES LIMITED with effect from the 23rd August 1939.
- 3. By a Resolution of the Directors duly passed on the 4th February 1982 the Company changed its name to LONDON MERCHANT SECURITIES PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY.
- Pursuant to an Order of the Court dated 31 January 2007, the Company re-registered as a private limited company. Consequently, the Company's name changed to LONDON MERCHANT SECURITIES LIMITED.

without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing all such powers of veto or control as may be conferred by virtue of the holding by the Company of some special proportion of the issued or nominal amount thereof and to provide managerial and other executive supervisory and consultant services for or in relation to any company in which the Company is interested upon such terms as may be thought fit.

- (4) To take part in the formation, management, supervision or control of the business or operations of any company or undertaking and for such purposes to appoint and remunerate any directors, accountants or other experts or agents and to act as agents for and to manage, supervise or control the business, property or operations of any person, company or undertaking, or any property in which the Company may be interested.
- (5) To facilitate and encourage the creation, issue or conversion of debentures, debenture stock, bonds, obligations, shares, stocks and securities and to act as trustees in connection with any such securities and to take part in the conversion of business concerns and undertakings into companies.
- (6) To sell or otherwise dispose of any of the property or investments of the Company.
- (7) To acquire by purchase, lease, concession, grant, licence or otherwise such lands, buildings, leases, underleases, rights, privileges, policies of assurance and such other property and rights and interests in property as the Company shall deem fit, for the purpose of investment or otherwise.
- (8) To carry on any other business which in the opinion of the directors of the Company may seem capable of being conveniently carried on in connection with or as ancillary to any of the above businesses or to be calculated directly or indirectly to enhance the value of or render profitable any of the property of the Company or to further any of its objects.
- (9) To manufacture, buy, sell, and generally deal in any plant, machinery, tools, goods or things of any description, which in the opinion of the Company may be conveniently dealt with by the Company in connection with any of its objects.
- (10) To build, construct, maintain, alter, enlarge, pull down, remove or replace any buildings, works, plant and machinery necessary or convenient for the business of the Company or to join with any person, firm or company in doing any of the things aforesaid.
- (11) To act as proprietors of shops, offices, residential and service flats, and to provide for the tenants and occupiers thereof all or any of the conveniences and services commonly provided in business and professional premises, hotels and clubs and to manage or let all or any of the Company's hereditaments and premises on lease or at rack rents.

- To apply for, purchase or otherwise acquire, protect, prolong and renew any patents, patent rights, brevets d'invention, licences, concessions and the like, conferring any exclusive or non-exclusive or limited right to use, or any secret or other information as to, any invention which may seem capable of being used for any of the purposes of the Company, or the acquisition of which may seem calculated directly or indirectly to benefit the Company, and to use, exercise, manufacture or develop or grant licences in respect of or otherwise turn to account the property, rights, or information so acquired and to expend money in experimenting upon or testing and in improving or seeking to improve any patents, inventions or rights which the Company may acquire or propose to acquire.
- (13) To carry on any business or branch of a business which the Company is authorised to carry on by means or through the agency of any subsidiary company or companies and to enter into any arrangement with any such subsidiary company for taking the profits and bearing the losses of any business or branch so carried on or for financing any such subsidiary or guaranteeing its liabilities or to make any other arrangement which may seem desirable with reference to any business or branch so carried on including power at any time either temporarily or permanently to close any such business or branch and to act as Managers of or to appoint Directors or Managers of any such subsidiary company.
- (14) To undertake and transact all kinds of trust or agency business, including the offices of receiver, treasurer and auditor, or trustee, executor or administrator in relation to any estate or trust or manager of any business and for such purposes to invest money, sell property and collect and receive money.
- (15) To keep for any government, authority, body or company and register relating to stocks, funds, shares or securities, and to undertake any duties connected therewith.
- (16) To carry on in the United Kingdom and abroad, and either solely or in partnership with others, and either as principals or as agents, general investment, banking and financial business of every kind.
- (17) To enter into any arrangement for sharing profits, union of interests, cooperation, joint adventure, reciprocal concession or otherwise, or to amalgamate, with any person or company carrying on or engaged in or about to carry on or engage in, any business or transaction capable of being conducted so as directly or indirectly to benefit the Company, and to lend money, to guarantee the contracts of or otherwise assist any such person or company, and to take or otherwise acquire shares and securities of any such company, and to sell, hold, re-issue with or without guarantee or otherwise deal with the same.

- (18) To enter into any arrangement for sharing profits with any officer or employee of the Company.
- (19) To enter into any arrangement with any Government or other authority, supreme, municipal, local or otherwise, and to obtain from any such Government or authority all rights, concessions and privileges which may seem conducive to the Company's objects or any of them, or to obtain or to endeavour to obtain any provisional order of the Board of Trade, or any Act or Acts of Parliament for the purposes of the Company or any other company.
- (20) To purchase or otherwise acquire all or any part of the business, property and liabilities of (i) any company carrying on any business within the objects of the Company or (ii) any person or firm carrying on any business within the said objects, and to conduct and carry on, or liquidate and wind up, any such business.
- (21) To pay for any property or rights acquired by the Company, either in cash or shares, with or without preferred or deferred rights in respect of dividend or repayment of capital or otherwise, or by any securities which the Company has power to issue or partly in one mode and partly in another and generally on such terms as the Company may determine.
- (22) To accept payment for any property or rights sold or otherwise disposed of or dealt with or for any services rendered by the Company, either in cash, by instalments or otherwise, or in shares of any company with or without deferred or preferred rights in respect of dividend or repayment of capital or otherwise, or by means of a mortgage or by debentures or debenture stock of any company or partly in one mode and partly in another, and generally on such terms as the Company may determine, and to hold, deal with or dispose of any consideration so received.
- (23) To issue, place, underwrite, or guarantee the subscription of, or concur or assist in the issuing or placing, underwriting, or guaranteeing the subscription of shares, notes, debentures, debenture sock, bonds, stocks and securities of any company at such times and upon such terms and conditions as to remuneration and otherwise as may be agreed upon.
- (24) To borrow or raise money upon such terms and on such security as may be considered expedient and in particular by the issue or deposit of notes, debentures or debenture stock (whether perpetual or not) and to secure the repayment of any money borrowed, raised or owing by mortgage, charge or lien upon the whole or any part of the undertaking, property and assets of the Company, both present and future, including its uncalled capital.
- (25) To stand surety for or to guarantee, support or secure the performance of all or any of the obligations of any person, firm or company whether by personal covenant or by mortgage, charge or lien upon the whole or any part of the

undertaking, property and assets of the Company, both present and future, including its uncalled capital or by both such methods.

- (26) To incorporate the Company or otherwise procure the Company to be constituted registered and recognised in accordance with the laws in force in any country in which the Company may desire to carry on business and to apply for and accept or acquire upon any terms any licence or concession and by the deposit of money or otherwise to comply with the terms of any such concession or any terms precedent to its being granted.
- (27) To grant pensions, allowances, gratuities and bonuses to the officers, exofficers (including Directors and ex-Directors), employees or ex-employees of the Company or of any subsidiary, allied or associated company or of the predecessors in business of all or any of them or the families, dependants or connections of such persons, and to make payments towards insurance and to establish or support or aid in the establishment and support of associations, institutions, clubs, funds, trusts and schemes calculated to benefit such persons.
- (28) To subscribe or guarantee money for charitable or benevolent objects or for any exhibition or for any useful object of a public or general nature.
- (29) To lend or advance money or give credit to such persons, firms or companies on such terms as may seem expedient, with or without security and to guarantee or become liable for the contracts or obligations or any person, firm or company, or of any municipal or other authority or public body, and to receive money on deposit or loan from any person, firm or company.
- (30) To remunerate any person or company for services rendered, or to be rendered, in placing or assisting to place or guaranteeing the placing of any of the shares in the Company's capital or any debenture or other securities of the Company, or in or about the organisation of the Company or the conduct of its business.
- (31) To sell, exchange, lease, dispose of, turn to account or otherwise deal with the whole or any part of the undertaking of the Company for such consideration as may be considered expedient.
- (32) To distribute among the Members in specie any property of the Company, or any proceeds of sale or disposition of any property of the Company, and for such purpose to distinguish and separate capital from profits, but so that no distribution amounting to a reduction of capital shall be made except with the sanction (if any) for the time being required by law.
- (33) To draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, execute, and issue promissory notes, bills of exchange, bills of lading, scrip, warrants and other negotiable or transferable instruments.

(34) To employ experts to investigate and examine into the conditions, prospects, value, character and circumstances of any business concerns and undertakings, and generally of any assets, property or rights.

It is hereby declared that the objects specified in each of the sub-clauses of this clause shall be regarded as independent objects and accordingly shall in no wise be limited or restricted (except where otherwise expressed therein) by reference to or inference from the terms of any other sub-clause but may be carried out in as full and ample a manner and construed in as wide a sense as if each defined the objects of a separate and distinct company.

- 4. The liability of the Members is limited.
- 5. The capital of the Company is £800,000 divided into 40,000 shares of £20 each which shares and all other shares of which the present or any future capital of the Company shall consist, may be divided into different series, and may have such preference, guarantee or privilege as between themselves as shall be determined by the regulations of the Company existing from time to time.

#### <sup>2</sup> NOTES

- (i) On the 16th August 1906, the capital was increased to £1,000,000 by the creation of 10,000 shares of £20 each.
- (ii) On the 4th November 1909, the capital was further increased to £1,500,000 by the creation of 25,000 shares of £20 each.
- (iii) On the 3rd August 1923, the capital was further increased to £1,800,000 by the creation of 60,000 new shares of £5 each (called 'A' shares)
- (iv) On the 20th December 1923, there was produced to the Registrar of Companies an Order of the High Court of Justice dated 12th December 1923, confirming the reduction of the share capital of the Company from £1,800,000 to £1,350,000 and there was also delivered to the said Registrar on the same day a copy of the said Order and of a Minute (approved by the said Court) which Minute was in the words and figures following:

The Capital of the London Merchant Bank Limited was Reduced by virtue of Special Resolutions of the Company passed on the 14th and 29th March 1923 and on the 19th July and 3rd August 1923 and of an Order of the High Court of Justice dated the 12th day of December 1923 reduced from the former capital of £1,800,000 divided into 60,000 'A' shares of £5 each and 75,000 of £20 each to £1,350,000 divided into 60,000 'A' shares of £5 each and 75,000 shares of £14 each of which at the date of the registration of this Minute 52,949 of the said 'A' shares numbered 1 to 52,949 inclusive had been issued and the full sum of £5 had been or was to be deemed to be paid up on each of the said shares with the exception of 100 of the said shares namely those numbered 43,123 to 43,222 inclusive, on each of which 100 shares the sum of £3 had been and was to be deemed to be paid up and the whole of the said 75,000 shares of £14 each had been issued and the sum of £7 per share had been and was to be deemed to be paid up thereon and none of the remaining 7,051 'A' shares had been issued. Special Resolutions of the Company have been passed and confirmed to the effect that on such reduction taking effect (a) the said 75,000 shares of £14 each be subdivided into 150,000 shares of £7 each (to be numbered 1 to 150,000 inclusive) with the sum of £3 10s 0d per share paid up on each of the said shares and (b) the capital of the Company be again increased to £1,500,000 by the creation of 30,000 new shares of £5 each ranking pari passu with the said 150,000 shares and so that the said 150,000 shares and the 30,000 new shares be thenceforth called 'B' shares.

(v) On the 20th December 1923, the said Order and Minute were duly registered by the Registrar of Companies and on that day the capital of the Company became £1,500,000 divided into:

60,000 'A' shares of £5 each

150,000 'B' shares of £7 each, and

30,000 'B' shares of £5 each.

(vi) On the 3rd August 1939:

Each of the 60,000 'A' shares of £5 each (fully paid) was sub-divided into 20 shares of 5s each (fully paid), all arrears of dividend accrued on the said shares was cancelled and all preferential rights attached to those shares in respect of dividend, capital or otherwise were abrogated to the intent that the said shares were converted into ordinary shares ranking in all respects pari passu with and so as to form one class with the other issued shares of the Company and the designation 'A' was cancelled.

Each of the issued 150,000 'B' shares of £7 each (£3 10s 0d paid up) was sub-divided into 28 shares of 5s each (2s 6d paid up) and each of the 30,000 unissued 'B' shares of £5 each was sub-divided into 20 shares of 5s each and the designation 'B' was cancelled.

- (vii) All the issued shares of 5s each (2s 6d paid up) were fully paid by 8th April 1941.
- (viii) On the 19th June 1959 the capital was further increased from £1,500,000 divided into 6,000,000 shares of 5s each to £2,000,000 divided into 8,000,000 shares of 5s each by the creation of a further 2,000,000 shares of 5s each.
- (ix) On the 9th November 1961, the capital was further increased from £2,000,000 divided into 8,000,000 shares of 5s each to £3,000,000 divided into 12,000,000 shares of 5s each by the creation of 4,000,000 further shares of 5s each.
- On the 14th November 1962, the capital was further increased from £3,000,000 divided into 12,000,000 shares of 5s each to £4,000,000 divided into 16,000,000 shares of 5s each by the creation of 4,000,000 further shares of 5s each.
- (xi) On the 20th November 1963, the capital was further increased from £4,000,000 divided into 16,000,000 shares of 5s each to £6,000,000 divided into 24,000,000 shares of 5s each by the creation of 8,000,000 further shares of 5s each.
- (xii) On the 18th November 1964, the capital was further increased from £6,000,000 divided into 24,000,000 shares of 5s each to £10,000,000 divided into 40,000,000 shares of 5s each by the creation of 16,000,000 further shares of 5s each.
- (xiii) On the 27th March 1969, the capital was further increased from £10,000,000 to £14,000,000 by the creation of 6,500,000 Capital Shares of 5s each and 9,500,000 Unclassified Shares of 5s each.
  - (By the resolution authorising the increase of capital the Directors were authorised to classify such Unclassified Shares either as Capital Shares or as Ordinary Shares or partly as one class and partly as another. By a special resolution passed on the same day all the shares in issue immediately before the date of the passing thereof were designated Ordinary Shares).
- (xiv) On 7th November 1974, the capital was further increased from £14,000,000 to £16,000,000 by the creation of 8,000,000 Unclassified Shares of 25p each.
- (xv) On 5th October 1978, the capital was further increased from £16,000,000 to £31,000,000 by the creation of 60,000,000 Unclassified Shares of 25p each.
- (xvi) By notice given by the Directors of the Company on 12th September 1978 all Capital Shares in issue at 1st January 1980 were automatically converted into an equivalent number of fully paid Ordinary Shares of 25p each ranking pari passu in all respects with the existing Ordinary Shares of the Company.
- (xvii) On 10th January 1980, the capital was further increased from £31,000,000 to £48,000,000 by the creation of 59,911,566 Deferred Ordinary Shares of 25p each and 8,088,434 Unclassified Shares of 25p each.
- (xviii) On 16th October 1980, the capital was further increased from £48,000,000 to £63,000,000 by the creation of 60,000,000 Unclassified Shares of 25p each.

- (xix) On 8th December 1980, the capital was further increased from £63,000,000 to £70,000,000 by the creation of 28,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p each.
- (xx) On 26th October 1989 the Deferred Ordinary Shares of 25p each in issue were automatically converted into an equivalent number of Ordinary Shares of 25p each. On the same date the capital was further increased from £70,000,000 to £100,000,000 by the creation of an additional 38,713,464 Ordinary Shares of 25p each and 81,286,536 Deferred Ordinary Shares of 25p each.
- (xxi) On 15th August 1997 the share capital of the Company was consolidated by dividing every 25p share into 41 shares of 25/41p each and for every 45 such shares consolidating into 1 share of 2718/41p.
- (xxii) On 21st July 2004 the Deferred Ordinary Shares of 2718/41p each in issue were automatically converted into an equivalent number of Ordinary Shares of 2718/41p each.
- (xxiii) On 17<sup>th</sup> May 2006, all the authorised but unissued unclassified shares of 27<sup>18</sup>/<sub>41</sub> pence each were redesignated as ordinary shares of 27<sup>18</sup>/<sub>41</sub> pence each.
- (xxiv) On 9th June 2006, by virtue of an Order of the Court (and pursuant to a Special Resolution of the Company) dated 9th June 2006 the capital of the Company was reduced. The form of Minute approved by the Court was in the form following:
  - "The capital of London Merchant Securities plc was by virtue of a Special Resolution and with the sanction of an Order of the High Court of Justice dated 9 June 2006 reduced from £108,024,426.91 divided into 400,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p each, 329,001,493 Investment Shares of 218/41p each and 1 Deferred Share of 25p to £100,000,000.25 divided into 400,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p each and 1 Deferred Share of 25p. At the date of the registration of this Minute 329,001,493 of the Ordinary Shares of 25p each and the Deferred Share of 25p have been issued and are deemed to be fully paid up and the remaining Ordinary Shares of 25p each are unissued. By virtue of a Scheme of Arrangement and of the said Special Resolution the capital of the Company on the registration of this Minute will be increased to £108,024,426.91 by the creation of 329,001,493 New Investment Shares of 218/41p each none of which have been issued.
- (xxv) On 26 July 2006 the 329,001,493 Investment Shares of 2<sup>18</sup>/<sub>41</sub>p each and 1 Deferred Share of 25p were purchased by the Company and on 27 July 2006 the 329,001,493 authorised but unissued Investment Shares of 2<sup>18</sup>/<sub>41</sub>p each and the 1 authorised but unissued Deferred Share of 25p were cancelled.

# PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

Of

#### LONDON MERCHANT SECURITIES LIMITED<sup>2</sup>

Incorporated 12 March 1873

Adopted pursuant to an Order of the Court dated 31 January 2007

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Pursuant to an Order of the Court dated 31 January 2007, the Company re-registered as a private limited company. Consequently, the Company's name changed from LONDON MERCHANT SECURITIES PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY to LONDON MERCHANT SECURITIES LIMITED.

THE COMPANIES ACTS 1985 AND 1989
PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

#### ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

of

#### LONDON MERCHANT SECURITIES LIMITED<sup>3</sup>

Incorporated 12 March 1873

Adopted pursuant to an Order of the Court dated 31 January 2007

#### **PRELIMINARY**

#### 1. (A) In these articles:

"Act" means the Companies Act 1985 including any statutory modification or re-enactment of that Act for the time being in force;

"address" means, in relation to electronic communications, any number or address used for the purposes of such communications;

"articles" means the articles of the Company;

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

"communication" has the same meaning as in the Electronic Communications Act 2000;

"electronic communication" has the same meaning as in the Electronic Communications Act 2000;

"executed" means any mode of execution;

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Pursuant to an Order of the Court dated 31 January 2007, the Company re-registered as a private limited company. Consequently, the Company's name changed from LONDON MERCHANT SECURITIES PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY to LONDON MERCHANT SECURITIES LIMITED.

"holder" means, in relation to any share, the member whose name is entered in the register of members as the holder of the share;

"office" means the registered office of the Company;

"seal" means the common seal of the Company;

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

"United Kingdom" means Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

- (B) Unless the context otherwise requires, words or expressions contained in the articles bear the same meaning as in the Act, but excluding any statutory modification of the Act not in force when the articles become binding on the Company.
- (C) Where an ordinary resolution of the Company is expressed to be required for any purpose, a special or extraordinary resolution is also effective for that purpose, and where an extraordinary resolution is expressed to be required for any purpose, a special resolution is also effective for that purpose.
- 2. No regulations contained in any statute or subordinate legislation, including but not limited to the regulations contained in Table A in the schedule to the Companies (Table A to F) Regulations 1985 (as amended), apply as the regulations or articles of association of the Company.

#### PRIVATE COMPANY

3. The Company is a private company limited by shares and accordingly any invitation to the public to subscribe for any shares or debentures of the Company is prohibited.

#### SHARE CAPITAL

- 4. The authorised share capital of the Company is £100,000,000 divided into 400,000,000 ordinary shares of 25 pence each.
- 5. (A) Subject to the provisions of the Act, the directors have general and unconditional authority to allot (with or without conferring rights of renunciation), grant options over, offer or otherwise deal with or dispose of any unissued shares of the Company (whether forming part of the original or any increased share capital) to such persons, at such times and on such terms and conditions as the directors may decide but no share may be issued at a discount.
  - (B) The directors have general and unconditional authority, pursuant to section 80 of the Act, to exercise all powers of the Company to allot relevant securities for a period expiring on the fifth anniversary of the date of adoption of this article unless previously renewed, varied or revoked by the Company in general meeting.

- (C) The maximum amount of relevant securities which may be allotted pursuant to the authority conferred by paragraph (B) is the amount of the authorised but unissued share capital of the Company at the date of adoption of this article.
- (D) By the authority conferred by paragraph (B), the directors may before the authority expires make an offer or agreement which would or might require relevant securities to be allotted after it expires and may allot relevant securities in pursuance of that offer or agreement.
- 6. The pre-emption provisions of section 89(1) of the Act and the provisions of sub-sections (1) to (6) inclusive of section 90 of the Act do not apply to an allotment of the Company's equity securities.
- 7. Subject to the provisions of the Act and without prejudice to any rights attached to any existing shares, any share may be issued with such rights or restrictions as the Company may by ordinary resolution determine.
- 8. Subject to the provisions of the Act, shares may be issued which are to be redeemed or are to be liable to be redeemed at the option of the Company or the holder on such terms and in such manner as may be provided by the articles.
- 9. The Company may exercise the powers of paying commissions conferred by the Act. Subject to the provisions of the Act, any such commission may be satisfied by the payment of cash or by the allotment of fully-paid or partly-paid shares or partly in one way and partly in the other.
- 10. Except as required by law, no person shall be recognised by the Company as holding any share upon any trust and (except as otherwise provided by the articles or by law) the Company shall not be bound by or recognise any interest in any share except an absolute right to the entirety of that share in the holder.

#### SHARE CERTIFICATES

- 11. Every member, upon becoming the holder of any shares, shall be entitled without payment to one certificate for all the shares of each class held by him (and, upon transferring a part of his holding of shares of any class, to a certificate for the balance of such holding) or several certificates each for one or more of his shares upon payment for every certificate after the first of such reasonable sum as the directors may determine. Every certificate shall be sealed with the seal and shall specify the number, class and distinguishing numbers (if any) of the shares to which it relates and the amount or respective amounts paid up thereon. The Company shall not be bound to issue more than one certificate for shares held jointly by several persons and delivery of a certificate for a share to one joint holder shall be a sufficient delivery to all of them.
- 12. If a share certificate is defaced, worn-out, lost or destroyed, it may be renewed on such terms (if any) as to evidence and indemnity and payment of the expenses reasonably incurred by the Company in investigating evidence as the directors may determine but otherwise free of charge, and (in the case of defacement or wearing-out) on delivery up of the old certificate.

LIEN

- 13. The Company shall have a first and paramount lien on every share (not being a fully paid share) for all moneys (whether presently payable or not) payable at a fixed time or called in respect of that share. The directors may at any time declare any share to be wholly or in part exempt from the provisions of this article. The Company's lien on a share shall extend to any amount payable in respect of it.
- 14. The Company may sell in such manner as the directors determine any shares on which the Company has a lien if a sum in respect of which the lien exists is presently payable and is not paid within fourteen clear days after notice has been given to the holder of the share or to the person entitled to it in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of the holder, demanding payment and stating that if the notice is not complied with the shares may be sold.
- 15. To give effect to a sale the directors may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares sold to, or in accordance with the directions of, the purchaser. The title of the transferee to the shares shall not be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in the proceedings in reference to the sale.
- 16. The net proceeds of the sale, after payment of the costs, shall be applied in payment of so much of the sum for which the lien exists as is presently payable, and any residue shall (upon 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 as existed upon the shares before the sale) be paid to the person entitled to the shares at the date of the sale.

#### CALLS ON SHARES AND FORFEITURE

- 17. Subject to the terms of allotment, the directors may make calls upon the members in respect of any moneys unpaid on their shares (whether in respect of nominal value or premium) and each member shall (subject to receiving at least fourteen clear days' notice specifying when and where payment is to be made) pay to the Company as required by the notice the amount called on his shares. A call may be required to be paid by instalments. A call may, before receipt by the Company of any sum due thereunder, be revoked in whole or in part and payment of a call may be postponed in whole or part. A person upon whom a call is made shall remain liable for calls made upon him notwithstanding the subsequent transfer of the shares in respect of which the call was made.
- 18. A call shall be deemed to have been made at the time when the resolution of the directors authorising the call was passed.
- 19. The joint holders of a share shall be jointly and severally liable to pay all calls in respect of the share.
- 20. If a call remains unpaid after it has become due and payable the person from whom it is due and payable shall pay interest on the amount unpaid from the day it became due and payable until it is paid at the rate fixed by the terms of allotment of the share or in the notice of the call or, if no rate is fixed, at the appropriate rate (as defined by the Act) but the directors may waive payment of the interest wholly or in part.
- 21. An amount payable in respect of a share on allotment or at any fixed date, whether in respect of nominal value or premium or as an instalment of a call, shall be deemed to be

- a call, and if it is not paid when due all the provisions of the articles shall apply as if that amount had become due and payable by virtue of a call.
- 22. Subject to the terms of allotment, the directors may make arrangements on the issue of shares for a difference between the holders in the amounts and times of payment of calls on their shares.
- 23. If a call remains unpaid after it has become due and payable the directors may give to the person from whom it is due not less than fourteen clear days' notice requiring payment of the amount unpaid, together with any interest which may have accrued. The notice shall name the place where payment is to be made and shall state that if the notice is not complied with the shares in respect of which the call was made will be liable to be forfeited.
- 24. If the notice is not complied with any share in respect of which it was given may, before the payment required by the notice has been made, be forfeited by a resolution of the directors and the forfeiture shall include all dividends or other moneys payable in respect of the forfeited shares and not paid before the forfeiture.
- 25. Subject to the provisions of the Act, a forfeited share may be sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of on such terms and in such manner as the directors determine either to the person who was before the forfeiture the holder or to any other person and at any time before a sale, re-allotment or other disposition, the forfeiture may be cancelled on such terms as the directors think fit. Where for the purposes of its disposal a forfeited share is to be transferred to any person the directors may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the share to that person.
- 26. A person any of whose shares have been forfeited shall cease to be a member in respect of them and shall surrender to the Company for cancellation the certificate for the shares forfeited but shall remain liable to the Company for all moneys which at the date of forfeiture were presently payable by him to the Company in respect of those shares with interest at the rate at which interest was payable on those moneys before the forfeiture or, if no interest was so payable, at the appropriate rate (as defined in the Act) from the date of forfeiture until payment but the directors may waive payment wholly or in part or enforce payment without any allowance for the value of the shares at the time of forfeiture or for any consideration received on their disposal.
- 27. A statutory declaration by a director or the secretary that a share has been forfeited on a specified date shall be conclusive evidence of the facts stated in it as against all persons claiming to be entitled to the share and the declaration shall (subject to the execution of an instrument of transfer if necessary) constitute a good title to the share and the person to whom the share is disposed of shall not be bound to see to the application of the consideration, if any, nor shall his title to the share be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings in reference to the forfeiture or disposal of the share.

#### TRANSFER OF SHARES

28. The instrument of transfer of a share may be in any usual form or in any other form which the directors may approve and shall be executed by or on behalf of the transferor and, unless the share is fully paid, by or on behalf of the transferee.

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- 29. The directors may, in their absolute discretion and without giving any reason, refuse to register the transfer of a share to any person, whether or not it is a fully-paid share or a share on which the Company has a lien.
- 30. If the directors refuse to register a transfer of a share, they shall within two months after the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company send to the transferee notice of the refusal.
- 31. 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 directors may determine.
- 32. No fee shall be charged for the registration of any instrument of transfer or other document relating to or affecting the title to any share.
- 33. The Company shall be entitled to retain any instrument of transfer which is registered, but any instrument of transfer which the directors refuse to register shall be returned to the person lodging it when notice of the refusal is given.

#### TRANSMISSION OF SHARES

- 34. If a member dies the survivor or survivors where he was a joint holder, and his personal representatives where he was a sole holder or the only survivor of joint holders shall be the only persons recognised by the Company as having any title to his interest; but nothing in the articles shall release the estate of a deceased member from any liability in respect of any share which had been jointly held by him.
- 35. A person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member may, upon such evidence being produced as the directors may properly require, elect either to become the holder of the share or to have some person nominated by him registered as the transferee. If he elects to become the holder he shall give notice to the Company to that effect. If he elects to have another person registered he shall execute an instrument of transfer of the share to that person. All the articles relating to the transfer of shares shall apply to the notice or instrument of transfer as if it were an instrument of transfer executed by the member and the death or bankruptcy of the member had not occurred.
- 36. A person becoming entitled to a share by reason of the death or bankruptcy of a member shall have the rights to which he would be entitled if he were the holder of the share, except that he shall not, before being registered as the holder of the share, be entitled in respect of it to attend or vote at any meeting of the Company or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares in the Company.

#### ALTERATION OF SHARE CAPITAL

- 37. The Company may by ordinary resolution:
  - (a) increase its share capital by new shares of such amount as the resolution prescribes;
  - (b) consolidate and divide all or any of its share capital into shares of larger amount than its existing shares;

- (c) subject to the provisions of the Act, sub-divide its shares, or any of them, into shares of smaller amount and the resolution may determine that, as between the shares resulting from the sub-division, any of them may have any preference or advantage as compared with the others; and
- (d) cancel shares which, at the date of the passing of the resolution, have not been taken or agreed to be taken by any person and diminish the amount of its share capital by the amount of the shares so cancelled.
- 38. Whenever as a result of a consolidation of shares any members would become entitled to fractions of a share, the directors may, on behalf of those members, sell the shares representing the fractions for the best price reasonably obtainable to any person (including, subject to the provisions of the Act, the Company) and distribute the net proceeds of sale in due proportion among those members, and the directors may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares to, or in accordance with the directions of, the purchaser. 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.
- 39. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Company may by special resolution reduce its share capital, any capital redemption reserve and any share premium account in any way.

#### PURCHASE OF OWN SHARES

40. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Company may purchase its own shares (including any redeemable shares) and make a payment in respect of the redemption or purchase of its own shares otherwise than out of distributable profits of the Company or the proceeds of a fresh issue of shares.

#### **GENERAL MEETINGS**

- 41. All general meetings other than annual general meetings shall be called extraordinary general meetings.
- 42. The directors may call general meetings and, on the requisition of members pursuant to the provisions of the Act, shall immediately proceed to convene an extraordinary general meeting for a date not later than 28 days after receipt of the requisition. If there are not within the United Kingdom sufficient directors to call a general meeting, any director or any member may call a general meeting.

#### NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS

- 43. An annual general meeting and an extraordinary general meeting called for the passing of a special resolution or an elective resolution shall be called by at least 21 clear days' notice. All other extraordinary general meetings shall be called by at least 14 clear days' notice but a general meeting may be called by shorter notice if it is so agreed:
  - (a) in the case of the annual general meeting or a meeting called for the passing of an elective resolution, by all the members entitled to attend and vote at that 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, being:
  - (i) a majority together holding not less than such percentage in nominal value of the shares giving that right as has been determined by elective resolution of the members in accordance with the Act; or
  - (ii) if no such elective resolution is in force, a majority together holding not less than 95 per cent. in nominal value of the shares giving that right.
- 44. The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted and, in the case of an annual general meeting, shall specify the meeting as such.
- 45. Subject to the provisions of the articles and to any restrictions imposed on any shares, the notice shall be given to all the members, to all the persons entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member and to the directors and auditors. Where the notice of meeting is published on a web-site in accordance with article 118, it shall continue to be published in the same place on that web-site from the date of the notification given under article 118(b) until the conclusion of the meeting to which the notice relates.
- 46. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting. Where a notice of meeting published on a web-site in accordance with article 118 is by accident published in different places on the web-site or published for part only of the period from the date of the notification given under article 118(b) until the conclusion of the meeting to which the notice relates, the proceedings at such meeting are not thereby invalidated.

#### PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

- 47. No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. Two persons entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted, each being a member or a proxy for a member or a duly authorised representative of a corporation, shall be a quorum.
- 48. If such a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week, at the same time and place or to such day and at such time and place as the directors may determine.
- 49. The chairman, if any, of the board of directors or in his absence some other director nominated by the directors shall preside as chairman of the meeting, but if neither the chairman nor such other director (if any) is present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting and willing to act, the directors present shall elect one of their number to be chairman and, if there is only one director present and willing to act, he shall be chairman.
- 50. If no director is willing to act as chairman, or if no director is present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the members present and entitled to vote shall choose one of their number to be chairman.

- 51. A director shall, notwithstanding that he is not a member, be entitled to attend and speak at any general meeting and at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares in the Company.
- 52. The chairman may, with the consent of any meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place. When a meeting is adjourned for 14 days or more, at least seven clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time and place of the adjourned meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted. Otherwise it shall not be necessary to give any such notice.
- 53. A resolution put to the 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:
  - (c) by the chairman; or
  - (d) by any member present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote.
- 54. Unless a poll is duly demanded a declaration by the chairman that a resolution has been carried or carried unanimously, or by a particular majority, or lost, or not carried by a particular majority and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meeting shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against the resolution.
- 55. The demand for a poll may, before the poll is taken, be withdrawn but only with the consent of the chairman and a demand so withdrawn shall not be taken to have invalidated the result of a show of hands declared before the demand was made.
- 56. A poll shall be taken in such manner as the chairman directs and he may appoint scrutineers (who need not be members) and fix a place and time for declaring the result of the poll. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.
- 57. In the case of equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the chairman shall be entitled to a casting vote in addition to any other vote he may have.
- A poll demanded on the election of a chairman or on a question of adjournment shall be taken immediately. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken either immediately or at such time and place as the chairman directs not being more than 30 days after the poll is demanded. The demand for a poll shall not prevent the continuance of a meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which the poll was demanded. If a poll is demanded before the declaration of the result of a show of hands and the demand is duly withdrawn, the meeting shall continue as if the demand had not been made.
- 59. No notice need be given of a poll not taken immediately if the time and place at which it is 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 time at which the poll is to be taken.

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60. A resolution in writing executed by or on behalf of each member who would have been entitled to vote upon it if it had been proposed at a general meeting at which he was present shall be as effectual as if it had been passed at a general meeting duly convened and held and may consist of several instruments in the like form each executed by or on behalf of one or more members. If a resolution in writing is described as a special resolution or as an extraordinary resolution, it has effect accordingly.

#### VOTES OF MEMBERS

- 61. Subject to any rights or restrictions attached to any shares, on a show of hands 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 have one vote, and on a poll every member shall have one vote for every share of which he is the holder.
- 62. In the case of joint holders 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; and seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names of the holders stand in the register of members.
- 63. A member in respect of whom an order has been made by any court having jurisdiction (whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere) in matters concerning mental disorder may vote, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, by his receiver, curator bonis or other person authorised in that behalf appointed by that court, and any such receiver, curator bonis or other person may, on a poll, vote by proxy. Evidence to the satisfaction of the directors of the authority of the person claiming to exercise the right to vote shall be received at the office, or at such other place as is specified in accordance with the articles for the deposit or delivery of forms of appointment of a proxy, or in any other manner specified in the articles for the appointment of a 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.
- 64. No member shall, unless the directors otherwise determine, be entitled to vote at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares in the Company, either in person or by proxy, in respect of any share held by him unless all moneys presently payable by him in respect of that share have been paid.
- 65. No objection shall be raised to the qualification of any voter except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is tendered, and every vote not disallowed at the meeting shall be valid. Any objection made in due time shall be referred to the chairman whose decision shall be final and conclusive.
- 66. On a poll votes may be given either personally or by proxy. A member may appoint more than one proxy to attend on the same occasion. Deposit or delivery of a form of appointment of a proxy does not preclude a member from attending and voting at the meeting or at any adjournment of it.
- 67. Subject as set out herein, an instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing in any usual form or in any other form which the directors may approve and shall be executed by or on behalf of the appointor save that, subject to the Acts, the directors may accept the appointment of a proxy received in an electronic communication at an address

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- specified for such purpose, on such terms and subject to such conditions as they consider fit. The directors may require the production of any evidence which they consider necessary to determine the validity of any appointment pursuant to this article.
- 68. The form of appointment of a proxy and any authority under which it is executed or a copy of such authority certified notarially or in some other way approved by the directors may:
  - (a) in the case of an instrument in writing, be left at or sent by post to the office or such other place within the United Kingdom as is specified in the notice convening the meeting or in any form of appointment of proxy sent out by the Company in relation to the meeting at any time before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the form of appointment of proxy proposes to vote;
  - (b) in the case of an appointment of a proxy contained in an electronic communication, where an address has been specified by or on behalf of the Company for the purpose of receiving electronic communications:
    - (i) in the notice convening the meeting; or
    - (ii) in any form of appointment of a proxy sent out by the Company in relation to the meeting; or
    - (iii) in any invitation contained in an electronic communication to appoint a proxy issued by the Company in relation to the meeting,
    - received at such address at any time before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the form of appointment of proxy proposes to vote;
  - (c) in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it is demanded, be deposited or delivered as required by paragraphs (a) or (b) of this article after the poll has been demanded and at any time before the time appointed for the taking of the poll; or
  - (d) where the poll is not taken immediately but is taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be delivered at the meeting at which the poll was demanded to the chairman or to the secretary or to any director;

and a form of appointment of proxy which is not deposited or delivered in accordance with this article is invalid.

69. A vote given or poll demanded by proxy or by the duly authorised representative of a corporation shall be valid notwithstanding the previous determination of the authority of the person voting or demanding a poll unless notice of the determination was received by the Company at the office or, in the case of a proxy, any other place specified for delivery or receipt of the form of appointment of proxy or, where the appointment of a proxy was contained in an electronic communication, at the address at which the form of appointment was received, before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote is given or the poll demanded or (in the case of a poll taken

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- otherwise than on the same day as the meeting or adjourned meeting) the time appointed for taking the poll.
- 70. A company which is a member may, by resolution of its directors or other governing body, whether or not expressed to be pursuant to any provision of the Act, authorise one or more persons to act as its representatives at a meeting or at a separate meeting of the holders of a class of shares (a "representative"). Each representative is entitled to exercise on behalf of the company (in respect of that part of the company's holding of shares to which the authorisation relates) those powers that the company could exercise if it were an individual member. The company is for the purposes of the articles deemed to be present in person at a meeting if a representative is present. All references to attendance and voting in person shall be construed accordingly. A director, the secretary or other person authorised for the purpose by the secretary may require a representative to produce a certified copy of the resolution of authorisation before permitting him to exercise his powers.

#### NUMBER OF DIRECTORS

71. Unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution, the number of directors (other than alternate directors) is not subject to a maximum and the minimum number is one.

#### ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

- 72. Any director (other than an alternate director) may appoint any person willing to act, whether or not he is a director of the Company and without the approval of the directors, to be an alternate director and may remove from office an alternate director so appointed by him.
- 73. An alternate director shall, whether or not he is absent from the United Kingdom, be entitled to receive notice of all meetings of directors and of all meetings of committees of directors of which his appointor is a member. An alternate director may waive the requirement that notice be given to him of a meeting of directors or a committee of directors, either prospectively or retrospectively. Notice of a board meeting is deemed to be duly given to an alternate director if it is given to him personally or by word of mouth or by electronic communication to an address given by him to the Company for that purpose or sent in writing to him at his last known address or another address given by him to the Company for that purpose. An alternate director shall be entitled to attend and vote at any such meeting at which the director appointing him is not personally present, and generally to perform all the functions of his appointor as a director in his absence but shall not be entitled to receive any remuneration from the Company for his services as an alternate director.
- 74. An alternate director shall cease to be an alternate director if his appointor ceases to be a director.
- 75. Any appointment or removal of an alternate director shall be by notice to the Company signed by the director making or revoking the appointment or in any other manner approved by the directors. Any such notice may be left at or sent by post or facsimile transmission to the office or such other place as may be designated for the purpose by the directors.

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

#### POWERS OF DIRECTORS

- 77. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the memorandum and articles and to any directions given by special resolution, the business of the Company shall be managed by the directors who may exercise all the powers of the Company. No alteration of the memorandum or articles and no such direction shall invalidate any prior act of the directors which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made or that direction had not been given. The powers given by this article shall not be limited by any special power given to the directors by the articles and a meeting of directors at which a quorum is present may exercise all powers exercisable by the directors.
- 78. The directors may, by power of attorney or otherwise, appoint any person to be the agent of the Company for such purposes and on such conditions as they determine, including authority for the agent to delegate all or any of his powers.

#### **DELEGATION OF DIRECTORS' POWERS**

79. The directors may delegate any of their powers to any committee consisting of one or more directors. They may also delegate to any managing director or any director holding any other executive office such of their powers as they consider desirable to be exercised by him. Any such delegation may be made subject to any conditions the directors may impose, and either collaterally with or to the exclusion of its own powers and may be revoked or altered. Subject to any such conditions, the proceedings of a committee with two or more members shall be governed by the provisions of the articles regulating the proceedings of directors so far as they are capable of applying. Where a provision of the articles refers to the exercise of a power, authority or discretion by the directors and that power, authority or discretion has been delegated by the directors to a committee, the provision shall be construed as permitting the exercise of the power, authority or discretion by the committee.

#### APPOINTMENT AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

- 80. The Company may by ordinary resolution appoint a person who is willing to act to be a director either to fill a vacancy or as an additional director.
- 81. The directors may appoint any person who is willing to act to be a director, either to fill a vacancy or as an additional director, provided that the appointment does not cause the number of directors to exceed any number fixed by or in accordance with the articles as the maximum number of directors.
- 82. No person is incapable of being appointed a director by reason of his having reached the age of 70 or another age. No special notice is required in connection with the appointment or the approval of the appointment of such person. No director is required to vacate his office at any time because he has reached the age of 70 or another age and section 293 of the Act does not apply to the Company.

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83. The holder or holders of more than half in nominal value of the shares giving the right to attend and vote at general meetings of the Company may remove a director from office and appoint a person to be a director, but only if the appointment does not cause the number of directors to exceed a number fixed by or in accordance with the articles as the maximum number of directors. The removal or appointment is effected by notice to the Company signed by or on behalf of the holder or holders. The notice may consist of several documents in similar form each signed by or on behalf of one or more holders and shall be left at or sent by post or facsimile transmission to the office or such other place designated by the directors for the purpose. The removal or appointment takes effect immediately on deposit of the notice in accordance with the articles or on such later date (if any) specified in the notice.

#### DISQUALIFICATION AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

- 84. The office of a director shall be vacated if:
  - (a) he ceases to be a director by virtue of any provision of the Act or he becomes prohibited by law from being a director; or
  - (b) he becomes bankrupt or makes any arrangement or composition with his creditors generally; or
  - (c) he becomes, in the opinion of all his co-directors, incapable by reason of mental disorder of discharging his duties as director; or
  - (d) he resigns his office by notice to the Company; or
  - (e) he shall for more than six consecutive months have been absent without permission of the directors from meetings of directors held during that period and his alternate director (if any) shall not during such period have attended any such meetings instead of him, and the directors resolve that his office be vacated; or
  - (f) he is removed from office by notice addressed to him at his last-known address and signed by all his co-directors; or
  - (g) he is removed from office by notice given under article 83.

#### REMUNERATION OF DIRECTORS

- 85. The directors shall be entitled to such remuneration as the Company may by ordinary resolution determine and, unless the resolution provides otherwise, the remuneration shall be deemed to accrue from day to day.
- 86. A director who, at the request of the directors, goes or resides abroad, makes a special journey or performs a special service on behalf of the Company may be paid such reasonable additional remuneration (whether by way of salary, percentage of profits or otherwise) and expenses as the directors may decide.

#### **DIRECTORS' EXPENSES**

87. The directors may be paid all travelling, hotel and other expenses properly incurred by them in connection with their attendance at meetings of directors or committees of

directors or general meetings or separate meetings of the holders of any class of shares or of debentures of the Company or otherwise in connection with the discharge of their duties.

#### DIRECTORS' APPOINTMENTS AND INTERESTS

- 88. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the directors may appoint one or more of their body to the office of managing director or to any other executive office under the Company, and may enter into an agreement or arrangement with any director for his employment by the Company or for the provision by him of any services outside the scope of the ordinary duties of a director. Any such appointment, agreement or arrangement may be made upon such terms as the directors determine and they may remunerate any such director for his services as they think fit. Any appointment of a director to an executive office shall determine if he ceases to be a director but without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of the contract of service between the director and the Company.
- 89. Subject to the provisions of the Act, and provided that he has disclosed to the directors the nature and extent of any material interest of his, a director notwithstanding his office:
  - (a) may be a party to, or otherwise interested in, any transaction or arrangement with the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested;
  - (b) may be a director or other officer of, or employed by, or a party to any transaction or arrangement with, or otherwise interested in, any body corporate promoted by the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested; and
  - (c) shall not, by reason of his office, be accountable to the Company for any benefit which he derives from any such office or employment or from any such transaction or arrangement or from any interest in any such body corporate and no such transaction or arrangement shall be liable to be avoided on the ground of any such interest or benefit.
- 90. For the purposes of article 89:
  - (a) a general notice given to the directors that a director is to be regarded as having an interest of the nature and extent specified in the notice in any transaction or arrangement in which a specified person or class of persons is interested shall be deemed to be a disclosure that the director has an interest in any such transaction of the nature and extent so specified; and
  - (b) an interest of which a director has no knowledge and of which it is unreasonable to expect him to have knowledge shall not be treated as an interest of his.

#### DIRECTORS' GRATUITIES AND PENSIONS

91. The directors may provide benefits, whether by the payment of gratuities or pensions or by insurance or otherwise, for any director who has held but no longer holds any executive office or employment with the Company or with any body corporate which is or has been a subsidiary of the Company or a predecessor in business of the Company or of any such subsidiary, and for any member of his family (including a spouse and a former spouse) or any person who is or was dependent on him, and may (as well before

as after he ceases to hold such office or employment) contribute to any fund and pay premiums for the purchase or provision of any such benefit.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS

- 92. Subject to the provisions of the articles, the directors may regulate their proceedings as they think fit. A director may, and the secretary at the request of a director shall, call a meeting of the directors. Every director shall receive notice of a meeting, whether or not he is absent from the United Kingdom. Notice of a board meeting is deemed to be duly given to a director if it is given to him personally or by word of mouth or by electronic communication to an address given by him to the Company for that purpose or sent in writing to him at his last known address or other address given by him to the Company for that purpose. A director may waive the requirement that notice be given to him of a meeting of directors or a committee of directors, either prospectively or retrospectively. Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In the case of an equality of votes, the chairman shall have a second or casting vote. A director who is also an alternate director shall be entitled in the absence of his appointor to a separate vote on behalf of his appointor in addition to his own vote.
- 93. A director or his alternate director may participate in a meeting of directors or a committee of directors through the medium of conference telephone or similar form of communications equipment if all persons participating in the meeting are able to hear and speak to each other throughout the meeting. A person participating in this way is deemed to be present in person at the meeting and is counted in a quorum and entitled to vote. Subject to the Act, all business transacted in this way by the directors or a committee of directors is for the purposes of the articles deemed to be validly and effectively transacted at a meeting of the directors or of a committee of directors although fewer than two directors or alternate directors are physically present at the same place. The meeting is deemed to take place where the largest group of those participating is assembled or, if there is no such group, where the chairman of the meeting then is.
- 94. The quorum for the transaction of the business of the directors may be fixed by the directors and unless so fixed at any other number shall be two. A person who holds office only as an alternate director shall, if his appointor is not present, be counted in the quorum.
- 95. The directors may appoint one of their number to be the chairman of the board of directors and may at any time remove him from that office. Unless he is unwilling to do so, the director so appointed shall preside at every meeting of directors at which he is present. But if there is no director holding that office, or if the director holding it is unwilling to preside or is not present within five minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, the directors present may appoint one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.
- 96. All acts done by a meeting of directors, or of a committee of directors, or by any person acting as a director shall, notwithstanding that it be afterwards discovered that there was a defect in the appointment of any director or that any of them were disqualified from holding office, or had vacated office, or were not entitled to vote, be as valid as if every

- such person had been duly appointed and was qualified and had continued to be a director and had been entitled to vote.
- 97. A resolution in writing signed by all the directors entitled to receive notice of a meeting of directors or of a committee of directors shall be as valid and effectual as if it has been passed at a meeting of directors or (as the case may be) a committee of directors duly convened and held and may consist of several documents in the like form each signed by one or more directors; but a resolution signed by an alternate director need not also be signed by his appointor and, if it is signed by a director who has appointed an alternate director it need not be signed by the alternate director in that capacity.
- 98. If and for so long as there is a sole director of the Company:
  - (a) he may exercise all the powers conferred on the directors by the articles by any means permitted by the articles or the Act;
  - (b) for the purpose of article 94 the quorum for the transaction of business is one; and
  - (c) all other provisions of the articles apply with any necessary modification (unless the provision expressly provides otherwise).
- 99. Without prejudice to the obligation of a director to disclose his interest in accordance with section 317 of the Act, a director may vote at any meeting of directors or of a committee of directors on any resolution concerning a matter in which he has, directly or indirectly, an interest or duty. The director shall be counted in the quorum present at a meeting when any such resolution is under consideration and if he votes his vote shall be counted.

#### **SECRETARY**

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

#### **MINUTES**

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

#### THE SEAL

102. The seal shall only be used by the authority of the directors or of a committee of directors authorised by the directors. The directors may determine who shall sign any instrument to which the seal is affixed, and unless otherwise so determined every such instrument shall be signed by a director and by the secretary or by a second director.

#### **DIVIDENDS**

- 103. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Company may by ordinary resolution declare dividends in accordance with the respective rights of the members, but no dividend shall exceed the amount recommended by the directors.
- 104. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the directors may pay interim dividends if it appears to them that they are justified by the profits of the Company available for distribution. If the share capital is divided into different classes, the directors may pay interim dividends on shares which confer deferred or non-preferred rights with regard to dividend as well as on shares which confer preferential rights with regard to dividend, but no interim dividend shall be paid on shares carrying deferred or non-preferred rights if, at the time of payment, any preferential dividend is in arrear. The directors may also pay at intervals settled by them any dividend payable at a fixed rate if it appears to them that the profits available for distribution justify the payment. Provided the directors act in good faith they shall not incur any liability to the holders of shares conferring preferred rights for any loss they may suffer by the lawful payment of an interim dividend on any shares having deferred or non-preferred rights.
- 105. Except as otherwise provided by the rights attached to shares, all dividends shall be declared and paid according to the amounts paid up on the shares on which the dividend is paid. All dividends shall be apportioned and paid proportionately to the amount 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, that share shall rank for dividend accordingly.
- 106. The directors may deduct from a dividend or other amounts payable to a person in respect of a share any amounts due from him to the Company on account of a call or otherwise in relation to a share.
- 107. A general meeting declaring a dividend may, upon the recommendation of the directors, direct that it shall be satisfied wholly or partly by the distribution of assets and, where any difficulty arises in regard to such distribution, the directors may settle the same and in particular may issue fractional certificates and fix the value for distribution of any assets and may determine that cash shall be paid to any member upon the footing of the value so fixed in order to adjust the rights of members and may vest any assets in trustees.
- 108. Any dividend or other moneys payable on or in respect of a share may be paid by cheque sent by post to the registered address of the person entitled or, if two or more persons are the holders of the share or are jointly entitled to it by reason of the death or bankruptcy of the holder, to the registered address of that one of those persons who is first named in the register of members or to such person and to such address as the person or persons entitled may in writing direct and the board may agree. Every cheque shall be made payable to the order of the person or persons entitled or to such other person as the person or persons entitled may in writing direct and payment of the cheque shall be a good discharge to the Company. Any joint holder or other person jointly entitled to a share as aforesaid may give receipts for any dividend or other moneys payable in respect of the share.

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- 109. No dividend or other moneys payable in respect of a share shall bear interest against the Company unless otherwise provided by the rights attached to the share.
- 110. Any dividend which has remained unclaimed for 12 years from the date when it became due for payment shall, if the directors so resolve, be forfeited and cease to remain owing by the Company.

#### ACCOUNTS

- 111. No member shall (as such) have any right of inspecting any accounting records or other book or document of the Company except as conferred by statute or authorised by the directors or by ordinary resolution of the Company.
- 112. Any accounts, directors' report or auditor's report required or permitted to be sent by the Company to any person pursuant to any statute shall be treated as sent to such person if:
  - (a) sent by electronic communication to an address for the time being notified to the Company by that person for that purpose;
  - (b) published on a web-site, provided that the following conditions are met:
    - (i) the Company and that person have agreed that such documents may be accessed by him on a web-site (instead of their being sent by post or otherwise delivered to him); and
    - (ii) that person is notified, in a manner for the time being agreed for the purpose between him and the Company of:
      - (A) the publication of the documents on a web-site;
      - (B) the address of that web-site;
      - (C) the place on that web-site where the documents may be accessed;
      - (D) how such documents may be accessed.
- 113. Documents treated in accordance with article 112 as sent to any person are to be treated as sent to him not less than 21 days before the date of the meeting at which copies of those documents are to be laid if, and only if:
  - (a) the documents are published on the web-site throughout a period beginning at least 21 days before the date of the meeting and ending with the conclusion of the meeting; and
  - (b) the notification given for the purposes of article 112(b)(ii) is given not less than 21 days before the date of the meeting.
- 114. Nothing in article 113 shall invalidate the proceedings of a meeting where any documents that are required to be published as mentioned in article 113 are by accident published in different places on the web-site or published for a part, but not all, of the period mentioned in that article.

#### CAPITALISATION OF PROFITS

- 115. The directors 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 the Company's share premium account or capital redemption reserve;
  - (b) appropriate the sum resolved to be capitalised to the members who would have been entitled to it if it were distributed by way of dividend and in the same proportions and apply such sum on their behalf either in or towards paying up the amounts, if any, for the time being unpaid on any shares held by them respectively, or in paying up in full unissued shares or debentures of the Company of a nominal amount equal to such sum, and allot the shares or debentures credited as fully paid to those members, or as they may direct, in those proportions, or partly in one way and partly in the other: but the share premium account, the capital redemption reserve, and any profits which are not available for distribution may, for the purposes of this article, only be applied in paying up unissued shares to be allotted to members credited as fully paid;
  - (c) resolve that any shares so allotted to any member in respect of a holding by him of any partly-paid shares rank for dividend, so long as such shares remain partly paid, only to the extent that such partly-paid shares rank for dividend;
  - (d) make such provision by the issue of fractional certificates or by payment in cash or otherwise as they determine in the case of shares or debentures becoming distributable under this article in fractions; and
  - (e) authorise any person to enter on behalf of all the members concerned into an agreement with the Company providing for the allotment to them respectively, credited as fully paid, of any shares or debentures to which they may be entitled upon such capitalisation, any agreement made under such authority being binding on all such members.

#### **NOTICES**

- 116. Any notice to be given to or by any person pursuant to the articles (other than a notice convening a meeting of the board or of a committee of the board) shall be in writing or in an electronic communication to an address for the time being notified for that purpose to the person giving the notice.
- 117. Subject to article 118, the Company may give any notice to a member either personally or by sending it by post in a prepaid envelope addressed to the member at his registered address, or by leaving it at that address, or by sending it using electronic communications to an address for the time being notified to the Company by such member for that purpose. In the case of joint holders of a share, all notices shall be given to the joint holder whose name stands first in the register of members in respect of the joint holding and notice so given shall be sufficient notice to all the joint holders. Any member whose

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registered address is not within the United Kingdom shall be entitled to have notices given to him at that address or at an address specified by him to which notices may be sent using electronic communications.

- 118. A notice of general meeting may, instead of being sent to the member in any of the ways specified in article 117, be given to a member by the Company by publishing the notice on a web-site, provided that the following conditions are met:
  - (a) the member and the Company have agreed that notices of general meetings may be accessed by him on a web-site instead of being sent to the member in one of the ways specified in article 117; and
  - (b) the member is given a notification, in the manner agreed for the time being between the member and the Company, containing the following information:
    - (i) the fact that the notice has been published on the web-site;
    - (ii) the address of the web-site;
    - (iii) the place on the web-site where the notice may be accessed and how it may be accessed;
    - (iv) a statement that it concerns a notice of general meeting served in accordance with the Act;
    - (v) the place, date and time of the general meeting; and
    - (vi) whether the general meeting is to be an annual or extraordinary general meeting.
- 119. A notice given under article 118 is deemed to be given at the time of the notification given under paragraph (b) of that article.
- 120. A member present, either in person or by proxy, at any meeting of the Company or of the holders of any class of shares in the Company shall be deemed to have received notice of the meeting, and, where requisite, of the purposes for which it was called.
- 121. Every person who becomes entitled to any share shall be bound by any notice in respect of that share which, before his name is entered in the register of members, has been given to the person from whom he derives his title.
- 122. A notice sent to a member (or other person entitled to receive notices under the articles) by post to an address within the United Kingdom is deemed to be given:
  - (a) 24 hours after posting, if pre-paid as first class; or
  - (b) 48 hours after posting, if pre-paid as second class.

A notice sent to a member (or other person entitled to receive notice under the articles) by post to an address outside the United Kingdom is deemed to be given 72 hours after posting, if pre-paid as airmail. Proof that an envelope containing the notice was properly addressed, pre-paid and posted is conclusive evidence that the notice was given. A notice not sent by post but left at a member's registered address is deemed to have been given on the day it was left.

- 123. Proof that a notice contained in an electronic communication was sent in accordance with guidance issued by the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given.
- 124. A notice contained in an electronic communication sent in accordance with the articles other than a notice given under article 118 (to which the provisions of article 119 apply) is deemed to be given at the expiration of 48 hours after the time it was sent.
- 125. A notice may be given by the Company to the persons entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member by sending or delivering it, in any manner authorised by the articles for the giving of notice to a member, addressed to them by name, or by the title of representatives of the deceased, or trustee of the bankrupt or by any like description, at the address, if any, supplied for that purpose by the persons claiming to be so entitled. Until such an address has been supplied, a notice may be given in any manner in which it might have been given if the death or bankruptcy had not occurred.

#### WINDING UP

126. If the Company is wound up, the liquidator may, with the sanction of an extraordinary resolution of the Company and any other sanction required by the Act, divide among the members in specie the whole or any part of the assets of the Company and may, for that purpose, value any assets and determine how the division shall be carried out as between the members or different classes of members. The liquidator may, with the like sanction, vest the whole or any part of the assets in trustees upon such trusts for the benefit of the members as he with the like sanction determines, but no member shall be compelled to accept any assets upon which there is a liability.

#### INDEMNITY, DEFENCE COSTS AND INSURANCE

- To the extent permitted by the Act and without prejudice to any indemnity to which he may otherwise be entitled, every person who is or was a director or other officer of the Company (other than any person (whether or not an officer of the Company) engaged by the Company as auditor) shall be and shall be kept indemnified out of the assets of the Company against all costs, charges, losses and liabilities incurred by him (whether in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust by him or otherwise) in relation to the Company or its affairs provided that such indemnity shall not apply in respect of any liability incurred by him:
  - (i) to the Company or to any associated company; or
  - (ii) to pay a fine imposed in criminal proceedings; or
  - (iii) to pay a sum payable to a regulatory authority by way of a penalty in respect of non-compliance with any requirement of a regulatory nature (howsoever arising); or
  - (iv) in defending any criminal proceedings in which he is convicted; or

- (v) in defending any civil proceedings brought by the Company, or an associated company, in which judgment is given against him; or
- (vi) in connection with any application under any of the following provisions in which the court refuses to grant him relief, namely:
  - (a) section 144(3) or (4) (acquisition of shares by innocent nominee); or
  - (b) section 727 (general power to grant relief in case of honest and reasonable conduct).
- (B) In article 127(A)(iv), (v) or (vi) the reference to a conviction, judgment or refusal of relief is a reference to one that has become final. A conviction, judgment or refusal of relief becomes final:
  - (i) if not appealed against, at the end of the period for bringing an appeal, or
  - (ii) if appealed against, at the time when the appeal (or any further appeal) is disposed of.

An appeal is disposed of:

- (iii) if it is determined and the period for bringing any further appeal has ended, or
- (iv) if it is abandoned or otherwise ceases to have effect.
- (C) In article 127, "associated company", in relation to the Company, means a company which is a subsidiary of the Company, or a holding company of or a subsidiary of any holding company of the Company.
- (D) Without prejudice to article 127(A) or to any indemnity to which a director may otherwise be entitled, and to the extent permitted by the Act and otherwise upon such terms and subject to such conditions as the directors may in their absolute discretion think fit, the directors shall have the power to make arrangements to provide a director with funds to meet expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him in defending any criminal or civil proceedings or in connection with an application under section 144(3) or (4) (acquisition of shares by innocent nominee) or section 727 (general power to grant relief in case of honest and reasonable conduct) or to enable a director to avoid incurring any such expenditure.
- 128. To the extent permitted by the Act, the directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to purchase and maintain insurance for the benefit of a person who is or was:
  - (a) a director, alternate director, secretary or auditor of the Company or of a company which is or was a subsidiary undertaking of the Company or in which the Company has or had an interest (whether direct or indirect); or

(b) trustee of a retirement benefits scheme or other trust in which a person referred to in the preceding paragraph is or has been interested,

indemnifying him and keeping him indemnified against liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust or other liability which may lawfully be insured against by the Company.

#### SOLE MEMBER

- 129. If and for so long as the Company has only one member:
  - (e) in relation to a general meeting, the sole member or a proxy for that member or (if the member is a corporation) a duly authorised representative of that member is a quorum and article 47 is modified accordingly;
  - (f) a proxy for the sole member may vote on a show of hands and article 61 is modified accordingly;
  - (g) the sole member may agree that any general meeting, other than a meeting called for the passing of an elective resolution, be called by shorter notice than that provided for by the articles; and
  - (h) all other provisions of the articles apply with any necessary modification (unless the provision expressly provides otherwise).

#### No.9782 of 2006

# IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION COMPANIES COURT THE HON. MR. JUSTICE BRIGGS

Wednesday the 31st day of January 2007

IN THE MATTER OF LONDON MERCHANT SECURITIES PLC

-and-

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

**ORDER** 

Clifford Chance LLP 10 Upper Bank Street London E14 5JJ

Solicitors for the Company