

Certificate Number: 351477

COMPANIES ACT 2014
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (UNDERTAKINGS FOR COLLECTIVE
INVESTMENT IN TRANSFERABLE SECURITIES)
REGULATIONS 2011, AS AMENDED

CONSTITUTION

of

GMO FUNDS
PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

AN UMBRELLA FUND WITH SEGREGATED LIABILITY

BETWEEN SUB-FUNDS

AN INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES
WITH VARIABLE CAPITAL

Arthur Cox
Earlsfort Centre
Earlsfort Terrace
Dublin 2

COMPANIES ACT 2014

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (UNDERTAKINGS FOR COLLECTIVE
INVESTMENT IN TRANSFERABLE SECURITIES)
REGULATIONS 2011, AS AMENDED

COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES
WITH VARIABLE CAPITAL

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

OF

GMO FUNDS
PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

(As adopted by Special Resolution dated 27 May 2016)

AN UMBRELLA FUND WITH SEGREGATED LIABILITY BETWEEN SUB-FUNDS

1. The name of the Company is GMO FUNDS PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY.
2. The Company is a public limited company registered under Part 17 of the Companies Act 2014 and the European Communities (Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities) Regulations 2011, as amended. The Company is an investment company the sole object of which is the collective investment in transferable securities and other liquid financial assets referred to in Regulation 68 of the European Communities (Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities) Regulations 2011, as amended, of capital raised from the public and which operates on the basis of risk spreading. The Company may take any measures and carry out any operations which it may deem useful or necessary to the accomplishment and development of its purpose to the full extent permitted by the European Communities (Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities) Regulations 2011, as amended. The Company may not alter its objects or powers in any way which would result in it ceasing to qualify as an undertaking for collective investment in transferable securities pursuant to the European Communities (Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities) Regulations 2011, as amended.
3. For the purposes of achieving the sole object in clause 2 above, the Company shall also have the following powers:
 - (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, securities and financial derivative instruments issued or guaranteed by any company wherever incorporated or carrying on business and 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, obligation, securities or financial derivative instruments by original subscription,

contract, tender, purchase, exchange, underwriting, participation in syndicates or otherwise, and whether or not fully paid up, and whether or not payment is to be made at the time of issue or on a delayed delivery basis and to subscribe for the same, subject to such terms and conditions (if any) as may be thought fit;

- (3) To employ, utilise or invest in derivative instruments and techniques of all kinds for investment and efficient portfolio management purposes as may be permitted by the European Communities (Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities) Regulations 2011, as amended, and, in particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, to enter into, accept, issue and otherwise deal with sale and repurchase agreements, futures contracts, options, securities lending agreements, short sales agreements, when-issued, delayed delivery and forward commitment agreements, foreign currency spot and forward rate exchange contracts, forward rate agreements, swaps, collars, floors and caps and other foreign exchange or interest rate hedging and investment arrangements;
- (4) To purchase for the account of a sub-fund of the Company (a "Sub-Fund") by subscription or transfer for consideration, shares of any class or classes representing another Sub-Fund of the Company, subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2014 and the conditions from time to time laid down by the Central Bank;
- (5) To exercise and enforce all rights and powers conferred by or incidental to the ownership of any such shares, stock obligations or other securities;
- (6) To sell or dispose of the undertaking of the Company or any part thereof for such consideration as the Company may think fit and, in particular, for shares, debentures, or securities of any other company;
- (7) To carry on the business of an investment company and to invest the funds of the Company in or upon or otherwise acquire, hold and deal in securities and investments of every kind;
- (8) To make, draw, accept, endorse, issue, discount, and otherwise deal with promissory notes, bills of exchange, cheques, letters of credit, and other notes;
- (9) To acquire by purchase, exchange, lease, fee farm grant or otherwise, either for an estate in fee simple or for any less estate or other estate or interest, whether immediate or reversionary, and whether vested or contingent, any lands, tenements or hereditaments of any tenure, whether subject or not to any charges or encumbrances which are essential for the direct pursuit of its business;
- (10) To undertake the office of administrator, committee, manager, secretary, registrar, attorney, delegate, substitute or treasurer and to perform and discharge the duties and functions incident thereto;
- (11) 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;
- (12) To constitute any trusts with a view to the issue of preferred and deferred or any other special stocks or securities based on or representing any shares, stocks or other assets specifically appropriated for the purposes of any such trust, and to settle and regulate, and if thought fit, to undertake and execute any such trusts, and to issue, dispose of or hold any such preferred, deferred or other special stocks or securities;

- (13) To enter into partnership or into any arrangement for sharing profits, union of interest, joint venture, reciprocal concession, co-operation or otherwise with any company carrying on, or engaged in, any business or transaction which the Company is authorised to carry on or engage in, or any business or transaction capable of being conducted so as directly or indirectly to benefit the Company and to take or otherwise acquire and hold shares or stock in or securities of any such company, to assist any such company, and to sell, hold, or otherwise deal with such shares, stock or securities;
- (14) To promote any company for the purpose of acquiring all or any of the property or liabilities of the Company, or of undertaking any business or operations which may appear likely to assist or benefit the Company or to enhance the value of or render more profitable any property, assets or business of the Company, or for any other purpose which may seem directly or indirectly calculated to benefit the Company and to establish subsidiary companies for any of the foregoing purposes;
- (15) To accumulate capital for any of the purposes of the Company, and to appropriate any of the Company's assets to specific purposes, either conditionally or unconditionally and to admit any class or section of those who have any dealings with the Company to any share in the profits thereof or in the profits of any particular branch of the Company's business, or to any other special rights, privileges, advantages or benefits;
- (16) To enter into any arrangements with any government or authority, supreme, municipal, local or otherwise, or company that may seem conducive to the Company's objects or any of them, and to obtain from any such government, authority or company, any charters, contracts, decrees, rights, privileges and concessions, and to carry out, exercise and comply with any such arrangements, charters, contracts, decrees, rights, privileges and concessions;
- (17) To borrow or raise or secure the payment of money to the extent permitted by the European Communities (Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities) Regulations 2011, as amended, in such manner as the Company shall think fit, and in particular (but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) by the issue of debentures, debenture stocks, bonds, obligations and securities of all kinds, either perpetual or terminable and either redeemable or otherwise and to secure the repayment of any money borrowed, raised or owing by trust deed, mortgage, charge, or lien upon the whole or any part of the Company's undertaking, property or assets (whether present or future) including its uncalled capital, and also by a similar trust deed, mortgage, charge or lien to secure and guarantee the performance by the Company of any obligation or liability it may undertake;
- (18) To guarantee, support or secure, whether by personal covenant or by mortgaging or charging all or any part of the undertaking, property and assets (both present and future) and uncalled capital of the Company, or by indemnity or undertaking, or by any one or more of such methods, the performance of the obligations of, and the repayment or payment of the principal amounts of and premiums, interest and dividends on any security, indebtedness or obligations of the Company;
- (19) To create, maintain, invest and deal with any reserve or sinking funds for redemption of obligations of the Company, or for any other purpose of the Company;
- (20) To distribute either upon a distribution of assets or division of profits among the members of the Company (the "Members") in kind any property of the Company,

and, in particular, any shares, debentures or securities of other companies belonging to the Company or of which the Company may have the power of disposing;

- (21) To remunerate any person, firm or company rendering services to the Company, whether by cash payment or by the allotment of shares or securities of the Company credited as paid up in full or in part or otherwise;
 - (22) To procure the Company to be registered or recognised in any foreign country, dependency or place;
 - (23) To the extent permitted by law to obtain and hold, either alone or jointly with any person or company, insurance cover in respect of any risk of the Company, its directors, officers, employees and agents;
 - (24) To pay all or any expenses of, incidental to, or incurred in connection with, the formation and incorporation of the Company and the raising of its share and loan capital, or to contract with any person or company to pay the same, and (subject in the case of shares to the provisions of any statute for the time being in force) to pay commissions to brokers and others for underwriting, placing, selling or guaranteeing the subscription of any shares, debentures or securities of the Company;
 - (25) To do all or any of the above things in any part of the world, whether as principals, agents, contractors, trustees or otherwise, and either by or through trustees, agents, sub-contractors or otherwise and either alone or in partnership or conjunction with any person or company, and to contract for the carrying on of any operation connected with the Company's business by any person or company;
 - (26) To amalgamate any Sub-Fund with any other collective investment undertaking including any other Sub-Fund (the "Transferee Fund"), subject to the requirements of the Central Bank, and in doing so to transfer the assets of the Sub-Fund to the Transferee Fund in consideration for the issue of shares in the Transferee Fund to the Members pro rata to their shareholding in the Transferee Fund;
 - (27) To change, subject to the requirements of the Central Bank and applicable law, the structure of the Company from a public limited company to an Irish collective asset management vehicle ("ICAV"), or to such other corporate fund vehicle permitted by the Central Bank and applicable law from time to time; and
 - (28) To do all such other things as may be deemed incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.
4. Each of the powers of the Company (whether enumerated or not) is to be interpreted and exercised as ancillary to the main object but separate from and ranking equally to any other power.
 5. It is hereby declared that in the construction of Clause 3, the word "company" except where used in reference to this Company, shall be deemed to include any person or partnership or other body of persons, whether incorporated or not incorporated, and whether domiciled in Ireland or elsewhere, and words denoting the singular number only shall include the plural number and vice versa and the intention is that the powers specified in each paragraph of this Clause shall, except where otherwise expressed in such paragraph, be in no way restricted by reference to or inference from the terms of any other paragraph or the name of the Company.

6. The liability of the Members is limited.
7. The issued share capital of the Company shall be not less than the currency equivalent of €2 represented by two shares of no par value and the maximum issued share capital of the Company shall not be more than the currency equivalent of €500 billion divided into an unspecified number of shares of no par value. The actual value of the paid up share capital of the Company shall be at all times equal to the value of the assets of the Company after the deduction of its liabilities.

WE, the several persons whose names, addresses and descriptions are subscribed, wish to be formed into a Company in pursuance of this memorandum of association, and we agree to take the number of shares in the capital of the Company set opposite our respective names.

Names, addresses and descriptions of Subscribers	Number of Shares
GMO Woolley Limited 1 Angel Court Throgmorton Street London EC2R 7HJ England	38,994
Brian Moore 39 Foxrock Park Foxrock Dublin 18 Company Secretary	1
Carl O'Sullivan Laurel Lodge Brighton Avenue Monkstown Co. Dublin Solicitor	1
Jacqueline McGowan-Smyth 12 Meadow Vale Blackrock Co. Dublin Chartered Secretary	1
Sarah Cunniff 57 Wellington Road Dublin 4 Solicitor	1
Richard Farrington 40 Heytesbury Street Dublin 8 Solicitor	1
Patrick Wilkinson 174 The Hardwicke Morning Star Avenue North Brunswick Street Dublin 7 Solicitor	1

Dated this 10th day of December, 2001

Witness to the above signatures:

Audrey Power
Arthur Cox Building
Earlsfort Terrace
Dublin 2

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
of
GMO FUNDS
PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

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EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (UNDERTAKINGS FOR COLLECTIVE
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AS AMENDED

COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES
WITH VARIABLE CAPITAL

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

of

**GMO FUNDS
PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY**

AN UMBRELLA FUND WITH SEGREGATED LIABILITY BETWEEN SUB-FUNDS

(As adopted by Special Resolution dated 27 May 2016)

AN INVESTMENT COMPANY WITH VARIABLE CAPITAL

1. DEFINITIONS

- (a) The following words shall bear the meanings set opposite to them unless inconsistent with the subject or context:

“Accounting Period” means a financial period of the Company ending on such date as may be determined by the Directors from time to time.

“Act” means the Companies Act 2014, all statutes and statutory instruments which are to be read as one with, or construed or read together with or as one with, the Companies Act 2014 and every statutory modification and re-enactment thereof for the time being in force.

“address” includes any number or address used for the purposes of communication by way of electronic mail or other electronic communication.

“Administration Agreement” means any agreement from time to time subsisting which provides for the appointment of the Administrator.

“Administrator” means any person, firm or corporation appointed as administrator of the Company to perform such administrative duties as the Company may require.

“advanced electronic signature” has the meaning given to that word in the Electronic Commerce Act, 2000.

“AIMA” means the Alternative Investment Management Association

“Annual Report” means a report prepared in accordance with Article 29 hereof.

“Associated Company” means any corporation which in relation to the person concerned (being a corporation) is (i) a holding company or a subsidiary of any such holding company or (ii) a corporation (or a subsidiary of a corporation) at least one

fifth of the issued equity share capital of which is beneficially owned by the person concerned or an associate thereof under the preceding part of this definition. Where the person concerned is an individual or firm or other unincorporated body the expression "Associated Company" shall mean and include any corporation directly or indirectly controlled by such person.

"Auditors" means the auditors for the time being of the Company.

"Base Currency" means, for each Sub-Fund, the base currency of such Sub-Fund as may be specified in the Prospectus.

"Board" means the Board of Directors of the Company including any committee of the Board.

"Business Day" has the meaning given to it in the Prospectus.

"Central Bank" means the Central Bank of Ireland or any successor regulatory authority with responsibility for the authorisation and supervision of the Company.

"class" means any class of Shares from time to time created by the Company details of which shall be set out in the Prospectus.

"Class Dilution Adjustment" means an adjustment made to the Net Asset Value per share of a class of a Sub-Fund which adjustment is made solely for the purpose of reducing the effects of specific costs applicable to the class, such as hedging costs, on Members' interests in the class.

"Class Expenses" means the expenses of registering a class in any jurisdiction or with any stock exchange, regulated market or settlements system and such other expenses arising from such registration and such further expenses howsoever arising as may be disclosed in the Prospectus.

"Clear Days" means, in relation to the period of a notice, that period excluding the day when the notice is given or deemed to be given and the day for which it is given or on which it is to take effect.

"Commission" means such amount payable on the issue or redemption of shares in the Company which may be payable to any distributor of a Sub-Fund and as may be more particularly specified in the Prospectus.

"Company" means GMO Funds plc.

"Custodian" means any corporation appointed and for the time being acting as custodian of any of the assets of the Company in accordance with the Act.

"Custodian Agreement" means any agreement from time to time subsisting between the Company and the Custodian relating to the appointment and duties of such Custodian.

"Dealing Day" means such Business Day or Business Days as the Directors from time to time may determine, provided that:

- (i) unless otherwise determined by the Directors in respect of a Sub-Fund and specified in the Prospectus, each Business Day shall be a Dealing Day provided that there shall be at least one Dealing Day per fortnight;

- (ii) in the event of any changes in a Dealing Day, reasonable notice thereof shall be given by the Company to each Member in the relevant Sub-Fund; and
- (iii) the assets of the Company or a Sub-Fund shall be valued in respect of each Dealing Day.

“Director” means any director of the Company for the time being.

“Distributor” means any person appointed by the Company to act as distributor of the Shares.

“Duties and Charges” means all stamp and other duties, taxes, governmental charges, valuation fees, property management fees, agents’ fees, brokerage fees, bank charges, transfer fees, registration fees and other charges whether in respect of the constitution or increase of the assets or the creation, exchange, sale, purchase or transfer of shares or the purchase or proposed purchase of investments or otherwise which may have become or will become payable in respect of or prior to or upon the occasion of any transaction, dealing or valuation, but not including commission payable on the issue of shares.

“electronic communication” has the meaning given to that word in the Electronic Commerce Act, 2000.

“electronic signature” has the meaning given to that word in the Electronic Commerce Act, 2000.

“€” or “euro” or “Euro” means the euro, the lawful currency of the European Union which came into effect on 1 January 1999.

“Fractional Share” means a fractional share in the Company issued in accordance with Article 7(d).

“Initial Offer Period” means the period during which shares of a Sub-Fund are offered by the Company for purchase or subscription at the Initial Price.

“Initial Price” means the price at which any shares of a Sub-Fund are first offered for purchase or subscription.

“Investment” means any of the investments or cash of the Company as more particularly set out in the Prospectus.

“Investment Adviser” means any person, firm or corporation appointed by the Company and or the Investment Manager from time to time to provide investment advisory services.

“Investment Manager” means any person, firm or corporation appointed in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank to provide investment management services in relation to a Sub-Fund’s investments.

“Investment Management Agreement” means any agreement from time to time subsisting to which the Company and the Investment Manager are parties and relating to the appointment and duties of the Investment Manager.

“In writing” means written, printed, lithographed, photographed, telexed, telefaxed or represented by any other substitute for writing or partly one and partly another including electronic mail.

“IOSCO” means the International Organisation of Securities Commissions.

“Member” means a person who is registered as the holder of shares in the Register.

“Minimum Holding” means any minimum holding of shares, if any, required to be held by a Member as may be specified in the Prospectus.

“Month” means a calendar month.

“Net Asset Value” means the amount determined for any particular Dealing Day pursuant to Articles 12 and 13 hereof.

“Officer” means any Director of the Company or the Secretary.

“Ordinary Resolution” means a resolution of the Company or a Sub-Fund or any class as the context may require, which, if considered at a general meeting may be passed by a simple majority of the votes cast.

“Preliminary Expenses” means the preliminary expenses incurred in the establishment of the Company or a Sub-Fund (other than the costs of incorporating the Company), the obtaining by the Company of approval from the Central Bank as a designated investment company under the Act, the registration of the Company with any other regulatory authority and each offer of shares of a Sub-Fund to the public (including the costs of preparing and publishing the Prospectus) and may include any costs or expenses (whether incurred directly by the Company or not) incurred in connection with any subsequent application for a listing or quotation of any of the shares in the Company on a stock exchange or Regulated Market and the costs of establishing any trust or investment vehicle to facilitate investment in the Company.

“Prospectus” means the prospectus from time to time issued by the Company including any prospectus or supplement thereto in respect of a Sub-Fund or Sub-Funds.

“qualified certificate” has the meaning given to that word in the Electronic Commerce Act, 2000.

“Register” means the register in which are listed the names of Members of the Company representing an interest in a Sub-Fund.

“Regulated Market” means any stock exchange or regulated market in the European Union or a stock exchange or regulated market which is provided for in Article 15 hereof.

“Regulations” means the European Communities (Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities) Regulations, 2011, as amended or replaced for the time being in force and any rules made by the Central Bank pursuant thereto.

“Secretary” means any person, firm or corporation from time to time appointed by the Directors to perform any of the duties of the secretary of the Company.

“share” or “shares” means a share or shares in the Company.

“Signed” includes a signature or representation of a signature affixed by mechanical or other means.

“Special Resolution” means a special resolution of the Company, a Sub-Fund or a class, as the context may require, passed in accordance with the Act.

“Sub-Fund” means any sub-fund of the Company from time to time established pursuant to Article 4 which is a separate portfolio of assets and is maintained in accordance with the Articles and which may comprise one or more classes of shares in the Company.

“Sub-Fund Dilution Adjustment” means an adjustment made to the Net Asset Value per share of a Sub-Fund, which adjustment is made solely for the purpose of reducing the effects of costs of dealing in the underlying investments of the Sub-Fund on Members’ interests in the Sub-Fund.

“Subscriber Shares” means the shares which the subscribers to the memorandum and articles of association of the Company agree to subscribe for as more particularly hereinafter set forth after their names.

“Subsidiary Company” means any subsidiary company within the meaning of the Act.

“U.K.” means the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

“U.S. Dollar” or “U.S.\$” means United States dollars, the lawful currency of the U.S.

“U.S.” means the United States of America (including the States and the District of Columbia), its territories, its possessions and all other areas subject to its jurisdiction.

“U.S. Person” shall, unless otherwise determined by the Directors, have the meaning set out in the Prospectus.

“Valuation Point” means the time of valuation in respect of any Dealing Day as more particularly set out in the Prospectus.

- (b) Reference to enactments and to articles and sections of enactments shall include reference to any modifications or re-enactments thereof for the time being in force.
- (c) Unless repugnant to the context:
 - (i) words importing the singular number shall include the plural number and vice versa;
 - (ii) words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine gender;
 - (iii) words importing persons only shall include companies or associations or bodies of persons, whether corporate or not;
 - (iv) the word “may” shall be construed as permissive and the word “shall” shall be construed as imperative;

- (v) expressions in these Articles referring to writing shall be construed, unless the contrary intention appears, as including references to printing, lithography, photography and any other modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form; provided, however, that it shall not include writing in electronic form except as provided in these Articles and/or where it constitutes writing in electronic form sent to the Company and the Company has agreed to its receipt in such form. Expression in these Articles referring to execution of any document shall include any mode of execution under seal or under hand or any mode of electronic signature as shall be approved by the Directors. Expressions in these Articles referring to receipt of any electronic communications shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be limited to receipt in such manner as the Company has agreed to; and
- (vi) unless the contrary intention appears, the use of the word “address” in these Articles in relation to electronic communications includes any number of addresses used for the purpose of such communications.

2. **PRELIMINARY**

- (a) Sections 65, 77 to 81, 83(1), 94(8), 95(1), 96(2) to (11), 124, 125, 126, 144(3), 144(4), 148(2), 158(3), 159 to 165, 178(2), 181(6), 182(2), 182(5), 183(3), 186(c), 187, 188, 218(3), (4), (5), 229, 230, 338(5), 338(6), 339(7), 618(1)(b), 620(8), 1090, 1092, 1093 and 1113 of the Act shall not apply to the Company.
- (b) Subject to the provisions of the Regulations, the business of the Company shall be commenced as soon after the incorporation of the Company as the Directors think fit.
- (c) The Preliminary Expenses shall be payable by the Company unless discharged by any other party and if payable by the Company the amount so payable may be carried forward in the accounts of the Company and amortised in such manner and over such period as the Directors may determine and the Directors may at any time and from time to time determine to lengthen or shorten any such period. The Preliminary Expenses for the Sub-Funds may be allocated between the Sub-Funds pro rata and the Directors may adjust the allocation following the launch of additional Sub-Funds.
- (d) The Company shall also bear the following fees and expenses (unless they are otherwise discharged by the Investment Manager or any other party):
 - (i) all taxes and expenses which may be incurred in connection with the acquisition and disposal of the assets of the Company;
 - (ii) all taxes which may be payable on the assets, income and expenses chargeable to the Company;
 - (iii) all brokerage, bank and other charges incurred by the Company in relation to its business transactions;
 - (iv) all fees and expenses (including Value Added Tax, if applicable) due to the Auditors, the Custodian, the Administrator, the Distributor, any broker, the Investment Manager and any investment managers or advisors appointed by it, any paying agent or fiscal representative, the legal advisers to the Company, any valuer or other supplier of services to the Company;
 - (v) all expenses incurred in connection with publication and supply of information to the Members and, in particular, without prejudice to the

generality of the foregoing, the costs of promoting the Company and the shares and the costs of printing and distributing the Annual Report, any report to the Central Bank or any other regulatory authority, the half-yearly or other report, any Prospectus and the costs of publishing quotations of prices and notices in the financial press and all stationery, the costs of preparing and maintaining the key investor information documents, printing and postage costs in connection with the preparation and distribution of cheques, warrants, tax certificates and statements;

- (vi) all expenses incurred in the registration of the Company with any government agencies or regulatory authority (including the Central Bank) and in having the shares of the Company listed or dealt on any stock exchange or any Regulated Market and in having the shares of the Company rated by any rating agency;
 - (vii) all expenses arising in respect of legal or administrative proceedings;
 - (viii) all expenses incurred in connection with the operation and management of the Company, including, without limitation to the generality of the foregoing, all Directors fees, all costs incurred in organising Directors and Members meetings and in obtaining proxies in relation to such meetings, all insurance premiums and association membership dues and all non-recurring and extraordinary items of expenditure as may arise;
 - (ix) all expenses incurred in the termination, liquidation or winding up of the Company or any Sub-Fund; and
 - (x) at the absolute discretion of the Directors and in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank, where applicable, expenses may be charged against the current income and/or against realised capital gains and/or against assets.
- (e) Fees and expenses attributable to a particular Sub-Fund shall be borne by that Sub-Fund. Fees and expenses which are not attributable to a particular Sub-Fund shall be allocated pro rata amongst all of the Sub-Funds.

3. **CUSTODIAN, ADMINISTRATOR AND INVESTMENT MANAGER**

- (a) The Company shall, with the prior approval of the Central Bank, forthwith after its incorporation and before the issue of any shares (other than the Subscriber Shares) appoint:
- (i) a person, firm or corporation to act as Custodian with responsibility for the safe custody of all of the assets of the Company; and
 - (ii) any persons, firms or corporations to act as an Investment Manager; and
 - (iii) a person, firm or corporation to act as Administrator;

and may appoint a Distributor in relation to the sale of shares and the Directors may entrust to and confer upon the Custodian, Administrator, Investment Manager and Distributor so appointed any of the powers, duties, discretions and/or functions exercisable by them as Directors, upon such terms and conditions including the right to remuneration payable by the Company and with such powers of delegation and such restrictions as they think fit.

- (b) The terms of appointment of any Custodian may authorise such Custodian to appoint (with powers of sub-delegation) sub-custodians, nominees, agents or delegates at the expense of the Company or otherwise and to delegate any of its custodial functions and duties to any person or persons so appointed, provided that such appointment shall first have been notified to the Company and provided further that any such appointment, insofar as it relates to an appointment in relation to the assets of the Company, shall terminate forthwith on termination of the appointment of the Custodian.
- (c) The terms of appointment of any Administrator may authorise such Administrator, in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank, to appoint one or more sub-administrators or other agents at the expense of the Administrator and to delegate any of its functions and duties to any person or persons so appointed, provided that such appointment or appointments shall first have been approved by the Company and provided further that any such appointment shall terminate forthwith on termination of the appointment of the Administrator.
- (d) In accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank, the appointment of any Investment Manager may be terminated by the Company and a replacement Investment Manager may be appointed and the terms of appointment of an Investment Manager from time to time may be varied and may authorise such Investment Manager to appoint one or more investment advisers or other agents and to delegate any of its functions and duties to any person or persons so appointed, provided that such appointment or appointments shall first have been approved by the Company and provided further that any such appointment shall terminate forthwith on termination of the appointment of the Investment Manager.
- (e) The appointment of the Custodian shall be subject to the approval of the Central Bank and the appointment of the Administrator, the Investment Manager and any Distributor in each case shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank and the agreements appointing the Custodian, the Administrator, the Investment Manager, and any Distributor in each case shall be submitted to the Central Bank.
- (f) In the event of the Custodian desiring to retire or being removed from office the Company shall use its best endeavours to find a person, firm or corporation willing to act as Custodian who must be approved by the Central Bank to act as Custodian and upon so doing the Company shall appoint such person, firm or corporation to be Custodian in place of the former Custodian and the Custodian may not retire until a new Custodian is appointed. In the event of the Company failing to appoint a replacement Custodian within such notice period as may be provided for in the Custodian Agreement, the Directors shall be entitled to repurchase all of the shares in issue in all of the Sub-Funds and apply to the Registrar of Companies for the strike-off of the Company from the Register of Companies or convene an extraordinary general meeting of the Company at which there shall be proposed an Ordinary Resolution either to repurchase the shares of the Company or to wind up the Company and appoint a liquidator who shall distribute the assets of the Company in accordance with Article 32 and the Custodian's appointment shall not terminate until the Central Bank has revoked its authorisation of the Company.

4. SHARE CAPITAL, THE SUB-FUNDS AND SEGREGATION OF LIABILITY

- (a) The paid up share capital of the Company shall at all times be equal to the Net Asset Value of the Company as determined in accordance with Article 12 hereof.

- (b) The issued share capital of the Company shall be not less than the currency equivalent of €2 represented by two shares of no par value and the maximum issued share capital of the Company shall not be more than the currency equivalent of €500 billion divided into an unspecified number of shares of no par value.
- (c) The Directors are hereby generally and unconditionally authorised to exercise all of the powers of the Company to issue shares provided that the total amount of issued share capital does not exceed the limit set out in Article 4(b) above.
- (d) The Directors may delegate to the Administrator, the Investment Manager or to any duly authorised Officer or other person, the duties of accepting the subscription for, receiving payment for and allotting or issuing new shares.
- (e) The Directors in their absolute discretion may refuse to accept any application for shares in the Company or may accept any application in whole or in part.
- (f) No person shall be recognised by the Company as holding any shares on trust and the Company shall not be bound by or recognise (even when having notice thereof) any equitable, contingent, future or partial interest in any shares or (except only as otherwise provided herein or as by law may be required) any other right in respect of any share, except an absolute right of title thereto in the registered holder.
- (g) The Subscriber Shares shall not participate in the dividends or assets attributable to any of the other shares issued by the Company and the dividends and net assets attributable to the Subscriber Shares shall be segregated from, and shall not form part of, the other assets of the Company.
- (h) At any time after the issue of shares the Company shall be entitled to repurchase the Subscriber Shares or to procure the transfer of the Subscriber Shares to any person who may be a qualified holder of shares in accordance with Article 9 hereof.
- (i) The Company is an umbrella fund with segregated liability between Sub-Funds and each Sub-Fund may comprise one or more classes of shares in the Company. With the prior approval of the Central Bank, the Directors from time to time may establish further Sub-Funds by the issue of one or more separate classes of shares on such terms as the Directors may resolve.
- (j) The Directors from time to time may establish one or more separate classes of shares within each Sub-Fund on such terms as the Directors may resolve, in accordance with the requirements of the Central Bank. Such classes may be hedged or unhedged share classes, provided that in valuing such classes the resultant costs and gains or losses attributable to a class shall be deemed to be Class Expenses as defined below for the purposes of Article 13(c).
- (k) The Directors are hereby authorised from time to time to re-designate any existing class of shares in the Company and merge such class of shares with any other class of shares in the Company. With the prior consent of the Directors, Members may convert shares in one class of shares or Sub-Fund into shares of another class or Sub-Fund in the Company, as appropriate, in accordance with the provisions of Article 7 hereof.
- (l) For the purpose of enabling shares of one class to be re-designated or converted into shares of another class, the Company may, subject to the Regulations, take such action as may be necessary to vary or abrogate the rights attached to shares of one

class to be converted so that such rights are replaced by the rights attached to the other class into which the shares of the original class are to be converted.

- (m) The assets and liabilities of each Sub-Fund shall be allocated in the following manner:
 - (i) the proceeds from the issue of shares representing a Sub-Fund shall be applied in the books of the Company to that Sub-Fund and the assets and liabilities and income and expenditure attributable thereto shall be applied to such Sub-Fund subject to the provisions of this Article. The assets of each Sub-Fund shall belong exclusively to that Sub-Fund and shall not be used to discharge directly or indirectly, the liabilities of or claims against any other Sub-Fund and shall not be available for any such purpose;
 - (ii) where any asset is derived from another asset, such derivative asset shall be applied in the books of the Company to the same Sub-Fund as the assets from which it was derived and in each valuation of an asset, the increase or diminution in value shall be applied to the relevant Sub-Fund;
 - (iii) where the Company incurs a liability which relates to any asset of a particular Sub-Fund or to any action taken in connection with an asset of a particular Sub-Fund, such a liability shall be allocated to the relevant Sub-Fund, as the case may be; and
 - (iv) where an asset or a liability of the Company cannot be considered as being attributable to a particular Sub-Fund, such asset or liability, subject to the approval of the Custodian, shall be allocated to all the Sub-Funds pro rata to the Net Asset Value of each Sub-Fund;

provided that when issuing a class of shares in regard to any Sub-Fund, the Directors may allocate Commission, Duties and Charges and ongoing expenses on a basis which is different from that which applies in the case of shares in other classes in the Sub-Fund.

- (n) Notwithstanding any statutory provision or rule of law to the contrary, any liability incurred on behalf of or attributable to any Sub-Fund of the Company shall be discharged solely out of the assets of that Sub-Fund, and neither the Company nor any Director, receiver, examiner, liquidator, provisional liquidator or other person shall apply, nor be obliged to apply, the assets of any such Sub-Fund in satisfaction of any liability incurred on behalf of, or attributable to, any other Sub-Fund.
- (o) There shall be implied in every contract, agreement, arrangement or transaction entered into by the Company the following terms, that:
 - (i) the party or parties contracting with the Company shall not seek, whether in any proceedings or by any other means whatsoever or wheresoever, to have recourse to any assets of any Sub-Fund in the discharge of all or any part of a liability which was not incurred on behalf of that Sub-Fund;
 - (ii) if any party contracting with the Company shall succeed by any means whatsoever or wheresoever in having recourse to any assets of any Sub-Fund in the discharge of all or any part of a liability which was not incurred on behalf of that Sub-Fund, that party shall be liable to the Company to pay a sum equal to the value of the benefit thereby obtained by it; and

- (iii) if any party contracting with the Company shall succeed in seizing or attaching by any means, or otherwise levying execution against any assets of a Sub-Fund in respect of a liability which was not incurred on behalf of that Sub-Fund, that party shall hold those assets or the direct or indirect proceeds of the sale of such assets on trust for the Company and shall keep those assets or proceeds separate and identifiable as such trust property.
- (p) All sums recoverable by the Company as a result of any such trust as is described in Article 4(o)(iii) shall be credited against any concurrent liability pursuant to the implied terms set out in Article 4(o).
- (q) Any asset or sum recovered by the Company pursuant to the implied terms set out in Article 4(o) or by any other means whatsoever or wheresoever in the events referred to in those paragraphs shall, after the deduction or payment of any costs of recovery, be applied so as to compensate the Sub-Fund affected for any losses incurred in respect of the liabilities of another Sub-Fund.
- (r) In the event that assets attributable to a Sub-Fund are taken in execution of a liability not attributable to that Sub-Fund, and in so far as such assets or compensation in respect thereof cannot otherwise be restored to that Sub-Fund affected, the Directors, with the consent of the Custodian, shall certify or cause to be certified, the value of the assets lost to the Sub-Fund affected and transfer or pay from the assets of the Sub-Fund or Sub-Funds to which the liability was attributable, in priority to all other claims against such Sub-Fund or Sub-Funds, assets or sums sufficient to restore to the Sub-Fund affected, the value of the assets or sums lost to it.
- (s) A Sub-Fund is not a legal person separate from the Company but the Company may sue and be sued in respect of a particular Sub-Fund and may exercise the same rights of set-off, if any, as between its Sub-Funds as apply at law in respect of companies and the property of a Sub-Fund is subject to orders of the court as it would have been if the Sub-Fund were a separate legal person.
- (t) Separate records shall be maintained in respect of the assets and liabilities of each Sub-Fund.

5. **SHARE CERTIFICATES, CONFIRMATIONS OF OWNERSHIP**

- (a) A Member shall have his title to shares evidenced by having his name, address and the number of shares held by him entered in the Register which shall be maintained in the manner required by law, provided that no person holding less than the Minimum Holding shall be entered on the Register as a Member unless otherwise determined by the Directors.
- (b) A Member whose name appears in the Register shall be issued with a written confirmation of ownership or a share certificate or share certificates representing the number of shares held by him, provided, however, that no share certificate shall be issued unless requested by a Member.
- (c) If a share certificate shall be damaged or defaced or alleged to have been lost, stolen or destroyed, a new share certificate representing the same shares may be issued to the Member upon request subject to delivery of the old share certificate or (if alleged to have been lost, stolen or destroyed) on compliance with such conditions as to evidence and indemnity and the payment of exceptional out-of-pocket expenses of the Company in connection with the request as the Directors may think fit.

- (d) The Register may be kept on magnetic tape or in accordance with some other mechanical or electrical system provided legible evidence can be produced therefrom to satisfy the requirements of applicable law and of these Articles.
- (e) The Directors shall cause to be entered in the Register in addition to the particulars required to be so entered by the law the following particulars:
 - (i) the name and address of each Member (save that in the case of joint holders, the address of the first named holder only need be entered), a statement of the shares of each class held by him and of the amount paid or agreed to be considered as paid on such shares;
 - (ii) the date on which each person was entered in the Register as a Member; and
 - (iii) the date on which any person ceased to be a Member.
- (f)
 - (i) The Register shall be kept in such manner as to show at all times the Members of the Company for the time being and the shares respectively held by them.
 - (ii) The Register shall be open to inspection at the registered office of the Company in accordance with the law and each Member shall be entitled to inspect his own entry in the Register only and shall not be entitled to inspect any entry relating to any other Member unless so authorised in writing by such Member.
 - (iii) The Company may close the Register for any time or times not exceeding, in the whole, thirty days in each year.
- (g) The Directors shall not be bound to register more than four persons as the joint holders of any share or shares. In the case of a share held jointly by several persons, the Directors shall not be bound to issue therefor more than one confirmation of ownership or share certificate, and the issue of a confirmation of ownership, or share certificate for a share to the first named of several joint holders shall be sufficient delivery to all.
- (h) Where two or more persons are registered as the holders of any shares they shall be deemed to hold the same as joint tenants, subject to the following provisions:
 - (i) the joint holders of any shares shall be liable, severally, as well as jointly, in respect of all payments which ought to be made in respect of such shares;
 - (ii) any one of such joint holders of shares may give effectual receipts for any dividend, bonus or return of capital payable to such joint holders;
 - (iii) only the first-named of the joint holders of a share shall be entitled to delivery of the share certificate or confirmation of ownership relating to such share or to receive notices from the Company to attend general meetings of the Company. Any share certificate or confirmation of ownership delivered to the first-named of joint holders shall be effective delivery to all, and any notice given to the first-named of joint holders shall be deemed notice given to all the joint holders;

- (iv) the vote of the first-named of joint holders 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
- (v) for the purpose of the provisions of this Article, the first-named shall be determined by the order in which the names of the joint holders stand in the Register.

6. DEALING DAYS

Subject as hereinafter provided, all issues and repurchases of shares shall be effected or made with effect from the relevant Dealing Day.

7. ISSUE OF SHARES

- (a) Subject as hereinafter provided and to the Regulations, the Company on or with effect from the relevant Dealing Day on receipt by it or on its behalf of the following:
 - (i) an application for shares in such form as the Company from time to time may determine; and
 - (ii) such declarations as to the applicant's status, residence and otherwise as the Company from time to time may require; and
 - (iii) payment for the shares in such manner as the Company from time to time may specify and within such reasonable time as may be specified in the Prospectus, provided that if the Company receives payment for the shares in a currency other than the Base Currency, the Company may convert or arrange for the conversion of the monies received into the Base Currency and, if such conversion is made, shall be entitled to deduct therefrom all expenses incurred in the conversion;

may issue such shares at the Net Asset Value for each such share (or, at the absolute discretion of the Company in the case of (iii) above at the Net Asset Value for each such share in any class on the Dealing Day on, or immediately following, the conversion of the monies received into the Base Currency) or may allot such shares pending receipt of cleared funds, provided that if cleared funds representing the subscription monies are not received by the Company within such period as the Directors may determine, the Directors may cancel any shares in respect thereof. The Directors may decline to accept any application for the issue of Shares for any reason and at their absolute discretion and may cease to offer shares in the Company for allotment or subscription for a definite period or otherwise. In calculating the subscription price the Directors may on any Dealing Day when there are net subscriptions adjust the subscription price by adding an anti-dilution levy to cover dealing costs and to preserve the value of the underlying assets of the relevant Sub-Fund.

- (b) The Company shall be entitled to receive securities or other Investments from an applicant for shares and to sell, dispose of or otherwise convert such securities or Investments into cash and to apply such cash (net of any expenses incurred in the conversion) for the purchase of shares in the Company in accordance with the provisions hereof.

- (c) Unless otherwise determined by the Directors, no issue shall be made in respect of an application which would result in the applicant holding less than the Minimum Holding.
- (d) The Directors shall be entitled to issue Fractional Shares where the subscription monies received by the Company are insufficient to purchase an integral number of shares, provided, however, that Fractional Shares shall not carry any voting rights and provided further that the Net Asset Value of a Fractional Share of any class of shares shall be adjusted by the amount which such Fractional Share bears to an integral share of that class of shares at the time of issue and any dividend payable on such Fractional Shares shall be adjusted in like manner.
- (e) Subject as hereinafter provided a holder of shares in any Sub-Fund (the “Original Sub-Fund shares”) may with the prior consent of the Directors from time to time convert all or any portion of such shares (“Conversion”) having such minimum value at the time of conversion as may be determined by the Directors from time to time into shares of another Sub-Fund (the “New Sub-Fund shares”) either existing or agreed to be brought into existence on terms hereinafter appearing:
 - (i) Conversion may be exercisable by the said holder (hereinafter called the “Sub-Fund Applicant”) giving a notice or by contacting the Administrator by telephone (each hereinafter called the “Sub-Fund Conversion Notice”) which shall be irrevocable and shall be filed by a Member in written form at the office of the Administrator, and shall be accompanied by the share certificates duly endorsed by the Sub-Fund Applicant by such other evidence of ownership, succession or assignment satisfactory to the Directors;
 - (ii) the Conversion of shares comprised in a Sub-Fund Conversion Notice which is delivered to the Directors on any day which is not a Dealing Day shall be made on the Dealing Day next following the receipt of the Conversion Notice;
 - (iii) Conversion of the Original Sub-Fund shares comprised in the Sub-Fund Conversion Notice shall be effected by the repurchase of such Original Sub-Fund shares (save that the repurchase monies shall not be released to the Sub-Fund Applicant) and the issue of New Sub-Fund shares such repurchase and issue taking place on the Dealing Day referred to in paragraph (b) of this Article;
 - (iv) the number of New Sub-Fund shares to be issued on conversion shall be determined by the Directors in accordance (or as nearly as may be in accordance) with the following formula:

$$NS = \frac{(A \times B \times C) - TC}{D}$$

Where:

- NS = the number of New Sub-Fund shares which will be issued;
and
- A = the number of Original Sub-Fund shares to be converted; and
- B = the repurchase price of such Original Sub-Fund share on the relevant Dealing Day; and

C = the rate of exchange determined by the Directors for converting the Base Currency of the Original Sub-Fund shares into the Base Currency of the New Sub-Fund shares; and

D = the issue price of the New Sub-Fund shares on the relevant Dealing Day; and

TC = the transaction charge in connection with the proposed transaction

the Company may deduct a transaction charge of up to 5 per cent. of the value of the Original Sub-Fund Shares; and

- (v) upon Conversion, the Company shall cause assets or cash representing the value of NS as defined in sub-paragraph (iv) above to be allocated to the Sub-Fund comprising the New Sub-Fund shares.

8. **PRICE PER SHARE**

- (a) The Initial Price per share in any class and the Initial Offer Period shall be determined by the Directors.
- (b) The price per share for any class of shares on any Dealing Day following the Initial Offer Period shall be the Net Asset Value per share applicable in the case of issues of shares as determined in accordance with Articles 12 and 13 which may on any Dealing Day include an anti-dilution levy to cover dealing costs and to preserve the value of the underlying assets of the relevant Sub-Fund.
- (c) The Directors may require an applicant for shares to pay to the Company, in addition to the price per share, Commission and such Duties and Charges in respect of the shares as the Directors from time to time may determine.
- (d) Subject to the provisions of the Regulations, the Directors on or with effect from any Dealing Day may issue shares in any class on terms providing for settlement to be made by the vesting in the Custodian on behalf of the Company of any Investments from time to time held or which may be held hereunder and which meet the investment objectives, policies and restrictions of the relevant Sub-Fund and in connection therewith the following provisions shall apply:
- (i) the Directors shall be satisfied that the terms of any such exchange shall not be such as are likely to result in any material prejudice to the Members holding shares in the relevant Sub-Fund;
- (ii) the number of shares to be issued shall be not more than the number which would have been issued for settlement in cash as hereinbefore provided on the basis that the amount of such cash was an amount equal to the value of the investments to be so vested in the Custodian as determined by the Directors in accordance with the valuation provisions of these Articles on the relevant Dealing Day;
- (iii) no shares shall be issued until the investments shall have been vested in the Custodian to the Custodian's satisfaction;

- (iv) any Duties and Charges arising in connection with the vesting of such investments in the Company shall be paid by the person to whom the shares are to be issued;
 - (v) the Custodian shall be satisfied that the terms on which the shares are issued shall not be such as are likely to result in any material prejudice to the existing Members in the relevant Sub-Fund;
 - (vi) the nature of the assets to be transferred into the relevant Sub-Fund would qualify as Investments of the relevant Sub-Fund in accordance with the investment objectives, policies and restrictions of that Sub-Fund; and
 - (vii) the Investments shall be valued in accordance with the provisions of Article 13.
- (e) No shares shall be issued on any Dealing Day in respect of any Sub-Fund in relation to which the determination of the Net Asset Value of the relevant Sub-Fund is suspended pursuant to Article 12 hereof.

9. QUALIFIED HOLDERS

- (a) The Directors may impose such restrictions as they may think necessary or appropriate for the purpose of ensuring that no shares are acquired or held directly or beneficially by:
- (i) any person in breach of any law or requirement of any country or governmental authority by virtue of which such person is not qualified to hold such shares; or
 - (ii) any person or persons in circumstances which (whether directly or indirectly affecting such person or persons and whether taken alone or in conjunction with any other person or persons connected or not, or any other circumstances appearing to the Board to be relevant) in the opinion of the Board might result in the Company incurring any liability to taxation or suffering pecuniary or material administrative disadvantages which the Company might not otherwise have incurred or suffered; or
 - (iii) any person who does not supply any information or declarations required under the Articles within seven days of a request to do so being sent by the Directors;

and the Directors may: (i) reject at their absolute discretion any subscription for shares or any transfer of shares to any persons who are so excluded from purchasing or holding shares; (ii) pursuant to Article 9(c) below at any time repurchase or require the transfer of shares held by shareholders who are so excluded from purchasing or holding shares; and (iii) require that a Member indemnify the Company from and against any claims, demands, proceedings, liabilities, damages, losses, costs and expenses, directly or indirectly suffered or incurred by the Company as a result of the breach of this Article by a Member.

- (b) The Directors shall be entitled to assume without enquiry that none of the shares are held in such a way as to entitle the Directors to give a notice in respect thereof pursuant to Article 9(c)(i) below. The Directors may, however, upon an application for shares or at any other time and from time to time require such evidence and/or undertakings to be furnished to them in connection with the matters stated above as

they shall in their absolute discretion deem sufficient or as they may require for the purpose of any restriction imposed pursuant thereto. In the event of such evidence and/or undertakings not being so provided within such reasonable period (not being less than twenty one days after service of notice requiring the same) as may be specified by the Directors in the said notice, the Directors may, in their absolute discretion, treat any shares held by such a holder or joint holder as being held in such a way as to entitle it to serve a notice in respect thereof pursuant to Article 9(c)(i).

- (c) (i) If it shall come to the notice of the Directors that any shares are or may be owned or held directly or beneficially by any person or persons in breach of any restrictions imposed under Article 9(a) above (the “relevant shares”), the Directors may give notice to the person or persons in whose names the relevant shares are registered requiring him to transfer (and/or procure the disposal of interests in) them to a person who is in the opinion of the Directors a person who is not disqualified from holding shares by virtue of Article 9(a) above (a “qualified person”) or to give a request in writing for the repurchase of the relevant shares in accordance with the Articles. If any person upon whom such a notice is served pursuant to this Article does not within twenty one days after the giving of such notice (or such extended time as the Board in its absolute discretion shall consider reasonable) transfer the relevant shares to a qualified person, request the Company to so repurchase the relevant shares or establish to the satisfaction of the Directors (whose judgment shall be final and binding) that he is not subject to such restrictions the Directors may in their absolute discretion upon the expiration of such twenty one days arrange for the repurchase of all the relevant shares on any day or days that the Directors may, with the prior written consent of the Custodian, determine, or approve the transfer of all the relevant shares to a qualified person in accordance with Article 9(c)(iii) below and the holder of the relevant shares shall be bound forthwith to deliver his share certificate or certificates or other evidence of ownership (if any) to the Directors and the Directors shall be entitled to appoint any person to sign on his behalf such documents as may be required for the purpose of the repurchase or transfer of the relevant shares by the Company.
- (ii) A person who becomes aware that he is holding or owning relevant shares shall forthwith, unless he has already received a notice pursuant to Article 9(a) above, either transfer all his relevant shares to a qualified person or give a request in writing for the repurchase of all his relevant shares in accordance with the Articles.
- (iii) A transfer of relevant shares arranged by the Board pursuant to Article 9(c)(i) above, shall be by way of sale at the best price reasonably obtainable and may be of all of or part only of the relevant shares with a balance available for repurchase in accordance with these provisions or transfer to other qualified persons. Any payment received by the Company for the relevant shares so transferred shall, subject to Article 9(c)(iv) below, be paid to the person whose shares have been so transferred.
- (iv) Payment of any amount due to such person pursuant to this Article 9 shall be subject to any requisite exchange control consents first having been obtained and anti-money laundering requirements first having been met and the amount due to such person will be deposited by the Company in a bank for payment to such persons upon such consents being obtained against surrender of the certificate or certificates representing the relevant shares previously held by such person. Upon deposit of such amount as aforesaid such person

shall have no further interest in such relevant shares or any of them or any claim against the Company in respect thereof except the right to receive such amount so deposited (without interest) upon such consents as aforesaid being obtained.

- (v) The Directors shall not be required to give any reason for any decision, determination or declaration taken or made in accordance with these provisions. The exercise of the powers conferred by these provisions shall not be questioned or invalidated in any case on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence of direct or beneficial ownership of shares by any person or that the true direct or beneficial owner of any shares was otherwise than appeared to the Directors at the relevant date provided that the powers shall be exercised in good faith.
- (d) The Directors may resolve that any of the provisions of the foregoing Article 9 shall be disappplied, in whole or in part, for a defined period or otherwise, in the case of U.S. Persons or may incorporate in the Prospectus further restrictions in relation to sales to U.S. Persons or detailed procedures to be followed by the Company in the case of sales to U.S. Persons.

10. **REPURCHASE OF SHARES**

- (a) The Company may repurchase its own outstanding fully paid shares at any time in accordance with the rules and procedures set out herein and in the Prospectus. A Member may at any time request the Company to repurchase all or any part of his shares in the Company by forwarding a request for repurchase of shares to the Company and a repurchase request shall be effective in accordance with the rules set out in the Prospectus provided that such request is received by the Company on such notice as may be specified in the Prospectus.
- (b) A request for repurchase of shares shall be in such form as the Company shall prescribe, shall unless otherwise provided in these Articles or determined by the Directors, be irrevocable and shall be filed by a Member in written form at the registered office of the Company, or at the office of the person or entity from time to time designated by the Company as its agent for the repurchase of shares, and, at the request of the Company shall be accompanied by the share certificate (duly endorsed by the Member), if applicable, or by proper evidence of succession or assignment satisfactory to the Company, if applicable.
- (c) On receipt of a request for repurchase of shares duly completed and served in accordance with the rules set out in the Prospectus, the Company shall repurchase the shares as requested on the Dealing Day on which the repurchase request is effective subject to any suspension of this repurchase obligation pursuant to Article 12 hereof. Shares in the capital of the Company which are repurchased by the Company shall be cancelled.
- (d) The repurchase price per share in any class shall be the Net Asset Value per share in that class applicable in the case of repurchases of shares obtaining on the Dealing Day on which the repurchase request is effective, less such deduction, repurchase charge or commission as may be set out in the Prospectus provided that the maximum deduction, repurchase charge or commission shall not exceed 3 per cent. of the Net Asset Value of the shares being repurchased or such lesser amount as may be specified in the Prospectus or such other amount as is permitted by the Central Bank. In calculating the repurchase price the Directors may on any Dealing Day when there are net repurchases adjust the repurchase price by deducting an anti-dilution levy to

cover dealing costs and to preserve the value of the underlying assets of the relevant Sub-Fund.

- (e) Payment to a Member under this Article will ordinarily be made in the Base Currency, or in any other freely convertible currency at the rate of exchange for conversion on the date of payment and shall be dispatched within ten Business Days following the Dealing Day on which the repurchase is effected as provided for in Article 10(a) above.
- (f) On repurchase of part only of the shares held by any Member, the Directors shall procure that a revised share certificate or written confirmation of ownership shall be issued free of charge for the balance of such shares.
- (g) In the event that a repurchase of part only of a Member's holding of shares leaves the Member holding less than the Minimum Holding the Directors may, if they think fit, require that the Company repurchase the whole of that Member's holding.
- (h) If the Company receives requests for the repurchase of shares in respect of ten per cent. or more of the Net Asset Value of any Sub-Fund on any Dealing Day, the Directors may elect to restrict the total Net Asset Value of shares of that Sub-Fund to be repurchased to ten per cent. or such greater amount of the Net Asset Value of that Sub-Fund as may be specified in the Prospectus, in which case all the relevant requests will be scaled down pro rata to the number of shares requested to be repurchased in the Sub-Fund and the balance of the repurchase requests will be deferred. The Company shall treat the deferred repurchase requests as if they were received for each subsequent Dealing Day (in relation to which the Company has the same power of deferral at the then prevailing limit) until all the shares to which the original request related have been repurchased. In such cases, the Company may reduce requests pro rata on the next and following Dealing Days so as to give effect to the above limitation.
- (i) At the absolute discretion of the Directors and with the consent of a Member making such repurchase request, assets may be transferred in specie in satisfaction of a repurchase request. Asset and liability allocation in respect of an in specie repurchase shall be determined by the Directors on such basis as the Directors in their absolute discretion shall deem equitable and not prejudicial to the interests of the remaining Members which determination shall be subject to the approval of the Custodian. At the request of the Member making such repurchase request, such assets may be sold by the Company and the proceeds of sale transmitted to the Member. A determination to provide a repurchase in specie may be solely at the discretion of the Directors where the Member making such repurchase request requests the repurchase of a number of shares that represents 5 per cent. or more of the net asset value of the relevant Sub-Fund and in this event, the Company will, if requested, sell the assets on behalf of the Member. Where the Company sells assets on behalf of a Member in the cases specified in this Article, the price obtained by the Company may be different from the price at which the assets were valued when determining the Net Asset Value and the Investment Manager and the Company shall not be liable for any loss arising. The transaction costs incurred in the disposal of such assets shall be borne by the Member.
- (j) In the event that the Company is required to deduct, withhold or account for tax on a disposal of shares held by a Member (whether upon a repurchase of shares, a transfer of shares or otherwise), upon the payment of a distribution to a Member (whether in cash or otherwise) or in any other circumstances in which a taxation liability arises, the Directors shall be entitled to deduct or withhold from the proceeds of repurchase

or distribution such amount, or arrange for the repurchase and cancellation of such number of the shares of such Member as are sufficient after the deduction of any repurchase charges, to discharge any such tax liability and the Directors may decline to register a transferee as a Member until such time as they receive from the transferee such declarations as to residency or status as they may require. The Custodian shall ensure that the repurchase proceeds are held for the purposes of discharging any applicable tax liability as aforesaid.

- (k) Where the Company receives a request for the repurchase of Shares from any Member in respect of which the Company is required to account for, deduct or withhold taxation, the Company shall be entitled to deduct from the proceeds of repurchase such amount of taxation as the Company is required to account for, deduct or withhold.
- (l) In the event that the amount payable to a Member on a repurchase is exceeded by the cost of dispatching, transmitting, effecting or otherwise making such payments to the Member, the Company shall be entitled to retain such redemption proceeds for the benefit of all of the remaining Members provided that in no event shall the value of such redemption proceeds exceed USD20 (or its equivalent in Euro) for any Member.

11. **TOTAL REPURCHASE**

- (a) With the sanction of an Ordinary Resolution of the Members or Members of a Sub-Fund or class, the Company may repurchase all of the shares of the Company, class or Sub-Fund at the Net Asset Value for such shares.
- (b) If so determined by the Directors, provided that not less than twenty one days' written notice has been given to the holders of the Shares of the Company or the Sub-Fund or the class, as appropriate, that all of the Shares of the Company, the Sub-Fund or the class, as the case may be, shall be repurchased by the Company.
- (c) If all of the shares in the Company are to be repurchased as aforesaid the Company, with the approval of the Members by Ordinary Resolution, may divide amongst the Members in specie all or part of the assets of the Company according to the value of the shares then held by each Member as determined in accordance with Article 12 hereof.
- (d) If all of the shares are to be repurchased as aforesaid and the whole or any part of the business or property of the Company, Sub-Fund or class or any of the assets of the Company, Sub-Fund or class, is proposed to be transferred or sold to another company (hereinafter called "the Transferee") the Company or Sub-Fund may, with the sanction of a Special Resolution conferring either a general authority on the Directors or an authority in respect of any particular arrangement, receive in compensation or part compensation for the transfer or sale, shares, units or other like interests or property in or of the Transferee for distribution among the Members, or may enter into any other arrangement whereby any Member may in lieu of receiving cash or property, or in addition thereto, participate in the profits of, or receive, any other benefit from the Transferee, PROVIDED THAT the Members shall have had the opportunity to redeem their shares as of a Dealing Day prior to the transfer.
- (e) Where a repurchase of shares pursuant to Article 11 (a), (b) or (c) would result in the number of Members falling below two or such other minimum number of Members as the Act may stipulate as the legal minimum number of members in a public limited company or would result in the issued share capital of the Company falling below such minimum amount as the Company may be obliged to maintain as the Act may

stipulate, the Company may defer the repurchase of such shares the repurchase of which would result in such number or amount not being satisfied until the Company is wound up or until the Company procures the issue of sufficient shares to ensure that the aforesaid number and amount are satisfied. The Company shall be entitled to select the shares for such deferred repurchase in such manner as it may deem to be fair and reasonable and as may be approved by the Custodian.

12. DETERMINATION OF NET ASSET VALUE

- (a) The Company shall determine the Net Asset Value of the Company and the Net Asset Value per share of each Sub-Fund and class as of each Dealing Day. The Net Asset Value shall be expressed in the Base Currency as a per share figure for the issue of shares and for the repurchase of shares respectively as appropriate and shall be determined in accordance with Article 13 hereof. The Net Asset Value of the Company is calculated by deducting the total liabilities of the Company from the total assets of the Company. Total assets include the value of all investments held, the sum of any cash, trade debtors and accrued income. Total liabilities comprise all liabilities including any borrowings, trade creditors, accrued expenses and any contingencies for which reserves are determined to be required.
- (b) The Company at any time may, but shall not be obliged to, temporarily suspend the determination of the Net Asset Value of the shares in any Sub-Fund and the sale and repurchase of such shares, in the following instances:
 - (i) any period (other than ordinary holiday or customary weekend closings) when any market is closed which is the main market for a significant part of the Sub-Fund's investments, or when trading thereon is restricted or suspended;
 - (ii) any period during which the disposal or valuation of Investments which constitute a substantial portion of the assets of a Sub-Fund is not practically feasible or if feasible would be possible only on terms materially disadvantageous to Members;
 - (iii) any period when for any reason the prices of any investments of the Sub-Fund cannot be reasonably, promptly or accurately ascertained by an Administrator;
 - (iv) any period when remittance of monies which will, or may, be involved in the realisation of, or in the payment for, investments of the Sub-Fund cannot, in the opinion of the Directors, be carried out at normal rates of exchange;
 - (v) any period when the proceeds of the sale or repurchase of the shares cannot be transmitted to or from the Sub-Fund's account;
 - (vi) any period when a notice to terminate a Sub-Fund has been served or when a meeting of Members has been convened to consider a motion to terminate a Sub-Fund; or
 - (vii) upon the occurrence of an event causing a Sub-Fund to enter into liquidation.
- (c) A suspension of repurchases may be made at any time prior to the payment of the repurchase monies and the removal of the Member's name from the Register. A suspension of subscriptions may be made at any time prior to the entry of a Member's name on the Register.

- (d) The Company may elect to treat the first Business Day on which the conditions giving rise to the suspension have ceased as a substitute Dealing Day in which case the Net Asset Value calculations and all issues and repurchases of shares shall be effected on the substitute Dealing Day. Alternatively the Company may elect not to treat such Business Day as a substitute Dealing Day in which case it shall notify all applicants for shares and shareholders requesting repurchase of shares who shall then be entitled to withdraw their applications and repurchase requests by the date stated in the notification.
- (e) Any such suspension shall be notified immediately to the Central Bank and in any event within the same Business Day.

13. VALUATION OF ASSETS

- (a) The Net Asset Value of the Company shall be calculated in accordance with the provisions of this Article.
- (b) The assets of each Sub-Fund shall be valued as of each Dealing Day. The Net Asset Value per share in each Sub-Fund shall be calculated by dividing the assets of the Sub-Fund, less its liabilities by the number of shares in issue in respect of that Sub-Fund. Any assets or liabilities of the Company which are not attributable to any Sub-Fund shall be allocated pro rata amongst all of the Sub-Funds. Where a Sub-Fund is made up of more than one class of shares, the Net Asset Value of each class shall be determined by calculating the amount of the Net Asset Value of the Sub-Fund attributable to each class. The amount of the Net Asset Value of a Sub-Fund attributable to a class shall be determined by establishing the amount of shares in issue in the class and the number of shares of that class in respect of which subscription orders (net of repurchase orders) have been accepted as at the most recent Net Asset Value calculation and by allocating relevant Class Expenses to the class and making appropriate adjustments to take account of distributions paid out of the Sub-Fund, if applicable, and apportioning the Net Asset Value of the Sub-Fund accordingly. The Net Asset Value per share of a class shall be calculated by dividing the Net Asset Value of the class by the number of shares in issue in that class plus the number of shares of that class in respect of which subscription orders (net of any repurchase orders) have been accepted (adjusted to the nearest whole unit of the Base Currency) as at the most recent Net Asset Value calculation.
 - (i) Assets listed or traded on a Regulated Market for which market quotations are readily available shall be valued at the last traded price on the Regulated Market which is the principal market for such security at the Valuation Point. If the last traded price is unavailable, then the official closing price shall be used. If, in turn, the official closing price is unavailable, then the last bid price shall be used. If the last traded price, the official closing price and the last bid price are unavailable or, in the opinion of the Administrator unrepresentative of fair market value, the value shall be calculated with care and in good faith by the Administrator (being a competent person appointed by the Directors) approved for that purpose by the Custodian, in consultation with the Investment Manager on the basis of the probable realisation value for such assets.
 - (ii) If the assets are listed or traded on several Regulated Markets, the price on the Regulated Market which, in the opinion of the Administrator constitutes the principal market for such assets, will be used.

- (iii) In the event that any of the Investments is not listed or traded on any Regulated Market, such security shall be valued at the probable realisation value determined with care and in good faith by the Administrator (the Administrator being appointed by the Directors and approved by the Custodian as a competent person for such purpose) in consultation with the Investment Manager. In the case of securities purchased by a Sub-Fund in initial public offerings, the probable realisation value of such securities shall be the offering price until such time as the securities are listed on a Regulated Market (from which time they shall be valued in accordance with paragraphs (i) and (ii) above);
- (iv) All fixed income securities (including, but not limited to, bonds, loans, loan participations, asset-backed securities and other structured notes) shall be valued at the price for such securities as supplied by a specific relevant pricing source determined by the Administrator (in consultation with the Investment Manager). If a reliable price is not available, the Administrator (in consultation with the Investment Manager) will use the most recent reliable price for the security provided that such price is the probable realisation value of the securities determined with care and in good faith by the Administrator (being a competent person appointed by the Directors and approved for that purpose by the Custodian). In those circumstances, the Administrator (in consultation with the Investment Manager) will promptly determine if the price of the security could have a material impact on the Sub-Fund's Net Asset Value and then: (1) if the price of the security could have a material impact on the Sub-Fund's Net Asset Value, the Administrator (in consultation with the Investment Manager) will undertake a review of the security price promptly or (2) if the price of the security would not have a material impact on the Sub-Fund's Net Asset Value, the Administrator (in consultation with the Investment Manager) will review the security price as soon as practicable and in any event within ten Business Days of the most recently available price. Subject to the foregoing paragraph, in choosing pricing sources, the Administrator (in consultation with the Investment Manager) may select among pricing services (including services that provide evaluated prices for securities), brokers/dealers, banks, exchanges, reporting services and other sources as may be relevant for a particular security. If practicable, the pricing source should be selected prior to or concurrently with purchasing the security;
- (v) Cash and other liquid assets will be valued at their face value with interest accrued, where applicable, at the Valuation Point;
- (vi) Units or shares in collective investment undertakings will be valued at the latest available net asset value relevant to the collective investment undertaking;
- (vii) Exchange-traded derivatives shall be valued at the relevant settlement price at the Valuation Point on the appropriate exchange for such instruments. If such market price is not available such value shall be the probable realisation value estimated with care and in good faith by the Administrator (being a competent person appointed by the Directors and approved for the purpose by the Custodian). The counterparty to derivative instruments not traded on an exchange must be prepared to value the contract and to close out the transaction at the request of the Company at fair value. The Company may choose to value over the counter derivatives using either the counterparty valuation or an alternative valuation, such as a valuation calculated by the

Company or by an independent pricing vendor provided the Company or other party has adequate human and technical means to perform the valuation. The Company must value over the counter derivatives on a daily basis. Where the Company values over the counter derivatives using an alternative valuation, the Company must follow international best practice and will adhere to the principles on the valuation of over the counter instruments established by bodies such as IOSCO and AIMA. The alternative valuation is that provided by the Administrator (being a competent person appointed by the Directors and approved for the purpose by the Custodian), or a valuation by any other means provided that the value is approved by the Custodian. The alternative valuation will be reconciled to the counterparty valuation on an at least monthly basis. Where significant differences arise these will be promptly investigated and explained. Where the Company values over the counter derivatives using the counterparty valuation, the valuation must be approved or verified by a party who is approved for the purpose by the Custodian and who is independent of the counterparty. The independent verification must be carried out at least weekly.

- (viii) Any value expressed otherwise than in the Base Currency (whether of an investment or cash) and any non-Base Currency borrowing shall be converted into the Base Currency at the rate (whether official or otherwise) which the Administrator in consultation with the Investment Manager deems appropriate in the circumstances.

In the event of it being impossible or incorrect to carry out a valuation of a specific investment in accordance with the valuation rules set out in paragraphs (i) to (viii) above, or if such valuation is not representative of a security's fair market value, the Administrator is entitled to use such other generally recognised valuation method in order to reach a proper valuation of that specific instrument, provided that such method of valuation has been approved by the Custodian.

- (c) The Directors, with the approval of the Custodian, may adjust the value of an asset where such an adjustment is considered necessary to reflect the fair value of such asset in the context of currency, marketability, dealing costs and/or such other considerations as the Directors deem relevant. The Directors' intention is only to exercise this discretion to preserve the value of a Sub-Fund's assets.
- (d) Where the Directors determine to do so in the circumstances described more particularly in the Prospectus, a Sub-Fund Dilution Adjustment may be applied to the Net Asset Value per share of a Sub-Fund. Where a Sub-Fund Dilution Adjustment is made, a dilution adjustment may be applied to the Net Asset Value per share by increasing or decreasing the Net Asset Value per share. The amount of the Sub-Fund Dilution Adjustment for each Sub-Fund will be calculated on a particular Dealing Day by reference to the estimated costs of dealing in the underlying investments of that Sub-Fund and will be applied to each class of the Sub-Fund in an identical manner. In addition to the Sub-Fund Dilution Adjustment, the Directors may, but are not required to, apply a Class Dilution Adjustment at the class level to account for specific costs applicable to the class, such as hedging costs. The Net Asset Value per share, as adjusted by any Sub-Fund Dilution Adjustment or Class Dilution Adjustment, will be applicable to all transactions in shares in the relevant Sub-Fund or class (as the case may be) on the relevant Dealing Day. The application of the Sub-Fund Dilution Adjustment and Class Dilution Adjustment will be reviewed from time to time by the Directors.

- (e) The amortised cost method of valuation may only be used at the absolute discretion of the Directors in relation to Sub-Funds which comply with the Central Bank's requirements for money market funds and where a review of the amortised cost method of valuation vis-à-vis market valuation will be carried out in accordance with the Central Bank's guidelines. Money market instruments in a non-money market fund may be valued at the absolute discretion of the Directors on an amortised basis in accordance with the Central Bank's requirements.
- (f) In calculating the Net Asset Value of the assets:
- (i) every share allotted by the Company shall be deemed to be in issue and the assets shall be deemed to include not only the relevant cash and property in the hands of the Custodian but also the amount of any cash or other property to be received in respect of shares allotted;
 - (ii) where Investments have been agreed to be purchased or sold but such purchase or sale has not been completed, such Investments shall be included or excluded and the gross purchase or net sale consideration excluded or included, as the case may require, as if such purchase or sale had been duly completed. Such inclusion or exclusion shall take place no later than the Business Day following the Business Day on which the agreement to purchase or sell was entered into;
 - (iii) where notice of a repurchase of shares has been given to the Custodian but such cancellation has not been completed the shares to be cancelled shall be deemed not to be in issue and the value of the assets shall be reduced by the amount payable to a Member upon such cancellation;
 - (iv) where any amount in one currency is required to be converted into another currency the Directors may effect such conversion using such rates as the Directors shall determine at the relevant time except where otherwise specifically provided herein;
 - (v) there shall be deducted from the assets the total amount of any actual or estimated liabilities properly payable including outstanding borrowings (if any) but excluding liabilities taken into account under sub-paragraph (ii) above and any estimated liability for tax on and such amount in respect of contingent or projected expenses as the Administrator considers fair and reasonable having regard to the provisions of the Prospectus and the Articles of Association of the Company;
 - (vi) there shall be deducted from the value of any Investment in respect of which a call option has been written the value of such option calculated by reference to the lowest available market dealing offered price quoted on a regulated market or if no such price is available a price certified by a stockbroker or other person approved by the Custodian or such price as the Directors consider in the circumstances to be reasonable and which is approved by the Custodian;
 - (vii) there shall be added to the assets a sum representing any interest or dividends accrued but not received and a sum representing unamortised expenses;
 - (viii) there shall be added to the assets the amount (if any) available for distribution in respect of the last preceding Accounting Period but in respect of which no distribution has been declared;

- (ix) there shall be deducted from the assets the total amount (whether actual or estimated by the Directors) of any other liabilities properly payable including accrued interest on borrowings (if any);
 - (x) the value of assets shall be rounded upwards or downwards as appropriate to the nearest two decimal places or as otherwise determined by the Directors; and
 - (xi) in the event that extraordinary circumstances render such a valuation impracticable or inadequate, the Company may with the consent of the Custodian, prudently, and in good faith, follow, until the termination of such circumstances, an alternative method of valuation approved by the Custodian in relation to any specific asset in order to achieve a fair valuation of the assets of the Company.
- (g) Without prejudice to their general powers to delegate their functions herein certified, the Directors may delegate any of their functions in relation to the calculation of Net Asset Value to the Administrator, to a committee of the Directors or to any other duly authorised person. In the absence of wilful misconduct or manifest error, every decision taken by the Directors or any committee of the Directors or by the Administrator or any duly authorised person on behalf of the Company in calculating the Net Asset Value shall be final and binding on the Company and on present, past or future Members.

14. **TRANSFER AND TRANSMISSION OF SHARES**

- (a) All transfers of shares shall be effected by a transfer in writing in any usual or common form and every form of transfer shall state the full name and address of the transferor and transferee.
- (b) The instrument of transfer of a share shall be signed by or on behalf of the transferor and need not be signed by the transferee. The transferor shall be deemed to remain the holder of the share until the name of the transferee is entered in the Register in respect thereof.
- (c) Unless the Directors otherwise agree, a transfer of shares may not be registered if in consequence of such transfer the transferor or the transferee would hold a number of shares less than the Minimum Holding.
- (d) The Directors may decide to reject any transfer of shares for any reason at their absolute discretion. The Directors may decline to register any transfer of shares unless the instrument of transfer is deposited at the registered office of the Company or at such other place as the Directors may reasonably require, with such other evidence as the Directors may reasonably require to show the right of the transferor to make the transfer.
- (e) If the Directors decline to register a transfer of any share they shall, within one month after the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company, send to the transferee notice of the refusal.
- (f) The registration of any transfers may be suspended at such times and for such periods as the Directors from time to time may determine, PROVIDED ALWAYS that such registration of transfers shall not be suspended for more than thirty days in any year.

- (g) All instruments of transfer which shall be registered shall be retained by the Company, but any instrument of transfer which the Directors may decline to register shall (except in the case of fraud) be returned to the person depositing the same.
- (h) In the case of the death of a Member, the survivors or survivor where the deceased was a joint holder, and the executors or administrators of the deceased where he was a sole or surviving holder, shall be the only person recognised by the Company as having title to his interest in the shares, but nothing in this Article shall release the estate of the deceased holder whether sole or joint from any liability in respect of any share solely or jointly held by him.
- (i) Any guardian of an infant Member and any guardian or other legal representative of a Member under legal disability and any person entitled to a share in consequence of the death, insolvency or bankruptcy of a Member shall, upon producing such evidence of his title as the Directors may require, have the right either to be registered himself as the holder of the share or to make such transfer thereof as the deceased or bankrupt Member could have made, but the Directors shall, in either case, have the same right to refuse or suspend registration as they would have had in the case of a transfer of the share by the infant or by the deceased, insolvent or bankrupt Member before the death, insolvency or bankruptcy or by the Member under legal disability before such disability.
- (j) A person so becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death, insolvency or bankruptcy of a Member shall have the right to receive and may give a discharge for all monies payable or other advantages due on or in respect of the share, but he shall not be entitled to receive notice of or to attend or vote at meetings of the Company, nor save as aforesaid, to any of the rights or privileges of a Member unless and until he shall be registered as a Member in respect of the share PROVIDED ALWAYS that the Directors may at any time give notice requiring any such person to elect either to be registered himself or to transfer the share and if the notice is not complied with within ninety days the Directors may thereafter withhold all moneys payable or other advantages due in respect of the share until the requirements of the notice have been complied with.

15. INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES

- (a) The Company may invest only in those investments permitted by the Regulations and subject to the limitations set out in the Regulations.
- (b) The investment objectives of the Sub-Funds shall be set out in the Prospectus and in the case of a Sub-Fund may involve the replication of the composition of a stock or debt securities index which is recognised by the Central Bank.
- (c) Subject to authorisation by the Central Bank and to the conditions and limitations outlined in the Regulations, the Company may invest up to 100 per cent. of its assets in transferable securities and money market instruments issued by or guaranteed by a member state of the European Union, its local authorities, a non-member state or a public international body of which one or more member states of the European Union are members or issued or guaranteed by the government of the U.S. (including its agencies and instrumentalities), Switzerland, Norway, Canada, Japan, Australia and New Zealand or issued or guaranteed by any one or more of the following: OECD countries, Government of Brazil (provided the relevant issues are investment grade to the extent that this is required by the Central Bank), Government of India (provided the relevant issues are investment grade to the extent that this is required by the Central Bank), Government of Singapore, Government of the People's Republic of

China, European Investment Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Finance Corporation, International Monetary Fund, Euratom, The Asian Development Bank, European Central Bank, Council of Europe, Eurofima, African Development Bank, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (The World Bank), The Inter American Development Bank, European Union, Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae), Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac), Government National Mortgage Association (Ginnie Mae), Student Loan Marketing Association (Sallie Mae), Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Tennessee Valley Authority and Straight-A Funding LLC.

- (d) With the exception of permitted Investments in unlisted securities, units of open-ended collective investment undertakings or over-the-counter financial derivative instruments, the Company and the Sub-Funds will only invest in securities (including financial derivative instruments) which are listed or traded on a stock exchange or market (including derivative exchange or market) which meets with the regulatory criteria (regulated, operates regularly, is recognised and open to the public) and which is listed in the Prospectus.
- (e) If the investment limits permitted by the Regulations are exceeded for reasons beyond the control of the Company or as result of the exercise of subscription rights, the Company shall adopt as a priority objective for its sales transactions the remedying of that situation, taking due account of the interests of the Members.
- (f) The Company or a Sub-Fund may not:
 - (i) borrow money (which, for the avoidance of doubt, does not occur where the Company or a Sub-Fund enters into reverse repurchase agreements) except that the Company or a Sub-Fund may:
 - (a) acquire foreign currency by means of a “back-to-back” loan. Foreign currency obtained in this manner is not classed as borrowings provided that the offsetting deposit equals or exceeds the value of the foreign currency loan outstanding; or
 - (b) borrow up to 10 per cent. of the value of its net assets provided that such borrowing is on a temporary basis. The Company and the Custodian may give a charge over the assets of the Company in order to secure such borrowings;
 - (ii) use the Company’s or Sub-Fund’s assets as collateral for the issue of securities except in the case of back-to-back loans;
 - (iii) grant loans to, or act as guarantor on behalf of, third parties;
 - (iv) sell any of the Investments when such Investments are not in the Company’s or a Sub-Fund’s ownership.
- (g) To achieve its investment objectives, the Company or a Sub-Fund may employ techniques and instruments relating to the investments subject to the conditions and within the limits from time to time laid down by the Central Bank.
- (h) Investments made by the Company with respect to a Sub-Fund in units of other collective investment undertakings may not exceed, in aggregate, 10 per cent. of the assets of that Sub-Fund unless otherwise stated in the Prospectus. Subject to

authorisation by the Central Bank, the Company or a Sub-Fund may invest in a collective investment undertaking (“underlying fund”) managed by the Investment Manager or any other company with which the Investment Manager is linked by common management or control or by a substantial direct or indirect holding, provided that the Investment Manager or such other company may not charge subscription or repurchase fees on account of the investment of the Company or such Sub-Fund in the underlying fund. The foregoing proviso shall not apply to anti-dilution levies charged for the benefit of the underlying fund.

- (i) A Sub-Fund may invest up to 20 per cent. of its net assets in shares and/or debt securities issued by the same body (and up to 35 per cent. for one single issuer in certain exceptional circumstances) where the investment policy of the Sub-Fund is to replicate an index provided that such index is published in appropriate manner and has been recognised by the Central Bank as (A) being sufficiently diversified; and (B) representing an adequate benchmark for the market to which it refers and (C) the index is published in an appropriate manner.
- (j) The Company or a Sub-Fund may invest in financial derivative instruments, including equivalent cash-settled instruments, dealt in on a Regulated Market and may invest in over-the-counter derivatives subject to the conditions and limitations outlined in the Regulations and laid down by the Central Bank from time to time.

16. **GENERAL MEETINGS**

- (a) All general meetings of the Company shall be held in Ireland.
- (b) The Company shall in each year hold a general meeting as its annual general meeting in addition to any other meeting in that year. Not more than fifteen months shall elapse between the date of one annual general meeting of the Company and that of the next PROVIDED THAT the Company may hold its first annual general meeting within eighteen months of its incorporation. Subsequent annual general meetings shall be held once in each year within nine months of the end of the financial year of the Company as determined by the Directors from time to time at such time and place in Ireland as may be determined by the Directors.
- (c) All general meetings (other than annual general meetings) shall be called extraordinary general meetings.
- (d) The Directors may call an extraordinary general meeting whenever they think fit and extraordinary general meetings shall be convened on such requisition, or in default may be convened by such requisitionists, and in such manner as provided by the Act.

17. **NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS**

- (a) At least twenty-one Clear Days’ notice specifying the place, the day and the hour of the meeting, and in the case of special business the general nature of such business (and in the case of an annual general meeting specifying the meeting as such) shall be given in the manner hereinafter mentioned to such persons as are under the provisions hereof or the conditions of issue of the shares held by them entitled to receive notices from the Company.
- (b) The Directors and the Auditors shall each be entitled to receive notice of, and attend and speak at, any general meeting of the Company.

- (c) In each notice calling a meeting of the Company, there shall appear with reasonable prominence a statement that a Member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint one or more proxies to attend and vote instead of him and that a proxy need not also be a Member.
- (d) The accidental omission to give notice to, or the non-receipt of notice by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at any general meeting.

18. PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

- (a) All business shall be deemed special that is transacted at an extraordinary general meeting and also all business that is transacted at an annual general meeting, with the exception of the consideration of the statutory financial statements and report of the Directors and the report of the Auditors on the financial statements and the report of the Directors, the review by the Members of the Company's affairs, the election of Directors in the place of those retiring, the fixing of the remuneration of the Auditors and the appointment or reappointment of the Auditors.
- (b) No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present. Two Members holding voting shares present either in person or by proxy shall be a quorum for a general meeting provided that, in the case of a general meeting of a Sub-Fund or class, in the event that there is only one Member in that Sub-Fund or class, the quorum shall be one Member present in person or by proxy at the meeting. The quorum at any adjourned meeting shall be one Member present in person or by proxy entitled to vote. A representative of a corporation authorised pursuant to Article 19(m) to be present at any meeting of the Company shall be deemed to be a Member for the purpose of a quorum.
- (c) If within half an hour from the time appointed for a meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting, if convened on the requisition of or by Members, shall be dissolved. In any other case it shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week, at the same time and place or to such other day and at such other time and place as the Directors may determine.
- (d) The chairman or, if absent, the deputy chairman of the Company, or failing him, some other Director nominated by the Directors shall preside as chairman at every general meeting of the Company, but if at any meeting neither the chairman nor the deputy chairman nor such other Director be present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, or if none of them be willing to act as chairman, the Directors present shall choose some Director present to be chairman, or if no Directors be present, or if all the Directors present decline to take the chair, the Members present shall choose some Member present to be chairman.
- (e) 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 except business which might lawfully have been transacted at the meeting from which the adjournment took place. When a meeting is adjourned for fourteen days or more ten days' notice at the least specifying the place, the day and the hour of the adjourned meeting, shall be given as in the case of the original meeting but it shall not be necessary to specify in such notice the nature of the business to be transacted at the adjourned meeting. Save as aforesaid, it shall not be necessary to give any notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned meeting.

- (f) At any general meeting, a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless before or upon the declaration of the result of the show of hands a poll is demanded by the chairman or by at least five Members present or any Members present representing at least one tenth of the shares in issue having the right to vote at the meeting. Unless a poll is so 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 book containing the minutes of the proceedings of the Company shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against such resolution.
- (g) If a poll is duly demanded, it shall be taken in such manner and at such place as the chairman may direct (including the use of ballot or voting papers or tickets) and the result of a poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.
- (h) The chairman may, in the event of a poll, appoint scrutineers and may adjourn the meeting to some place and time fixed by him for the purpose of declaring the result of the poll.
- (i) In the case of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the chairman of the meeting at which the show of hands takes place or at which the poll is demanded shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.
- (j) A poll demanded on the election of a chairman and a poll demanded on a question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken at such time and place as the chairman directs not being more than thirty days from the date of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the poll was demanded.
- (k) 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 has been demanded.
- (l) A demand for a poll may be withdrawn and no notice need be given of a poll not taken immediately.
- (m) If at any time the share capital is divided into different classes of shares, the rights attached to any class (unless otherwise provided by the terms of issue of the shares of that class or unless otherwise provided herein) may, whether or not the Company is being wound up, be varied with the approval of three quarters of the holders of the shares of that class represented or present and voting at a general meeting of the class, provided that the quorum at any such general meeting shall be two or more Members of that class present in person or by proxy together holding at least one-third of the shares of the relevant class.
- (n) Subject to Section 193 of the Act, a resolution in writing signed by all of the Members for the time being entitled to attend and vote on such resolution at a general meeting (or being bodies corporate by their duly authorised representative) shall be as valid and effective for all purposes as if the resolution had been passed at a general meeting of the Company duly convened and held, and may consist of several documents in like form each signed by one or more persons, and if described as a special resolution shall be deemed to be a special resolution within the meaning of the Act. Any such resolution shall be served on the Company.

19. **VOTES OF MEMBERS**

- (a) On a show of hands every Member who is present shall have one vote.
- (b) On a poll every Member present in person or by proxy shall be entitled to one vote in respect of each share held by him.
- (c) In the case of joint holders of a share, 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 for this purpose seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names stand in the Register in respect of the shares.
- (d) 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 given or tendered, and every vote not disallowed at such meeting shall be valid for all purposes. Any such objection made in due time shall be referred to the chairman of the meeting, whose decision shall be final and conclusive.
- (e) On a poll votes may be given either personally or by proxy.
- (f) On a poll, a Member entitled to more than one vote need not, if he votes, use all his votes or cast all the votes he uses in the same way.
- (g) The instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing under the hand of the appointor or of his attorney duly authorised in writing, or if the appointor is a corporation, either under its common seal or under the hand of an officer or attorney so authorised. The appointment of a proxy by electronic means shall be effective only in such form as the Directors may approve. An instrument of proxy shall be in any usual form or in such form as the Directors may approve PROVIDED ALWAYS that such form shall give the holder the choice of authorising his/her proxy to vote for or against each resolution.
- (h) Any person (whether a Member or not) may be appointed to act as a proxy. A Member may appoint more than one proxy to attend on the same occasion.
- (i) The instrument appointing a proxy and the power of attorney or other authority (if any) under which it is signed or a notarially certified copy of such power or authority, shall be deposited at the registered office of the Company or at such other place as is specified for that purpose in the notice of meeting or in the instrument of proxy issued by the Company not later than the time specified in the notice of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the instrument proposes to vote and if the aforesaid conditions are not complied with the instrument of proxy shall not be treated as valid. Where the appointment of a proxy and any authority under which it is signed is to be received by the Company in electronic form, it may be so received where an address has been specified by the Company for the purpose of receiving electronic communications:
 - (i) in the notice convening the meeting; or
 - (ii) in any appointment of 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.

- (j) No instrument appointing a proxy shall be valid after the expiration of twelve months from the date named in it as the date of its execution, except at an adjourned meeting or on a poll demanded at a meeting or an adjourned meeting in cases where the meeting was originally held within twelve months from such date.
- (k) The Directors may at the expense of the Company send, by post or otherwise, to the Members instruments of proxy (with or without prepaid postage for their return) for use at any general meeting or at any meeting of any class of Members, either in blank or nominating in the alternative any one or more of the Directors or any other persons. If for the purpose of any meeting invitations to appoint as proxy a person or one of a number of persons specified in the invitations are issued at the expense of the Company, such invitations shall be issued to all (and not to some only) of the Members entitled to be sent a notice of the meeting and to vote thereat by proxy.
- (l) A vote given in accordance with the terms of an instrument of proxy shall be valid notwithstanding the death or insanity of the principal or the revocation of the instrument of proxy, or of the authority under which the instrument of proxy was executed, or the transfer of the shares in respect of which the instrument of proxy is given, provided that no intimation in writing of such death, insanity, revocation or transfer shall have been received by the Company at the registered office of the Company, before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the instrument of proxy is used.
- (m) Any body corporate which is a Member may authorise by resolution of its Directors or other governing body such person as it thinks fit to act as its representative at any meeting of the Company and the person so authorised shall be entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of the body corporate which he represents as that body corporate could exercise if it were an individual Member and such body corporate shall for the purposes of these Articles be deemed to be present in person at any such meeting if a person so authorised is present thereat.
- (n) The provisions of Articles 16, 17, 18 and 19 shall apply mutatis mutandis to meetings of each class of Members or Members of a Sub-Fund.

20. **DIRECTORS**

- (a) Unless otherwise determined by the Company by Ordinary Resolution, the number of the Directors shall not be less than two nor more than twelve. The first Directors shall be appointed by the subscribers herein.
- (b) A Director need not be a Member.
- (c) The Directors shall have power at any time and from time to time to appoint any person to be a Director, either to fill a casual vacancy or as an addition to the existing Directors. Any Director so appointed shall hold office only until the next following annual general meeting and shall then be eligible for re-election.
- (d) The Directors shall be entitled to such maximum aggregate amount of remuneration in relation to the performance of their duties as the Directors may determine and notify to Members from time to time. Any change in the maximum aggregate amount of Directors' remuneration shall also be disclosed in the Prospectus or in the financial statements of the Company, whichever is published sooner. Such remuneration shall be deemed to accrue from day to day. The Directors and any alternate Directors may also be paid all travelling, hotel and other expenses properly incurred by them in attending and returning from meetings of the Directors or any committee of the

Directors or general meetings or any meetings in connection with the business of the Company.

- (e) The Directors may in addition to such remuneration as is referred to in Article 20(d) hereof grant special remuneration to any Director who, being called upon, shall perform any special or extra services to or at the request of the Company.
- (f) It is expressly permitted for the purposes of Section 228(1)(d) of the Act to use the Company's property for the purposes of the payment of the reasonable fees and expenses of a Director where any such expenses incurred are merely incidental to the due and proper performance of his duties as a Director of the Company, subject to such conditions as may be approved by the Board or such conditions as may have been approved pursuant to such authority as may be delegated by the Board in accordance with these Articles.
- (g) The Company at any general meeting at which a Director retires or is removed shall fill the vacated office by electing a Director unless the Company shall determine to reduce the number of Directors.
- (h) The office of a Director shall be vacated by a Director in any of the following events, namely:
 - (i) if he resigns his office by notice in writing signed by him and left at the registered office of the Company;
 - (ii) if he becomes bankrupt or makes any arrangement or composition with his creditors generally;
 - (iii) if he becomes of unsound mind;
 - (iv) if he ceases to be a Director by virtue of, or becomes prohibited from being a Director by reason of an order made under the provisions of any law or enactment;
 - (v) if he is requested by a majority of the other Directors (not being less than two in number) to vacate office;
 - (vi) if he is removed from office by an Ordinary Resolution; or
 - (vii) if he is absent from four successive meetings without leave expressed by a resolution of the Directors.
- (i) At least ten days' prior notice in writing shall be given to the Company of the intention of any Member or Members to propose any person other than a retiring Director for election to the office of Director and such notice shall be accompanied by notice in writing signed by the person to be proposed confirming his willingness to be appointed PROVIDED ALWAYS that if the Members present at a general meeting unanimously consent, the chairman of such meeting may waive the said notices and submit to the meeting the name of any person so nominated, provided such person confirms in writing his willingness to be appointed and PROVIDED FURTHER that the nomination of any person other than a retiring Director for election as Director may be made only by a Director or by such Member or Members holding in the aggregate shares representing not less than 2.5 per cent. of the Net Asset Value of the Company on the Dealing Day preceding the date of nomination.

- (j) At a general meeting a motion for the appointment of two or more persons as Directors by a single resolution shall not be made unless a resolution that it shall be so made has been first agreed to by the meeting without any vote being given against it.
- (k) Any Director may, with the approval of the other Directors, at any time by instrument in writing (whether in electronic form or otherwise in writing) under his hand and deposited at the registered office, or delivered at a meeting of the Directors, appoint any Director or other person to be his alternate Director and may in like manner at any time terminate such appointment.
- (l) The appointment of an alternate Director shall terminate if his appointor ceases to be a Director or on the happening of any such event which if he were a Director would cause him to vacate such office.
- (m) An alternate Director shall be entitled to receive notices of meetings of the Directors and shall be entitled to attend and vote as a Director at any such meeting at which the Director appointing him is not personally present and generally at such meeting to perform all functions of his appointor as a Director and for the purposes of the proceedings at such meeting the provisions hereof shall apply as if he (instead of his appointor) were a Director. If he himself shall be a Director, or shall attend any such meeting as an alternate for more than one Director, his voting rights shall be cumulative, provided, however, that he shall count as one for the purposes of determining a quorum. If his appointor is for the time being temporarily unable to act, his signature to any resolution in writing of the Directors and for the purposes of affixing the Company seal shall be as effective as the signature of his appointor. To such extent as the Directors may from time to time determine in relation to any committee of the Directors, the foregoing provisions of this paragraph shall also apply mutatis mutandis to any meeting of any such committee of which his appointor is a member. An alternate Director shall not (save as aforesaid or as otherwise herein provided) have power to act as a Director nor shall he be deemed to be a Director.
- (n) An alternate Director shall be entitled to contract and be interested in and benefit from contracts or arrangements or transactions and to be repaid expenses and to be indemnified to the same extent mutatis mutandis as if he were a Director but he shall not be entitled to receive from the Company in respect of his appointment as alternate Director any remuneration except only such part (if any) of the remuneration otherwise payable to his appointor as such appointor may by notice in writing to the Company from time to time direct.

21. **DIRECTORS, OFFICES AND INTERESTS**

- (a) The Directors may appoint one or more of their body to the office of managing Director or joint managing Director or to any other executive office under the Company (including, where considered appropriate, the office of chairman) on such terms and for such period as they may determine and, without prejudice to the terms of any contract entered into in any particular case, may revoke any such appointment at any time.
- (b) A Director holding any such executive office shall receive such remuneration, whether in addition to, or in substitution for, his ordinary remuneration, as a Director and whether by way of salary, commission, participation in profits or otherwise or partly in one way and partly in another, as the Directors may determine.

- (c) The appointment of any Director to the office of chairman or managing or joint managing Director shall terminate automatically if he ceases to be a Director but without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of any contract of service between him and the Company.
- (d) The appointment of any Director to any other executive office shall not determine automatically if he ceases from any cause to be a Director unless the contract or resolution under which he holds office shall expressly state otherwise, in which event such determination shall be without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of any contract of service between him and the Company.
- (e) A Director may hold any other office or place of profit under the Company (except that of Auditor) in conjunction with his office of Director, and may act in a professional capacity to the Company, on such terms as to remuneration and otherwise as the Directors may arrange.
- (f) 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:
 - (i) may be a party to, or otherwise interested in, any transaction or arrangement with the Company or in which the Company is interested; and
 - (ii) shall not be accountable, by reason of his office, 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.
- (g) No Director or intending Director shall be disqualified by his office from contracting with the Company either as vendor, purchaser or otherwise, nor shall any such contract or any contract or arrangement entered into by or on behalf of the other company in which any Director shall be in any way interested be avoided nor shall any Director so contracting or being so interested be liable to account to the Company for any profit realised by any such contract or arrangement by reason of such Director holding that office or of the fiduciary relationship thereby established. The nature of a Director's interest must be declared by him at the meeting of the Directors at which the question of entering into the contract or arrangement is first taken into consideration, or if the Director was not at the date of that meeting interested in the proposed contract or arrangement at the next meeting of the Directors held after he became so interested, and in a case where the Director becomes interested in a contract or arrangement after it is made, at the first meeting of the Directors held after he becomes so interested.
- (h) A copy of every declaration made and notice given under this Article shall be entered within three days after the making or giving thereof in a book kept for this purpose. Such book shall be open for inspection without charge by any Director, Secretary, Auditor or Member at the registered office of the Company and shall be produced at every general meeting of the Company and at any meeting of the Directors if any Director so requests in sufficient time to enable the book to be available at the meeting.

- (i) For the purposes of this Article:
 - (i) 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
 - (ii) 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.
- (j) Save as otherwise provided by these Articles, a Director shall not vote at a meeting of the Directors or a committee of Directors on any resolution concerning a matter in which he has, directly or indirectly, an interest which is material or a duty which conflicts or may conflict with the interests of the Company. Unless otherwise resolved by the Directors, a Director shall not be counted in the quorum present at a meeting in relation to any such resolution on which he is not entitled to vote.
- (k) A Director shall be entitled (in the absence of some other material interest than is indicated below) to vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of any resolution concerning any of the following matters, namely:
 - (i) the giving of any security, guarantee or indemnity to him in respect of money lent by him to the Company or any of its Subsidiary or Associated Companies or obligations incurred by him at the request of or for the benefit of the Company or any of its Subsidiary or Associated Companies; or
 - (ii) the giving of any security, guarantee or indemnity to a third party in respect of a debt or obligation of the Company or any of its Subsidiary or Associated Companies for which he himself has assumed responsibility in whole or in part under a guarantee or indemnity or by the giving of security; or
 - (iii) any proposal concerning any offer of shares or other securities of or by the Company or any of its Subsidiary or Associated Companies for subscription, purchase or exchange in which offer he is or is to be interested as a participant in the underwriting or sub-underwriting thereof; or
 - (iv) any proposal concerning any other company in which he is interested, directly or indirectly, and whether as an officer or shareholder or otherwise howsoever, provided that he is not the holder of 5 per cent. or more of the issued shares of any class of such company or of the voting rights available to members of such company, any such interest being deemed for the purpose of this Article 21 to be a material interest in all circumstances.
- (l) Where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment (including fixing or varying the terms of appointment) of two or more Directors to offices or employments with the Company such proposals may be divided and considered in relation to each Director separately and in such case each of the Directors concerned (if not otherwise debarred from voting) shall be entitled to vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of each resolution, except that concerning his own appointment.
- (m) Nothing in Section 228(1)(e) of the Act shall restrict a Director from entering into any commitment which has been approved by the Board or has been approved pursuant to such authority as may be delegated by the Board in accordance with these

Articles. It shall be the duty of each Director to obtain the prior approval of the Board, before entering into any commitment permitted by Sections 228(1)(e)(ii) and 228(2) of the Act.

- (n) If a question arises at a meeting of Directors or of a committee of Directors as to the materiality of a Director's interest or as to the right of any Director to vote and such question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting, such question may be referred, before the conclusion of the meeting, to the chairman of the meeting and his ruling in relation to any Director other than himself shall be final and conclusive.
- (o) For the purpose of this Article, an interest of a person who is the spouse or a minor child of a Director shall be treated as an interest of the Director and, in relation to an alternate Director, an interest of his appointor shall be treated as an interest of the alternate Director.
- (p) The Company by Ordinary Resolution may suspend or relax the provisions of this Article to any extent or ratify any transaction not duly authorised by reason of a contravention of this Article.

22. **POWERS OF DIRECTORS**

- (a) The business of the Company shall be managed by the Directors, who may exercise all such powers of the Company as are not by the Act, by the Regulations or hereby required to be exercised by the Company in a general meeting, subject, nevertheless, to the provisions of the Act, to the Regulations and to the regulations herein contained being not inconsistent with the aforesaid regulations as may be prescribed by the Company in a general meeting, but no regulations made by the Company in a general meeting shall invalidate any prior act of the Directors which would have been valid if such regulations had not been made. The general powers given by this Article shall not be limited or restricted by any special authority or power given to the Directors by this or any other Article.
- (b) All cheques, promissory notes, drafts, bills of exchange and other negotiable or transferable instruments drawn on the Company, and all other receipts for moneys paid to the Company or a Sub-Fund shall be signed, drawn, accepted, endorsed or otherwise executed, as the case may be, in such manner as the Directors from time to time shall by resolution determine.
- (c) The Directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to invest all or any funds of the Company as authorised by these Articles of Association.
- (d) The Directors may exercise the voting powers conferred by shares of any other company held or owned by the Company in such manner in all respects as they think fit and in particular they may exercise their voting powers in favour of any resolution appointing the Directors or any of them as directors or officers of such other company or providing for the payment of remuneration to the directors or officers of such other company.
- (e) The exclusive power to exercise the right to bring, permit or maintain any action, proceeding or claim on behalf of the Company or any Sub-Fund is vested in the Directors. Unless expressly provided by law, Members shall not have the right to: (i) enforce contractual claims of the Company or any Sub-Fund, (ii) assert claims against the Company or any Sub-Fund or its Officers or service providers, or (iii) bring a claim on behalf of any other Member.

- (f) As used in these Articles, a “derivative” claim shall be any claim asserted by a Member other than: a claim based on alleged violations of a Member’s individual rights distinct from any harm to the Company or a Sub-Fund or other individual Members, including a particular Member’s voting rights, rights to a dividend payment, rights to inspect books and records, or other similar rights personal to the Member and distinct from any harm to the Company or a Sub-Fund or other individual Members. A derivative claim shall include, without limitation, any claim asserted by a Member purporting to be brought on behalf of the Company or a Sub-Fund or other individual Members involving any alleged harm to the Company or a Sub-Fund or to other individual Members. To the maximum extent permitted by law, no Member shall have the right, and each Member shall be deemed to have waived any entitlement, to bring or maintain any court action or other proceeding (including but not limited to any putative class action) asserting a derivative claim.
- (g) Nothing in this Article 22 limits a Member’s entitlement under section 212 of the Act (“Protection for minorities”).

23. **BORROWING AND HEDGING POWERS AND THE USE OF FINANCIAL DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS**

Subject to the limits and conditions set forth in the Regulations and the Prospectus or laid down by the Central Bank and subject to the provisions of Article 24(j) hereof, the Directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to make and dispose of Investments, borrow money, to mortgage or charge its undertaking, property, or any part thereof and to issue debentures, debenture stock and other securities whether outright or as a security for any debts, to give guarantees and to use techniques and instruments for hedging and investment purposes and to acquire, hold and dispose of financial derivative instruments.

24. **PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS**

- (a) The Directors may meet together for the dispatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit. Questions arising at any meeting shall be determined by a majority of votes. In case of an equality of votes, the chairman shall have a second or casting vote. A Director may, and the Secretary on the requisition of a Director shall, at any time summon a meeting of the Directors.
- (b) The quorum necessary for the transaction of business of the Directors may be fixed by the Directors, and unless so fixed at any other number shall be two.
- (c) The continuing Directors or a sole continuing Director may act notwithstanding any vacancies in their number but, if and so long as the number of Directors is reduced below the minimum number fixed by or in accordance with the provisions hereof or the continuing Directors or Director may act for the purpose of filling vacancies in their number or of summoning general meetings of the Company, but not for any other purpose. If there be no Directors or Director able or willing to act, then any two Members may summon a general meeting for the purpose of appointing Directors.
- (d) The Directors may from time to time elect or remove a chairman and, if they think fit, a deputy chairman and determine the period for which they respectively are to hold office.
- (e) The chairman or, failing him, the deputy chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Directors, but if there be no chairman or deputy chairman, or if at any meeting the chairman or deputy chairman be not present within five minutes after the time

appointed for holding the same, the Directors present may choose one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.

- (f) A resolution in writing (in electronic form or otherwise) signed (whether by electronic signature, advanced electronic signature or otherwise approved by the Directors) by all the Directors for the time being entitled to receive notice of a meeting of the Directors and to vote thereat shall be as valid and effectual as a resolution passed at a meeting of the Directors duly convened and may consist of several documents in the like form each signed by one or more of the Directors.
- (g) A meeting of the Directors for the time being at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all powers and discretions for the time being exercisable by the Directors.
- (h) The Directors may delegate any of their powers to committees consisting of such of their members as they think fit. The meetings and proceedings of any such committee shall conform to the requirements as to quorum imposed under the provisions of Article 24(b) and shall be governed by the provisions hereof regulating the meetings and proceedings of the Directors so far as the same are applicable and are not superseded by any regulations imposed on them by the Directors.
- (i) The Directors may, whether by standing resolution or otherwise, delegate their powers relating to the issue and repurchase of shares and the calculation of the Net Asset Value of the shares, the declaration of dividends and all management and administrative duties in relation to the Company, to the Administrator or, to any duly authorised Officer or other person who shall carry out such duties, subject to such terms and conditions as the Directors in their absolute discretion may resolve.
- (j) The Directors may delegate their powers relating to the management of the Company's assets to the Investment Manager or to any duly authorised Officer or other person, subject to such terms and conditions as the Directors in their absolute discretion may resolve.
- (k) All acts done by any meeting of Directors, or of a committee of Directors or by any person authorised by the Directors shall, notwithstanding it being afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment or authorisation of any such Directors or person acting as aforesaid, or that they or any of them were disqualified, 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.
- (l) The Directors shall cause minutes to be made of:
 - (i) all appointments of officers made by the Directors;
 - (ii) the names of the Directors present at each meeting of the Directors and of any committee of Directors; and
 - (iii) all resolutions and proceedings of all meetings of the Company and of the Directors and of committees of Directors.
- (m) Any such minutes as are referred to in Article 24 (l) hereof, if purporting to be signed by the chairman of the meeting at which the proceedings took place, or by the chairman of the next succeeding meeting, shall, until the contrary be proved, be conclusive evidence of their proceedings.

- (n) Any Director may participate in a meeting of the Directors or any committee of the Directors by means of a conference telephone or other telecommunication equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other speak and such participation in a meeting shall constitute presence in person at the meeting.

25. **SECRETARY**

The Secretary shall be appointed by the Directors. Anything required or authorised to be done by the Secretary may, if the office is vacant or there is for any other reason no Secretary capable of acting, be done by any assistant or deputy Secretary or if there is no assistant or deputy Secretary capable of acting, by any officer of the Company authorised generally or specially in that behalf by the Directors PROVIDED THAT any provisions hereof requiring or authorising anything to be done by a Director and the Secretary shall not be satisfied by its being done by or to the same person acting both as Director and as, or in the place of, the Secretary.

26. **THE COMPANY SEAL**

- (a) The Directors shall provide for the safe custody of the seal of the Company. The seal shall be used only with the authority of the Directors or of a committee of Directors authorised by the Directors in that behalf. The Directors may from time to time as they see fit determine the persons and the number of such persons who shall authenticate the affixing of the seal, and until otherwise so determined the affixing of the seal shall be authenticated by two Directors or by one Director and the Secretary, or some other person duly authorised by the Directors, and the Directors may authorise different persons for different purposes.
- (b) The Directors may by resolution determine either generally or in any particular case or cases that the signature of any such person authenticating the affixing of the seal may be affixed by some mechanical means to be specified in such resolution or that such certificate shall bear no signatures.
- (c) For the purposes of this Article any instrument in electronic form to which the seal is required to be affixed shall be sealed by means of an advanced electronic signature based on a qualified certificate of a Director and the Secretary or of a second Director or by some other person appointed by the Directors for the purpose.

27. **DIVIDENDS**

- (a) The Directors may from time to time as they think fit pay such dividends on any class of shares of the Company as appear to the Directors to be justified, subject to any policy statement in relation to dividends in the Prospectus for the relevant Sub-Fund.
- (b) Unless otherwise provided for in the Prospectus, the amount available for distribution in any Accounting Period shall be a sum equal to the aggregate of the Company's net realised and net unrealised capital gains and the net income received by the Company or relevant Sub-Fund (whether in the form of dividends, interest, capital gains or otherwise) during the Accounting Period, subject to such adjustments in respect of the shares as may be appropriate under the following headings:
 - (i) addition or deduction of a sum by way of adjustment to allow for the effect of sales or repurchases, cum or ex-dividend;

- (ii) addition of a sum representing any interest or dividend or other income accrued but not received by the Company in respect of a Sub-Fund at the end of the Accounting Period and deduction of a sum representing (to the extent that an adjustment by way of addition has been made in respect of any previous Accounting Period) interest or dividends or other income accrued at the end of the previous Accounting Period;
 - (iii) addition of the amount (if any) available for distribution in respect of any preceding Accounting Period but not distributed in respect thereof;
 - (iv) addition of a sum representing the estimated or actual repayment of tax resulting from any claims in respect of corporation tax relief or double taxation relief or otherwise;
 - (v) deduction of the amount of any tax or other estimated or actual liability properly payable out of the income of the Company;
 - (vi) deduction of a sum representing participation in income paid upon the cancellation of shares during the Accounting Period;
 - (vii) deduction of such sum as the Company with the approval of the Auditors may think appropriate in respect of the Preliminary Expenses and Duties and Charges, including fees, payable to the Custodian, Administrator or Investment Manager, all expenses of and incidental to any amendments to the Memorandum and Articles of Association for the purpose of securing that the Company conforms to legislation coming into force after the date of incorporation hereof and any other amendments made pursuant to a resolution of the Company, expenses comprising all costs, charges, professional fees and disbursements bona fide incurred in respect of the computation, claiming or reclaiming of all taxation reliefs and payments, and any interest paid or payable on borrowings PROVIDED ALWAYS that the Company shall not be responsible for any error in any estimates of corporation tax repayments or double taxation relief expected by way of taxation or of income receivable, and if the same shall not prove in all respects correct, the Directors shall ensure that any consequent deficiency or surplus shall be adjusted in the Accounting Period in which a further or final settlement is made of such tax repayment or liability or claim to relief or the amount of any such estimated income receivable is determined, and no adjustment shall be made to any dividend previously declared;
 - (viii) where a class operates equalisation, distributions made by such classes will include an amount of income equalisation; and
 - (ix) deduction of any amounts declared as a distribution but not yet distributed.
- (c) The Directors may distribute in kind among Members by way of dividend or otherwise any of the assets of the Company.
 - (d) Shares shall qualify for dividends in such manner as may be determined by the Directors.
 - (e) Any declaration of a dividend by the Directors may specify that the same shall be payable to the persons registered as Members at the close of business on a particular date, and thereupon the dividend shall be payable to them in accordance with their

respective holdings so registered, but without prejudice to the rights inter se in respect of such dividend, of transferors and transferees of shares.

- (f) The Company may transmit any dividend or other amount payable in respect of any share by wire transfer (to a bank account nominated by the holder where there are joint holders, to a bank account nominated by that one of the joint holders who is first named on the Register) or by cheque or warrant sent by ordinary post to the registered address of the Member, or, in the case of joint holders, to the person whose name and address appears first on the Register or any such other manner as may be prescribed in the Prospectus and shall not be responsible for any loss arising in respect of such transmission.
- (g) No dividend or other amount payable to any holder of shares shall bear interest against the Company. All unclaimed dividends and other amounts payable as aforesaid may be invested or otherwise made use of for the benefit of the Company until claimed. Payment by the Company of any unclaimed dividend or other amount payable in respect of a share into a separate account shall not constitute the Company a trustee in respect thereof. Any dividend unclaimed after six years from the date when it first became payable shall be forfeited automatically, without the necessity for any declaration or other action by the Company.
- (h) At the option of any Member, the Directors may apply all dividends declared on the shares held by such Member in the issue of additional shares in the Company to that Member at the Net Asset Value obtaining when such dividends are declared and on such terms as the Directors from time to time may resolve, provided, however, that any Member shall be entitled to elect to receive a cash dividend in respect of the shares held by that Member.
- (i) The Directors may provide that Members will be entitled to elect to receive in lieu of any dividend (or part thereof) an issue of additional shares in the relevant Sub-Fund credited as fully paid. In any such case the following provisions shall apply:
 - (i) the number of additional shares (including any fractional entitlement) to be issued in lieu of any amount of dividend shall be equal in value to the amount of such dividend at the date the dividend was declared;
 - (ii) the dividend (or that part of the dividend in respect of which a right of election has been accorded) shall not be payable on shares in respect of which the share election has been duly exercised (the "Elected Shares"), and in lieu thereof additional shares shall be issued to the holders of the Elected Shares on the basis determined as aforesaid and for such purpose the Directors shall capitalise a sum equal to the aggregate value of the dividends in respect of which elections have been made and apply the same in paying up in full the appropriate amount of unissued shares;
 - (iii) the additional shares so issued shall rank pari passu in all respects with the fully-paid shares then in issue save only as regards participation in the relevant dividend (or share election in lieu);
 - (iv) the Directors may do all acts and things considered necessary or expedient to give effect to any such capitalization, with full power to the Directors to make such provision as they think fit in the case of shares becoming distributable in fractions so that, fractional entitlements are disregarded or rounded up or the benefit of fractional entitlements accrues to the Company or the Company issues Fractional Shares; and

- (v) the Directors may on any occasion determine that rights of election shall not be made available to any Member with registered addresses in any territory where in the absence of a registration statement or other special formalities the circulation of an offer of rights of election would or might be unlawful, and in such event the provisions aforesaid shall be read and construed subject to such determination.
- (j) The Directors may, with the sanction of an Ordinary Resolution, distribute in kind among shareholders by way of dividend or otherwise any of the assets of the Company (other than any assets which have a contingent liability). At the request of a Member receiving a distribution, assets may be sold by the Company and the proceeds of the sale (less any costs incurred in the sale) transmitted to the Member.
- (k) Where the Company proposes to pay a distribution to a Member, it shall be entitled to deduct from the distribution such amounts may be necessary to discharge the Company's liability to tax in respect of such distribution and shall arrange to discharge the amount of tax due.

28. **UNTRACED MEMBERS**

- (a) The Company shall be entitled to repurchase any share of a Member or any share to which a person is entitled by transmission and to forfeit any dividend which is declared and remains unpaid for a period of six years if and provided that:
 - (i) for a period of six years no cheque, share certificate or confirmation of ownership of shares sent by the Company through the post in a pre-paid letter addressed to the Member or to the person entitled by transmission to the share at his address on the Register or the last known address given by the Member or the person entitled by transmission to which cheques, share certificates or confirmations of the ownership of shares are to be sent has been cashed or acknowledged and no communication has been received by the Company from the Member or the persons entitled by transmission (provided that during such six year period at least three dividends shall have become payable in respect of such share);
 - (ii) at the expiration of the said period of six years by notice sent by pre-paid letter addressed to the Member or to the person entitled by transmission to the share at his address on the Register or to the last known address given by the Member or the person entitled by transmission or by advertisement in a national daily newspaper published in Ireland or in a newspaper circulating in the area in which the address referred to in Article 28(a)(i) is located the Company has given notice of its intention to repurchase such share;
 - (iii) during the period of three months after the date of the advertisement and prior to the exercise of the power of repurchase the Company has not received any communication from the Member or person entitled by transmission; and
 - (iv) if the shares are quoted on a stock exchange the Company has first given notice in writing to the appropriate section of such stock exchange of its intention to repurchase such share, if it is required to do so under the rules of such stock exchange.
- (b) The Company shall account to the Member or to the person entitled to such share for the net proceeds of such repurchase by carrying all moneys in respect thereof to a

separate interest bearing account which shall be a permanent debt of the Company and the Company shall be deemed to be a debtor and not a trustee in respect thereof for such Member or other person.

29. ACCOUNTS

- (a) The Directors shall cause to be kept adequate accounting records as are necessary in relation to the conduct of its business or as are required by the Act and the Regulations so as to enable the accounts of the Company to be prepared.
- (b) The accounting records shall be kept at the registered office, or, subject to Section 283 of the Act, at such other place or places as the Directors shall think fit, and shall at all times be open to the inspection of the Directors, but no person, other than a Director, the Auditors, or the Central Bank shall be entitled to inspect the financial statements or accounting records of the Company, except on ten days' notice to the Company and as provided by the Act or the Regulations or authorised by the Directors or by the Company in general meeting.
- (c) The statutory financial statements of the Company and reports as are required by the Act and the Regulations shall be made out as at the end of each financial year of the Company as determined by the Directors from time to time and shall be audited by the Auditors and laid before the Company at its annual general meeting in each year together with a copy of the Directors' report and the Auditors' report. Such financial statements shall include a balance sheet, a detailed income and expenditure account for the financial year, a report on the activities of the financial year and the other information provided for in the Regulations as well as any significant information which will enable investors to make an informed judgement on the development of the activities of the Company and its results. The Auditors' report shall be read at the annual general meeting.
- (d) Once at least in every year the Directors shall cause to be prepared an Annual Report relating to the management of the Company. The Annual Report shall include the statutory financial statements of the Company duly audited by the Auditors and the Directors' Report and the Auditors' Report as provided for in Article 29(c) and shall be in a form approved by the Central Bank and shall contain such information required by the Regulations and the Act. There shall be attached to such Annual Report such additional information and reports as the Central Bank may specify.
- (e) A copy of the Annual Report including the statutory financial statements of the Company (including every document required by law to be annexed thereto) which is to be laid before the annual general meeting of the Company together with a copy of the Directors' report and the Auditors' report shall be sent by the Company (by post, by electronic mail or any other means of electronic communication (including by placing a copy of such document on the website of the Company)) to every person entitled under the Act and the Regulations to receive them and if any of the shares are quoted on any stock exchange, the required number of copies of these documents shall be forwarded at the same time to such stock exchange not less than twenty one Clear Days before the date of the annual general meeting. A hard copy of the Annual Report shall be available for inspection upon request at the registered office of the Company.
- (f) The Auditors' certificate appended to the Annual Report and statement referred to herein shall declare that the accounts or statement attached respectively thereto (as the case may be) have been examined together with the books and records of the Company in relation thereto and that the Auditors have obtained all the information

and explanations they have required and the Auditors shall report whether the accounts are in their opinion properly drawn up in accordance with such books and records and present a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company, and whether the accounts are in their opinion properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions hereof.

- (g) The Company shall prepare an unaudited half-yearly report for the six months immediately succeeding the date of the last Annual Report of the Company. Such half-yearly report shall be in a form approved by the Central Bank and shall contain such information required by it.
- (h) A copy of the said half-yearly report shall be sent by the Company (by post, by electronic mail or any other means of electronic communication (including by placing a copy of such document on the website of the Company)) upon request, free of charge, to every person entitled under the Act and the Regulations to receive it not later than two months from the end of the period to which it relates. A hard copy of the half-yearly report shall be available for inspection upon request at the offices of the Company.

30. **AUDIT**

- (a) The Company shall appoint Auditors to hold office in accordance with the Act.
- (b) The appointment and removal of Auditors and the determination of eligibility for appointment as Auditors to the Company shall be governed by the provisions of the Act.
- (c) A person, other than a retiring Auditor, shall not be capable of being appointed Auditor at an annual general meeting unless notice of an intention to nominate that person to the office of Auditor has been given by a Member to the Company not less than twenty eight days before the annual general meeting and the Directors shall send a copy of any such notice to the retiring Auditor and shall give notice thereof to the Members in accordance with Section 396 of the Act.
- (d) The first Auditors shall be appointed by the Directors before the first general meeting.
- (e) The Auditors shall examine such books, accounts and vouchers as may be necessary for the performance of their duties.
- (f) The report of the Auditors to the Members on the audited accounts of the Company shall include the information provided for in Article 29(f) and, in particular, shall state whether in the Auditors' opinion the balance sheet and profit and loss account in their opinion give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs and of its profit and loss for the period in question.
- (g) The Company shall furnish the Auditors with a list of all books kept by the Company and at all reasonable times shall afford to the Auditors the right of access to the books and accounts and vouchers of the Company. The Auditors shall be entitled to require from the Officers and employees of the Company such information and explanation as may be necessary for the performance of their duties.
- (h) The Auditors shall be entitled to attend any general meeting of the Company at which any accounts which have been examined or reported on by them are to be laid before the Company and to make any statement or explanations they may desire with respect

to the accounts and notice of every such meeting shall be given to the Auditors in the manner prescribed for the Members.

31. **NOTICES**

(a) Any notice or other document required to be given to, delivered, served upon or sent to a Member pursuant to these Articles and/or the applicable law may be given to, delivered, served or sent to any Member by the Company by any of the following means:

- (i) personally;
- (ii) by sending it through the post (by airmail where applicable) in a pre-paid letter addressed to the Member at the Member's address as appearing in the Register;
- (iii) by sending it by courier to or leaving it at the Member's address appearing on the Register;
- (iv) subject to such Member's consent to electronic communications, by the Company sending it by email or other electronic means, in each case to an address or number supplied by such Member; or
- (v) subject to such Member's consent to the use of the website, by publication of an electronic record of it on a website and notification of such publication (which shall include the address of the website and the place on the website where the document may be found).

(b) Any notice or other document shall be deemed to have been given to, delivered, served upon or sent to any Member by the Company:

- (i) if sent by personal delivery, at the time of delivery;
- (ii) if sent by post, 48 hours after it was put in the post;
- (iii) if sent by courier, 24 hours after sending;
- (iv) if sent by email or other electronic means, 12 hours after sending; or
- (v) if published as an electronic record on a website, 12 hours after it has been published;

and in proving such service or delivery, it shall be sufficient to prove that the notice or document was properly addressed and stamped and put in the post or sent by courier, email or by electronic means, or published on a website, as the case may be, in accordance with these Articles.

(c) Any requirement in these Articles for the consent of a Member with regard to electronic communications and the use of a website shall be deemed to have been satisfied where the Member subscribes for or holds shares in the Company as the Member is bound by these Articles as if they had been signed by such Member. The Member may at any time revoke such consent by requesting the Company to communicate with that Member in documented form; provided however, that this requirement to communicate in documented form shall not take effect until 30 days after written notice of the requirement is received by the Company.

- (d) In the case of joint holders of a share, service or delivery of any notice or other document on or to one of the joint holders shall for all purposes be deemed sufficient service on delivery to all joint holders.
- (e) Any notice or document sent by post to or left at the registered address of a Member or, with the consent of a Member, sent in electronic form by electronic means or by the use of a website shall, notwithstanding that such Member be then dead or bankrupt and whether or not the Company or the Administrator has notice of his death or bankruptcy, be deemed to have been duly served or sent and such service shall be deemed a sufficient service on receipt by all persons interested (whether jointly with or as claiming through or under him) in the shares concerned and such notice shall be deemed to have been received by the Members 24 hours after the time of posting or sending by electronic means.
- (f) The Company may establish a scheme whereby electronic means may be used by Members to appoint a proxy (the "Electronic Proxy Scheme"). Any Electronic Proxy Scheme shall require a Member appointing a proxy to complete a specified electronic form of proxy which shall be either signed by the Member using an electronic signature or completed using another form of electronic authentication or password in accordance with the requirements of the Electronic Commerce Act, 2000 or any other applicable law or regulation.

32. WINDING UP

- (a) If the Company shall be wound up or dissolved the liquidator shall apply the assets of the Company in satisfaction of creditors' claims in such manner and order as he thinks fit.
- (b) Subject to Article 4(g) the assets of the Company available for distribution (after satisfaction of creditors' claims) amongst the Members shall be distributed pro rata to the holders of the shares in each class in the Company and shall be allocated pro rata to the number of shares in that class held by them.
- (c) The assets available for distribution among the Members on a winding up shall then be applied in the following priority:
 - (i) firstly, in the payment to the Members of each class of each Sub-Fund of a sum in the Base Currency in which that class is denominated or in any other currency selected by the liquidator as nearly as possible equal (at a rate of exchange reasonably determined by the liquidator) to the Net Asset Value of the class held by such holders respectively as at the date of commencement of the winding up provided that there are sufficient assets available in the relevant Sub-Fund to enable such payment to be made. In the event that, as regards any class of shares, there are insufficient assets available in the relevant Sub-Fund to enable such payment to be made, recourse shall be had to the assets of the Company not comprised within any of the Sub-Funds;
 - (ii) secondly, in the payment to the holders of the Subscriber Shares of sums up to the amount paid thereon (plus any interest accrued) out of the assets of the Company not comprised within any Sub-Funds remaining after any recourse thereto under paragraph (i) above. In the event that there are insufficient assets as aforesaid to enable such payment in full to be made, no recourse shall be had to the assets comprised within any of the Sub-Funds;

- (iii) thirdly, in the payment to the Members of any balance then remaining in the relevant Sub-Fund, such payment being made in proportion to the number of shares held; and
 - (iv) fourthly, in the payment to the Members of any balance then remaining and not comprised within any of the Sub-Funds, such payment being made in proportion to the value of each Sub-Fund and within each Sub-Fund to the value of each class and in proportion to the Net Asset Value per share.
- (d) If the Company shall be wound up or dissolved (whether the liquidation is voluntary or by the Court) the liquidator may with the authority of an Ordinary Resolution of the Company, divide among the Members pro rata to the value of their shareholdings in the Company (as determined in accordance with Article 12 herein, but subject to the rights on the part of the holders of the Subscriber shares provided for in Article 4(g)) in specie the whole or any part of the assets of the Company, and whether or not the assets shall consist of property of a single kind and may for such purposes value any class or classes of property in accordance with the valuation provisions in Article 13. The liquidator may, with the like authority, vest any part of the assets in trustees upon such trusts for the benefit of Members as the liquidator shall think fit, and the liquidation of the Company may be closed and the Company dissolved, but not so that any Member shall be compelled to accept any asset in respect of which there is a liability. If a Member so requests the Company shall arrange to dispose of the assets on behalf of the Member. The price obtained by the Company may be different from the price at which the assets were valued when determining the Net Asset Value and the Investment Manager and the Company shall not be liable for any loss arising from such event. The transaction costs incurred in the disposal of such investments shall be borne by the relevant Member.
- (e) If all of the shares are to be repurchased and it is proposed to transfer all or part of the assets of the Company to another company, the Company, with the sanction of a Special Resolution of shareholders may exchange the assets of the Company for shares of similar interests in the transfer company for distribution among shareholders.

33. **INDEMNITY**

- (a) Subject to the provisions of, and so far as may be permitted by, the Act, the Company shall indemnify its Directors, Officers, employees and any person who serves at the request of the Company as a director, officer, employee of another company, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise as follows:
- (i) Every person who is or has been a Director, Officer, or employee of the Company and every person who serves at the Company's request as Director, Officer or employee of another company, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise shall be indemnified by the Company to the fullest extent permitted by law against liability and against all expenses reasonably incurred or paid by him in connection with any debt, claim, action, demand, suit, proceeding, judgment, decree, liability or obligation of any kind in which he becomes involved as a party or otherwise by virtue of his being or having been a Director, Officer or employee of the Company or of another company, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise at the request of the Company and against amounts paid or incurred by him in the settlement thereof except where any of the foregoing is attributable to any negligence or wilful default on the part of such Director, Officer or employee;

- (ii) The words “claim”, “action,” “suit” or “proceedings” shall apply to all claims, actions, suits or proceedings (civil, criminal, administrative, legislative, investigative or other, including appeals) and shall include, without limitation, legal fees, costs, judgments, amounts paid in settlement, fines, penalties and other liabilities;
 - (iii) The rights of indemnification herein provided may be insured against by policies maintained by the Company, shall be severable, shall not affect any other rights to which any Director, Officer, employee or agent may now or hereafter be entitled, shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be such a Director, Officer, employee or agent and shall enure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such a person;
 - (iv) At the absolute discretion of the Directors a written opinion from an independent legal adviser to the Company confirming that the person to be indemnified is entitled to an indemnity under applicable law may be required as a prerequisite to any indemnification to be provided hereunder;
 - (v) The Company may make advances of expenses incurred in the defence of any claim, action, suit or proceedings against any person whom the Company is obliged to indemnify pursuant to Article 33(a) hereof; and
 - (vi) The Company may indemnify the Administrator, the Investment Manager and any other delegate or agent of the Company to the extent permitted by law.
- (b) The Custodian shall be entitled to such indemnity from the Company upon such terms and subject to the Regulations and such conditions and exceptions and with such entitlement to have recourse to the assets of the Company with a view to meeting and discharging the costs thereof as shall be provided under its agreement with the Company.
 - (c) Subject to applicable law and regulation and the applicable service provider contract, the Company, the Administrator, the Custodian, the Distributor and the Investment Manager shall each be entitled to rely absolutely on any declaration received from a Member or his agent as to the residence or otherwise of such Member and shall not incur liability in respect of any action taken or thing suffered by any of them in good faith in reliance upon any paper or document believed to be genuine and to have been sealed or signed by the proper parties nor be in any way liable for any forged or unauthorised signature on or any common seal affixed to any such document or for acting on or giving effect to any such forged or unauthorised signature or common seal but shall be entitled, though not bound, to require the signature of any person to be verified by a banker, broker or other responsible person or otherwise authenticated to its or their satisfaction.
 - (d) The Company, the Administrator, the Investment Manager, the Distributor and the Custodian shall each incur no liability to the Members for complying with any present or future law or regulation made pursuant thereto, or any decree, order or judgment of any court, or any request, announcement or similar action (whether of binding legal effect or not) which may be taken or made by any person or body acting with or purporting to exercise the authority of any government (whether legally or otherwise). If for any reason it becomes impossible or impracticable to carry out any of the provisions hereof neither the Company, the Administrator, the Distributor, the Investment Manager nor the Custodian shall be under any liability therefor or thereby. This Article shall not, however, exempt the Company, the Administrator,

the Distributor, the Investment Manager or the Custodian from any liability any of them may incur as a result of a failure to adhere to their obligations as set out in applicable law and regulation and the applicable service provider contract.

- (e) For the avoidance of doubt no Director shall be liable for the acts or omissions of any other Director.

34. **DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS**

- (a) The Company may destroy:
 - (i) any dividend mandate or share allotment request form or any variation or cancellation thereof or any notification of change of name or address at any time after the expiry of two years from the date such mandate, request variation, cancellation or notification was recorded by the Company;
 - (ii) any instrument of transfer of shares which has been registered at any time after the expiry of six years from the date of registration thereof; and
 - (iii) any other document on the basis of which an entry in the Register is made at any time after the expiry of ten years from the date an entry in the Register was first made in respect of it;

and it shall conclusively be presumed in favour of the Company that every instrument of transfer so destroyed was a valid and effective instrument duly and properly registered and that every other document hereinbefore mentioned so destroyed was a valid and effective document in accordance with the recorded particulars thereof in the books or records of the Company PROVIDED ALWAYS that:

- (aa) the foregoing provisions of this Article shall apply only to the destruction of a document in good faith and without express notice to the Company that the preservation of such document was relevant to a claim;
- (bb) nothing contained in this Article 34 shall be construed as imposing upon the Company any liability in respect of the destruction of any such document earlier than as aforesaid or in any case where the conditions of proviso (i) above are not fulfilled; and
- (cc) references in this Article to the destruction of any document includes references to its disposal in any manner.

35. **SEVERABILITY**

If any term, provision, covenant or restriction of these Articles is held by a court of competent jurisdiction or other authority to be invalid, void, unenforceable or against its regulatory policy, the remainder of the terms, provisions, covenants and restrictions of these Articles shall remain in full force and effect and shall in no way be affected, impaired or invalidated.

36. **AMENDMENT TO THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

These Articles of Association may not be amended without the prior approval of the Central Bank.

37. **USE OF NAME**

GMO UK Limited has granted the Company permission to use the name “GMO” in the name of the Company and in the name of any Sub-Fund from time to time established by the Company. In the event that GMO UK Limited at any time revokes its permission to use the name “GMO”, the Company shall be obliged to change the name of the Company and of each Sub-Fund which includes a reference to “GMO” and the Members shall be obliged to ensure that all necessary resolutions are passed at a general meeting of the Company to give effect to any such change of name.

38. **CHOICE OF LAW AND CONSENT TO JURISDICTION**

- (a) The laws of Ireland shall govern the validity, interpretation, construction and effect of the Memorandum of Association and these Articles and the operations of the Company including, absent a provision to the contrary therein, any contract between the Company and any party relating to the provision of investment management, investment advisory, administrative, depository, custodial, or distribution or other services to the Company.
- (b) Absent the consent in writing of all parties to such action or proceeding, the sole and exclusive forum for: (i) any action or proceeding brought by or on behalf of the Company or any Sub-Fund or Members against the Company or any Sub-Fund, the service providers of the Company, or the Officers; or (ii) any action arising under or to interpret, apply, enforce or determine the validity of the Memorandum of Association and these Articles or any investment management or investment advisory agreement shall be either the courts of Ireland or the U.S. federal courts sitting within the City of Boston in The Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Any person purchasing or otherwise acquiring or holding any interest in Shares of the Company shall be: (i) deemed to have notice of and consented to the provisions of this Article 38; and (ii) deemed to have waived any argument relating to the inconvenience of the forum referenced above in connection with any action or proceeding described in this Article 38.

WE, the several persons whose names, addresses and descriptions are subscribed, wish to be formed into a Company in pursuance of this memorandum of association, and we agree to take the number of shares in the capital of the Company set opposite our respective names.

Names, addresses and descriptions of Subscribers

GMO Woolley Limited
1 Angel Court
Throgmorton Street
London EC2R 7HJ
England

Carl O'Sullivan
Laurel Lodge
Brighton Avenue
Monkstown
Co. Dublin
Solicitor

Jacqueline McGowan-Smyth
12 Meadow Vale
Blackrock
Co. Dublin
Chartered Secretary

Sarah Cunniff
57 Wellington Road
Dublin 4
Solicitor

Nicola Campbell
"Keswick"
Bremore
Balbriggan
Co. Dublin
Secretary

Richard Farrington
40 Heytesbury Street
Dublin 8
Solicitor

Patrick Wilkinson
174 The Hardwicke
Morning Star Avenue
North Brunswick Street
Dublin 7
Solicitor

Dated this 10th day of December, 2001

Witness to the above signatures:

Audrey Power
Arthur Cox Building
Earlsfort Terrace
Dublin 2

COMPANIES ACT 2014

- and -

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (UNDERTAKINGS FOR COLLECTIVE
INVESTMENT IN TRANSFERABLE SECURITIES)
REGULATIONS 2011, AS AMENDED**

CONSTITUTION

OF

**GMO FUNDS
PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY**

**AN INVESTMENT COMPANY
WITH VARIABLE CAPITAL**

WITH SEGREGATED LIABILITY BETWEEN SUB-FUNDS

(As adopted by Special Resolution dated 27 May 2016)

**ARTHUR COX
Earlsfort Centre
Earlsfort Terrace
Dublin 2**