# **Corporate Governance Charter**



**Effective date:** 30 January 2024 **Reviewed:** Annually

Owner: Company Secretary Approval: Board

# **Table of Contents**

Board Charter	3
Guiding principle	3
Functions of the Board	3
Responsibilities of Board	3
Specific responsibilities	4
Board composition	4
Ethical standards and values	5
Independence of Directors	5
Appointment and retirement of Directors	5
Performance review and evaluation of Directors	5
Training and advice for Directors	6
Board meetings	6
Company Secretary	7
Managing Director and CFO responsibilities	7
Committees	8
External Compliance Committee	8
Audit Committee	8
Business risks	9
Communication with members	9
Recognition of interests of stakeholders	10
The annual budget	10
Disclosure to market	10
Directors' Code of Conduct	10
Objective	10
Obligation to comply with this code and the law	10
General duties	10
Business judgment rule	11



	Independent decision making and soundness of decisions	12
	Confidentiality of Board matters and other information	12
	Improper use of information	13
	Cooperation	13
	Personal interests and conflicts	13
	Conduct by Directors	13
	Complaints procedure	14
	Securities Trading Policy	14
	Continuous Disclosure Policy	14
	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy	14
	Standing rules of Committees	14
	Composition	15
	Proceedings	15
	Reporting	15
	Company Secretary	15
	Performance review and evaluation	15
	Charter review	15
A	nnexure 1: Audit Committee Charter	,20
Δ	nnexure 2: Remuneration Committee Charter	23



### **Board Charter**

- This policy outlines the Company's corporate governance practices. The conduct of the Board is also governed by the Constitution, policies and codes of conduct in force from time to time including, but not limited to:
  - a. this Charter
  - b. any committee charters
  - c. the RFM Code of Conduct.
- 2. Where there is an inconsistency between this document and the Constitution, the Constitution will prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

# **Guiding principle**

- 3. Each Director has an overriding responsibility to act in good faith and in the best interests of the Company and the Group. In assessing the Company's and the Group's best interests the Board may, however, have regard to the interests of:
  - a. Members (with a view to building sustainable value for them)
  - b. RFM shareholders
  - c. employees of the Group
  - d. other people or entities with whom the Group deals.

### **Functions of the Board**

- 4. The Board's broad functions are:
  - a. to set the direction, strategies and financial objectives for the Group
  - b. to monitor the implementation and execution of these strategies, objectives and performance against financial targets
  - c. to monitor compliance with regulatory requirements, ethical standards and external commitments
  - d. to appoint and review the performance of the Managing Director and Company Secretary
    - and generally to take an effective leadership role in relation to the Group.

### **Responsibilities of Board**

- 5. The Board's responsibilities include:
  - a. determining the Board's composition (including appointment and retirement or removal of Directors)
  - b. oversight of the Group (including its control and accountability systems)
  - c. overseeing the performance of senior management
  - d. reviewing, ratifying and monitoring systems of risk management and internal control, codes of conduct, and legal compliance
  - e. approving and formulating company strategy and policy
  - f. monitoring senior management's implementation of strategy



- g. approving and monitoring the progress of major capital expenditure, capital management, and acquisitions and sales
- h. approving and monitoring financial and other reporting
- i. performance of investment and treasury functions
- j. monitoring industry developments relevant to the Group and its business
- k. developing suitable key indicators of financial performance for the Group and its business
- I. overseeing the Group's compliance with its continuous disclosure obligations
- m. approving the Group's remuneration framework
- n. having input in and granting final approval of corporate strategy and performance objectives developed by management
- o. oversight of Committees
- p. the overall corporate governance of the Group (including its strategic direction and goals for management and monitoring the achievement of these goals).

# Specific responsibilities

- 6. Specific responsibilities of the Board include:
  - a. setting specific limits of authority for management to commit to new expenditure, entering contracts or acquiring businesses without Board approval
  - b. approving acquisitions and disposals of businesses and investments above the delegated limits of authority
  - c. approving significant changes of key policies
  - d. ensuring that effective audit, risk management and compliance systems are in place to protect the Group's assets and minimise the possibility of RFM operating beyond legal requirements or beyond acceptable risk parameters
  - e. monitoring compliance with regulatory requirements and ethical standards
  - f. reviewing the respective roles and allocation of responsibilities between the board and management at least annually
  - g. considering and approving the remuneration strategy and policies and the total level of annual remuneration for the Group, and the level of remuneration for select Senior Managers per this Charter
  - h. approving the appointment and terms of appointment of the external auditor
  - i. appointing such Committees of the Board as may be appropriate to assist in the discharge of its responsibilities.

### **Board composition**

- 7. The Chairman:
  - a. subject to paragraph 8, should be an Independent Director



- b. is responsible for the Board's leadership and for its efficient organisation and conduct
- should facilitate the effective contribution by all Directors and promote constructive and respectful relations between Directors, and between the Board and the Senior Managers.
- 8. If the Chairman is not an Independent Director, the Board should appoint a Deputy Chairman who can act when the Chairman is conflicted.
- 9. The Board should comprise:
  - a. a majority of non-executive directors
  - b. members with a broad range of experience, expertise, skills, diversity and contacts relevant to the Group and its business.

### **Ethical standards and values**

- 10. All Directors must act with the utmost integrity and objectivity, striving at all times to enhance the reputation and performance of the Company.
- 11. The Directors must comply with the Director's Code of Conduct and the RFM Code of Conduct in the exercise of their duties.

# **Independence of Directors**

- 12. The Board must regularly assess whether each Director remains an Independent Director in light of the interests disclosed by them.
- 13. A Director should only be characterised as an Independent Director if they are free of any interest, position, association or relationship that might influence, or reasonably be perceived to influence, in a material respect, their capacity to bring an independent judgment to bear on issues before the Board.
- 14. Each Director must provide the Board with all relevant information for this purpose.
- 15. The independence of Directors will be disclosed in the corporate governance statement of the Listed Funds.
- 16. Where the Board decides a Director has ceased to be an Independent Director, this must be immediately disclosed to the market.

### **Appointment and retirement of Directors**

- 17. The terms of the appointment of all new Directors should be set out in a letter of appointment.
- 18. All Directors, excluding the Managing Director (if a Director), must retire in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution and the Listing Rules. Retiring Directors may, in these circumstances, be eligible to be re-elected.

### **Performance review and evaluation of Directors**

19. The performance of the Managing Director and all other Directors may be reviewed and assessed each year collectively by the Board. The performance of Senior Managers may be reviewed and assessed each year by the Managing Director.



- 20. The Chairperson's performance may be reviewed and assessed each year by the other Directors.
- 21. A Director, whose performance is unsatisfactory, may be asked to retire.
- 22. An external assessment of the Board's Key Policies and Procedures should be conducted by independent professional consultants at intervals between three and five years.
- 23. The Board should satisfy itself that its performance is efficient so that all Directors meet their obligations and are not exposed to any legal liability.
- 24. Each Director must cooperate fully with any review or assessment of performance, whether collective or individual, and whether conducted by the Chairperson or any other Director.

# **Training and advice for Directors**

- 25. Directors must be provided with information about the Group before accepting the appointment and complete an induction course after their appointment, in each case appropriate for them to discharge their responsibilities.
- 26. Directors must be given access to continuing education in relation to the Group, extending to its business, the industry in which it operates, and other information required by them to discharge their responsibilities.
- 27. Each Director may seek independent legal or other professional advice at the Company's expense. Prior approval from the Chairperson is required and may not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

# **Board meetings**

- 28. Board meetings will normally be held monthly and should occur at least ten times in any year.
- 29. Papers for Board meetings must be circulated, where practical, at least five days, and as a minimum standard forty-eight hours prior to the relevant meeting.
- 30. Draft minutes of Board meetings (for consideration and approval at the next relevant meeting) should be prepared by the Company Secretary (or delegate) promptly following the meeting for review by the Chairperson. Thereafter, the draft minutes will be tabled at the next Board meeting for final review and approval.
- 31. The Board will require and review the following written reports at each monthly meeting:
  - a. Managing Director's report
  - b. Financial report balance sheet, profit & loss, cash flow including a projection of cash flow over at least the next twelve months for RFM and the Funds and other reports as required to ensure compliance with the conditions of the AFS licence
  - c. People, Safety & ICT report headcount movement and trends/issues (biannual only), emerging trends/issues, significant resignations or terminations, incident, injuries and hazard reporting on all properties, data governance
  - d. Farm Management report synopsis of each farming operation, key trends/issues, and financial performance including Member return



- e. Compliance report compliance trends/issues, breaches, complaints, key dates and events
- f. Other reports as required.

# **Company Secretary**

- 32. The Company Secretary is accountable to the Board, through the Chair and the Managing Director, on all corporate governance matters and is responsible for:
  - a. advising the Board and any Committee on governance matters
  - b. monitoring this policy and any Committee charter, to ensure they are followed
  - c. coordinating the timely completion and despatch of:
    - i. Board and Committee papers
    - ii. draft minutes of Board and Committee meetings, that accurately capture the business of the meeting, for approval at the next meeting.
  - d. assisting with the organisation and conduct of the induction and professional development of Directors.

# **Managing Director and CFO responsibilities**

- 33. The Managing Director and CFO must state in writing to the Board, when providing it with financial reports, that:
  - a. the financial records of the company, disclosing entity or registered scheme for the financial year have been properly maintained in accordance with section 286
  - b. the financial statements, and the notes referred to in paragraph 295(3)(b), for the financial year comply with the accounting standards
  - c. the financial statements and notes for the financial year give a true and fair view (see section 297)
  - d. any other matters that are prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this paragraph in relation to the financial statements and the notes for the financial year are satisfied
- 34. The Board has delegated the Managing Director authority over the day to day management of the Group and includes responsibility for:
  - a. managing the Group's financial and other reporting requirements and ensuring the information is accurate and presented to the Board in a timely manner
  - b. making decisions about whether a matter must be disclosed under the Group's continuous disclosure obligations
  - c. ensuring that the Group complies with its continuous disclosure obligations
  - d. notifying the Board of such matters
  - e. monitoring and promoting an understanding within the Group of compliance
  - f. acting as the contact for media and comment, including analyst briefings and responses to Member questions



g. ensuring the Board is provided with adequate information to make fully informed decisions.

### **Committees**

- 35. The Board may establish (and delegate powers to) Committees to assist the Board to carry out its functions effectively and efficiently. The Board will adopt a charter for each Committee setting out matters relevant to the composition, responsibilities and administration of such Committees, and other matters that the Board may consider appropriate.
- 36. The Committees established at the date of this document are:
  - a. Audit Committee (charter set out in Schedule 1)
  - b. Remuneration Committee (charter set out in Schedule 2).

# **External Compliance Committee**

- 37. The Company must establish an External Compliance Committee if less than half of the Directors of the Company are external directors.
- 38. The External Compliance Committee must have at least two members, and a majority of them must be external members.
- 39. External Compliance Committee members are appointed by the Board and serve as the Board determines.
- 40. The Board may appoint one member of the External Compliance Committee to act as Chairperson for the initial Compliance Committee meeting. After this, the members of the Compliance Committee may elect a chair for a meeting or a term.
- 41. The External Compliance Committee is governed by the Compliance Plan.

### **Audit Committee**

- 42. The Company must establish an Audit Committee.
- 43. The Audit Committee must consist of at least 3 members, with a majority of non-executive Directors who are also Independent Directors, or if a Listed Fund, in accordance with ASX requirements.
- 44. Executive Directors will not be eligible to sit on the Audit Committee.
- 45. The Chairperson of the Audit Committee must be an Independent Director but not the Chairperson of the Board.
- 46. The Board will appoint one member of the Audit Committee to act as its Chairperson.
- 47. Each member must be financially literate and at least one member must have accounting or related financial expertise.
- 48. Members will be appointed for a two year term.
- 49. The Audit Committee is governed by the charter set out in Schedule 1.



### **Business risks**

- 50. The Board has delegated the responsibility for reviewing the risk management framework to the Internal Compliance Committee (ICC). The ICC will report to the Board quarterly. Members of the ICC are a broad representation of the Company's management.
- 51. The risks of the Company's and the Group's businesses should be included in the quarterly ICC minutes. Once a risk is identified, a management action plan should be proposed by management for submission to the Board.
- 52. Corrective action should be taken as soon as reasonably practicable after adoption of a management action plan.
- 53. The Group Operating Policies and Procedures should contain risk management procedures that aim to address risk management issues including professional indemnity claims.
- 54. The relevant Senior Manager/s should review (at least annually) and recommend to the Board any changes to the Group Operating Policies and Procedures.
- 55. The Senior Managers should take steps to ensure staff are provided with, and comply with, the Group Operating Policies and Procedures.
- 56. The Board should record in its minutes as and when Senior Managers have reported on the effectiveness of the Group's management of its material business risks.

### **Communication with members**

- 57. Directors must promptly provide details of any matter within their knowledge that might require disclosure to the market under the continuous disclosure obligations.
- 58. The Board should consider the Group's continuous disclosure obligations at each regular Board meeting.
- 59. The annual reports for the Funds must be distributed to all Members in accordance with the requirements of the Corporations Act and Listing Rules, as applicable. The annual reports should include relevant information about the operations of the Fund during the year, changes in the state of affairs of the entity, and details of future developments in addition to other disclosures required by the Corporations Act.
- 60. The half-yearly reports for the Funds should contain summarised financial information and a review of the operations of the entity during the period. The report should be lodged with, and is available from, the Relevant Exchange and ASIC, as applicable. It should also be sent to any Member who requests it from the Company.
- 61. Announcements must be made in a factual, timely, clear, and objective manner, and include any information material to decisions of Members and potential Members in the respective Fund.
- 62. Information about the Fund, including copies of announcements made through the Relevant Exchange and the corporate governance statement, annual reports and half-yearly reports, as applicable, should be made available to Members and prospective Members in the Fund on the Company's website.
- 63. The Company has a continuing commitment to electronic communication with Members and stakeholders generally, including through its website.



# **Recognition of interests of stakeholders**

- 64. The Group must function within, and operate with a sense of responsibility to, the wider community as well as to Members. This sense of responsibility to stakeholders generally is an important part of the Company's role within the broad community and represents not only sound ethics but also good business sense and commercial practice.
- 65. Constructive feedback on the Group's contribution to and role within the community will be sought (and welcomed) through the Company's website.

# The annual budget

- 66. An annual budget must be prepared by Senior Management and approved by the Board prior to the commencement of each financial year.
- 67. Actual results, including both the profit and loss statement and cashflow statement, must be reported on a monthly basis against budget for each Fund and the Company, and revised forecasts for the year are prepared regularly.

### **Disclosure to market**

68. Price Sensitive Information and other information reasonably required by a Member to make an informed assessment of the Listed Fund's activities and results must be reported to the Relevant Exchange, if applicable, in accordance with continuous disclosure requirements.<sup>1</sup>

### **Directors' Code of Conduct**

### **Objective**

69. This code seeks to give the Directors guidance on how best to perform their duties, meet their obligations and understand the Company's corporate governance practices.

# Obligation to comply with this code and the law

- 70. A Director must, at all times, comply with this code as well as the law.
- 71. All Directors must act with the utmost integrity and objectivity, striving at all times to enhance the reputation and performance of the Group.
- 72. A Board position involves important legal and ethical responsibilities and a commitment to upholding the values of good corporate citizenship, in both individual conduct and corporate actions. A person should not accept a Board position if they have any doubt about their ability to comply with this code.

### **General duties**

- 73. Directors must:
  - a. act in good faith in the best interests of the Group and for a proper purpose
  - b. avoid any potential conflict of interest or duty, or disclose any potential conflict of interest that cannot be avoided
  - c. exercise a reasonable degree of care and diligence

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Refer to Continuous Disclosure Policy.



- d. not make improper use of information
- e. not make improper use of their position.
- 74. Breaches of these duties may expose Directors to potential liability in damages, fines and disqualification.
- 75. A Director, in the exercise of his or her powers, and in the discharge of his or her duties, must exercise the degree of care and diligence that a reasonable person would exercise if he or she were a Director:
  - a. in the circumstance prevailing
  - b. occupying the same position
  - c. with the same responsibilities within the Group as the Director.
- 76. A Director is a fiduciary and must act with fidelity and trust in Group matters. The Board has been appointed to manage the Group's affairs and should have regard not only to the interests of Members but (in appropriate circumstances) the interests of other third parties including creditors, regulators and the community.
- 77. Directors must act with a reasonable degree of care and diligence in the exercise of their powers and duties and to carry out their duties.
- 78. A Director who is appointed but fails to acquire and maintain a reasonable level of competence may be considered negligent.
- 79. All Board members should attend at least one educational seminar a year to remain fully informed of matters relevant to their position as a Director.
- 80. The Company maintains directors' and officers' liability insurance. Directors must be fully aware of the terms of this insurance to qualify for protection under it.

### **Business judgment rule**

- 81. A Director's duty to act with care and diligence may be satisfied where the Director:
  - a. makes a decision in good faith and for a proper purpose
  - b. has no material personal interest in the subject matter of the decision made
  - c. is informed about the subject matter of the decision to the extent the Director reasonably believes to be appropriate
  - d. rationally believes the decision to be in the best interest of the Group.
- 82. The business judgment rule:
  - a. relates only to decisions about the ordinary business operations of the Group
  - b. does not relieve a Director from other duties, such as to act in good faith, not to misuse the position of Director and not to make improper use of information obtained because they are, or have been, a Director or other officer or employee of the Group.
- 83. A business judgment is any decision to take or not to take action relating to the business operations of the Group, it does not apply to any failure to make a decision.



# Independent decision making and soundness of decisions

- 84. A Director must be independent in his or her judgment and actions and must take all reasonable steps to be satisfied about the soundness of all Board decisions.
- 85. To satisfy this requirement a Director must:
  - a. make a reasonable effort to become and remain familiar with the affairs of the Group
  - b. attend all Board meetings and Board functions unless there are valid reasons for non-attendance
  - c. commit the necessary time and energy to Board matters.
- 86. Directors may rely on advice relating to the Group or their affairs only where that advice is given or prepared by:
  - a. an employee whom the Director believes on reasonable grounds to be reliable and competent in the relevant subject
  - b. a professional adviser or expert in a subject the Director believes on reasonable grounds to be within the person's professional or expert competence
  - c. another Director or officer on the subject within that Director's or officer's authority or
  - d. a Committee (on which the Director did not serve) on a subject within the Committee's authority.
- 87. Directors should only rely on information or advice if the Director's reliance was made in good faith, after independently assessing the information and advice, considering the Director's knowledge of the Group and the complexity of their structure and operations.

### **Confidentiality of Board matters and other information**

- 88. Directors must keep confidential any Board matters and all confidential information (which includes Price Sensitive Information and information that is not Price Sensitive Information but might reasonably be of use or of interest to investors) received by the Directors in the course of the exercise of their duties.
- 89. All information received by Directors to carry out their duties must be regarded as confidential and is the property of the Group.
- 90. A Director may not disclose information, or allow it to be disclosed, to any other person unless disclosure is authorised by the Company or the information is required by law to be disclosed.
- 91. All discussions and resolutions of the Board must also be kept confidential and their content must not be disclosed, or allowed to be disclosed to persons who are not Directors, except in cases where disclosure:
  - has been authorised by the Company
     or
  - b. is required by law.



- 92. Authorisation by the Company is presumed to the extent the Board (or Committee) minutes state or imply that it is intended that disclosure should be made to third parties.
- 93. Any Director in any doubt about his or her obligations of confidentiality or in relation to any matter of disclosure should consult with the Chairperson before making any disclosure.

# Improper use of information

94. A Director must not make improper use of information acquired as a Director to gain, directly or indirectly, any personal advantage or any advantage for any other person detrimental to the Company or the Group.

# Cooperation

95. Directors must observe solidarity with Board resolutions and cooperate in their implementation. Directors are part of a team and should work cooperatively with the Chairperson and other Directors and with management.

### **Personal interests and conflicts**

- 96. A Director must not take improper advantage of their position as a director or officer.
- 97. No Director may allow any personal interest, or the interest of any associated person, to influence or prejudice the Director's conduct or any Board (or Committee) decision.
- 98. A Director has a duty to avoid any conflict between:
  - a. the interests of, or duty to, the Group
  - b. his or her own personal interests or the interests of, or duty to, any third party.
- 99. Every Director should be actively vigilant for both actual and potential conflicts of interest or duty.
- 100. A Director with a conflict of interest or duty should refrain from voting, or entering into any discussion, at, or even being present during, relevant Board discussions.
- 101. A Director who has any material personal interest (whether direct or indirect, pecuniary or otherwise) in a matter must not be present at a meeting while the matter is being considered and must not vote on the matter.
- 102. Papers relevant to any matter on which there is a known conflict of interest, or in relation to which there is a material personal interest, will not be provided to any Director concerned.

### **Conduct by Directors**

- 103. A Director must not engage in conduct likely to discredit the Company or the Group.
- 104. Each Director should be aware of, and observe, any standing orders adopted by the Board from time to time for the conduct of Board and Committee meetings.
- 105. Directors must at all times comply with the spirit as well as the letter of the law and with the principles of this code.
- 106. Directors should conduct themselves at all times in a sober, polite, lawful and restrained manner in carrying out their duties, at both Board and Committee meetings, at Group



functions and meetings, and where otherwise dealing with matters about or involving the Group.

# **Complaints procedure**

- 107. Directors are bound by the complaints procedure the Board adopts in the Group Operating Policies and Procedures.
- 108. Directors may be approached by Members, staff or other persons who have a complaint about a matter relating to the Company or the Group. Any such complaint must be handled under the relevant procedure in the Group Operating Policies and Procedures.
- 109. The Managing Director and COO must each ensure the Group's risk management and internal compliance and control systems are operating efficiently and effectively in all material respects and provide a detailed statement to the Board about this with each financial report.

# **Securities Trading Policy**

110. Each Director must comply with the Securities Trading Policy in respect of any dealings in Listed Securities.

# **Continuous Disclosure Policy**

- 111. The Company must comply with the continuous disclosure regime in section 674 of the Corporations Act and under Listing Rule 3.1, as applicable for listed and unlisted entities in the Group.
- 112. The continuous disclosure regime requires the Company to disclose immediately (for listed entities) and/or as soon as practicable (for unlisted entities) information which may materially affect the price or value of the securities in the Funds. The continuous disclosure regime reflects the expectation of Members and the market to have ready access to that type of information.
- 113. The Company is committed to complying with the continuous disclosure regime. The Board has adopted policies on continuous disclosure, including a framework to identify, report and disclose Price Sensitive Information, as set out in the Continuous Disclosure Policy.

### **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy**

- 114. The Company is committed to fostering a governance culture that embraces employee Diversity, Equity and Inclusion particularly in the composition of its Board and Senior Managers.
- 115. The Board may establish measurable objectives and procedures which the Company will implement and report against to achieve employee and Board Diversity.
- 116. The terms of the Company's policy on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, including any measurable objectives and means for assuring the effectiveness of the implemented diversity strategy, are described in the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy.

### **Standing rules of Committees**

117. These rules apply to and are deemed incorporated into the charter of each Committee, except to the extent of any conflict with any of its terms.



# Composition

- 118. Each Committee must consist of a majority of non-executive Directors, who are also Independent Directors.
- 119. The chairman of each Committee must be an Independent Director, but not the Chairman.
- 120. Each Committee must consist of no fewer than three members.
- 121. Committees are appointed by the Board and serve as the Board determines.
- 122. The Board will appoint one member of any Committee to act as its chairman.

# **Proceedings**

- 123. Any meeting may be held by means of conference call or any other means of communication that may, under the Corporations Act or the Constitution, be used for Board meetings.
- 124. The quorum for a Committee meeting is any two members.
- 125. A Director may attend (but not vote at) a meeting of a Committee of which that Director is not a member, as the Committee decides, for discussion of any particular matter relevant to that Director or in relation to which that Director may have a special contribution to make.
- 126. A Committee may delegate any specific task to one of its members.

### Reporting

127. Each Committee must report in writing to the Board after each Committee meeting and provide a copy of the minutes.

### **Company Secretary**

128. The Company Secretary has responsibility for coordinating the completion and despatch of Committee agenda and briefing materials, as well as draft minutes of meetings of each Committee for approval at the next meeting. The Company Secretary may delegate this specific task to a suitable RFM employee.

### Performance review and evaluation

- 129. The review and evaluation procedures set out in this Charter apply to each Committee. Review and evaluation are conducted against the Board Charter, the applicable Committee charter, and any criteria the Board decides.
- 130. The Committee should report to the Board on the conduct and results of its review and evaluation and make recommendations it considers appropriate.

# **Charter review**

131. The Board shall review this Charter and any other identified policies and procedures on an annual basis.



# **Definitions**

Concepts not defined in this document which are given a meaning in the Corporations Act have the same meaning as in the Corporations Act.

ASIC	means the Australian Securities and Investments Commission		
ASX	means ASX Limited (ACN 008 624 691) or the securities exchange		
	operated by it (as the case requires)		
Audit Committee	means the Committee responsible for the matters set out in Schedule 1		
Board	means the Board of Directors of the Company		
Board Charter	means the charter of corporate governance in relation to the Board, set		
	out in the Charter		
CFO	means the Chief Financial Officer or equivalent officer (by whatever the		
	title known) of the Company		
Chairman	means the Chairman of the Board		
Committee	means a committee appointed by the Board		
Company or RFM	means Rural Funds Management Limited (ACN 077 492 838), and		
Company of Kilwi	includes its subsidiary companies and any entity for which it is		
	responsible entity		
Company Secretary	means Company Secretary of the Company		
. ,	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
Compliance Plan	means the compliance plan for the Funds prepared under Part 5C.4		
	Corporations Act		
Constitution	means the Funds' constitutions		
Continuous Disclosure	means the Company's policy regarding continuous disclosure, which is		
Policy	set out in a separate document, referred to in the Charter		
COO	means the Chief Operating Officer or equivalent officer (by whatever title		
	known) of the Company		
Corporations Act	means the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)		
Director	means a director of the Company		
Directors' Code of	means the code of conduct set out in the Charter		
Conduct			
Diversity, Equity and	means the Company's policy regarding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion		
Inclusion Policy	which is set out in a separate document, referred to in the Charter		
External Compliance	means any Committee engaged by RFM to carry out the functions set out		
Committee	in Part 5C.5 of the Corporations Act and established pursuant to the		
	Charter		
Funds	means the registered managed investment schemes managed by RFM as		
	responsible entity which at the date of this document includes:		
	a. Rural Funds Trust		
	b. RF Active		
	c. 2007 Macgrove Project		
Group	means the Company, its Subsidiaries and the Funds		
<b>Group Operating Policies</b>	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
and Procedures	time, adopted by the Company		
Independent Director	means a Director who is not a Senior Manager and who:		
	a. is not a substantial shareholder of the Company, or an officer of a		
	substantial shareholder of the Company, and is not otherwise		
	associated, directly or indirectly, with a substantial shareholder of		
	the Company		
	b. has not, within the last three years:		



	<ul> <li>been employed in an executive capacity by the Company or another Group member</li> </ul>		
	or		
	<ul> <li>ii. been a Director after ceasing employment in an executive capacity for the Company or another Group member</li> </ul>		
	or		
	iii. has not, within the last three years, been a principal of a professional advisor to the Company or another Group member or an employee materially associated with the service provided, except where the advisor might be considered to be independent due to the fact that fees payable by the Company to the advisor's firm represent an insignificant component of the advisor's firm overall revenue		
	<ul> <li>c. is not:         <ol> <li>i. a material supplier or customer of the Company or another</li> <li>Group member</li> <li>or</li> </ol> </li> </ul>		
	ii. an officer of or associated, directly or indirectly, with a material supplier or customer		
	d. has no material contractual relationship with the Company or another Group member other than as a Director		
	e. is free from any interest and any business or other relationship, which could, or could reasonably be perceived to, materially interfere with the Director's ability to act in the Group's best interests		
	f. has not served on the Board for a period which could, or could reasonably be perceived to, materially interfere with the Director's		
	ability to act in the Group's best interests		
Key Policies and Procedures	means the following policies and procedures:		
Procedures	<ul><li>a. Corporate Governance Charter</li><li>b. Conflicts of Interest Management Policy</li></ul>		
	c. Risk Management Policy		
	d. Securities Trading Policy		
	e. Continuous Disclosure Policy		
	f. any other policy or procedure nominated by the Board		
Listed Funds	means the registered managed investment scheme managed by RFM as		
	responsible entity, that are listed on a Relevant Exchange, which includes		
	but is not limited to Rural Funds Group (stapled entity encompassing		
	Rural Funds Trust and RF Active)		
Listing Rules	means the Listing Rules of the Relevant Exchange and any other rules of		
	the Relevant Exchange which are applicable while the Listed Funds are		
	admitted to the official list of the Relevant Exchange, each as amended or		
	replaced from time to time, except to the extent of any express written		
	waiver given by the Relevant Exchange		
Listed Securities	means units in the Listed Funds which are quoted on a Relevant		
Managing Director	Exchange  many the Managing Director with sale responsibility for the strategic		
Managing Director	means the Managing Director with sole responsibility for the strategic and operational management of the Group		
Member	means a person who holds an interest in a Fund		



Price Sensitive	means any information concerning the Company that a reasonable			
Information	person would expect to have a material effect on the price or value of the			
IIIIoiiiiatioii	entity's securities			
	For the avoidance of doubt, the following will be typically regarded as			
	Price Sensitive Information:			
	a. material changes in the Listed Fund's turnover			
	b. current or prospective profit figures for the Listed Fund			
	c. proposed bonus issues or other new Listed Security issues			
	d. proposed major disposals or acquisitions of assets			
	e. proposed major contracts beyond the size and nature of contracts			
	normally undertaken by the Listed Fund			
	f. proposed changes in capital structure of the Listed Fund			
	g. proposed changes to the Board other than filling a casual vacancy			
	or a retirement due to ill health or similar situation			
	h. proposed changes in the general character or nature of the			
	business of the Listed Fund			
	i. information regarding changes in the holdings of substantial Listed			
	Security holders			
	<ul> <li>j. proposed significant changes in the Listed Security holdings of any Director</li> </ul>			
	k. appointment of a receiver, manager, liquidator or administrator in			
	respect to the Company or the Listed Fund			
	l. declarations of a distribution by the Listed Fund			
	m. under subscriptions or oversubscriptions to an issue of Listed			
	Securities			
	n. transactions for which the consideration payable or receivable is a			
	significant proportion of the written down value of the Listed			
	Fund's assets			
	o. claims against the Listed Fund for which the excess or damages (or			
	both) payable by it is a significant proportion of the written down			
	value of the Listed Fund's assets			
	<ul> <li>p. information about the beneficial ownership of Listed Securities obtained under Part 6C.2 Corporations Act</li> </ul>			
	q. any rating being applied by a rating agency to the Listed Fund's			
	Securities and any change to that rating, or			
	r. giving or receiving a notice of intention to make a takeover of the			
	Listed Fund			
Relevant Exchange	means:			
	ASX in relation to Rural Funds Trust and RF Active, collectively known as			
	Rural Funds Group, or any other entity managed by RFM which is listed			
	on the ASX			
Remuneration	means the Committee responsible for matters set out in Schedule 2.			
Committee PEM Code of Conduct	and the DEM Code of County at a nation of sector by the County of			
RFM Code of Conduct	means the RFM Code of Conduct, a policy adopted by the Company			
Securities Trading Policy	means the Company's Security Trading Policy , which is set out in a			
	separate document, referred to in the Charter			
Senior Managers	means the Senior Management team (excluding Board members), being			
	those who have the opportunity to materially influence the integrity,			
	strategy and operation of the Company, the Group and their financial			
	performance			



Su	bsi	dia	rie	es

has the meaning given to that term by section 9 *Corporations Act* which at the date of this document include:

- a. RFM Farming Pty Ltd
- b. Cattle JV Pty Ltd
- c. RFM Macadamias Pty Ltd
- d. J&F Australia Pty Ltd
- e. Cotton JV Pty Ltd (50% owned by RFM)



### **Annexure 1: Audit Committee Charter**

# **Standing Rules**

1. The standing rules for Committees apply to the Audit Committee.

# **Purpose of Audit Committee**

- 2. The Audit Committee's role is to assist the Board in discharging its oversight responsibilities.
- 3. The Audit Committee will:
  - a. oversee the financial reporting process to ensure the balance, transparency and integrity of published financial information
  - b. review the effectiveness of the entities' internal control and financial risk management and monitor their implementation
  - c. oversee the independent audit process, including recommending the appointment and assessing the performance of the external auditor
  - d. oversee the entities' process for monitoring compliance with laws, regulations, internal policies and expectations of key stakeholders.
- 4. In performing its duties, the Audit Committee will maintain effective working relationships with the Board, management and external auditors. Each Audit Committee member must maintain their skills and knowledge, including an understanding of the Audit Committee's responsibilities and of the entities' businesses, operations and risks.

# Scope of responsibility

- 5. The Audit Committee is responsible for:
  - a. assessing financial risk and compliance with internal controls
  - b. evaluating whether management is setting the appropriate 'control culture' by communicating the importance of control and management of financial risk
  - c. ensuring management has appropriate processes for identifying, assessing and responding to financial risks in a manner that is in accordance with the entities' risk appetite, and that those processes are operating effectively
  - d. understanding the areas of greatest financial risk at the relevant point in time and how these are being managed
  - e. reviewing significant accounting and reporting issues, including recent professional and regulatory pronouncements, and understand their impact on financial reports
  - f. overseeing the periodic financial reporting process implemented by management and review the interim and annual financial statements and preliminary announcements before their release
  - g. reviewing reports on any material misappropriation, frauds and thefts from the Group
  - h. reviewing the nomination, performance and independence of the external auditors, including recommendations to the Board for the appointment or removal of any external auditor



- i. liaising with the external auditors and monitoring the conduct of the annual audit
- j. reviewing financial statements and other financial information distributed externally
- k. reviewing management process for ensuring that information contained in analyst briefings and press announcements is consistent with published financial information, and is balanced and transparent particularly regarding Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and non-GAAP data
- reviewing external audit reports and monitoring, where major deficiencies or breakdowns in controls or procedures have been identified, remedial action taken by management
- m. reviewing and monitoring compliance with the Directors' Code of Conduct.

### **Powers**

- 6. The Audit Committee has an advisory role, to assist the Board in relation to matters set out in the Charter and does not have any power to commit the Board to any recommendation or decision made by it except:
  - a. for matters relating to the appointment, oversight, remuneration and replacement of the external auditors
  - b. where and to the extent that (in other respects) it has express delegated authority from the Board.
- 7. The Audit Committee has unrestricted access to management and to internal audit personnel as well as to the external auditors to carry out its function.

### **Risk reporting**

8. If the Audit Committee identifies a significant business risk, it should report that risk to the Board immediately following the relevant Audit Committee meeting.

### **Selection of auditors**

- 9. External auditors are selected according to criteria set by the Audit Committee which include:
  - a. the lack of any current or past relationship with the Group or with any Senior Manager that could impair, or risk impairing, the independent external view they are required to take in relation to the Company and the Group
  - b. their general reputation for independence, probity and professional standing within the business community
  - c. their knowledge of the industry in which the Company and the Group operate.
- 10. Employees of the external audit partner (including the partner or other principal with overall responsibility for the engagement), should be rotated periodically (at least every five years) to avoid any risk of impairing the independent external view that the external auditors are required to take in relation to the Company and the Group.

### **Audit planning**

11. The Audit Committee reviews the performance of the external auditors throughout the year.



- 12. During each year, the Audit Committee should meet with the external auditor to:
  - a. discuss the external audit plan
  - b. discuss any potential significant problems
  - c. discuss the impact of proposed changes in accounting policies on the financial statements
  - d. review the nature and impact of any changes in accounting policies adopted by the Group during the year
  - e. review the proposed audit fees.
- 13. Before the announcement of any Listed Fund half-yearly or yearly financial results the Audit Committee should meet with the external auditor to:
  - a. review the pro-forma half-yearly and pro-forma preliminary final report before lodgement of those documents with the Relevant Exchange, and any significant adjustments required as a result of the audit
  - b. make the necessary recommendation to the Board for the approval of these documents
  - c. review the results and findings of the audit, the adequacy of accounting, financial and operating controls, and monitor the implementation of any recommendations made
  - d. review the draft financial report and the audit report and make the necessary recommendation to the Board for the approval of the financial report.

### **Proceedings**

- 14. A quorum of any meeting will be a minimum of two members.
- 15. The Secretary of the Audit Committee will be the Company Secretary, or such other person as nominated by the Committee.
- 16. Only Audit Committee members are entitled to attend meetings. The Committee may invite other people (such as the Managing Director, CFO, COO, Company Secretary, external audit partner) to its meetings as it considers necessary.
- 17. The external auditor should be invited to make presentations to the Audit Committee as appropriate.
- 18. Meetings will be held not less than twice each year corresponding to the entities' financial reporting cycle.
- 19. The chair of the Audit Committee will attend the Board meeting at which the financial statements are approved.
- 20. The Audit Committee may meet with the external auditor without management present and should do so once a year where practicable.



### **Annexure 2: Remuneration Committee Charter**

# **Standing rules**

1. The standing rules for Committees apply to the Remuneration Committee.

# **Purpose of Remuneration Committee**

2. The Remuneration Committee's role is to monitor remuneration and issues relevant to remuneration policies and practices, including for Senior Managers and non-executive Directors.

# Scope of responsibility

- 3. The Remuneration Committee is responsible for:
  - a. reviewing recommendations for the Group's remuneration policies and framework, including the allocation of the directors' fees to non-executive Directors
  - b. reviewing and making recommendations to the Board for the Group's remuneration practices, including for equity-based remuneration plans and superannuation arrangements
  - c. reviewing and making recommendations to the Board for the remuneration packages of the Managing Director, selected Senior Managers and of non-executive Directors and ensuring that the packages appropriately reflect the different roles and responsibilities
  - d. overseeing the preparation of any report for the Board that may be required under applicable legal or regulatory requirements about remuneration matters
  - e. reviewing the Group's reporting and disclosure practices for the remuneration of Directors and Senior Managers
  - f. reviewing, making recommendations to the Board on remuneration as required by Diversity benchmarks and reporting to the Board as necessary to facilitate compliance with the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy
  - g. reviewing and reporting to the Board, at least annually, on the proportion of women and men in the workforce at all levels of the Group, and their relative levels of remuneration.
- 4. Remuneration includes not only monetary payments (salary and wages) but all other monetary and non-monetary compensation for services and benefits including:
  - a. fringe benefits
  - b. directors' and officers' and other insurance arrangements
  - c. retirement benefits
  - d. superannuation
  - e. equity participation, and other incentive programs.

### **Powers**

5. The Remuneration Committee has an advisory role to assist the Board with the matters set out in the Charter. The Remuneration Committee cannot commit the Board to any



recommendation or decision made by it but may consult independent external experts to perform its function and charge the costs to the Company.

# **Proceedings**

- 6. Meetings are held at least once a year and more often as required.
- 7. Representatives of management and other employed personnel may be invited to attend meetings, or specific parts of meetings, at the discretion of the Remuneration Committee.
- 8. If an executive Director is involved in deliberations of the Remuneration Committee, they must not be involved in deciding their own remuneration and must have regard to any indirect conflict in setting the remuneration of other Senior Managers.