

***COMPANIES ACTS, 1963 TO 2006***

**COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND NOT HAVING A  
SHARE CAPITAL**

***MEMORANDUM & ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION***

***OF***

***SUSTAINABLE WATER NETWORK (SWAN) LIMITED***

**COMPANIES ACTS, 1963 TO 2006**

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**-  
MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION  
OF  
SUSTAINABLE WATER NETWORK (SWAN)  
LIMITED**

1. The name of the Company is SUSTAINABLE WATER NETWORK (SWAN) LIMITED
2. The main object for which the Company is established is;
  - (A)
    - a) To protect and enhance the quality of Ireland's waters and to promote the ecologically sustainable management of all Ireland's aquatic resources through the promotion of the active involvement of environmental non-governmental organisations in the full implementation and ongoing delivery of the EU Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC<sup>1</sup>, ("The Water Framework Directive").
    - b) To facilitate the participation of all member environmental groups in the full implementation and ongoing delivery of the Water Framework Directive, especially at local and regional (River Basin District) levels.
    - c) To provide informed critical analysis at all stages of implementation and ongoing delivery of the Water Framework Directive
    - d) To increase public awareness of the importance of good water quality for the common good, and to show how, through the Water Framework Directive, Ireland's aquatic resources will be protected for future generations.
    - e) To represent the SWAN position to government, statutory bodies and other agencies in all relevant matters, and in seeking, when considered necessary, technical, financial or other action in order to secure the successful delivery of the Water Framework Directive, and to advise and assist, where possible, the statutory authorities in the exercise of their responsibilities in relation to implementation of the Directive.

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<sup>1</sup> Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for the Community action in the field of water policy

- f) To acquire by rental, lease, purchase, donation or otherwise, such property and effects as shall be necessary or expedient to facilitate the exercise of its functions.
- g) To affiliate with any organisations as SWAN sees fit in order to effectively deliver its objectives.
- h) To implement actions in order to achieve the most effective implementation of the Water Framework Directive as agreed by SWAN.

The following objects set out hereafter are exclusively subsidiary and ancillary to the main object set out above and these objects are to be used only for the attainment of that main object and any income generated therefrom is to be applied for the main object only.

- (B) (i) To facilitate the participation of all member environmental groups in the full implementation and ongoing delivery of the Water Framework Directive, especially at local and regional (River Basin District) levels.
- (ii) To provide informed critical analysis at all stages of implementation and ongoing delivery of the Water Framework Directive.

(C) The following are the powers of the Company;

- (1)
  - (a) To furnish and provide the Company's property with such furniture, implements, machinery and conveniences as the Company may think desirable.
  - (b) To provide gardens, greenhouses and grounds for recreation and amusement.
  - (c) To raise funds and help raise funds for any charitable purpose.
  - (d) To provide places and facilities for curricular and extra curricular activities for pupils of the Schools of the Area.
  - (e) To carry on any business which may seem to the Company capable of being conveniently carried on in connection with the above main object or calculated directly or indirectly to enhance the value of or render profitable any of the Company's property, rights or interests.
- (2) To make, draw, accept, endorse, issue, discount and otherwise deal with promissory notes, bills of exchange, cheques, letters of credit, circular notes and other mercantile instruments.
- (3) To acquire by purchase, exchange, lease, fee farm grant or otherwise, either for an estate in fee simple or for any less estate or interest, whether immediately or reversionary, and whether vested or contingent; any lands,

tenements or hereditaments of any tenure, whether subject or not to any charges or encumbrances and to hold and farm and work or manage or to sell, let, alienate, mortgage, lease or charge land, house property, shops, flats, maisonettes, reversions, interest annuities, life policies and any other property real or personal, movable or immovable, either absolutely or conditionally and whether subject to or not to any mortgage, charge, ground rent or other rents or encumbrances and to pay for any lands, tenements, hereditaments or assets acquired by the Company in cash or debentures or obligations of the Company, whether fully paid or otherwise, or in any other manner.

- (4) To guarantee, support, or secure, whether by personal covenant or by mortgaging or charging all or any part of the undertaking, property and assets (present and future) of the Company, or all such methods, the performance of the obligations of and the repayment or payment of the principle amounts and interest of any person, firm or Company or the dividends or interest of any securities, including (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) any Company which is the Company's holding Company or a subsidiary or associated Company.
- (5) To carry on any other business which may seem to the Company capable of being conveniently carried on in connection with the above main object.
- (6) To purchase or otherwise acquire and carry on the whole or any part of the business, property, goodwill and assets of any Company carrying on or proposing to carry on any business which the Company is authorised to carry on or which can be conveniently carried on in connection with the same, or may seem calculated directly or indirectly to benefit the Company, or possessed of property suitable for the purposes of the Company, and as part of the consideration for any of the acts or things aforesaid or property acquired to undertake all or any of the liabilities of such Company or to acquire an interest therein, amalgamate with or enter into any arrangement for sharing profits, or for co-operation, or for limiting competition or for mutual assistance with any such Company and to give, issue or accept cash or any shares, debentures or securities that may be agreed upon, and to hold and retain or sell, mortgage and deal with any shares, debentures or securities so received.
- (7) 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.
- (8) 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, prior permission to be obtained from the

Revenue Commissioners where it is intended to accumulate funds for a period in excess of two (2) years.

- (9) 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 main object 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.
- (10) To raise or borrow money, and to secure the payment of money by the issue of or upon debentures or debenture stock, perpetual, terminable or otherwise, or bonds or other obligations, charged or not charged upon, or by mortgage, charge, hypothecation, lien or pledge of the whole or any part of the undertaking, property, assets and rights of the Company, both present and future, and generally in such other manner and on such terms as may seem expedient, and to issue any of the Company's securities, for such consideration and on such terms as may be thought fit including the power to pay interest on any money so raised or borrowed; and also by a similar mortgage, charge, hypothecation, lien or pledge, to secure and guarantee the performance by the Company of any obligation or liability it may undertake and to redeem or pay off any such securities.
- (11) To create, maintain, invest and deal with any reserve or sinking funds for redemption of obligations of the Company, or for depreciation of works or stock, or any other purpose of the Company.
- (12) To grant pensions, gratuities, allowances or charitable aid to any person who may have served the Company as an employee, or to the wives, husbands, children or other dependants of such person provided that such pensions, gratuities, allowances or charitable aid shall be no more than that provided by an occupational pension scheme and provided that such occupational pension scheme has been operated by the Company and the beneficiary of the pensions, gratuities, allowances or charitable aid, or their spouse or parent, has been a member of the occupational pension scheme while employed by the Company and to make payments towards insurance and to form and contribute to provident and benefit funds for the benefit of any person employed by the Company and to subscribe or guarantee money for charitable objects.
- (13) To promote freedom of contract and to resist, insure against, counteract and discourage interference therewith, to join any lawful federation, union, association or party and to contribute to the funds thereof, or do any other lawful act or thing with a view to preventing or resisting directly or indirectly any interruption of or interference with the Company or any other trade or business or providing or safeguarding against the same, or resisting or opposing any strike movement which may be thought detrimental to the interest of the Company or its employees and to subscribe to any association or fund for any such purposes.

- (14) To procure the Company to be registered or recognised in any foreign country, colony, dependency or place.
- (15) 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 loan capital, or to contract with any person or Company to pay the same, and to pay commissions to brokers and others for underwriting, placing, selling or guaranteeing the subscription of any debentures or securities of the Company.
- (16) To do all or any of the above things in any part of the world, and 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 main object by any person or Company.
- (17) To do all such other things as may be deemed incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above main object.

And it is hereby declared that in the construction of this Clause, 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 objects specified in each paragraph of this Clause shall, except where otherwise expressed in such paragraph, be in no wise restricted by reference to or inference from the terms of any other paragraph or the name of the Company.

3. The liability of the members is limited.
4. Every member of the Company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Company in the event of its being wound up while he is a member or within one year afterwards, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the Company contracted before he ceases to be a member and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves, such amount as may be required not exceeding One Euro.

### ***WINDING UP***

5. If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Company there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Company but shall be given or transferred to some other charitable institution or institutions having main objects similar to the main objects of the Company and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Company under or by virtue of Clause 6 hereof, such institution or institutions to be

determined by the members of the Company at or before the time of dissolution, and if and so far as effect cannot be given to such provision, then to some charitable object.

### ***INCOME AND PROPERTY***

6. The income and property of the Company shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its main object (s) as set forth in this Memorandum of Association. No portion of the Company's income and property shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to members of the Company. No Director shall be appointed to any office of the Company paid by salary or fees, or receive any remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth from the Company. However, nothing shall prevent any payment in good faith by the Company of;
- a) reasonable and proper remuneration to any member, officer or servant of the Company (not being a Director) for any services rendered to the Company:
  - b) interest at a rate not exceeding 5% per annum on money lent by Directors or other members of the Company to the Company:
  - c) reasonable and proper rent for premises demised and let by any member of the Company (including any Director) to the Company:
  - d) reasonable and proper out of pocket expenses incurred by any Director in connection with attendance to any matter affecting the Company:
  - e) fees, remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth to any Company of which a Director may be a member holding not more than one hundredth part of the issued capital of such Company.

### ***ADDITIONS, ALTERATIONS OR AMENDMENTS***

7. No addition, alteration or amendment shall be made to or in the provisions of this Memorandum of Association for the time being in force unless the same shall have been previously approved in writing by the Revenue Commissioners.

### ***KEEPING OF ACCOUNTS***

8. Annual audited accounts shall be kept and made available to the Revenue Commissioners on request.

WE, the several persons whose names and addresses are subscribed, wish to be formed into a Company in pursuance of this Memorandum of Association.

***NAMES, ADDRESSES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF SUBSCRIBERS***

***Dated this    day of***

***Witness to the above Signatures:***

**COMPANIES ACTS, 1963 TO 2006**

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**COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND NOT HAVING A  
SHARE CAPITAL**

-

**ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

**OF**

**SUSTAINABLE WATER NETWORK (SWAN) LIMITED**

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**PRELIMINARY**

The Regulations contained in Table C of the Companies Acts, 1963 to 2006 shall apply to the Company save in so far as they are hereby varied or excluded.

1. In these Articles: -

“The Act” means the Companies Act, 1963.

“the Directors” means the Directors for the time being of the Company or the Directors present at a meeting of the Board of Directors and includes any person occupying the position of Director by whatever name called;

“Secretary” means any person appointed to perform the duties of the Secretary of the Company;

“the Seal” means the Common Seal of the Company;

“the office” means the registered office for the time being of the Company

Expressions referring to writing shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be construed as including references to printing, lithography, photography and any other modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form.

Unless the contrary intention appears, words or expressions contained in these Articles shall bear the same meaning as in the Act, or any statutory modification thereof in force at the date at which these Articles become binding on the Company.

## ***MEMBERS***

2. The number of members with which the Company proposes to be registered is 7 but the Directors may from time to time register an increase of members.
3. The subscribers to the Memorandum of Association and such other persons as the Directors shall admit to membership shall be members of the Company.
4. The rights and liabilities attaching to any Members of the Company may be varied from time to time by a Special Resolution of the Company.
5. Membership is open to bona fide groups and non governmental organisations of recognised integrity who acknowledge in writing the objects of the Company and their commitment to the act of promotion and realisation of those objects and whose primary objectives are the protection and sustainable management of the environment for its own sake (and these objectives should not be a necessity to achieve other objectives of that organisation, or be ancillary to other objectives) and for whom the maintenance of the good ecological status of Irelands aquatic resources would be essential for achieving those objectives.
6. Any such group or organisation seeking to become a member of the Company shall apply in writing to the Company demonstrating
  - a) their bona fide;
  - b) how their organisation fulfils the criteria for membership set out in these Articles of Association;
  - c) a commitment to comply with these criteria.

All applications for membership shall be circulated to all existing members of the Company and each such application shall be considered and voted upon at a meeting of the Directors. Following approval by the SWAN Board, new applicants shall first join as Associate Members for a period of 12 months without voting rights, after which their membership shall be reviewed by the Directors based on their compatibility with the objects of the Company and levels of participation in SWAN work during that time.

## **GENERAL MEETINGS**

7. All general meetings of the Company shall be held in the State.
8. (1) Subject to paragraph (2), the Company shall in each year hold a general meeting as its Annual General Meeting in addition to any other meetings in that year and shall specify the meetings as such in the notices calling it; and not more than 15 months shall elapse between the date of one Annual General Meeting of the Company and that of the next.

(2) So long as the Company holds its first Annual General Meeting within 18 months of its incorporation, it need not hold it in the year of its incorporation

or in the following year. Subject to Article 5, the Annual General Meeting shall be held at such time and at such place in the State as the Directors shall appoint.

9. All general meetings other than Annual General Meetings shall be called Extraordinary General Meetings.
10. The Directors may, whenever they think fit, convene an Extraordinary General Meeting and an Extraordinary General Meeting shall also be convened on the requisition of not less than two fifths of the membership entitled to vote at General Meetings or in default may be convened by such requisitionists as provided by Section 132 of the Act. If at any time there are not within the State sufficient Directors capable of acting to form a quorum any Director or any two members of the Company may convene an Extraordinary General Meeting in the same manner as nearly as possible as that in which meetings may be convened by the Directors.

### **NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS**

11. Subject to Sections 133 and 141 of the act an Annual General Meeting and a meeting called for by passing of a special resolution shall be called by 21 days notice in writing at the least and a meeting of the Company (other than an Annual General Meeting or a meeting for the passing of a special resolution) shall be called by 14 days notice in writing at the least. The notice shall be exclusive of the day on which it is served or deemed to be served and of the day for which it is given and shall specify the place, the day and the hour of meeting and in the case of special business and general nature of that business, and shall be given in manner hereinafter mentioned to such persons as are under the Articles of the Company entitled to receive notices from the Company.
12. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to or the non-receipt of notices of a meeting by any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.
13. All bona fides members of organisations, which are members of the Company, will be entitled to attend General Meetings of the Company but shall have no voting rights and shall not constitute part of the quorum at such meetings. They are entitled to be kept informed of the activities of the Company and may assist with the work of the Company in an advisory capacity if requested by the Company.

### **PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

14. All business shall be deemed special that is transacted at an Extraordinary General Meeting, and also all that is transacted at an Annual General Meeting, with the exception of the consideration of the accounts, balance sheets and the reports of the Directors and Auditors, the election of Directors in the place of

those retiring, the re-appointment of the retiring Auditors and the fixing of the remuneration of the Auditors.

15. No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum of members is present at the time when the meeting proceeds to business; save as herein otherwise provided, one more than a quarter of the members of the Company present in person shall be a quorum.
16. If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting, if convened upon the requisition of 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, and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the members present shall be a quorum.
17. The Chairman, if any, of the Board of Directors shall preside as Chairman at every general meeting of the Company, or if there is no such chairman, or if he is not present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for the holding of the meeting or is unwilling to act, the Directors present shall elect one of their number to be Chairman of the meeting.
18. If at any meeting no Director is willing to act as Chairman or if no Director is present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the members present shall choose one of their number to be Chairman of the meeting.
19. The Chairman may with the consent of any meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall, if so directed by the meeting) adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting at which the adjournment took place. When a meeting is adjourned for 30 days or more, notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given as in the case of an original meeting. Save as aforesaid, it shall not be necessary to give any notice of an adjourned meeting or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned meeting.
20. At any general meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) demanded:-
  - (a) by the chairman, or
  - (b) by at least three members present in person or by proxy, or
  - (c) by any member or members present in person and representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all members having the right to vote at the meeting.

Unless a poll is so demanded, a declaration by the chairman that a resolution has, on a show of hands, been carried or carried unanimously or by a particular majority or lost, and an entry to that effect in the book containing the minutes

of proceedings of the Company shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of votes recorded in favour of or against such resolution the demand for a poll may be withdrawn.

21. Except as provided in Article 20 if a poll is duly demanded it shall be taken in such a manner as the chairman directs and the result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.
22. Where there is 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.
23. A poll demanded on the election of a Chairman, or on a question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken at such time as the chairman of the meeting directs, and any business other than that upon which a poll has been demanded may be proceeded with pending the taking of the poll.
24. Subject to Section 141 of the Act, a resolution in writing signed by all 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 representatives) 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 the like form each signed by one or more of the members, and if described as a special resolution shall be deemed to be a special resolution within the meaning of the Act.
25. Every member organisation shall have one vote subject to the proviso that any member organisation shall have a maximum of one additional vote in respect of each River Basin District Advisory Council on which it has a representative.
26. A member of unsound mind, or in respect of whom an order has been made by any Court having jurisdiction in lunacy, may vote, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, by his committee receiver, guardian, or other person appointed by that Court, and any such committee, receiver, guardian, or other person may vote by proxy on a show of hands or on a poll.
27. No member shall be entitled to vote at any general meeting unless all money's immediately payable by him to the Company have been paid.
28. No objection shall be raised to the qualification of any voter except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the voter 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.
29. Votes may be given either personally or by proxy.

30. The instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing under the hand of the appointer or of his attorney duly authorised in writing, or, if the appointer is a body corporate, either under seal or under the hand of an officer or attorney duly authorised. A proxy need not be a member of the Company.
31. 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 that power or authority shall be deposited at the office or at such other place within the State as is specified for that purpose in the notice convening the meeting not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the persons named in the instrument proposes to vote, or, in the case of a poll, not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for the taking of the poll, and in default the instrument of proxy shall not be treated as valid.
32. An instrument appointing a proxy shall be in the following form or a form as near thereto as circumstances permit;-

### SUSTAINABLE WATER NETWORK LIMITED

I/WE, \_\_\_\_\_ of  
in the County of \_\_\_\_\_, being a member/members of the above  
named Company, hereby appoint  
of \_\_\_\_\_ or failing him  
of \_\_\_\_\_ as my/our proxy to vote for me/us on my/our  
behalf at the (annual or extraordinary, as the case may be), general meeting of  
the Company to be held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_ and  
any adjournment thereof.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_

This form is to be used \*in favour of/against the resolution.  
Unless otherwise instructed, the proxy will vote as he thinks fit.

***\*Strike out whichever is not desired.***

33. The instrument appointing a proxy shall be deemed to confer authority to demand or join in demanding a poll.
34. A vote in accordance with the terms of an instrument of proxy shall be valid notwithstanding the previous death or insanity of the principal or revocation of the proxy or of the authority under which the proxy was executed, if no intimation in writing of such death, insanity or revocation as aforesaid is received by the Company at the office before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the proxy is used.

## ***BODIES CORPORATE ACTING BY REPRESENTATIVES AT MEETINGS***

35. Any body corporate which is a member of the Company may be resolution of its directors or other governing body authorise such persons 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 the body corporate which he represent as that body corporate could exercise if it were an individual member of the Company.

## **ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION**

36. The Directors shall be entitled from time to time to determine any Annual Subscription to be payable by any member of the Company. Such subscriptions shall be payable in advance on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January in each year. A person becoming a member of the Company after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January in any year may be required by the Directors to pay the entire Annual Subscription in respect of that year. In the event that any member shall cease to be a member prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January in any year that member shall not be entitled to any rebate of his Annual Subscription paid for that year. The terms and conditions attaching to Life Subscriptions shall be determined by the directors in their absolute discretion from time to time.

## **DIRECTORS**

37. The number of Directors and the names of the first Directors shall be determined in writing by the subscribers of the Memorandum of Association or a majority of them.
38. The Board of Directors shall consist of: -

### **A. ELECTED MEMBERS**

Not more than six persons each of whom has been nominated by an organisation which is a member of the Company and who shall be elected by ballot by members of the Company at the Annual General Meeting.

The six elected members shall be elected for the following periods: -

The two members who obtained the highest and second highest number of votes in the election shall be elected for a period of 3 years.

The two members who received the third and fourth highest number of votes shall be elected for a period of 2 years.

The two members who received the fifth and sixth highest number of votes shall be elected for a period of 1 year.

#### **B. CO-OPTED MEMBERS**

Not more than three persons who may be co-opted by the Directors from organisations which are members of the Company.

The three persons to be co-opted as Directors to the first Board of Directors shall be chosen from organisations who are members of the Company based on the alphabetical sequence of the title of such organisation. The Director co-opted from the organisation that is first in alphabetical sequence will serve for a period of 1 year and the Director co-opted from the organisation that is second in the alphabetical sequence will serve for 2 years and the Director co-opted from the organisation that is third in the alphabetical sequence will serve for 3 years.

### **RESIGNATION, CESSATION AND EXPULSION OF MEMBERSHIP**

39.

- (a) A member of any class may by notice in writing to the Secretary of the Company resign his membership of the Company.
- (b) Membership of the Company shall automatically cease on any member's death.
- (c) If any member shall refuse or wilfully neglect to comply with any of these Articles of Association or shall have been guilty of such conduct as in the opinion of the Directors either shall have rendered him unfit to remain a member of the Company or shall be injurious to the Company or if the Directors shall for any other good reason require that a member shall be expelled such member may by a Resolution of the directors be expelled from membership provided that he shall have been given notice of the intended resolution for his expulsion and shall have been afforded an opportunity of giving orally or in writing to the Directors any explanation or defence as he may think fit.

Notice under this Article shall be deemed to have been served if it is sent by post in accordance with the provisions set out in Article 70 of these Articles whether or not it is actually received by the member intended to be served with such notice.

### **BORROWING POWERS**

40. The Directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money and to mortgage or charge its undertaking and property or any part thereof, and to issue debentures, debenture stock and other securities, whether outright or as security for any debt, liability or obligation of the Company or of any third party.

## **POWERS AND DUTIES OF DIRECTORS**

41. The business of the Company shall be managed by the Directors, who may pay all expenses incurred in promoting and registering the Company, and exercise all such powers of the Company as are not by the Act or Articles required to be exercised by the Company in general meeting subject nevertheless to the provisions of the Act and these Articles and to such directors, being not inconsistent with the aforesaid provisions, as may be given by the Company in general meeting, but no direction given by the Company in general meeting shall invalidate any prior act of the directors which would have been valid if that direction had not been given.
42. The Directors may from time to time and at any time by power of attorney appoint any Company, firm or person or body of persons, whether nominated directly or indirectly by the directors to be the attorney or attorneys of the Company for such purposes and with powers authorities and discretions (not exceeding those vested in or exercisable by the Directors and under these Articles) and for such period and subject to such conditions as they may think fit, and any such powers of attorney may contain such provision for the protection and convenience of persons dealing with any such attorney as the Directors may think fit, and may also authorise any such attorney to delegate all or any of the powers, authorities and discretions vested in him.
43. All cheques, promissory notes, drafts, bills of exchange and other negotiable instruments, and all receipts for moneys paid to the Company, shall be signed, drawn, accepted, endorsed or otherwise executed, as the case may be, by such person or persons and in such manner as the Directors shall from time to time by resolution determine.
44. The Directors shall cause minutes to be made in books provided for the purpose: -
- (a) of all appointments of officers made by the Directors;
  - (b) of the names of the Directors present at each meeting of the Directors and of any committee of the Directors;
  - (c) of all resolutions and proceedings at all meetings of the Company, and the directors and of committees of Directors.

45. The Directors shall elect annually such officers as are deemed necessary by them. This election shall take place at the first meeting of Directors following the Annual General Meeting and such election shall be by secret ballot.

### **DISQUALIFICATION OF DIRECTORS**

46. 1. The Office of a member of the Board of Directors shall be vacated if such member:

- a) Is adjudged bankrupt in the State, or in Northern Ireland or Great Britain, makes any arrangements or composition with his creditors generally, or
- b) Becomes prohibited from being a member if the Board of Directors by reason of any order made under Part V11 of the Companies Act 1990 or any subsequent or amending legislation, or
- c) Becomes of unsound mind, or afflicted in a way so as to preclude them carrying out functions or on the demise of the member, or
- d) Resigns his office by notice in writing to the Company or
- e) Is convicted of an indictable offence unless the members of the Executive determine otherwise, or
- f) Is absent from 3 consecutive meetings of the Directors without consent or agreement.
- g) Holds any other office or place of profit under the Company beyond the extent permitted by the Memorandum of Association.

2. Unexplained absence of a member from three successive meetings of Directors will be deemed to be a resignation as a Director of the Company.

### **VOTING ON CONTRACTS**

47. A Director may vote in respect of any contract in which he is interested or any matter arising thereout.

### **ROTATION OF DIRECTORS**

48. At the first Annual General Meeting of the Company, all the directors shall retire from office and at the Annual General Meeting in every subsequent year one-third of the Directors for the time being, or if their number is not three or a multiple of three, then the number nearest one-third, shall retire from office.
49. The Directors to retire in every year shall be those who have been longest in office since the last election, but as between persons who became Director on the same day, those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree amongst themselves) be determined by lot.
50. A retiring Director shall be eligible for re-election.
51. The Company, at the meeting at which a Director retires in manner aforesaid, may fill the vacated office by electing a person thereto and in default the retiring Director shall, if offering himself for re-election, be deemed to have been re-elected, unless at such meeting it is expressly resolved not to fill such vacated office or unless a resolution for the re-election of such Director has been put to the meeting and lost.
52. No person other than a Director retiring at the meeting shall, unless recommended by the Directors, be eligible for re-election to the office of Director at any general meeting unless, not less than three nor more than 21 days before the date appointed for the meeting, there has been left at the office notice in writing, signed by a Member duly qualified to attend and vote at the meeting for which notice is given, of his intention to propose such a person for election, and also notice in writing signed by that person of his willingness to be elected.
53. The Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution increase or reduce the number of Directors, and may also determine in what rotation the increased or reduced number is to go out of office.
54. 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, but so that the total number of Directors shall not at any time exceed the number fixed in accordance with these Articles. Any vacancy arising in the number of the Elected Directors shall be filled by the candidate at the last election who was not elected but received the highest number of votes. Any Director so appointed shall hold office only until the next Annual General Meeting, and shall then be eligible for re-election, but shall not be taken into account in determining the Directors who are to retire by rotation at such meeting
55. The Company may by ordinary resolution of which extended notice given in accordance with Section 142 of the Act remove any Director before the expiration of his period of office, notwithstanding anything in these Articles or in any agreement between the Company and such Director. Such removal shall be without prejudice to any claim such Director may have for damages for breach of any contract of service between him and the Company.

56. The Company may by ordinary resolution appoint another person in place of a Director removed from office under Article 50. Without prejudice to the powers of the Directors under Article 49 the Company in general meeting may appoint any person to be a Director, either to fill a casual vacancy or as an additional Director. A person appointed in place of a director so removed or to fill such a vacancy shall be subject to retirement at the same time as if he had become a Director on the day on which the Director in whose place he is appointed was last elected a Director.

## **PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS**

57. The Directors may meet together for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit but shall meet at least once in each of three distinct quarters in every calendar year. Questions arising at any meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. Where there is 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 Directors. If the Directors so resolve it shall not be necessary to give notice of a meeting of Directors to any Director who being resident in the State is for the time being absent from the State.
58. The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the directors shall be one more than a third of the number of Directors in office at any time present in person, but so that, except as hereinafter provided, not less than two individuals shall be present. Provided that any director may participate in a meeting of the directors by means of telephonic or other similar communication whereby all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other speak; and participation in a meeting in this manner shall be deemed to constitute presence in person at such meeting.
59. The continuing Directors may act notwithstanding any vacancy in their number but, if and so long as their number is reduced below the number fixed by or pursuant to the Articles of the Company as the necessary quorum of Directors, the continuing Directors or Director may act for the purpose of increasing the number of Directors to that number or of summoning a general meeting of the Company, but for no other purpose.
60. The Directors may elect a Chairman of their meetings and determine the period for which he is to hold office, but, if no such chairman is elected or if at any meeting the chairman is 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.
61. The Directors may delegate any of their powers to committees consisting of such member or members of the Board as they think fit: any committee so formed shall, in exercise of the powers so delegated, conform to any regulations that may be imposed on it by the Directors. The Directors may

appoint members of the Company who are not Directors for the time being but are individuals of recognised integrity, probity and experience in areas relevant to the aims, purpose and work of any such committee to assist any committee so formed.

62. A committee may elect a Chairman of its meetings: if no such chairman is elected, or if at any meeting the chairman is not present within 5 minutes after the time appointed for holding the same, the members present may choose one of their number to be Chairman of the meeting.
63. A committee may meet and adjourn as it thinks proper. Questions arising at any meetings shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present, and when there is an equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.
64. All acts done by any meeting of the Directors or of a committee of Directors or by any person acting as a Director shall, notwithstanding that it is afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment of any such Director or person acting as aforesaid, or that they or any of them were disqualified, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed and was qualified to be a Director.
65. A resolution in writing signed by all of the directors for the time being entitled to receive notice of a meeting of the directors shall be as valid and effective for all purposes as a resolution of the directors as if it had been passed at a meeting of the directors duly convened and held and may consist of several documents in the like form each signed by one or more of the directors. For the purpose of this Article, the signature of an alternate director shall suffice in lieu of the signature of the director appointing him. Regulation 58 of Table C shall not apply.

## **SECRETARY**

66. The Secretary shall be appointed by the Directors for such term and upon such conditions as they may think fit: and any Secretary so appointed may be removed by them.
67. A provision of the Act or these Articles requiring or authorising a thing to be done by or to a Director and the Secretary shall not be satisfied by its being done by or to the same person acting both as Director and as, or in place of, the Secretary.

## **THE SEAL**

68. The seal shall be used only by the authority of the Directors or of a committee of Directors authorised by the Directors in that behalf, and every instrument to which the seal shall be affixed shall be signed by a Director and shall be countersigned by the Secretary or by a second Director or by some other person appointed by the Director for that purpose.

## **ACCOUNTS**

69. The Directors shall cause proper books of accounts to be kept relating to:-
- (a) all sums of money received and expended by the Company and the matters in respect of which the receipt and expenditure takes place;
  - (b) all sales and purchases of goods by the Company; and
  - (c) the assets and liabilities of the Company.

Proper books shall not be deemed to be kept if there are not kept such books of account as are necessary to give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs and to explain its transactions.

70. The books of account shall be kept at the office or, subject to Section 147 of the Act, at such other place as the Directors think fit, and shall at all reasonable times be open to the inspection of the Directors.
71. The Directors shall from time to time determine whether and to what extent and at what times and places and under what conditions or regulations the accounts and books of the Company or any of them shall be open to the inspection of members not being Directors and no member (not being a Director) shall have any right of inspecting any account or book or document except as conferred by statute or authorised by the Directors or by the Company in general meeting.
72. The Directors shall from time to time in accordance with Sections 148, 150, 157 and 158 of the Act cause to be prepared and to be laid before the Annual General meeting of the Company such profit and loss accounts, balance sheets, group accounts and reports as are required by those Sections to be prepared and laid before the Annual General Meeting of the Company.
73. A copy of every balance sheet (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 Auditors' report shall not less than 21 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting, be sent to every person entitled under the provisions of the Act to receive them.
74. The Company shall open and maintain accounts in such financial institutions as the Directors may determine from time to time for money received and expended by the Company. Withdrawal or payment of any funds from accounts on behalf of the Company shall require the signature of at least two Directors of the Company.

## **AUDIT**

75. Auditors shall be appointed and their duties regulated in accordance with Sections 160 to 163 of the Act.

### **BYE LAWS**

76. The Company may in general meeting from time to time make Bye Laws not inconsistent with these Articles as it may consider necessary or desirable for the management and well being of any subsidiary activity.

### **NOTICES**

77. A notice may be given by the Company to any member either personally or by sending it by post to him to his registered address. Where a notice is sent by post, service of the notice shall be deemed to be effected by properly addressing, repaying and posting a letter containing the notice, and to have been effected in the case of the notice of a meeting at the expiration of 24 hours after the letter containing the same is posted, and in any other case at which the letter would be delivered in the ordinary course of post.

78. Notice of every general meeting shall be given in any manner hereinbefore authorised to:-

- (a) every member
- (b) every person being a personal representative or the Official Assignee in bankruptcy of a member whether the member but for his death or bankruptcy would be entitled to receive notice of the meeting; and
- (c) the Auditor for the time being of the Company.

No other person shall be entitled to receive notices of general meetings.

***NAMES, ADDRESSES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF SUBSCRIBERS***

***Dated this    day of***

***Witness to the above Signatures:***