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The Board of Directors of Hong Leong Bank Berhad observes the Code of Ethics for Company Director established by the Companies Commission of Malaysia (“Code of Ethics”).

## **A. PRINCIPLES**

The principles on which the Code of Ethics rely are those that concern transparency, integrity, accountability and corporate social responsibilities.

## **B. OBJECTIVES**

This Code of Ethics is formulated to enhance the standard of corporate governance and corporate behaviour with a view to achieving the following objectives:

1. To establish standards of ethical conduct for directors based on acceptable belief and values one upholds.
2. To uphold the spirit of social responsibility and accountability in line with the legislations, regulations and guidelines governing a company.

## **C. DEFINITION**

In the context of the Code of Ethics, a company director means any person occupying the position of director of a corporation by whatever name called, and includes a person in accordance with whose directions and instructions the directors of a corporation are accustomed to act, and an alternate or substitute director. A director also includes both executive and non-executive director as well as executive and non-executive chairman.

## **D. CODE OF CONDUCT**

In the performance of his duties, a director should at all times observe the following codes:

### **1. Corporate Governance**

- 1.1 Should have a clear understanding of the aims and objectives, capabilities and capacity of the company;

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- 1.3 Should ensure at all times that the company is properly managed and effectively controlled;
  - 1.4 Should stay abreast of the affairs of the company and be kept informed of the company's compliance with relevant legislations and contractual requirements;
  - 1.5 Should insist on being kept informed on all matters of importance to the company in order to be effective in corporate management;
  - 1.6 Should limit his directorship of companies to a number in which he can best devote his time and effectiveness; each director is an own judge of his abilities and how best to manage his time effectively in the company in which he holds directorship;
  - 1.7 Should have access to the advice and services of the company secretary, who is responsible to the board to ensure proper procedures, rules and regulations are complied with;
  - 1.8 Should at all times exercise his powers for the purposes they were conferred, for the benefit and prosperity of the company;
  - 1.9 Should disclose immediately all contractual interests whether directly or indirectly with the company;
  - 1.10 Should neither divert to his own advantage any business opportunity that the company is pursuing, nor may he use confidential information obtained by reason of his office for his own advantage or that of others;
  - 1.11 Should at all times act with utmost good faith towards the company in any transaction and to act honestly and responsibly in the exercise of his powers in discharging his duties; and
  - 1.12 Should be willing to exercise independent judgment and, if necessary, openly oppose if the vital interest of the company is at stake.

**2. Relationship with Shareholders, Employees, Creditors and Customers**

- 2.1 Should be conscious of the interest of shareholders, employees, creditors and customers of the company;
- 2.2 Should at all times promote professionalism and raise competency of management and employees; and
- 2.3 Should ensure adequate safety measures and provide proper protection to workers and employees at work places.

**3. Social Responsibilities and the Environment**

- 3.1 Should ensure that necessary steps are taken in accordance with the law to properly wind up or strike off the company register if the company has not commenced business or has ceased to carry on business and is not likely to commence business in future or again to carry on business as the case may be;
- 3.2 Should adopt an objective and positive attitude and give the utmost cooperation for the common good when dealing with governmental authorities or regulatory bodies;
- 3.3 Should ensure effective use of natural resources, and to improve quality of life by promoting corporate social responsibilities;
- 3.4 Should be more proactive to the needs of the community and to assist in society related programme in line with the aspirations of the concept of 'Caring Society' in Vision 2020; and
- 3.5 Should ensure that the activities and the operations of the company do not harm the interest and well-being of society at large and to assist in the fight against inflation.