#### **BOARD CHARTER**

#### Abbreviations included in this Board Charter

AGM	-	Annual General Meeting
Board	-	The Board of Directors of the Company
Bursa Securities	-	Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad
CA	-	Companies Act 2016
CFO	-	Chief Financial Officer
Chairman	-	Chairman of the Board and is used in a gender neutral sense
CMSA	-	Capital Markets and Services Act 2007
Committee	-	The Board Committees of the Company
Company	-	Rhone Ma Holdings Berhad
Company Secretary	-	Board secretary (ies)
Director	-	the Directors for the time being of the Company and unless otherwise stated, includes their duly appointed alternates
EGM	-	Extraordinary General Meeting
Group	-	The Company and its subsidiaries
Independent Director	-	A Director who does not participate in the management of the Company and who satisfies the criteria for "independence" set out in the MMLR
Management	-	Management personnel of the Company
MD	-	Managing Director
MMLR	-	Main Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Securities
MCCG	-	Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance
SC	-	Securities Commission Malaysia
Senior Management	-	Senior Management personnel of the Company

#### **BOARD CHARTER**

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Board regards corporate governance as vitally important to the success of the Group's business and are unreservedly committed in ensuring that the following principles of good governance are practised in all of its business dealings in respect of its shareholders and relevant stakeholders:

- The Board is the focal point of the Group's corporate governance system. It is ultimately accountable and responsible for the performance and affairs of the Group.
- All Board members are expected to act in a professional manner, thereby upholding the core values of integrity and enterprise with due regard to their fiduciary duties and responsibilities.
- All Board members are responsible in ensuring the Group achieves a high level of good governance.
- This Board Charter shall constitute, and form, an integral part of each Director's duties and responsibilities.

The Board Charter serves as a reference point for Board activities and should not be construed as a blueprint for Board operations. Just as each organisation has its own corporate culture, the dynamics of each Board is unique. The dynamics shift as the composition of the Board changes, and the Directors of the Company should always be open to new opportunities and ready to confront new challenges brought about by change.

This Board Charter is to promote high standards of corporate governance and is designed to provide guidance and clarity for Directors and Management with regard to the role of the Board and its Committees, the requirements of Directors in carrying out their stewardship role and in discharging their duties towards the Company as well as the Board's operating practices. This Board Charter does not overrule or preempt the statutory requirements of Directors enshrined in the CA, the Income Tax Act, 1967 and other relevant statutes, including the conduct of the Board as stipulated in the constitution of the Company. To the extent of any conflict between the terms of this Board Charter and the Constitution, the Constitution prevails.

#### 2. **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this Board Charter are to ensure that all Board members are aware of their duties and responsibilities as Board members and the various legislations and regulations affecting their conduct and that the principles and practices of good corporate governance are applied in all their dealings in respect, and on behalf of, the Group.

In pursuit of the ideals in this Board Charter, the intention is to exceed "minimum legal requirements" with due consideration to recognised standards of best practices locally and internationally.

## **3.** THE BOARD

#### 3.1 Role

- 3.1.1 The Board is charged with leading and managing the Group in an effective and responsible manner. Each Director has a legal duty to act in good faith, to use reasonable care, skill and diligence and to act in the best interest of the Group. The Directors, collectively and individually, are aware of their responsibilities to shareholders and stakeholders for the manner in which the affairs of the Group are managed. The Board sets the Group's values and standards and ensures that its obligations to its shareholders and stakeholders are understood and met.
- 3.1.2 The Board is fully committed to developing and maintaining high standards of corporate governance by implementing the prescriptions of the principles and best practices stated in the MCCG. Good governance holds management accountable to the Board and the Board accountable to the owners and other stakeholders. The Board's fundamental approach in this regard is to ensure that the right executive leadership, strategy and internal controls for risk management are well in place. The Board includes a narrative statement in its Company's annual report on the extent of compliance with the principles and best practices set out in the MCCG pursuant to Paragraph 15.25 of the MMLR.
- 3.1.3 The Board ensures that the Company complies with the various guidelines issued by Bursa Securities and the SC relating to disclosure and internal audit functions.
- 3.1.4 Duties of the Board include establishing the corporate vision and mission of the Company, establishing its objectives and developing the strategies that direct the ongoing activities of the Company to achieve these objectives as well as the philosophy of the Company, setting the aims of Management and monitoring the performance of Management. The Board shall also determine the future of the Company and shall protect its assets and reputation.

- 3.1.5 The responsibilities of the Directors include:
  - a) To direct the management of the business and affairs of the Group;
  - b) To attend substantially all the meetings of the Board and substantially all the meetings of each Committee on which the Director serves; and
  - c) To review, before attending meetings of the Board or Committees, all materials provided by the Company relating to matters to be considered at the meetings.
- 3.1.6 The Board has delegated certain responsibilities to committees which operate in accordance with Charter approved by the Board and delegated the day to day management of the Business of the Group to Management and MD. The Board should, among others undertake the following:-
  - (i) Strategic planning to review and approve strategies, business plans and key policies for the Group and monitor Management's performance in implementing them to determine whether the business is being properly managed;
  - (ii) Corporate goal to set corporate values and clear lines of responsibility and accountability, including governance systems and processes that are communicated throughout the Group;
  - (iii) Compliance to regulation to ensure full compliance and to carry out the duties of the Board in accordance with the relevant provisions of the MMLR, the CMSA, the CA, the MCCG and all applicable laws, regulations and guidelines
  - (iv) Independent and transparent to ensure that there shall be unrestricted access to independent advice or expert advice at the Company's expense in furtherance of the Board's duties;
  - (v) Code of conduct to formalise the ethical standards through a code of conduct which will be applicable throughout the Group and ensure compliance to this code of conduct;
  - (vi) Succession planning to ensure that Management has the necessary skills and experience, has and there is a proper and robust succession plan for its Management and Executive Directors ("ED(s)") in place. Succession planning refers to the process of selecting, training, appointing, monitoring, evaluating and if warranted, replacing any management to ensure succession;

- (vii) Management proposals to review, challenge and decide on Management's proposals for the Group, and monitor its implementation by Management;
- (viii) Judgmental timing to ensure that the Board has adequate procedures in place to receive reports from Management periodically and / or on a timely manner, so that the Board has reasonable grounds to make proper judgement on financial matters and business prospects of the Group on an ongoing basis;
- (ix) Financial and non-financial reporting to ensure all its directors are able to understand financial statements and form a view of the information presented, and to ensure the integrity of the Group's financial and non-financial reporting. Each director shall read the financial statement of the Group and carefully consider whether what they disclose is consistent with the director's own knowledge of the Group's affairs;
- (x) Related party management to establish procedures to assess any related party transactions or conflict of interest situations that may arise within the Company or Group, including any transaction, procedure or course of conduct that raises questions of management integrity;
- (xi) Board committee to establish and ensure the effective functioning and monitoring of the Board Committees then to delegate appropriate authority and Terms of Reference to such committees established by the Board;
- (xii) Board balance to strive to achieve an optimum balance and dynamic mix of competent and diverse skillsets amongst the members of the Board;
- (xiii) Governance culture together with Management, promote good corporate governance culture within the Group which reinforces ethical, prudent and professional behaviour; and
- (xiv) Stakeholder communication to ensure that the Group has in place procedures to enable effective communication with stakeholders.
- 3.1.7 The Board will direct and supervise the Management, the business and affairs of the Group including, in particular:
  - Sustainability management to review and adopt a strategic plan for the longterm value creation and includes strategies on economic, environment and social considerations;

- (ii) Performance management to establish policies for strengthening the performance of the Group including ensuring that the Management is proactively seeking to build the business through innovation, initiative, technology, new products and the development of its business capital;
- (iii) Risk management to identify principal risks, set the risk appetite within which the Board expects the Management to operate and ensure the implementation of appropriate systems to manage the significant financial and non-financial risks and to ensure there is a sound framework for internal controls and risk management;
- (iv) Internal audit to establish an internal audit function to obtain assurance of regular review and / or appraisal of the effectiveness of the system of internal controls within the Company and Group. The Board should explain in summary the means that exist for obtaining such assurance of regular review and / or appraisal;
- (v) Internal control to review the adequacy and integrity of the Group's internal control system and management information systems, including systems for complying with applicable laws, regulations, rules, directives and guidelines;
- (vi) Debt repayment capacity to decide on whatever steps necessary to protect the Company's and Group's financial position and the ability generate cash flow to meet its debts and other obligations when they fall due, and ensuring that such steps are taken; and
- (vii) Law and regulations to ensure that the operations of the Company are conducted prudently and within the framework of relevant laws and regulations.
- 3.1.8 The Board reserves full decision-making powers on the following matters:
  - a) Conflict of interest and potential conflict of interest issues relating to a substantial shareholder, a Director and/or key senior management, including approving related party transactions;
  - b) Material acquisitions and disposition of assets not in the ordinary course of business including significant capital expenditures;
  - c) Strategic investments, mergers and acquisitions and corporate exercises;
  - d) Authority levels;
  - e) Treasury policies;
  - f) Risk management policies; and
  - g) Key human resource issues.

#### **3.2 Composition and Board Balance**

- 3.2.1 The Board should consist of qualified individuals with diverse experiences, backgrounds and perspectives. The composition and size of the Board should be such that it facilitates the making of informed, critical decisions without limiting the level of individual participation, involvement and effectiveness.
- 3.2.2 At any one time, at least one-third (1/3) of the total Board members shall comprise of Independent Directors. The Independent Directors provide independent judgement, experience and objectivity without being subordinated to operational considerations. If the Chairman is not an Independent Director, the Board shall comprise a majority (more than half) of Independent Directors.

If the number of Board members is not 3 or a multiple of 3, then the number nearest 1/3 must be used.

In the event of any vacancy in the Board, resulting in non-compliance with the above, the Board must ensure that the vacancy is filled within 3 months. The tenure of an Independent Director should not exceed a cumulative term of nine (9) years. Upon completion of the nine years, an Independent Director may continue to serve the Board subject to the Director's re-designation as a Non-Independent Director. The Board may recommend and subject to obtaining the approval of the Company's shareholders, retain an Independent Director who has served a cumulative term of nine (9) years as an Independent Director of the Company.

- 3.2.3 The MD and the Executive Director(s) are the "Executive" Directors on the Board. However, the views of the Management are represented at meetings of the Board by the presence of senior executives when required.
- 3.2.4 The Independent Directors help to ensure that the interests of all shareholders, and not only the interests of a particular fraction or group, are indeed taken into account by the Board and that the relevant issues are subjected to objective and impartial consideration by the Board.
- 3.2.5 The Board may appoint a senior Independent Director to whom shareholders' concerns can be conveyed if there are reasons that contact through the normal channels of the Chairman or the MD have failed to resolve them.

## 3.3 Appointments

3.3.1 The appointment of a new Director is a matter for consideration and decision by the full Board upon appropriate recommendation from the Nominating Committee (as defined below). Further, in identifying candidates for appointment of directors, the Board may rely on recommendation from existing Board members, management or major shareholders. The Board utilises variety of independent sources to identify suitably qualified candidates.

The criteria for the recruitment or appointment (including re-election/ re-appointment) of Director is guided by fit and proper assessment by the Nominating Committee based on the Terms of Reference of the Nominating Committee.

- 3.3.2 Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the qualifications for Board membership are:
  - (i) the ability to make informed business decisions and recommendations;
  - (ii) an entrepreneurial talent for contributing to the creation of shareholder value;
  - (iii) relevant experience in regional and/or international markets;
  - (iv) education and experience that provides knowledge of business, financial, governmental or legal matters that are relevant to the Company's business or to its status as a publicly owned company;
  - (v) ability to ask probing operational related questions, high ethical standards, sound practical sense;
  - (vi) sufficient available time to be able to fulfil his or her responsibilities as a member of the Board and any of the Committees to which he or she may be appointed; and
  - (vii) total commitment to furthering the interests of shareholders and the achievement of the Company's goals.

The Board shall undertake an assessment of its Independent Directors annually.

- 3.3.3 The Company Secretary has the responsibility of ensuring that relevant procedures relating to the appointments of new Directors are properly executed.
- 3.3.4 The Company has adopted an induction programme for newly appointed Directors. The induction programme aims at communicating to the newly appointed Directors, the Company's vision and mission, its philosophy and nature of business, current issues within the Group, the corporate strategy and the expectations of the Company concerning input from Directors.
- 3.3.5 In addition to the Mandatory Accreditation Programme as required by the Bursa Securities, Board members are also encouraged to attend training programmes conducted by highly competent professionals and which are relevant to the Company's operations and business. The Board will assess the training needs of the Directors and disclose in the annual report the trainings attended by the Directors.
- 3.3.6 The tenure of the Executive Directors are tied to their executive office.
- 3.3.7 A Director shall at all times exercise his powers for a proper purpose and in good faith in the best interest of the Company and shall act honestly and use reasonable care, skill and diligence in the discharge of the duties of his office and shall not make use of any information acquired by virtue of his position to gain directly or indirectly an improper advantage for himself or for any other person or to cause detriment to the Company.
- 3.3.8 Each appointed Board member shall hold office until the earlier of:
  - a. such time as the Board determines to terminate his / her appointment; or
  - b. the Board member ceases to be a member of the Board.
- 3.3.9 No active politician shall be appointed, re-appointed, elected or re-elected as a Director on the Board or continue to serve as a Director. A person is considered an "active politician" if he is a Member of Parliament, State Assemblyman or holds a position at the Supreme Council or division level in a political party.
- 3.3.10 A Director should inform the Board's Chairman before he/she accepts any new directorship in public listed companies and other companies, if any conflict of interest.

#### 3.4 Re-election

3.4.1 Pursuant to the Constitution, all Directors must retire once at least every three (3) years but shall be eligible for re-election.

#### **3.5 Duty to Disclose Interest**

- 3.5.1 The Constitution stipulates that every Director who may have direct or indirect interest in any contract or proposed contract or arrangement with the Company and/or Group shall immediately disclose and declare the nature and extent of his/her conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest including interest in any competing business that they have with the Company and/or Group, to the Board and shall not participate in deliberations and shall abstain himself/herself from casting his/her votes in any matter arising therefrom.
- 3.5.2 Should there be an actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest between the Company and a Director, or an associate of a Director such as a spouse, other family member, or a related company (*as defined under Section 197 of the CA*), the Director involved shall make full disclosure and act honestly in the best interest of the Company.
- 3.5.3 An actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest shall not necessarily disqualify an individual Director from the Board provided that full disclosure of the interest has been made in good faith and due honesty.
- 3.5.4 For the purpose of the above mentioned paragraphs, the Directors shall perform an annual self-declaration on independence (in respect of those who are Independent Directors) and conflict of interest for the Group's records.

#### **3.6 Board Processes**

- 3.6.1 The Board meets at least once every quarter to facilitate the discharge of their responsibilities. Members of Management who are not Directors may be invited to attend and speak at meetings on matters relating to their sphere of responsibility.
- 3.6.2 Any Director may participate at a Board meeting or Committee meeting by way of telephone and video conferencing or by means of other communication equipment in which event such Director shall be deemed to be physically present at the meeting and shall be taken into account in ascertaining the presence of a quorum at the meeting.
- 3.6.3 All Directors have the same right of access to all information and Senior Management within the Group whether collectively as a Board or in their individual capacity in furtherance of their duties and responsibilities as Directors of the Company.
- 3.6.4 All Directors shall have access to the advice and service of the Company Secretary.

- 3.6.5 The Management is responsible for providing the Board with the required information in an appropriate and timely manner. If the information provided by the Management is insufficient, the Board will make further enquiries where necessary to which the persons responsible will respond as fully and promptly as possible.
- 3.6.6 The notice of each Board meeting together with the agenda and comprehensive Board papers are circulated to all Directors at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. When there is a need to table a report, a brief précis of findings and/or recommendations shall be prepared.
- 3.6.7 Full Board minutes of each Board meeting are kept by the Company Secretary and are available for inspection by any Director during office hours.
- 3.6.8 If, on any matter discussed at a Board meeting, any Director holds views contrary to those of any of the other Directors, the Board minutes will clearly reflect this.
- 3.6.9 The Board as well as any Director is entitled to obtain independent professional advice relating to the affairs of the Group or to his or her responsibilities as a Director, subject to Paragraph 3.6.10 below.
- 3.6.10 If a Director considers such advice necessary for the discharge of his or her duties and responsibilities as Director and for the benefit of the Company, such Director shall obtain the Board's prior approval, and in seeking such advice, shall be required to comply with the following procedures:
  - The request shall be made in writing to the Board;
  - The Director concerned shall prepare a detailed paper to be submitted to the Board, highlighting inter alia the purpose behind the request and the estimated costs for the advice; and
  - The Board shall deliberate on the said paper and at its absolute discretion determine if the Director concerned shall be permitted to seek independent professional advice. Should a request be denied, the Director concerned is entitled to have his or her views duly recorded.
- 3.6.11 The cost of the advice shall be reimbursed by the Company. The Board or the Director, as the case may be, shall ensure that so far as is practicable, the cost is reasonable.

## 4. CHAIRMAN AND MD

The Company aims to ensure a balance of power and authority between the Chairman and the MD with a clear division of responsibility between the running of the Board and the Company's business respectively. The positions of Chairman and MD are separated and clearly defined.

#### 4.1 Chairman

- 4.1.1 The Chairman is responsible for leadership of the Board in ensuring the effectiveness of all aspects of its role. The Chairman is responsible for:
  - a) leading the Board in setting the values and standards of the Group;
  - b) the balance of membership, subject to Board and shareholders' approval;
  - c) maintaining a relationship of trust with and between the executive and non-executive Directors;
  - d) ensuring the provision of accurate, timely and clear information to Directors;
  - e) ensuring effective communication with shareholders and relevant stakeholders;
  - f) arranging regular evaluation of the performance of the Board, its Committees and individual Directors;
  - g) facilitating the effective contribution of non-executive Directors and ensuring constructive relations be maintained between executive and non-executive Directors;
  - h) leading the Board on its succession planning program for Board and Senior Management levels; and
  - i) be stakeholder management of the Company in interactions where the interests of the Company.
- 4.1.2 The Chairman of the Board shall not be a member of the Audit and Risk Management Committee, Nominating Committee and Remuneration Committee.
- 4.1.3 The Chairman is responsible for running the business of the Board to ensure that:
  - all Directors are properly briefed on issues arising at Board meetings.
  - sufficient time is allowed for the discussion of complex or contentious issues and, where appropriate, arranging for informal meetings beforehand to enable thorough preparation for the Board discussion.
  - the issues discussed are forward looking and focused on strategy.
- 4.1.4 The Chairman ensures that every Board resolution is put to vote to ensure the will of the majority prevails and any concern or dissenting views expressed by any Director on any matter deliberated at meetings of the Board are adequately addressed and duly recorded in the relevant minutes of meetings.

- 4.1.5 The Chairman ensures that Executive Directors look beyond their executive functions and accept their full share of responsibilities on governance.
- 4.1.6 The Chairman will have no casting vote if two (2) Directors form a quorum at a particular meeting, or if there are only two (2) Directors competent to vote on the question at issue.

## 4.2 MD

- 4.2.1 The MD is the conduit between the Board and the Management in ensuring the success of the Group's governance and management functions.
- 4.2.2 The MD, in association with the Chairman, is accountable to the Board for the achievement of the Group's mission, goals and objectives and the MD is accountable to the Board for the observance of Management's limitations.
- 4.2.3 The MD has the executive responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the Group's business.
- 4.2.4 The MD implements the policies, strategies and decisions adopted by the Board.
- 4.2.5 All Board authorities conferred on the Management is delegated through the MD and this will be considered as the MD's authority and accountability as far as the Board is concerned.
- 4.2.6 Generally, the MD is responsible to the Board for the following:
  - a) executive management of the Group's business covering, inter alia, the development of a strategic plan; an annual operating plan and budget; performance benchmarks to gauge management performance against and the analysis of management reports;
  - b) effectively overseeing the human resources of the Group with respect to key positions in the Group's hierarchy, determination of remuneration as well as terms and conditions of employment for Senior Management and issues pertaining to discipline;
  - c) assuring that the Group's corporate identity, products and services are of high standards and are reflective of the market environment;
  - d) be the official spokesman for the Company and responsible for regulatory, governmental and business relationships;

- e) coordinating business plans with the business heads, coordinating management issues through the Board, and overseeing divisional function groups and cost containment process in consultation with the CFO and the regional office or head office of the Group;
- f) regularly reviewing the heads of divisions and departments who are responsible for all functions contributing to the success of the Company;
- g) assessing business opportunities which are of potential benefit to the Company;
- h) maintaining and facilitating a positive working environment and good employee relations;
- i) promoting a high degree of corporate governance and ethics across the Group;
- j) assisting in the selection and evaluation of Board members through the Nominating and Remuneration Committees (as defined below); and
- k) assisting the Chairman in organising information necessary for the Board to deal with the agenda and for providing this information to Directors on a timely basis.

## 5. SENIOR INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR

The role of the Senior Independent Director include, amongst others:-

- act as a sound board for the Chairman;
- ensure all independent directors have opportunity to input on the agenda, and advise the Chairman on the quality, quantity and timeliness of the information submitted by management that is necessary or appropriate for the independent directors to perform their duties effectively;
- consult the Chairman regarding board meeting schedules to ensure the independent directors can perform their duties responsibly and with sufficient time for discussion of all agenda items;
- serve as the principal conduit between the independent directors and the Chairman on sensitive issues; and
- serve as a designated contact for consultation and direct communication with shareholders on areas that cannot be resolved through the normal channels of contact with the Chairman or MD.

#### 6. INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS

- 6.1.1 Independent Directors are those who have no direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the Company other than the remuneration for their services as members of the Board of Directors and Board committees of the Company and the Group as defined under Paragraph 1.01 of the MMLR.
- 6.1.2 The role of Independent Directors is to constructively challenge and help develop proposals on strategy include, inter alia:-
  - to make independent assessment of the information, reports or statements, having regard to the Directors' knowledge, experience and competence, to provide independent view and demonstrate objectivity in reviewing and challenging the management's proposals at meetings;
  - to devote sufficient time to update their knowledge and enhance their skills through appropriate continuing education programmes, so as to keep abreast of industry issues, market development and trend, and enable them to sustain their active participation in board deliberations.
  - act as a channel of communication between Management, shareholders and other stakeholders, and provide the relevant checks and balances, focusing on shareholders' and other stakeholders' interests and ensuring that high standards of corporate governance are applied.
  - where executive directors form part of the Board, the non-executive directors are encouraged to meet among themselves at least annually to discuss among others strategic, governance and operational issues, if necessary.
  - the tenure of an Independent Director should not exceed a cumulative term of nine (9) years. Upon completion of nine (9) years, an Independent Director may continue to serve on the Board as non-independent director.
  - in the event the Board intends to retain an Independent Director beyond nine (9) years, the Board shall justify and seek annual shareholders' approval.

The Board will undertake a rigorous review to determine whether the "independence" of the director has been impaired to justify retaining an Independent Director beyond the cumulative term limit of nine (9) years. Findings from the review shall be disclosed to the shareholders for them to make an informed decision.

- 6.1.3 The Group is governed by and operates in accordance with the provisions of the MMLR and the MCCG. Accordingly, the Board and the NC takes into consideration the provisions set out therein in assessing independence of the Independent Director.
- 6.1.4 The Independent Director must be independent of management and free from any business or other relationship which could interfere with the exercise of business judgment or the ability to act in the best interests of the Group.

# 7. BOARD COMMITTEES

The Board establishes the following Board Committees:

- Audit and Risk Management Committee (ARMC)
- Nominating Committee (NC)
- Remuneration Committee (RC)

Independent and non-executive Directors play a leading role in these Committees. The Management and third parties are co-opted to the Committees as and when required. Details of the memberships of the ARMC, NC and RC appointed by the Board and a summary of the terms of reference of the ARMC, NC and RC are published on the Company's website.

## 7.1 ARMC

The ARMC assists and supports the Board's responsibility of overseeing the Group's operations by providing a means for review and monitoring of the integrity of the Group's financial reporting process, its internal control system with the Group, its audit process as well as compliance with legal and regulatory matters, its own code of business conduct and such other matters that may be specifically delegated to the ARMC by the Board from time to time.

The ARMC also reviews the risk management framework, processes and reports to identify, analyse, evaluate, manage and monitor significant financial and non-financial risks. The ARMC also sets the risk appetite of the Group as well as ensures that appropriate risk management processes are in place and applied.

## 7.2 NC

The NC oversees matters related to the nomination of new Directors, annually reviews the required mix of skills, experience and other requisite qualities of Directors as well as the annual assessment of the effectiveness of the Board as a whole, its Committees and the contribution of each individual Director as well as identify candidates to fill board vacancies, and nominating them for approval by the Board. The NC also reviews and recommends to the Board corporate governance principles to be implemented for the Group, in compliance with the MCCG.

## 7.3 RC

The RC is primarily responsible for recommending to the Board the remuneration policies, principles and the framework for the Company's Directors, Managing Director and Senior Management.

- 7.4 The Chairman of the Board shall not be a member of the ARMC, NC and RC.
- **7.5** The Committees shall operate under their respective terms of reference. The Committees are authorised by the Board to deal with and to deliberate on matters delegated to them within their charters. The Chairman of the respective Committees reports to the Board on the outcome of the Committee meetings and such reports or minutes will be included in the Board papers.

Although the Board has granted discretionary authority to these Committees to deliberate and decide on certain operational matters as set out in their respective charter, the ultimate responsibility for final decision on all matters lies with the Board.

## 8. **REMUNERATION LEVELS OF DIRECTORS**

- **8.1** The Company aims to set remuneration at levels which are sufficient to attract and retain the Directors needed to run the Company successfully, taking into consideration all relevant factors including the function, workload and responsibilities involved, but without paying more than is necessary to achieve this goal.
- **8.2** The level of remuneration for the MD and Executive Directors is recommended by the RC to the Board after giving due consideration to the compensation levels for comparable positions among other similar Malaysian public listed companies.

In fixing the remuneration to be paid to Directors who are not employees of the Group for serving on the Board and on Committees of the Board, the Board will consider the following:

- a) The compensation that is paid to Directors of other companies which are comparable in size to the Group.
- b) The amount of time it is likely Directors will be required to devote in preparing for and attending meetings of the Board and the Committees on which they serve.
- c) The success of the Company (which may be reflected in compensation related to the price of the Company's shares).
- d) If a Committee on which a Director serves undertakes a special assignment, the importance of that special assignment to the Group and its shareholders.
- e) The risks involved in serving as a Director and a member of Board Committees.

- **8.3** Fees payable to Non-Executive Directors shall be paid by a fixed sum and not by a commission on or percentage of profits or turnover.
- **8.4** Salaries and other emoluments payable to Executive Directors pursuant to a service contract need not be determined by the Company in general meeting but such salaries and emoluments may not include a commission on or percentage of turnover.
- **8.5** There is adequate disclosure in the annual report with a note on the remuneration of Directors.

# 9. ACCOUNTABILITY AND AUDIT

#### 9.1 Financial Reporting

- 9.1.1 The Board aims to present a clear and balanced assessment of the Group's financial position and future prospects that extends to the annual and quarterly reports.
- 9.1.2 The Board ensures that the annual and interim financial statements are prepared so as to give a true and fair view of the current financial status of the Group in accordance with the approved accounting standards.
- 9.1.3 The Group's practice is to announce to Bursa Securities its quarterly financial results as early as possible within two (2) months after the end of each quarterly financial period.
- 9.1.4 The auditors report shall contain a statement from the auditors explaining their responsibility in forming an independent opinion, based on their audit, of the financial statements.

## 9.2 Company Auditors

- 9.2.1 The Board has established formal and transparent arrangements for considering how financial reporting and internal control principles will be applied and for maintaining an appropriate relationship with the Company auditors through the ARMC.
- 9.2.2 The ARMC also keeps under review the scope and results of the audit and its cost effectiveness and the independence and objectivity of the Company auditors. The ARMC ensures that the Company auditors do not supply a substantial volume of non-audit services to the Company.
- 9.2.3 Appointment of the Company auditors is subject to approval of shareholders at general meeting. The Company auditors have to retire during the AGM every year and be reappointed by shareholders for the ensuing year.

#### 9.3 Internal Controls and Risk Management

- 9.3.1 The Board has overall responsibility of maintaining a system of internal controls, which provides reasonable assurance of effective and efficient operations and compliance with laws and regulations as well as with internal policies and procedures.
- 9.3.2 The Company has a well-resourced internal audit function, which critically reviews all aspects of the Company's activities and its internal controls. Comprehensive audits of the practices, procedures, expenditure and internal controls of all business and support units and subsidiaries are undertaken on a regular basis. The Head of Internal Audit has direct access to the Board through the Chairman of the ARMC.
- 9.3.3 The Board ensures the system of internal controls and enterprise risk management are reviewed on a regular basis by the ARMC.
- 9.3.4 The ARMC receives reports regarding the outcome of such reviews on a regular basis.

#### 9.4 Related Party Transactions and Conflict of Interest Situations

- 9.4.1 The ARMC reviews and reports to the Board any related party transactions and conflict of interest situation that arose, persist or may arise within the Group including any transaction, procedure or course of conduct that raises questions of management integrity, and the measures taken to resolve, eliminate, or mitigate such conflicts, and in particular ensuring that any related party transactions to be entered into are:
  - a) at arm's length;
  - b) on normal commercial terms;
  - c) on terms not more favourable to the related party than those generally available to the public;
  - d) not detrimental to the minority shareholders; and
  - e) in the best interest of the Group.
- 9.4.2 The ARMC also review, monitor and report to the Board the recurrent related party transactions entered into by the Group to ensure that:
  - a) all transactions are fair, reasonable and undertaken on the Group's normal commercial terms;
  - b) internal control procedures with regard to such transactions are sufficient and have been complied with; and
  - c) compliance with the relevant provisions of the Bursa Securities' MMLR.

9.4.3 The ARMC ensures that the Group has adequate procedures and processes in place to minor and track related party transactions and to review these processes.

## **10. GENERAL MEETINGS**

#### 10.1 AGM

- 10.1.1 The Company regards the AGM as an important event in the corporate calendar of which all Directors and key senior executives should attend.
- 10.1.2 The Company regards the AGM as the principal forum for dialogue with shareholders and aims to ensure that the AGM provides an important opportunity for effective communication with, and constructive feedback from, the Company's shareholders.
- 10.1.3 The Chairman encourages active participation by the shareholders during the AGM.
- 10.1.4 The Chairman and, where appropriate, the MD responds to shareholders' queries during the meeting. Where necessary, the Chairman will undertake to provide a written answer to any significant question that cannot be readily answered at the meeting.
- 10.1.5 To keep the media informed, the Group will disseminate copies of the annual report to all relevant press and hold a press conference immediately following the AGM itself at which time the MD will brief those present on details of the financial year results.

## 10.2 EGM

10.2.1 The Directors will consider requisitions by shareholders to convene an EGM or any other urgent matters requiring immediate attention of the Company.

## 11. ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Board acknowledges the need to safeguard and minimize the impact to the environment in the course of achieving the Company's vision and mission and will play a vital role in contributing towards the welfare of the community in which it operates.

## 12. INVESTOR RELATIONS AND SHAREHOLDER COMMUNICATION

12.1 The Board acknowledges the need for shareholders to be informed of all material business matters affecting the Group and as such adopts an open and transparent policy in respect of its relationship with its shareholders and investors.

- 12.2 The Board ensures the timely release of financial results on a quarterly basis to provide shareholders and analysts with an overview of the Group's performance and operations in addition to the various announcements made during the year.
- 12.3 The Company conducts dialogues with financial analysts from time to time as a means of effective communication that enables the Board and Management to convey information relating to the Company's performance, corporate strategy and other matters affecting shareholders' interests.
- 12.4 A press conference will normally be held after each general meeting. At this press conference, the Chairman and/or MD and/or CFO and/or Senior Management will give a media briefing explaining the Group's results, prospects and outline any specific event for notation. All press releases will be vetted by the MD or CFO to ensure that information that has yet to be released to Bursa Securities is not released to the press.
- 12.5 The Group's website, <u>www.rhonema.com</u>, provides easy access to corporate information pertaining to the Group and its activities and is continuously updated.

## **13. WHISTLE-BLOWING POLICY**

To enhance corporate governance practices across the Group, a whistle-blowing policy was adopted which provides Directors, officers, employees and stakeholders of the Group with an avenue to report suspected improprieties such as illegal or unlawful conduct, contravention of the Group's policies and procedures, acts endangering the health or safety of any individual, public or employee, and any act of concealment of improprieties. The aim of this policy is to encourage the reporting of such matters in good faith, with the confidence that the person filing the report, to the extent possible, be protected from reprisal, victimisation, harassment or subsequent discrimination.

## 14. RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

- 14.1 In the course of pursuing the vision and mission of the Group, the Board recognises that no business organisation can exist by maximising shareholders value alone. In this regard, the needs and interests of other stakeholders are also taken into consideration.
- 14.2 The Board is responsible for:
  - a) ensuring the Group's strategies promote sustainability;
  - b) ensuring the rights of other stakeholders are not compromised;
  - c) ensuring the Group has in place a policy to enable effective communication not just with shareholders, but with all stakeholders;

- d) establishing policies governing the Group's relationship with other stakeholders and the broader community; and
- e) establishing and maintaining environmental, employment and occupational health and safety policies.

# **15. COMPANY SECRETARY**

- 15.1 The appointment and removal of the Company Secretary is a matter for the Board as a whole. The Board recognises the fact that the Company Secretary should be suitably qualified and capable of carrying out the duties required of the post.
- 15.2 The key role of the Company Secretary is to provide unhindered advice and services for the Directors as and when the need arises, to enhance the effective functioning of the Board and to ensure regulatory compliance.
- 15.3 Other primary responsibilities of the Company Secretary shall include:
  - advising the Board on matters related to corporate governance and the MMLR;
  - ensuring that Board procedures and applicable rules are observed;
  - maintaining records of the Board and ensuring effective management of the Company's statutory records;
  - preparing comprehensive minutes to document Board proceedings and ensuring conclusions are accurately recorded;
  - assisting the communications between the Board and Management;
  - providing full access and services to the Board and carrying out other functions deemed appropriate by the Board from time to time; and
  - preparing agendas and co-ordinating the preparation of the Board papers.

# **16. APPLICATION**

- 16.1 The principles set out in this Board Charter are:
  - a) kept under review and updated as practices on corporate governance develop and further guidelines on corporate governance are issued by the relevant regulatory authorities; and
  - b) applied in practice having regard to their spirit and general principles rather than to the letter alone.

16.2 The Board endeavours to comply at all times with the principles and practices set out in this Board Charter.

# 17. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF THE BOARD, BOARD COMMITTEES AND INDIVIDUAL DIRECTORS

The Board, through the NC, will conduct an annual evaluation on its effectiveness as a whole, each individual Director and the different Committees established by the Board.

#### **18. INDUCTION PROCESS**

- 18.1 Induction of newly appointed Directors may include, but not limited to, the following:
  - furnishing of a copy of the previous board minutes for at least the past six (6) months; the Business/strategic plan, pertinent Management reports; profile of key competitors and significant reports by management consultants on areas of board responsibilities;
  - visits to key sites; and
  - a formal one (1) to two (2) day induction programme, including the elements above, and also presentations from various divisions on their strengths, weaknesses and ambitions.

#### **19. INDEMINITIES AND INSURANCE**

The Company shall provide directors with, and will pay the premiums for, indemnity and insurance cover while acting in their capacities as directors.

#### 20. **REPRESENTATION OF THE COMPANY**

The Board appoints the MD or such persons as he deems fit to speak on behalf of the Group and to manage the communication of information to investors, other stakeholders and the public in an orderly and effective manner while adhering, at all times, to relevant laws and regulatory requirements.

## 21. CODE OF ETHICS

The Board shall formalise and commit to ethical values through the maintenance of a code of ethics and ensure the implementation and compliance with the code of ethics.

# 22. REVIEW OF BOARD CHARTER

This Charter shall be reviewed annually and may be amended by the Board as it deems appropriate.

This Charter is reviewed and approved by the Board on 14 November 2023.