

# **Conflict of Interest Policy**

#### Introduction

**NUMBER ONE BROKERS LTD** (hereinafter called "the Company") is an investment dealer registered and licensed in the Republic of Mauritius and regulated by the Financial Services Commission of the Republic of Mauritius (the "FSC" or "Commission") under Investment dealer license No SEC-2.1B (full service dealer excluding underwriting) (the "Licence").

Following the Securities Act 2005, which regulates securities transactions and the operations of investment dealers, and the Companies Act 2001, which provides the core framework for company law in Mauritius, the Company is required to establish, implement, and maintain an effective Conflicts of Interest Policy (the "Policy"). These laws ensure that the Company adheres to high standards of transparency, fairness and integrity in all its business dealings, thereby protecting the interests of clients and maintaining market confidence.

Under the above Law, the Company is required to take all reasonable steps to detect and avoid conflicts of interest. The Company is committed to acting honestly, fairly and professionally and in the best interests of its clients and to complying, in particular, with the principles set out in the above legislation when providing investment services and other ancillary services related to such services.

# **Purpose**

The aim of our Policy is to identify and prevent conflicts of interest which may arise between the Company, including its managers, employees, or any person directly or indirectly linked to them by control, and its clients or between one client and another or effective combinations thereof, including those caused by the receipt of inducements from third parties or by the investment firm's own remuneration and other incentives structures. Effective management of any conflict of interest that may from time to time arise when providing various investment and/or ancillary services shall be performed by adopting reasonable measures to promptly identify and prevent such conflicts from



damaging client interests as soon as practically feasible. Accordingly, we have adopted a Policy setting out the procedures, practices and controls in place to achieve this.

### Scope

The Policy applies to all its directors, employees, any persons directly or indirectly linked to the Company (hereinafter called "related persons") and refers to all interactions with all clients.

#### Identification of conflicts of interest

For the purposes of identifying the types of conflict of interest that arise in the course of providing investment and ancillary services or a combination thereof and whose existence may damage the interests of a client, the Company shall take into account, by the way of application of appropriate tests, the question whether, as a result of providing by the Company investment and/or ancillary services, any of the following situations may occur in respect of an employee of the Company or a person directly or indirectly controlled by the Company:

- The Company or relevant person is likely to make a financial gain, or avoid a financial loss, at the expense of the client;
- The Company or relevant person has an interest in the outcome of a service provided to the client
  or of a transaction carried out on behalf of the client, which is distinct from the client's interest
  in that outcome;
- The Company or relevant person has a financial or other incentive to favour the interest of another client or group of clients over the interests of the client;
- The Company or relevant person carries out the same business as the client; and
- The Company or relevant person receives or will receive from a person other than the client
  an inducement in relation to a service provided to the client, in the form of monies, goods
  or services, other than the standard commission or fee for that service.



## **Conflict prevention mechanisms**

The procedures and controls that the Company follows to manage the identified conflicts of interest include the following measures:

- 1. Effective procedures to prevent or control the exchange of information between relevant persons engaged in activities involving a risk of a conflict of interest where the exchange of that information may harm the interests of one or more clients;
- 2. The separate supervision of relevant persons whose principal functions involve carrying out activities on behalf of, or providing services to, clients whose interests may conflict, or who otherwise represent different interests that may conflict, including those of the Company;
- 3. The removal of any direct link between the remuneration of relevant persons principally engaged in one activity and the remuneration of, or revenues generated by, different relevant persons principally engaged in another activity, where a conflict of interest may arise in relation to those activities;
- 4. Measures to prevent or limit any person from exercising inappropriate influence over the way in which a relevant person carries out investment or ancillary services or activities;
- 5. Measures to prevent or control the simultaneous or sequential involvement of a relevant person in separate investment or ancillary services or activities where such involvement may impair the proper management of conflicts of interest. Such measures include the following:
  - a. A "need to know" policy governing the dissemination of confidential or inside information within the Group.
  - b. Chinese walls restricting the flow of confidential and inside information within our company, and physical separation of departments.
  - c. Procedures governing access to electronic data.
  - d. Segregation of duties that may give rise to conflicts of interest if carried on by the same individual.
  - e. Personal account dealing requirements applicable to relevant persons in relation to their own investments.

The Company has implemented a personal account dealing policy, with which staff, and related persons under their control, must comply. At the commencement of their functions, members



of staff are required to commit to comply with this policy.

All transactions in financial instruments by staff and relevant persons must be reported to the Compliance Officer promptly. These transactions must include precise dates and timings and any authorization or prohibition in connection with such a transaction.

f. A gifts and inducements log registering the solicitation, offer or receipt of certain benefits.

The Company operates a personal gifts policy, which is applicable to benefits or inducements to staff which might be seen as conflicting with their duties to the Company or to any of the Company's clients. To address conflicts of interest that may arise when a member of staff accepts a gift, the Company applies a general rule that always any such gifts cannot exceed the amount of EUR100.

- g. The prohibition of external business interests conflicting with our interests as far as the Company's officers and employees are concerned, unless board approval is provided.
- h. A policy designed to limit the conflict of interest arising from the giving and receiving of inducements.
- Establishment of Compliance Department to monitor and report on the above to the Company's Board of Directors.
- j. Appointment of Internal auditor to ensure that appropriate systems and controls are maintained and report to the Company's Board of Directors.
- k. Establishment of the four-eyes principle in supervising the Company's activities

#### 6. Inside and proprietary information:

Staff members, who, in pursuit of the Company's business activities, possess inside or proprietary information must preserve its confidentiality and disclose it only to other staff who have a valid business reason for receiving it. Members of staff who believe they have received inside information from any source must immediately contact the Compliance Officer. The Company and its staff members cannot use or further disclose the information where it has been received.

Additionally, the Company has established "Chinese walls" to prevent or control the exchange of information between relevant persons engaged in activities involving a risk of a conflict of interest where the exchange of that information may harm the interests of one or more clients. Specifically,



the Chinese walls have been established between the following departments/functions:

- · Reception and Transmission of orders; and
- Dealing on Own Account.
- 7. Within the scope Policy the Company shall in all times identify and monitor the personal transactions being any trade in a financial instruments effected by or on behalf of a relevant person, where at least one of the following criteria is met:
  - a. That relevant person is acting outside the scope of the activities he carries out in his capacity;
  - b. The trade is carried out for the account of any of the following persons:
    - · the relevant person;
    - any person with whom he has family relationship, or with whom he has close links;
    - a person whose relationship with the relevant person is such that the relevant person
      has a direct or indirect material interest in the outcome of the trade, other than a fee
      or commission for the execution of the trade.

Furthermore, the Companyshall establish, implementand maintain adequate arrangements to prevent any relevant person who is involved in activities that may give rise to a conflict of interest, or has access to inside or other confidential information relating to clients or transactions with or for clients by virtue of an activity carried out by him on behalf of the Company, from any of the following activities (without limitation):

- a. Entering into a personal transaction which meets at least one of the following criteria:
  - that person is prohibited from entering into such transaction under the laws of the Republic of Mauritius;
  - it involves the misuse or improper disclosure of that confidential information;
  - it conflicts or is likely to conflict with an obligation of the Company under the laws of the Republic of Mauritius.
- b. Advising or procuring, other than in the proper course of his employment or contract for services, any other person to enter into a transaction in financial instruments which, if



a personal transaction of the relevant person, would be covered by the Financial Intelligence and Anti-Money Laundering Act (FIAMLA) 2002;

- c. Without prejudice to the provisions of the applicable law, disclosing, other than in the normal course of his employment or contract for services, any information or opinion to any other person if the relevant person knows, or reasonably ought to know, that as a result of that disclosure that other person will or would be likely to take either of the following steps:
  - to enter into a transaction in financial instruments which, if a personal transaction of the relevant person, would be covered by the Securities Act 2005, the Companies Act 2001, and the Financial Intelligence and Anti-Money Laundering Act (FIAMLA) 2002;
  - to advise or procure another person to enter into such a transaction.

The arrangements to be made by the Company are in particular designed to ensure that:

- each the Company relevant person is aware of the restrictions on personal transactions, and of the measures established by the Company in relation to personal transactions and their disclosure;
- the Company is informed promptly of any personal transaction entered into by a relevant person, either by notification of that transaction or by other internal procedures enabling the Company to identify such transactions. In the case of outsourcing arrangements third company the Company shall ensure that such company maintains a record of personal transactions entered into by any relevant person and provides that information to the Company promptly on request;
- a record is kept of the personal transaction either notified to or identified by the Company, including any authorization or prohibition in respect of such a transaction.

# Selection of service provides

In the event of any personal relationship between the Company and the third party, or a person connected to them, the Company takes this into account and considers potential conflicts or the appearance of conflicts in making its selection. As far as possible, the connected party should refrain from being involved in the actual decision-making process.

Number One Brokers Ltd.



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The Company prevents conflicts arising regarding the selection of a service provider by not accepting or providing fees, commissions and non-monetary benefits which do not directly enhance the service offered.

Remuneration of staff

Staff remuneration is carefully considered to ensure that conflicts do not inadvertently arise through targets that inappropriately incentivize staff members to behave in a manner that disadvantages the interests of clients in favour of the Company.

As a policy, none of the Company's employees and/or Directors can be remunerated based on the successful promotion of certain products or financial instruments over others.

Additionally, in no case will the variable remuneration component exceed 100% of the fixed component of the total annual remuneration for each individual.

Access to electronic data

The Company has a security policy in place, which governs the access to electronic data so that the persons engaged in each department do not have a direct physical access to records and information concerning the subject matter of another department and which are not considered necessary for the execution of specific work. Specifically, separate permissions and access rights are provided for the various departments.

**Disclosure** 

In the case where the Company's organisational arrangements to prevent conflicts of interest are not sufficient to ensure, with reasonable confidence, that risks of damage to client interests will be prevented, the Company a measure of last resort shall clearly disclose to the client the general nature and/or sources of conflicts of interest and the steps taken to mitigate those risks before undertaking business on its behalf. Such disclosure shall:



a. be made in a durable medium; and

b. include sufficient detail, taking into account the nature of the client, to enable that client to take an informed decision with respect to the service in the context of which the conflict of interest arises.

The disclosure shall clearly state that the organisational and administrative arrangements established by the investment firm to prevent or manage that conflict are not sufficient to ensure, with reasonable confidence, that the risks of damage to the interests of the client will be prevented.

The disclosure must also include specific description of the conflicts of interest that arise in the provision of investment and/or ancillary services, taking into account the nature of the client to whom the disclosure is being made. The description shall explain the general nature and sources of conflicts of interest, as well as the risks to the client that arise as a result of the conflicts of interest and the steps undertaken to mitigate these risks, in sufficient detail to enable that client to take an informed decision with respect to the investment or ancillary service in the context of which the conflicts of interest arise.

# Record keeping

The Company shall maintain and regularly update a record of the kinds of investment or ancillary service or investment activity carried out by or on behalf of the Company in which a conflict of interest entailing a material risk of damage to the interests of one or more clients has arisen or, in the case of an ongoing service or activity, may arise.

The record will be kept by the Compliance Officer at the usual place of business. Any actions must be recorded and reported to the Board of Directors without any delay.

The Board shall receive on a frequent basis, and at least annually, written reports on cases of services or activities giving rise to detrimental conflict of interest.

The Company reserves the right to review and/or amend its Policy and arrangements whenever it deems this appropriate.