

**ANGUILLA**

**BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT, 2021**

**SECOND DRAFT**

Published by Authority

**ANGUILLA**  
**BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT, 2021**

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## SCHEDULES

1. Fees and Penalties
2. Savings and Transitional
3. Repeal and Amendments

I Assent

Governor

00/00/2021

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ANGUILLA

No. /2021

**BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT, 2021**

An Act to repeal and replace the International Business Companies Act, R.S.A. c. I20 and the Companies Act, R.S.A. c. C65; to establish a modernized framework for the registration, operation and regulation of companies; and for related matters

ENACTED by the Legislature of Anguilla

**SECOND DRAFT**  
PART I  
**INTERPRETATION**

**Interpretation**

1. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“articles” means—

- (a) the articles of incorporation, articles of amendment, articles of continuance, articles of consolidation, articles of merger, articles of dissolution or articles of revival; or
- (b) any statute, letters patent, articles of association, certificate of incorporation, or other corporate instrument evidencing the existence of a body corporate continued as a company under this Act;

“asset” includes money, goods, things in action, land and every description of property wherever situated and obligations and every description of interest, whether present or future or vested or contingent, arising out of, or incidental to, property;

“board” in relation to a company means—

(a) the board of directors, committee of management, council or other governing authority of the company; or

(b) if the company has only one director, that director;

“class” in relation to shares, means a class of shares each of which has the rights, privileges, limitations and conditions specified for that class in the articles;

“Commission” means the Financial Services Commission established under the Financial Services Commission Act;

[“competent authorities” mean the Anguilla Financial Services Commission and the persons for the time being carrying out the functions of the Comptroller of Inland Revenue and Permanent Secretary, Finance];

“contract” includes a smart contract;

[“company” has the meaning assigned in section 2;]

“Court” means the High Court;

“director” in relation to a company, a foreign company and any other body corporate includes a person occupying or acting in the position of director by whatever name called;

“document” means a document in any form;

“file” in relation to a document, means to file the document with the Registrar;

“Financial Intelligence Unit” means the Anguilla Financial Intelligence Unit;

“former Act” means the Companies Act (Chapter C65) or the International Business Companies Act (IR c5);

“former Act company” means a company incorporated, continued or registered under a former Act, but excludes a company incorporated outside Anguilla registered under Part IX of the Companies Act;

“limited company” means a company of a type specified in section 5(a), (b) or (c);

“member” in relation to a company means a person who is—

(a) a shareholder;

(b) a guarantee member; or

(c) a member of an unlimited company who is not a shareholder;

[“Official Receiver” means the person appointed by the Court under section 235as liquidator for a company that is struck off the Register;]

“articles” means the original, amended or restated articles of association of a company;

“prescribed” means prescribed by the Regulations;

“records” includes accounting records;

“register”, in relation to an act done by the Registrar, means to register in the Register of Companies, the Register of Foreign Companies, the Register of Charges or any other Register created pursuant to this Act or the Regulations;

[“Register of Members” included a register of shareholders;]

“Registrar” means the Registrar of Companies;

“regulated person” has the meaning specified in the Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Regulations;

“restated articles” means a single document that incorporates the articles together with all amendments made to it;

[“shareholder”, in relation to a company, includes—

- (a) a member of a company [described in this Act];
- (b) the personal representative of a deceased shareholder;
- (c) the trustee in bankruptcy of a bankrupt shareholder; and
- (d) a person in whose favour a transfer of shares has been executed but whose name has not been entered in the register of members, or, if 2 or more transfers of those shares have been executed, the person in whose favour the most recent transfer has been made;] and

“smart contract” is a computer program recorded on a distributed ledger system executing pre-defined functions.

### **Meaning of “company” and “foreign company”**

- 2.** (1) Unless this Act provides otherwise, “company” means—
- (a) an Anguilla business company incorporated under section 6;
  - (b) a company continued as an Anguilla business company under section 191;
- or

- (c) a former Act company re-registered as an Anguilla business company under Schedule 2;

but excludes a dissolved company and a company that has continued as a company incorporated under the laws of a jurisdiction outside Anguilla in accordance with section 193.

(2) In this Act, “foreign company” means a body corporate incorporated, registered or formed outside Anguilla but excludes a company within the meaning of subsection (1).

(3) The Regulations may prescribe types of bodies, associations and entities that, although not a body corporate, are to be treated as a body corporate for the purposes of subsection (2).

### **Meaning of “subsidiary” and “holding company”**

**3.** (1) A company (the first company) is a subsidiary of another company (the second company), if—

(a) the second company—

(i) holds a majority of the voting rights in the first company;

(ii) is a member of the first company and has the right to appoint or remove a majority of its board; or

(iii) is a member of the first company and controls alone, or pursuant to an agreement with other members, a majority of the voting rights in the first company; or

(b) the first company is a subsidiary of a company which is itself a subsidiary of the second company.

(2) A company is the holding company of another company if that other company is its subsidiary.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (1) and (2), “company” includes a foreign company and any other body corporate.

## **PART II**

### **INCORPORATION, CAPACITY AND POWERS**

#### **Division 1 – Incorporation**

##### **Types of company**

4. A company may be incorporated or continued under this Act as—
- (a) a company limited by shares;
  - (b) a company limited by guarantee that is not authorised to issue shares;
  - (c) a company limited by guarantee that is authorised to issue shares;
  - (d) an unlimited company that is not authorised to issue shares; or
  - (e) an unlimited company that is authorised to issue shares.

#### **Application to incorporate a company**

5. (1) Subject to subsection (2), application may be made to the Registrar for the incorporation of a company by filing—

- (a) articles complying with section 8; or
- (b) if the company is to be incorporated as a segregated portfolio company, the written approval of the Commission given under section 145(1) ; and
- (c) such other documents as may be prescribed or notified by the Registrar.

(2) An application for the incorporation of a company may be filed only by the proposed registered agent and the Registrar shall not accept an application for the incorporation of a company filed by any other person.

(3) For the purposes of this section, the “proposed registered agent” means the person named in the articles as the first registered agent of the company.

#### **Incorporation of a company**

6. (1) If he is satisfied that the requirements of this Act in respect of incorporation have been complied with, the Registrar shall, upon receipt of the documents filed under section 5(1) —

- (d) register the documents;
- (e) allot a unique number to the company; and
- (f) issue a certificate of incorporation to the company in the approved form.

(2) A certificate of incorporation issued under subsection (1) is conclusive evidence that—

- (a) all the requirements of this Act as to incorporation have been complied with; and
- (b) the company is incorporated on the date specified in the certificate of incorporation.



## **Registration of company as restricted purposes company**

7. (1) If the articles of a company limited by shares, as filed under section 5, contains the statements specified in section 9(1) and (2) —

- (a) the company shall be registered on incorporation as having restricted purposes; and
- (b) the certificate of incorporation shall state that the company is a restricted purposes company.

(2) A company that is not registered as a restricted purposes company on its incorporation shall not subsequently be registered as a restricted purposes company.

## **Division 2 –Articles and by laws**

### **Articles**

8. (1) The articles of a company shall state—

- (a) the name of the company;
- (b) whether the company is—
  - (i) a company limited by shares;
  - (ii) a company limited by guarantee that is not authorised to issue shares;
  - (iii) a company limited by guarantee that is authorised to issue shares;
  - (iv) an unlimited company that is not authorised to issue shares; or
  - (v) an unlimited company that is authorised to issue shares;
- (c) the address of the first registered office of the company;
- (d) the name of the first registered agent of the company;
- (e) in the case of a company limited by shares or otherwise authorised to issue shares—
  - (i) the maximum number of shares that the company is authorised to issue or that the company is authorised to issue an unlimited number of shares; and
  - (ii) the classes of shares that the company is authorised to issue and, if the company is authorised to issue two or more classes of shares, the rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions attached to each class of shares;
  - (iii) a company limited by guarantee that is authorised to issues shares;

(iv) an unlimited company that is not authorised to issue shares; or

(v) an unlimited company that is authorised to issue shares;

(f) in the case of a company limited by guarantee, whether or not it is authorised to issue shares, the amount which each guarantee member of the company is liable to contribute to the company's assets in the event that a voluntary liquidator or an Insolvency Act liquidator is appointed whilst he is a member; and

(g) in the case of a segregated portfolio company, that the company is a segregated portfolio company.

(2) No company may issue or exchange bearer shares or bearer share certificates.

(3) The Regulations may require the articles of a company to contain a statement, in the form specified in the Regulations, as to any limitations on the business that the company may carry on.

#### **Additional matters to be stated in articles of restricted purposes company**

**9.** (1) The articles of a company limited by shares may state that the company is a restricted purposes company.

(2) The articles of a restricted purposes company shall state the purposes of the company.

(3) Nothing in this section prevents the articles or by-laws of a company that is not a restricted purposes company from limiting the purposes, capacity, rights, powers or privileges of the company.

#### **Effect of articles and by-laws**

**10.** (1) The articles and by-laws of a company are binding as between—

(a) the company and each member of the company; and

(b) each member of the company.

(2) The company, the board, each director and each member of a company has the rights, powers, duties and obligations set out in this Act except to the extent that they are negated or modified, as permitted by this Act, by the articles or by-laws of the company.

(3) The articles and by-laws of a company have no effect to the extent that they contravene or are inconsistent with this Act.

#### **Amendment of articles and by-laws**

**11.** (1) Subject to subsection (2) and section 13, the members of a company may, by resolution, amend the articles or by-laws of the company.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), the articles of a company may include one or more of the following provisions—

(a) that specified provisions of the articles or by-laws may not be amended;

(b) that a resolution passed by a specified majority of members, greater than fifty per cent, is required to amend the articles or by-laws or specified provisions of the articles or by-laws; and

(c) that the articles or by-laws, or specified provisions of the articles or by-laws, may be amended only if certain specified conditions are met.

(3) Subsection (2) does not apply to any provision in the articles of a company that is not a restricted purposes company that restricts the purposes of that company.

(4) Subject to subsection (5), the articles of a company may authorise the directors, by resolution, to amend the articles or by-laws of the company.

(5) Notwithstanding any provision in the articles or by-laws to the contrary, the directors of a company shall not have the power to amend the articles or by-laws —

(a) to restrict the rights or powers of the members to amend the articles or by-laws ;

(b) to change the percentage of members required to pass a resolution to amend the articles or by-laws ; or

(c) in circumstances where the articles or by-laws cannot be amended by the members,

and any resolution of the directors of a company is void and of no effect to the extent that it contravenes this subsection.

### **Filing of notice of amendment of articles or by-laws**

**12.** (1) Where a resolution is passed to amend the articles or by-laws of a company, the company shall file for registration—

(a) a notice of amendment in the approved form; or

(b) the restated articles or by-laws incorporating the amendment made.

(2) An amendment to the articles or by-laws has effect from the date that the notice of amendment, or restated articles or by-laws incorporating the amendment, is registered by the Registrar or from such other date as may be ordered by the Court under subsection (5).

(3) A company, a member or director of a company or any interested person may apply to the Court for an order that an amendment to the articles or by-laws should have effect from a date no earlier than the date of the resolution to amend the article or by-laws.

(4) An application under subsection (3) may be made—

(a) on, or at any time after, the date of the resolution to amend the articles or by-laws; and

(b) before or after the notice of amendment, or the restated articles or by-laws, has been filed for registration.

(5) The Court may make an order on an application made under subsection (3) where it is satisfied that it would be just to do so but if, at the time of the order, the notice of amendment, or restated articles or by-laws, has not been filed, the Court shall order that the notice of amendment, or restated articles or by-laws, must be filed within a period not exceeding five days after the date of the order.

#### **Amendment of articles with respect to restricted purposes**

**13.** (1) A restricted purposes company shall not amend its articles to delete or modify the statement specified in section 9(1) and any resolution of the members or directors of a company is void and of no effect to the extent that it contravenes this subsection.

(2) Subject to section 11(2), a restricted purposes company may amend its articles to modify its purposes.

(3) A company that is not a restricted purposes company shall not amend its articles to state that it is a restricted purposes company and any resolution of the members or directors of a company is void and of no effect to the extent that it contravenes this subsection.

#### **Restated articles or by-laws**

**14.** (1) A company may, at any time, file its restated articles or by-laws.

(2) Restated articles or by-laws filed under subsection (1) shall incorporate only such amendments that have been registered under section 12.

(3) Where a company files restated articles or by-laws under subsection (1), the restated articles or by-laws have effect as the articles or by-laws of the company with effect from the date that they are registered by the Registrar.

(4) The Registrar is not required to verify that restated articles or by-laws filed under this section incorporates all the amendments, or only those amendments, that have been registered under section 12.

### **Provision of copies of articles and by-laws to members**

**15.** (1) A copy of the articles and a copy of the by-laws shall be sent to any member who requests a copy.

(2) A company that contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$1,000.

## **Division 3 – Company Names**

### **Required part of company name**

**16.** (1) Subject to subsections (3), (4), (5) and (6), the name of a limited company shall end with —

- (a) the word “Limited”, “Corporation” or “Incorporated”;
- (b) the words “Societe Anonyme” or “Sociedad Anonima”;
- (c) the abbreviation “Ltd”, [LLC “Corp”, ]“Inc” or “S.A”; or
- (d) such other word or words, or abbreviations thereof, as may be specified in the Regulations.

(2) The name of an unlimited company shall end with the word “Unlimited” or the abbreviation “Unltd”.

(3) The name of a restricted purposes company shall end with the phrase “(SPV) Limited” or the phrase “(SPV) Ltd.”.

(4) The name of a segregated portfolio company shall include the designation “Segregated Portfolio Company” or “SPC” placed immediately before one of the endings specified in subsection (1), or a permitted abbreviation thereof.

(5) The name of a segregated portfolio company that is a restricted purposes company shall include the designation “(SPV)” immediately before or immediately after the designation specified in subsection (4).

[(6) The name of a private limited company shall end with the word “Private Limited” or the abbreviation “Pvt”.]

(7) Where the abbreviation “Ltd”, “Corp”, “Inc”, [“Pvt”] or “Unltd” is used, a full stop may be inserted at the end of the abbreviation.

(8) A company may use, and be legally designated by, either the full or the abbreviated form of any word or words required as part of its name under this section.

### **Restriction on company names**

**17.** (1) No company shall be registered, whether on incorporation, continuation, merger or consolidation, under a name—

(a) the use of which would contravene another enactment or the Regulations;

(b) that, subject to section 23—

(i) is identical to the name under which a company is or has been registered under this Act or a former Act; or

(ii) is so similar to the name under which a company is or has been registered under this Act or a former Act that the use of the name would, in the opinion of the Registrar, be likely to confuse or mislead;

(c) that is identical to a name that has been reserved under section 24 or that is so similar to a name that has been reserved under section 24 that the use of both names by different companies would, in the opinion of the Registrar, be likely to confuse or mislead;

(d) that contains a restricted word or phrase, unless the Registrar has given its prior written consent to the use of the word or phrase; or

(e) that, in the opinion of the Registrar, is offensive or, for any other reason, objectionable.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(d), the Commission may, by notice published in the Gazette or other publication as the Commission chooses, specify words or phrases as restricted words or phrases.

### **Company number as company name**

**18.** The name of a company may comprise the expression “Anguilla Company Number” followed by its company number in figures and the ending required by section 16 that is appropriate for the company.

### **Foreign character name**

**19.** (1) A company may have additional foreign character names approved by the Registrar.

(2) The Regulations may provide for the approval, use and change of foreign character names.

### **Company may change name**

**20.** (1) Subject to its articles and by-laws, a company may make application to the Registrar in the approved form to change its name or its foreign character name.

(2) If he is satisfied that the proposed new name or foreign character name of the company complies with section 16 and, if appropriate, sections 18 and 19 and is a name under which the company could be registered under section 17, the Registrar shall on receipt of an application under subsection (1) —

(a) register the company's change of name; and

(b) issue a certificate of change of name to the company.

**Registrar may direct change of name**

**21.** (1) If the Registrar considers, on reasonable grounds, that the name of a company does not comply with sections 16, 17, 18 or 19, he may by written notice direct the company to make application to change its name on or before a date specified in the notice, which shall be not less than twenty one days after the date of the notice.

(2) If a company that has received a notice under subsection (1) fails to file an application to change its name to a name acceptable to the Registrar on or before the date specified in the notice, the Registrar may revoke the name of the company and assign it a new name acceptable to the Registrar.

(3) Where the Registrar assigns a new name to a company under subsection (2), he shall—

(a) register the company's change of name;

(b) issue a certificate of change of name to the company; and

(c) issue notice of the change of name in the Gazette.

**Effect of change of name**

**22.** (1) A change of the name of a company under section 20 or 21—

(a) takes effect from the date of the certificate of change of name issued by the Registrar; and

(b) does not affect any rights or obligations of the company, or any legal proceedings by or against the company, and any legal proceedings that have been commenced against the company under its former name may be continued against it under its new name.

(2) Where the name of the company is changed under section 20 or 21, the company's articles and by-laws are deemed to be amended to state the new name with effect from the date of the change of name certificate.

### **Re-use of company names**

**23.** The Regulations may provide for the re-use of names previously used by companies that are, or have been, registered under this Act or by the former Act that have—

- (a) changed their name;
- (b) been struck off the Register, or off a register maintained under a former Act, but not dissolved; or
- (c) been dissolved under this Act or a former Act.

### **Reservation of name**

**24.** (1) The Registrar may, upon a request made by a registered agent in the approved form, reserve for ninety days a name for future adoption by a company under this Act.

(2) The Registrar may, refuse to reserve a name if he is not satisfied that the name complies with this Division in respect of the company or proposed company.

(3) A request to reserve of a name under subsection (1) for a period of more than ten days shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee.

### **Use of company name**

**25.** (1) Subject to section 16, a company shall ensure that its full name and, if it has one its foreign character name, is clearly stated in—

- (a) every written communication sent by, or on behalf of, the company; and
- (b) every document issued or signed by, or on behalf of, the company that evidences or creates a legal obligation of the company.

(2) A company that contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$1,000.

## **Division 4 – Capacity and Powers**

### **Separate legal personality**



**26.** A company is a legal entity, in its own right, separate from its members and continues in existence until it is dissolved.

### **Capacity and powers**

**27.** (1) Subject to this Act, any other enactment and its articles and by-laws, a company has, irrespective of corporate benefit—

(a) full capacity to carry on or undertake any business or activity, do any act or enter into any transactions; and

(b) for the purposes of paragraph (a), full rights, powers and privileges [of an individual].

(2) Without limiting subsection (1), subject to its articles and by-laws, the powers of a company include the power to do the following—

(a) unless it is a company limited by guarantee or an unlimited company that is not authorised to issue shares—

(i) issue and cancel shares and hold treasury shares;

(ii) grant options over unissued shares in the company and treasury shares;

(iii) issue securities that are convertible into shares; and

(iv) give financial assistance to any person in connection with the acquisition of its own shares;

(b) issue debt obligations of every kind and grant options, warrants and rights to acquire debt obligations;

(c) guarantee a liability or obligation of any person and secure any of its obligations by mortgage, pledge or other charge, of any of its assets for that purpose; and

(d) protect the assets of the company for the benefit of the company, its creditors and its members and, at the discretion of the directors, for any person having a direct or indirect interest in the company.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2)(d), the directors may cause the company to transfer any of its assets in trust to one or more trustees, each of which may be an individual, company, association, partnership, foundation or similar entity and, with respect to the transfer, the directors may provide that the company, its creditors, its members or any person having a direct or indirect interest in the company, or any of them, may be the beneficiaries of the trust.

(4) The rights or interests of any existing or subsequent creditor of the company in any assets of the company are not affected by any transfer under subsection (3), and those

rights or interests may be pleaded against any transferee in any such transfer.

### **Validity of acts of company**

**28.** (1) No act of a company and no transfer of an asset by or to a company is invalid by reason only of the fact that the company did not have the capacity, right or power to perform the act or to transfer or receive the asset.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply with respect to a restricted purposes company.

### **Personal liability**

**29.** Subject to section 99, no director, agent or voluntary liquidator of a company is liable for any debt, obligation or default of the company, unless specifically provided in this Act, in any other enactment, the articles, by-laws or agreements made, and except in so far as he may be liable for his own conduct or acts.

### **Dealings between company and other persons**

**30.** (1) A company or a guarantor of an obligation of a company may not assert against a person dealing with the company or with a person who has acquired assets, rights or interests from the company that—

(a) this Act or the articles or by-laws of the company has not been complied with;

(b) a person named as a director in the company's register of directors—

(i) is not a director of the company;

(ii) has not been duly appointed as a director of the company; or

(iii) does not have authority to exercise a power which a director of a company carrying on business of the kind carried on by the company customarily has authority to exercise;

(c) a person held out by the company as director, employee or agent of the company—

(i) has not been duly appointed; or

(ii) does not have authority to exercise a power which a director, employee or agent of a company carrying on business of the kind carried on by the company customarily has authority to exercise;

(d) a person held out by the company as a director, employee or agent of the company with authority to exercise a power which a director, employee or agent of a company carrying on business of the kind carried on by the company does

not customarily have authority to exercise, does not have authority to exercise that power; or

- (e) a document issued on behalf of a company by a director, employee or agent of the company with actual or usual authority to issue the document is not valid or not genuine,

unless the person has, or ought to have, by virtue of his relationship to the company, knowledge of the matters referred to in any of paragraphs (a) to (e).

(2) Subsection (1) applies even though a person of the kind specified in paragraphs (b) to (e) of that subsection acts fraudulently or forges a document that appears to have been signed on behalf of the company, unless the person dealing with the company or with a person who has acquired assets, rights or interests from the company has actual knowledge of the fraud or forgery.

### **Constructive notice**

**31.** (1) A person is not deemed to have notice or knowledge of any document relating to a company, including the articles and by-laws, or of the provisions or contents of any such document, by reason only of the fact that a document—

- (a) is available to the public from the Registrar; or
- (b) is available for inspection at the registered office of the company or at the office of its registered agent.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply—

- (a) in relation to a document filed under Part VIII; or
- (b) to a document relating to a restricted purposes company.

## **PART III**

### **SHARES**

#### **Division 1 - General**

#### **Legal nature of shares**

**32.** A share in a company is personal property.

#### **Rights attaching to shares and classes of shares**

- 33.** (1) Subject to subsection (2), a share in a company confers on the holder—
- (a) the right to one vote at a meeting of the shareholders of the company or on any resolution of the shareholders of the company;
  - (b) the right to an equal share in any dividend paid in accordance with this Act; and
  - (c) the right to an equal share in the distribution of the surplus assets of the company.
- (2) Where expressly authorised by its articles in accordance with section 8(1)(e), a company—
- (a) may issue more than one class of shares; and
  - (b) may issue shares subject to terms that negate, modify or add to the rights specified in subsection (1).

### **Series of shares**

**34.** Subject to its articles and by-laws, a company may issue a class of shares in one or more series, with each share in the series having the rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions for that series as specified in the articles of the company, provided that each share in the series shall have the same rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions as all other shares in the same class.

### **Types of shares**

- 35.** (1) Without limiting section 33(2)(b), shares in a company may—
- (a) be redeemable;
  - (b) confer no rights, or preferential rights, to distributions of capital or income;
  - (c) confer special, limited or conditional rights, including voting rights;
  - (d) confer no voting rights; and
  - (e) participate only in certain assets of the company.
- (2) Subject to its articles and by-laws, a company may issue bonus shares, partly paid shares and nil paid shares.

### **Par value and no par value shares**

**36.** Subject to the articles and by-laws of a company—

- (a) a share may be issued with or without a par value; and
- (b) a share with a par value may be issued in any currency.

#### Issue and transfer of bearer shares prohibited

**37.** (1) A company (including a segregated portfolio company) has no power to, and shall not—

- (a) issue a bearer share;
- (b) convert a registered share to a bearer share; or
- (c) exchange a registered share for a bearer share.

(2) A company that contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$10,000.

#### Fractional shares

SECOND DRAFT

**38.** (1) Subject to its articles and by-laws, a company may issue fractional shares.

(2) Subject to its articles and by-laws, a fractional share in a company has the corresponding fractional rights, obligations and liabilities of a whole share of the same class.

#### Change in number of shares company authorised to issue

**39.** (1) Where the articles of a company is amended to change the maximum number of shares that the company is authorised to issue, the company shall, together with the notice of amendment of its articles or the restated articles filed under section 12(1), file a notice in the approved form.

(2) A company that contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$1,000.

#### Division and combination of shares

**40.** (1) Subject to its articles and by-laws, a company may—

- (a) divide its shares, including issued shares, into larger number of shares; or
- (b) combine its shares, including issued shares, into a smaller number of shares.

(2) A division or combination of shares, including issued shares, of a class or series shall be for a larger or smaller number, as the case may be, of shares in the same class or series.

(3) A company shall not divide its shares under subsection (1)(a) or (2) if it would cause the maximum number of shares that the company is authorised to issue by its articles to be exceeded.

(4) Where shares are divided or combined under this section, the aggregate par value of the new shares must be equal to the aggregate par value of the original shares.

### **Register of members**

**41.** (1) A company shall keep a register of members containing, as appropriate for the company—

- (a) the full names and most recent addresses of the persons who hold registered shares in the company;
- (b) the number of each class and series of registered shares held by each shareholder;
- (c) the full names and most recent of the persons who are guarantee members of the company;
- (d) the full names and most recent of the persons who are unlimited members;
- (e) the date on which the name of each member was entered in the register of members; and
- (f) the date on which any person ceased to be a member.

(2) The register of members may be in such form as the directors may approve but if it is in magnetic, electronic or other data storage form, the company must be able to produce legible evidence of its contents.

(3) The Regulations may provide for the circumstances in which information relating to persons who are no longer members of a company, that have been cancelled, may be deleted from the register of members.

(4) Notwithstanding subsection (3), information relating to persons who are no longer members of a company, that have been cancelled, shall be retained for at least 6 years after the cessation of membership.

(5) A company that contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$1,000.

(6) For the purposes of subsection (1), a reference to a member includes a reference to a shareholder unless the context otherwise requires.

### **Register of members as evidence of legal title**

**42.** (1) The entry of the name of a person in the register of members as a holder of a share in a company is *prima facie* evidence that legal title in the share vests in that person.

(2) A company may treat the holder of a registered share as the only person entitled to—

- (a) exercise any voting rights attaching to the share;
- (b) receive notices;
- (c) receive a distribution in respect of the share; and
- (d) exercise other rights and powers attaching to the share.

### **Rectification of register of members**

**43.** (1) If—

- (a) information that is required to be entered in the register of members under section 41 is omitted from the register or inaccurately entered in the register; or
- (b) there is unreasonable delay in entering the information in the register;

a member of the company, or any person who is aggrieved by the omission, inaccuracy or delay, may apply to the Court for an order that the register be rectified, and the Court may either refuse the application, with or without costs to be paid by the applicant, or order the rectification of the register, and may direct the company to pay all costs of the application and any damages the applicant may have sustained.

(2) The Court may, in any proceedings under subsection (1), determine any question relating to the right of a person who is a party to the proceedings to have his name entered in or omitted from the register of members, whether the question arises between—

- (a) two or more members or alleged members; or
- (b) between members or alleged members and the company;

and generally the Court may, in the proceedings, determine any question that may be necessary or expedient to be determined for the rectification of the register of members.

### **Share certificates**

**44.** (1) A company shall state in its articles the circumstances in which share certificates shall be issued.

(2) If a company issues share certificates, the certificates shall be—

- (a) signed by at least one director of the company or by such other person who may be authorised by the articles or by-laws to sign share certificates; or
- (b) under the common seal of the company, with or without the signature of any director of the company;

and the articles may provide for the signatures or common seal to be facsimiles.

## **Division 2 – Issue of Shares**

### **Issue of Shares**

**45.** Subject to this Act and to the articles and by-laws, shares in a company may be issued, and options to acquire shares in a company granted, at such times, to such persons, for such consideration and on such terms as the directors may determine.

### **Pre-emptive rights**

**46.** (1) Subsections (2) to (4) apply to a company where the articles or by-laws expressly provide that this section shall apply to the company, but not otherwise.

(2) Before issuing shares that rank, or would rank, as to voting or distribution rights, or both, equally with, or prior to, shares already issued by the company, the directors shall offer the shares to existing shareholders in such a manner that, if the offer was accepted by those shareholders, the existing voting or distribution rights, or both, of those shareholders would be maintained.

(3) Shares offered to existing shareholders under subsection (2) shall be offered at such price and on such terms as the shares are to be offered to other persons.

(4) An offer made under subsection (2) shall remain open for acceptance for a reasonable period of time.

(5) Notwithstanding the requirements of this section, the articles or by-laws of a company may make different provisions with respect to pre-emptive rights other than those set out in this section.

### **Consideration of shares**



**47.** (1) Subject to subsection (2), a share may be issued for consideration in any form, including money, a promissory note, or other written obligation to contribute money or property, real property, personal property (including goodwill and know-how), services rendered or a contract for future services.

(2) The consideration for a share with par value shall not be less than the par value of the share.

(3) If a share is issued in contravention of subsection (2), the person to whom the share is issued is liable to pay to the company an amount equal to the difference between the issue price and the par value.

### **Shares issued for consideration other than money**

**48.** Before issuing shares for a consideration other than money, the directors shall pass a resolution stating—

- (a) the amount to be credited for the issue of the shares;
- (b) their determination of the reasonable present cash value of the non-money consideration for the issue; and
- (c) that, in their opinion, the present cash value of the non-money consideration for the issue is not less than the amount to be credited for the issue of the shares.

### **Consent to issue of shares**

**49.** The issue by a company of a share that—

- (a) increases a liability of a person to the company, or
- (b) imposes a new liability on a person to the company,

is void if that person, or an authorised agent of that person, does not agree in writing to becoming the holder of the share.

### **Time of issue**

**50.** A share is deemed to be issued when the name of the shareholder is entered in the register of members.

### **Forfeiture of shares**

**51.** (1) The articles or by-laws of a company, or the terms on which shares in a company are issued, may contain provisions for the forfeiture of shares which are not fully paid for on issue.

(2) Any provision in the articles or by-laws, or the terms on which shares in a company are issued, providing for the forfeiture of shares shall contain a requirement that a written notice of call specifying a date for payment to be made shall be served on the member who defaults in making payment in respect of the share.

(3) The written notice of call referred to in subsection (2) shall name a further date not earlier than the expiration of fourteen days from the date of service of the notice on or before which the payment required by the notice is to be made and shall contain a statement that in the event of non-payment at or before the time named in the notice the shares, or any of them, in respect of which payment is not made will be liable to be forfeited.

(4) Where a written notice of call has been issued under this section and the requirements of the notice have not been complied with, the directors may, at any time before tender of payment, forfeit and cancel the shares to which the notice relates.

(5) The company is under no obligation to refund any moneys to the member whose shares have been cancelled pursuant to subsection (4) and that member shall be discharged from any further obligation to the company.

## SECOND DRAFT

### Division 3 – Transfer of Shares

#### **Transferability of shares**

**52.** (1) Subject to any limitations or restrictions on the transfer of shares in the articles or by-laws, a share in a company is transferable.

(2) The personal representative of a deceased shareholder may transfer a share even though the personal representative is not a shareholder at the time of the transfer.

#### **Transfer of shares by operation of law**

**53.** Shares in a company may pass by operation of law, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the articles or by-laws of the company.

#### **Method of transfer of registered share**

**54.** (1) Registered shares are transferred by a written instrument of transfer signed by the transferor and containing the name and address of the transferee.

(2) The instrument of transfer shall also be signed by the transferee if registration as a holder of the share imposes a liability to the company on the transferee.

(3) The instrument of transfer of a registered share shall be sent to the company for registration.

(4) Subject to the articles or by-laws and to subsections (5) and (7), the company shall, on receipt of an instrument of transfer, enter the name of the transferee of the share in the register of members unless the directors resolve to refuse or delay the registration of the transfer for reasons that shall be specified in the resolution.

(5) The directors shall not pass a resolution refusing or delaying the registration of a transfer unless this Act or the articles or by-laws permits them to do so.

(6) Where the directors pass a resolution under subsection (4), the company shall, as soon as practicable, send the transferor and the transferee a notice of the refusal or delay in the approved form.

(7) Subject to the articles or by-laws of a company, the directors may refuse or delay the registration of a transfer of shares if the transferor has failed to pay an amount due in respect of those shares.

(8) The transfer of a registered share is effective when the name of the transferee is entered in the register of members.

(9) If the directors of a company are satisfied that an instrument of transfer has been signed but that the instrument has been lost or destroyed, they may resolve—

- (a) to accept such evidence of the transfer of the shares as they consider appropriate; and
- (b) that the transferee's name should be entered in the register of members, notwithstanding the absence of the instrument of transfer.

#### **Division 4 – Distribution**

##### **Meaning of solvency test and distribution**

**55.** For the purposes of this Division—

- (a) a company satisfies the solvency test if—
  - (i) the value of the company's assets exceeds its liabilities; and
  - (ii) the company is able to pay its debts as they fall due; and
- (b) “distribution”, in relation to a distribution by a company to a member, means—

- (i) the direct or indirect transfer of an asset, other than the company's own shares, to or for the benefit of the member, or
- (ii) the incurring of a debt to or for the benefit of a member,

in relation to shares held by a shareholder, or to the entitlements to distributions of a member who is not a shareholder, and whether by means of the purchase of an asset, the purchase, redemption or other acquisition of shares, a transfer of indebtedness or otherwise, and includes a dividend.

OR

55. (1) For the purposes of this Division, a company satisfies the solvency and liquidity test at a particular time if, considering all reasonably foreseeable financial circumstances of the company at that time —

- (a) the assets of the company, as fairly valued, equal or exceed the liabilities of the company, as fairly valued; and
- (b) it appears that the company will be able to pay its debts as they become due in the ordinary course of business for a period of 12 months after the date on which the test is considered.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)-

- (a) any financial information to be considered concerning the company must be based on-
  - (i) accounting records that satisfy the requirements of section 88; and
  - (ii) where applicable, financial statements prepared by the directors;
- (b) subject to paragraph (c), the board or any other person applying the solvency and liquidity test to a company —
  - (i) shall consider a fair valuation of the company's assets and liabilities, including any reasonable foreseeable contingent assets and liabilities, irrespective of whether or not arising as a result of the proposed distribution, or otherwise; and
  - (ii) may consider a fair valuation of the company's assets and liabilities that is reasonable in the circumstances; and

(c) unless the articles of incorporation of the company provides otherwise, when a person applying the test in respect of a distribution as defined in subsection (3), a person is not to include as a liability any amount that would be required, if the company were to be liquidated at the time of the distribution, to satisfy the preferential rights upon liquidation of shareholders whose preferential rights upon liquidation are superior to the preferential rights upon liquidation of those receiving the distribution.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2), “distribution”, in relation to a distribution by a company to a member, means —

(a) the direct or indirect transfer of an asset, other than the company's own shares, to or for the benefit of the member; or

(b) the incurring of a debt to or for the benefit of a member,

in relation to shares held by a shareholder, or to the entitlements to distributions of a member who is not a shareholder, and whether by means of the purchase of an asset, the purchase, redemption or other acquisition of shares, a transfer of indebtedness or otherwise, and includes a dividend.

## **Distributions**

**56.** (1) Subject to this Part and to the articles and by-laws of the company, the directors of a company may, by resolution, authorise a distribution by the company to members at such time and of such an amount, as it thinks fit if they are satisfied, on reasonable grounds, that the company will, immediately after the distribution, satisfy the solvency test.

(2) A resolution of directors passed under subsection (1) shall contain a statement that, in the opinion of the directors, the company will, immediately after the distribution, satisfy the solvency test.

(3) If, after a distribution is authorised and before it is made, the directors cease to be satisfied on reasonable grounds that the company will, immediately after the distribution is made, satisfy the solvency test, any distribution made by the company is deemed not to have been authorised.

## **Recovery of distribution made when company did not satisfy solvency test**

**57.** (1) A distribution made to a member at a time when the company did not, immediately after the distribution, satisfy the solvency test may be recovered by the company from the member unless—

(a) the member received the distribution in good faith and without knowledge of the company's failure to satisfy the solvency test;

(b) the member has altered his position in reliance on the validity of the distribution; and

(c) it would be unfair to require repayment in full or at all.

(2) If, by virtue of section 56(3), a distribution is deemed not to have been authorised, a director who—

(a) ceased, after authorisation but before the making of the distribution, to be satisfied on reasonable grounds for believing that the company would satisfy the solvency test immediately after the distribution is made; and

(b) failed to take reasonable steps to prevent the distribution being made,

is personally liable to the company to repay to the company so much of the distribution as is not able to be recovered from members.

(3) If, in an action brought against a director or member under this section, the Court is satisfied that the company could, by making a distribution of a lesser amount, have satisfied the solvency test, the Court may—

(a) permit the member to retain; or

(b) relieve the director from liability,

in respect of an amount equal to the value of any distribution that could properly have been made.

### **Company may purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire its own shares**

**58.** (1) Subject to section 56, a company may purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire its own shares in accordance with either—

(a) sections 59, 60 and 61; or

(b) such other provisions for the purchase, redemption or acquisition of its own shares as may be specified in its articles or by-laws.

(2) Sections 59, 60 and 61 do not apply to a company to the extent that they are negated, modified or inconsistent with provisions for the purchase, redemption or acquisition of its own shares specified in the company's articles or by-laws.

(3) Where a company may purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire its own shares otherwise than in accordance with sections 59, 60 and 61, it may not purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire the shares without the consent of the member whose shares are to be purchased, redeemed or otherwise acquired, unless the company is permitted by the articles or by-laws to purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire the shares without that consent.

(4) Unless the shares are held as treasury shares in accordance with section 64, any shares acquired by a company are deemed to be cancelled immediately on purchase, redemption or other acquisition.

### **Process for purchase, redemption or other acquisition of own shares**

**59.** (1) The directors of a company may make an offer to purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire shares issued by the company, if the offer is—

(a) to all shareholders to purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire shares issued by the

company that—

- (i) would, if accepted, leave the relative voting and distribution rights of the shareholders unaffected; and
  - (ii) affords each shareholder a reasonable opportunity to accept the offer; or
- (b) to one or more shareholders to purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire shares—
- (i) to which all shareholders have consented in writing; or
  - (ii) that is permitted by the articles or by-laws and is made in accordance with section 60.

(2) Where an offer is made in accordance with subsection (1)(a) —

- (a) the offer may also permit the company to purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire additional shares from a shareholder to the extent that another shareholder does not accept the offer or accepts the offer only in part; and
- (b) if the number of additional shares exceeds the number of shares that the company is entitled to purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire, the number of additional shares shall be reduced rateably.

### **Offer to more than one shareholder**

**60.** (1) The directors of a company shall not make an offer to one or more shareholders under section 59(1)(b) unless they have passed a resolution stating that, in their opinion—

- (a) the purchase, redemption or other acquisition is to the benefit of the remaining shareholders; and
- (b) the terms of the offer and the consideration offered for the shares are fair and reasonable to the company and to the remaining shareholders.

(2) A resolution passed under subsection (1) shall set out the reasons for the directors' opinion.

(3) The directors shall not make an offer to one or more shareholders under section 59(1)(b) if, after the passing of a resolution under subsection (1) and before the making of the offer, they cease to hold the opinions specified in subsection (1).

(4) A shareholder may apply to the Court for an order restraining the proposed purchase, redemption or other acquisition of shares under section 59(1)(b) on the grounds that —

- (a) the purchase, redemption or other acquisition is not in the best interests of the remaining shareholders; or
- (b) the terms of the offer and the consideration offered for the shares are not fair and reasonable to the company or the remaining shareholders.

**Shares redeemed otherwise than at option of company**

**61.** (1) If a share is redeemable at the option of the shareholder and the shareholder gives the company proper notice of his intention to redeem the share—

- (a) the company shall redeem the share on the date specified in the notice, or if no date is specified, on the date of the receipt of the notice;
- (b) unless the share is held as a treasury share under section 63, the share is deemed to be cancelled; and
- (c) from the date of redemption, the former shareholder ranks as an unsecured creditor of the company for the sum payable on redemption.

(2) If a share is redeemable on a specified date—

- (a) the company shall redeem the share on that date;
- (b) unless the share is held as a treasury share under section 63, the share is deemed to be cancelled; and
- (c) from the date of redemption, the former shareholder ranks as an unsecured creditor of the company for the sum payable on redemption.

(3) Where a company redeems a share under subsections (1) and (2), sections 59 and 60 do not apply.

**Purchases redemptions or other acquisitions deemed not to be a distribution**

**62.** The purchase, redemption or other acquisition by a company of one or more of its own shares is deemed not to be a distribution where—

- (a) the company redeems the share or shares under and in accordance with section 61;
- (b) the company redeems the share or shares pursuant to a right of a shareholder to have his shares redeemed or to have his shares exchanged for money or other property of the company; or



- (c) the company purchases, redeems or otherwise acquires the share or shares by virtue of the provisions of section 187.

### **Treasury shares**

**63.** (1) A company may hold shares that have been purchased, redeemed or otherwise acquired under section 58 as treasury shares if—

- (a) the articles or by-laws of the company do not prohibit it from holding treasury shares;
- (b) the directors resolve that shares to be purchased, redeemed or otherwise acquired shall be held as treasury shares; and
- (c) the number of shares purchased, redeemed or otherwise acquired, when aggregated with shares of the same class already held by the company as treasury shares, does not exceed fifty per cent of the shares of that class previously issued by the company, excluding shares that have been cancelled.

(2) All the rights and obligations attaching to a treasury share are suspended and shall not be exercised by or against the company while it holds the share as a treasury share.

### **Transfer of treasury shares**

**64.** Treasury shares may be transferred by the company and the provisions of this Act and the articles and by-laws that apply to the issue of shares apply to the transfer of treasury shares.

### **Mortgages and charges of shares**

**65.** (1) A mortgage or charge of shares of a company shall be in writing signed by, or with the authority of the registered holder of the registered share to which the mortgage or charge relates.

(2) A mortgage or charge of shares of a company need not be in any specific form but it shall clearly indicate—

- (a) the intention to create a mortgage or charge; and
- (b) the amount secured by the mortgage or charge or how that amount is to be calculated.

(3) Where the governing law of a mortgage or charge of shares in a company is not the law of Anguilla—

- (a) the mortgage or charge shall be in compliance with the requirements of its governing law in order for the mortgage or charge to be valid and binding on the company; and
- (b) the remedies available to a mortgagee or chargee shall be governed by the governing

law and the instrument creating the mortgage or charge save that the rights between the mortgagor or mortgagee as a member of the company and the company shall continue to be governed by the articles and the articles of the company and this Act.

(4) Where the governing law of a mortgage or charge of shares in a company is the law of Anguilla, in the case of a default by the mortgagor or chargor on the terms of the mortgage or charge, the mortgagee or chargee is entitled to the following remedies—

- (a) subject to any limitations or provisions to the contrary in the instrument creating the mortgage or charge, the right to sell the shares, and
- (b) the right to appoint a receiver [or liquidator] who, subject to any limitations or provisions to the contrary in the instrument creating the mortgage or charge, may—
  - (i) vote the shares;
  - (ii) receive distributions in respect of the shares, and
  - (iii) exercise other rights and powers of the mortgagor or chargor in respect of the shares,

until such time as the mortgage or charge is discharged.

(5) Subject to any provisions to the contrary in the instrument of mortgage or charge of shares of a company, all amounts that accrue from the enforcement of the mortgage or charge shall be applied in the following manner—

- (a) firstly, in meeting the costs incurred in enforcing the mortgage or charge;
- (b) secondly, in discharging the sums secured by the mortgage or charge; and
- (c) thirdly, in paying any balance due to the mortgagor or chargor.

(6) Where the governing law of a mortgage or charge of shares in a company is the law of Anguilla, the remedies referred to in subsection (5) are not exercisable until—

- (a) default has occurred and has continued for a period of not less than thirty days, or such shorter period as may be specified in the instrument creating the mortgage or charge; and
- (b) the default has not been rectified within fourteen days or such shorter period as may be specified in the instrument creating the mortgage or charge from service of the notice specifying the default and requiring rectification thereof.

(7) In the case of a mortgage or charge of registered shares there may be entered in the register of members of the company—

- (a) a statement that the shares are mortgaged or charged;
- (b) the name of the mortgagee or chargee; and
- (c) the date on which the statement and name are entered in the register of members.

(8) A mortgage or charge of shares of a company may specify that the Conveyancing and Law of Property Act/ Registered Lands shall not apply to the mortgage or charge.

## **PART IV**

### **MEMBERS**

#### **Meaning of “shareholder”, “guarantee member” and “unlimited member”**

**67.** In this Act—

“guarantee member”, in relation to a company, means a person whose name is entered in the register of members as a guarantee member;

“shareholder”, in relation to a company, means a person whose name is entered in the register of members as the holder of one or more shares, or fractional shares, in the company; and

“unlimited member”, in relation to a company, means a person whose name is entered in the register of members as a member who has unlimited liability for the liabilities of the company.

#### **Company to have one or more members**

**68.** (1) Subject to subsection (2), a company shall at all times have one or more members.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply during the period from the incorporation of the company to the appointment of its first directors under section 104(1).

(3) In the case of a company limited by guarantee, whether or not authorised to issue shares,

at least one of the members of the company shall be a guarantee member and where the company is authorised to issue shares, a guarantee member may also be a shareholder.

(4) In the case of an unlimited company, whether or not authorised to issue shares, at least one of the members of the company shall be an unlimited member and where the company is authorised to issue shares, an unlimited member may also be a shareholder.

### **Liability of members**

**69.** (1) A member of a limited company has no liability, as a member, for the liabilities of the company.

(2) The liability of a shareholder to the company, as shareholder, is limited to—

- (a) any amount unpaid on a share held by the shareholder;
- (b) any liability expressly provided for in the articles or by-laws of the company; and
- (c) any liability to repay a distribution under section 57(1).

(3) The liability of a guarantee member to the company, as guarantee member, is limited to—

- (a) the amount that the guarantee member is liable to contribute as specified in the articles in accordance with section 8(1)(f); and
- (b) any other liability expressly provided for in the articles or by-laws of the company; and
- (c) any liability to repay a distribution under section 57(1).

(4) An unlimited member has unlimited liability for the liabilities of the company.

### **Members' resolutions**

**70.** (1) Unless otherwise specified in this Act or in the articles or by-laws of a company, the exercise by the members of a company of a power which is given to them under this Act or the articles or articles shall be by a resolution—

- (a) passed at a meeting of members held pursuant to section 72; or
- (b) passed as a written resolution in accordance with section 77.

(2) A resolution is passed if approved by a majority of in excess of fifty per cent or, if a higher majority is required by the articles or by-laws, that higher majority, of the votes of those members entitled to vote and voting on the resolution.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2)—

- (a) votes of shareholders shall be counted according to the votes attached to the shares held by the shareholder voting; and
- (b) unless the articles or by-laws otherwise provide, a guarantee member and an unlimited member is entitled to one vote on any resolution on which he is entitled to vote.

### **Meetings of members**

**71.** (1) Subject to a company's articles and by-laws, the following may convene a meeting of the members of the company at any time—

- (a) the directors of the company; or
- (b) such person or persons as may be authorised by the articles or by-laws to call the meeting.

(2) Subject to a provision in the articles or by-laws for a lesser percentage, the directors of a company shall call a meeting of the members of the company if requested in writing to do so by members entitled to exercise at least thirty per cent of the voting rights in respect of the matter for which the meeting is requested.

(3) Subject to a company's articles and by-laws, a meeting of the members of the company may be held at such time and in such place, within or outside Anguilla, as the convener of the meeting considers appropriate.

(4) Subject to the articles or by-laws of a company, a member of the company shall be deemed to be present at a meeting of members if—

- (a) he participates by telephone or other electronic means; and
- (b) all members participating in the meeting are able to hear each other.

(5) A member may be represented at a meeting of members by a proxy who may speak and vote on behalf of the member.

(6) Subject to the articles and by-laws, the following apply where shares are jointly owned—

- (a) if two or more persons hold shares jointly each of them may be present in person or by proxy at a meeting of members and may speak as a member;
- (b) if only one of them is present in person or by proxy, he may vote on behalf

of all of them; and

- (c) if two or more are present in person or by proxy, they must vote as one.

### **Notice of meetings of members**

**72.** (1) Subject to a requirement in the articles or by-laws to give longer notice, a person or persons convening a meeting of the members of a company shall give not less than seven days' notice of the meeting to those persons whose names, on the date the notice is given, appear as members in the register of members and are entitled to vote at the meeting.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), and subject to the articles or by-laws, a meeting of members held in contravention of the requirement to give notice is valid if members holding a ninety per cent majority, or such lesser majority as may be specified in the articles or by-laws, of the total voting rights on all the matters to be considered at the meeting have waived notice of the meeting and, for this purpose, the presence of a member at the meeting shall be deemed to constitute a waiver on his part.

(3) The inadvertent failure of the convener or conveners of a meeting of members to give notice of the meeting to a member, or the fact that a member has not received the notice, does not invalidate the meeting.

(4) The convener or conveners of a meeting of members may fix the date notice is given of a meeting, or such other date as may be specified in the notice, as the record date for determining those members that are entitled to vote at the meeting.

### **Quorum for meetings of members**

**73.** The quorum for a meeting of the members of a company for the purposes of a resolution of members is that fixed by the articles or by-laws but, where no quorum is so fixed, a meeting of members is properly constituted for all purposes if at the commencement of the meeting there are present in person or by proxy, members entitled to exercise at least fifty percent of the votes.

### **Voting trusts**

**74.** (1) One or more shareholders of a company may, by agreement in writing, transfer registered shares to any person, authorised to act as trustee for the purpose of vesting in such person, who may be designated voting trustee, the right to vote thereon and the following provisions shall apply—

- (a) the agreement may contain any other provisions not inconsistent with the purpose of the agreement;
- (b) a copy of the agreement shall be deposited at the registered office of the company and shall be open to the inspection by members of the company —

- (i) in the case of any beneficiary of the trust under the agreement, daily during business hours; and
  - (ii) in the case of members of the company, subject to the provisions of section 90;
- (c) where certificates for registered shares have been issued for shares that are to be transferred to a trustee pursuant to this section, new certificates shall be issued to the voting trustee to represent the shares so transferred and the certificates formerly representing the shares that have been transferred shall be surrendered and cancelled;
- (d) where a certificate is issued to a voting trustee, an endorsement shall be made on the certificate that the shares represented thereby in the case of registered shares are held by the person named therein pursuant to an agreement;
- (e) there shall be noted in the register of members of the company against the record of the shares held by the trustee the fact that such an agreement exists;
- (f) the voting trustee may vote the shares so issued or transferred during the period specified in the agreement;
- (g) shares registered in the name of the voting trustee may be voted either in person or by proxy and, in voting the shares, the voting trustee shall not incur any liability as member or trustee, except in so far as he may be liable for his own conduct or acts;
- (h) where two or more persons are designated as voting trustees and the right and method of voting any shares registered in their names at any meeting of members or on any resolution of members are not fixed by the agreement appointing the trustees, the right to vote shall be determined by a majority of the trustees, or if they are equally divided as to the right and manner of voting the shares in any particular case, the votes of the shares in such case shall be divided equally among the trustees;
- (i) at any time prior to the expiration of any voting trust agreement as originally fixed or as last extended as provided in this subsection, one or more beneficiaries of the trust under the voting trust agreement may, by written agreement and with the written consent of the voting trustee, extend the duration of the voting trust agreement for such additional period as is stated in the written agreement; and
- (j) the voting trustee shall, prior to the expiration of a voting trust agreement, as originally fixed or as previously extended, as the case may be, deposit at the registered office of the company a copy of the extension agreement and of his consent thereto, and thereupon the duration of the voting trust

agreement shall be extended for the period fixed in the extension agreement, but no extension agreement shall affect the rights or obligations of persons not parties thereto.

(2) Two or more members of a company may, notwithstanding subsection (1), by agreement in writing provide that in exercising any voting rights the shares held by them shall be voted—

(a) as provided by the agreement;

(b) as the parties may agree; or

(c) as determined in accordance with such procedure as they may agree upon.

(3) This section shall be deemed not to invalidate any voting or other agreement among members or any irrevocable proxy that is not otherwise illegal.

### **Court may call meeting of members**

**75.** (1) The Court may order a meeting of members to be held and to be conducted in such manner as the Court orders if it is of the opinion that—

(a) it is impracticable to call or conduct a meeting of the members of a company in the manner specified in this Act or in the articles and by-laws of the company; or

(b) it is in the interests of the members of the company that a meeting of members is held.

(2) An application for an order under subsection (1) may be made by a member or director of the company.

(3) The Court may make an order under subsection (1) on such terms, including as to costs of conducting the meeting and as to the provision of security for those costs, as it considers appropriate.

### **Proceedings at meetings of members**

**76.** The Regulations may specify provisions for proceedings of members' meetings which shall apply in respect of a company, except to the extent that the articles or by-laws of the company provide otherwise.

### **Written resolutions**

**77.** (1) Subject to the articles or by-laws of a company, an action that may be taken by members



of the company at a meeting of members may also be taken by a resolution of members consented to in writing or by telex, telegram, cable or other written electronic communication, without the need for any notice.

(2) A resolution under subsection (1) may consist of several documents, including written electronic communications, in like form each signed or assented to by one or more members.

### **Service of notice on members**

**78.** Any notice, information or written statement required under this Act to be given by a company to members shall be served in the case of members holding registered shares—

- (a) in the manner specified in the articles or by-laws, as the case may be, or
- (b) in the absence of a provision in the articles or by-laws, by personal service or by mail addressed to each member at the address shown in the register of members.

## **PART V**

# **COMPANY ADMINISTRATION**

**SECOND DRAFT**

### **Division 1 – Registered Office and Registered Agent**

### **Registered office**

**79.** (1) A company shall, at all times, have a registered office in Anguilla.

(2) The registered office of a company is—

- (a) the place specified as the company's first registered office in the articles filed under section 8(1)(c); or
- (b) if one or more notices of change of registered office have been filed under section 82, the place specified in the last such notice to be registered by the Registrar.

(3) The registered office of a company, whether as specified in the articles or in any notice filed under section 82—

- (a) shall be a physical address in Anguilla; and
- (b) if the registered office of the company is at the office of its registered agent, that fact shall be stated in the description of the address in the articles

or in the notice.

### **Registered agent**

**80.** (1) Subject to subsection (4), a company shall at all times have a registered agent in Anguilla.

(2) Unless the last registered agent of the company has resigned in accordance with section 83 or ceased to be the company's registered agent in accordance with section 84(3), the registered agent of a company is—

- (a) the person specified as the company's first registered agent in the articles filed under section 8(1)(c); or
- (b) if one or more notices of change of registered agent have been filed under section 82, the person specified as the company's registered agent in the last such notice to be registered by the Registrar.

[3] No person shall be, or agree to be, the registered agent of a company unless that person —

- (a) shall be a physical address in Anguilla; and
- (b) if the registered office of the company is at the office of its registered agent, that fact shall be stated in the description of the address in the articles or in the notice.]

(4) The registered agent of a non-domestic company shall be a person who holds a relevant licence.

(5) If the registered agent of a non-domestic company ceases to hold a relevant licence, the company shall, within 14 days of becoming aware that the person concerned has ceased to hold a relevant licence, change its registered agent to a person who holds such a licence.

(6) A company that contravenes subsection (5) commits an offence.

(7) Subject to subsection (8), a person who, not being the holder of a relevant licence, acts as the registered agent of a non-domestic company commits an offence.

(8) If a person who acts as the registered agent of a non-domestic company ceases to hold a relevant licence, he does not commit an offence under subsection (6) if, upon ceasing to hold the licence, he forthwith notifies the company that he no longer holds a relevant licence and that the company must change its registered agent in accordance with subsection (4).

### **Registered agent-prohibition**

**81.** A company that does not have a registered agent in contravention of section 80 commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$10,000.

### **Change of registered office or registered agents**

**82.** (1) A resolution to change the location of a company's registered office or to change a company's registered agent may be passed—

- (a) notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in the articles or by-laws, by the members of the company; or
- (b) if authorised by the articles or by-laws, by the directors of the company.

(2) A company that wishes to change its registered office or registered agent shall file a notice in the approved form.

(3) A notice of change of registered agent shall be endorsed by the new registered agent with his agreement to act as registered agent.

(4) A notice of change of registered office or registered agent may be filed only by—

- (a) the registered agent of the company; or
- (b) a legal practitioner in Anguilla acting on behalf of the company for the purposes of filing the notice.

(5) For the purposes of subsection (4)(a), in the case of a notice of change of registered agent, "registered agent" means the existing registered agent.

(6) A change of registered office or registered agent takes effect on the registration by the Registrar of the notice filed under subsection (2).

(7) As soon as reasonably practicable after registering a notice of change of registered agent, the Registrar shall send a copy of the notice endorsed by the Registrar with the time and date of registration —

- (a) to the company's new registered agent; and
- (b) where the notice was filed by a legal practitioner, to the former registered agent.

(8) A change of registered office or registered agent is deemed not to constitute an amendment of the company's articles.

### **Registered agent ceasing to act**

**83.** (1) A person may resign as the registered agent of a company only in accordance with this section.

(2) A person wishing to resign as the registered agent of a company shall—

- (a) give not less than ninety days written notice of his intention to resign as registered agent of the company on the date specified in the notice to a person specified in subsection (3); and
- (b) file a copy of the notice provided under paragraph (a) in accordance with subsection (3).

(3) A notice under subsection (2) shall be sent to a director of the company at the director's last known address or, if the registered agent is not aware of the identity of any director of the company, to the person from whom the registered agent last received instructions concerning the company.

(4) If a company does not change its registered agent in accordance with section 82 on or before the date specified in the notice given under subsection (2), the registered agent may file a notice of resignation as the company's registered agent.

(5) Unless the company has previously changed its registered agent, the resignation of a registered agent is effective the day after the notice of resignation is registered by the Registrar.

#### **Registered agent ceasing to be eligible to act**

**84.** (1) For the purposes of this section, a person ceases to be eligible to act as a registered agent if—

- (a) the person ceases to hold a licence under the Company Management Act (C75) or the Banking Act or any other applicable enactment; or
- (b) the Commission withdraws its approval for the person to provide registered agent services.

(2) Where a person ceases to be eligible to act as a registered agent, that person shall, with respect to each company of which he was, immediately before ceasing to be eligible to act, the registered agent shall send to the person specified in subsection (3), a notice —

- (a) advising the company that he is no longer eligible to be its registered agent;
- (b) advising the company that it must appoint a new registered agent within ninety days of the date of the notice, and
- (c) specifying that on the expiration of the period specified in paragraph (b), he

will cease to be the registered agent of the company, if the company has not previously changed its registered agent.

(3) A notice under subsection (2) shall be sent to a director of the company at the director's last known address or, if the registered agent is not aware of the identity of any director of the company, to the person from whom the registered agent last received instructions concerning the company.

(4) A company that receives a notice under subsection (2) shall, within ninety days of the date of the notice, appoint a new registered agent.

(5) A registered agent who contravenes subsection (2) and a company that contravenes subsection (4) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$10,000.

(6) A person does not commit an offence under subsection (5) by reason only of the fact that—

(a) he ceases to be eligible to act as a registered agent; and

(b) after ceasing to be eligible to act, he continues to be the registered agent of a company during the period from the date he ceases to be eligible to act to the date that the company appoints a new registered agent.

### **Register of Approved Registered Agent**

**85.** (1) The Registrar shall maintain a Register of Approved Agents in which the following details shall be recorded in respect of each registered agent—

(a) the full name of the approved registered agent;

(b) the current address of the approved registered agent;

(c) the names of the individuals authorised to sign on behalf of any firm or company that is an approved registered agent;

(d) the date when the registered agent obtained the approval of the Commission to provide registered agent services;

(e) in a case where a person ceases to be an approved registered agent—

(i) the date on which the person ceased to be so approved, and

(ii) the reason for his ceasing to be an approved registered agent.

(2) The Regulations may provide for the publication by the Registrar of the names of persons who are, from time to time, approved to provide registered agent services.

(3) An approved registered agent shall, forthwith, send notification to the Registrar in the approved form of any change in the details kept by the Registrar in respect of the registered agent in the Register of Approved Agents and the Registrar shall record the change in the Register.

(4) A registered agent who contravenes subsection (3) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$5,000.

## **Division 2 – Company Records**

### **Documents to be kept at office of registered agent**

**86.** (1) A company shall keep the following documents at the office of its registered agent—

- (a) the articles and by-laws of the company;
- (b) the register of members maintained in accordance with section 41 or a copy of the register of members;
- (c) the register of directors maintained under section 109 or a copy of the register of directors; and
- (d) copies of all notices and other documents filed by the company in the previous ten years.

(2) Where a company keeps a copy of the register of members or the register of directors at the office of its registered agent, it shall—

- (a) within fifteen days of any change in the register, notify the registered agent, in writing, of the change; and
- (b) provide the registered agent with a written record of the physical address of the place or places at which the original register of members or the original register of directors is kept.

(3) Where the place at which the original register of members or the original register of directors is changed, the company shall provide the registered agent with the physical address of the new location of the records within fourteen days of the change of location.

(4) A company that contravenes subsection (1), (2) or (3) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$10,000.

### **Other records to be maintained by company**

**87.** (1) A company shall keep the following records at the office of its registered agent or at such other place or places, within or outside Anguilla, as the directors may determine—

- (a) minutes of meetings and resolutions of members and of classes of members maintained in accordance with section 92; and
- (b) minutes of meetings and resolutions of directors and committees of directors maintained in accordance with section 92.

(2) Where any records specified under section (1) are kept at a place other than at the office of the company's registered agent, the company shall provide the registered agent with a written record of the physical address of the place or places at which the records are kept.

(3) Where the place at which any records specified under subsection (1) is changed, the company shall provide the registered agent with the physical address of the new location of the records within fourteen days of the change of location.

(4) A company that contravenes this section commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$10,000.

#### **Financial records**

**88.** (1) A company shall keep records that—

- (a) are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions; and
- (b) will, at any time, enable the financial position of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy.

(2) If the accounting records of a company are kept outside Anguilla, the company shall ensure that it keeps at its registered office —

- (a) accounts and returns adequate to enable the directors of the company to ascertain the financial position of the company with reasonable accuracy on a quarterly basis; and
- (b) a written record of the place or places outside Anguilla where its accounting records are kept.

(3) The period for which all records and underlying documents shall be maintained is 6 years beginning on the date—

- (a) on which all activities taking place in the course of the transaction in question were completed; or

(b) of the ending of the business relationship for whose formation the record was compiled.

(4) The records and underlying documents required to be kept under this section shall be kept at the registered office of the company or at such other place as the directors may by resolution determine.

(5) Where the records and underlying documents required to be kept under this section are kept at a place or places other than at the registered office of the company, the company shall provide the registered agent with a written —

- (a) record of the physical address of the place at which the records and underlying documents are kept;
- (b) record of the name of the person who owns or controls the place or places at which the records and underlying documents are kept; and
- (c) undertaking advising that the registered agent shall, at any time it so requests, have access to and be provided with the records and underlying documents without delay.

(6) Where the place or places at which the records and underlying documents, or the name of the person who owns or controls such place or places, change, the company shall provide its registered agent with the physical address of the new location of the records and underlying documents or the name of the new owner or controller of the new location, as the case may be, within 14 days of the change of the place or places.

(7) The registered agent shall keep and maintain a record of the place or places outside Anguilla at which the company keeps its records and underlying documents and such record shall comprise—

- (a) the name of the company;
- (b) the address or addresses of the place or places at which the company's records and underlying documents are kept;
- (c) the name of the person who owns or controls the place or places at which the company's records and underlying documents are kept; and
- (d) the date the written undertaking under subsection (4)(c) was given to the registered agent.

(8) Whenever required to do so by the Commission or any other competent authority in Anguilla, the registered agent shall request and obtain from the international business company, the records and underlying documents in respect of the international business company.



(9) A company shall keep—

(a) minutes of all meetings of—

- (i) directors;
- (ii) members/shareholders;
- (iii) committees of directors;
- (iv) committees of officers; and
- (v) committees of shareholders;

(b) copies of all resolutions consented to by—

- (i) directors;
- (ii) members/shareholders;
- (iii) committees of directors;
- (iv) committees of officers; and
- (v) committees of shareholders; and

(c) the articles and the by-laws and all amendments to them.

[(10) The articles and the by-laws of an international business company, and all amendments thereto, must be kept at the registered office of the company.]

(11) An international business company shall have a common seal and an imprint of it shall be kept at the registered office of the company.

(12) For the purposes of this section “business relationship” means a continuing arrangement between a company and one or more persons with whom the company engages in business, whether on a one-off, regular or habitual basis. ]

(13) A company that contravenes this section commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$10,000.

### **Form of records**

**89.** The records required to be kept by a company under this Act shall be kept—

- (a) in paper form; or
- (b) either wholly or partly as electronic records complying with the requirements of the Electronic Transactions Act.

### **Inspection of records**

**90.** (1) A director of a company is entitled, on giving reasonable notice, to inspect the

documents and records of the company without charge; and at a reasonable time specified by the director, and to make copies of or take extracts from the documents and records.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), a member of a company is entitled, on giving written notice to the company, to inspect—

- (a) the articles and by-laws;
- (b) the register of members;
- (c) the register of directors; and
- (d) minutes of meetings and resolutions of members and of those classes of members of which he is a member,

and to make copies of or take extracts from the documents and records.

(3) Subject to the articles and by-laws, the directors may, if they are satisfied that it would be contrary to the company's interests to allow a member to inspect any document, or part of a document, specified in subsection (2)(b), (c) or (d), refuse to permit the member to inspect the document or limit the inspection of the document, including limiting the making of copies or the taking of extracts from the records.

(4) The directors shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, notify a member of any exercise of their powers under subsection (3).

(5) Where a company fails or refuses to permit a member to inspect a document or permits a member to inspect a document subject to limitations, that member may apply to the Court for an order that he should be permitted to inspect the document or to inspect the document without limitation.

(6) On an application under subsection (5), the Court may make such order as it considers just.

### **Service of process, etc. on company**

**91.** (1) Service of a document may be effected on a company by addressing the document to the company and leaving it at, or sending it by a prescribed method to—

- (a) the company's registered office; or
- (b) the office of the company's registered agent.

(2) The Regulations may provide for the methods by which service of a document on a company may be proved.

## **Books, records and common seal**

**92.** (1) A company shall keep—

- (a) minutes of all meetings of—
  - (i) directors;
  - (ii) members;
  - (iii) committees of directors, and
  - (iv) committees of members; and
- (b) copies of all resolutions consented to by—
  - (i) directors;
  - (ii) members;
  - (iii) committees of directors, and
  - (iv) committees of members.

(2) A company may have a common seal and an imprint of the seal shall be kept at the office of the registered agent of the company.

## **Offence for failure to keep proper books and records under section 92**

**93.** A company that willfully any provision of section 92 contravenes this section commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$10,000.

## **Division 3 – General Provisions**

### **Contracts and smart contracts**

**94.** (1) A contract may be entered into by a company as follows—

- (a) a contract that, if entered into by an individual, would be required by law to be in writing and under seal, may be entered into by or on behalf of the company in writing under the common seal of the company, and may be varied or discharged in the same manner;
- (b) a contract that, if entered into by an individual, would be required by law to be

in writing and signed, may be entered into by or on behalf of the company in writing and signed by a person acting under the express or implied authority of the company, and may be varied or discharged in the same manner; and

- (c) a contract that, if entered into by an individual, would be valid although entered into orally, and not reduced to writing, may be entered into orally by or on behalf of the company by a person acting under the express or implied authority of the company, and may be varied or discharged in the same manner.

(2) A contract entered into in accordance with this section is valid and is binding on the company and its successors and all other parties to the contract.

(3) Without affecting subsection (1)(a), a contract, agreement or other instrument executed by or on behalf of a company by a director or an authorised agent of the company is not invalid by reason only of the fact that the common seal of the company is not affixed to the contract, agreement or instrument.

(4) Notwithstanding subsection (1)(a), an instrument is validly executed by a company as a deed or an instrument under seal if it is either—

- (a) sealed with the common seal of the company and witnessed by a director of the company or such other person who is authorised by the articles and by-laws to witness the application of the company's seal; or
- (b) it is expressed to be, or is expressed to be executed as, or otherwise makes clear on its face that it is intended to be, a deed and it is signed by a director or by a person acting under the express or implied authority of the company.

(5) The provisions of subsection (3) shall be without prejudice to the validity of any instrument under seal validly executed before, on or after the date on which this section comes into force.

(6) A contract may be entered into by the company by electronic means, which can be self-executing and legally enforceable upon the occurrence of specified conditions; and such contract shall have effect as if it were made under subsection (1).

### **Contracts before incorporation**

**95.** (1) A person who enters into a written contract in the name of or on behalf of a company before the company is incorporated, is personally bound by the contract and is entitled to the benefits of the contract, except where—

- (a) the contract specifically provides otherwise; or

- (b) subject to any provisions of the contract to the contrary, the company adopts the contract under subsection (2).

(2) A company may, by any action or conduct signifying its intention to be bound by a written contract entered into in its name or on its behalf before it was incorporated, adopt the contract within such period as may be specified in the contract or, if no period is specified, within a reasonable period after the company's incorporation.

(3) When a company adopts a contract under subsection (2)—

- (a) the company is bound by, and entitled to the benefits of, the contract as if the company had been incorporated at the date of the contract and had been a party to it; and
- (b) subject to any provisions of the contract to the contrary, the person who acted in the name of or on behalf of the company ceases to be bound by or entitled to the benefits of the contract.

### **Notes and bills of exchange**

**96.** A promissory note or bill of exchange shall be deemed to have been made, accepted or endorsed by a company if it is made, accepted or endorsed in the name of the company—

- (a) by or on behalf or on account of the company; or
- (b) by a person acting under the express or implied authority of the company;

and if so endorsed, the person signing the endorsement is not liable thereon.

### **Power of attorney**

**97.** (1) Subject to its articles and by-laws, a company may, by an instrument in writing, appoint a person as its attorney either generally or in relation to a specific matter.

(2) An act of an attorney appointed under subsection (1) in accordance with the instrument under which he was appointed binds the company.

(3) An instrument appointing an attorney under subsection (1) may either be—

- (a) executed as a deed; or
- (b) signed by a person acting under the express or implied authority of the company.

### **Authentication or attestation**

**98.** A document requiring authentication or attestation by a company may be signed by a director, a secretary or by an authorised agent of the company, and need not be under its common seal.

### **Company without members**

**99.** If at any time there is no member of a company, any person doing business in the name of or on behalf of the company is personally liable for the payment of all debts of the company contracted during the time and the person may be sued for the debts without joinder in the proceedings of any other person.

## **PART VI**

### **DIRECTORS**

#### **Division 1 – Management by Directors**

#### **Management by Directors**

**100.** (1) The directors of a company have all the powers necessary for managing, and for directing and supervising, the business and affairs of the company.

(2) Subsection (1) is subject to any modifications or limitations in a company's articles or by-laws.

(3) Subject to subsection (4), a company shall, at all times, have one or more directors.

(4) Subsection (3) does not apply during the period between the incorporation of the company and the appointment of the first directors by the registered agent under section 104(1).

(5) Subject to subsection (3), the number of directors of a company may be fixed by, or in the manner provided in, the articles of the company.

(6) If at any time a company does not have a director, any person who manages, or who directs or supervises the management of, the business and affairs of the company is deemed to be a director of the company for the purposes of this Act.

#### **Committees of directors**

**101.** (1) Subject to the articles and by-laws and to subsection (2), the directors may—

(a) designate one or more committees of directors, each consisting of one or more directors; and

(b) delegate any one or more of their powers, including the power to affix the

common seal of the company, to the committee.

(2) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the articles or by-laws, the directors have no power to delegate the following powers to a committee of directors—

- (a) to amend the articles or by-laws;
- (b) to designate committees of directors;
- (c) to delegate powers to a committee of directors;
- (d) to appoint or remove directors;
- (e) to appoint or remove an agent;
- (f) to approve a plan or merger, consolidation or arrangement;
- (g) to make a declaration of solvency for the purposes of section 216(1)(a) or approve a liquidation plan; or
- (h) to make a determination under section 56(1) that the company will, immediately after a proposed distribution, satisfy the solvency test.

(3) Subsection (2)(b) and (c) do not prevent a committee of directors, where authorised by the directors, from appointing a sub-committee and delegating powers exercisable by the committee to the sub-committee.

(4) Where the directors of a company delegate their powers to a committee of directors under subsection (1), they remain responsible for the exercise of that power by the committee, unless they believed on reasonable grounds that at all times before the exercise of the power that the committee would exercise the power in conformity with the duties imposed on directors of the company by this Act.

(5) The Regulations may amend subsection (2) by adding to the powers that the directors have no power to delegate to a committee of directors.

## **Division 2 – Appointment, Removal and Resignation of Directors**

### **Persons disqualified for appointment as director**

**102.** (1) The following are disqualified for appointment as the director of a company—

- (a) an individual who is under eighteen years of age;
- (b) an undischarged bankrupt under the bankruptcy laws of any country; and

- (c) a person who, in respect of a particular company, is disqualified by the articles or by-laws from being a director of the company.

(2) A person who acts as a director of a company whilst disqualified under subsection (1) is nevertheless deemed to be a director of the company for the purposes of any provision of this Act that imposes a duty or obligation on a director.

### **Consent to act as director**

**103.** A person shall not be appointed as the director of a company, or nominated as a reserve director, unless he has consented in writing to be a director or to be nominated as a reserve director.

### **Appointment of directors**

**104.** (1) The first registered agent of a company shall, upon the date of incorporation of the company, appoint one or more persons as the first directors of the company.

(2) Subsequent directors of a company may be appointed—

(a) unless the articles or by-laws provide otherwise, by the members; or

(b) where permitted by the articles or by-laws, by the directors.

(3) A director is appointed for such term as may be specified in the resolution appointing him.

(4) Unless the articles or by-laws of a company provide otherwise, the directors of a company may appoint one or more directors to fill a vacancy on the board.

(5) For the purposes of subsection (4) —

(a) there is a vacancy on the board if a director dies or otherwise ceases to hold office as a director prior to the expiration of his term of office; and

(b) the directors may not appoint a director for a term exceeding the term that remained when the person who has ceased to be a director left or otherwise ceased to hold office.

(6) A director holds office until his successor takes office or until his earlier death, resignation or removal.

(7) Where a company has only one member who is an individual and that member is also the sole director of the company, notwithstanding anything contained in the articles or by-laws, that sole member/director may, by instrument in writing, nominate a person who is not disqualified from being a director of the company under section 102(1) as a reserve director of the company to act in the place of the sole director in the event of his death.



(8) The nomination of a person as a reserve director of the company ceases to have effect if—

- (a) before the death of the sole member or director (as the case may be) who nominated him—
  - (i) he resigns as reserve director, or
  - (ii) the sole member/director revokes the nomination in writing; or
- (b) the sole member/director who nominated him ceases to be the sole member/director of the company for any reason other than his death.

### **Removal of directors**

**105.** (1) Subject to the articles or by-laws of a company, a director of the company may be removed from office by resolution of the members of the company.

(2) Subject to the articles and by-laws, a resolution under subsection (1) may only be passed—

- (a) at a meeting of the members called for the purpose of removing the director or for purposes including the removal of the director; or
- (b) by a written resolution passed by at least seventy five per cent of the members of the company entitled to vote.

(3) The notice of a meeting called under subsection (2)(a) shall state that the purpose of the meeting is, or the purposes of the meeting include, the removal of a director.

(4) Where permitted by the articles or by-laws of a company, a director of the company may be removed from office by a resolution of the directors.

(5) Subject to the articles and by-laws, subsections (2) and (3) apply to a resolution of directors passed under subsection (4) with the substitution, in subsection (3), of “directors” for “members”.

### **Resignation of director**

**106.** (1) A director of a company may resign his office by giving written notice of his resignation to the company and the resignation has effect from the date the notice is received by the company or from such later date as may be specified in the notice.

(2) A director of a company shall resign forthwith if he is, or becomes, disqualified to act as a director under section 102.

### **Liability of former directors**

**107.** A director who vacates office remains liable under any provisions of this Act that impose liabilities on a director in respect of any acts or omissions or decisions made whilst he was a director.

### **Validity of acts of director**

**108.** The acts of a person as a director are valid notwithstanding that—

- (a) the person's appointment as a director was defective; or
- (b) the person is disqualified to act as a director under section 102.

### **Register of directors**

**109.** (1) A company shall keep a register to be known as a register of directors containing—

- (a) the names and addresses of the persons who are directors of the company or who have been nominated as reserve directors of the company;
- (b) the date on which each person whose name is entered in the register was appointed as a director, or nominated as a reserve director, of the company;
- (c) the date on which each person named as a director ceased to be a director of the company;
- (d) the date on which the nomination of any person nominated as a reserve director ceased to have effect; and
- (e) such other information as may be prescribed.

(2) The register of directors may be in such form as the directors approve, but if it is in magnetic, electronic or other data storage form, the company must be able to produce legible evidence of its contents.

(3) The register of directors is *prima facie* evidence of any matters directed or authorised by this Act to be contained therein.

### **Annual return for unlimited company not authorised to issue shares**

**110.** (1) An unlimited company that is not authorised to issue shares shall, on or before 31 March of each year, file an annual return in the approved form of its directors made up to 31 December of the previous year.

(2) An annual return filed under subsection (1) shall be certified as correct by a director of the company or by its registered agent.

### **Emoluments of directors**

**111.** Subject to the articles or by-laws of a company, the directors of the company may fix the emoluments of directors in respect of services to be rendered in any capacity to the company.

## **Division 3 – Duties of Directors and Conflicts**

### **Duties of directors**

**112.** (1) Subject to this section, a director of a company, in exercising his powers or performing his duties, shall act honestly and in good faith and in what the director believes to be in the best interests of the company.

(2) A director of a company that is a wholly-owned subsidiary may, when exercising powers or performing duties as a director, if expressly permitted to do so by the articles or by-laws of the company, act in a manner which he believes is in the best interests of that company's holding company even though it may not be in the best interests of the company.

(3) A director of a company that is a subsidiary, but not a wholly-owned subsidiary, may, when exercising powers or performing duties as a director, if expressly permitted to do so by the articles or by-laws of the company and with the prior agreement of the shareholders, other than its holding company, act in a manner which he believes is in the best interests of that company's holding company even though it may not be in the best interests of the company.

(4) A director of a company that is carrying out a joint venture between the shareholders may, when exercising powers or performing duties as a director in connection with the carrying out of the joint venture, if expressly permitted to do so by the articles or by-laws of the company, act in a manner which he believes is in the best interests of a shareholder or shareholders, even though it may not be in the best interests of the company.

### **Powers to be exercised for proper purpose**

**113.** A director shall exercise his powers as a director for a proper purpose and shall not act, or agree to the company acting, in a manner that contravenes this Act or the articles or by-laws of the company.

### **Standard of care**

**114.** A director of a company, when exercising powers or performing duties as a director, shall exercise the care, diligence, and skill that a reasonable director would exercise in the same circumstances taking into account, but without limitation—

- (a) the nature of the company;

(b) the nature of the decision; and

(c) the position of the director and the nature of the responsibilities undertaken by him.

### **Reliance on records and reports**

**115.** (1) Subject to subsection (2), a director of a company, when exercising his powers or performing his duties as a director, is entitled to rely upon the register of members and upon books, records, financial statements and other information prepared or supplied, and on professional or expert advice given, by—

(a) an employee of the company whom the director believes on reasonable grounds to be reliable and competent in relation to the matters concerned;

(b) a professional adviser or expert in relation to matters which the director believes on reasonable grounds to be within the person's professional or expert competence; and

(c) any other director, or committee of directors upon which the director did not serve, in relation to matters within the director's or committee's designated authority.

(2) Subsection (1) applies only if the director—

(a) acts in good faith;

(b) makes proper inquiry where the need for the inquiry is indicated by the circumstances; and

(c) has no knowledge that his reliance on the register of members or the books, records, financial statements and other information or expert advice is not warranted.

### **Disclosure of interest**

**116.** (1) A director of a company shall, forthwith after becoming aware of the fact that he is interested in a transaction entered into or to be entered into by the company, disclose the interest to the board of the company.

(2) The Regulations may prescribe circumstances in which a director is interested in a transaction for the purposes of this section and section 117 and such circumstances may include a director's relationship with another person who will or may obtain a benefit from the transaction.

(3) A director of a company is not required to comply with subsection (1) if—

(a) the transaction or proposed transaction is between the director and the

company; and

- (b) the transaction or proposed transaction is or is to be entered into in the ordinary course of the company's business and on usual terms and conditions.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (1), a disclosure to the board to the effect that a director is a member, director, officer or trustee of another named company or other person and is to be regarded as interested in any transaction which may, after the date of the entry or disclosure, be entered into with that company or person, is a sufficient disclosure of interest in relation to that transaction.

(5) Subject to section 117(1), the failure by a director to comply with subsection (1) does not affect the validity of a transaction entered into by the director or the company.

(6) For the purposes of subsection (1), a disclosure is not made to the board unless it is made or brought to the attention of every director on the board.

(7) A director who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$10,000.

#### **Avoidance by company of transactions in which director is interested**

**117.** (1) Subject to this section, a transaction entered into by a company in respect of which a director is interested is voidable by the company unless the director's interest was—

- (a) disclosed to the board in accordance with section 116 prior to the company entering into the transaction; or
- (b) not required to be disclosed by virtue of section 126.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a transaction entered into by a company in respect of which a director is interested is not voidable by the company if—

- (a) the material facts of the interest of the director in the transaction are known by the members entitled to vote at a meeting of members and the transaction is approved or ratified by a resolution of members; or
- (b) the company received fair value for the transaction.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2), a determination as to whether a company receives fair value for a transaction shall be made on the basis of the information known to the company and the interested director at the time that the transaction was entered into.

(4) Subject to the articles or by-laws, a director of a company who is interested in a transaction entered into or to be entered into by the company may—

- (a) vote on a matter relating to the transaction;
- (b) attend a meeting of directors at which a matter relating to the transaction arises and be included among the directors present at the meeting for the purposes of a quorum; and
- (c) sign a document on behalf of the company, or do any other thing in his capacity as a director, that relates to the transaction.

(5) The avoidance of a transaction under subsection (1) does not affect the title or interest of a person in or to property which that person has acquired if the property was acquired—

- (a) from a person other than the company (“the transferor”);
- (b) for valuable consideration; and
- (c) without knowledge of the circumstances of the transaction under which the transferor acquired the property from the company.

#### **Division 4 – Proceedings of Directors and Miscellaneous Provisions**

##### **Meetings of directors**

**118.** (1) Subject to the articles or by-laws of a company, the directors of a company may meet at such times and in such manner and places within or outside Anguilla as they may determine to be necessary or desirable.

(2) Subject to the articles and by-laws, any one or more directors may convene a meeting of directors.

(3) A director shall be deemed to be present at a meeting of directors if—

- (a) he participates by telephone or any electronic audio or audio visual means; and
- (b) all directors participating in the meeting are able to hear each other.

##### **Notice of meetings of directors**

**119.** (1) Subject to any requirements as to notice in the articles or by-laws, a director shall be given not less than one day’s notice of a meeting of directors.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), subject to the articles or by-laws, a meeting of directors held in contravention of that subsection is valid if all of the directors, or such majority thereof as may be specified in the articles or by-laws entitled to vote at the meeting, have waived the notice of the meeting; and, for this purpose, the presence of a director at the meeting shall be deemed to constitute waiver on his part.

(3) The inadvertent failure to give notice of a meeting to a director, or the fact that a director has not received the notice, does not invalidate the meeting.

### **Quorum for meetings of directors**

**120.** The quorum for a meeting of directors is that fixed by the articles or by-laws but, where no quorum is so fixed, a meeting of directors is properly constituted for all purposes if at the commencement of the meeting one half of the total number of directors are present in person or by alternate.

### **Consents of directors**

**121.** (1) Subject to the articles or by-laws, an action that may be taken by the directors or a committee of directors at a meeting may also be taken by a resolution of directors or a committee of directors consented to in writing including any electronic communication.

(2) A resolution under subsection (1) may consist of several documents, including written electronic communications, in like form each signed or assented to by one or more directors.

(3) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), Regulations may prescribe alternative means of the communication in relation to recording the consent of directors under this section.

### **Alternates for directors**

**122.** (1) Subject to the articles or by-laws of a company, a director of the company may, by a written instrument, appoint an alternate who need not be a director.

(2) An alternate for a director appointed under subsection (1) is entitled to attend meetings in the absence of the director who appointed him and to vote in the place of the director.

### **Agents**

**123.** (1) The directors may appoint any person, including a person who is a director, to be an agent of the company.

(2) Subject to the articles or by-laws of a company, an agent of the company has such powers and authority of the directors, including the power and authority to affix the common seal of the company, as are set forth in the articles or in the resolution of directors appointing the agent, except that no agent has any power or authority with respect to the following—

(a) to amend the articles or by-laws ;

(b) to change the registered office or agent;

- (c) to designate committees of directors;
- (d) to delegate powers to a committee of directors;
- (e) to appoint or remove directors;
- (f) to appoint or remove an agent;
- (g) to fix emoluments of directors;
- (h) to approve a plan of merger, consolidation or arrangement;
- (i) to make a declaration of solvency for the purposes of section 216(1)(a) or to approve a liquidation plan;
- (j) to make a determination under section 56(1) that the company will, immediately after a proposed distribution, satisfy the solvency test; or
- (k) to authorise the company to continue as a company incorporated under the laws of a jurisdiction outside Anguilla.

(3) Where the directors appoint any person to be an agent of the company, they may authorise the agent to appoint one or more substitutes or delegates to exercise some or all of the powers conferred on the agent by the company.

(4) The directors may remove an agent, appointed under subsection (1) and may revoke or vary a power conferred on him under subsection (2).

### **Indemnification**

**124.** (1) Subject to subsection (2) and its articles or by-laws, a company may indemnify against all expenses, including legal fees, and against all judgements, fines and amounts paid in settlement and reasonably incurred in connection with legal, administrative or investigative proceedings any person who—

- (a) is or was a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed proceedings, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director of the company; or
- (b) is or was, at the request of the company, serving as a director of, or in any other capacity is or was acting for, another body corporate or a partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a person referred to in that subsection unless the person acted honestly and in good faith and in what he believed to be in the best interests of the



company and, in the case of criminal proceedings, the person had no reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2), a director acts in the best interests of the company if he acts in the best interests of—

- (a) the company's holding company; or
- (b) a shareholder or shareholders of the company;

in either case, in the circumstances specified in section 112 (2), (3) or (4), as the case may be.

(4) The termination of any proceedings by any judgement, order, settlement, conviction or the entering of a *nolle prosequi* does not, by itself, create a presumption that the person did not act honestly and in good faith and with a view to the best interests of the company or that the person had reasonable cause to believe that his conduct was unlawful.

(5) Expenses, including legal fees, incurred by a director or officer in defending any legal, administrative or investigative proceedings may be paid by the company in advance of the final disposition of such proceedings upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the director to repay the amount if it shall ultimately be determined that the director is not entitled to be indemnified by the company in accordance with subsection (1).

(6) Expenses, including legal fees, incurred by a former director or former officer in defending any legal, administrative or investigative proceedings may be paid by the company in advance of the final disposition of such proceedings upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the former director to repay the amount if it shall ultimately be determined that the former director is not entitled to be indemnified by the company in accordance with subsection (1) and upon such other terms and conditions, if any, as the company deems appropriate.

(7) The indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, this section is not exclusive of any other rights to which the person seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses may be entitled under any agreement, resolution of members, resolution of disinterested directors or otherwise, both as to acting in the person's official capacity and as to acting in another capacity while serving as a director of the company.

(8) If a person referred to in subsection (1) has been successful in defence of any proceedings referred to in subsection (1), the person is entitled to be indemnified against all expenses, including legal fees, and against all judgements, fines and amounts paid in settlement and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with the proceedings.

(9) A company shall not indemnify a person in breach of subsection (2) and any indemnity given in breach of that section is void and of no effect.

## **Insurance**

**125.** A company may purchase and maintain insurance in relation to any person who is or was a director of the company, or who at the request of the company is or was serving as a director of, or in any other capacity is or was acting for, another body corporate or a partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against any liability asserted against the person and incurred by the person in that capacity, whether or not the company has or would have had the power to indemnify the person against the liability under section 124.

## **PART VII**

### **EXEMPTED COMPANIES**

#### **Companies that may apply to be registered as exempted companies**

**126.** Any proposed company applying for registration under this Act, the objects of which are to be carried out mainly outside the jurisdiction or pursuant to a licence to carry on business in the jurisdiction to which section 135 refers, may apply to be registered as an exempted company.

#### **Registration of exempted companies**

**127.** On being satisfied that the requirements of this Part have been complied with, the Registrar shall register the company as an exempted company.

#### **Declaration by proposed company**

**128.** A proposed exempted company applying for registration as an exempted company shall submit to the Registrar a declaration signed by a subscriber to the effect that the operation of the proposed exempted company will be conducted mainly outside the jurisdiction or pursuant to a licence to carry on business in the jurisdiction to which section [re prohibited enterprises] refers.

#### **Shares shall be non-negotiable**

**129.** The shares of an exempted company shall be non-negotiable and shall be transferred only on the books of the company.

#### **Annual return**

**130.** In January of each year after the year of its registration each exempted company that does not hold a licence to carry on business in the jurisdiction to which section [re prohibited enterprises] refers shall furnish to the Registrar a return which shall be in the form of a declaration that —

- (a) since the previous return or since registration, as the case may be, there has been no alteration in the articles of association, other than an alteration in the name of the company effected in accordance with section [ ] or an alteration already reported in accordance with section [ ];

- (b) the operations of the exempted company since the last return or since registration of the exempted company, as the case may be, have been mainly outside the jurisdiction; and
- (c) section 135 has been and is being complied with.

### **Annual fee**

- 131.** (1) Every exempted company shall, in January of each year after the year of its registration, pay to the revenues of the jurisdiction the annual fee as prescribes.
- (2) Each such annual fee referred to in subsection (1) shall be tendered with the annual return required under this Part.
  - (3) An exempted company who defaults in submitting its annual return under this Part or the fee referred to in subsection (1) shall incur a penalty of —
    - (a) 33.33% of the annual fee specified in subsection (1) if the return is submitted or the fee and penalty are paid between the 1st April and the 30th June;
    - (b) 66.67% of the annual fee specified in subsection (1) if the return is submitted or the fee and penalty are paid between the 1st July and the 30th September; and
    - (c) 100% of the annual fee specified in subsection (1) if the return is submitted or the fee and penalty are paid between the 1st October and the 31st December.

### **Failure to submit annual fee or annual return**

**132** (1) Any exempted company which fails to comply with section [ ] or [ ] shall be deemed to be a defunct company and shall thereupon be dealt with as such under [Part ] but without prejudice to its being registered again as though it were being registered for the first time.

(2) Before taking action under subsection 1, the Registrar shall give one month's notice to the defaulting company and, if the default is made good before the expiry of such notice, sections [ ] and shall be deemed to have been complied with.

### **False statement in declaration**

**133.** If any declaration contains any wilful false statement or misrepresentation the company shall, on proof thereof, be liable to be immediately dissolved and removed from the register and in such case any fee tendered shall be forfeited to the Minister charged with responsibility for Finance for credit to the general revenue.

#### **Penalty for false declaration**

**134.** Every director and officer of a company who knowingly makes or permits the making of any such declaration knowing it to be false commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five thousand dollars and to imprisonment for a term of one year, or to both.

#### **Prohibited enterprises**

**135.** (1) An exempted company shall not carry on a trade or business in the jurisdiction with any person, except in furtherance of the business of the exempted company carried on outside of the jurisdiction, unless that exempted company holds a licence to carry on business in the jurisdiction under any applicable law.

(2) Nothing in this section shall be construed so as to prevent an exempted company effecting and concluding contracts in the jurisdiction and exercising in the jurisdiction all its powers necessary for the carrying on of its business outside the jurisdiction.

(3) An exempted company that holds a licence to carry on business in the jurisdiction under any applicable law, shall from the date of issue of such licence, continue for all purposes as if incorporated and registered as an ordinary resident company under and subject to this Act the provisions of which shall apply to the company and to persons and matters associated with the company as if the company were incorporated and registered under this Act except as otherwise provided in this Act.

#### **Prohibited sale of securities**

**136.** An exempted company that is not listed on the national Stock Exchange is prohibited from making any invitation to the public in the jurisdiction to subscribe for any of its securities.

## **Penalty for carrying on business contrary to this Part**

**137.** If an exempted company carries on any business in the jurisdiction in contravention of this Part then, without prejudice to any other proceedings that may be taken in respect of the contravention, the exempted company and every director, provisional director and officer of the exempted company who is responsible for the contravention commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one hundred dollars for every day during which the contravention occurs or continues, and the exempted company shall be liable to be immediately dissolved and removed from the register.

## **Electronic business by exempted companies**

**138.** Nothing in this Act shall prohibit an exempted company from offering, by electronic means, and subsequently supplying, real or personal property, services or information from a place of business in the jurisdiction or through an internet service provider or other electronic service provider located in the jurisdiction.

## **PART VIII**

### **PRIVATE TRUST COMPANIES**

SECOND DRAFT

## **Interpretation for this Part**

**139.** For the purposes of this section —

**“connected trust business”** means trust business in respect of trusts of which there is one or more than one contributor to the funds of which are all, in relation to each other, connected persons; and a person is a **“connected person”**, in relation to another person, where —

- (a) they are in a relationship prescribed by regulations made under this Part;
- (b) one is contributing to the funds of a trust as the trustee of a trust of which the other is a contributor;
- (c) each is in a group of companies; or
- (d) one is a company and the other is a beneficial owner of shares or other ownership interests of that company or of any other company in the same group of companies;

**“private trust company”** or **“PTC”** means a trust company which —

- (a) is incorporated in Anguilla; and

- (b) conducts no trust business other than connected trust business or unremunerated trust business; and

[“unremunerated trust business” requires that—

- (a) payments made to the PTC are only in respect of costs and expenses incurred in acting as trustee (or protector) of a trust, where the PTC is not permitted to make a profit;
- (b) only “professional directors” are remunerated for providing director services and such directors may not own shares in the PTC; and
- (c) no person “associated” with the PTC is remunerated in consideration of services provided by the PTC which constitute “related trust business” and “associated” means that the person has a legal or beneficial interest in the PTC, is a director or former director of the PTC (excluding professional directors) or is an employee or former employee of the PTC.]

### **No requirement for licence for private trust companies**

**140.** A private trust company does not require a licence to carry on connected trust business or unremunerated trust business.

### **Regulations to prescribe matters for private trust companies**

**141.** The Regulations may prescribe matters, information, particulars, and requirements for the registering and maintenance of private trust companies.

## **PART IX**

### **SEGREGATED PORTFOLIO COMPANIES**

#### **Interpretation for this Part**

**142.** (1) In this Part—

“general assets” of a segregated portfolio company has the meaning specified in section 151(3);

“portfolio liquidator” means the person appointed as portfolio liquidator under a portfolio liquidation order;

“portfolio liquidation order” means an order made under section 160;

“segregated portfolio” means a segregated portfolio created by a segregated

portfolio company under section 143 for the purpose of segregating the assets and liabilities of the company in accordance with this Part;

“segregated portfolio assets” has the meaning specified in section 151(2);  
and

“segregated portfolio distribution” means a distribution made in respect of segregated portfolio shares and “segregated portfolio dividend” shall be construed accordingly;

(2) This Act applies to a segregated portfolio company subject to the provisions of this Part and to such modifications as are necessary.

### **Division 1 – Approval and Registration**

#### **Incorporation or registration as segregated portfolio company**

**143.** (1) A company limited by shares may, with the written approval of the Commission given under subsection (2)—

- (a) be incorporated as a segregated portfolio company; or
- (b) if it has already been incorporated, be registered by the Registrar as a segregated portfolio company.

(2) The Commission may give its written approval to the incorporation of a company, or the registration of an existing company, as a segregated portfolio company only if the company—

- (a) is, or on its incorporation will be, recognised as a professional or private fund or registered as a public fund under the Mutual Funds Act R.S.A c. M107, or
- (b) is, or on its incorporation will be, of such class or description as may be prescribed by the Regulations.

(3) The Registrar shall not incorporate or register a company as a segregated portfolio company unless the Commission has given its written approval under subsection (1).

#### **Application for approval of Commission**

**144.** (1) An application for approval to incorporate or register a company as a segregated portfolio company shall be made to the Commission in the approved form and shall be accompanied by such documentation as may be prescribed or notified by the Registrar.

(2) The Commission may require an applicant under subsection (1) to furnish it with such other documentation and information as it considers necessary to determine the application.

### **Commission may approve application**

**145.** (1) On receipt of an application under section 144, if it is satisfied that the company has, or has available to it, the knowledge and expertise necessary for the proper management of segregated portfolios, the Commission may give its approval to the incorporation or registration of a company as a segregated portfolio company subject to such conditions as it considers appropriate.

(2) The Commission may, at any time—

(a) vary or revoke any condition subject to which an approval under subsection (1) was given; and

(b) impose any condition in respect of any such approval.

## **Division 2 - Attributes and Requirements of Segregated Portfolio Companies**

### **Segregated portfolios**

**146.** (1) Subject to subsection (4), a segregated portfolio company may create one or more segregated portfolios for the purpose of segregating the assets and liabilities of the company held within, or on behalf, of a segregated portfolio from the assets and liabilities of the company held within, or on behalf of, any other segregated portfolio of the company or the assets and liabilities of the company which are not held within, or on behalf of, any segregated portfolio of the company.

(2) A segregated portfolio company is a single legal entity and a segregated portfolio of or within a segregated portfolio company does not constitute a legal entity separate from the company.

(3) Each segregated portfolio shall be separately identified or designated and shall include in such identification or designation the words “Segregated Portfolio”.

(4) Where pursuant to the Regulations made under this Act, a segregated portfolio company is required to obtain the approval of the Commission for the creation of a segregated portfolio, the company shall not create a segregated portfolio unless it has obtained the prior written approval of the Commission.

(5) A segregated portfolio company that contravenes subsection (4) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$10,000.

### **Segregated portfolio shares**



**147.** (1) A segregated portfolio company may, in respect of a segregated portfolio, issue shares, the proceeds of which shall be included in the segregated portfolio assets of the segregated portfolio in respect of which the segregated portfolio shares are issued.

(2) Segregated portfolio shares may be issued in one or more classes and a class of segregated portfolio shares may be issued in one or more series.

(3) Notwithstanding section 8(1)(e), the articles of a segregated portfolio company is not required to state the classes of segregated portfolio shares that a segregated portfolio company is authorised to issue.

(4) Unless the context otherwise requires, references in Part III to shares include references to segregated portfolio shares.

### **General shares**

**148.** The proceeds of the issue of shares in a segregated portfolio company, other than segregated portfolio shares, shall be included in the company's general assets.

### **Segregated portfolio distributions and dividends**

**149.** (1) Subject to this section, a segregated portfolio company may pay a dividend or otherwise make a distribution in respect of segregated portfolio shares.

(2) Segregated portfolio dividends may be paid, and segregated portfolio distributions made, by reference only to the segregated portfolio assets and liabilities attributable to the segregated portfolio in respect of which the segregated portfolio shares were issued.

(3) In determining whether a segregated portfolio company satisfies the solvency test for the purposes of section 57, in respect of a segregated portfolio distribution, no account shall be taken of—

- (a) the assets and liabilities of or attributable to any other segregated portfolio of the company; or
- (b) the company's general assets and liabilities.

(4) The Regulations may prescribe restrictions on the power of a segregated portfolio company to make distributions, including segregated portfolio distributions, where the company or any segregated portfolio of or within the company does not satisfy the solvency test.

### **Company to act on behalf of portfolios**

**150.** Any act, matter, deed, agreement, contract, instrument under seal or other instrument or arrangement which is to be binding on, or to ensure to the benefit of, a segregated portfolio or

portfolios shall be executed by the segregated portfolio company for, and on behalf of, such segregated portfolio or portfolios which shall be identified or specified and, where in writing, it shall be indicated that such execution is in the name of, or by, or for the account of, such segregated portfolio or portfolios.

## Assets

**151.** (1) The assets of a segregated portfolio company shall be either segregated portfolio assets or general assets.

(2) The segregated portfolio assets comprise the assets of the segregated portfolio company held within or on behalf of the segregated portfolios of the company.

(3) The general assets of a segregated portfolio company comprise the assets of the company which are not segregated portfolio assets.

(4) The assets of a segregated portfolio comprise—

(a) assets representing the consideration paid or payable for the issue of segregated portfolio shares and reserves attributable to the segregated portfolio; and

(b) all other assets attributable to, or held within, the segregated portfolio.

(5) It shall be the duty of the directors of a segregated portfolio company to establish and maintain (or cause to be established and maintained) procedures—

(a) to segregate, and keep segregated, segregated portfolio assets separate and separately identifiable from general assets;

(b) to segregate, and keep segregated, segregated portfolio assets of each segregated portfolio separate and separately identifiable from segregated portfolio assets of any other segregated portfolio; and

(6) Notwithstanding subsection (5), the directors of a segregated portfolio company may cause or permit segregated portfolio assets and general assets to be held—

(a) by or through a nominee; or

(b) by a company, the shares and capital interests of which may be segregated portfolio assets or general assets or a combination of both.

(7) The directors of a segregated portfolio company do not breach the duties imposed on them under subsection (5) by reason only that they cause or permit segregated portfolio assets or general assets, or a combination of both, to be collectively invested, or collectively managed by an investment manager, provided that the assets remain separately identifiable in accordance with subsection (5).

## **Creditors of a segregated portfolio company**

**152.** (1) The rights of creditors of a segregated portfolio company shall correspond with the liabilities provided for in section 155 and no creditor of a segregated portfolio company shall have any rights other than the rights specified in this section and in sections 154 and 155.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), the following terms shall be implied in every transaction entered into by a segregated portfolio company—

- (a) that no party shall seek, whether in any proceedings or by any other means whatsoever or wheresoever, to make or attempt to make liable any segregated portfolio assets attributable to any segregated portfolio of the company in respect of a liability not attributable to that segregated portfolio;
- (b) that if any party shall succeed by any means whatsoever or wheresoever in making liable any segregated portfolio assets attributable to any segregated portfolio of the company in respect of a liability not attributable to that segregated portfolio, that party shall be liable to the company to pay a sum equal to the value of the benefit thereby obtained by him; and
- (c) that if any party shall succeed in seizing or attaching by any means or otherwise levying execution against any segregated portfolio assets attributable to any segregated portfolio of the company in respect of a liability not attributable to that segregated portfolio, that party shall hold those assets or their proceeds on trust for the company and shall keep those assets or proceeds separate and identifiable as such trust property.

(3) Subsection (2) does not apply to the extent that it is excluded in writing.

(4) All sums recovered by a segregated portfolio company as a result of any trust referred to in subsection (2)(c) shall be credited against any concurrent liability imposed pursuant to the implied term set out in subsection (2)(b).

(5) Any asset or sum recovered by a segregated portfolio company pursuant to the implied term set out in subsection (2)(b) or (2)(c) or by any other means whatsoever or wheresoever in the events referred to in those subsections shall, after the deduction or payment of any costs of recovery, be applied by the company so as to compensate the segregated portfolio affected.

(6) In the event of any segregated portfolio assets attributable to a segregated portfolio of a segregated portfolio company being taken in execution in respect of a liability not attributable to that segregated portfolio, and in so far as such assets or compensation in respect thereof cannot otherwise be restored to the segregated portfolio affected, the company shall—

- (a) cause or procure its auditor, acting as expert and not as arbitrator, to certify the value of the assets lost to the segregated portfolio affected; and
- (b) transfer or pay, from the segregated portfolio assets or general assets to which the liability was attributable to the segregated portfolio affected, assets or sums sufficient to restore to the segregated portfolio affected the value of the assets lost.

(7) Where under subsection (6)(b) a segregated portfolio company is obliged to make a transfer or payment from segregated portfolio assets attributable to a segregated portfolio of the company, and those assets are insufficient, the company shall so far as possible make up the deficiency from its general assets.

- (8) This section shall have extra-territorial application.

### **Segregation of assets**

#### **153. Segregated portfolio assets—**

- (a) shall only be available and used to meet liabilities to the creditors of the segregated portfolio company who are creditors in respect of that segregated portfolio and who shall thereby be entitled to have recourse to the segregated portfolio assets attributable to that segregated portfolio for such purposes; and
- (b) shall not be available or used to meet liabilities to, and shall be absolutely protected from, the creditors of the segregated portfolio company who are not creditors in respect of that segregated portfolio, and who accordingly shall not be entitled to have recourse to the segregated portfolio assets attributable to that segregated portfolio.

### **Segregation of liabilities**

#### **154. (1) Where a liability of a segregated portfolio company to a person arises from a matter, or is otherwise imposed, in respect of or attributable to a particular segregated portfolio—**

- (a) such liability shall extend only to, and that person shall, in respect of that liability, be entitled to have recourse only to—
  - (i) firstly the segregated portfolio assets attributable to such segregated portfolio;
  - (ii) secondly the segregated portfolio company's general assets, to the extent that the segregated portfolio assets attributable to such segregated portfolio are insufficient to satisfy the liability and to the extent that the assets attributable to such segregated portfolio company's general assets exceed any minimum capital amounts lawfully required by the Commission; and

- (b) such liability shall not extend to, and that person shall not, in respect of that liability, be entitled to have recourse to, the segregated portfolio assets attributable to any other segregated portfolio.

(2) Where a liability of a segregated portfolio company to a person—

- (a) arises otherwise than from a matter in respect of a particular segregated portfolio or particular segregated portfolios; or
- (b) is imposed otherwise than in respect of a particular segregated portfolio or particular segregated portfolios,

such liability shall extend only to, and that person shall, in respect of that liability, be entitled to have recourse only to, the company's general assets.

### **General liabilities and assets**

**155.** (1) Liabilities of a segregated portfolio company not attributable to any of its segregated portfolios shall be discharged from the company's general assets.

(2) Income, receipts and other assets or rights of, or acquired by, a segregated portfolio company not otherwise attributable to any segregated portfolio shall be applied to and comprised in the company's general assets.

### **Financial statements**

**156.** The financial statements of a segregated portfolio company shall take into account the segregated nature of the company and shall include an explanation of—

- (a) the nature of the company;
- (b) how the segregation of the assets and liabilities of the company impacts upon members of the company and persons with whom the company transacts; and
- (c) the effect that any existing deficit in the assets of one or more segregated portfolios of the company has on the general assets of the company.

### **Limitation on transfer of segregated portfolio assets from segregated portfolio company**

**157.** (1) The segregated portfolio assets attributable to any segregated portfolio of a segregated portfolio company may only be transferred to another person in accordance with, or as permitted by, this section.

(2) A transfer, pursuant to subsection (1), of segregated portfolio assets attributable to

a segregated portfolio of a segregated portfolio company shall not, of itself, entitle creditors of that company to have recourse to the assets of the person to whom the segregated portfolio assets were transferred.

(3) Subject to subsections (8) and (9), no transfer of the segregated portfolio assets attributable to a segregated portfolio of a segregated portfolio company may be made except under the authority of, and in accordance with the terms and conditions of, an order of the Court under this section.

(4) The Court shall not make a segregated portfolio transfer order in relation to a segregated portfolio of a segregated portfolio company—

(a) unless it is satisfied—

(i) that the creditors of the company entitled to have recourse to the segregated portfolio assets attributable to the segregated portfolio consent to the transfer, or

(ii) that those creditors would not be unfairly prejudiced by the transfer; and

(b) without hearing the representations of the Commission on the matter.

(5) The Court, on hearing an application for a segregated portfolio transfer order, may—

(a) make an interim order or adjourn the hearing, conditionally or unconditionally; or

(b) dispense with any of the requirements of subsection (4)(a).

(6) The Court may attach such conditions as it thinks fit to a segregated portfolio transfer order, including conditions as to the discharging of claims of creditors entitled to have recourse to the segregated portfolio assets attributable to the segregated portfolio in relation to which the order is sought.

(7) The Court may make a segregated portfolio transfer order in relation to a segregated portfolio of a segregated portfolio company notwithstanding that—

(a) a voluntary liquidator has been appointed in respect of the company; or

(b) a portfolio liquidation order has been made in respect of the segregated portfolio or any other segregated portfolio of the company.

(8) The provisions of this section are without prejudice to any power of a segregated portfolio company lawfully to make payments or transfers from the segregated portfolio assets attributable to any segregated portfolio of the company to a person entitled, in conformity with the

provisions of this Act, to have recourse to those segregated portfolio assets.

(9) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a segregated portfolio company shall not require a segregated portfolio transfer order to invest, and change investment of, segregated portfolio assets or otherwise to make payments or transfers from segregated portfolio assets in the ordinary course of the company's business.

(10) Section 175 shall not apply to a transfer of segregated portfolio assets attributable to a segregated portfolio of a segregated portfolio company made in compliance with this section.

### **Division 3 – Liquidation, Portfolio Liquidation Orders and Administration**

#### **Meaning of “liquidator”**

**158.** In this Division, “liquidator” means a voluntary liquidator or a liquidator appointed under a liquidation order.

#### **Liquidation of segregated portfolio company**

**159.** Notwithstanding the provisions of Part XV, or any other statutory provision or rule of law to the contrary, in the liquidation of a segregated portfolio company, the liquidator—

- (a) shall be bound to deal with the company's assets in accordance with the requirements set out in section 155(5); and
- (b) in discharge of the claims of creditors of the segregated portfolio company shall apply the company's assets to those entitled to have recourse thereto in conformity with the provisions of this Part.

#### **Portfolio liquidation orders**

**160.** (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, if in relation to a segregated portfolio company the Court is satisfied—

- (a) that the segregated portfolio assets attributable to a particular segregate portfolio of the company (when account is taken of the company's general assets, unless there are no creditors in respect of that segregated portfolio entitled to have recourse to the company's general assets) are or are likely to be insufficient to discharge the claims of creditors in respect of that segregated portfolio; and
- (b) that the making of an order under this section would achieve the purposes set out in subsection (3);

the Court may make a portfolio liquidation order under this section in respect of that segregated

portfolio.

(2) A portfolio liquidation order may be made in respect of one or more segregated portfolios.

(3) A portfolio liquidation order is an order directing that the business and segregated portfolio assets of or attributable to a segregated portfolio shall be managed by a portfolio liquidator specified in the order for the purposes of—

- (a) the orderly closing down of the business of or attributable to the segregated portfolio; and
- (b) the distribution of the segregated portfolio assets attributable to the segregated portfolio to those entitled to have recourse thereto.

(4) Where the Court makes a portfolio liquidation order it shall, at the same time, appoint an insolvency practitioner to act as portfolio liquidator under the portfolio liquidation order.

(5) A portfolio liquidation order—

- (a) shall not be made if a liquidator is appointed in respect of the segregated portfolio company; and
- (b) shall cease to be of effect upon the appointment of a liquidator in respect of the segregated portfolio company, but without prejudice to the prior acts of the portfolio liquidator or his agents.

(6) The members of a segregated portfolio company shall not pass a resolution to appoint a liquidator of the company under Part XV if any segregated portfolio is subject to a portfolio liquidation order without the prior leave of the Court.

(7) Any resolution passed contrary to subsection (6) shall be void and of no effect.

### **Application for portfolio liquidation order**

**161.** (1) An application for a portfolio liquidation order in respect of a segregated portfolio of a segregated portfolio company may be made by—

- (a) the company;
- (b) the directors of the company;
- (c) any creditor of the company in respect of that segregated portfolio;
- (d) any holder of segregated portfolio shares in respect of that



segregated portfolio; or

(e) the Commission.

(2) Notice of an application to the Court for a portfolio liquidation order in respect of a segregated portfolio of a segregated portfolio company shall be served upon—

(a) the company;

(b) the Commission; and

(c) such other persons, if any, as the Court may direct,

each of whom shall be given an opportunity of making representations to the Court before the order is made.

(3) The Court, on hearing an application—

(a) for a portfolio liquidation order, or

(b) for leave, pursuant to section 160(7), to pass a resolution appointing a liquidator,

may, instead of making the order sought or dismissing the application, make an interim order or adjourn the hearing, conditionally or unconditionally.

(4) The Court may make a portfolio liquidation order subject to such terms and conditions as it considers appropriate.

### **Conduct of portfolio liquidation**

**162.** (1) The portfolio liquidator of a portfolio of a segregated portfolio company—

(a) may do all such things as may be necessary for the purposes set out in section 160(3); and

(b) shall have all the functions and powers of the directors in respect of the business and segregated portfolio assets of, or attributable to, the segregated portfolio.

(2) The portfolio liquidator may at any time apply to the Court—

(a) for directions as to the extent or exercise of any function or power;

(b) for the portfolio liquidation order to be discharged or varied; or

(c) for an order as to any matter arising in the course of the liquidation of the portfolio.

(3) In exercising his functions and powers the portfolio liquidator shall be deemed to act as agent of the segregated portfolio company, and shall not incur personal liability except to the extent that he is fraudulent, reckless, negligent, or acts in bad faith.

(4) Any person dealing with the portfolio liquidator in good faith is not concerned to inquire whether the portfolio liquidator is acting within his powers.

(5) When an application has been made for, and during the period of operation of, a portfolio liquidation order—

- (a) no proceedings may be instituted or continued by or against the segregated portfolio company in relation to the segregated portfolio in respect of which the portfolio liquidation order was made; and
- (b) for the portfolio liquidation order to be discharged or varied; or
- (c) no steps may be taken to enforce any security or in the execution of legal process in respect of the business or segregated portfolio assets of, or attributable to, the segregated portfolio in respect of which the portfolio liquidation order was made,

except by leave of the Court, which may be conditional or unconditional.

(6) During the period of operation of a portfolio liquidation order—

- (a) the powers, functions and duties of the directors in respect of the business of, or attributable to, and the segregated portfolio assets of or attributable to, the segregated portfolio in respect of which the order was made continue to the extent specified in this Part or in Regulations made under section 167 or to the extent that the portfolio liquidator or the Court shall direct; and
- (b) the portfolio liquidator of the segregated portfolio shall be entitled to be present at all meetings of the segregated portfolio and to vote at such meetings, as if he were a director of the segregated portfolio company, in respect of the general assets of the company, unless there are no creditors in respect of that segregated portfolio entitled to have recourse to the company's general assets.

### **Distribution of segregated portfolio assets**

**163.** (1) Subject to subsection (2) and to any agreement between the segregated portfolio company and any creditor of the company as to the subordination of the debts due to that creditor or to the debts due to the company's other creditors, the portfolio liquidator of a segregated portfolio shall, in the winding up of the business of that segregated portfolio, apply the segregated portfolio assets in satisfaction of the company's liabilities attributable to that segregated portfolio *pari passu*.

(2) Creditors of a segregated portfolio that is subject to a portfolio liquidation order shall be regarded as preferential creditors of the segregated portfolio to the extent that they would be preferential creditors if—

(a) the segregated portfolio was a company; and

(b) the portfolio liquidator was a liquidator appointed under a liquidation order.

(3) Subject to the articles or by-laws, any surplus shall be distributed among the holders of the segregated portfolio shares or the persons otherwise entitled to the surplus, in each case according to their respective rights and interests in or against the company.

(4) Where there are no segregated portfolio shares and no persons otherwise entitled to the surplus, any surplus shall be paid to the segregated portfolio company and shall become a general asset of the company.

### **Discharge and variation of portfolio liquidation orders**

**164.** (1) The Court shall not discharge a portfolio liquidation order unless it appears to the Court that the purpose for which the order was made has been achieved or substantially achieved or is incapable of achievement.

(2) Subject to subsection (1), the Court, on hearing an application for the discharge or variation of a portfolio liquidation order, may make such order as it considers appropriate, may dismiss the application, may make any interim order or may adjourn the hearing, conditionally or unconditionally.

(3) Upon the Court discharging a portfolio liquidation order in respect of a segregated portfolio on the ground that the purpose for which the order was made has been achieved or substantially achieved, the Court may direct that any payment made by the portfolio liquidator to any creditor of the company in respect of that segregated portfolio shall be deemed full satisfaction of the liabilities of the company to that creditor in respect of that segregated portfolio, and the creditor's claims against the company in respect of that segregated portfolio shall be thereby deemed extinguished.

(4) Nothing in subsection (3) shall operate so as to affect or extinguish any right or remedy of a creditor against any other person, including any surety of the segregated portfolio company.

(5) The Court may, upon discharging a portfolio liquidation order in respect of a segregated portfolio of a segregated portfolio company, direct that the segregated portfolio shall be dissolved on such date as the Court may specify.

(6) When a segregated portfolio of a segregated portfolio company has been dissolved under subsection (5), the company may not undertake business or incur liabilities in respect of that segregated portfolio.

## **Remuneration of portfolio liquidator**

**165.** The remuneration of a portfolio liquidator shall be fixed by the Court and shall be payable, in priority to all other claims, from—

- (a) the segregated portfolio assets attributable to the segregated portfolio in respect of which the portfolio liquidator was appointed; and
- (b) to the extent that these may be insufficient, from the general assets of the company,

but not from any of the segregated portfolio assets attributable to any other segregated portfolio.

## **Division 4 – General Provisions**

### **Regulations**

**166.** (1) The Executive Council may, on the advice of the Commission, make Regulations concerning segregated portfolio companies.

### **Provisions in Regulations**

**167.** (1) Without limiting section 166, Regulations made under that section may—

- (a) provide that the provisions of this Act shall apply in relation to any class or description of company specified by or prescribed under section 143(2)(c) subject to such exceptions, adaptations and modifications as may be specified in the Regulations;
- (b) make provision in respect of any of the following matters—
  - (i) the classes or descriptions of segregated portfolio company which shall obtain the approval of the Commission for the creation of segregated portfolios, or circumstances in which such approval is required to be obtained;
  - (ii) where the Commission's approval is required for the creation of segregated portfolios under subparagraph (i), the procedure for the application for, and the granting of, the Commission's approval;
  - (iii) the conduct of the business of segregated portfolio companies;
  - (iv) the manner in which segregated portfolio companies may carry on, or hold themselves out as carrying on, business;

- (v) the form and content of the financial statements of segregated portfolio companies and the audit requirements applicable with respect to such financial statements;
  - (vi) the portfolio liquidation of segregated portfolios under Division 3; and
  - (vii) the fees payable by segregated portfolio companies and by applicants for an approval under section 144;
- (c) provide for modifications to the Insolvency Act necessary to apply that Act to the liquidation and administration of segregated portfolios and of segregated portfolio companies;
- (d) generally give effect to this Part; and
- (e) provide for the fees and penalties payable by segregated portfolio companies which may be in addition to, or in substitution for, the fees and penalties specified in Schedule 1.

(2) Regulations made under section 166 may make different provision in relation to different persons, circumstances or cases.

**PART X**  
**REGISTRATION OF CHARGES**

**Interpretation of this Part**

**168.** (1) In this Part—

“charge” means any form of security interest, over property, wherever situated, other than an interest arising by operation of law;

“commencement date” means the date of the coming into force of this Part;

“liability” includes contingent and prospective liabilities;

“property” includes future property; and

“relevant charge” means a charge created on or after the commencement date.

(2) A reference in this Part to the creation of a charge includes a reference to the acquisition of property, wherever situated, which was, immediately before its acquisition, the subject of a charge and which remains subject to that charge after its acquisition and for this purpose, the date of creation of the charge is deemed to be the date of acquisition of the property.

## **Creation of charges by a company**

**169.** (1) Subject to its articles and by-laws, a company may, by an instrument in writing, create a charge over its property.

(2) The governing law of a charge created by a company may be the law of such jurisdiction that may be agreed between the company and the chargee and the charge shall be binding on the company to the extent, and in accordance with, the requirements of the governing law.

(3) Where a company acquires property subject to a charge—

- (a) subsection (1) does not require the acquisition of the property to be by instrument in writing, if the acquisition is not otherwise required to be by instrument in writing; and
- (b) unless the company and the chargee agree otherwise, the governing law of the charge is the law that governs the charge immediately before the acquisition by the company of the property subject to the charge.

## **Company to keep register of charges**

**170.** (1) A company shall keep a register of all relevant charges created by the company showing—

- (a) if the charge is a charge created by the company, the date of its creation or, if the charge is a charge existing on property directly or indirectly acquired by the company, the date on which the property was acquired;
- (b) a short description of the liability secured by the charge;
- (c) a short description of the property charged;
- (d) the name and address of the trustee for the security or, if there is no such trustee, the name and address of the chargee; and
- (e) details of any prohibition or restriction, if any, contained in the instrument creating the charge on the power of the company to create any future charge ranking in priority to or equally with the charge.

(2) A copy of the register of charges shall be kept at the registered office of the company or at the office of its registered agent.

(3) A company that contravenes this section commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$5,000.

## **Registration of charges**

**171.** (1) Where a company creates a relevant charge, an application to the Registrar to register the charge may be made by—

- (a) the company, or a person authorised to act on its behalf; or
- (b) the chargee, or a person authorised to act on his behalf.

(2) An application to the Registrar under subsection (1) shall specify the particulars of the charge, in the approved form.

(3) The Registrar shall keep, with respect to each company, a Register of Charges containing such information as may be prescribed.

(4) If he is satisfied that the requirements of this Part as to registration have been complied with, upon receipt of an application under subsection (2), the Registrar shall forthwith—

- (a) register the charge in the Register of Charges kept by him for that company; and
- (b) issue a certificate of registration of the charge and send a copy to the company and to the chargee.

(5) The Registrar shall state in the Register of Charges and on the certificate of registration the date and time on which a charge was registered.

(6) A certificate issued under subsection (4) is conclusive proof that the requirements of this Part as to registration have been complied with and that the charge referred to in the certificate was registered on the date and time stated in the certificate.

## **Variation of registered charge**

**172.** (1) Where there is a variation in the terms of a charge registered under section 171, application for the variation to be registered may be made by—

- (a) the company, or a person authorised to act on its behalf; or
- (b) the chargee, or a person authorised to act on his behalf.

(2) An application under subsection (1) is made by filing an application in the approved form.

(3) Upon receipt of an application complying with subsection (2), the Registrar shall forthwith—

- (a) register the variation of the charge; and
- (b) issue a certificate of variation and send a copy of the certificate to the company and to the chargee.

(4) The Registrar shall state in the Register of Charges and on the certificate of variation the date and time on which a variation of charge was registered.

(5) A certificate issued under subsection (3) is conclusive proof that the variation referred to in the certificate was registered on the date and time stated in the certificate.

### **Charge ceasing to affect company's property**

**173.** (1) Where a charge registered under section 171 ceases to affect the property of a company, the company shall file a notice specifying the property that has ceased to be affected by the charge in the approved form.

(2) A notice filed under subsection (1) shall be signed by or on behalf of the chargee.

(3) If he is satisfied that a notice filed under subsection (1) is correctly completed and has been signed in accordance with subsection (2), the Registrar shall forthwith—

- (a) register the notice; and
- (b) issue a certificate and send a copy of the certificate to the company and to the chargee.

(4) The Registrar shall state in the Register of Charges and on the certificate issued under subsection (3) the date and time on which the notice filed under subsection (1) was registered.

(5) From the date and time stated in the certificate issued under subsection (3), the charge is deemed not to be registered in respect of the property specified in the notice filed under subsection (1).

### **Priority of relevant charges**

**174.** (1) A relevant charge on property of a company that is registered in accordance with section 171 has priority over—

- (a) a relevant charge on the property that is subsequently registered in accordance with section 171; and
- (b) a relevant charge on the property that is not registered in accordance with section 171.



(2) Charges created on or after the commencement date which are not registered shall rank among themselves in the order in which they would have ranked had this section not come into force.

### **Priority of other charges**

**175.** Charges created prior to the commencement date shall continue to rank in the order in which they would have ranked had section 174 not come into force and, where they would have taken priority over a charge created on or after the commencement date, they shall continue to take such priority after the commencement date.

### **Exceptions to sections 174 and 175**

**176.** Notwithstanding sections 174 and 175—

- (a) the order of priorities of charges is subject to—
  - (i) any express consent of the holder of a charge that varies the priority of that charge in relation to one or more other charges that it would, but for the consent, have had priority over, or
  - (ii) any agreement between chargees that effects the priorities in relation to the charges held by the respective chargees; and
- (b) a registered floating charge is postponed to a subsequently registered fixed charge unless the floating charge contains a prohibition or restriction on the power of the company to create any future charge ranking in priority to or equally with the charge.

## **PART XI**

### **MERGER, CONSOLIDATION, SALE OF ASSETS, FORCED REDEMPTIONS, ARRANGEMENTS AND DISSENTERS**

#### **Interpretation for purposes of this Part**

**177.** In this Part—

“consolidated company” means the new company that results from the consolidation of two or more constituent companies;

“consolidation” means the consolidating of two or more constituent companies into a new company;

“constituent company” means an existing company that is participating in a merger or consolidation with one or more other existing companies;

“merger” means the merging of two or more constituent companies into one of the constituent companies;

“parent company” means a company that owns at least ninety per cent of the outstanding shares of each class of shares in another company;

“subsidiary company” means a company at least ninety per cent of whose outstanding shares of each class of shares are owned by another company; and

“surviving company” means the constituent company into which one or more other constituent companies are merged.

### **Approval of merger and consolidation**

**178.** (1) Two or more companies may merge or consolidate in accordance with this section—

(2) The directors of each constituent company that proposes to participate in a merger or consolidation shall approve a written plan of merger or consolidation containing, as the case requires—

- (a) the name of each constituent company and the name of the surviving company or the consolidated company;
- (b) with respect to each constituent company—
  - (i) the designation and number of outstanding shares of each class of shares, specifying each such class entitled to vote on the merger or consolidation, and
  - (ii) a specification of each such class, if any, entitled to vote as a class;
- (c) the terms and conditions of the proposed merger or consolidation, including the manner and basis of cancelling, reclassifying or converting shares in each constituent company into shares, debt obligations or other securities in the surviving company or consolidated company, or money or other assets, or a combination thereof; and
- (d) in respect of a merger, a statement of any amendment to the articles or by-laws of the surviving company to be brought about by the merger.

(3) In the case of a consolidation, the plan of consolidation shall have annexed to it

articles and by-laws complying with Part II, Division 2 to be adopted by the consolidated company.

(4) Some or all shares of the same class of shares in each constituent company may be converted into a particular or mixed kind of assets and other shares of the class, or all shares of other classes of shares, may be converted into other assets.

(5) The following apply in respect of a merger or consolidation under this section—

- (a) the plan of merger or consolidation shall be authorised by a resolution of members and the outstanding shares of every class of shares that are entitled to vote on the merger or consolidation as a class if the articles or by-laws so provide or if the plan of merger or consolidation contains any provisions that, if contained in a proposed amendment to the articles or by-laws, would entitle the class to vote on the proposed amendment as a class;
- (b) if a meeting of members is to be held, notice of the meeting, accompanied by a copy of the plan of merger or consolidation, shall be given to each member, whether or not entitled to vote on the merger or consolidation; and
- (c) if it is proposed to obtain the written consent of members, a copy of the plan of merger or consolidation shall be given to each member, whether or not entitled to consent to the plan of merger or consolidation.

### **Registration of merger and consolidation**

**179.** (1) After approval of the plan of merger or consolidation by the directors and members of each surviving company, articles of merger or consolidation shall be executed by each company containing—

- (a) the plan of merger or consolidation;
- (b) the date on which the articles and by-laws of each surviving company were registered by the Registrar; and
- (c) the manner in which the merger or consolidation was authorised with respect to each surviving company.

(2) The articles of merger or consolidation shall be filed with the Registrar together with—

- (a) in the case of a merger, any resolution to amend the articles and by-laws of the surviving company; and
- (b) in the case of a consolidation, articles and by-laws for the consolidated company complying with Part III, Division 2.

(3) If he is satisfied that the requirements of this Act in respect of merger or consolidation have been complied with and that the proposed name of the surviving or consolidated company complies with section 16 and, if appropriate, sections 18 and 19 and is a name under which the company could be registered under section 17, the Registrar shall—

(a) register—

(i) the articles of merger or consolidation; and

(ii) in the case of a merger, any amendment to the articles or by-laws of the surviving company or, in the case of a consolidation, the articles and by-laws of the consolidated company; and

(b) issue a certificate of merger or consolidation in the approved form and, in the case of a consolidation, a certificate of incorporation of the consolidated company.

(4) A certificate of merger or consolidation issued by the Registrar is conclusive evidence of compliance with all requirements of this Act in respect of the merger or consolidation.

### **Merger with subsidiary**

**180.** (1) A parent company may merge with one or more subsidiary companies, without the authorisation of the members of any company, in accordance with this section.

(2) The directors of the parent company shall approve a written plan of merger containing—

(a) the name of each constituent company and the name of the surviving company;

(b) with respect to each constituent company—

(i) the designation and number of outstanding shares of each class of shares, and

(ii) the number of shares of each class of shares in each subsidiary company owned by the parent company;

(c) the terms and conditions of the proposed merger, including the manner and basis of converting shares in each company to be merged into shares, debt obligations or other securities in the surviving company, or money or other assets, or a combination thereof; and

(d) a statement of any amendment to the articles or by-laws of the surviving company

to be brought about by the merger.

(3) Some or all shares of the same class of shares in each company to be merged may be converted into assets of a particular or mixed kind and other shares of the class, or all shares of other classes of shares, may be converted into other assets; but, if the parent company is not the surviving company, shares of each class of shares in the parent company may only be converted into similar shares of the surviving company.

(4) A copy of the plan of merger or an outline thereof shall be given to every member of each subsidiary company to be merged unless the giving of that copy or outline has been waived by that member.

(5) Articles of merger shall be executed by the parent company and shall contain—

(a) the plan of merger;

(b) the date on which the articles and by-laws of each constituent company were registered by the Registrar; and

(c) if the parent company does not own all shares in each subsidiary company to be merged, the date on which a copy of the plan of merger or an outline thereof was made available to, or waived by, the members of each subsidiary company.

(6) The articles of merger shall be filed with the Registrar together with any resolution to amend the articles and by-laws of the surviving company.

(7) If he is satisfied that the requirements of this section have been complied with and that the proposed name of the surviving company complies with section 16 and, if appropriate, sections 18 and 19 and is a name under which the company could be registered under section 17, the Registrar shall—

(a) register—

(i) the articles of merger; and

(ii) any amendment to the articles or by-laws of the surviving company; and

(b) issue a certificate of merger in the approved form.

(8) A certificate of merger issued by the Registrar is conclusive evidence of compliance with all requirements of this Act in respect of the merger.

### **Effect of merger with consolidation**

**181.** (1) A merger or consolidation is effective on the date the articles of merger or consolidation

are registered by the Registrar or on such date subsequent thereto, not exceeding thirty days, as is stated in the articles of merger or consolidation.

(2) As soon as a merger or consolidation becomes effective—

- (a) the surviving company or the consolidated company in so far as is consistent with its articles and by-laws, as amended or established by the articles of merger or consolidation, has all rights, privileges, immunities, powers, objects and purposes of each of the constituent companies;
- (b) in the case of a merger, the articles and by-laws of the surviving company are automatically amended to the extent, if any, that changes in its articles and by-laws are contained in the articles of merger;
- (c) in the case of a consolidation, the articles and by-laws filed with the articles of consolidation are the articles and by-laws of the consolidated company;
- (d) assets of every description, including choses in action and the business of each of the constituent companies, immediately vests in the surviving company or the consolidated company; and
- (e) the surviving company or the consolidated company is liable for all claims, debts, liabilities and obligations of each of the constituent companies.

(3) Where a merger or consolidation occurs—

- (a) no conviction, judgement, ruling, order, claim, debt, liability or obligation due or to become due, and no cause existing, against a constituent company or against any member, director, officer or agent thereof, is released or impaired by the merger or consolidation; and
- (b) no proceedings, whether civil or criminal, pending at the time of a merger or consolidation by or against a constituent company, or against any member, director, officer or agent thereof, are abated or discontinued by the merger or consolidation, but—
  - (i) the proceedings may be enforced, prosecuted, settled or compromised by or against the surviving company or the consolidated company or against the member, director, officer or agent thereof, as the case may be, or
  - (ii) the surviving company or the consolidated company may be substituted in the proceedings for a constituent company.

(4) The Registrar shall strike off the Register of Companies—

- (a) a constituent company that is not the surviving company in a merger; or
- (b) a constituent company that participates in a consolidation.

### **Merger or consolidation with foreign company**

**182.** (1) One or more companies may merge or consolidate with one or more companies incorporated under the laws of jurisdictions outside Anguilla in accordance with this section, including where one of the constituent companies is a parent company and the other constituent companies are subsidiary companies, if the merger or consolidation is permitted by the laws of the jurisdictions in which the companies incorporated outside Anguilla are incorporated.

(2) The following apply in respect of a merger or consolidation under this section—

- (a) a company shall comply with the provisions of this Act with respect to merger or consolidation, as the case may be, and a company incorporated under the laws of a jurisdiction outside Anguilla shall comply with the laws of that jurisdiction; and
- (b) if the surviving company or the consolidated company is to be incorporated under the laws of a jurisdiction outside Anguilla, it shall file—
  - (i) an agreement that a service of process may be effected on it in Anguilla in respect of proceedings for the enforcement of any claim, debt, liability or obligation of a constituent company that is a company registered under this Act or in respect of proceedings for the enforcement of the rights of a dissenting member of a constituent company that is a company registered under this Act against the surviving company or the consolidated company;
  - (ii) an irrevocable appointment of its registered agent as its agent to accept service of process in proceedings referred to in subparagraph (i);
  - (iii) an agreement that it will promptly pay to the dissenting members of a constituent company that is a company registered under this Act the amount, if any, to which they are entitled under this Act with respect to the rights of dissenting members; and
  - (iv) a certificate of merger or consolidation issued by the appropriate authority of the foreign jurisdiction where it is incorporated; or, if no certificate of merger or consolidation is issued by the appropriate authority of the foreign jurisdiction, then, such evidence of the merger or consolidation as the Registrar considers acceptable.

(3) The effect under this section of a merger or consolidation is the same as in the case of

a merger or consolidation under section 178 if the surviving company or the consolidated company is incorporated under this Act, but if the surviving company or the consolidated company is incorporated under the laws of a jurisdiction outside Anguilla, the effect of the merger or consolidation is the same as in the case of a merger or consolidation under section 178 except in so far as the laws of the other jurisdiction otherwise provide.

(4) If the surviving company or the consolidated company is a company incorporated under this Act, the merger or consolidation is effective on the date the articles of merger or consolidation are registered by the Registrar or on such date subsequent thereto, not exceeding thirty days, as is stated in the articles of merger or consolidation; but if the surviving company or the consolidated company is a company incorporated under the laws of a jurisdiction outside Anguilla, the merger or consolidation is effective as provided by the laws of that other jurisdiction.

### **Disposition of assets**

**183.** Subject to the articles or by-laws of a company, any sale, transfer, lease, exchange or other disposition, other than a mortgage, charge or other encumbrance or the enforcement thereof, of more than fifty per cent in value of the assets of the company, other than a transfer pursuant to the power described in section 27(3), if not made in the usual or regular course of the business carried on by the company, shall be made as follows—

- (a) the sale, transfer, lease, exchange or other disposition shall be approved by the directors;
- (b) upon approval of the sale, transfer, lease, exchange or other disposition, the directors shall submit details of the disposition to the members for it to be authorised by a resolution of members;
- (c) if a meeting of members is to be held, notice of the meeting, accompanied by an outline of the disposition, shall be given to each member, whether or not he is entitled to vote on the sale, transfer, lease, exchange or other disposition; and
- (d) if it is proposed to obtain the written consent of members, an outline of the disposition shall be given to each member, whether or not he is entitled to consent to the sale, transfer, lease, exchange or other disposition.

### **Redemption of minority shares**

**184.** (1) Subject to the articles or by-laws of a company—

- (a) members of the company holding ninety per cent of the votes of the outstanding shares entitled to vote; and
- (b) members of the company holding ninety per cent of the votes of the outstanding shares of each class of shares entitled to vote as a class,



may give a written instruction to the company directing it to redeem the shares held by the remaining members.

(2) Upon receipt of the written instruction referred to in subsection (1), the company shall redeem the shares specified in the written instruction irrespective of whether or not the shares are by their terms redeemable.

(3) The company shall give written notice to each member whose shares are to be redeemed stating the redemption price and the manner in which the redemption is to be effected.

## **Arrangements**

**185.** (1) In this section, “arrangement” means —

- (a) an amendment to the memorandum or articles;
- (b) a reorganisation or reconstruction of a company;
- (c) a merger or consolidation of one or more companies that are companies registered under this Act with one or more other companies, if the surviving company or the consolidated company is a company incorporated under this Act;
- (d) a separation of two or more businesses carried on by a company;
- (e) any sale, transfer, exchange or other disposition of any part of the assets or business of a company to any person in exchange for shares, debt obligations or other securities of that other person, or money or other assets, or a combination thereof;
- (f) any sale, transfer, exchange or other disposition of shares, debt obligations or other securities in a company held by the holders thereof for shares, debt obligations or other securities in the company or money or other property, or a combination thereof;
- (g) a dissolution of a company; and
- (h) any combination of any of the things specified in paragraph (a) to (g).

(2) If the directors of a company determine that it is in the best interests of the company or the creditors or members thereof, the directors of the company may approve a plan of arrangement that contains details of the proposed arrangement, even though the proposed arrangement may be authorised or permitted by any other provision of this Act or otherwise permitted.

(3) Upon approval of the plan of arrangement by the directors, the company shall make

application to the Court for approval of the proposed arrangement.

(4) The Court may, upon an application made to it under subsection (3), make an interim or a final order that is not subject to an appeal unless a question of law is involved and in which case notice of appeal shall be given within the period of twenty-one days immediately following the date of the order, and in making the order the Court may—

- (a) determine what notice, if any, of the proposed arrangement is to be given to any person;
- (b) determine whether approval of the proposed arrangement by any person should be obtained and the manner of obtaining the approval;
- (c) determine whether any holder of shares, debt obligations or other securities in the company may dissent from the proposed arrangement and receive payment of the fair value of his shares, debt obligations or other securities under section 187;
- (d) conduct a hearing and permit any interested person to appear; and
- (e) approve or reject the plan of arrangement as proposed or with such amendments as it may direct.

(5) Where the Court makes an order approving a plan of arrangement, the directors of the company, if they are still desirous of executing the plan, shall confirm the plan of arrangement as approved by the Court whether or not the Court has directed any amendments to be made thereto.

(6) The directors of the company, upon confirming the plan of arrangement, shall—

- (a) give notice to the persons to whom the order of the Court requires notice to be given; and
- (b) submit the plan of arrangement to those persons for such approval, if any, as the order of the Court requires.

(7) After the plan of arrangement has been approved by those persons by whom the order of the Court may require approval, articles of arrangement shall be executed by the company and shall contain—

- (a) the plan of arrangement;
- (b) the order of the Court approving the plan of arrangement; and
- (c) the manner in which the plan of arrangement was approved, if approval was required by the order of the Court.

(8) The articles of arrangement shall be filed with the Registrar who shall register them.

(9) Upon the registration of the articles of arrangement, the Registrar shall issue a certificate in the approved form certifying that the articles of arrangement have been registered.

(10) An arrangement is effective on the date the articles of arrangement are registered by the Registrar or on such date subsequent thereto, not exceeding thirty days, as is stated in the articles of arrangement.

### **Arrangement where company is in voluntary liquidation**

**186.** The voluntary liquidator of a company may approve a plan of arrangement under section 185 in which case, that section applies as if “voluntary liquidator” was substituted for “directors” and subject to such other modifications as are appropriate.

### **Rights of dissenters**

**187.** (1) A member of a company is entitled to payment of the fair value of his shares upon dissenting from—

- (a) a merger, if the company is a constituent company, unless the company is the surviving company and the member continues to hold the same or similar shares;
- (b) a consolidation, if the company is a constituent company;
- (c) any sale, transfer, lease, exchange or other disposition of more than fifty per cent in value of the assets or business of the company, if not made in the usual or regular course of the business carried on by the company, but not including—
  - (i) a disposition pursuant to an order of the Court having jurisdiction in the matter;
  - (ii) disposition for money on terms requiring all or substantially all net proceeds to be distributed to the members in accordance with their respective interests within one year after the date of disposition, or
  - (iii) a transfer pursuant to the power described in section 27(2);
- (d) a redemption of his shares by the company pursuant to section 184; and
- (e) an arrangement, if permitted by the Court.

(2) A member who desires to exercise his entitlement under subsection (1) shall give to

the company, before the meeting of members at which the action is submitted to a vote, or at the meeting but before the vote, written objection to the action; but an objection is not required from a member to whom the company did not give notice of the meeting in accordance with this Act or where the proposed action is authorised by written consent of members without a meeting.

(3) An objection under subsection (2) shall include a statement that the member proposes to demand payment for his shares if the action is taken.

(4) Within twenty days immediately following the date on which the vote of members authorising the action is taken, or the date on which written consent of members without a meeting is obtained, the company shall give written notice of the authorisation or consent to each member who gave written objection or from whom written objection was not required, except those members who voted for, or consented in writing to, the proposed action.

(5) A member to whom the company was required to give notice who elects to dissent shall, within twenty days immediately following the date on which the notice referred to in subsection (4) is given, give to the company a written notice of his decision to elect to dissent, stating—

- (a) his name and address;
- (b) the number and classes of shares in respect of which he dissents; and
- (c) a demand for payment of the fair value of his shares;

and a member who elects to dissent from a merger under section 180 shall give to the company a written notice of his decision to elect to dissent within twenty days immediately following the date on which the copy of the plan of merger or an outline thereof is given to him in accordance with section 180.

[(6) A member who dissents shall do so in respect of all shares that he holds in the company.

(7) Upon the giving of a notice of election to dissent, the member to whom the notice relates ceases to have any of the rights of a member except the right to be paid the fair value of his shares.]

(8) Within seven days immediately following the date of the expiration of the period within which members may give their notices of election to dissent, or within seven days immediately following the date on which the proposed action is put into effect, whichever is later, the company or, in the case of a merger or consolidation, the surviving company or the consolidated company shall make a written offer to each dissenting member to purchase his shares at a specified price that the company determines to be their fair value; and if, within thirty days immediately following the date on which the offer is made, the company making the offer and the dissenting member agree upon the price to be paid for his shares, the company shall

pay to the member the amount in money upon the surrender of the certificates representing his shares.

(9) If the company and a dissenting member fail, within the period of thirty days referred to in subsection (8), to agree on the price to be paid for the shares owned by the member, within twenty days immediately following the date on which the period of thirty days expires, the following shall apply—

- (a) the company and the dissenting member shall each designate an appraiser;
- (b) the two designated appraisers together shall designate an appraiser;
- (c) the three appraisers shall fix the fair value of the shares owned by the dissenting member as of the close of business on the day prior to the date on which the vote of members authorising the action was taken or the date on which written consent of members without a meeting was obtained, excluding any appreciation or depreciation directly or indirectly induced by the action or its proposal, and that value is binding on the company and the dissenting member for all purposes; and
- (d) the company shall pay to the member the amount in money upon the surrender by him of the certificates representing his shares.

(10) Shares acquired by the company pursuant to subsection (8) or (9) shall be cancelled but if the shares are shares of a surviving company, they shall be available for reissue.

(11) The enforcement by a member of his entitlement under this section excludes the enforcement by the member of a right to which he might otherwise be entitled by virtue of his holding shares, except that this section does not exclude the right of the member to institute proceedings to obtain relief on the ground that the action is illegal.

(12) Only subsections (1) and (8) to (11) shall apply in the case of a redemption of shares by a company pursuant to the provisions of section 184 and in such case the written offer to be made to the dissenting member pursuant to subsection (8) shall be made within seven days immediately following the direction given to a company pursuant to section 184 to redeem its shares.

### **Schemes of arrangement**

**188.** (1) Where a compromise or arrangement is proposed between a company and its creditors, or any class of them, or between the company and its members, or any class of them, the Court may, on the application of a person specified in subsection (2), order a meeting of the creditors or class of creditors, or of the members or class of members, as the case may be, to be summoned in such manner as the Court directs.

(2) An application under subsection (1) may be made by—

- (a) the company;
- (b) a creditor of the company;
- (c) a member of the company;
- (d) if the company is in voluntary liquidation within the meaning of section 217, by the voluntary liquidator; or

(3) If a majority in number representing seventy five per cent in value of the creditors or class of creditors or members or class of members, as the case may be, present and voting either in person or by proxy at the meeting, agree to any compromise or arrangement, the compromise or arrangement, if sanctioned by the Court, is binding on all the creditors or class of creditors, or the members or class of members, as the case may be, and also on the company or, in the case of a company in voluntary liquidation or in liquidation under a liquidation order, on the liquidator and on every person liable to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its liquidation.

(4) An order of the Court made under subsection (3) shall have no effect until a copy of the order has been filed with the Registrar.

(5) A copy of an order of the Court made under subsection (3) shall be annexed to every copy of the company's articles issued after the order has been made.

(6) In this section, "arrangement" includes a reorganisation of the company's share capital by the consolidation of shares of different classes or by the division of shares into shares of different classes, or by both of those methods.

(7) The Regulations may provide for the information and explanations to be contained in, or to accompany, a notice calling a meeting under this section.

(8) Where the Court makes an order with respect to a company under this section, sections 177 to 187 shall not apply to the company.

(9) A company that contravenes subsection (5) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$5,000.

## **PART XII**

### **CONTINUATION**

#### **Foreign company may continue under this Act**

**189.** (1) Subject to subsection (2), a foreign company may continue as a company

incorporated under this Act in accordance with this Part if the laws of the jurisdiction in which it is registered permit it to continue in another jurisdiction, including Anguilla.

- (2) A foreign company may not continue as a company incorporated under this Act if—
- (a) it is in liquidation, or subject to equivalent insolvency proceedings, in another jurisdiction;
  - (b) a receiver or manager has been appointed in relation to any of its assets;
  - (c) it has entered into an arrangement with its creditors, that has not been concluded; or
  - (d) an application made to a Court in another jurisdiction for the liquidation of the company or for the company to be subject to equivalent insolvency proceedings has not been determined.

#### **Application to continue under this Act**

**190.** (1) An application by a foreign company to continue under this Act shall be made by filing—

- (a) a certified copy of its certificate of incorporation, or such other document as evidences its incorporation, registration or formation;
- (b) its articles and by-laws complying with subsections (2) and (3);
- (c) evidence satisfactory to the Registrar that the application to continue and the proposed articles and by-laws have been approved—
  - (i) by a majority of the directors or the other persons who are charged with exercising the powers of the company, or
  - (ii) in such other manner as may be established by the company for exercising the powers of the company; and
- (d) evidence satisfactory to the Registrar that the company is not disqualified from continuing in Anguilla under this Act.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), the articles of a company continuing under this Act shall comply with section [8].

(3) The articles of a company applying to continue under this Act—

- (a) shall, in addition to the matters required to be stated under subsection (1),

state—

- (i) the name of the company at the date of the application and the name under which it proposes to be continued;
  - (ii) the jurisdiction under which it is incorporated, registered or formed, and
  - (iii) the date on which it was incorporated, registered or formed; and
- (b) shall state the matters specified in subsection (2).

(4) The articles and by-laws of a company applying to continue under this Act shall be signed by, or on behalf of, the persons who have approved them under subsection (1)(c).

### **Continuation**

**191.** (1) If he is satisfied that the requirements of this Act in respect of continuation have been complied with, upon receipt of the documents specified in section 190(1), the Registrar shall—

- (a) register the documents;
- (b) allot a unique number to the company; and
- (c) issue a certificate of continuation to the company in the approved form.

(2) A certificate of continuation issued by the Registrar under subsection (1) is conclusive evidence that—

- (a) all the requirements of this Act as to continuation have been complied with; and
- (b) the company is continued as a company incorporated under this Act under the name designated in its articles on the date specified in the certificate of continuation.

### **Effect of continuation**

**192.** (1) When a foreign company is continued under this Act—

- (a) this Act applies to the company as if it had been incorporated under section 6 after the commencement date;
- (b) the company is capable of exercising all the powers of a company incorporated under this Act;



- (c) the company is no longer to be treated as a company incorporated under the laws of a jurisdiction outside Anguilla; and
  - (d) the articles and by-laws filed under section 190(1) become the articles and by-laws of the company.
- (2) The continuation of a foreign company under this Act does not affect—
- (a) the continuity of the company as a legal entity; or
  - (b) the assets, rights, obligations or liabilities of the company.
- (3) Without limiting subsection (2) —
- (a) no conviction, judgement, ruling, order, claim, debt, liability or obligation due or to become due, and no cause existing, against the company or against any member, director, officer or agent thereof, is released or impaired by its continuation as a company under this Act; and
  - (b) no proceedings, whether civil or criminal, pending at the time of the issue by the Registrar of a certificate of continuation by or against the company, or against any member, director, officer or agent thereof, are abated or discontinued by its continuation as a company under this Act, but the proceedings may be enforced, prosecuted, settled or compromised by or against the company or against the member, director, officer or agent thereof, as the case may be.
- (4) All shares in the company that were outstanding prior to the issue by the Registrar of a certificate of continuation shall be deemed to have been issued in conformity with this Act.

### **Continuation under foreign law**

**193.** (1) Subject to its articles or by-laws, a company for which the Registrar would issue a certificate of good standing pursuant to section 252(1) may, by a resolution of directors or by a resolution of members, continue as a company incorporated under the laws of a jurisdiction outside Anguilla in the manner provided under those laws.

(2) A company that continues as a company incorporated under the laws of jurisdiction outside Anguilla does not cease to be a company incorporated under this Act unless the laws of the jurisdiction outside Anguilla permit the continuation and the company has complied with those laws.

(3) The registered agent of a company that continues as a company incorporated under the laws of a jurisdiction outside Anguilla may file a notice of the company's continuance in the approved form.

(4) If the Registrar is satisfied that the requirements of this Act in respect of the continuation of a company under the laws of a foreign jurisdiction have been complied with, he shall—

- (a) issue a certificate of discontinuance of the company in the approved form;
- (b) strike the name of the company off the Register of Companies with effect from the date of the certificate of discontinuance; and
- (c) publish the striking off of the company in the *Gazette*.

(5) A certificate of discontinuance issued under subsection (4) is prima facie evidence that—

- (a) all the requirements of this Act in respect of the continuation of a company under the laws of a foreign jurisdiction have been complied with; and
- (b) the company was discontinued on the date specified in the certificate of discontinuance.

(6) Where a company is continued under the laws of a jurisdiction outside Anguilla—

- (a) the company continues to be liable for all of its claims, debts, liabilities and obligations that existed prior to its continuation as a company under the laws of the jurisdiction outside Anguilla;
- (b) no conviction, judgement, ruling, order, claim, debt, liability or obligation due or to become due, and no cause existing, against the company or against any member, director, officer or agent thereof, is released or impaired by its continuation as a company under the laws of the jurisdiction outside Anguilla;
- (c) no proceedings, whether civil or criminal, pending by or against the company, or against any member, director, officer or agent thereof, are abated or discontinued by its continuation as a company under the laws of the jurisdiction outside Anguilla, but the proceedings may be enforced, prosecuted, settled or compromised by or against the company or against the member, director, officer or agent thereof, as the case may be; and
- (d) service of process may continue to be effected on the registered agent of the company in Anguilla in respect of any claim, debt, liability or obligation of the company during its existence as a company under this Act.

### **PART XIII**

#### **MEMBERS' REMEDIES**

## **Interpretation for this Part**

**194.** In this Part, “member”, in relation to a company, means—

- (a) a shareholder or a personal representative of a shareholder;
- (b) a guarantee member of a company limited by guarantee; or
- (c) an unlimited member of an unlimited company.

## **Restraining or compliance order**

**195.** (1) If a company or a director of a company engages in, or proposes to engage in, conduct that contravenes this Act or the articles or by-laws of the company, the Court may, on the application of a member or a director of the company, make an order directing the company or director to comply with, or restraining the company or director from engaging in conduct that contravenes, this Act or the articles or by-laws.

(2) If the Court makes an order under subsection (1), it may also grant such consequential relief as it thinks fit.

(3) The Court may, at any time before the final determination of an application under subsection (1), make, as an interim order, any order that it could make as a final order under that subsection.

## **Derivative actions**

**196.** (1) Subject to subsection (3), the Court may, on the application of a member of a company, grant leave to that member to—

- (a) bring proceedings in the name and on behalf of that company; or
- (b) intervene in proceedings to which the company is a party for the purpose of continuing, defending or discontinuing the proceedings on behalf of the company.

(2) Without limiting subsection (1), in determining whether to grant leave under that subsection, the Court must take the following matters into account—

- (a) whether the member is acting in good faith;
- (b) whether the derivative action is in the interests of the company taking account of the views of the company’s directors on commercial matters;
- (c) whether the proceedings are likely to succeed;
- (d) the costs of the proceedings in relation to the relief likely to be obtained; and

(e) whether an alternative remedy to the derivative claim is available.

(3) Leave to bring, or intervene in, proceedings may be granted under subsection (1) only if the Court is satisfied that—

- (a) the company does not intend to bring, diligently continue or defend, or discontinue the proceedings, as the case may be; or
- (b) it is in the interests of the company that the conduct of the proceedings should not be left to the directors or to the determination of the shareholders or members as a whole.

(4) Unless the Court otherwise orders, not less than twenty-eight days' notice of an application for leave under subsection (1) must be served on the company and the company is entitled to appear and be heard at the hearing of the application.

(5) The Court may grant such interim relief as it considers appropriate pending the determination of an application under subsection (1).

(6) Except as provided in this section, a member is not entitled to bring or intervene in any proceedings in the name of or on behalf of a company.

#### **Cost of derivative action**

SECOND DRAFT

**197.** (1) If the Court grants leave to a member to bring or intervene in proceedings under section 196, it shall, on the application of the member, order that the whole of the reasonable costs of bringing or intervening in the proceedings must be met by the company unless the Court considers that it would be unjust or inequitable for the company to bear those costs.

(2) If the Court, on an application made by a member under subsection (1), considers that it would be unjust or inequitable for the company to bear the whole of the reasonable costs of bringing or intervening in the proceedings, it may order—

- (a) that the company bear such proportion of the costs as it considers to be reasonable; or
- (b) that the company shall not bear any of the costs.

#### **Powers of Court when leave granted under section 196**

**198.** The Court may, at any time after granting a member leave under section 196, make any order it considers appropriate in relation to proceedings brought by the member or in which the member intervenes, including—

- (a) an order authorising the member or any other person to control the proceedings;
- (b) an order giving directions for the conduct of the proceedings;
- (c) an order that the company or its directors provide information or assistance in relation to the proceedings; and
- (d) an order directing that any amount ordered to be paid by a defendant in the proceedings must be paid in whole or in part to former and present members of the company instead of to the company.

### **Compromise, settlement or withdrawal of derivative action**

**199.** No proceedings brought by a member or in which a member intervenes with the leave of the Court under section 196 may be settled or compromised or discontinued without the approval of the Court.

### **Personal actions by members**

**200.** A member of a company may bring an action against the company for breach of a duty owed by the company to him as a member.

### **Representative actions**

**201.** Where a member of a company brings proceedings against the company and other members have the same or substantially the same interest in relation to the proceedings, the Court may appoint that member to represent all or some of the members having the same interest and may, for that purpose, make such order as it thinks fit, including an order—

- (a) as to the control and conduct of the proceedings;
- (b) as to the costs of the proceedings; and
- (c) directing the distribution of any amount ordered to be paid by a defendant in the proceedings among the members represented.

### **Prejudiced members**

**202.** (1) A member of a company who considers that the affairs of the company have been, are being or are likely to be, conducted in a manner that is, or any act or acts of the company have been, or are, likely to be, oppressive, unfairly discriminatory, or unfairly prejudicial to him in that capacity, may apply to the Court for an order under this section.

(2) If, on an application under this section, the Court considers that it is just and equitable to do so, it may make such order as it thinks fit, including, without limiting the generality of this

subsection, one or more of the following orders—

- (i) in the case of a shareholder, requiring the company or any other person to acquire the shareholder's shares;
- (ii) requiring the company or any other person to pay compensation to the member;
- (iii) regulating the future conduct of the company's affairs;
- (iv) amending the articles or by-laws of the company;
- (v) appointing a receiver of the company;
- (vi) appointing a liquidator of the company;
- (vii) directing the rectification of the records of the company; or
- (viii) setting aside any decision made or action taken by the company or its directors in breach of this Act or the articles or by-laws of the company.

(3) No order may be made against the company or any other person under this section unless the company or that person is a party to the proceedings in which the application is made.

## SECOND DRAFT

### PART XIV

## FOREIGN COMPANIES

### Meaning of “carrying on business”

**203.** (1) A reference in this Part to a foreign company carrying on business in Anguilla includes a reference to the foreign company establishing or having a place of business in Anguilla.

(2) For the purposes of this Part, a foreign company does not carry on business in Anguilla solely by reason of the fact that, in Anguilla, it—

- (i) is or becomes a party to legal proceedings or settles a legal proceeding or a claim or dispute;
- (ii) holds meetings of its directors or members or carries on other activities concerning its internal affairs;
- (iii) maintains a bank account;
- (iv) effects a sale of property through an independent contractor;

- (v) solicits or procures an order that becomes a binding contract only if the order is accepted outside Anguilla;
- (vi) creates evidence of a debt, or creates a charge on property;
- (vii) secures or collects any of its debts or enforces its rights in regard to any securities relating to such debts;
- (viii) conducts an isolated transaction that is completed within a period of thirty one days, not being one of a number of similar transactions repeated from time to time; or
- (ix) invests any of its funds or holds any property.

### **Registration of foreign company**

**204.** (1) A foreign company shall not carry on business in Anguilla unless it is registered under this Part.

(2) An application by a foreign company for registration under this Part shall be made to the Registrar in the approved form and shall be accompanied by—

- (a) evidence of its incorporation;
- (b) a certified copy of the instrument constituting or defining its constitution;
- (c) a list of its directors as at the date of the application specifying the full name, nationality and address of each director;
- (d) a notice specifying the name of the person appointed as the registered agent of the foreign company in Anguilla, endorsed by the registered agent with his agreement to act as registered agent;
- (e) if a document specified in paragraph (a)[ to (d)] is not in English, a translation of the document certified as accurate in accordance with the Regulations; and
- (f) such other documentation as may be prescribed.

(3) A foreign company that contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$10,000.

### **Registration**

**205.** Where the Registrar receives an application complying with section 204(2), he shall register the foreign company in the Register of Foreign Companies and issue a certificate of registration as a foreign company in the approved form.

## **Registration of changes in particulars**

**206.** (1) A foreign company registered under this Part shall file a notice in the approved form within one month after a change in—

- (a) its corporate name;
- (b) the jurisdiction of its incorporation;
- (c) the instrument constituting or defining its constitution;
- (d) its directors, or in the information filed in respect of a director; or
- (e) its registered agent.

(2) A notice of change of registered agent shall be endorsed by the new registered agent with his agreement to act as registered agent.

(3) A notice of a change in the instrument constituting or defining the constitution of a foreign company shall be accompanied by—

- (a) a certified copy of the new or amended instrument; and
- (b) if the instrument is not in English, a translation of the document certified as accurate in accordance with the Regulations.

(4) A foreign company that contravenes this section commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$1,000.

## **Foreign company to have registered agent**

**207.** (1) A foreign company that carries on business in Anguilla shall, at all times, have a registered agent in Anguilla.

(2) No person shall act, or agree to act, as the registered agent of a foreign company unless that person—

- (a) holds a licence under this Act, the Companies Management Act or under the Trust Companies and Offshore Banking Act or any other applicable enactment; and
- (b) has the approval of the Commission to provide registered agent services.



(3) A foreign company that contravenes subsection (1) and a person who contravenes subsection (2) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$10,000.

### **Control over names of foreign companies**

**208.** (1) Where the Registrar is satisfied that the corporate name of, or a name being used by, a foreign company carrying on business in Anguilla is undesirable, he may serve a notice in the approved form on the foreign company requiring it to cease carrying on business in Anguilla under, or using, that name.

(2) A foreign company on which a notice is served under subsection (1) shall not carry on business in Anguilla under, or using, the name specified in the notice from—

- (a) a date thirty days after the date of the service of the notice; or
- (b) such later date as may be specified in the notice.

(3) The Registrar may, at any time, withdraw a notice served under subsection (1).

(4) A foreign company on which a notice is served under subsection (1) shall, if it proposes to carry on business in Anguilla under, or using, an alternate name, file a notice of the alternate name.

(5) A foreign company that contravenes subsection (3) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$5,000.

### **Use of name by foreign company**

**209.** (1) Subject to subsection (3), a foreign company that carries on business in Anguilla shall ensure that its full corporate name and the name of the country of its incorporation are clearly stated in—

- (a) every communication sent by it, or on its behalf; and
- (b) every document issued or signed by it, or on its behalf, that evidences or creates a legal obligation of the foreign company.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), a generally recognised abbreviation of a word or words may be used in the name of a foreign company if it is not misleading to do so.

### **Annual return**

**210.** (1) A foreign company registered under this Part shall, on or before 31 March of each year, file an annual return made up to 31 December of the previous year.

- (2) The annual return shall—
- (a) be in the approved form; and
  - (b) be certified as correct by a director of the foreign company or by its registered agent.

### **Foreign company ceasing to carry on business in Anguilla**

**211.** (1) A foreign company shall, within seven days of ceasing to carry on business in Anguilla, file a notice in the approved form.

(2) On receipt of a notice under subsection (1), the Registrar shall remove the name of the foreign company from the Register of Foreign Companies and, from that time, the person appointed as the registered agent of the foreign company ceases to be its registered agent.

### **Service of documents on a foreign company registered under this Part**

**212.** (1) A document may be served on a foreign company registered under this Part by leaving it at, or sending it by post to, the address of the registered agent of the foreign company.

(2) Subsection (1) does not affect or limit the power of the Court to authorise a document to be served on a foreign company registered under this Part in a different manner.

### **Validity of transactions not affected**

**213.** A failure by a foreign company to comply with this Part does not affect the validity or enforceability of any transaction entered into by the foreign company.

### **Transitional provision**

**214.** A foreign company registered under any of the repealed Acts at the effective date is deemed to be registered under this Part.

## **PART XV**

### **LIQUIDATION, STRIKING-OFF AND DISSOLUTION**

#### **Division 1 - Liquidation**

#### **Application of this Part**

**215.** A company may only be liquidated under this Division if—

- (a) it has no liabilities; or

- (b) it is able to pay its debts as at the date they become due.

### **Declaration of solvency**

**216.** (1) Where it is proposed to appoint a voluntary liquidator under this Division, the directors of the company shall—

- (a) make a declaration of solvency in the approved form stating that, in their opinion, the company is and will continue to be able to discharge, pay or provide for its debts as they fall due; and
- (b) approve a liquidation plan specifying—
  - (i) the reasons for the liquidation of the company;
  - (ii) their estimate of the time required to liquidate the company;
  - (iii) whether the liquidator is authorised to carry on the business of the company if he determines that to do so would be necessary or in the best interests of the creditors or members of the company;
  - (iv) the name and address of each individual to be appointed as liquidator and the remuneration proposed to be paid to each liquidator; and
  - (v) whether the liquidator is required to send to all members a statement of account prepared or caused to be prepared by the liquidator in respect of his actions or transactions.

(2) A declaration of solvency has no effect for the purposes of this Part unless—

- (a) it is made on a date no more than four weeks earlier than the date of the resolution to appoint a voluntary liquidator; and
- (b) it includes a statement of the company's assets and liabilities as at the latest practical date before the making of the declaration.

(3) A liquidation plan has no effect for the purposes of this Part unless it is approved by the directors no more than six weeks prior to the date of the resolution to appoint a voluntary liquidator.

(4) A director making a declaration of solvency under this section without having reasonable grounds for the opinion that the company is and will continue to be able to discharge, pay or provide for its debts in full as they fall due, commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$10,000.

## **Appointment of liquidator**

**217.** (1) Subject to section 218, a voluntary liquidator may be appointed in respect of a company—

- (a) by a resolution of directors passed under subsection (2); or
- (b) by a resolution of members passed under subsection (3).

(2) The directors of a company may, by resolution, appoint an eligible individual as the voluntary liquidator of the company—

- (a) upon the expiration of such time as may be specified in its articles or by-laws for the company's existence;
- (b) upon the happening of such event as may be specified in its articles or by-laws as an event that shall terminate the existence of the company;
- (c) in the case of a company limited by shares, if it has never issued any shares; or
- (d) in any other case—
  - (i) if the articles or by-laws permit them to pass a resolution for the appointment of a voluntary liquidator, and
  - (ii) the members have, by resolution, approved the liquidation plan.

(3) The members of a company may, by resolution—

- (a) approve the liquidation plan; and
- (b) appoint an eligible individual as the voluntary liquidator of the company.

(4) The following provisions apply to a members' resolution under subsection (2)(d)(ii) or (3) —

- (a) holders of the outstanding shares of a class or series of shares are entitled to vote on the resolution as a class or series only if the articles or articles so provide;
- (b) if a meeting of members is to be held, notice of the meeting, accompanied by a copy of the liquidation plan, shall be given to each member, whether or not entitled to vote on the liquidation plan; and

- (c) if it is proposed to obtain the written consent of members, a copy of the liquidation plan shall be given to each member, whether or not entitled to consent to the liquidation plan.

(5) The Regulations may provide for descriptions or categories of individuals who are eligible to be appointed as the voluntary liquidator of a company under this section.

### **Appointment of voluntary liquidator of long term insurance company or other regulated person**

**218.** (1) A voluntary liquidator shall not be appointed under this Division in respect of a long term insurance company and any appointment made in contravention of this subsection is void and of no effect.

(2) A resolution to appoint a voluntary liquidator shall not be passed under section 217(1) by the directors or members of a company that is a regulated person, other than a long term insurance company, unless the Commission has—

- (a) given its prior written consent to the company being put into voluntary liquidation; and
- (b) approved the appointment of the individual proposed as voluntary liquidator.

(3) Any resolution passed in contravention of subsection (2) and any appointment of a liquidator who has not been approved by the Commission under subsection (2) is void and of no effect.

### **Control of voluntary liquidation of regulated person**

**219.** (1) The Commission may, at any time during or after the completion of the voluntary liquidation of a regulated person, require the liquidator to produce for inspection, at such place as it may specify—

- (a) his records and accounts in respect of the liquidation; and
- (b) any reports that he has prepared in respect of the liquidation.

(2) The Commission may cause the accounts and records produced to it under subsection (1) to be audited.

(3) The voluntary liquidator of a regulated person shall give the Commission such further information, explanations and assistance in relation to the records, accounts and reports as the Commission may require.

### **Duration of liquidation**

**220.** The liquidation of a company under this Division commences at the time at which a voluntary liquidator is appointed under section 217 and continues until it is terminated in accordance with section 226 or section 227 and throughout this period, the company is referred to as being in voluntary liquidation.

### **Circumstances in which liquidator may not be appointed**

**221.** (1) A voluntary liquidator may not be appointed under section 217 by the directors or the members of a company if—

- (a) an application has been made to the Court to appoint an administrator or a liquidator of the company and the application has not been dismissed;
- (b) the person to be appointed voluntary liquidator has not consented in writing to his appointment;
- (c) the directors of the company have not made a declaration of solvency complying with section 216; or
- (d) the directors have not approved a liquidation plan under section 216(1)(b).

(2) A resolution to appoint a voluntary liquidator under this Part in the circumstances referred to in subsection (1) is void and of no effect.

(3) Where a voluntary liquidator is appointed under this section, the directors or the members, as the case may be, shall, as soon as practicable, give the liquidator notice of his appointment.

### **Notice and advertisement of liquidation**

**222.** Where a voluntary liquidator is appointed under section 217 the liquidator shall—

- (a) within fourteen days of the commencement of the liquidation, file the following documents—
  - (i) a notice of the appointment;
  - (ii) the declaration of solvency made by the directors, and
  - (iii) a copy of the liquidation plan; and
- (b) within thirty days of commencement of the liquidation, advertise notice of his

appointment in the manner prescribed.

### **Effect of appointment of voluntary liquidator**

**223.** (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), with effect from the commencement of the voluntary liquidation of a company—

- (a) the voluntary liquidator has custody and control of the assets of the company; and
- (b) the directors of the company remain in office but they cease to have any powers, functions or duties other than those required or permitted under this Part.

(2) Subsection (1)(a) does not affect the right of a secured creditor to take possession of and realise or otherwise deal with assets of the company over which the creditor has a security interest.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1)(b), the directors, after the commencement of the voluntary liquidation, may—

- (a) authorise the liquidator to carry on the business of the company if the liquidator determines that to do so would be necessary or in the best interests of the creditors or members of the company where the liquidation plan does not give the liquidator such authorisation; and
- (b) exercise such powers as the liquidator, by written notice, may authorise them to exercise.

### **Duties of voluntary liquidator**

**224.** (1) The principal duties of a voluntary liquidator are to—

- (a) take possession of, protect and realise the assets of the company;
- (b) identify all creditors of and claimants against the company;
- (c) pay or provide for the payment of, or to discharge, all claims, debts, liabilities and obligations of the company;
- (d) distribute the surplus assets of the company to the members in accordance with the articles and by-laws ;
- (e) prepare or cause to be prepared a statement of account in respect of the actions and transactions of the liquidator; and
- (f) send a copy of the statement of account to all members if so required by

the liquidation plan required by section 216(1)(b).

(2) A transfer, including a prior transfer, described in section 27(3) of all or substantially all of the assets of a company incorporated under this Act for the benefit of the creditors and members of the company, is sufficient to satisfy the requirements of subsection (1)(c) and (d).

### **Powers of voluntary liquidator**

**225.** (1) In order to perform the duties imposed on him under section 224, a voluntary liquidator has all powers of the company that are not reserved to the members under this Act or in the articles or by-laws, including, but not limited to, the power—

- (a) to take custody of the assets of the company and, in connection therewith, to register any property of the company in the name of the liquidator or that of his nominee;
- (b) to sell any assets of the company at public auction or by private sale without any notice;
- (c) to collect the debts and assets due or belonging to the company;
- (d) to borrow money from any person for any purpose that will facilitate the winding-up and dissolution of the company and to pledge or mortgage any property of the company as security for any such borrowing;
- (e) to negotiate, compromise and settle any claim, debt, liability or obligation of the company;
- (f) to prosecute and defend, in the name of the company or in the name of the liquidator or otherwise, any action or other legal proceedings;
- (g) to retain solicitors, accountants and other advisers and appoint agents;
- (h) to carry on the business of the company, if the liquidator has received authorisation to do so in the plan of liquidation or from the directors under section 223(3)(a), as the liquidator may determine to be necessary or to be in the best interests of the creditors or members of the company;
- (i) to execute any contract, agreement or other instrument in the name of the company or in the name of the liquidator; and
- (j) to make any distribution in money or in other property or partly in each, and if in other property, to allot the property, or an undivided interest therein, in equal or unequal proportions.



(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1)(h), a voluntary liquidator shall not, without the permission of the Court, carry on the business of a company in voluntary liquidation for a period of more than two years.

### **Termination of voluntary liquidation**

**226.** (1) The Court may, at any time after the appointment of a voluntary liquidator under section 217, make an order terminating the liquidation if it is satisfied that it would be just and equitable to do so.

(2) An application under subsection (1) may be made by the voluntary liquidator or by a director, member or creditor of the company.

(3) Before making an order under subsection (2), the Court may require the voluntary liquidator to file a report with respect to any matters relevant to the application.

(4) An order under subsection (1) may be made subject to such terms and conditions as the Court considers appropriate and, on making the order or at any time thereafter, the Court may give such supplemental directions or make such other order as it considers fit in connection with the termination of the liquidation.

(5) Where the Court makes an order under subsection (1), the company ceases to be in voluntary liquidation and the voluntary liquidator ceases to hold office with effect from the date of the order or such later date as may be specified in the order.

### **Completion of liquidation**

**227.** (1) A voluntary liquidator shall, upon completion of a voluntary liquidation, file a statement that the liquidation has been completed and upon receiving the statement, the Registrar shall—

- (a) strike the company off the Register of Companies; and
- (b) issue a certificate of dissolution in the approved form certifying that the company has been dissolved.

(2) Where the Registrar issues a certificate of dissolution under subsection (1), the dissolution of the company is effective from the date of the issue of the certificate.

(3) Immediately following the issue by the Registrar of a certificate of dissolution under subsection (1), the person who, immediately prior to the dissolution, was the voluntary liquidator of the company shall cause to be published in the *Gazette*, a notice that the company has been struck off the Register of Companies and dissolved.

## Division 2 – Striking Off and Dissolution

### Interpretation for this Division

**228.** In this Division, “Register” means the Register of Companies.

### Striking company off Register

- 229.**
- (1) The Registrar may strike the name of a company off the Register if—
    - (a) the company—
      - (i) fails to appoint a registered agent under section 83(4) or 84(4), or
      - (ii) fails to file any return, notice or document required to be filed under this Act;
    - (b) he is satisfied that—
      - (i) the company has ceased to carry on business; or
      - (ii) the company is carrying on business for which a licence, permit or authority is required under the laws of Anguilla without having such licence, permit or authority; or
    - (c) the company fails to pay its annual fee or any late payment penalty by the due date.
  - (2) Before striking a company off the Register on the grounds specified in subsection (1)(a) or (1)(b), the Registrar shall—
    - (a) send the company a notice stating that, unless the company shows cause to the contrary, it will be struck from the Register on a date specified in the notice which shall be no less than thirty days after the date of the notice; and
    - (b) publish a notice of his intention to strike the company off the Register in the *Gazette*.
  - (3) After the expiration of the time specified in the notice, unless the company has shown cause to the contrary, the Registrar may strike the name of the company off the Register.
  - (4) The Registrar shall publish a notice of the striking of a company from the Register in the *Gazette*.
  - (5) The striking of a company off the Register is effective from the date of the notice

published in the *Gazette*.

(6) The striking off of a company shall not be affected by any failure on the part of the Registrar to serve a notice on the registered agent or to publish a notice in the *Gazette* under subsection (4).

## **Appeal**

**230.** (1) Any person who is aggrieved by the striking of a company off the Register under section 229 may, within ninety days of the date of the notice published in the *Gazette*, appeal to the Court.

(2) Notice of an appeal to the Court under subsection (1) shall be served on the Registrar who shall be entitled to appear and be heard at the hearing of the appeal.

(3) The Registrar may, pending an appeal under subsection (1) of any person aggrieved by the striking of a company off the Register, suspend the operation of the striking off upon such terms as he considers appropriate, pending the determination of the appeal.

## **Effect of striking off**

**231.** (1) Where a company has been struck off the Register, the company and the directors, members and any liquidator or receiver thereof, may not—

- (a) commence legal proceedings, carry on any business or in any way deal with the assets of the company;
- (b) defend any legal proceedings, make any claim or claim any right for, or in the name of, the company; or
- (c) act in any way with respect to the affairs of the company.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), where a company has been struck off the Register, the company, or a director, member, liquidator or receiver thereof, may—

- (a) make application for restoration of the company to the Register;
- (b) continue to defend proceedings that were commenced against the company prior to the date of the striking-off; and
- (c) continue to carry on legal proceedings that were instituted on behalf of the company prior to the date of striking-off.

(3) The fact that a company is struck off the Register does not prevent—

- (a) the company from incurring liabilities; or

- (b) any creditor from making a claim against the company and pursuing the claim through to judgement or execution;

and does not affect the liability of any of its members, directors, officers or agents.

### **Dissolution of company struck off the Register**

**232.** Where a company that has been struck off the Register under section 229(1) remains struck off continuously for a period of five years, it is dissolved with effect from the last day of that period.

### **Restoration of name of company to Register by Registrar**

**233.** (1) Where a company has been struck off the Register, but not dissolved, the Registrar may, upon receipt of an application in the approved form and upon payment of the restoration fee and all outstanding fees and penalties, restore the company to the Register and issue a certificate of restoration to the Register.

(2) Where the company has been struck off the Register under section 229(1), the Registrar shall not restore the company to the Register unless—

- (a) he is satisfied that a licensed person has agreed to act as registered agent of the company; and
- (b) he is satisfied that it would be fair and reasonable for the name of the company to be restored to the Register;

(3) An application to restore a company to the Register under subsection (1) may be made by the company, or a creditor, member or liquidator of the company and shall be made within ten years of the date of the notice published in the Gazette under section 229(2).

(4) The company, or a creditor, a member or a liquidator thereof, may, within ninety days, appeal to the Court from a refusal of the Registrar to restore the company to the Register and, if the Court is satisfied that it would be just for the company to be restored to the register, the Court may direct the Registrar to do so upon such terms and conditions as it may consider appropriate.

(5) Notice of an appeal to the Judge in chambers under subsection (4) shall be served on the Registrar who shall be entitled to appear and be heard at the hearing of the appeal.

(6) Where a company is restored to the Register under this section, the company is deemed never to have been struck off the Register.

### **Declaration that dissolution is void and restoration of name to Register by Court**

**234.** (1) Where a company has been dissolved, application may be made to the Court in accordance with subsection (2) to declare the dissolution of the company void and restore the company to the Register.

(2) An application under subsection (1) —

(a) may be made by the company or by a creditor, member or liquidator of the company; and

(b) shall be made within ten years of the date that the company was dissolved.

(3) On an application under subsection (1), the Court may declare the dissolution of the company void and restore the company to the Register subject to such conditions as it considers just.

(4) Where a company is restored to the Register under this section, the company is deemed never to have been dissolved or struck off the Register.

#### **Appointment of Official Receiver as liquidator of company struck off**

**235.** (1) Where a company has been struck off the Register, the Registrar may apply to the Court for the appointment of the Official Receiver or an eligible insolvency practitioner as liquidator of the company.

(2) Where the Court makes an order under subsection (1) the company is restored to the Register.

#### **Property of dissolved company**

**236.** (1) Subject to subsection (2), any property of a company that has not been disposed of at the date of the company's dissolution vests in the Crown.

(2) When a company is restored to the Register, any property, other than money, that was vested in the Crown under subsection (1) on the dissolution of the company and that has not been disposed of must be returned to the company upon its restoration to the Register.

(3) The company is entitled to be paid out of the [bon vacantia account]—

(a) any money received by the Crown under subsection (1) in respect of the company; and

(b) if property, other than money, vested in the Crown under subsection (1) in respect of the company and that property has been disposed of, an amount equal to the lesser of—

- (i) the value of any such property at the date it vested in the Crown, and
- (ii) the amount realized by the Crown by the disposition of that property.
- (iii)

### **Disclaimer**

**237.** (1) In this section, “onerous property” means—

- (a) an unprofitable contract; or
- (b) property of the company that is unsaleable, or not readily saleable, or that may give rise to a liability to pay money or perform an onerous act.

(2) Thee Minister may, by notice in writing published in the *Gazette*, disclaim the Crown’s title to onerous property which vests in the Crown under section 236.

## **PART XVI INVESTIGATION OF COMPANIES**

### **Definition of “inspector”**

**238.** In sections 239 to 244, “inspector” means an inspector appointed by an order made under section 242(2).

### **Investigation order**

**239.** (1) A member or the Registrar may apply to the Court *ex parte* or upon such notice as the Court may require, for an order directing that an investigation be made of the company and any of its affiliated companies.

(2) If, upon an application under subsection (1), it appears to the Court that—

- (a) the business of the company or any of its affiliates is or has been carried on with intent to defraud any person;
- (b) the company or any of its affiliates was formed for a fraudulent or unlawful purpose or is to be dissolved for a fraudulent or unlawful purpose; or
- (c) persons concerned with the incorporation, business or affairs of the company or any of its affiliates have in connection therewith acted fraudulently or dishonestly;

the Court may make any order it thinks fit with respect to an investigation of the company and any of its affiliated companies by an inspector, who may be the Registrar.

(3) If a member makes an application under subsection (1), he shall give the Registrar reasonable notice of it, and the Registrar is entitled to appear and be heard at the hearing of the application.

(4) The Regulations may define an affiliated company for the purposes of this Part.

### **Court's powers**

**240.** (1) An order made under section 239(2) shall include an order appointing an inspector to investigate the company and an order fixing the inspector's remuneration.

(2) The Court may, at any time, make any order it considers appropriate with respect to the investigation, including but not limited to making any one or more of the following orders, that is to—

- (a) replace the inspector;
- (b) determine the notice to be given to any interested person, or dispense with notice to any person;
- (c) authorise the inspector to enter any premises in which the Court is satisfied there might be relevant information, and to examine anything, and to make copies of any documents or records, found on the premises;
- (d) require any person to produce documents or records to the inspector;
- (e) authorise the inspector to conduct a hearing, administer oaths or affirmations and examine any person upon oath or affirmation, and prescribe rules for the conduct of the hearing;
- (f) require any person to attend a hearing conducted by the inspector and to give evidence upon oath or affirmation;
- (g) give directions to the inspector or any interested person on any matter arising in the investigation;
- (h) require the inspector to make an interim or final report to the Court;
- (i) determine whether a report of the inspector should be published, and, if so, order the Registrar to publish the report in whole or in part, or to send copies to any person the Court designates;
- (j) require an inspector to discontinue an investigation; or
- (k) require the company to pay the costs of the investigation in part or in full.

(3) The inspector shall file a copy of every report he makes under this section.

(4) A report under subsection (3) shall not be disclosed to any person other than in accordance with an order of the Court made under subsection (2)(i).

### **Inspector's powers**

**241.** An inspector—

(a) has the powers set out in the order appointing him; and

(b) shall upon request produce to an interested person a copy of the order.

### **Hearing in camera**

**242.** (1) An application under this Part and any subsequent proceedings, including applications for directions in respect of any matter arising in the investigation, shall be heard *in camera* unless the Court orders otherwise.

(2) A person whose conduct is being investigated or who is being examined at a hearing conducted by an inspector under this Part may appear or be heard at the hearing and has a right to be represented by a legal practitioner appointed by him for the purpose.

(3) No person shall publish anything relating to any proceedings under this Part except with the authorisation of the Court.

### **Incriminating evidence**

**243.** No person is excused from attending and giving evidence and producing documents and records to an inspector appointed by the Court under this Part by reason only that the evidence tends to incriminate that person or subject him to any proceeding or penalty, but the evidence may not be used or received against him in any proceeding thereafter instituted against him, other than a prosecution for perjury in giving the evidence.

### **Privilege**

**244.** (1) An oral or written statement or report made by an inspector or any other person in an investigation under this Part has absolute privilege.

(2) Nothing in this Part affects the legal privilege that exists in respect of a legal practitioner and his client.

## **PART XVII**



## ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL

### Company Law Review Advisory Committee

**245.** (1) The Minister shall, with the advice of the Registrar and the Commission, establish a committee to be known as the “Company Law Review Advisory Committee”.

(2) The Minister shall, with the advice of the Registrar and the Commission, appoint as members of the Committee such persons having knowledge and experience of company law as it considers appropriate.

(3) The functions of the Company Law Review Advisory Committee shall be—

- (a) to keep this Act, and such other enactments relevant to company law as may be specified by the Commission, under review;
- (b) to make such recommendations as it considers appropriate to the Commission for changes to this Act and to any other enactments specified by the Commission under paragraph (a); and
- (c) to make such recommendations as it considers appropriate to the Commission for the development and reform of company law in Anguilla.

(4) The Chairman of the Committee shall be the [Registrar][Managing Director of the Commission] or such other person as he may designate.

(5) The Regulations shall specify rules of procedure for the Committee.

### Registrar of Companies

**246.** (1) The office of the Registrar of Companies established under section 233 of the R.S.A. c. C65 is continued.

(2) No liability attaches to the Registrar or any person acting under the authority of the Registrar for any act done in good faith in the discharge of his functions under this Act.

### Registers

**247.** (1) The Registrar shall maintain—

- (a) a Register of Companies incorporated or continued under this Act;
- (b) a Register of Foreign Companies registered under Part XII; and

(c) a Register of Charges registered under Part X.

(2) The Registers maintained by the Registrar and the information contained in any document filed may be kept in such manner as the Registrar considers fit including, either wholly or partly, by means of a device or facility—

(a) that records or stores information magnetically, electronically or by other means; and

(b) that permits the information recorded or stored to be inspected and reproduced in legible and usable form.

(3) The Registrar—

(a) shall retain every qualifying document filed; and

(b) shall not retain any document filed that is not a qualifying document.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (3), a document is a qualifying document if —

(a) the Act or the Regulations, or another enactment, require or expressly permit the document to be filed; and

(b) the document complies with the requirements of, and is filed in accordance with, the Act, the Regulations or the other enactment that requires or permits the document to be filed.

### **Registration of registers of members and directors**

**248.** A company shall file with the Registrar a copy of:

(a) its register of members;

(b) its register of directors.

### **Filing of documents**

**249.** Except as otherwise provided in this Act or the Regulations, a document required or permitted to be filed by a company under this Act, may only be filed by the registered agent of the company.

### **Inspection of Registers and documents filed**

**250.** (1) Except as otherwise provided in this Act, the Regulations or any other enactment, a person may—

- (a) inspect the Registers maintained by the Registrar under section 247(1);
- (b) inspect any document retained by the Registrar in accordance with section 247; and
- (c) require a certified or uncertified copy or extract certificate of incorporation, merger, consolidation, arrangement, continuation, discontinuance, dissolution or good standing of a company, or a copy or an extract of any document or any part of a document of which he has custody, to be certified by the Registrar; and a certificate of incorporation, merger, consolidation, arrangement, continuation, discontinuance, dissolution or good standing or a certified copy or extract is prima facie evidence of the matters contained therein.

(2) A document or a copy or an extract of any document or any part of a document certified by the Registrar under subsection (1) is admissible in evidence in any proceedings as if it were the original document.

### **Form of certificate**

**251.** Any certificate or other document required to be issued by the Registrar under this Act shall be in the approved form.

### **Certificate of good standing**

**252.** (1) The Registrar shall, upon request by any person, issue a certificate of good standing in the approved form certifying that a company is of good standing if the Registrar is satisfied that—

- (a) the company is on the Register of Companies; and
- (b) the company has paid all fees, annual fees and penalties due and payable.

(2) The certificate of good standing issued under subsection (1) shall contain a statement as to whether—

- (a) the company has filed articles of merger or consolidation that have not yet become effective;
- (b) the company has filed articles of arrangement that have not yet become effective;
- (c) the company is in voluntary liquidation; or
- (d) any proceedings to strike the name of the company off the Register of

Companies have been instituted.

### **Fees and penalties to be paid to Registrar**

**253.** (1) The fees and penalties specified in Parts I and II respectively of Schedule 1 shall be payable to the Registrar.

(2) Parts I and II of Schedule 1 are subject to the provisions contained in Part III of that Schedule.

(3) Unless this Act or the Regulations provide otherwise, the registered agent is the only person authorised to pay a fee to the Registrar under this section, and the Registrar shall not accept a fee paid by any other person.

### **Recovery of penalties, etc.**

**254.** Any fee or penalty payable under this Act that remains unpaid for thirty days immediately following the date on which demand for payment is made by the Registrar is recoverable at the instance of the Registrar before a Magistrate in civil proceedings notwithstanding the amount sought to be recovered.

### **Company struck off liable for fees, etc.**

**255.** A company continues to be liable for all fees and penalties payable under this Act notwithstanding that the name of the company has been struck off the Register of Companies.

### **Fees payable to Registrar**

**256.** The Registrar may refuse to take any action required of him under this Act for which a fee is prescribed until all fees have been paid.

### **Companies Regulations**

**257.** (1) The Governor may, on the advice of the Registrar, make Regulations generally for giving effect to this Act and specifically in respect of anything required or permitted to be prescribed by this Act.

(2) Without limiting subsection (1), the Regulations may provide for the circumstances in which, and the procedures by which, a company may re-register from one type of company under this Act to another type of company under this Act.

(3) The Regulations may make different provision in relation to different persons, circumstances or cases.

### **Approval of forms and data by Registrar**

**258.** (1) The Registrar may approve and alter as needed the forms and data required on the online companies registration system.

### **Electronic signatures**

**259.** The Registrar may accept any document signed or sealed electronically and such document shall have the same force and effect as if the signature is affixed to a paper copy of the document.

### **Offence provisions**

**260.** Where an offence under this Act is committed by a body corporate, a director or officer who authorized, permitted or acquiesced in the commission of the offence also commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to the penalty specified for the commission of the offence.

## **PART XVIII ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Purposes and operation of this Part**

**261.** (1) The purposes of this Part is to require —

- (a) any relevant company carrying on a relevant activity to satisfy the Registrar annually that it meets the economic substance test in relation to the relevant activity; and
- (b) mandatory reporting of information for the purposes of the Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance on Tax Matters.

(2) Subsection (1)(a) does not apply to an exempt relevant company.

(3) Subject to any regulations made for the purposes of this Part, the Registrar may by notice published in the Gazette issue guidance on how the Registrar intends to determine whether a relevant company meets the economic substance test in relation to any relevant activity.

(4) The Registrar may delegate in writing to a specified person or authority all or any of his functions under this Part.

(5) In this Part —

“complaint”, in relation to a relevant company, means that the relevant company is not, or no longer, non-compliant;

“economic substance return” means a return required to be filed under section 263;

“the economic substance test”, in relation to a relevant activity, means the test prescribed as the economic substance test for the relevant activity;

“exempt relevant company” means a relevant company that is prescribed to be exempt from the economic substance test;

“filed information”, in relation to a relevant company, means any economic substance return or other information or evidence filed by it with the Registrar;

“intellectual property asset” includes any copyright, design right trademark, patent or similar asset including any utility model or any right given for plant breeders and genetic material;

“non-compliant” has the meaning specified in section 264(2);

“relevant activity” means an activity specified in Schedule 2;

“relevant company” or “company” means —

(a) a body corporate that is incorporated or continued under this Act; or

(b) a foreign company registered under Division 3 of Part 4 of this Act;

“relevant quarter”, in relation to any relevant company, means the calendar quarter in which the anniversary of the incorporation, continuance or first registration under this Act of the company falls; and

“relevant year”, in relation to any relevant company, means the year immediately preceding the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the relevant quarter for the company.

### **Meaning of information subject to legal professional privilege**

**262.** For the purposes of this Part, information is subject to legal professional privilege where the information would reveal confidential communications between a client and his legal representative where the communication is produced for the purpose of-

(a) seeking or providing legal advice; or

(b) use in existing or contemplated legal proceedings;

but legal professional privilege does not apply to any information or other matter, which is communicated or given with the intention of furthering a criminal purpose.

### **Economic substance returns**

**263.** (1) A relevant company shall make up and file with the Registrar a return for each relevant year in accordance with this section.

(2) The return shall —

(a) be filed together with the annual return for the relevant year;

(b) include the prescribed information and be in the prescribed form; and

(c) be certified as correct by a director, officer, registered agent or liquidator of the company.

(3) Without limiting the generality of subsection (2)(b), regulations made for the purposes of that provision may require the company to provide sufficient information in the return to enable the Registrar —

(a) to identify the type of activities carried on by the company;

(b) to determine whether the company is carrying on a relevant activity; and

(c) if the company is carrying on a relevant activity —

(i) to determine the nature of the relevant activity; and

(ii) unless the company is an exempt relevant company, to determine whether or not the company meets the economic substance test in relation to the relevant activity.

(4) A company that contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence.

#### **Registrar may require further information or evidence to remedy non-compliance**

**264.** (1) This section applies where, in the opinion of the Registrar, a relevant company is non-compliant.

(2) A relevant company is non-compliant if it —

(a) does not meet the economic substance test in relation to each relevant activity that it carries on; or

(b) is in contravention of section 263(1).

(3) Subsection (2)(a) does not apply to an exempt relevant company.

(4) Where the section applies, the Registrar may, by giving the company notice in writing, require it to file with the Registrar within a period specified in the notice an economic substance return, a revised economic substance return or any further information or evidence described in the notice in order to rectify or remedy the non-compliance.

(5) The period specified in a notice shall be not less than 7 days and not more than 30 days from the date of issue of the notice.

(6) A relevant company given a notice shall file with the Registrar the return, further information or evidence required by the notice within the period specified in that notice.

(7) A notice —

- (a) has effect notwithstanding any obligation as to confidentiality or other restriction upon the disclosure of information imposed by any enactment, rule of law or otherwise; but
- (b) does not require a relevant company to file with the Registrar any information subject to legal professional privilege.

### **Financial penalties for continuing non-compliance**

**265.** (1) This section applies where a relevant company given a notice under section 264(4) —

- (a) fails to file with the Registrar the return, further information or evidence required by the notice within the period specified in it; or
- (b) despite filing the return, further information or evidence required by the notice, fails to satisfy the Registrar that the company is compliant.

(2) Subject to subsection (4) and (5), where the company is or continues to be non-compliant under section 264(2)(a), the Registrar shall order that company to pay to the Registrar a civil penalty consisting of —

- (a) a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$25,000 in respect of the first relevant year to which the non-compliance relates; and
- (b) thereafter, a fine of not less than \$5,000 and not more than \$100,000 in respect of each subsequent relevant year to which the non-compliance relates.

(3) Subject to subsection (4) and (5), where the company is or continue to be non-compliant under section 264(2)(b), the Registrar shall order that company to pay to the Registrar a civil penalty consisting of —

- (a) a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$2,500 in respect of the first relevant year to which non-compliance relates; and
- (b) thereafter, a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$5,000 in respect of any other relevant year to which the non-compliance relates.

(4) Where the Registrar intends to order a relevant company to pay a penalty in accordance with subsection (2) or (3), the Registrar shall give the company notice of his intention, and a reasonable opportunity to either or both —

- (a) satisfy the Registrar that the company is compliant; and



(b) show cause why the company should be fined an amount that is less than the proposed fine.

(5) After the expiration of the time specified in a notice the Registrar shall, unless the relevant company satisfies the Registrar that it is compliant, issue a written order to the company to pay a civil penalty consisting of the proposed fine or a fine of any other amount the Registrar considers appropriate in accordance with subsection (2) or (3).

(6) Subject to section 267, a relevant company to which an order is issued shall pay the penalty specified in the order within 30 days of the date on which the order was issued.

(7) Any penalty payable under subsection (6) that that remains unpaid for 30 days immediately following the date on which the order was issued is recoverable at the instance of the Attorney-General before a Magistrate in civil proceedings as a debt due to the Crown notwithstanding the amount sought to be recovered.

(8) For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this section limits or restricts the power of the Registrar to strike off a relevant company.

### **Mandatory information sharing**

**266.** (1) This section applies to a relevant company if, in respect of any relevant year —

(a) section 265 applies in relation to the company in accordance with section 265 (1);

(b) in the opinion of the Registrar, the company was a high-risk intellectual property entity; or

(c) in the opinion of the Registrar the company carried on a relevant activity, and the company claims, through filed information, that it was an exempt relevant company.

(2) Where this section applies to a relevant company, the Registrar shall promptly deliver to the competent authority of Anguilla the following information relating to the company —

(a) the name of that company;

(b) a statement of which of subsection(1)(a), (b) or (c) applies, and why the Registrar believes it applies;

(c) any inculpatory information for the relevant year;

(d) any other filed information that the Registrar considers relevant to the company's tax matters for the relevant year; and

(e) any other prescribed information.

(3) Upon receiving that information, the competent authority of Anguilla shall promptly forward it to the competent authority of each tax-concerned Member State.

(4) Nothing in this section requires either the Registrar or the competent authority of Anguilla to deliver or forward to any person any information subject to legal professional privilege.

(5) In this Part —

“beneficial owner” has the meaning specified in section 2 of the Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Regulations, Revised Regulations of Anguilla P98-1;

“competent authority” has the meaning specified in section 1(1) of the Tax Information Exchange (International Co-operation) Act, 2016;

“a high-risk intellectual property entity” means a relevant company that-

(a) acquired an intellectual property asset-

- (i) from an intellectual entity; or
- (ii) in consideration for funding research and development by another person situated in a country or territory other than Anguilla; and

(b) licenses the intellectual property asset to an affiliated entity; or otherwise generates income from the asset in consequence of activities (such as facilitating sale agreements) performed by an affiliated entity;

“inculpatory information” means any information or evidence filed by the company with the Registrar, the knowledge of which, in the Registrar’s opinion, might trigger off Anguilla’s obligation to forward that information or evidence to another Party under Article 7 of the Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance on Tax Matters; and

“tax-concerned Member State” means any Member State of the European Union in which any of the following is known to be resident for tax purposes-

- (a) a holding body of the company;
- (b) an ultimate holding body of the company; or
- (c) a beneficial owner of the company.

(6) An entity is an affiliated entity in relation to another entity if —

- (a) one of them is the subsidiary of the other;
- (b) both are subsidiaries of the same entity;
- (c) each of them is controlled by the same entity; or
- (d) they are both affiliated (within the meaning of paragraph (a), (b) or (c)) with the same entity at the same time.

(7) An entity is the holding body of another entity if the later-mentioned entity is a subsidiary of the first-mentioned entity.

(8) An entity is a subsidiary of another entity if the first-mentioned entity is controlled by the later-mentioned entity.

(9) An entity is controlled by another entity if for example, any shares of the first-mentioned entity carrying voting rights sufficient to elect a majority of its directors are, except by way of security only, held, directly or indirectly by or on behalf of the later-mentioned entity.

### **Appeals against penalties**

**267.** (1) A relevant company to which an order under section 265 (5) is issued may appeal the order to a Judge in Chambers within 90 days of the date on which the order was issued.

(2) Notice of an appeal to the Judge in Chambers under subsection (1) must be served on the Registrar who shall be entitled to appear and be heard at the hearing of the appeal.

(3) The Registrar may, pending an appeal under subsection (1), suspend the operation of the order upon any terms he considers appropriate pending the determination of the appeal.”

### **Economic substance records to be kept**

**268.** (1) A relevant company required under Part 4A to satisfy the Registrar that it meets the economic substance test with respect to any relevant year shall retain at the registered office of the company for six years after the end of the relevant year, any book, document or other record, including any information stored by electronic means, that relates to the economic substance return or any further information or evidence required to be provided to the Registrar under that part.

(2) A relevant company that contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence.

### **Confidentiality**

**269.** (1) Except in so far as may be necessary for the due performance of his functions under Part 4A or any other provision of this Act, the Registrar and any officer or other person acting as an officer, a servant, an agent or an adviser of the Registrar shall preserve and aid in preserving confidentiality with regard to all matters relating to information or documents that may come to his knowledge in the course of the performance of his duties under this Act.

(2) A person who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence.

### **Immunity**

**270.** No liability attaches to the Registrar, the competent authority of Anguilla (as defined in section 266 (5) or any person acting under the authority of either for any act done in good faith in the discharge of the functions under this Act of the Registrar or, as the case may be, the competent authority.”

## **PART XVIII**

### **TRANSITIONAL AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

#### **Retention of records after company is struck, dissolved or wound up**

**271.** (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3) where a company is struck under this act, the manager or member shall retain the accounting records referred to in section 38 for a period of at least 6 years from the date on which the company was struck, dissolved or wound up.

(2) Where a manager has been named or designated pursuant to section 28 and 29, that person who was the manager at the time when the company was struck shall be required to retain the records in accordance with subsection (1).

(3) Where no manager has been named or designated, the members of the company at the time when the company was struck shall be required to retain the records in accordance with subsection (1).

(4) Where a company is wound up and dissolved under this Act, the liquidator who has been appointed under section 55 shall retain the accounting records referred to in section 38 for a period of at least 6 years from the date on which the company was dissolved.

(5) A person who fails to comply with this section commits an offence.

#### **Jurisdiction**

**272.** For purposes of determining matters relating to title and jurisdiction but not for purposes of taxation, the situs of the ownership of shares, debt obligations or other securities of a company is in Anguilla.

#### **Declaration by Court**

**273.** (1) A company may, without the necessity of joining any other party, apply to the Court, by summons supported by an affidavit, for a declaration on any question of interpretation of this Act or of the articles or by-laws of the company.

(2) A person acting on a declaration made by the Court as a result of an application under subsection (1) shall be deemed, in so far as regards the discharge of any fiduciary or professional duty, to have properly discharged his duties in the subject matter of the application.

## **Judge in Chambers**

**274.** A Judge of the High Court may exercise in Chambers any jurisdiction that is vested in the Court by this Act and in exercise of that jurisdiction, the judge may award costs as may be just.

## **Transitional and savings**

**275.** (1) The transitional provisions set out in Schedule 2 apply in relation to references and expressions under the Companies Act or the International Business Companies Act.

(2) The International Business Companies (Economic Substance) Regulations, 2019 and the Companies (Economic Substance) Regulations, 2019 are saved and shall continue to have effect after the commencement of this Act.

(3) On the commencement of this Act—

(a) all corporate instruments of a former-Act company; and

(b) all cancellations, suspensions, proceedings, acts, registrations and things,

lawfully done under any provision of the former Act are presumed to have been lawfully done under this Act, and continue in effect under this Act as though they had been lawfully done under this Act.

(4) For the purposes of this section, “lawfully done” means to have been lawfully granted, issued, imposed, taken, done, commenced, filed, applied or passed, as the circumstances require.

(5) For the purposes of this section, “corporate instruments” includes any statute, letters patent, memorandum of association, articles of association, certificate of incorporation, certificate of continuance, by-laws, regulations or other instrument by which a body corporate is incorporated or continued or that governs or regulates the affairs of a body corporate.

(6) Where upon the commencement of this Act, an application or action made under the former Act is pending, such application or action shall be dealt with under the former Act but the grant thereafter shall be subject to this Act.

(7) Nothing in this Act shall affect the incorporation of any company registered under any enactment hereby repealed

## **Amendment of Schedules**

**276.** The Governor may, on the advice of the Commission, by order amend the Schedules to this Act in such manner as the Governor considers necessary.

## **Repeals and amendments**

**277.** The enactments set out in the second column of Schedule 3 to this Act are repealed or amended to the extent specified in the third column with effect from the date specified in the fourth column.

**Citation**

**268.** This Act may be cited as the Anguilla Business Companies Act, 2021.

SECOND DRAFT

**SCHEDULE 1**  
**SAVINGS & TRANSITIONAL**

**Transitional**

(1) Where in any enactment the expression “registered under the Companies Act or the International Business Companies Act” occurs, the expression, unless the context otherwise requires, shall also refer to incorporation, continuation or registration under this Act in respect of all transactions, matters or things subsequent to the commencement date.

(3) Where in any enactment a reference is made to winding up under, or to the winding up provisions of, the former Act, then, unless the context otherwise requires, it also refers, in respect of all transactions, matters or things subsequent to the commencement date, to winding up or dissolution under this Act.

(4) A reference in an enactment to the former Act shall, as regards a transaction, matter or things subsequent to the commencement date, also be construed and applied, unless the context otherwise requires, as a reference to the provisions of this Act that relate to the same subject-matter as the provisions of the former Act; but if there are no provisions in this Act that relate to the same subject-matter, the former Act is to be construed and applied as unrepealed so far as is necessary to do so to maintain or give effect to the enactment.

(5) For the purposes of this section —

“enactment” means an Act or regulation or any provision of an Act or regulation; and

“regulation” includes an order, regulation, order in council, order prescribing regulations, rule, Rule of Court, form, tariff of costs or fees, letters patent, commission, warrant, and any instrument issued, made or established—

- (i) in the execution of a power conferred by or under an Act other than the former Act; or
- (ii) by or under the authority of the Governor.

SECOND DRAFT

**SCHEDULE 2  
REPEAL**

SECOND DRAFT



*Speaker*

Passed by the House of Assembly this day of , 2021.

SECOND DRAFT  
*Clerk of the House of Assembly*