



## NEL HOLDINGS SOUTH LIMITED

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### POLICY ON BOARD DIVERSITY

*(As approved by the Board at its meeting held on 29th April, 2022)*

#### PURPOSE

The Policy on Board Diversity (“the Policy”) sets out the approach to diversity on the Board of Directors (the ‘Board’) of NEL Holdings South Limited (NEL) (the “Company”).

The main purpose of this policy is to ensure that the company has balanced board members who bring multi-dimensional skills, experience and expertise so as to bring diversity of prospective to the business complexities the company faces and assist the company negative through the challenges it faces and ensure the compliance of Regulation 17, 17A and other applicable regulations of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and Section 149 and other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and rules made thereunder.

#### POLICY STATEMENT:

The Company recognises and embraces the benefits of having a diverse Board that possesses a balance of skills, experience, expertise and diversity of perspectives appropriate to the requirements of the businesses of the Company. The Company sees increasing diversity at Board level as an essential element in maintaining a competitive advantage. A truly diverse Board will include and make good use of differences in the skills, regional and industry experience, background, race, gender and other distinctions between Directors. These differences will be considered in determining the optimum composition of the Board and when possible should be balanced appropriately. The Company maintains that Board appointments should be based on merit that complements and expands the skills, experience and expertise of the Board as a whole taking into account knowledge, professional experience and qualifications, gender, age, cultural and educational background, and any other factors that the Board might consider relevant and applicable from time to time for it to function effectively because the company is committed to equality of opportunity in all aspects of its business and does not discriminate on the grounds of race, gender, disability and nationality, religious or philosophical belief, age or any other factor.

In the process of attaining a diverse Board based on the aforementioned criteria, the following criteria needs to be assessed:

**(i) Optimum Composition**

- a. The Board shall have an optimum combination of executive and non-executive directors and not less than fifty percent of the Board of Directors comprising of non-executive directors.
- b. At least half of the Board should comprise of Independent Directors (where the Chairman of the Board is executive) or at least 50% of the Board consisting of Independent Directors In any case, the Company should strive to ensure that the number of Independent Directors do not fall below the above prescribed combination so as to enable the Board to function smoothly and effectively.
- c. where the chairperson of the board of directors is a non-executive director, at least one-third of the board of directors shall comprise of independent directors and where the listed entity does not have a regular non-executive chairperson, at least half of the board of directors shall comprise of independent directors:  
  
Provided that where the regular non-executive chairperson is a promoter of the listed entity or is related to any promoter or person occupying management positions at the level of board of director or at one level below the board of directors, at least half of the board of directors of the listed entity shall consist of independent directors.
- d. The Company shall have at least one woman director on the Board to ensure that there is no gender inequality on the Board.

**(ii) Functional Diversity**

- a. Appointment of Directors to the Board of the Company should be based on the specific needs and business of the Company. Appointments should be done based on the qualification, knowledge, experience and skill of the proposed appointee.
- b. Knowledge of and experience in domain areas such as Power Sector, Power Trading, Legal, Risk, Management, Human Resources, etc. should be duly considered while making appointments to the Board level.
- c. While appointing independent directors, care should be taken as to the independence of the proposed appointee and shall be appointed from the Independent Directors Databank of IICA.
- d. Directorships in other companies may also be taken into account while determining the candidature of a person.

**(iii) Stakeholder Diversity**

- a. The Company may also have Directors on its Board representing the interest of any financial institution or any other person in accordance with the provisions of its Articles of Association and/or any agreement between the Company and the nominating agency.
- b. Subject to the provisions of Section 151 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the relevant rules made thereunder, the Company may, upon notice of not less than one thousand small

shareholders or one-tenth of the total number of such shareholders, whichever is lower, have a small shareholders' director elected by the small shareholders.

### **ROLE OF NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE (NRC)**

The Nomination and Remuneration Committee will follow the process to identify and nominate the proposed director to be appointed as per the requirement of the Company from time to time from the diversified field to the Board for their approval. The benefits of diversity continue to influence succession planning and are key criteria in the instructions to external search consultants.

The Nomination and Remuneration Committee (NRC) of the Company shall review and assess Board composition on behalf of the Board and shall recommend to the Board, the appointment of new Directors based on their qualifications, positive attributes and independence. In reviewing Board composition, NRC will consider the benefits of all aspects of diversity including, but not limited to, those described above, in order to enable it to discharge its duties and responsibilities effectively.

### **REVIEW OF THE POLICY**

The Nomination and Remuneration Committee (NRC) will review the Policy which will include an assessment of the effectiveness of the Policy.

The NRC will discuss any revisions that may be required and recommend any such revisions to the Board for approval.