

## **DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE OF EUROKAI GMBH & CO. KGAA WITH THE GERMAN CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CODE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 161 OF THE GERMAN STOCK CORPORATION ACT (AKTG)**

Pursuant to Section 161 of the German Stock Corporation Act (AktG), the Management Board of Kurt F. W. A. Eckelmann GmbH, Hamburg, as Personally Liable General Partner, and the Supervisory Board of EUROKAI GmbH & Co. KGaA, Hamburg (hereinafter "EUROKAI"), taking into account the specific organisational distinctions of the legal form of a partnership limited by shares (KGaA) as set out in the following (cf. Section I), and the structuring of this legal form through EUROKAI's Articles of Association, declare that, with the exception of the deviations set out in the following (cf. Section II), in the period since the last Declaration of Compliance of February 2020, EUROKAI has complied with and will continue to comply with the recommendations of the "Government Commission German Corporate Governance Code" in the version dated 16 December 2019 and published in the Federal Gazette on 20 March 2020 (hereinafter the "Code").

### **I. SPECIFIC ORGANISATIONAL DISTINCTIONS OF THE LEGAL FORM OF A PARTNERSHIP LIMITED BY SHARES (KGAA)**

- EUROKAI is a Kommanditgesellschaft auf Aktien ("KGaA" – partnership limited by shares). In a KGaA, the duties of the management board of a stock corporation ("AG") are the responsibility of the personally liable general partner. The sole Personally Liable General Partner of EUROKAI is Kurt F. W. A. Eckelmann GmbH, Hamburg, whose Management Board is thus responsible for conducting the business of EUROKAI. EUROKAI does not hold an interest in the Personally Liable General Partner. The sole shareholder of the Personally Liable General Partner is Familie Thomas Eckelmann GmbH & Co. KG, Hamburg, which is controlled entirely by the family of Mr Thomas H. Eckelmann.
- In comparison with the supervisory board of a German stock corporation, the role of a supervisory board of a KGaA is limited. In particular, the Supervisory Board of EUROKAI is not responsible for appointing or dismissing general partners or for regulating the terms and conditions of their contracts. For this reason, the Supervisory Board is not able to fulfil the recommendations in Section B of the Code regarding Appointments to the Management Board. Similarly it is not within the competence of the Supervisory Board to issue rules of procedure for the Management Board or determine business transactions requiring approval. For this reason, Section 7 of EUROKAI's Articles of Association requires that the Personally Liable General Partner obtain the prior approval of the Supervisory Board for all extraordinary transactions. To this end, Section 7 of the Articles of Association contains a catalogue of business transactions requiring approval. The duty of the management board of a stock corporation to report to and inform the supervisory board, as governed by Section 90 AktG, applies analogously to EUROKAI

as a KGaA. EUROKAI has also separately regulated the information and reporting duties of the Personally Liable General Partner. These can be found on the company's website under Corporate Governance.

- The general meeting of a KGaA fundamentally has the same rights as the general meeting of an AG; it additionally resolves on the adoption of EUROKAI's annual financial statements. Many of the resolutions made by the General Meeting require the consent of the Personally Liable General Partner; particularly the adoption of EUROKAI's annual financial statements.
- Although the concrete wording of the recommendations of the Code does not in all instances take into account the specific organisational distinctions of the legal form of a KGaA, the Personally Liable General Partner, Kurt F. W. A. Eckelmann GmbH, and the Supervisory Board have agreed to currently and in future comply with the recommendations of the Code as far as possible. The deviations from the recommendations of the Code are presented in Section II below.

### **II. DEVIATIONS FROM THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CODE**

The following are the only provisions of the Code that were not applied and will not be applied in the future:

#### **II.1 No. C.2 – Specification of an age limit for Supervisory Board members**

Both the Personally Liable General Partner and the Supervisory Board believe that setting a fixed age limit is detrimental due to its lack of flexibility. They consider a regular limit to be sufficient.

#### **II.2 No. D.5 – Nomination Committee**

Pursuant to Recommendation D.5 of the Code, the Supervisory Board shall form a nomination committee, composed exclusively of shareholder representatives, which names suitable candidates to the Supervisory Board for its proposals to the General Meeting.

The Personally Liable General Partner and the Supervisory Board are of the opinion that a nomination committee is not required since the Supervisory Board is composed of only six representatives of the shareholders and is therefore in a position to directly and efficiently make election recommendations to the General Meeting.

#### **II.3 No. D.7 – The Supervisory Board shall also meet on a regular basis without the Management Board**

The Supervisory Board will meet without the Management Board of the Personally Liable General Partner as is deemed necessary. The Supervisory Board believes regular meetings at fixed intervals are not required.

## II.4 No. F.2 – Financial Reporting

Pursuant to Recommendation F.2 of the Code, the consolidated financial statements and the group management report shall be made publicly accessible within 90 days from the end of the financial year, while mandatory interim financial information shall be made publicly accessible within 45 days from the end of the reporting period.

EUROKAI does not apply this recommendation, and practically is not in a position to do so. EUROKAI is a pure financial holding company and therefore relies on the figures provided by its investment holdings, which it regularly does not receive in time to comply with the recommendation. The consolidated financial statements are published pursuant to the requirements of Section 325 (4) of the German Commercial Code (HGB) and the half-yearly report pursuant to the requirements under Section 115 of the German Securities Trading Act (WpHG).

Hamburg, Germany,  
March 2021

Personally Liable General Partner  
Kurt F. W. A. Eckelmann GmbH, Hamburg

Thomas H. Eckelmann  
Cecilia E. M. Eckelmann-Battistello

Supervisory Board  
Dr Winfried Steeger