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## Nippon Sanso Holdings Corporation

Toshihiko Hamada, Representative Director, President CEO

Contact: +81-3-5788-8500

TSE Code: 4091

<https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp>

The corporate governance of Nippon Sanso Holdings Corporation (the “Company”) is described below:

### I. Basic thinking on corporate governance, capital structure, corporate attributes and other basic information

#### 1. Basic Thinking on Corporate Governance

From the perspective of ensuring sustainable growth of the Company and long-term increase of corporate value, taking into account the positions of shareholders and other stakeholders, customers, employees, and local communities, the Company believes that the essence of corporate governance involves ensuring transparency and fairness of decision-making, making effective use of the management resources available, and maximizing the efficiency and strength of management through prompt and decisive decision-making. The Company will work toward a full implementation of correct corporate governance based on the basic approach below.

- (1) The Company will respect shareholders’ rights and ensure their equality.
- (2) The Company will consider the benefits of shareholders and other stakeholders and work appropriately in partnership with those stakeholders.
- (3) The Company will ensure transparency by releasing appropriate corporate information at appropriate times.
- (4) By separating supervisory and executive functions, the Company will improve effectiveness of the Board of Directors’ supervisory function over the Company’s business executions.
- (5) The Company will engage in constructive dialogue with shareholders in order to contribute to the sustainable growth of the Group and the medium- to long-term improvement of corporate value.

#### [Reasons for Not Implementing the Principles of the Corporate Governance Code]

[Updated]

[The Code Applied]

The following is presented in accordance with Japan’s Corporate Governance Code revised in June 2021:

[Supplementary Principle 4.11.1 Appointment of Outside Director(s) with Management Experience]

None of the Company's independent outside directors have the experience of managing listed companies or Japanese subsidiaries of global enterprises. However, Director Eduardo Gil Elejoste has the experience of managing non-Group companies, an example being that he was responsible for the European business of Praxair, Inc. when the business was acquired by the Company. In addition to him, President CEO Toshihiko Hamada, Chairman of the Board Yujiro Ichihara, and Directors Kenji Nagata and Thomas Scott Kallman have all ample management experience in that they currently manage or previously managed Group companies respectively as their president. As a result, the Company's Board of Directors is engaged in discussions drawing on the members' experience of managing various Group and non-Group companies, albeit having no independent outside directors with management experience appointed.

The Company has nominated Mr. Katsumi Nagasawa who has the management experience of a managing corporate executive officer of Hitachi, Lt. etc. as candidate for a director at the 18<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of the Company to be held on June 17, 2022. (<https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/en/ir/stock/meeting.html>)

**[Disclosure Based on the Principles of the Corporate Governance Code] [Updated]**

[Principle 1.4 Cross-Shareholdings]

The Company has established its policy on strategic holdings of listed stock and basic rules on exercising voting rights in relation to strategic stock holdings in Article 4 of Principles of Corporate Governance available on its corporate website. The Board of Directors annually carries out a comprehensive assessment of each of strategic stock holdings both quantitatively, by using the Return on Invested Capital (ROIC) indicator, and qualitatively, by analyzing its business needs and other matters, and thereby verify whether there are sufficient reasons for each individual stock holding.

([https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/nippon-sanso-holdings-corporate-governance-principles\\_en.pdf](https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/nippon-sanso-holdings-corporate-governance-principles_en.pdf))

[Principle 1.7 Related Party Transactions]

The Company has established the framework of procedures for related party transactions in Article 5 of Principles of Corporate Governance available on the Company's website.

([https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/nippon-sanso-holdings-corporate-governance-principles\\_en.pdf](https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/nippon-sanso-holdings-corporate-governance-principles_en.pdf))

[Supplementary Principle 2.4.1 Ensuring Diversity in the Promotion of Core Human Resources and Other Elements]

#### [Ensuring Diversity]

The Nippon Sanso Holdings Group has in place its “Global Policy on Respecting Human Rights, Contributing to Communities, Employment, Labor and Health.” Under the “Code of Conduct” based on the policy, all officers and employees are striving to establish an environment in which they can work while respecting diversity. Based on the recognition that ensuring diversity is important to the Group’s development, we will be committed to the following initiatives.

#### [Promotion of Women’s Active Participation]

One of nine directors of the company is woman and the ration of women to its total employees is 17.4% at the end of fiscal 2021 ended in March 2022. As a goal of the next Medium-Term Management Plan, we have set the fiscal 2025 ending March 2026 targets of 22% in the ratio of women to the Group’s total employees (20.1% at the end of fiscal 2020 ended in March 2021) and 18% in the ratio of women to its total officers (14.6% as of the same date). We will strive to improve institutional systems enabling proactive employment of women and permitting their flexible work style, establish a management training scheme designed to appoint women to managerial posts, and undertake other measures in an aggressive manner.

#### [Mid-career Recruitment]

In the Group’s overseas affiliated companies, most officers and employees are mid-career hires, and we recognize that diversity is ensured continuously. In fiscal 2021 ended in March 2022, Nippon Sanso Holdings Corporation and its main business company, Taiyo Nippon Sanso Corporation, proactively recruited mid-career professionals equipped with necessary skills, employing 33 of them. The ratio of mid-career officers and employees to the company’s total officers and employees is 20.9 % at the end of fiscal 2021 ended in March 2022. In the future as well, we will seek to employ mid-career professionals necessary from the viewpoint of placing the right person in the right position.

#### [Recruitment of Foreign Nationals]

The Group is operating globally, and employees of foreign nationality account for most of employees in the Group companies except for the domestic operation of Taiyo Nippon Sanso and Thermos groups, with their ratio reaching about 66% as of the end of fiscal 2020 ended in March 2021. As for the Nippon Sanso Holdings, two of its nine Board members and one of its four executive officers are foreign nationals. Globally oriented management is in place at the company, with important meetings and decision-making are basically conducted in English. It has four non-Japanese employees, or 5% of the total, as of the end of fiscal 2021 ended in March 2022. Looking ahead, we will strive to realize proactive personnel exchanges with overseas business companies, setting up a structure matching a global holding company.

[Employment of Persons with Disabilities]

Taiyo Nippon Sanso, the main domestic business company, has been aggressively hiring people with disabilities, and the ratio of people with disabilities to total employees is 2.56%. that achieves the legally mandated 2.3% target of their employment. We will continue to strive to employ such human resources and establish an easy-to-work environment in an effort to contribute to expansion of their working opportunities.

[Principle 2.6 Roles of Corporate Pension Funds as Asset Owners]

Taiyo Nippon Sanso (TNSC) which is the core business company of the Company group has established the Corporate Pension Managing Committee that has been engaged in deliberation of the management of corporate pension. TNSC has managed the corporate pension fund in accordance with the basic policy of managing pension reserves and based on the strategic asset contribution ratio necessary for achieving the target of the pension asset management in order to ensure stable management of the employee's assets, while properly controlling conflict of interests. Furthermore, TNSC has appointed the best trustees based on the strategic asset contribution ratio, evaluated the quantitative and qualitative aspects of the trustees designated by TNSC, and disclosed to employees the summary of performance by trustee, including the investment results of corporate pension fund.

[Principle 3.1 (1) Full Disclosure]

The Company has formulated its corporate philosophy and published it on its corporate website.

(<https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/en/company/mission.html>)

The Company has formulated its Four-Year Medium-Term Management Plan “NS Vision 2026~Enabling the Future” final fiscal year of which is fiscal 2025 ending March 2026 and published it on its corporate website.

(<https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/en/ir/management/plan.html>)

[Principle 3.1 (2) Full Disclosure]

The Company has formulated Principles of Corporate Governance as its basic thinking and policy on corporate governance and published it on its corporate website.

([https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/nippon-sanso-holdings-corporate-governance-principles\\_en.pdf](https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/nippon-sanso-holdings-corporate-governance-principles_en.pdf))

[Principle 3.1 (3) Full Disclosure]

As regards the policy and procedures for the Board of Directors' determining of the remuneration of management personnel and directors, please refer to “Disclosure of Policy on Determining Remuneration Amounts and Calculation Methods” in the subsection “Director Remuneration” under the section “1. Matters on Organizational Composition and Operation” under the part “II . Business Management Organization and Other Corporate Governance Systems regarding Decision-making, Execution of Business, and Oversight in Management” of this report.

[Principle 3-1(4) Full Disclosure]

The Company has defined its policy and procedures for the Board of Directors' appointment of executive officers and nominating candidates of directors and Audit & Supervisory Board members in Articles 13 through 15 of Principles of Corporate Governance available on its corporate website.

([https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/nippon-sanso-holdings-corporate-governance-principles\\_en.pdf](https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/nippon-sanso-holdings-corporate-governance-principles_en.pdf))

[Principle 3-1(5) Explanations with respect to the individual appointments/dismissals and nominations of executive officers, candidates of directors and Audit & Supervisory Board members]

Explanation of the reason for nominating as candidate for directors and Audit & Supervisory Board members is made in the proposal for the election of directors and election of Audit & Supervisory Board members stipulated in the reference documentation for the General Meeting of Shareholders. In the case the candidates are scheduled to be appointed as executive officers at the board meeting to be held after the General Meeting of Shareholders, the explanation is made taking such appointment into consideration. The Company has published the notice of convocation for the 18<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders that includes reference documentation on its corporate website.

(<https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/en/ir/stock/meeting.html>)

[Supplementary Principle 3.1.3 Disclosure of Company Initiatives on Sustainability]

The Company details its sustainability initiatives and human capital investment on pages 56-85 and 140-175 of the Integrated Report available on the link below.

([https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/ir/library/integrated\\_report/nippon-sanso-holdings-integrated-report\\_en-full\\_2021.pdf](https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/ir/library/integrated_report/nippon-sanso-holdings-integrated-report_en-full_2021.pdf))

Also, Taiyo Nippon Sanso Corporation, a principal operating company of the Group, explains investment in intellectual property on its website.

(<https://www.tn-sanso.co.jp/jp/rd/intellectual> [in Japanese])

The Company collects and analyzes the necessary data on the impact of climate change-related risks and earning opportunities on its business activities, profits, and other factors in accordance with the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) recommendations. The results are presented on pages 66-67 of the Integrated Report available on the link below. Note that TCFD-based disclosure complies with the principle that applies to the companies listed on the Prime Market.

([https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/ir/library/integrated\\_report/nippon-](https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/ir/library/integrated_report/nippon-)

[sanzo-holdings-integrated-report\\_en-full\\_2021.pdf](#))

[Principle 4.1.1 Roles and Responsibilities of the Board]

The Company has defined the scope and content of the matters for which the authority is delegated to the management in Article 7.3 of Principles of Corporate Governance available on its corporate website.

([https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/nippon-sanso-holdings-corporate-governance-principles\\_en.pdf](https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/nippon-sanso-holdings-corporate-governance-principles_en.pdf))

[Principle 4.9 Independence Standards and Qualification for Independent Directors]

The Company has defined the independence standards for independent outside directors in Attachment 1 to Principles of Corporate Governance available on the Company's website.

([https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/nippon-sanso-holdings-corporate-governance-principles\\_en.pdf](https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/nippon-sanso-holdings-corporate-governance-principles_en.pdf))

[Supplementary Principle 4.10.1 Nomination and Remuneration Committees]

The Company outlines the mandates, roles, policy regarding the independence, and such, of its Advisory Committee on Appointments and Remuneration later in this Report: see the Supplementary Explanation to Voluntary Establishment of Committee(s), Members and Attributes of Chairperson in the Directors section of "1. Matters on Organizational Composition and Operation" under "II. Business Management Organization regarding Decision-making, Execution of Business, and Oversight in Management/ Other Corporate Governance Systems." Note that this disclosure complies with the principle that applies to the companies listed on the Prime Market.

[Supplementary Principle 4.11.1 Preconditions for Board and *Kansayaku* Board Effectiveness]

The Company has determined its view on the appropriate balance between knowledge, experience, and skills, as well as diversity and appropriate size, of the Board of Directors as a whole, which is set out in Article 9 of the Principles of Corporate Governance available on its website.

([https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/nippon-sanso-holdings-corporate-governance-principles\\_en.pdf](https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/nippon-sanso-holdings-corporate-governance-principles_en.pdf))

In addition, the Company creates a skills matrix that shows the knowledge, experience, skills, and other expertise possessed by individual directors, as presented on pages 130-131 of the Integrated Report available on the link below.

([https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/ir/library/integrated\\_report/nippon-sanso-holdings-integrated-report\\_en-full\\_2021.pdf](https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/ir/library/integrated_report/nippon-sanso-holdings-integrated-report_en-full_2021.pdf))

Skill matrix of candidate for directors is presented on pages 15 to 16 of the reference

documentation of the convocation notice for the 18<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders to be held on June 17 2022.

<https://www.nipponranso-hd.co.jp/en/ir/stock/meeting.html>)

[Supplementary Principle 4.11.2 Preconditions for Board and Audit & Supervisory Board Effectiveness]

Outside director, Mitsuhiro Katsumaru is also serving as outside director of Shimano Inc. Director, Hidefumi Date is serving as Director of Mitsubishi Chemical Holdings Corporation, None of outside Audit & Supervisory Board members has a concurrent position of any other listed company.

[Supplementary Principle 4.11.3 Evaluation of Board of Directors' Effectiveness]

The Company has published the process and result of evaluation of board of directors' effectiveness on its corporate website.

[https://www.nipponranso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/Evaluation-of-the-Board-of-Directors-Effectiveness\\_EN.pdf](https://www.nipponranso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/Evaluation-of-the-Board-of-Directors-Effectiveness_EN.pdf))

[Supplementary Principle 4.14.2 Director and Audit & Supervisory Board Members Training]

The Company has defined its training policy for directors and Audit & Supervisory Board members in Article 17 of Principles of Corporate Governance available on the Company's corporate website.

[https://www.nipponranso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/nippon-ranso-holdings-corporate-governance-principles\\_en.pdf](https://www.nipponranso-hd.co.jp/Portals/0/images/company/governance/nippon-ranso-holdings-corporate-governance-principles_en.pdf))

[Supplementary Principle 5.1 Dialogue with Shareholders]

The Company has formulated Nippon Sanso Holdings Group Investor Relations (IR) Policy (Basic Principles for Dialogue and Disclosures Concerning IR Activities) as a policy on the structure and initiatives to facilitate constructive dialogue with shareholders and published it on the Company's website.

<https://www.nipponranso-hd.co.jp/en/ir/management/irpolicy.html>)

## 2. Capital Structure

Foreign Shareholding Ratio	10% or more and less than 20%
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**[Status of Major Shareholders] [Updated]**

Name / Company Name	Number of Shares Owned	Percentage (%)
Mitsubishi Chemical Holdings Corporation	218,996,766	50.59
The Master Trust Bank of Japan, Ltd. (trust account)	30,798,000	7.11
Taiyo Nippon Sanso Corporation stock holding association for clients and suppliers	17,085,921	3.95
Custody Bank of Japan, Ltd. (trust account)	13,377,600	3.09
Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance Company	10,007,471	2.31
Mizuho Bank, Ltd.	8,182,847	1.89
The Norinchukin Bank	3,500,440	0.81
Nippon Sanso Holdings Corporation stock holding association for employees	3,180,608	0.73
JP MORGAN CHASE BANK 385632	3,167,767	0.73
IBIDEN CO., LTD	3,004,844	0.69

Controlling Shareholder (except for Parent Company)	N/A
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Parent Company	Mitsubishi Chemical Holdings Corporation (TSE Code: 4188)
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**Supplementary Explanation**

N/A

**3. Corporate Attributes**

Listed Stock Market and Market Section	Tokyo Stock Exchange First Section
Fiscal Year-End	March
Type of Business	Chemical
Number of Employees (consolidated) as of the End of the Previous Fiscal Year	1000 or more
Sales (consolidated) as of the End of the Previous Fiscal Year	¥100 billion or more and less than ¥1 trillion
Number of Consolidated Subsidiaries as of the End of the Previous Fiscal Year	100 or more and less than 300

**4. Policy on Measures to Protect Minority Shareholders in Conducting Transactions with Controlling Shareholder**

When entering into a transaction with its controlling shareholder, the Company has a policy to define reasonable contractual conditions and prices in reference to other transactions and market prices. Furthermore, the Company will obtain approval of the Board of Directors for any material transaction with its controlling shareholder that is not included in the ordinary course of business. The Company seeks to secure the objectivity and transparency of the Board of Directors in deliberations on transactions with the controlling shareholder, by appointing three independent outside directors who are independent of the controlling shareholder so that they make up a third of the nine-member Board of Directors.

#### **5. Other Special Circumstances which may have Material Impact on Corporate Governance [Updated]**

The Company has entered into the basic agreement with its parent company, Mitsubishi Chemical Holdings Corporation, dated on May 13, 2014, whereby Mitsubishi Chemical Holdings Corporation shall, under its Group Management Regulations, respect the Company's independence and provide it with full support and cooperation.

If a conflict of interest occurs between the parent company and other shareholders, Nippon Sanso Holding's directors take action so as not to harm the interests of the other shareholders. We appoint three independent outside directors and two full-time independent outside members of the Audit & Supervisory Board. They supervise that any conflict of interest between the parent company and other shareholders should not happen. In addition, we have an Advisory Committee on Appointment and Remuneration that is established voluntary for the Board of Directors to consult with regarding the nomination of candidates for directors and members of the Audit & Supervisory Board, as well as the appointment and dismissal of CEO and other executive officers. The committee consists of five members, the president, chairman of the board and three independent outside directors, one of them serving as the chairperson. With such structure, we ensure independence from the parent company of the appointment of senior executives.

Majority five out of nine candidates for the directors are candidates for independent outside directors at the 18<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of the Company to be held on June 17, 2022.

### **II. Business Management Organization regarding Decision-making, Execution of Business, and Oversight in Management/ Other Corporate Governance Systems**

#### **1. Matters on Organizational Composition and Operation**

Organization Form	Company with an Audit & Supervisory Board
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**[Directors]**

Maximum Number of Directors Stipulated in Articles of Incorporation	15
Term of Office Stipulated in Articles of Incorporation	One year
Chairperson of the Board	Other than CEO
Number of Directors	9
Appointment of Outside Directors	Appointed
Number of Outside Directors	3
Number of Independent Outside Directors	3

**Outside Directors' Relationship with the Company (1)**

Name	Attribute	Relationship with the Company*												
		a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k		
Akio Yamada	Other													○
Mitsuhiro Katsumaru	Lawyer													○
Miri Hara	Certified Tax Accountant													○

\*Categories for "Relationship with the Company"

\* "○" when the director presently falls or has recently fallen under the category;

"△" when the director fell under the category in the past

\* "●" when a close relative of the director presently falls or has recently fallen under the category;

"▲" when a close relative of the director fell under the category in the past

- Executive of the Company or its subsidiaries
- Non-executive director or executive of a parent company of the Company
- Executive of a fellow subsidiary company of the Company
- A party whose major client or supplier is the Company or an executive thereof
- Major client or supplier of the Company or an executive thereof
- Consultant, accountant or legal professional who receives a large amount of monetary consideration or other property from the Company besides compensation as a director/ audit & supervisory board member
- Major shareholder of the Company (or an executive of the said major shareholder if the shareholder is a legal entity)
- Executive of a client or supplier company of the Company (which does not correspond to any of d, e, or f) (the director himself/herself only)
- Executive of a company, between which and the Company outside directors/ audit & supervisory board member are mutually appointed (the director himself/herself only)
- Executive of a company or organization that receives a donation from the Company (the director himself/herself only)
- Others

Outside Directors' Relationship with the Company (2)

Name	Designation as Independent Director	Supplementary Explanation of the Relationship	Reasons of Appointment
Akio Yamada	○	-----	Mr. Yamada, currently assuming Chairman of Fair Trade Institute, has held important positions at Japan Fair Trade Commission and has experience serving as an outside director of another listed companies, and thus the Company considers him qualified to be an outside director. On top of that, the Company has selected him as an independent director who is unlikely to have conflicts of interest with general shareholders based on such background.
Mitsuhiro Katsumaru	○	-----	Mr. Katsumaru, who is a registered attorney, has held important positions at the Ministry of Justice and Public Prosecutors Offices and thus the Company considers him qualified to be an outside director. On top of that, the Company has selected him as an independent director who is unlikely to have conflicts of interest with general shareholders based on such background.
Miri Hara	○		Miri Hara has served as a director of real estate management company over many years, and also has wide-ranging experience of serving as Representative Certified Public Tax Accountant of Tax Corporation, and an outside director at a publicly listed company and thus the Company considers her qualified to be an outside director. On top of that, the Company has selected him as an independent director who is unlikely to have conflicts of interest with general shareholders based on such background.

Voluntary Establishment of Committee(s) Corresponding to Nomination Committee or Remuneration Committee	Established
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#### Voluntary Establishment of Committee(s), Members and Attributes of Chairperson

	Committee's Name	All Committee Members	Full-time Members	Internal Directors	Outside Directors	External experts	Other members	Chair person
Voluntary Committee Corresponding to Nomination Committee	Advisory Committee on Appointments and Remuneration	5	0	2	3	0	0	Outside director
Voluntary Committee Corresponding to Remuneration Committee	Advisory Committee on Appointments and Remuneration	5	0	2	3	0	0	Outside director

#### Supplementary Explanation

The Company's Advisory Committee on Appointments and Remuneration is an organ that advises the Board of Directors. The five-member Committee consists of the representative director and president CEO, the chairman of the board, and the three independent outside directors, and is chaired by Independent Outside Director Akio Yamada. This composition—namely, independent outside directors making up the majority with the chairperson being one of them—ensures the Committee's independence as well as its objectivity and transparency in decision-making. The Committee operates in compliance with the Regulations of the Advisory Committee on Appointments and Remuneration of Nippon Sanso Holdings Corporation approved by the Board of Directors. It is consulted by the Board of Directors on such matters as the selection of candidates for the office of director or member of the Audit & Supervisory Board, appointment and dismissal of executive officers, selection of a successor to the representative director and president CEO, and revision of the internal regulations on director remuneration. After deliberations on the matters consulted upon, the Committee decides by a majority vote and reports the results to the Board of Directors.

#### [Audit & Supervisory Board Members]

Establishment of Audit & Supervisory Board	Established
Maximum Number of Audit & Supervisory Board Members Stipulated in Articles of Incorporation	5
Number of Audit & Supervisory Board Members	4

#### Coordination among Audit & Supervisory Board Members, Independent Auditors and Internal Audit Departments

The Audit & Supervisory Board comprises four full-time members, three of whom are outside members. Audit & Supervisory Board members attend meetings of the Board of Directors and the Management Committee to oversee directors' business execution objectively and form and express opinions impartially. The Audit & Supervisory Board conducts its audit in coordination with Independent Auditors and Corporate Audit Office. The Audit & Supervisory Board receives reports from the Independent Auditors about their auditing plans and the status of their audit, and also receives reports from Corporate Audit Office about the results of internal audit.

Furthermore, the secretariat of the Audit & Supervisory Board staffed by full-time personnel has been in place to help Audit & Supervisory Board members with their duties and thereby ensure the effectiveness of audit conducted by the Audit & Supervisory Board.

Appointment of Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Members	Appointed
Number of Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Members	3
Number of Independent Audit & Supervisory Board Members	2

Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Member's Relationship with the Company (1)

Name	Attribute	Relationship with the Company*										
		a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k
Akihiro Hashimoto	From another company										△	
Masahiro Osada	From another company			△		△						
Kazuya Kobayashi	From another company										△	

\* Categories for "Relationship with the Company"

\* "○" when the audit & supervisory board member presently falls or has recently fallen under the category;

"△" when the audit & supervisory board member fell under the category in the past

\* "●" when a close relative of the audit & supervisory board member presently falls or has recently fallen under the category;

"▲" when a close relative of the audit & supervisory board member fell under the category in the past

- a. Executive of the Company or its subsidiary
- b. Non-executive director or accounting advisor of the Company or its subsidiaries
- c. Non-executive director or executive of a parent company of the Company
- d. Audit & supervisory board member of a parent company of the Company
- e. Executive of a fellow subsidiary company of the Company
- f. A party whose major client or supplier is the Company or an executive thereof
- g. Major client or supplier of the Company or an executive thereof
- h. Consultant, accountant or legal professional who receives a large amount of monetary consideration or other property from the Company besides compensation as an audit & supervisory board member
- i. Major shareholder of the Company (or an executive of the said major shareholder if the shareholder is a legal entity)
- j. Executive of a client or supplier company of the Company (which does not correspond to any of f, g, or h) (the audit & supervisory board member himself/herself only)
- k. Executive of a company, between which and the Company outside directors/ audit & supervisory board member are mutually appointed (the audit & supervisory board member himself/herself only)
- l. Executive of a company or organization that receives a donation from the Company (the audit & supervisory board member himself/herself only)
- m. Others

Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Member's Relationship with the Company (2) **[Updated]**

Name	Designation as Independent Audit & Supervisory Board member	Supplementary Explanation of the Relationship	Reasons of Appointment
Akihiro Hashimoto	○	Mr. Hashimoto is invited from Mizuho Bank, Ltd. which is the Company's lender. The group companies' outstanding borrowings to the bank was 280,857 million yen at the end of March 2022.	Mr. Hashimoto is appointed as an Outside Audit & Supervisory Board member for his long-term experience at financial institutions and his substantial level of accounting and financial knowledge. On top of that, the Company has selected him as an independent Audit & Supervisory Board member who is unlikely to have conflicts of interest with general shareholders based on such background.
Masahiro Osada		Mr. Osada is invited from Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation, which is the Company's fellow company and client. The annual amount of transactions between the group companies and Mitsubishi Chemical stood at 5,784 million yen for the year ended in March 2022.	Mr. Osada is appointed as an Outside Audit & Supervisory Board member for his experience at accounting departments and corporate management department of a chemical company and his substantial level of financial and accounting knowledge.
Kazuya Kobayashi	○	Mr. Kobayashi is invited from Mizuho Bank, Ltd. which is the Company's lender. The group companies' outstanding borrowings to the bank was 280,857 million yen at the end of March 2022.	Mr. Kobayashi is appointed as an Outside Audit & Supervisory Board member for his long-term experience at financial institutions and his substantial level of accounting and financial knowledge. On top of that, the Company has selected him as an independent Audit & Supervisory Board member who is unlikely to have conflicts of interest with general shareholders based on such background.

**[Independent Directors/ Audit & Supervisory Board member]**

Number of Independent Directors/ Audit & Supervisory Board member	5
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#### Other Matters relating to Independent Directors

N/A

#### [Incentives]

Implementation of incentive measures for Directors	Performance-linked bonuses
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#### Supplementary Explanation on Relevant Matter [Updated]

The Board of Directors and the Audit and Supervisory Board consult with the Advisory Committee on Appointment & Remuneration about appropriateness of the remuneration system for the directors and A&S Board members. The Advisory Committee on Appointment & Remuneration discusses the issue and submits the result to the Board of Directors and the Audit and Supervisory Board. Remunerations for directors consist of the fixed “Basic Monthly Remuneration,” which is base salary specific to each rank, and “Performance-linked Bonuses” which vary according to business results. The proportion of the two portions is approximately six to four, which is reflected in the amount of remuneration for each director. Outside directors and directors whose main jobs are directors of subsidiaries receive the fixed “Basic Monthly Remuneration” only as remuneration for directors of the Company. The Performance-linked Bonuses are determined on the basis of the following formula.

Performance-linked Bonuses (variable) = Rank-specific standard amount x Coefficient based on evaluation related to Performance-linked Bonuses

The following figures are applied to the coefficient based on evaluation related to Performance-linked Bonuses in order to judge the status of achievements of medium-term management plan targets while strengthening the extent of their interlocking with the Company's business results as well as improving their objectivity and transparency.

- Degree of achievements of each fiscal year's budget based on medium-term management plan targets (consolidated revenue and consolidated core operating profit margin)
- Year-on-year improvements in business results (consolidated revenue, consolidated core operating profit and profit attributable to owners of the parent company)
- Targets & results of indicators tied to Performance-linked Bonuses for directors (excluding outside directors and directors whose main jobs are directors of subsidiaries) in FY2021 ending March 2022

Degree of achievement in this FY's budget

Indicator for evaluation	Weight for Evaluation	Target for FYE2022	Results for FYE 2022
Consolidated revenue	25%	865,000 mil. yen	957,169 mil. yen
Consolidated core operating profit margin	25%	11.1%	10.7 %

#### Year-on-year performance improvements

Indicator for evaluation	Weight for Evaluation	Results of FYE 2021	Results of FYE 2022
Consolidated revenue	16.6%	818,238 mil. yen	957,169 mil. yen
Consolidated core operating profit	16.6%	87,251 mil. yen	102,710 mil. yen
Profit attributable to owners of parent company	16.6%	55,214 mil. yen	64,103 mil. yen

(Note) Since the medium-term management plan has not been formulated yet for the FYE March 2022, “Degree of achievement in the budget of the FYE March 2022 (Consolidated revenue and Consolidated core operating profit margin)” is used to calculate directors’ performance-linked remuneration (approved by the Board of Directors held on June 18, 2021), instead of “Degree of achievement in the budget based on medium-term management plan targets (Consolidated revenue and Consolidated core operating profit margin)” specified by the Company’s internal regulations on remuneration for directors.

Recipients of Stock Options	
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#### Supplementary Explanation on Relevant Matter

N/A

#### [Director Remuneration]

Disclosure of Individual Directors’ Remuneration	No Individual Disclosure
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#### Supplementary Explanation on Relevant Matter [Updated]

The Company discloses the total amount of remuneration for directors.

The total amount of remuneration for 10 directors was 233 million yen, including 33 million yen for three outside directors.

Total amount of remunerations by type:

- Basic Remuneration: 174 million yen, including 33 million yen for three outside directors
- Performance-tied Remuneration: 59 million yen

※ For the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

These amount includes remuneration for 1 director who retired during the year.

Policy on Determining Remuneration Amounts and Calculation Methods	Established
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#### Disclosure of Policy on Determining Remuneration Amounts and Calculation Methods

The amount of remuneration, etc. for directors and auditors is determined by a resolution adopted at the General Meeting of Shareholders in the form of a cap on the total amount for all directors and another cap on the total amount for all auditors. The amount of remuneration for each director is determined on the basis of the policy described in [Incentives] and supplementary explanation of “Implementation of incentive measures for Directors” The board of directors has approved internal regulation that reflected the policy. Outside directors

and directors whose main jobs are directors of subsidiaries are paid the fixed “Basic Monthly Remuneration” only as remuneration for directors of the Company. Remuneration for directors is based in principle on an annual salary system, with the amount paid monthly equivalent to one-12th of the annual salary.

Representative Director who is authorized to decide the amount of each director’s remuneration calculates it according to the internal regulations. The amount of remuneration for directors is to be unambiguously calculated from their rank and performance based on the internal regulations, and it is possible to verify the results of calculations by the Representative Director. The Company has established the advisory committee on appointments and remuneration that consisted of five members that are President, Chairman of the Board and three independent outside directors and chaired by an independent outside director. The Committee continuously discusses directors’ remuneration at the consultation of the board of directors.

#### **[Supporting System for Outside Directors and/or Audit & Supervisory Board Members]**

For Audit & Supervisory Board members, full-time personnel are in place in the secretariat of the Audit & Supervisory Board to help them perform their duties. For outside directors, relevant materials are provided along with agenda items prior to a meeting of the Board of Directors, and a person in charge of an agenda item gives explanation where necessary. Further, outside directors and the Audit & Supervisory Board regularly meet to exchange information and share the same recognition concerning the Company’s business, internal control, corporate governance and other matters.

## **2. Matters on Functions of Business Execution, Auditing, Oversight, Nomination, and Remuneration Decisions (Overview of Current Corporate Governance System)**

The Board of Directors consists of nine members, two of whom are independent, and operates to ensure correct business judgement. The Articles of Incorporation stipulates that the maximum number of directors on the Board of Directors is 15. The Board of Directors holds a regular monthly meeting to discuss important matters and hear reports about business activities. The Company has established the Advisory Committee on Appointments and Remuneration as a discretionary advisory committee under the Board of Directors. The committee is chaired by outside director, Akio Yamada, and attended by President (CEO), Toshihiko Hamada, Chairman of the Board, Yujiro Ichihara, and outside director, Mitsuhiro Katsumaru and Miri Hara. The Board of Directors consults this committee regarding the selection of candidates for the position of director and Audit & Supervisory Board member, the appointment and dismissal of President (CEO) and executive officers, the choosing of successors to President (CEO) and revisions of the internal regulations on director’s compensation, and seeks advice from the independent outside directors to ensure the transparency and objectivity of decision making.

In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation of the Company and Article 427(1) of the Companies Act, the Company has entered into agreements with each outside director to limit their liability for damages stipulated in Article 423(1) of the Companies Act, and has set their maximum liability for damages in accordance with Article 425(1) of the Companies Act.

In addition to the Board of Directors, the Company has established the Management Committee consisting of directors and concerned executive officers for prompt decision

making. The term of a director has been limited to one year in order to facilitate responsible management in each fiscal year. The Audit & Supervisory Board comprises four full-time members and three of them are outside members. Audit & Supervisory Board members attend meetings of the Board of Directors and the Management Committee to oversee directors' business execution objectively and form and express opinions impartially. The Audit & Supervisory Board conducts its audit in coordination with Independent Auditors and Corporate Audit Office as well. The Audit & Supervisory Board receives reports from the Independent Auditors about their auditing plans and the status of their audit, and also receives reports from Corporate Audit Office about the results of internal audit. Furthermore, the secretariat of the Audit & Supervisory Board staffed by full-time personnel has been in place to help Audit & Supervisory Board members with their duties and thereby ensure the effectiveness of audit conducted by the Audit & Supervisory Board.

Three outside directors and two outside Audit & Supervisory Board members are independent. The Company appoints Ernst & Young ShinNihon LLC as an accounting auditor. In addition to that the Company has established Code of Conduct of Nippon Sanso Holdings Group and strives to ensure compliance and business ethics of the group companies.

### **3. Reasons for Adoption of Current Corporate Governance System**

The Company considers that the system described above in “2. Matters on Functions of Business Execution, Auditing, Oversight, Nomination, and Remuneration Decisions” is the most appropriate corporate governance system for the Company in light of characteristics and size of the Group's business.

The Company has three outside directors. The Audit & Supervisory Board comprises four full-time members, three of whom are outside. Having the three outside directors and two out of the three outside members of the Audit & Supervisory Board satisfies the independence standard for outside directors/Audit & Supervisory Board members required by the Tokyo Stock Exchange. The Company ensures the objectivity and fairness of management oversight functions.

## **III. Measures Implemented for Shareholders and Other Stakeholders**

### **1. Measures to Ensure Active General Meetings of Shareholders and Smooth Exercise of Voting Rights [Updated]**

	Supplementary Explanation
Early Notification of General Shareholder Meeting	Notices of convocation for General Meetings of Shareholders are mailed to shareholders at the earliest possible date prior to the date designated by law.
Scheduling GMs Avoiding Overlapping with Other AGMs	The Company sets the date for annual General Meetings of Shareholders early to avoid dates on which many other shareholders' meetings are held.
Allowing Electronic Exercise of Voting Rights	To enhance the convenience for exercising shareholders' voting rights, the Company has allowed shareholders to exercise their voting rights electronically.

	Supplementary Explanation
Participation in an Electronic Voting Platform and Other Measures for Enhancing the Exercise of Voting Rights of Institutional Investors	The Company has used the platform provided by ICJ, Inc. to enable institutional investors to exercise their voting rights electronically.
Provision of Convocation Notice (Summary) in English	The Company has notices of convocation (in the narrow sense) of, and reference documentation for, General Meetings of Shareholders, business reports, part of financial statements, independent auditor's audit report and audit report of the audit and supervisory board translated into English, and posts them on its website and the Tokyo Stock Exchange's Company Announcements Service, along with Japanese version of the notices of convocation.
Other	Notices of convocation of General Meetings of Shareholders are posted on the Company's website and the Tokyo Stock Exchange's Company Announcements Service, prior to being sent out to shareholders.

## 2. IR Activities

	Supplementary Explanation	Provision of Explanations by the Company Representative
Regular Investor Briefings for Analysts and Institutional Investors	Twice a year, following announcement of the full year and the first half consolidated business performance respectively, the Company holds investor briefings with presentations by President (CEO) for analysts from securities firms and institutional investors. CFO explains business result every quarter via telephone conference on the date the result is disclosed. In addition to that CFO or IR manager participates conference held by investors and makes presentation of company's business and financial result.	Provided
Posting of IR Materials on Corporate website	1. Financial Results 2. Notices of Convocation and Resolution of General Meeting of Shareholders	

	3. Integrated Report 4. Annual Securities Report 5. Electronic Public Notice Others	
Establishment of Department and/or Manager in Charge of IR	Investor Relations of Group Finance and Accounting	

### 3. Measures to Ensure Due Respect for Stakeholders

	Supplementary Explanation
Stipulation of Internal Rules for Respecting the Position of Stakeholders	The Group stipulates respect for the position of stakeholders in its Code of Conduct and the related policies, all of which are available on the Company's website.
Implementation of Environmental Activities, CSR Activities etc.	The Company prepares an Integrated Report for the performance of environmental activities, CSR activities and other matters each year and publishes it on its corporate website.

## **IV. Matters Related to the Internal Control System** [Updated]

### **1. Basic Thinking on Internal Control System and the Progress of System Development**

#### Basic Policy on Internal Control System

The Board of Directors of the Company has approved a resolution as follows regarding a framework for ensuring the appropriateness of business (internal control system) pursuant to provisions in the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Companies Act.

Also, part of the contents was revised at the Board of Directors held on March 24, 2022. The main point of revision is the change of the name of positions of “Chief Compliance Officer” and “Regional Compliance Officer,” to “Group Chief Compliance Officer” and “Regional Chief Compliance Officer,” and the stipulation of “Global Compliance Committee” held by the Group Chief Compliance Officer.

#### **1. A system to ensure that the execution of duties by directors and employees of the Group comply with laws and regulations and the Articles of Incorporation.**

- The directors of the Company shall determine the basic policy of compliance in the Group and establish the organization and rules to ensure its effectiveness.
- The Group Chief Compliance Officer (hereinafter referred to as “Group CCO”) is assigned to the Company, and a Regional Chief Compliance Officer (hereinafter referred to as “Regional CCO”) is assigned to each region. The Group CCO is in charge of supervision of compliance promotion activities in the Group, and the Regional CCO is in charge of supervision of compliance promotion activities in its region.
- The Group CCO and Regional CCO shall strive to enhance and establish the Group's compliance promotion activities.
- The “Global Compliance Committee” is held by the Group CCO on a regular basis, to share the compliance promotion policy and contents of compliance promotion activities in each region, and to discuss on the respective issue as necessary.
- We will establish a whistleblowing system in Japan and overseas to ensure a system that allows us to report compliance violations within the Group and the possibility of such violations without suffering any disadvantages.
- In order to ensure the reliability of financial reporting, an internal control reporting system shall be established and its effective and efficient operation and evaluation shall be carried out.
- Internal audit department of the Company shall carry out an internal audit of the operational status of the above organizations, institutions.

#### **2. Matters concerning the storage and management of information related to the**

#### **execution of duties by directors**

- Information related to the execution of duties by directors will be appropriately stored and managed based on the Information Security Management Regulations and other related regulations based on the Information Management Basic Policy of the Group
- The above storage and management shall maintain the information available to directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members.
- The Company's internal audit department shall carry out an internal audit of the above operational status.

#### **3. Regulations and other systems for managing the risk of loss for the Group**

- The directors of the Company shall determine the basic policy of risk management in the Group and establish the organization and rules to ensure its effectiveness.
- Risk management shall be carried out by the department in charge of the relevant field, and Global Risk Management Committee shall be established to select important risks for the entire Group and formulate countermeasure.
- Internal audit department of the Company shall carry out an internal audit of the operational status of the above organizations, institutions.

#### **4. A system to ensure the efficient execution of duties by the directors of the Group**

- In order to ensure the efficiency of the duties of the directors, the board of directors shall make reasonable division of duties and appoint appropriate executive officers.
- The Representative Director and President shall execute his duties based on the basic policy specified by the Board of Directors, and discuss and decide on the necessary issues at the management meeting.
- The Global Strategy Review Committee shall formulate the Group's management strategy and manage its progress.
- A long-term management vision and a group medium-term management plan shall be formulated, quantitative and qualitative targets shall be set in order to achieve the plan, and performance management shall be carried out through quarterly monitoring.

#### **5. A System to ensure the appropriateness of operations in the Group**

- Based on the above policy, group management rules and other related rules, we manage its business, and compliance promotion, risk management and other systems that make up the internal control system shall cover the entire group, and as a holding company, the company shall maintain and operate the internal control system while respecting the independence of each group company. We shall support and manage it according to the

situation.

- Internal audit department of the company shall cooperate with the internal audit department of each company of the Group, and shall grasp and evaluate the maintenance status of the internal control system of the Group through the audit of each company of the Group.

**6. A system for employees when Audit & Supervisory Board Members request the appointment of employees to assist them**

- As an organization that assists the duties of Audit & Supervisory Board Members, the secretariat of the Audit & Supervisory Board Members, which is independent of the command and order of directors, shall be established and dedicated employees shall be assigned.

**7. Matters concerning the independence of employees in the previous item from directors and ensuring the effectiveness of instructions given to such employees**

- The employee of the secretariat of Audit & Supervisory Board Members in the preceding item shall not receive the command and order of the directors when receiving an order necessary for audit work from Audit & Supervisory Board Members.
- The evaluation of the employee shall be carried out by the Audit & Supervisory Board Members, and the prior consent of the Audit & Supervisory Board Members shall be obtained for the transfer and disciplinary action.

**8. A system for reporting to the Audit & Supervisory Board Members of the Company, system for ensuring that the person who reported to the Audit & Supervisory Board Members of the Company will not be treated unfavorably because of the report**

- Audit & Supervisory Board Members and Directors shall hold regular meetings to share information, and Directors and Employees shall report the following matters ① to ⑤ to Audit & Supervisory Board Members without delay in addition to the legal matters.
- The directors and employees of the company and the directors, corporate auditors and employees of each group company report to the department in charge of the company regarding matters corresponding to ④ or ⑤ below, and also report directly to the Audit & Supervisory Board Members or the Board of Corporate Auditors. It shall be possible.
- It is prohibited for a person who has made a report to the Audit & Supervisory Board Members specified in this item to be treated unfavorably because of the report

- ① Contents decided by the Directors regarding important matters that affect the management of the Company or each Group company

- ② Results of internal audits conducted by the department in charge of the Company or each Group company
- ③ Of the whistleblowing, the content that has a significant impact on the management of the Company or each Group company
- ④ Matters that violate compliance and have a significant impact on the management of the Company or Group companies
- ⑤ Among matters related to quality defects and product defects, matters that have a significant impact on the management of the Company or each Group company

**9. Policy related to the processing of expenses or debts incurred in the execution of duties by Audit & Supervisory Board Members**

When an Audit & Supervisory Board Member make a request for prepayment or reimbursement of expenses for the execution of their duties, they promptly apply unless it is deemed that the expenses or obligations related to the request are not necessary for the execution of his / her duties. Expenses or debts shall be dealt with.

**10. Other systems to ensure that audits by Audit & Supervisory Board Members are conducted effectively**

The Board of Auditors receives prior reports on the audit plans of Accounting Auditor and regularly receives reports on the Auditing Plan of Accounting Auditor in order to cooperate with the internal audit department, supervise Accounting Auditor, and ensure the independence of the Accounting Auditor from the directors. We shall maintain close contact with each other by receiving reports of audit results.

**2. Basic Thinking on Eliminating Anti-Social Forces and the Progress of System Development**

Basic Policy on Eliminating Anti-Social Forces

The Group’s Code of Conduct has the section titled “Rejection of Relationship with Anti-Social Forces” that specifies “the Group reacts resolutely towards anti-social forces and will never have any relationship with anti-social forces. Moreover, the Group will resolutely reject any unreasonable request made by anti-social forces or their equivalent and will not try to solve the request with money.” The Company ensures that this principle is made known thoroughly to its officers and employees.

**V. Other**

**1. Adoption of Anti-Takeover Measures**

Adoption of Anti-Takeover Measures	Not Adopted
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## Supplementary Explanation on Relevant Matter

N/A

### **2. Other Matters Concerning to Corporate Governance Organization**

#### 1. Our Approach to Timely Disclosure

The Company has established the Nippon Sanso Group Code of Conduct to guide the conduct of all Group officers and employees, which stipulates that: we are aware of the importance of accountability in corporate activities, where we reserve transparency; we always maintain an open stance to internal and external stakeholders and endeavor to disclose information in an appropriate manner; we are truly open to views and criticism concerning information disclosure and have good faith communication, which we optimize in corporate activities.

The Company has also maintained Nippon Sanso Holdings Group Investor Relations (IR) Policy (Basic Principles for Dialogue and Disclosures Concerning IR Activities) and published it on its corporate website.

(<https://www.nipponsanso-hd.co.jp/en/ir/management/irpolicy.html>)

#### 2. Overview of Timely Disclosure

The specifics of the Company's system for timely disclosures are as follows:

Executive Officer of the Group Finance and Accounting is responsible for handling information for timely disclosure, and Investor Relations of Group Finance and Accounting and Accounting of Group Finance and Accounting are responsible for announcement thereof.

##### (1) Disclosure of Information on Decision

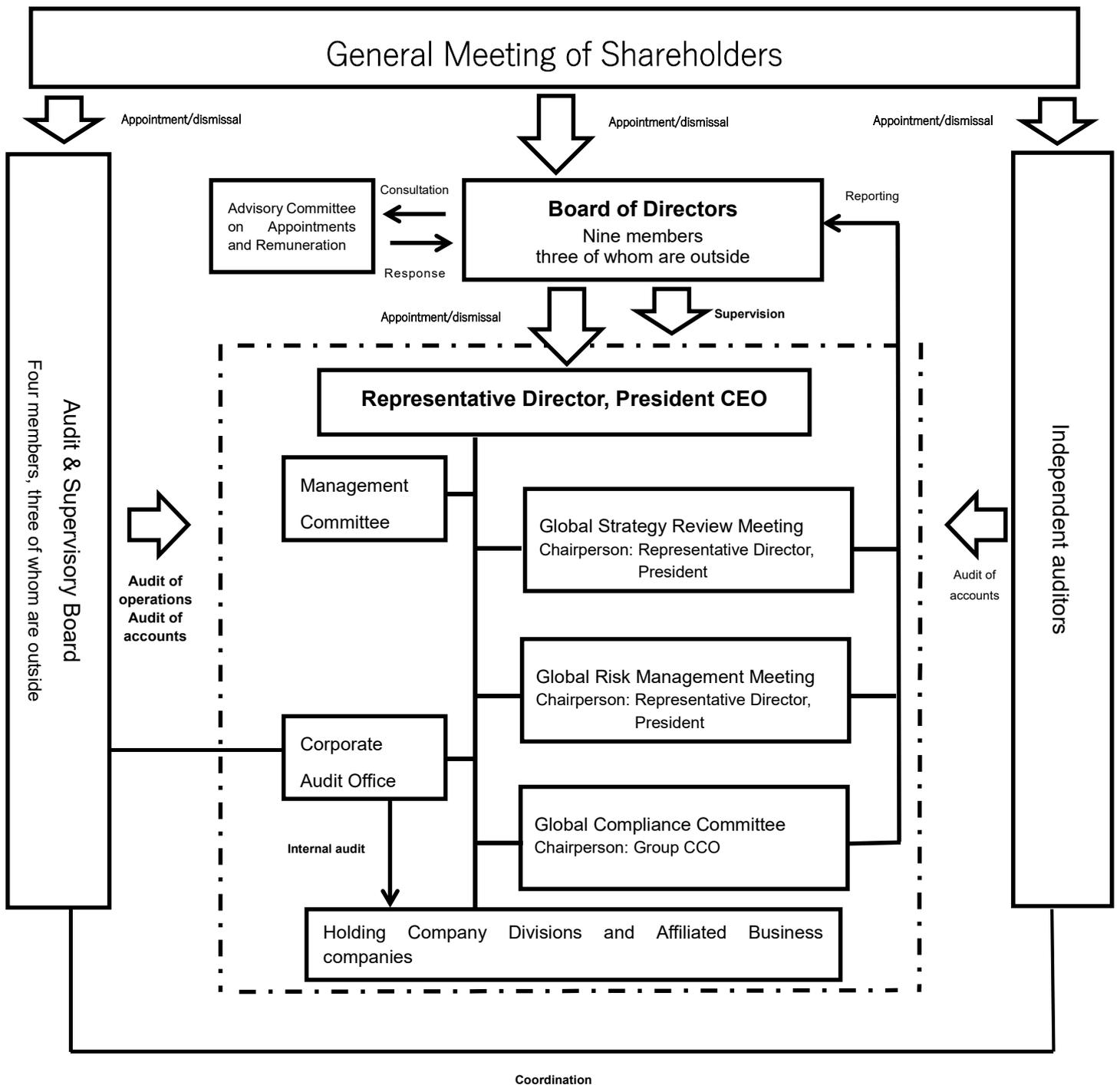
Decisions made by the Board of Directors that, in the opinion of Group Chief Compliance Officer ("GCCO"), fall under the information subject to timely disclosure shall be disclosed in a timely manner by Investor Relations of Group Finance and Accounting or Accounting of Group Finance and Accounting.

##### (2) Disclosure of Information on Occurrence of Material Fact

When any fact that might constitute a material fact has occurred, a business division that becomes aware of the occurrence must report on it to GCCO and then, where necessary, to President (CEO), the Board of Directors, and the Management Committee. If GCCO determines that the occurrence of the material fact falls under the information subject to timely disclosure, the information shall be disclosed in a timely manner by Investor Relations of Group Finance and Accounting or Accounting of Group Finance and Accounting.

##### (3) Financial Information

Information on financial results shall be disclosed in a timely manner by Investor Relations of Group Finance and Accounting and Accounting of Group Finance and Accounting under the instructions of GCCO subject to prior approval of the Board of Directors.



## Organizational Structure for Timely Disclosure

- 1. Information on Decision: 
- 2. Information on Occurrence of Material Fact: 
- 3. Financial information: 

