

# **Policy on dealing with Related Party Transactions**

**The Catholic Syrian Bank Limited**

## 1. Introduction:

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of The Catholic Syrian Bank Limited (the "Bank or Company") have adopted the following policy and procedures with regard to Related Party Transactions ('Dealing with Related Party Transaction (RPT) Policy'), in line with the requirements of Section 177,188 and other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the Companies (Meetings of Board and its Powers) Rules, 2014 (hereinafter referred to as 'The Act') and Securities Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirement) Regulations 2015.

The Board / Audit Committee will review and may amend this policy from time to time.

## 2. Purpose:

The objective of this policy is to ensure proper approval, disclosure and reporting of transactions as applicable, between the Bank and any of its related parties, in the best interest of the Bank and its stakeholders.

## 3. The Regulatory Framework:

- a) The Companies Act 2013 together with the Rules notified thereunder and Regulation 23 of the SEBI LODR Regulations (together referred to as "the applicable laws"), provide a framework for regulating transactions with Related Parties.
- b) This policy is framed as per the requirements of the applicable laws and shall operate within the boundaries set by the Laws.

## 4. Definition:

- a) **"The Act"** means the Companies Act, 2013, together with the Rules notified thereunder including any statutory modifications or re-enactments thereof for the time being in force (hereinafter referred to as "Act").
- b) **"Associate Company"** in relation to another company, means a company in which that other company has a significant influence, but which is not a subsidiary company of the company having such influence and includes a joint venture company.

[The expression "significant influence" means control of at least twenty per cent. of total voting power, or control of or participation in business decisions under an agreement;

The expression "joint venture" means a joint arrangement whereby the parties that have joint control of the arrangement have rights to the net assets of the arrangement;]

- c) **"Arm's length transaction"** means a transaction between two related parties that is conducted as if they were unrelated, so that there is no conflict of interest.
- d) **"Audit Committee"** has not been defined in Companies Act, 2013. However, the Act states that the Board of directors of every listed company and the following

class of companies shall constitute an Audit Committee –

- i. all public companies with a paid up capital of ten crore rupees or more;
- ii. all public companies having turnover of one hundred crore rupees or more;
- iii. all public companies, having in aggregate, outstanding loans or borrowings or debentures or deposits exceeding fifty crore rupees or more.

The paid up share capital or turnover or outstanding loans, or borrowings or debentures or deposits, as the case may be, as existing on the date of last audited Financial Statements shall be taken into account for the purposes of the above.

**e) "Board of Directors or Board"** in relation to a Company means the collective body of the directors of the Company.

**f) "Key Managerial Personnel"** in relation to a Company means

- i. The Chief Executive Officer, or the Managing Director or the Manager;
- ii. The Company Secretary;
- iii. The Whole-time director;
- iv. Chief Financial Officer;
- v. Such other officer, not more than one level below the directors who is in whole-time employment, designated as key managerial personnel by the Board; and
- vi. Such other officer as may be prescribed.

**g) "Material Related Party Transaction"** means a transaction to be entered into with a Related Party, individually or taken together with previous transactions during a financial year, exceeding the following thresholds:

- I. In case of transactions involving payments made with respect to brand usage or royalty, if it exceeds 2% of the annual consolidated turnover of the Company as per its last audited financial statements;
- II. In case of any other transaction(s), if the amount exceeds 10% (ten percent) of the annual consolidated turnover of the Company as per its last audited financial statements;

**h) "Regulation"** means Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, including any statutory modifications or re-enactments thereof for the time being in force (hereinafter referred to as "SEBI (LODR) Regulations").

**i) "Relatives"** with reference to any person means anyone who is related to another, if—

- I. they are members of a Hindu Undivided Family;
- II. they are husband and wife; or
- III. one person is related to the other in the following manner:
  - a) Father (including step-father)
  - b) Mother (including step-mother)
  - c) Son (including step-son)
  - d) Son's wife

- e) Daughter
- f) Daughter's husband
- g) Brother (including step-brother)
- h) Sister (including step-sister)

A "**transaction**" with a related party shall be construed to include single transaction or a group of transactions in a contract."

**j) "Related Party Transaction"** means a transaction involving transfer of resources, services or obligations between the Company and a Related Party, regardless of whether a price is charged and includes the following transactions

- a) sale, purchase or supply of any goods or materials;
- b) selling or otherwise disposing of, or buying, property of any kind;
- c) leasing of property of any kind;
- d) availing or rendering of any services;
- e) appointment of any agent for purchase or sale of goods, materials, services
- f) such related party's appointment to any office or place of profit in the Company, its subsidiary company or associate company and
- g) underwriting the subscription of any securities or derivatives thereof, of the Company

Explanation: Related Party Transaction includes a single transaction or a group of transactions in a contract, with a Related Party.

## **5. Policy on Related Party transactions:**

All Related Party Transactions must be reported to the Audit Committee for its approval in accordance with this Policy, the Act and the Rules.

## **6. Identification of Potential Related Party Transactions:**

Each director and Key Managerial Personnel is responsible for providing Notice to the Board or Audit Committee of any potential Related Party Transaction involving him/her or his/her relative, including any additional information about the transaction that the Board or Audit Committee may request. The Board shall record the disclosure of Interest and the Audit Committee will determine whether the transaction does, in fact, constitute a Related Party Transaction requiring compliance with this policy.

The Bank strongly prefers to receive such notice of any potential Related Party Transaction well in advance so that the Audit Committee has adequate time to obtain and review information about the proposed transaction.

## **7. Approval of Related Party Transactions:**

### **I. Approval of Audit Committee**

All Related Party Transactions shall require approval of Audit Committee, whether at a meeting or by Resolution by circulation.

Any member of the Audit Committee who has a potential interest in any Related Party Transaction will abstain from discussion and voting on the approval of the Related Party Transaction.

## **II. Procedure for approval**

The Audit Committee will be provided with all relevant material information of Related Party Transactions, including the terms of the transaction, the business purpose of the transaction, the benefits to the Bank and to the Related Party, and any other relevant matters as specified under the Act and SEBI Listing Regulations.

The Audit Committee may accordingly approve or modify such transactions, in accordance with this Policy and/or recommend the same to the Board for approval.

The Independent Directors shall pay sufficient attention and ensure that adequate deliberations are held before approving Related Party Transactions which are not in Ordinary Course of Business and not on arm's length and Material Specific Transactions and assure themselves that the same are in the interest of the Bank and its shareholders.

In the case of Transactions which are frequent and regular in nature and are in the normal course of business of the Bank, the Audit Committee may fix up Limits within which the management may carry out such Transactions without any approval of the Audit Committee for the specific transactions as long as these are carried out on the principles approved by the Audit Committee. Further, it shall periodically review and assess such limits and revise the same as deemed proper and ensure that they are in compliance of this Policy and the guidelines herein.

## **III. Omnibus Approval**

The Audit Committee may also grant omnibus approval for Related Party Transactions proposed to be entered into by the Company subject to the following:

- a) The Audit Committee shall, after obtaining approval of the Board of Directors, specify the criteria for making the omnibus approval which shall include the following, namely:-
  - i. maximum value of the transactions, in aggregate, which can be allowed under the omnibus route in a year;
  - ii. the maximum value per transaction which can be allowed;
  - iii. extent and manner of disclosures to be made to the Audit Committee at the time of seeking omnibus approval;
  - iv. review, at such intervals as the Audit Committee may deem fit, related party transaction entered into by the company pursuant to each of the omnibus approval made;
  - v. transactions which cannot be subject to the omnibus approval by the Audit Committee.
  
- b) The Audit Committee shall lay down the criteria for granting the omnibus approval in line with the policy on Related Party Transactions of the company and such approval shall be applicable in respect of transactions which are repetitive in nature. Further, the Audit Committee shall consider the following factors while specifying the criteria for making omnibus approval, namely: -
  - i. repetitiveness of the transactions (in past or in future);
  - ii. justification for the need of omnibus approval.

- c) The Audit Committee shall satisfy itself regarding the need for such omnibus approval and that such approval is in the interest of the Bank;
- d) Such omnibus approval shall specify
  - i. the name/s of the related party;
  - ii. nature and duration of the transaction;
  - iii. maximum amount of transaction that can be entered into;
  - iv. the indicative base price / current contracted price and the formula for variation in the price if any; and
  - v. such other conditions as the Audit Committee may deem fit or information relevant or important for the Audit Committee to take decision on the proposed transaction;

Provided that where the need for Related Party Transaction cannot be foreseen and aforesaid details are not available, Audit Committee may grant omnibus approval for such transactions subject to their value not exceeding Rs.1 crore per transaction.

- e) Audit Committee shall review, at least on a quarterly basis, the details of Related Party Transactions entered into by the Company pursuant to each of the omnibus approval given.
- f) Such omnibus approvals shall be valid for a period not exceeding one financial year and shall require fresh approvals after the expiry of such financial year.

## **8. Prior approval of the Board of Directors**

Transactions with the related parties which are either not in the Ordinary Course of Business or are not at Arms' Length shall require prior approval of the Board.

Where any director is interested in any contract or arrangement with a related party, such director shall not participate in the discussions on the subject matter of the resolution relating to such contract or arrangement.

The Board is required to approve the criteria for the omnibus approval as prescribed under point 6(III) (a) of this Policy.

## **9. Shareholders' approval:**

- i. All Material Related Party Transactions shall require approval of the Shareholders of the Company by way of a resolution passed at the general meeting of the Company; and no related party shall vote to approve such resolutions whether the entity is a party to the particular transaction or not.
- ii. All Related Party Transactions which are not in the ordinary course of business or not at arm's length and which are in excess of the limits prescribed under the Act requiring the approval of shareholders, shall require an approval of the Shareholders by way of a resolution passed at the general meeting of the Company; and in such cases, the Related Party/(ies) to the transaction shall abstain from voting on such resolution.

## **10. Related party transactions not approved under this policy:**

In the event the Bank becomes aware of a Transaction with a Related Party that has not been approved under this Policy prior to its consummation, the matter shall be reviewed by the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee shall consider all of the relevant facts and circumstances regarding the Related Party Transaction, and shall evaluate all options available to the Bank, including ratification, revision or termination of the Related Party Transaction. The Committee shall also examine the facts and circumstances pertaining to the failure of reporting such Related Party Transaction to the Committee under this Policy and failure of the internal control systems, and shall take any such action it deems appropriate.

In any case, where the Audit Committee determines not to ratify a Related Party Transaction that has been commenced without approval, the Audit Committee, as appropriate, may direct additional actions including, but not limited to, discontinuation of the transaction or seeking the approval of the shareholders, payment of compensation for the loss suffered by the related party etc. In connection with any review of a Related Party Transaction, the Audit Committee has authority to modify or waive any procedural requirements of this Policy.

## **11. Disclosure of related party transactions and Policy:**

This Policy will be communicated to all operational employees and other concerned persons of the Bank. The Bank shall disclose the policy on dealing with Related Party Transactions on its website and a web link thereto shall be provided in its Annual Report.

Further, disclosures on materially significant related party transactions that may have potential conflict with the interests of Bank at large shall be made in the Annual Report.

Such further disclosure of the related party transactions shall be made as may be prescribed by the Act or any other regulatory authority or statute from time to time in such format as may be prescribed.

## **12. Review of the Policy**

In case there are any regulatory changes requiring modifications to the Policy, the Policy shall be reviewed and amended at the next possible opportunity. However, the amended regulatory requirements will supersede the Policy till the time Policy is suitably amended.

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