# **Corporate Governance Guidelines**

This document clarifies the basic views and guidelines that must be followed in order for the Company to ensure and strengthen the effectiveness of corporate governance. The publishing of these guidelines is also intended to promote dialogue with shareholders and other stakeholders, leading to enhanced corporate governance.

### **Chapter 1 General Rules**

#### Article 1: The Company's Basic Views on Corporate Governance

The Company's raison d'être is to contribute to improving the health of people around the world through the provision of innovative and reliable pharmaceutical products. The Company aims to sustainably enhance enterprise value by being chosen and trusted by all stakeholders. With this business philosophy, we work to ensure and strengthen the effectiveness of corporate governance from the following perspectives:

- i) Ensuring transparency, appropriateness and agility of management; and
- ii) Fulfillment of our fiduciary duties and accountability to shareholders and appropriate collaboration with all stakeholders.

### **Chapter 2 Corporate Governance Systems**

#### **Article 2: Summary of Corporate Governance Systems**

The Company is working to develop and strengthen corporate governance systems to ensure transparency, appropriateness, and agility of management.

- i) The Company adopts the organizational structure of "Company with Audit & Supervisory Committee". Outside Directors constitute the majority of the Board of Directors and the Audit & Supervisory Committee, respectively.
- The Board of Directors determines basic policies of management business strategies and other matters, and serves the oversight function of business execution.
- iii) As an organ for handling execution of business, the Company establishes the Executive Committee for discussing important matters, and also appoints Top Management (the President and Chief Executive Officer; the Chief Strategy Officer; the Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Ethics & Compliance Officer; the Chief Medical Officer; the Chief Commercial Officer; the Chief Scientific Officer; the Chief Financial Officer; the General Counsel; and the Chief Manufacturing Officer are collectively referred to as "Top Management"), who are responsible for the execution of business. The responsibility and authority for the execution of business by the Executive Committee and Top Management are clearly stipulated in "Corporate Decision Authority Policy".
- iv) As advisory bodies to the Board of Directors, the Company establishes the Nomination Committee and the Compensation Committee, each of which are composed of a majority of outside Directors.

#### **Article 3: Role of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors ensures the transparency and appropriateness of management by

making decision of corporate management policies and corporate strategies, etc. and serving the oversight function of the execution of business. Furthermore, the Board of Directors ensures the agility of management by delegating a substantial part of decision-making authority of important business execution to an executive Director by resolution of the Board of Directors and establishing "Corporate Decision Authority Policy" to clarify the responsibility and authority for the execution of business by Top Management and others.

#### **Article 4: Composition of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors, in consideration of diversity and balance from the perspectives of expertise and experience and so forth, is composed of a number of Directors appropriate to facilitate agility. Board of Directors meetings are chaired by the Director and Chairman of the Board. In order to ensure decision-making from a broader viewpoint and objective oversight of the execution of business, the Board of Directors is composed of a majority of outside Directors. At least one of the independent outside Directors is to have management experience at other companies.

#### **Article 5: Operation of the Board of Directors Meeting**

The Board of Directors meeting shall be held at least once every three (3) months and additionally as necessary. The Company also establishes the Board of Directors secretariat for the purpose of ensuring the smooth operation of Board of Directors meetings.

#### **Article 6: Responsibilities of Directors**

Directors, as members of the Board of Directors, participate in the business management decision-making process through resolutions of the Board of Directors, while also overseeing the performance of duties of the other Directors. In addition, Directors are required to contribute to the sustainable enhancement of the Company's enterprise value by actively engaging in discussions at Board meetings as well as collecting information as needed for the performance of their duties, in order to fully demonstrate their abilities.

Outside Directors are required to improve the appropriateness of the Company's business

management by overseeing the Company's execution of business from an independent standpoint while also harnessing their own knowledge and experience to provide advice from a standpoint that differs from that of internal Directors.

#### Article 7: Role of the Audit & Supervisory Committee

The Audit & Supervisory Committee is the only deliberation body and decision-making body for the purpose of forming opinions with regard to audits by Audit & Supervisory Committee, and the Audit & Supervisory Committee, where necessary, provides its opinions to Directors or the Board of Directors.

#### Article 8: Composition of the Audit & Supervisory Committee

The Audit & Supervisory Committee is composed of all the Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members, and the chairman of the Audit & Supervisory Committee is determined by resolution of the Audit & Supervisory Committee. The Audit & Supervisory Committee, in order to further enhance the independence and neutrality of the Company's audit systems, is also composed of a majority of outside Directors. Those who are elected as Audit & Supervisory Committee Members are to have appropriate experience and skills as well as necessary knowledge on finance, accounting and law. In particular, at least one of the Audit & Supervisory Committee Members is to have sufficient expertise on finance and accounting.

#### Article 9: Operation of the Audit & Supervisory Committee Meeting

The Audit & Supervisory Committee Meeting is held once a month as a general rule, with extraordinary meetings held as necessary. The Audit & Supervisory Committee secretariat is composed of staff working solely for the Audit & Supervisory Committee and independent from persons engaged in execution of business, and ensures the effectiveness of the audit by Audit & Supervisory Committee by performing the work required of an Audit & Supervisory Committee secretariat and by supporting the audit work.

# Article 10: Responsibilities of Audit & Supervisory Committee and the Committee Members

Audit & Supervisory Board Committee assumes a part of corporate supervisory function, and contributes to the establishment of effective corporate governance systems by auditing the performance of duties by Directors, as an independent organization entrusted by shareholders. In order to fulfill their duties, Audit & Supervisory Committee or the Committee Members attend important meetings, review the content of reports received from officers, employees, Financial Auditors and others, investigate the status of the Company's business and financial assets, and take any necessary measures in a timely manner, including expressing suggestions, recommendations or opinions to officers or employees, as well as seeking injunctions against acts of Directors.

#### Article 11: The Role of the Nomination Committee and the Compensation Committee

The Company establishes the Nomination Committee and the Compensation Committee as advisory bodies to the Board of Directors in order to improve the transparency and objectivity of the deliberation process regarding election and dismissal of Directors, etc. and remuneration systems. The Board of Directors respects the opinions offered by the Nomination Committee and the Compensation Committee.

#### - Role of the Nomination Committee

The Nomination Committee deliberates matters relating to the election and dismissal of Directors, and the appointment and removal of Top Management and others, and reports the results of their deliberations to the Board of Directors.

#### - Role of the Compensation Committee

The Compensation Committee deliberates matters relating to the financial benefits to be received by Directors, Top Management and others (except for financial benefits for each Director who is an Audit & Supervisory Committee Member) as a consideration for the performance of the duties, such as remunerations and bonuses (hereinafter referred to as "Remunerations"), and reports the results of their deliberations to the Board of Directors.

# Article 12: Composition of the Nomination Committee and the Compensation Committee

The Nomination Committee and the Compensation Committee are composed of members elected by the Board of Directors, and the majority of each committee's members are outside Directors. In addition, the chair of each committee is an outside Director elected by the respective committee members.

#### **Article 13: Policies and Procedures regarding Remunerations for Directors**

Remunerations for Directors are so designed as to enable the Company to recruit and retain talents, and to make the remuneration structures and levels fully commensurate with the responsibilities of the position.

 Remunerations for internal Directors who are not Audit & Supervisory Committee Members

Remunerations for internal Directors who are not Audit & Supervisory Committee Members are determined based on the following factors:

- i) Competitive remuneration system
  - A remuneration structure and levels that enable the Company to recruit and retain talents

ii) Remuneration system that emphasizes increasing enterprise value and shareholder value

• A remuneration system and composition that are closely linked to performance

with an emphasis on increasing enterprise value and shareholder value over the medium- to long-term

- iii) Fair and impartial remuneration system
  - A fair and impartial remuneration system based on responsibility and results regardless of country and region

Based on the factors above, remunerations for internal Directors who are not Audit & Supervisory Committee Members are to consist of basic remuneration (fixed remuneration), bonus (short-term incentive remuneration) and stock compensation (medium- to long-term incentive remuneration). Levels of remunerations are determined based on the factors such as professional responsibilities, by utilizing objective remuneration survey data of an external expert organization. The remuneration levels and individual remuneration for internal Directors who are not Audit & Supervisory Committee Members are determined by a resolution of the Board of Directors, within the remuneration limit resolved in the Annual Shareholders Meeting.

## Remunerations for outside Directors who are not Audit & Supervisory Committee Members

Remunerations for outside Directors who are not Audit & Supervisory Committee Members are to consist solely of basic remuneration (fixed remuneration), given that their roles involve supervising the Company's management from an objective and independent standpoint. Levels of basic remuneration are determined based on the factors such as professional responsibilities, in reference particularly to objective remuneration survey data of an external expert organization. The level of basic remuneration and individual remuneration for outside Directors who are not Audit & Supervisory Committee Members are determined by a resolution of the Board of Directors, within the remuneration limit resolved in the Annual Shareholders Meeting.

## Remunerations for internal Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members

Remunerations for internal Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members are to consist solely of basic remuneration (fixed remuneration), given that their roles involve supervising and auditing the management. Levels of basic remuneration are determined based on the factors such as professional responsibilities, in reference particularly to objective remuneration survey data of an external expert organization. The level of basic remuneration and individual remuneration for internal Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members are determined by deliberation of Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members, within the remuneration limit resolved in the Annual Shareholders Meeting.

# Remunerations for outside Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members

Remunerations for outside Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members are to consist solely of basic remuneration (fixed remuneration), given that their roles involve supervising and auditing the Company's management from an objective and independent standpoint. Levels of basic remuneration are determined based on the factors such as professional responsibilities, in reference particularly to objective remuneration survey data of an external expert organization. The level of basic remuneration and individual remuneration for outside Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members are determined by deliberation of Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members, within the remuneration limit resolved in the Annual Shareholders Meeting.

#### **Article 14: Policies and Procedures for Nominating Candidates for Directors**

Through the deliberations of the Nomination Committee, the Company enhances the transparency and objectivity of the nomination process for candidates for Director. When nominating candidates for outside Directors, the Company, as a general rule, nominates the candidates who are considered to be independent from the Company and without risk of conflict of interest with general shareholders, based on the Company's "Independence Standards for Outside Directors".

## Policies and procedures for nominating candidates for Directors who are not Audit & Supervisory Committee Members

Directors who are not Audit & Supervisory Committee Members are subject to election by resolution of a General Meeting of Shareholders each year. When nominating candidates for Directors who are not Audit & Supervisory Committee Members, those who satisfy the election/re-election standards separately established by the Board of Directors are nominated, and efforts are made to ensure that the composition of the Board of Directors is diverse and well-balanced from the perspectives of expertise and experience and so forth. Candidates for Directors who are not Audit & Supervisory Committee Members are nominated by resolution of the Board of Directors with due respect to the opinions of the Nomination Committee.

# Policies and procedures for nominating candidates for Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members

Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members are subject to election by resolution of a General Meeting of Shareholders every other year. When nominating candidates for Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members, those who satisfy the election/re-election standards separately established by the Board of Directors are nominated, and efforts are made to ensure that the composition of the Audit & Supervisory Committee is diverse and well-balanced from the perspectives of expertise and experience and so forth, including a person with sufficient expertise on finance and accounting. Candidates for Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members are nominated by resolution of the Board of Directors with due respect to the opinions of the Nomination Committee. Proposals regarding the election of Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members are subject to the agreement of the Audit & Supervisory Committee before submission to the General Meeting of Shareholders.

#### - Dismissal of Directors

Should a Director fall under one of disciplinary categories defined in the Disciplinary Policy for Directors, the Board of Directors may, by its resolution after discussions at the Nomination Committee, make a proposal to dismiss such Director at the General Meeting of Shareholders and/or remove such Director from the executive position.

# Article 15: Policies and procedures in appointment/removal of CEO and the Succession Planning

Through the deliberations of the Nomination Committee, the Company enhances the transparency and objectivity of the deliberation process for appointment of CEO.

CEO is appointed by resolution of the Board of Directors with due respect to the opinions of the Nomination Committee. CEO must satisfy the following standards, and the current business environment and business strategy are also considered in the appointment process:

- i) Person who has superior insight for the future and is flexible with a rapidly changing internal and external environment.
- ii) Person who is brilliant at planning, decision and execution in times of uncertainty, and is able to fulfill accountability about the decisions.
- iii) Person who has such a strong personal magnetism that the person is relied on by employees of Astellas Group of Companies and is trusted by stakeholders.

CEO is subject to appointment by resolution of the Board of Directors each year. In the case of re-appointment, in addition to the standards above set forth being satisfied, performance and contribution during the tenure as CEO are also considered.

Planning for CEO succession is discussed transparently at the Nomination Committee from various perspectives including methods of selecting successors and training potential successors, and is appropriately reported to the Board of Directors.

#### **Article 16: Support Structures for Directors**

The Company supports active deliberations at the Board of Directors and Audit & Supervisory Committee by providing to Directors the information they need to fulfill their roles and responsibilities. In particular, the Company implements training programs for newly elected outside Directors, through which they are provided with industry information pertaining to the Company, the Company's business strategies, and other information necessary for them to fulfill their roles and responsibilities.

With respect to particularly important matters, among matters to be submitted to the Board of Directors, the Company works to ensure active deliberations at the Board by providing a forum in advance for sharing information about such matters with Directors.

#### **Article 17: Access for Outside Directors to Internal Information**

Outside Directors may, whenever it is deemed necessary or appropriate, request the submission of internal documents or the explanations/reports of internal company information from internal Directors or internal departments concerned.

#### **Article 18: Coordinating Systems for Outside Directors**

Outside Directors hold regular meetings attended only by themselves, by way of which they facilitate a frank and constructive exchange of opinions, and have an opportunity to regularly receive information from Full-time Audit & Supervisory Committee Members, Financial Auditors and others, thereby contributing to active deliberations at the Board of Directors and Audit & Supervisory Committee meetings.

#### Article 19: Maintenance of Fair and Proper Audits by Financial Auditors

The Company recognizes that Financial Auditors assume an important responsibility for securing the reliability of financial reports and establishes organizational structures that ensure fair and proper audits by the Financial Auditors.

#### Article 20: Evaluation of the Effectiveness of the Board of Directors

The Company, through a process of self-assessment and other means, annually reviews whether the Board of Directors is fulfilling its roles and responsibilities. The Board of Directors, based on these reviews, analyzes and evaluates the effectiveness of the Board of Directors as a whole, and publishes a summary of the results.

### **Chapter 3 Relationships with Shareholders and Other Stakeholders**

#### Article 21: Ensuring Shareholders' Rights and Equality

The Company endeavors to substantially ensure shareholder rights, including voting rights at the General Meeting of Shareholders. All shareholders are treated equally in accordance with their shareholding ratio.

#### **Article 22: General Meeting of Shareholders**

The Company recognizes the importance of the General Meeting of Shareholders as a forum for constructive dialogue with shareholders, and works to develop an environment that provides sufficient time for shareholders to consider proposals for the General Meeting of Shareholders for the purposes of revitalizing the General Meeting of Shareholders and facilitating the exercise of shareholders voting rights.

#### **Article 23: Guidelines for Dialogue with Shareholders**

The Company implements the following to promote constructive dialogue with its shareholders.

The Company:

 i) works, to a reasonable extent, to promote dialog further with shareholders through opportunities such as individual interviews and briefing meetings in addition to the General Meeting of Shareholders;

- i) endeavors to feedback opinions received through such dialogues to Directors and personnel concerned, and endeavors to appropriately reflect such opinions in the Company's activities;
- iii) appoints an Officer responsible for investor relations and overseeing dialogue with shareholders overall and establishes a department in charge of investor relations as well as the Corporate Disclosure Committee composed of members from various departments, in order to promotes the timely and appropriate disclosure of corporate information as well as dialogue with shareholders; and
- iv) ensures that personnel concerned with material non-public information manage said information in precise accordance with the Company's internal policies in order to avoid the selective disclosure of such information to a limited group of capital market participants.

#### **Article 24: Capital Allocation**

The Company works aggressively towards increasing enterprise value on a continual basis and, as a consequence, improves its return to shareholders. While putting priority on business investment to assure future growth, the Company strives to increase dividend payments stably and continuously, based on medium- to long-term profit growth on a consolidated basis. Further, the Company flexibly acquires its own shares whenever necessary to increase capital efficiency and shareholder return.

#### Article 25: Policy for Shareholdings and Standards for Exercise of Voting Rights

The Company does not acquire or hold the shares of other companies except in cases where such acquisition or shareholding is considered reasonable from a business strategic perspective, such as business partnership. The rationale of each shareholding is examined annually by the Board of Directors from the viewpoint of the Company's medium- to long-term business strategies. The Company sells the shares for which there is insufficient rationale of shareholding.

With regard to the exercise of voting rights of shareholdings, the Company appropriately

exercises them judging from the viewpoint of increasing shareholders values of the issuing company, on the condition that such exercise of the voting rights contributes to increasing the Company's enterprise value.

#### **Article 26: Prevention of Transactions Resulting in Conflicts of Interest**

The Company endeavors to prevent Directors, officers and other personnel concerned from using their positions in order to enter into transactions that conflict with the interests of the Company or the common interests of its shareholders. Directors intending to engage in transactions with the Company for themselves or for a third-party must receive the approval of the Board of Directors for the said transaction in accordance with the Board of Directors Policy.

#### **Article 27: Disclosure Policy**

The Company discloses information in a timely, appropriate, and fair manner to all stakeholders including customers, shareholders, community and other stakeholders. In addition, the Company actively engages in dialogue with stakeholders and works to appropriately reflect the results of that dialogue into the Company's activities. Through such information disclosure and dialogue, the Company further improves transparency while also working to build and maintain relationships of trust with stakeholders.

Based on the principal stance described above, the Company separately establishes "Disclosure Policy," and establishes the Corporate Disclosure Committee, which promotes and manages information disclosure activities.

The Company also separately establishes a policy to cover the handling of important information acquired by the Company's Directors, officers and employees in the course of their duties, thereby preventing legal violations and achieving appropriate information management.

#### Article 28: Responding to Sustainability-Related Issues

The Company recognizes that the sustainable development of society is a prerequisite for the growth of the Company. The Company contributes to the sustainable development of society through its business activities and by addressing each social issue in which the Company should be involved.

#### **Article 29: Diversity and Inclusion**

The Company believes that respecting the human rights, individuality, and differences of employees and providing a motivating workplace environment enable the Company to lead to the maintenance and enhancements of the Company's' competitive strength, and the Company aims to be an organization where a diverse range of personnel can be actively engaged in their work irrespective of factors such as their race, nationality, gender, or age.

#### **Article 30: Compliance**

The Company believes that compliance is not a matter of simply adhering to laws and regulations but that compliance means conduct in line with social norms grounded in a high level of ethics. The Company establishes the "Astellas Charter of Corporate Conduct", which states "business philosophy" in concrete terms of specific business conduct, and the "Astellas Group Code of Conduct", as the overarching codes of conduct shared by and applied to all Directors, officers and employees. The Company is committed to establish systems for the promotion of compliance across the entire Group.

#### **Article 31: Corporate Pension**

The Company endeavors to assign and develop personnel with experience and qualifications necessary for the corporate pension fund to be able to increase its investment management expertise as well as to conduct appropriate activities such as monitoring asset managers.

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## **Chapter 4 Miscellaneous**

## Article 32: Amending or Abolishing the Guidelines

The amendment or abolishment of these guidelines shall require a resolution of the Board of Directors. However, changes such as formulaic amendments resulting from changes to the names of organizations or the names of posts may be made following authorization by the President and CEO.