

Digital Container Shipping Association Agreement

FMC Agreement No. 201288

A Cooperative Working Arrangement

Expiration Date: See Article 8

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>ARTICLE 1: FULL NAME OF THE AGREEMENT</b> .....   | 1 |
| <b>ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT</b> .....   | 1 |
| <b>ARTICLE 3: PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT</b> .....   | 1 |
| <b>ARTICLE 4: GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT</b> .....  | 2 |
| <b>ARTICLE 5: AGREEMENT AUTHORITY</b> .....  | 2 |
| <b>ARTICLE 6: OFFICIALS OF THE AGREEMENT AND DELEGATIONS OF<br/>AUTHORITY</b> .....                            | 5 |
| <b>ARTICLE 7: MEMBERSHIP, WITHDRAWAL, AND EXPULSION</b> .....  | 7 |
| <b>ARTICLE 8: DURATION AND TERMINATION</b> .....   | 7 |
| <b>ARTICLE 9: APPLICABLE LAW AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION</b> .....  | 8 |
| <b>SIGNATURE PAGE</b>  |   |
| <b>Appendix A</b>  |   |
| <b>Appendix B - The General Assembly</b>   |   |
| <b>Appendix C - The Board of Directors</b>   |   |
| <b>Appendix D - The Managing Director</b>  |   |
| <b>Appendix E - Projects</b>   |   |
| <b>Appendix F - Procedures for Admission, Withdrawal, Suspension, Limitation, and<br/>Expulsion of Members</b> |   |

**ARTICLE 1: FULL NAME OF THE AGREEMENT**

1.1 The full name of this agreement is the Digital Container Shipping Association Agreement (hereinafter referred to as the “Agreement”).

**ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT**

2.1 The purpose of the Agreement is to permit the parties to discuss, develop, adopt, maintain, revise, and utilize common or compatible information technology standards for the creation, transmission, and/or storage of information and/or documents related to the receipt, handling, delivery, and/or storage of property between participants in the international ocean transportation supply chain. None of the standards agreed shall be binding for the Active Members, Participants, or third parties.

**ARTICLE 3: PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT**

3.1 The parties to the Agreement shall be:

- (a) The Active Members of the association, as defined in Article 7.1;
- (b) The Regulated Participants of the association, as defined in Article 7.3 (together, the Active Members and the Regulated Participants are referred to herein as the “Parties”).

**ARTICLE 4: GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT**

4.1 This Agreement covers the trades between all United States ports and points on the one hand and all foreign ports and points on the other hand (the “Trade”). It is acknowledged

and understood that any standard developed or agreed upon under the authority of this Agreement may be used in trades other than those involving the foreign commerce of the United States.

**ARTICLE 5: AGREEMENT AUTHORITY**

5.1 (a) The Active Members are authorized to form, own, operate, and dissolve the Digital Container Shipping Association (“DCSA”) as a separate legal entity under Dutch law to carry out the authorities set forth herein, and are authorized to discuss and agree on all aspects of the structure, authority and operation, and dissolution of DCSA, including capitalization, funding of ongoing operations and projects, allocation of costs, membership dues and assessments, payment terms for amounts owed to the organization, the rules and procedures for determining which projects the group will undertake, ownership, administration, staffing, and facilities of DCSA. The Active Members are authorized to cause DCSA to contract with employees and third parties such as vendors, software developers, or consultants.

(b) The corporate documents creating and/or governing the DCSA may include provisions dealing with the rights (including intellectual property rights), liabilities and indemnities among the Parties, and between the Parties and others.

5.2 The Parties in their capacity as Active Members or Regulated Participants of the DCSA and acting within the DCSA, are authorized to:

(a) meet, discuss, exchange information and data, negotiate, and agree upon all matters related to the development, establishment, standardization, and harmonization of terminology, guidelines, and standards for information technology utilized in any aspect of the movement of containers or services ancillary thereto, including the exchange of container data in the internet of things, data security, software, blockchain, electronic communications (including communications with and provision of data to customs authorities, communications between carriers/vessels and terminals or other facilities, communications between carriers and customers, and communications between carriers in different transport modes), and electronic bills of lading and/or other transportation related documents. The Parties are authorized to maintain and revise such standards as they may agree from time to time.

(b) exchange, develop and contract for the development and/or provision of information, statistics, reports, studies, technology, software, and other data pertinent to matters within the scope of Article 5.2.

(c) meet with shippers, logistics providers, operators of other modes of transportation, the owners or operators of terminals, inland depots, and other facilities, vendors, software and hardware developers, trade and other associations, consultants, experts, and government officials to discuss, agree upon and work collaboratively with any of the foregoing with respect to matters within the scope of Article 5.2; provided, however, that any such non-regulated entity's

participation in activities under this Agreement does not bring it under the Commission's jurisdiction, nor does it confer antitrust immunity on the non-regulated entity under the Shipping Act; provided further, that the participation of such non-regulated entities in activities under the Agreement shall not affect the regulatory jurisdiction of the Commission or the antitrust immunity conferred by the Shipping Act on Parties for activities under this Agreement.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Parties understand that pursuant to 46 U.S.C. 40307(b)(1), this authority does not provide the Parties hereto with immunity from the U.S. antitrust laws with respect to any agreement with or among air carriers, rail carriers, motor carriers, or common carriers by water relating to transportation within the United States.

5.3 Two or more Parties may discuss matters within the scope of Article 5.2 in order to further the purposes of Agreement; provided, however, that no action may be taken on any matters within the scope of Article 5.2 except in accordance with applicable voting procedures.

5.4 Participants that are not Parties may be included in some or all of the activities authorized under Article 5.2 under such circumstances and conditions as the GA may agree from time to time.

5.5 This Agreement is intended to permit the Parties to discuss and agree upon a variety of matters relating to the development and harmonization of information technologies and standards. While the Parties intend to limit their discussions and agreements to matters of an operational nature, it is recognized that certain agreements reached hereunder may impact commercial terms. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Agreement does not provide authority for the Parties to discuss or agree upon rates to be charged to shippers for transport services or other terms and conditions of ocean or intermodal transportation (other than those incidentally impacted by the discussions/agreements authorized hereunder). Furthermore, nothing in this Article 5 shall be construed as authorizing the Parties to violate the proscriptions of Section 10(b)(14) of the U.S. Shipping Act of 1984, as amended (the "Shipping Act")(46 U.S.C. § 41103(a)) having to do with the unauthorized exchange of certain confidential business information relating to shippers, consignees, and common carriers or the antitrust laws of any jurisdiction to which the association may be subject.

**ARTICLE 6: OFFICIALS OF THE AGREEMENT AND DELEGATIONS OF AUTHORITY**

6.1 The DCSA shall be governed by a General Assembly (“GA”) comprised of the Active Members, each represented by one representative. The activities of the GA shall be conducted in accordance with Appendix B hereto.

6.2 The GA shall from time to time elect a Board of Supervisory Directors. The Board of Supervisory Directors may further elect its Chairman and Vice Chairman. The activities of the Board of Supervisory Directors shall be conducted in accordance with Appendix C hereto.

6.3 The GA shall, from time to time, appoint a Board of Managing Directors to exercise direction and control over the day-to-day business of the DCSA. The duties of the Board of Managing Directors shall be as set forth in Appendix D hereto.

6.4 The procedures governing the performance of projects to be undertaken by the DCSA are set forth in Appendix E.

6.5 In the event the governing corporate documents of DCSA are amended in a manner that creates a conflict or discrepancy with the terms of this Agreement, such conflict or discrepancy shall be resolved by the filing of an amendment to the Agreement reflecting the change to the governing corporate document(s). All other amendments to the Agreement require the unanimous consent of the Active Members.



6.6 The following persons shall have authority on behalf of a Party to sign and file this Agreement, any subsequent modifications thereto, and any supporting information with the Federal Maritime Commission (the “Commission”) or any other governmental entities with jurisdiction over this Agreement and to respond to any requests for information from the Commission, and such persons are also authorized to delegate such authority:

1. A designated senior executive of each Party; or
2. Legal counsel for the Agreement.

The Parties hereby consent to and authorize the filing by counsel of amendments to this Agreement which have received the unanimous consent of the Active Members.

**ARTICLE 7: ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP, PARTICIPATION, WITHDRAWAL, AND  
EXPULSION**

7.1 Entities that qualify as ocean common carriers within the meaning of the Shipping Act and that commit to be represented in the GA by an employee holding an appointment at the level of Chief Information Officer or equivalent are eligible to become active members of the DCSA (“Active Members”). Active Members shall also be Parties to this Agreement.

7.2 Entities that are ineligible to become Active Members pursuant to Article 7.1, may, subject to the approval of the GA, become participants in the activities undertaken by the DCSA (“Participants”). Participants shall have no right to vote on DCSA matters.

7.3 Participants that are regulated by the Commission (“Regulated Participants”) shall become Parties to this Agreement. Participants that are not regulated by the Commission will

not become Parties to this Agreement, provided, however, that any such non-regulated entity's participation in activities under this Agreement does not bring it under the Commission's jurisdiction, nor does it confer antitrust immunity on the non-regulated entity under the Shipping Act; provided further, that the participation of such non-regulated entities in activities under the Agreement shall not affect the regulatory jurisdiction of the Commission or the antitrust immunity conferred by the Shipping Act on Parties for activities under this Agreement.

7.4 The procedures for admission as an Active Member or Participant are set forth in Appendix F. Membership of Active Members and Regulated Participants in this Agreement shall be subject to the filing and effectiveness of an appropriate amendment hereto.

7.5 The procedures for withdrawal by and expulsion of a Party are set forth in Appendix F.

#### **ARTICLE 8: DURATION AND TERMINATION**

8.1 Subject to Articles 8.1 and 8.2, this Agreement shall continue in effect indefinitely.

8.2 The Agreement shall terminate upon completion of the liquidation of the DCSA under Dutch Law.

8.3 The DCSA shall be terminated by resolution of a GA, approved in writing by two-thirds of all the Active Members, which resolution shall set the effective date for dissolution and provide for the disbursement of any net remaining assets.

**ARTICLE 9: APPLICABLE LAW AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

9.1 This Agreement is to be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of the Netherlands; provided, however, that nothing herein shall relieve the Parties of their obligation to comply with the Shipping Act.

9.2 All disputes arising out of or relating to this Agreement shall be finally settled under the Rules of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce by one or more arbitrators appointed in accordance with said Rules. The arbitration shall be held in the Netherlands. The language of the arbitration shall be English. The decision of the arbitrator or arbitrators, as applicable, shall be final and binding. Judgment on the award rendered by the arbitrator(s) may be entered by any court having jurisdiction thereof or having jurisdiction over the relevant party or its assets.

**SIGNATURE PAGE**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have agreed this 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020, to amend this Agreement as per the attached pages.

Maersk A/S

Hapag-Lloyd AG



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Name: Wayne R. Rohde  
Title: Attorney-in-Fact

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Name: Wayne R. Rohde  
Title: Attorney-in-Fact

CMA CGM S.A.

MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company S.A.



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Name: Wayne R. Rohde  
Title: Attorney-in Fact

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Name: Wayne R. Rohde  
Title: Attorney-in-Fact

Ocean Network Express Pte. Ltd.

Hyundai Merchant Marine Co., Ltd.



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Name: Wayne R. Rohde  
Title: Attorney-in Fact

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Name: Wayne R. Rohde  
Title: Attorney-in-Fact

**SIGNATURE PAGE (continued)**

ZIM Integrated Shipping Services Ltd.



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Name: Wayne R. Rohde  
Title: Attorney-in-Fact

Yang Ming Marine Transport Corp.



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Name: Wayne R. Rohde  
Title: Attorney-in-Fact

Evergreen Marine Corp, (Taiwan) Ltd.



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Name: Wayne R. Rohde  
Title: Attorney-in Fact

**Appendix A**

**I. Parties to the Agreement**

1. Maersk A/S  
50, Esplanaden  
DK-1098 Copenhagen, Denmark
2. Hapag-Lloyd AG,  
Ballindamm 25  
20095 Hamburg, Germany
3. CMA CGM S .A.  
4, Quai D'Arenc  
P.O. Box 2409 13215  
Marseilles Cedex 02 France
4. MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company S.A.  
12 – 14 Chemin Rieu  
1208 Geneva  
Switzerland
5. Ocean Network Express Pte. Ltd.  
7 Straights View  
#16-01 Marina One East Tower  
Singapore 018936
6. Hyundai Merchant Marine Co., Ltd.  
194, Yulgok-ro, Jongno-gu,  
Seoul 110-754, Korea
7. ZIM Integrated Shipping Services Ltd.  
9 Andrei Sakharov Street  
Haifa, Israel
8. Yang Ming Marine Transport Corp.  
271 Ming De 1<sup>st</sup> Road, Cidu District, Keelung 20646  
Taiwan

9. Evergreen Marine Corp, (Taiwan) Ltd.  
No. 166, Sec. 2, Minsheng East Rd.,  
Jhongstan Dist., Taipei 104 Taiwan

**II. Regulated Participants**

[NONE]

## **Appendix B**

### **The General Assembly**

#### **A. General Assembly (GA)**

The GA is the highest governing body of DCSA. Access to the GA is restricted to the Active Members.

##### **1. Meetings**

The GA shall comprise of the Active Members, each represented by one representative. Such representative shall be a natural person holding an appointment at the level of Chief Information Officer or equivalent position in the organization of an Active Member. To the extent required by the laws applicable to an Active Member, its representative shall be granted all relevant authorizations to represent such Active Member at the GA.

A majority of Active Members registered at a GA shall constitute a quorum for the duration of that GA.

##### **2. Powers and Duties**

In addition to any other authorities as set forth in the applicable laws or this Agreement, the GA shall:

- a. Resolve on election of the members of the Supervisory Board based on the nominations from the Active Members;
- b. Resolve on election of the members of the Management Board;
- c. Approve the reports of the Supervisory Board and the Management Board;
- d. Approve projects of DCSA, including the relevant financial boundaries thereof, such as project budget and contributions, and the project leadership;
- e. Approve the admission of new Active Members or Participants and expulsion of the Active Members or Participants of DCSA;



- f. Resolve on the amendment to DCSA's articles of association and other internal regulations approved by the GA;
- g. Approve the annual budget of DCSA;
- h. Adopt the (audited) annual accounts of DCSA;
- i. On the recommendation of the Supervisory Board, approve the applicable fees and contributions of the Active Members and Participants;
- j. On the recommendation of the Supervisory Board, approve the currency or currencies in which, and the time by which, such fees and contributions shall be payable by the Active Members and Participants;
- k. Resolve on the appointment of an external auditor;
- l. Resolve on the dissolution of the DCSA and all related issues requiring a GA decision according to the applicable law in force, among others the nomination of liquidator(s) and the utilization of the liquidation surplus (if any).

### 3. **Voting**

#### a. Majority Vote

At any GA, each Active Member, which is not suspended, shall be entitled to vote, and shall vote with a number of votes proportional to the following:

- i. If the number of the Active Members is less or equal to 6, each Active Member shall have one vote.
- ii. If the number of the Active Members exceeds 6 or if otherwise agreed at the GA, each Active Member shall have a proportional vote equal to that Active Member's gross TEU capacity share (as published by [alphaliner.com](http://alphaliner.com)) of the total amount of the Active Members' gross TEU capacity, provided however that each Active Member shall have at least one vote. Capacity share and voting rights shall be calculated at the beginning of each calendar year and when one or more Active Members is admitted to or withdrawn from or expelled from DCSA.

Unless otherwise stipulated herein, the GA shall adopt its resolutions by a 2/3 majority of the votes cast of those registered and present at the meeting.

If the GA resolves to approve a proposed project, the contributions for such project shall also apply to those Active Members who voted "against" such resolution.

b. Other Voting Rules

Without prejudice to the above mentioned, at any GA resolving on the matters listed below, each Active Member shall be entitled to cast one vote and the resolution shall be adopted by an absolute majority of the votes cast of those registered and present at the meeting:

- a) Appointment of an external auditor
- b) Approval of the annual accounts of DCSA and annual budget
- c) Admission of new Active Members

## Appendix C

### The Board of Supervisory Directors (the “Supervisory Board”)

#### A. Members of the Supervisory Board

The Supervisory Board shall comprise of at least three (3) persons. The exact number of the members of the Supervisory Board shall be from time to time determined by the GA.

The members of the Supervisory Board are elected by the GA from the candidates nominated by the Active Members. Each Active Member is entitled to nominate an individual as candidate for member of the Supervisory Board. If such individual holds a position at the Active Member (the “**AM Member**”), he/she must comply with the qualitative requirements set forth below. If such need arise, the GA is entitled:

- to adopt qualitative requirements to the individuals who do not hold positions at the Active Member (the “**Independent Member**”);
- to determine ratio between the number of the AM Members and the number of the Independent Members.

An individual who qualifies as AM Member must:

1. Hold one of the following positions at an Active Member, or similar, allowing for difference of nomenclature:
  - Chair of the board;
  - President of the company;
  - Chief executive;
  - Managing director;
  - Chief Information Officer
  - Senior or Executive Vice President
  - Chief Technology Officer
2. Have the requisite knowledge of and experience in the container shipping industry.

Should a vacancy arise on the Supervisory Board, a new member of the Supervisory Board shall be elected at the first following GA in conformity with Section A above.

A member of the Management Board cannot be simultaneously appointed as a member of the Supervisory Board.

**B. Voting**

1. An absolute majority of the elected members of the Supervisory Board shall constitute a quorum at each and any meeting of the Supervisory Board. The members of the Supervisory Board can participate at the meetings by means of video or telephone conference. Unless otherwise is stipulated herein, the Supervisory Board adopts its resolutions by absolute majority of votes of the Supervisory Board members present at the meeting.
2. A resolution in writing signed or approved by email or other electronic means by all the Supervisory Board members entitled to vote at a meeting of the Supervisory Board, shall be a resolution as valid as if it had been made at such meeting. The resolution shall be effective from the date of the last signature. A copy of every signed resolution shall be kept by the Management Board.

3. No Supervisory Board member may vote by proxy or be represented by another individual at a Supervisory Board meeting.

### **C. Powers and Duties**

In addition to any other authorities as set forth in the applicable laws or this Agreement, the Supervisory Board shall:

1. Supervise the Management Board and review compliance of the Management Board's activities with the DCSA policies approved by the GA;
2. Determine remuneration of the members of the Management Board and approve the internal regulations of the Management Board;
3. Review and make recommendations to the GA on DCSA's policy within the framework of the DCSA's governing corporate documents, this Agreement, and the previous decisions of the GA;
4. Prepare an annual report on its activities and submit it to the GA;
5. If considered necessary, provide recommendations on the annual budget of the DCSA to the GA;
6. Recommend to the GA the amount of the applicable fees and contributions of the Active Members and Participants, the time by which they shall be payable, and the currency or currencies in which they are to be paid;
7. Make recommendations to the GA on admittance of new Active Members and Participants or expulsion of an Active Member or Participant;
8. Resolve on the suspension of an Active Member or Participant;
9. Approve the budget and utilization of fees by the Management Board;
10. Supervise the implementation of the decisions of the GA (in particular concerning the utilization of resources);
11. Approve the resolutions of the Management Board regarding:
  - Establishment of DCSA's working groups and conferences, approval of the rules and regulations of such groups and conferences, appointment of chairpersons of such groups and conferences;
  - Entering into agreements between DCSA and other organizations or other trade associations at digital level;

- Submitting (i) new digital policies and worldwide strategies, and (ii) DCSA's strategy vis-a-vis other organizations, associations and companies, especially on the issues of harmonization, standardization and innovation, for consideration and approval of the GA;
- Incorporation, acquisition or otherwise participation in other (legal) entities;
- Entering into or termination of an employment agreement (or a services agreement with a private contractor) with senior employees / consultants of DCSA;
- Representation of DCSA in legal proceedings, taking civil actions and agreeing on settlements, which have not been budgeted.

The GA can make certain resolutions of the Supervisory Board subject to its prior approval.

**D. Chairperson**

1. The Supervisory Board is entitled to elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson by absolute majority of all elected members of the Supervisory Board.
2. The Chairperson of the Board shall:
  - a. Convene and chair the meetings of the GA and the Supervisory Board
  - b. Inform the GA and the Supervisory Board of the current status of work, summarizing the reports provided by the Management Board
  - c. Represent and promote the digital strategic targets of the association to the wider world in accordance with the governing corporate documents of the DCSA.
3. The Vice-Chairperson shall perform the role of Chairperson in the event of the Chairperson's absence.

## **Appendix D**

### **The Board of Managing Directors (the “Management Board”)**

#### **A. Members of the Management Board**

The Management Board shall be composed of at least one (1) person and shall exercise its authorities, day-to-day business, direction and control over the business and affairs of DCSA under the supervision of the Supervisory Board.

To be eligible as a member of the Management Board, an individual must have the requisite knowledge of and experience in the Container Shipping Industry.

Members of the Management Board shall be appointed by the GA in accordance with the articles of association of the DCSA.

#### **B. Voting**

1. If the Management Board consists of more than one member, an absolute majority of the elected members of the Management Board shall constitute a quorum at each and any meeting of the Management Board. The members of the Management Board can participate at the meetings by means of video or telephone conference. Unless otherwise is stipulated herein, the Management Board adopts its resolutions by absolute majority of votes of the members of the Management Board present at the meeting.
2. A resolution in writing signed or approved by email or other electronic means by all the Management Board members entitled to vote at a meeting of the Management Board, shall be a resolution as valid as if it had been made at such meeting. The resolution shall be effective from the date of the last signature. A copy of every signed resolution shall be kept by the Management Board.

#### **C. Powers and Duties**

In addition to any other authorities as set forth in the applicable laws or this Agreement, the Management Board shall:

1. Manage the day-to-day business of DCSA and represent DCSA in relations with third parties.
2. Ensure the preparation of minutes of meetings of the GA;
3. Prepare the annual accounts of DCSA and submit them for approval to the Supervisory Board and the GA;



4. Propose to the Supervisory Board the amounts of the application fees and contribution;
5. Prepare the annual budget to be submitted to the GA for approval;
6. Draw up proposals and/or implement proposals concerning issues to be studied in the form of projects of DCSA and/or its work groups and/or conferences;
7. Resolve on the matters which require a prior approval of the Supervisory Board (see Appendix C, Part C under 11). Any such resolution of the Management Board shall be adopted under condition of obtaining approval of the Supervisory Board and be implemented only after such approval has been obtained;
8. Monitor the work of project managers;
9. Delegate, as appropriate, authority to working groups or other persons;
10. Take action on behalf of DCSA vis-à-vis third parties in all circumstances and in particular, if budgeted, represent DCSA in all legal proceedings, take civil action and agree on all settlements. If such proceeding, action or settlement has not been budgeted, this shall constitute a matter which requires prior approval of the Supervisory Board as set out in Appendix C, Part C under 11 and Appendix D, Part C under 6.
11. Designate a person who in the event of temporary absence of a member of the Management Board shall assume his/her responsibilities.

The GA and/or the Supervisory Board can make certain resolutions of the Management Board subject to their prior approval.

## **Appendix E**

### **Projects**

If the GA has decided to establish a project, a written commitment of participation, once given on the basis of the finalized project brief, shall be binding as herein defined (inter alia, for the running period, the budget and the content(s) of the project).

#### **A. Project Roadmap and Categories**

A project roadmap is maintained, containing projects in the categories of innovation, standardization and harmonization. The project roadmap serves as foundation for which projects may be executed.

The project roadmap shall be reviewed at every 2<sup>nd</sup> GA, and a vote shall take place for changes, additions, alterations and deletion of any project on the roadmap.

#### **B. Project Delivery**

In the drawing up of project proposal and/ or performance of approved projects, DCSA shall:

1. Not start work prior to approval through the GA and the approval of the project budget.
2. Ensure the project is delivered in accordance with DCSA's project delivery model.
3. Prepare an obligatory project brief, inter alia, describing a project's purpose and financial issues (budget, individual contributions of participants, conditions of payment, ownership and marketing of results, etc.) and define a duration limited in time.
4. Conduct a feasibility study as basis for the project brief if the budget of a project exceeds the amount of EUR 500,000.
5. Ensure the project is managed by an appointed project manager under monitoring of the Management Board.
6. Report through the project manager to the Management Board and Supervisory Board.
7. Ensure the project is included in the respective annual corporate budget as project costs.

**C. Project Support**

The DCSA departments shall act as normal service providers for all adopted projects after closure, subject to their available resources and the acceptance by the GA concerned of the budget they request.

**D. Participation of Participants and Third Parties**

Participants may participate in those projects which relate to their field of activity. The participation of third parties shall be decided on a case-by-case basis.

An Active Member, a Participant, or a third party taking part in a project may be entitled to appropriate financial compensation if they provide that project with recognized specific know-how or expertise.

**E. Unspent Contributions**

In the event that project contributions are not completely spent following the closing of a project's accounts, the remaining funds might be reimbursed to the contributing project participants proportional to their payment if the Management Board decides positively on this.

## **Appendix F**

### **Procedures for Admission, Withdrawal, Suspension, Limitation, and Expulsion of Active Members or Participants**

#### **A. Admission as an Active Member or Participant**

1. An application for admission as an Active Member or Participant shall be directed in writing to the Supervisory Board and be submitted together with the application fee and applicable dues. When the application is complete, the Supervisory Board shall make a recommendation regarding the application to the GA. All applications are subject to approval of the GA. The Active Members and Participants hereby agree that prior to approval by the GA, this Agreement shall be amended to add the applicant as an Active Member or Regulated Participant, as appropriate.

#### **B. Withdrawal**

1. An Active Member or Participant may withdraw at any time by giving not less than three (3) months' written notice prior to the desired date of resignation to the GA. The withdrawal shall take effect at such date as the withdrawing Active Member or Participant shall have fulfilled all its financial obligations originating during the time of membership/participation. It shall, however, not be bound by any new financial obligations to DCSA approved by the GA after the date of the notice of resignation and, upon suspension by the Management Board, shall cease to have all voting rights at the GA held after the date of the notice of resignation. An Active Member or Regulated Participant's resignation from the DCSA shall also constitute withdrawal as a Party from this Agreement.
2. Notwithstanding Section B.1. of this Appendix F, an Active Member may nevertheless withdraw with effect as of the end of the financial year of DCSA following the year in which the withdrawal application was filed or, with immediate effect, if it cannot be reasonably required from such Active Member to continue his membership.
3. Notwithstanding Section B.1. of this Appendix F, an Active Member may nevertheless withdraw with immediate effect within one month from the date on which a resolution which limits its rights or expands its obligations is notified to such Active Member.
4. Notwithstanding Section B.1. of this Appendix F, an Active Member may nevertheless withdraw with immediate effect within one month from the date on which a resolution about conversion of DCSA into another legal entity form, merger or division of the DCSA is notified to such Active Member.

5. Withdrawal under clauses 2-4 above shall not prejudice or nullify any of the financial obligations of the withdrawing Active Member or Participant originating during the time of membership/participation and prior to the notice of resignation. If the withdrawal under any of these clauses takes place before the financial obligations are fully fulfilled, the unfulfilled part of the financial obligations remains due and payable until fully paid.

**C. Termination of an Active Member or Participant**

1. An Active Member or Participant will be terminated by the GA under the following conditions:

- a. An Active Member no longer meets the criteria for eligibility for active membership.
  - b. An Active Member or Participant declared bankrupt, filing for or being granted protection from creditors under applicable bankruptcy and/or insolvency laws or placed under administration or in receivership, or making a voluntary assignment for the benefit of its creditors, or going into liquidation otherwise than for the purpose of amalgamation or reconstruction, or ceasing to hold the authority to operate, or otherwise ceasing to carry on the business that qualifies it for active membership.
2. The GA may also vote to terminate an Active Member or Participant under the following conditions:
- a. The Active Member or Participant is in breach of the articles of association of the DCSA or any rule or regulation adopted thereunder, or of this Agreement;
  - b. If it is not reasonable to demand of DCSA to continue the membership of an Active Member or Participant;
  - c. If the Active Member or Participant unreasonable harms DCSA;
  - d. The Active Member or Participant has committed any act or omission which is prejudicial to the mission and aims of DCSA;
  - e. The Active Member or Participant has been placed in Limitation for a period of at least one (1) year.
  - f. The Active Member or Participant has been found to have been involved in material legal misconduct by a court of competent jurisdiction
3. If membership or participation is terminated by the GA under Sections C.1. or C.2., such termination is effective immediately. Such termination shall not prejudice or nullify any of the financial obligations of the relevant Active Member or Participant originating during the time of membership/participation and prior to the termination. If termination under any of these Sections takes place before the financial obligations are fully fulfilled, the unfulfilled part of the financial obligations remains due and payable until fully paid.

#### **D. Voluntary Suspension**

At the written request of an Active Member or Participant, the Supervisory Board may agree to suspend its membership or participation for a fixed period if the Supervisory Board considers it in the interest of DCSA. During the period of suspension, the Active Member or Participant shall not be required to comply with financial obligations approved by the GA after a request for suspension and shall not exercise any rights and privileges under this Agreement. Notwithstanding any such voluntary suspension, an Active Member or Regulated

Participant shall remain a Party to this Agreement until such time as the Active Member or Regulated Participant withdraws or is terminated.

**E. Limitation**

1. Any Active Member or Participant in arrears with the payment of the financial obligations in the amount of more than EUR 3,000 for a period of more than ninety (90) days shall be placed in limitation by the Management Board and lose all rights and privileges of membership or participation during the period that the limitation is in effect, unless the Supervisory Board has agreed to alternative financial arrangements. Notwithstanding any such limitation, an Active Member or Regulated Participant shall remain a Party to this Agreement until such time as the Active Member or Regulated Participant withdraws as a member of the DCSA or its membership is terminated.
2. The Management Board shall indicate, in the notice of limitation to the Active Member or Participant, the effective date of the limitation, and the conditions to be met for the limitation to be removed.