



**Specimen for Letter of Appointment to Independent Director**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**To each Independent Directors**

Dear Sir,

**Sub: Appointment of Non-executive Independent Director of Maharashtra Corporation Limited (“the Company”)**

We are pleased to confirm your appointment as a Non-Executive Independent Director on the Board of **MAHARASHTRA CORPORATION LIMITED** (hereinafter referred to as “**MCL**” or “**the Company**”). In this respect, your role and responsibility as an Independent Director is formalize through this letter of appointment.

This letter sets out the terms of your appointment as an Independent Director. Your relationship with the Company will be that of an office-holder and not one of contract for employment in the Company.

The terms of your appointment, as set out in this letter, are subject to the extant provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, Rules made thereunder, Clause 49 of the Listing Agreement, as may be amended from time to time and Articles of Association of the Company.

**1. Introduction**

This Code is a guide to professional conduct for Independent Directors of Maharashtra Corporation Limited. Adherence to these standards by Independent Directors and fulfillment of their responsibilities in a professional and faithful manner will promote confidence of the investment community, particularly minority shareholders, regulators and the Company.

**2. Independent Director**

‘Independent Director’ shall mean a Non-Executive Director other than a Nominee Director of the Company as per section 149 of the Companies Act 2013 read with rules, if any, and SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 or any amendment made thereof from time to time



### **3. Declaration**

Every Independent Director shall at the first meeting of the Board in which he participates as a Director and thereafter at the first meeting of the Board in every financial year or whenever there is any change in the circumstances which may affect his status as an Independent Director, give a declaration that he meets the criteria of independence.

### **4. Limit on number of directorships**

- a. A person shall not serve as an Independent Director in more than seven Listed Companies.
- b. Further, any person who is serving as a Whole Time Director in any listed company shall serve as an Independent Director in not more than three listed companies.

### **5. Disclosure of Directors Interest**

Every director shall at the first meeting of the Board in which he participates as a director and thereafter at the first meeting of the Board in every financial year or whenever there is any change in the disclosures already made, then at the first Board meeting held after such change, disclose his concern or interest in any company or companies or bodies corporate, firms, or other association of individuals which shall include the shareholding, in Form MBP-I.

### **6. Guidelines of professional conduct**

An Independent Director shall:

- a. Uphold ethical standards of integrity and probity
- b. Act objectively and constructively while exercising his duties
- c. Exercise his responsibilities in a bona fide manner in the interest of the company;
- d. Devote sufficient time and attention to his professional obligations for informed and balanced decision making
- e. Not allow any extraneous considerations that will vitiate his exercise of objective independent judgment in the paramount interest of the company, while concurring in or dissenting from the collective judgment of the Board in its decision making
- f. Not abuse his position to the detriment of the company or its shareholders or for the purpose of gaining direct or indirect personal advantage or advantage for any associated person



- g. Refrain from any action that would lead to loss of his independence
- h. Where circumstances arise, which make an Independent Director lose his independence, the Independent Director must immediately inform the Board accordingly
- i. Assist the company in implementing the best corporate governance practices.

## **7. Role and Functions**

The Independent Directors shall:

- a. Help in bringing an independent judgment to bear on the Board's deliberations especially on issues of strategy, performance, risk management, resources, key appointments and standards of conduct;
- b. Bring an objective view in the evaluation of the performance of board and management;
- c. Scrutinize the performance of management in meeting agreed goals and objectives and monitor the reporting of performance;
- d. Satisfy themselves on the integrity of financial information and that financial controls and the systems of risk management are robust and defensible;
- e. Safeguard the interests of all stakeholders, particularly the minority shareholders;
- f. Balance the conflicting interest of the stakeholders;
- g. Determine appropriate levels of remuneration of executive directors, key managerial personnel and senior management and have a prime role in appointing and where necessary recommend removal of executive directors, key managerial personnel and senior management;
- h. Moderate and arbitrate in the interest of the company, in situations of conflict between management and shareholder's interest

## **8. Duties**

The Independent Directors shall—

- a. Undertake appropriate induction and regularly update and refresh their skills, knowledge and familiarity with the company;
- b. Seek appropriate clarification or amplification of information and, where necessary, take and follow appropriate professional advice and opinion of outside experts at the expense of the company;
- c. Strive to attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and of the Board committees of which he is a member;



- d. Participate constructively and actively in the committees of the Board in which they are chairperson or members;
- e. Strive to attend the general meetings of the company;
- f. Where they have concerns about the running of the company or a proposed action, ensure that these are addressed by the Board and, to the extent that they are not resolved, insist that their concerns are recorded in the minutes of the Board meeting;
- g. Keep themselves well informed about the company and the external environment in which it operates;
- h. Not to unfairly obstruct the functioning of an otherwise proper Board or committee of the Board;
- i. Pay sufficient attention and ensure that adequate deliberations are held before approving related party transactions and assure themselves that the same are in the interest of the company;
- j. Ascertain and ensure that the company has an adequate and functional vigil mechanism and to ensure that the interests of a person who uses such mechanism are not prejudicially affected on account of such use;
- k. Report concerns about unethical, actual or suspected fraud or violation of the company's code of conduct behavior or ethics. policy;
- l. Acting within his authority, assist in protecting the legitimate interests of the company, shareholders and its employees;
- m. Not disclose confidential information, including commercial secrets, technologies, advertising and sales promotion plans, unpublished price sensitive information, unless such disclosure is expressly approved by the Board or required by law
- n. Shall act in accordance with the articles of the company
- o. Shall act in good faith in order to promote the objects of the company for the benefit of its members as a whole, and in the best interests of the company, its employees, the shareholders, the community and for the protection of environment
- p. Shall exercise his duties with due and reasonable care, skill and diligence and shall exercise independent judgment
- q. Shall not involve in a situation in which he may have a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict, with the interest of the company
- r. Shall not achieve or attempt to achieve any undue gain or advantage either to himself or to his relatives, partners, or associates and if such director is found guilty of making any undue gain, he shall be liable to pay an amount equal to that gain to the company
- s. Shall not assign his office and any assignment so made shall be void.



## **9. Manner of appointment**

- a. Appointment process of Independent Directors shall be independent of the company management. While selecting Independent Directors, the Board shall ensure that there is appropriate balance of skills, experience and knowledge in the Board to enable the Board to discharge its functions and duties effectively.
- b. The appointment of Independent Director(s) of the company shall be approved at the meeting of the shareholders.
- c. The explanatory statement attached to the notice of the meeting for approving the appointment of Independent Director shall include a statement that in the opinion of the Board, the Independent Director proposed to be appointed fulfills the conditions specified in the Act and the rules made thereunder and that the proposed director is independent of the management.
- d. The appointment of Independent Directors shall be formalized through a letter of appointment, which shall set out.
  - The term of appointment
  - The expectation of the Board from the appointed director; the Board-level committee(s) in which the director is expected to serve and its tasks;
  - The fiduciary duties that come with such an appointment along with accompanying liabilities
  - Provision for Directors and Officers (D and O) insurance, if any
  - The Code of Business Ethics that the company expects its directors and employees to follow
  - The list of actions that a director should not do while functioning as such in the company; and
  - The remuneration, mentioning periodic fees, reimbursement of expenses for participation in the Boards and other meetings and profit related commission, if any.
- e. The terms and conditions of appointment of Independent Directors shall be open for inspection at the registered office of the company by any member during normal business hours
- f. The terms and conditions of appointment of Independent Directors shall also be posted on the company's website.

## **10. Maximum tenure of Independent Directors**

An independent director shall hold office for a term upto five consecutive years on the Board of a company and shall be eligible for reappointment for another term of upto five consecutive years on passing of a special resolution by the Company.



Independent director, who completes his term as aforesaid, shall be eligible for appointment as independent director in the Company only after expiry of three years of him ceasing to be an independent director in the Company.

### **11. Re-appointment**

Subject to the provisions of section 152, an Independent Director shall hold office for a term up to five consecutive years on the Board of a company, but shall be eligible for reappointment on passing of a special resolution by the company and disclosure of such appointment in the Board's report.

No Independent Director shall hold office for more than two consecutive terms, but such Independent Director shall be eligible for appointment after the expiration of three years of ceasing to become an Independent Director, provided that an Independent Director shall not, during the said period of three years, be appointed in or be associated with the company in any other capacity, either directly or indirectly.

The re-appointment of Independent Director shall be on the basis of report of performance evaluation.

### **12. Retire by Rotation**

An Independent Director is not liable to retire by Rotation

### **13. Remuneration**

Independent Director may receive remuneration by way of fee for attending meetings of the Board or Committee thereof shall not exceed Rs. 1 lakh per meeting of the Board or Committee thereof.

Provided that the sitting fees payable to independent director shall not be less than sitting fees payable to other directors.

Independent Director shall not be entitled to any stock option and may receive remuneration by way of fee provided under sub-section (5) of section 197, reimbursement of expenses for participation in the Board and other meetings and profit related commission as may be approved by the members.

The remuneration payable to Independent Director shall not exceed:

- a. 1 percent of the net profit of the company, if there is a managing or whole-time director or manager
- b. 3 percent of the net profit in any other case



The percentages aforesaid shall be exclusive of any fees payable to directors under subsection (5) of section 197 of the Companies Act, 2013.

#### **14. Resignation or removal**

- a. The resignation or removal of an Independent Director shall be in the same manner as is provided in sections 168 and 169 of the Act.
- b. An Independent Director who resigns or is removed from the Board of the Company shall be replaced by a new Independent Director within three months from the date of such resignation or removal.
- c. Where the company fulfills the requirement of Independent Directors in its Board even without filling the vacancy created by such resignation or removal, as the case may be, the requirement of replacement by a new Independent Director shall not apply.

#### **15. Separate meetings**

- a. The Independent Directors of the Company shall hold at least one meeting in a year, without the attendance of non-Independent Directors and members of management;
- b. All the Independent Directors of the Company shall strive to be present at such meeting.
- c. The meeting shall:
  - review the performance of non-independent directors and the Board as a whole;
  - review the performance of the Chairperson of the Company, taking into account the views of executive directors and non-executive directors;
  - assess the quality, quantity and timeliness of flow of information between the Company management and the Board that is necessary for the Board to effectively and reasonably perform their duties.

#### **16. Performance evaluation of Independent Directors**

- a. The Nomination and Remuneration and Compensation Committee shall lay down the evaluation criteria for performance evaluation of Independent Directors.
- b. The company shall disclose the criteria for performance evaluation, as laid down by the Nomination and Remuneration and Compensation Committee, in its Annual Report.
- c. The performance evaluation of Independent Directors shall be done by the entire Board of Directors (excluding the director being evaluated)



- d. Based on the report of performance evaluation, it shall be determined whether to extend or continue the term of appointment of the Independent Director.

### **17. Training of Independent Directors**

- a. The company shall provide suitable training to Independent Directors to familiarize them with the company, their roles, rights, responsibilities in the company, nature of the industry in which the company operates, business model of the company, etc.
- b. The details of such training imparted shall be disclosed in the Annual Report.

### **18. Termination**

Your Directorship on the Board of the Company shall terminate or cease in accordance with law. Apart from the grounds of termination as specified in the Act, your Directorship may be terminated for violation of any provision of the Code of Conduct of the Company.

You may resign from the Directorship of the Company by giving a notice in writing to the Company stating the reasons for resignation. The resignation shall take effect from the date on which the notice is received by the Company or the date, if any, specified by you in the notice, whichever is later.

Continuation of your appointment is contingent on your getting re-elected by the shareholders in accordance with provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, listing agreement and the Articles of Association of the Company, from time to time in force. You will not be entitled to any compensation if the shareholders do not reelect you at any time.

If, at any stage during the term, there is a change that may affect your status as an Independent Director as envisaged in Section 149(6) of the Act, or if applicable, you fail to meet the criteria for “independence” under the provisions of Clause 49 of the Listing Agreement, you agree to promptly submit your resignation to the Company with effect from the date of such Change.

### **19. Changes of personal details**

During the term, you shall promptly intimate the Company Secretary and the Registrar of Companies in the prescribed manner, of any change in address or other contact and personal details provided to the Company.

### **20. Publication of the letter of appointment**

In line with provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, the Company may make public a generic copy of this letter on its website.





## **21. Miscellaneous**

- This letter represents the entire understanding, and constitutes the whole agreement, in relation to your appointment and supersedes any previous agreement between yourself and the Company with respect thereto and, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, excludes any warranty, condition or other undertaking implied at law or by custom.
- No waiver or modification of this letter shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by you and the Company.
- As per Clause 49 of the Listing Agreement, if applicable, this letter along with your detailed profile shall be disclosed on the website of the Company and the relevant Stock Exchange.
- This letter is governed by and will be interpreted in accordance with Indian laws and will be subject to jurisdiction of the Indian courts.

Please confirm your acceptance by signing and returning the enclosed copy of this letter.

Yours sincerely,

**For Maharashtra Corporation Limited**

**Mr. Tilokchand Kothari**  
**Director**

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### **AGREE AND ACCEPT**

I have read and understood the terms of my appointment as an Independent Director of the Company and I hereby affirm my acceptance to the same.

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Name:

Place:

Date:

*(This is a Model Letter of Appointment and is subject to Amendment/ Modification)*