



EDFIS/C/094/2019
22nd December 2019

The Chief Executive Officers/General Managers

All Listed Companies

All Self-Regulatory Organisations (SROs)

All Share Registrars

All Paying Agents

Audit Firms

Law Firms

Manama

Kingdom of Bahrain

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Amendments to requirements under CBB Disclosure Standards

Reference is made to Article 32.5 of the Disclosure Standards, Rulebook Volume-6. Following the industry consultation process, the CBB would like to bring to your kind attention amendments made to Article 32.5 of the Disclosure Standards, CBB Rulebook Volume-6, a copy of which is attached.

Basically, the amendments relate to the corporate action timeline and has been implemented with an objective to enhance the existing practice and eliminate any potential redundancy and ambiguity with respect to the timeline and mechanism of declaration and payment of dividends.

The amendments are effective immediately and will be available on the CBB's website under CBB Rulebook Volume-6 (Ad-hoc Communications). The existing Article 32.5 of the Disclosure Standards stands withdrawn and shall no more be applicable from the date of issuance of this circular. All listed companies are hereby requested to comply with the amended Article 32.5 of the Disclosure Standards.

Yours faithfully,

Abdul Rahman Al Baker

Annexure -1

Directorate: Capital Market Supervision Directorate (“CMSD”)

**Regulation and Module Amended: Article 32.5 of the Disclosure Standards,
CBB Rulebook Volume-6**

The CBB has amended the existing Article 32.5 of the Disclosure Standards, CBB Rulebook Volume-6 with new provisions. The amended Article 32.5 of the Disclosure Standards, CBB Rulebook Volume-6 shall read as:

CHAPTER II: ONGOING OBLIGATIONS

ARTICLE 32: IMMEDIATE ANNOUNCEMENT

- Article 32.5** An issuer must announce immediately any recommendation of declaration of dividends (including bonus shares, if any), stating the rate and amount per share, record date and the date of payment. In this context, the issuer must ensure to comply with the following requirements:
- a)** Once the record date and the date of payment are announced, the issuer must not make any subsequent alterations to the dates.
 - (b)** The declaration of dividends must be at least 5 market days before the record date (excluding the declaration date and the record date).
 - (c)** Dividends must be paid within a maximum of 10 market days from the record date (excluding the record date).
 - (d)** Where the entitlements (dividends distributions) require approval by shareholders in a general meeting, the last day for trading in the listed securities with entitlements must fall at least one market day (excluding the date of the general meeting) after the general meeting.
 - (e)** In the interest of shareholders, the time interval between the date of declaration of dividends and the date of payment must be reasonable and as short as practicable.