Document on agenda item 5a: Amendment of Article 15 of the Articles of Incorporation (Annual General Meeting – Limited authorisation of the Executive Board to hold virtual Annual General Meetings)

Current version of Article 15 of the Articles of Incorporation

Article 15 (Calling of the Meeting)

Unless other persons are authorized by law to do so, the Shareholders' Meetings shall be convened by the Executive Board or the Supervisory Board. To the extent that no shorter period is admissible by law, the convocation of the Shareholders' Meeting must be published in the electronic Federal Gazette (Bundesanzeiger) no less than 30 days prior to the conclusion of the date by which shareholders are required under section 16 (1) of the Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation to register to attend the Shareholders' Meeting. The date on which the convocation was published shall not be included in this 30-day period. This does not exclude any other forms of convocation permitted by law.

Proposal to revise Article 15 of the Articles of Incorporation by including subsection 2

Article 15 (Calling of the Meeting)

- (1) Unless other persons are authorised by law to do so, the Shareholders' Meetings shall be convened by the Executive Board or the Supervisory Board. Notice of meeting shall be given at least within the period prescribed by law.¹
- (2) The Executive Board shall be authorised, until the close of the Annual General Meeting which resolves on the ratification of the actions of the members of the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board for financial year 2024, to provide for the meeting to be held without the shareholders or their proxies being physically present at the venue of the Annual General Meeting (virtual general meeting).

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¹ Amendment proposal for Article 15 (1) of the Articles of Incorporation under agenda item 5c.