

# **RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY OF AUTHUM INVESTMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED**

## **BACKGROUND & LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

Risk Management is a key aspect of the “Corporate Governance Principles and Code of Ethics” which aims to improve the governance practices across the Company’s activities. The Management of NBFCs have to base their business decisions on a dynamic and integrated risk management system and process, driven by corporate strategy. NBFCs are exposed to several major risks in the course of their business - credit risk, interest rate risk, equity price risk, liquidity risk and operational risk. It is therefore important that NBFCs should introduce effective risk management policy that addresses the issues relating to various business risks. Risk management policy and processes will enable the Company to proactively manage uncertainty and changes in the internal and external environment to limit negative impacts and capitalize on opportunities. This policy document has been prepared in line with the RBI guidelines.

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

This Policy represents the basic standards of Risk Assessment to be followed by the Company. Changes in the Policy will become effective upon approval by the Board of Directors of the Company.

## **OBJECTIVE & PURPOSE OF POLICY**

The main objective of this policy is to ensure sustainable business growth with stability and to promote a pro-active approach in reporting, evaluating and resolving risks associated with the business. In order to achieve the key objective, the policy establishes a structured and disciplined approach to Risk Management, in order to guide decisions on risk related issues.

## **THE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY ARE:**

- To ensure that all the current and future material risk exposures of the company are identified, assessed, quantified, appropriately mitigated, minimized and managed i.e to ensure adequate systems for risk management.
- To establish a framework for the company’s risk management process and to ensure its implementation.
- To enable compliance with appropriate regulations, wherever applicable, through the adoption of best practices.
- To assure business growth with financial stability.

## **DISCLOSURE IN BOARD’S REPORT**

Board of Directors shall include a statement indicating development and implementation of a risk management policy for the company including identification therein of elements of risk, if any, which in the opinion of the Board may threaten the existence of the company.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT**

Risk management is a business facilitator by making more informed decision with balanced risk-reward paradigm. The Company shall follow a disciplined risk management process and has been taking business decisions, ensuring growth and balancing approach on risk reward matrix.

There are following risks associated with our business which are detailed as under:

### **Market Risk**

Risks emanating out of the choices we make on markets, resources and delivery model that can potentially impact our long-term competitive advantage. Risks relating to inherent characteristics of our industry including competitive structure, technological landscape, extent of linkage to economic environment and regulatory structure.

### **Operational Risk**

Risks inherent to business operations including those relating to client acquisition, service delivery to clients, business support activities, information security, physical security and business activity disruptions.

### **Interest Risk**

Interest rate risk is the risk where changes in market interest rates might adversely affect an NBFC's financial condition. The changes in interest rates affect company in some way. The immediate impact of changes in interest rates is on company's earnings (i.e. reported profits) by changing its Net Interest Income (NII). As such the Company is into funding of loans which are always fixed rate loans. The company manages this risk on NII by pricing its loan products to customers at a rate which covers interest rate risk. The risk from the earnings perspective can be measured as changes in the Net Interest Income (NII) or Net Interest Margin (NIM). Measurement of such risk is done at the time of deciding rates to be offered to customers. Once interest rate risk is measured, lending rates are finalized. Given the interest rate fluctuation, the company has adopted a prudent & conservative risk mitigation strategy to minimize interest risk.

### **Credit Risk**

Ownership structure could have a key influence on an NBFC's credit profile in that a strong promoter and strategic fit with the promoter can benefit an NBFC's earning, liquidity and capitalisation, and hence its credit profile. In assessing an NBFC's ownership structure, the parameters examined include, among others: the credit profile of the promoter, shareholding pattern of the NBFC, operational synergies of the NBFC with its promoter, level of involvement of promoter in the NBFC and level of commitment, and track record of the promoter in providing fund support.

### ***Risk Mitigation***

- Credit risk shall be managed using a set of credit norms and policies. The Company shall have defined roles and responsibilities for originators and approvers. All credit exposure limits shall be approved by authorized persons.
- There shall be a structured and standardized credit approval process to ascertain the credit worthiness of the borrower.
- The Company shall develop internal evaluation team to make credit decisions more robust and in line to manage collateral risk.
- The Company shall follow a process of time-to-time revisiting the credit policy and processes, on the basis of experience and feedback.

### **Operational Risk**

Any eventuality arising from the act relating to people, technology, infrastructure and external factors, which can give rise to some type of loss in the organisation, is termed as Operational Risk. Majorly it is internal and unknown. Therefore, the persons responsible shall keep continuous watch and shall gather the symptoms/warning signals to manage Operational risk.

### **Market risk**

This is majorly external market dynamics, which gives rise to Risks like Liquidity risk, Interest Rate risk and Funding risk. Liquidity risk is the inability to meet financial obligations in a timely manner and without stress. The Company shall resort to proper ways to manage such risks.

### ***Risk Mitigation***

- As a contingency plan the Company shall maintain sufficient approved but undrawn credit lines on a continuous basis as buffer to manage eventuality of liquidity constraints.

The Company shall be compliant in terms of regulatory norms and therefore shall effectively manage regulatory risk. Effective Customer redressal mechanism and fair practices shall keep legal risk under control.

The Company shall have processes in place, to manage the risk of fraud and the suspected frauds are reported, wherever necessary.

### **Liquidty Risk**

Measuring and managing liquidity needs are vital for effective operation of company. The importance of liquidity transcend individual institutions, as liquidity shortfall in one institution can have repercussions on the entire system. Board should measure not only the liquidity positions of company on an ongoing basis but also examine how liquidity requirements are likely to evolve under different assumptions. Experience shows that assets commonly considered as liquid, like Government securities and other money market instruments, could also become illiquid when the market and players are unidirectional. Therefore, liquidity has to be tracked through maturity or cash flow mismatches. For measuring and managing net funding requirements, the use of a

maturity ladder and calculation of cumulative surplus or deficit of funds at selected maturity dates is adopted as a standard tool.

### **Human Resource Risk**

The Company's Human Resource adds value to the entire company by ensuring that the right person is assigned to the right job and that they grow and contribute towards organizational excellence. Our growth has been driven by our ability to attract top quality talent and effectively engage them in right jobs. Risk in matters of human resources are sought to be minimised and contained by following a policy of providing equal opportunity to every employee, inculcate in them a sense of belonging and commitment and also effectively train them in spheres other than their own specialisation. Employees are encouraged to make suggestions on innovations, cost saving procedures, free exchange of other positive ideas etc. It is believed that a satisfied and committed employee will give of his best and create an atmosphere that cannot be conducive to risk exposure. Employee-compensation is always subjected to fair appraisal systems with the participation of the employee and is consistent with job content, peer comparison and individual performance.

### **Responsibility**

Responsibility for risk management is shared across the organisation. Key responsibilities include:

- Controlling the risks through a formal program is necessary for the well-being of the organization and everyone in it. The jobs and services the organization provides, the safety of the workplace and other benefits all depend to an extent on our ability to control risks.
- The Board is responsible for satisfying itself annually, or more frequently as required, that management has developed and implemented an effective risk management framework. Detailed work on this task is delegated to the Audit Committee, and reviewed by the full Board.
- The Audit Committee assists the Board in overseeing the group's risk profile and is responsible for overseeing management's actions in the identification, management and reporting of material business risks.

### **RISK ASSESSMENT OF BORROWERS**

It is generally recognized that certain borrowers may be of a higher or lower risk category depending on the customer's background, type of business, our references, borrowers net worth and the ability to refund and pay interest etc. As such, based on the due diligence measures on risk sensitive basis each of the customers shall be divided in three categories HIGH, MEDIUM AND LOW which shall be reviewed every year. Initially, all the new clients are to be marked as high – risk category, however they may be subsequently recategorised depending on their performance based on our own experiences. The basic principal enshrined in this approach is that the concerned persons should adopt an enhanced customer due diligence process for higher risk customers. Conversely, a simplified customer due diligence process may be adopted for

lower risk of categories of customers. In line with risk based approach, the type and amount of information and documents shall vary depending on the risk category of a particular borrower and should be collected from the client. The beneficial owners working should be done for all corporate clients and background check of all directors. In case of a borrower who subsequently has turned out to be a Politically Exposed person, proper risk management system should be put in place to determine the beneficial ownership from such clients or potential clients. Once we are privy to such publicly available information or the commercial electronic database of PEPs, we should seek additional relevant information from such client pertaining to ownership issues and other risks associated with such persons and take call whether such exposure to him or his company we should continue or terminate the relationship after giving notice in advance. As a policy without concurrence of top management, no such identified PEP account is to be granted loan.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS AND REVIEW**

The Board of Directors, in their board meetings, will oversee the implementation of the system and review its functioning periodically.