

Deriv Investments (Europe) Limited

Financial Disclosures

Annual Report 2020

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1. Introduction

The Investment Firms Regulation (EU) 2019/2033 (“IFR”) and the Investment Firms Directive (EU) 2019/2034 (“IFD”) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019, lay down financial disclosure requirements applicable to investment firms.

Deriv Investments (Europe) Limited (C 70156) (the “Company”), is registered in Malta, licensed and regulated by the Malta Financial Services Authority (“MFSA”) as an Investment Services provider, under the Investment Services Act (Cap. 370, Laws of Malta).

This document is prepared in accordance with the above-mentioned Directive and Regulation.

2. Scope of application

The Company is required to publicly disclose on an annual basis information on the following topics:

- Risk management objectives and policies
- Governance
- Own funds
- Own funds requirements
- Remuneration policies and practices

The criteria for disclosing such information are based on the Company’s business activities and the impact of these activities on the firm, market, and its clients. According to the IFR and IFD package the Company is considered as class 2 firm.

The Company has no subsidiary and does not form part of a consolidated group and is therefore, making these financial disclosures on an individual basis. This document is only applicable to clients contracted directly with Deriv Investments (Europe) Ltd. It does not apply to clients contracted with any of the other subsidiaries belonging to Deriv Limited group of companies.

3. Financial disclosures reporting location

Deriv Investments (Europe) Ltd is a private limited liability company incorporated and domiciled in Malta.

The address of the Company’s registered office is W Business Centre, Level 3, Triq Dun Karm, Birkirkara, BKR 9033, Malta. The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Deriv Group Limited whose registered address is Kingston Chambers, PO Box 173, Sea Meadow House, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, VG1110.

This document contains the company’s annual financial disclosures and will be published on the Company’s website.

4. Risk management objective and policies

4.1 Risk Management Strategy

The development and implementation of the Company's strategic objectives depend on the Company's capability and risk management strategy. As such, risk management forms one of the core foundations of the Company's strategic objectives.

The primary elements of the Company's risk management strategy are its:

- Risk management policy
- Risk management processes and objectives;
- Own funds requirement;
- General conduct of business;
- Risk statement;
- Overall risk tolerance limits; and
- Governance arrangement.

4.2 Risk Management Policy

Risk management is an integral part of the management of the Company's operations and is carried out internally using policies defined by the Board of Directors ("the Board"). Such policies define the categories of risk and specify the procedures and operating limits for each type of transaction and/or instrument and the choice of markets to enter. In accordance with these policies, the Company uses a prudent approach to offering its services.

The policy is reviewed regularly and annually to reflect changes in market conditions and the Company's activities and objectives. The Head of Risk/Director oversees the adequacy and functioning of the entire system of risk management and internal control with the Boards' oversight.

4.3 Risk Management Processes and Objectives

The Company has in place a risk management process, coordinated by the Head of Risk/Director, to identify the risks to which the Company is or could be exposed, and to manage those risks.

The Company is exposed to various risks which depend on the specific objectives being performed while fulfilling the Company's business. The Company's objective is to identify the risks and determine if they may be avoided, reduced, spread, transferred or prevented. Having recognised the need and the responsibility to preserve the Company's resources, the following guidelines are followed in managing the risks the Company may encounter:

- achieve and maintain a reduced cost of risk without placing the Company in a position of risk exposure that could have a significant impact on its financial security;
- evaluate and assess all risks of loss from the services it provides;
- reduce or eliminate identifiable conditions and practices which may cause loss whenever possible;
- and maintain a risk register which includes a description of each risk, risk categorization, and risk mitigation factors.

4.4 General Conduct of Business

The Company conducts its operations in a manner that avoids unnecessary excessive risks and that assumes an acceptable level of risk which is integral to the day-to-day running of the business.

The Company's Board and senior management team acts in a prudent and diligent manner to safeguard its reputation. Risks that arise due to the nature of the Company's business operations are minimised through a prudent and diligent conduct of business, and in accordance with its risk appetite and risk profile.

Risks are minimised through adherence to the Company's own internal control systems and procedures. Adherence to applicable laws, regulations, directive and guidelines issued by MFSA and European Union is overseen by the Board.

The Company adopts a positive and proactive approach to managing these risks and maintains capital levels that exceed the minimum regulatory requirements.

Furthermore, the Board and senior management team of the Company acknowledge that proper conduct of business not only safeguards against adverse reputational consequences to the Company but also helps to protect the reputation of its peers and the industry.

4.5 Board of Directors Declaration – Concise Risk Statement

The Board acknowledges that the senior management body has taken reasonable steps to establish and maintain risk management policies, processes, and day-to-day applications that are adequate and appropriate to the nature of the business.

The Company adopts a conservative risk appetite. The risk appetite and acceptable risk level is cascaded to the key risk components of the Company.

4.6 K-Factors

The IFR/IFD regime outlines K-Factors, which are measures of risk incorporated into the calculation of a firm's capital requirements. The K-Factors identified are grouped in 3 distinct categories of risk which are defined as Risk to Clients (RtM), Risk to Market (RtM) and Risk to Firm (RtF).

The Company monitors these risk K-Factors on an ongoing basis in order to determine its minimum capital requirement based on the measure of risk arising from the Company's size, internal organisation, scope and complexity.

4.7 Risk to Client (RtC)

Risk to Client takes into consideration the risks that may pose potential harm to the Company's clients. A range of measures are taken into consideration when calculating the RtC, these are represented as the sum of K-AUM + K-CMH + K-ASA + K-COH.

4.7.1 K-AUM

K-AUM measures the amount of client assets under management and is defined as the potential risk to clients arising from incorrect management of client portfolios. The Company does not offer the service of portfolio management and all trades are confirmed on an execution only basis, therefore, in this respect the K-factor for K-AUM is 0 as the Company's business structure does not allow for risk arising from assets under management as it does not manage any such assets.

4.7.2 K-CMH

K-CMH measures the amount of client money held and is defined as the potential risk which may arise from the Company's arrangements with respect to the holding of client money. This recognizes the importance of holding sufficient capital in proportion to client balances.

The K-Factor for K-CMH is 8, it is the Company's policy to hold such balances relating to client money in separate bank accounts. In addition, such amounts are reconciled on monthly basis to ensure consistency and client money protection.

4.7.3 K-ASA

K-ASA measures the amount of client assets safeguarded and administered and is defined as the potential risk which may arise from the Company's arrangements in managing and safeguarding such assets. The Company does not hold any client assets and therefore, in this respect the K-Factor for K-ASA is 0.

4.7.4 K-COH

K-COH measures the amount of client orders which are handled daily by the Company through the execution of orders on behalf of clients. This risk factor recognizes the importance of calculating such risks arising from the daily client orders handled to ensure the Company has in place sufficient arrangements and prudential requirements to carry out such orders. The K-Factor for K-COH is 32.

4.8 Risk to Firm (RtF)

The company assesses, monitors, and has established policies in place to adequately control, mitigate or transfer such risks. This risk can arise from trading counterparty default, the number of daily transactions resulting from dealing on own account as well as concentration risk. The K-Factor for RtF is measured as the sum of K-TCD + K-DTF + K-CON.K-ASA + K-COH.

4.8.1 K-TCD

K-TCD means trading counterparty default which considers the exposures in the Company's trading book which give rise to the risk of a counterparty defaulting on a contract. The Company deals in derivatives which are settled in cash. The Company does not issue credit and as such is not exposed to credit risk.

All trades executed require an initial investment or margin amount for which payment is required upfront to confirm a trade. With respect to liquidity providers, which the Company utilizes when executing orders on behalf of clients, the Company exchanges collateral and maintains sufficient margin to execute such trades, should the margin level decrease this is topped up accordingly, furthermore, should such margin reach 100% no further trades will be confirmed, this amount is set in accordance with the Company's trading volume and risk appetite.

In addition, the Company has measures in place in the form of trading limits, which are in line with the Company's risk appetite vis- -vis its exposure.

K-TCD considers risks arising from exposure, counterparty type and credit valuation. This measures the risk of incurring a financial loss on the assets, loans, and receivables of the Company when a counterparty fails to meet its obligations towards the Company and includes concentration risk. Concentration risk is the risk arising from high exposures to a single counterparty or a group of connected counterparties.

The exposure classes applicable to the Company in respect of its credit/counterparty risk is comprised of:

- Central Government
- Institutions
- Corporates
- Other Items

The table below outlines Credit/Counterparty exposure analysis by exposure class as at 31 December 2020.

Exposure Classes	Total Exposure Value	Minimum Capital Requirements	Risk Weighted Exposure
	US\$	US\$	US\$
Central Government	-	-	-
Institutions	1,532,993	59,457	743,218
Corporates	-	-	-
Other Items	2,926	234	2,926
Total	1,535,919	59,692	746,144

The Company's exposure to central government is composed of the deferred tax asset arising from temporary differences.

Exposure to institutions comprised of cash and cash equivalents placed with financial institutions. The Company's counterparty for cash and cash equivalents are financial institutions of high - quality external credit ratings assigned by international credit rating agencies. As such, the Board considers the credit risk for cash and cash equivalents to be low.

The Company's exposure to corporates includes receivables from related companies within the Deriv Group. Credit/Counterparty risk associated with these balances is low as these related companies are creditworthy counterparties.

Exposure to other items comprised of the Company's plant, equipment and prepayments. The Company maintains all reasonable controls to ensure that all physical assets are safeguarded against possible theft or other causes of damage or destruction. Such controls are in place to safeguard the Company's plant and equipment against all reasonable risks. The Company is insured against foreseeable financial losses arising from damage or theft.

4.8.2 Settlement Risk

Settlement risk is the risk that the Company's cash against documented transactions in financial instruments are unsettled after the delivery due date.

Settlement risk is negligible for the Company. The Company collects the total purchase price for each contract up front, at the time the client enters a contract. This purchase price is deducted from the client's account balance. The Company will conduct settlements on the very same day that the contracts conditions are fulfilled by crediting pay outs to clients whose contracts are in the money. No additional funds will be exchanged between the Company and clients whose contracts are out of the money.

4.8.3 Settlement Risk

For assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are largely independent cash inflows (cash-generating units). As a result, some assets are tested individually for impairment, and some are tested at cash-generating unit level.

All individual assets or cash-generating units are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable.

The Company did not have any financial assets that are past due and impaired as of 31 December 2020. No specific and general credit risk adjustments were made to the Company's financial assets for the financial year ended 31 December 2020.

4.8.4 Settlement Risk

Credit valuation adjustment ("CVA") refers to an adjustment to the mid-market valuation of the portfolio of transactions with a counterparty. That adjustment reflects the current market value of the credit risk of the counterparty to the entity but does not reflect the current market value of the credit risk of the entity to the counterparty.

The Company collects the total purchase price for each contract up front, at the time the client enters a contract. This purchase price is deducted from the client's account balance. The Company does not offer any form of loans or financing facilities to its clients. This means that for the entire duration of the contract, the client will not be liable for any additional funds. As such, the credit risk of the client is not an influencing factor in the ultimate outcome of a given client's contract. The Company's risk exposure to credit valuation adjustment is low.

4.8.5 K-DTF

K-DTF measures the value of daily trades handled by the Company which are executed on own account and excludes trades executed on behalf of clients which are already considered in the calculation for KCOH (client orders handled).

4.8.6 K-CON

K-CON measures the concentration risk the Company may be exposed to. The Company monitors concentration risk through its accounting measures and robust internal control mechanisms. The limit with respect to the concentration risk of an exposure value to an individual client or group of connected clients shall be 25% of the Company's own funds. The Company shall be obliged to notify the Authority should this limit be exceeded.

4.8.7 K-CON

The Company's exposure to liquidity risk arises from its obligations to meet its financial liabilities, comprised of derivative financial liabilities, trade payables, and other payables. Prudent liquidity risk management activities include maintaining sufficient cash balances to ensure the availability of an adequate amount of liquid funds to meet the Company's obligations when they become due.

The Company adopts systems and procedures to monitor and manage liquidity risk. The primary objective of these systems and procedures are to ensure that adequate levels of liquidity buffers are maintained.

Periodic reconciliations, reporting and cash management procedures are in place to manage the Company's liquidity. The Company's liquidity risk is not deemed to be significant in view of the excess of net cash inflows arising from operating, financing, and investment activities.

4.9 Risk to Market (RtM)

The RtM K-Factor is assessed for all trading book positions that result in the Company dealing on own account. The Company assesses its trading book risk including positions other than trading book positions which may give rise to foreign exchange and commodity risk.

4.9.1 Net Position Risk

Position risk is the risk of losses arising from movements in market prices, in on- and off-balance sheet investments in financial instruments which qualify as trading book business.

For measuring Net Position Risk on Derivatives, the Company uses the Standardised approach as set out in Regulation (EU) No 575/2013.

4.9.2 Net Position Risk

The Company's revenue, purchases and operating expenditure are mainly denominated in euro and sterling pound. The Company has a short-term risk exposure for foreign currency risk on its cash and cash equivalents placed with financial institutions denominated in Australian Dollar, Euro and Sterling Pound.

The Head of Risk/Director monitors the Company's exposure to foreign currency risk on a continuous basis against acceptable thresholds. The Company does not hedge positions to mitigate its exposure to foreign currency risk.

4.9.3 Commodity Risk

Commodity risk refers to the risk of holding or taking positions in commodities such as physical products which are and can be traded in the secondary market. It is the Company's policy not to hold any such investments in commodities.

5. Risk management objective and policies

5.1 Risk Management Strategy

The Board of Directors is committed to meeting high standards of corporate governance and strives to uphold these standards of corporate governance as a private limited company by monitoring the developments in corporate governance standards within the industry and the region.

The Board's roles, powers, duties and functions are established based on the following guiding principles:

- Be responsible for the Company's leadership and provision of strategic direction and oversight;
- Monitor and periodically assess the effectiveness of the Company's governance arrangements;
- Approve and oversee the development and implementation of the Company's strategic objectives, risk strategy and internal governance;
- Ensure integrity of accounting and financial reporting procedures;
- Ensure adequacy and effectiveness of risk management and internal control functions; and
- Ensure compliance with applicable legislation and relevant business standards;

5.2 Roles and responsibilities of members of the Board

The Board of Directors is committed to achieving and upholding the Company's governance standards, the following roles and responsibilities are attributed to the Board to maintain this standard:

- Maintain a sufficiently good repute and possess sufficient collective knowledge, skills, and experience;
- Consider and approve frameworks, policies, and procedures;
- Devote adequate human and financial resources to the training of employees and members of the Board;
- Assess and consider acceptable risk tolerance level;
- Determine dividend policy and amount;
- Consider and approve implementation of appropriate corporate governance arrangements;
- Monitor adequacy and effectiveness of controls and address deficiencies;
- Act with honesty, integrity and independence of mind; and
- Oversee and monitor decision-making process.

5.3 Members of the Board of Directors

In line with the Company's Governance arrangements the management body established is adequate to the Company's business endeavours. The Board is comprised of three executive directors and one nonexecutive director.

During the financial year ended 31 December 2020, the directors in office and their directorships were listed accordingly as follows:

- Internal directorships within the Deriv Group of companies; and
- External directorships outside the Deriv Group of companies.

Members of the Board	Internal	External
Jean-Yves Christian Sireau	17	5
Joanna Frendo	4	Nil
Derek Swift	2	Nil
Non-executive director	1	Nil

The non-executive director resigned in October 2020, and a replacement is currently pending the approval of the MFSA.

5.4 Recruitment Policy of members of the Board of Directors

The chairman and members of the board are responsible for reviewing the appropriate diversity in the context of board composition and perceived needs of the board at a particular point in time.

When a recruitment need arises, the board shall attempt to identify appropriate individuals as potential candidates. Consideration shall be based on skills, knowledge, expertise, qualification, experience, characteristics, competency, financial soundness, and with due regard for the benefits of diversity on the board, in accordance with good governance practices and applicable law.

The candidates shall be screened, and shortlisted candidates shall be interviewed and assessed by the chairman and members of the board. The successful candidate shall be nominated for election to the board at the upcoming board meeting. A candidate shall not be appointed or begin performing any director-related function which requires prior approval by the Malta Financial Services Authority (“MFSA”), until the MFSA has granted its approval.

The adequacy and appropriateness of this policy is assessed at least on an annual basis.

5.5 Policy on Diversity of the members of the Board of Directors

Board diversity and individuality is valued and encouraged to provide a broader range of competence, skills and experiences to enhance the Company’s capabilities to deliver business results and manage risks.

With regards to selection of board composition, we are committed to embracing diversity to achieve our strategic objectives and to sustain our competitive advantage.

Differences in various important characteristics, such as educational and functional background, regional and industry experience, skills, opinions, personalities, gender, race, ethnicity, and other distinctions between directors shall be considered in determining board composition.

A well-balanced representation of the board enables efficient discharge of its duties and responsibilities, making use of all aspects of its diversity.

Board appointments shall be made taking into consideration the skills, experience, independence, competence, and knowledge which are essential to effectively promote the success of the Company.

Board members are subject to evaluation on an annual basis. Board member’s performance may be reviewed in accordance with the processes agreed by the board from time to time. The board is collectively responsible for the success of the Company.

The adequacy and appropriateness of this policy is assessed at least on an annual basis.

5.6 Risk Management Function

Risk is an inherent component in all aspects of the Company’s business. The Company continuously promotes a culture of risk awareness and responsibility.

The following describes the structure and organisation of the Company’s risk management function:

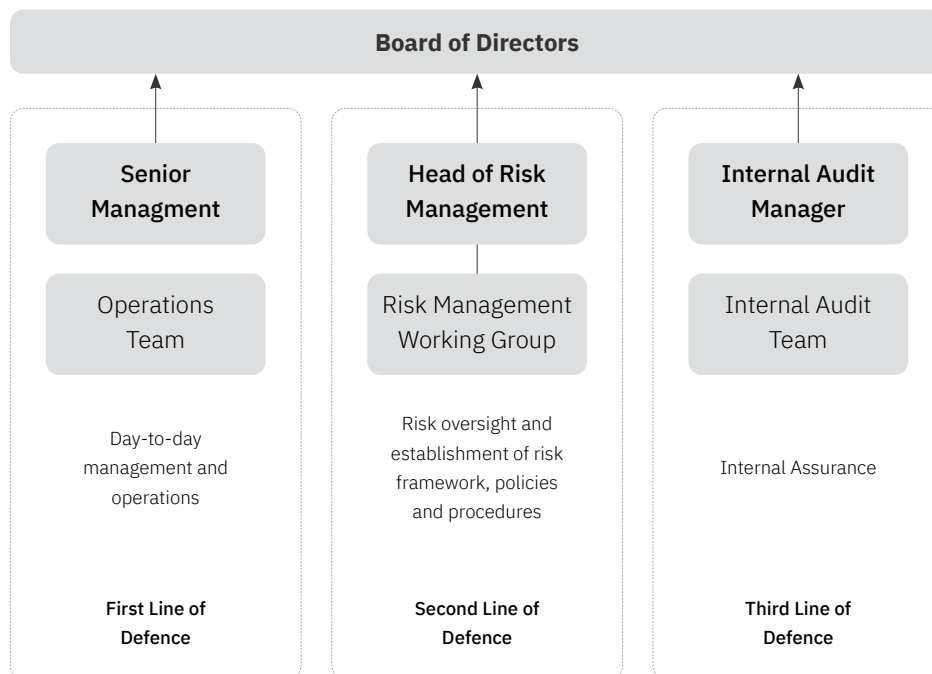


Diagram 1. Structure and organisation of risk management function.

5.7 Risk Management Working Group

In addition to the Board of Directors, the Company has set up a Risk Management Working Group (RMWG) which is comprised of the Risk Management function and Head of trading.

The RMWG has been established since 2018. The Group’s risk management framework is designed to provide appropriate risk assessment and monitoring of the Company.

The RMWG reports directly to the Board of Directors who is responsible for maintaining oversight of the RMWG’s risk management framework and internal control systems which are designed to manage the risks the Company is or may be exposed to.

The RMWG periodically reviews the effectiveness and adequacy of the framework and systems by identifying, assessing, monitoring and communicating key business risks.

The RMWG meet at least on a quarterly basis unless otherwise determined. Minutes of the RMWG’s meetings are kept and provided to the Board of Directors following the RMWG meeting.

6. Risk management objective and policies

The Company has established adequate accounting procedures to assess and monitor its Own Funds requirements, which are comprised of Common Equity Tier 1, Additional Tier 1 items and Tier 2 items including applicable filters and deductions.

The following restrictions are applied to the calculation of own funds including a reference to the instruments and deductions to which those restrictions apply.

6.1 Reconciliation of balance sheet to regulatory capital

	Balance sheet in accordance with IFRS	Regulatory adjustments	Regulatory own funds
	2020	2020	2020
	US\$	US\$	US\$
Ordinary share capital	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
Accumulated loss	(744,047)	948	(743,099)
Inadmissible assets - intangible assets	-	(489)	(489)
Investor compensation scheme	948	(948)	-
	256,901	(489)	256,412
	2019	2019	2019
	US\$	US\$	US\$
Ordinary share capital	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
Accumulated loss	(455,164)	948	(454,216)
Inadmissible assets – intangible assets	-	(3,700)	(3,700)
Deferred tax that relies on future profitability and does not arise from temporary differences	-	-	-
Investor compensation scheme	948	(948)	-
	545,784	(3,700)	542,084

6.2 Own Funds Disclosures

The Company does not issue any instruments classified as either Common Equity Tier 1 items, Additional Tier 1 items or Tier 2 items. The following tables contain a full reconciliation of Common Equity Tier 1 items, Additional Tier 1 items, Tier 2 items and applicable filters and deductions applied to own funds of the Company and the balance sheet in the audited financial statements of the Company.

6.2.1 Template EU IF CC1.01 - Composition of regulatory own funds

		(a)	(b)
		Amounts	Source based on reference numbers of the balance sheet in the audited financial statements
Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) capital: instruments and reserves			
1	OWN FUNDS	722,001	Common equity Tier 1, Additional Tier 1 and Tier 2 Capital.
2	TIER 1 CAPITAL	(744,047)	Composed of common equity Tier 1 and Additional Tier 1 Capital.
3	COMMON EQUITY TIER 1 CAPITAL	256,412	
4	Fully paid up capital instruments	1,000,000	
5	Share premium	0	
6	Retained earnings	-743,099	
7	Accumulated other comprehensive income	0	
8	Other reserves	0	
9	Minority interest given recognition in CET1 capital	0	
10	Adjustments to CET1 due to prudential filters	0	
11	Other funds	0	
12	(-)TOTAL DEDUCTIONS FROM COMMON EQUITY TIER 1	-489	Intangible assets
13	(-) Own CET1 instruments	0	
14	(-) Direct holdings of CET1 instruments	0	
15	(-) Indirect holdings of CET1 instruments	0	
16	(-) Synthetic holdings of CET1 instruments	0	
17	(-) Losses for the current financial year	0	
18	(-) Goodwill	0	
19	(-) Other intangible assets	-489	Intangible assets
20	(-) Deferred tax assets that rely on future profitability and do not arise from temporary differences net of associated tax liabilities	0	
21	(-) Qualifying holding outside the financial sector which exceeds 15% of own funds	0	
22	(-) Total qualifying holdings in undertaking other than financial sector entities which exceeds 60% of its own funds	0	
23	(-) CET1 instruments of financial sector entities where the institution does not have a significant investment	0	
24	(-) CET1 instruments of financial sector entities where the institution has a significant investment	0	
25	(-) Defined benefit pension fund assets	0	
26	(-) Other deductions	0	
27	CET1: Other capital elements, deductions and adjustments	0	
28	ADDITIONAL TIER 1 CAPITAL	0	
29	Fully paid up, directly issued capital instruments	0	
30	Share premium	0	
31	(-) TOTAL DEDUCTIONS FROM ADDITIONAL TIER 1	0	
32	(-) Own AT1 instruments	0	
33	(-) Direct holdings of AT1 instruments	0	
34	(-) Indirect holdings of AT1 instruments	0	
35	(-) Synthetic holdings of AT1 instruments	0	
36	(-) AT1 instruments of financial sector entities where the institution does not have a significant investment	0	

37	(-) AT1 instruments of financial sector entities where the institution has a significant investment	0	
38	(-) Other deductions	0	
39	Additional Tier 1: Other capital elements, deductions and adjustments	0	
40	TIER 2 CAPITAL	465,589	
41	Fully paid up, directly issued capital instruments	465,589	
42	Share premium	0	
43	(-) TOTAL DEDUCTIONS FROM TIER 2	0	
44	(-) Own T2 instruments	0	
45	(-) Direct holdings of T2 instruments	0	
46	(-) Indirect holdings of T2 instruments	0	
47	(-) Synthetic holdings of T2 instruments	0	
48	(-) T2 instruments of financial sector entities where the institution does not have a significant investment	0	
49	(-) T2 instruments of financial sector entities where the institution has a significant investment	-489	
50	Tier 2: Other capital elements, deductions and adjustments	0	

6.2.2 Template EU IF CC2 – Reconciliation of Regulatory Own funds to balance sheet in the Audited financial statements.

As outlined previously the Company does not form part of a consolidated group and therefore, performs such reconciliations on an individual basis.

		a	b	c
		Balance sheet as in audited financial statements	Under regulatory scope of consolidation	Cross reference to EU IF CC1
		As at period end	As at period end	
Assets - Breakdown by asset classes according to the balance sheet in the audited financial statements				
1	Intangible asset	489.00	N/A	(-) Other intangible assets
2	Plant and equipment	-	N/A	-
3	Receivables	2,926.00	N/A	Liabilities deducted from assets
4	Cash and cash equivalents	987,219.00	N/A	
5	Other financial assets	545,774.00	N/A	
31-Dec-20	Total Assets	1,536,408.00	N/A	
Liabilities - Breakdown by liability classes according to the balance sheet in the audited financial statements				
1	Amount due to parent company	700,000.00	N/A	COMMON EQUITY TIER 1 CAPITAL
2	Derivative financial instruments	774.00	N/A	
3	Trade and other payables	578,733.00	N/A	
		0		
31-Dec-20	Total Liabilities	1,279,507.00	N/A	
Shareholders' Equity				
1	Share capital	1,000,000.00)	N/A	Fully paid up capital instruments
2	Investor compensation scheme reserve	948.00)	N/A	Retained earnings
3	Accumulated losses	(744,047.00)	N/A	
31-Dec-20	Total Shareholders' equity	256,901.00	N/A	

6.3 Own Funds requirements

In accordance with the applicable regulatory framework the Company ensures that its own funds are equal to the highest calculation of 1 of the following measures:

- Fixed overheads requirement;
- Permanent minimum capital requirement; or
- K-Factors requirement.

In accordance with the applicable IFR/IFD capital requirement framework the Company is considered a Class 2 firm. The following table outlines the Company's own funds requirement calculated accordingly (all values are represented in EURO).

Requirement	Amount
Permanent minimum capital requirement	750,000
K-Factor requirement = 40	319,017
Fixed overheads requirement	89,443
Own Funds requirement	750,000

6.4 Internal Capital Adequacy

The Company has effective procedures in place to assess and monitor its internal capital management and whether this framework continues to be adequate and in line with its current business strategies as well as proposed future business endeavours.

The Company's internal capital adequacy is actively managed through periodic monitoring of capital ratios, its objectives are to:

- comply with the capital resources requirements required by the MFSA; and
- ensure its ability to continue as a going concern and to provide an adequate return to shareholders and benefits to other stakeholders by pricing services commensurately with the level of risk and maintaining an optimal capital structure to reduce the cost of capital.

The Accounting department conducts weekly reconciliations of the company's accounts, including operational as well as client money accounts. An analysis of the banks is performed on a monthly basis taking into consideration the balances kept ensuring adequacy in accordance with the stipulated risk assessment. A cash flow analysis is also conducted monthly to mitigate any potential liquidity risk.

6.4.1 Permanent Minimum Capital

The Company must always maintain a permanent minimum capital of EUR 750,000 which is defined as the higher of its calculations for its K-Factors and fixed overheads requirement. Robust accounting procedures and ongoing monitoring are in place to ensure the Company maintains such capital requirements.

The Company's total K-Factor is lower and fixed overheads requirement is calculated to be lower than the required permanent minimum capital and therefore, maintains its own funds according to the required permanent minimum capital of EUR 750,000.

6.4.2 K-Factors

Section 4 of this document outlines the risks according to their respective K-Factor requirements and arrangements. The Company monitors the value of its K-Factors for any indication that could result in a materially different own funds requirement.

6.4.3 Fixed Overheads Requirement

The amount required to be maintained shall amount to at least 25% of the fixed overheads of the preceding year. The Company calculates and maintains its fixed overheads requirement in accordance with its accounting procedures and overall business structure.

7. Remuneration policy and practices

7.1 Remuneration Policy

The Company has in place a risk-based remuneration policy that does not expose it to excessive risk. The Company's remuneration policy is designed to achieve an appropriate balance between risk and reward.

This policy is established and approved by the Board of Directors and complies with the following principles:

- The remuneration policy is documented, and approved by the Board of Directors
- It is adequate to the size, organisation, nature and complexity of business activities
- It is gender-neutral
- It promotes sound and effective Risk management
- It avoids conflicts of interest
- Promotes responsible conduct of business

The Board of Directors annually reviews the remuneration policy and is responsible for its overall implementation.

7.2 Remuneration Structure

The current remuneration structure is based on two key principles, which are considered best practice in the human resources domain:

- Internal equity – directors /staff who perform similar job functions with similar skill levels should earn similar amounts
- External competitiveness – directors /staff compensation package compares favourably with companies operating in a similar industry, business nature, size, and geographical area of the business.

Over time, remuneration reflects the directors /staff value to the Company and is fair vis- -vis other directors /staff within the Company. The remuneration policy applies to those categories of staff whose professional activities have a material impact on investment firm's risk profile and is based on basic fixed remuneration criteria, which reflects relevant professional experience and organisational responsibility as set out in an employee's job description as part of the terms of employment.

7.3 Directors' and Members of Staff Remuneration

Remuneration amounts paid are fixed and any increase is based on the Company's performance as well as individual performance, bonus is discretionary, and performance based. In addition, all payments are settled in cash and no shares or share options are granted as part of the remuneration package.

The Company does not apply additional payments such as variable or guaranteed variable remuneration at any time, nor does it apply deferred remuneration payments. The employees' remuneration does not depend on any trend in revenues or sales targets. Therefore, this approach does not affect the Company's sound capital base, nor does it have an adverse effect on the interests of our clients and furthermore, promotes sound conduct of business.

Furthermore, the Company has not issued any severance payments from previous periods which were paid during the financial year ending 31 December 2020.

The following table discloses the remuneration amounts paid to the members of the Board of Directors as at year end 2020 as well as any members of staff whose roles and responsibilities have a material impact on the Company's risk profile.

Type of Remuneration	Executive Director	Non-executive Director	Total
	US\$	US\$	
Fixed	101,893	5,632	107,526
Variable	-	-	-
Deferred Remuneration	-	-	-
Severance Payments	-	-	-
Total	101,893	5,632	107,526
Number of beneficiaries	2	1	3

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