



Constitution of Plant Health Australia Limited

Adopted on 29 May 2003

Amended on 27 May 2004

Amended on 26 October 2006

Amended on 24 May 2007

Amended on 25 October 2007

Amended on 29 October 2008

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Preliminary

1A Nature of Company

The Company is a public company limited by guarantee.

1 Replaceable rules excluded

The replaceable rules contained in the Act do not apply to the Company.

2 Definitions and interpretation

2.1 Definitions

In this Constitution:

Act means the *Corporations Act 2001* and includes any amendment or re-enactment of it or any legislation passed in substitution for it.

Annual Subscription means the Annual Subscription payable by a Member in accordance with clause 15.

Application Fee means the fee payable by an applicant in accordance with clause 12.5.

Approved Statistical Authority means:

- (a) the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS); or
- (b) if a required statistic has not been published by the ABS, the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE); or
- (c) if a required statistics has not been published by either the ABS or ABARE, a source of the required statistic as determined by the Directors.

Associate Members means persons having an interest in plant health or the Australian plant industry and admitted as Associate Members.

Bond Rate means the interest rate quoted by the Reserve Bank of Australia (**RBA**) as its long term bond rate (**Published Rate**) or, should there cease to be a Published Rate, the rate at which the RBA designates as being an appropriate substitute for the Published Rate (**Substitute Rate**). A certificate signed by a manager or other officer of the RBA stating the Published Rate or the Substitute Rate at a particular date is conclusive evidence of the rate at a particular date.

Business Day means a day that is not a Saturday, a Sunday or a public holiday or bank holiday in the place where the Company has its registered office.

Chairperson means the person appointed as chairperson of the board of Directors of the Company under clause 25.

Chief Executive Officer means the person appointed by the Directors under clause 49.

Commonwealth means the Commonwealth of Australia.

Company means Plant Health Australia Limited.

Constitution means the constitution of the Company as amended from time to time.

Core Activities means:

- (a) the administration of the Company;
- (b) services offered by the Company to all Members; and
- (c) plant health programs undertaken or facilitated by the Company that are relevant and beneficial to all Members.

Crop or Crops includes plants, forests and fungi.

Default Rate means $(x + 3)$ percent per annum where x is the Bond Rate.

Deputy Chairperson means the person appointed as deputy chairperson of the board of Directors of the Company under clause 26.

Directors means the directors for the time being of the Company or the directors assembled as a board.

Funding Act means the *Plant Health Australia (Plant Industries) Funding Act 2002* and includes any amendment or re-enactment of it or any legislation passed in substitution for it.

Government Members means Members that are the Commonwealth of Australia, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory.

Guidelines means the guidelines (if any) issued by the Directors to the Selection Committee in relation to the selection process.

Member means a member of the Company.

Minimum Subscription means the minimum Annual Subscription determined by the Directors from time to time.

PISP means a Plant Industry Member's individual proportional share of local value of production of all Crops in Australia for which growers are represented by all Plant Industry Members calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\text{LVP (Plant Industry Member)}}{\text{LVP (All Plant Industry Members)}}$$

Where:

LVP (Plant Industry Member) means the average of the local value of production for the prior 3 years for which statistics have been published by the Approved Statistical Authority for a Crop or Crops (including forestry production for logs) for which the Plant Industry Member is a representative body of growers as at the respective 1 July;

LVP (All Plant Industry Members) means the average of the local value of production for the prior 3 years for which statistics have been published by the Approved Statistical Authority for all Crops (including forestry production for logs) for which growers are represented by all Plant Industry Members as at the respective 1 July,

provided that:

- (a) if there is more than 1 Plant Industry Member representing growers of a particular Crop then the local value of production for that Crop will be apportioned between those Members for the purposes of the above calculation by the Directors in their discretion; and
- (b) for the purposes of this definition of PISP, a Plant Industry Member is deemed to represent the growers of a Crop or Crops if the Register of Members specifies that the Plant Industry Member is a representative body for that crop.

PITAS means the proposed total Annual Subscriptions payable by all Plant Industry Members calculated as at each 1 July (without application of the Minimum Subscription to any Member).

Plant Industry Members means Members that are national representative bodies of growers of a Crop or Crops as determined by the Directors.

Register of Members means the register of Members of the Company.

Replacement Body means a new legal entity which is:

- (a) created as a result of a restructure of, or to otherwise replace, an existing Plant Industry Member; and

- (b) qualified to represent growers of the same Crop or Crops that the existing Plant Industry Member is currently qualified to represent.

Representative means a person appointed as a Member's representative in accordance with clause 82.

Secretary means the secretary referred to in clause 53 and any other person appointed to perform the duties of a secretary of the Company.

Selection Committee means the committee appointed in accordance with clause 24.

Specified Period means:

- (a) in respect of a Directors' Notice or Member's Notice that relates to an application for Membership for a Replacement Body, 14 days; and
- (b) in respect of a Directors' Notice or Member's Notice that relates to any other application for Membership, 28 days.

State/Territory Members means those Members that are New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, the Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

STSP means a State/Territory Member's individual proportional share of local value of production of all Crops in Australia calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\text{LVP (State/Territory Member)}}{\text{LVP (All State/Territory Members)}}$$

Where:

LVP (State/Territory Member) means the average of the local value of production for the prior 3 years for which statistics have been published by the Approved Statistical Authority for all Crops (including forestry production for logs) produced in the State or Territory of that State/Territory Member as at the respective 1 July;

LVP (All State/Territory Members) means the average of the local value of production for the prior 3 years for which statistics have been published by the Approved Statistical Authority for all Crops (including forestry production for logs) produced in the States and Territories that have representation by a State/Territory Member as at the respective 1 July.

STTAS means the proposed total Annual Subscriptions payable by all State/Territory Members calculated as at each 1 July (without application of the Minimum Subscription to any Member).

Tax Act means the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* and includes any amendment or re-enactment of it or any legislation passed in substitution for it.

Transfer Date means the date of the first day on which a Replacement Body satisfies each of the following:

- (a) it exists as a legal entity;
- (b) it has been accepted for Membership; and
- (c) it has become qualified to represent the growers of the Crop or Crops previously represented by the Member that submitted the application for Membership for the Replacement Body.

2.2 Interpretation

In this Constitution:

- (a) reference to:
 - i) one gender includes the others;
 - ii) the singular includes the plural and the plural includes the singular; and
 - iii) a person includes a body corporate or government;
- (b) except so far as the contrary intention appears in this Constitution:
 - i) an expression has in this Constitution the same meaning as in the Act; and
 - ii) if an expression is given different meanings for the purposes of different provisions of the Act, the expression has, in a provision of this Constitution that deals with a matter dealt with by a particular provision of the Act, the same meaning as in that provision of the Act;
- (c) 'including' and similar expressions are not words of limitation; and
- (d) headings are for convenience only and do not form part of this Constitution or affect its interpretation.

3 Objects

The objects for which the Company is established are to:

- (a) coordinate a cooperative whole of industry and whole of government approach to the development and implementation of plant health policies and management programs including incursion management;

- (b) provide strategic leadership in the development and implementation of national plant health policies and management programs;
- (c) maintain and improve international and domestic confidence in Australia's plant health status;
- (d) contribute to the sustainability of Australia's plant industries and native flora;
- (e) develop effective consultative, transparent and auditable systems for the management of the Company; and
- (f) commission, co-ordinate, facilitate and manage national plant health projects.

4 Powers

4.1 Scope of Powers

The Company has all the powers of an individual and a body corporate but does not have the power to issue shares.

4.2 Powers ancillary to objects

Despite clause 4.1 the powers of the Company are ancillary to and exercisable only to pursue the objects of the Company set out in clause 3.

5 Application of income and property

The income and property of the Company, from wherever it is derived, must be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Company set out in clause 3.

6 No distribution to Members

6.1 No payment to Members

No portion of the income or property of the Company may be paid directly or indirectly, by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise, to the Members.

6.2 Acts not prevented

Clause 6.1 does not prevent:

- (a) the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officer, servant or Member of the Company in return for any services actually rendered to the Company or for goods supplied in the ordinary and usual way of business;

- (b) the payment of interest, at a rate per annum not exceeding the current Bond Rate, on money borrowed from any Member of the Company;
- (c) the payment of reasonable and proper rent by the Company to a Member of the Company for premises leased by the Member to the Company;
- (d) the reimbursement of expenses incurred by any Member on behalf of the Company;
- (e) the reimbursement of funds paid by the Commonwealth to the Company, pursuant to any cost sharing arrangements made between Members and the Company for the emergency eradication of exotic plant pest and disease incursions; or
- (f) the payment to the Commonwealth of any amount required to be repaid to the Commonwealth under section 4 or section 5 of the Funding Act.

7 Limited liability

The liability of the Members is limited.

8 Guarantee

Every Member undertakes to contribute an amount not exceeding \$2 (two dollars) to the property of the Company in the event of its being wound up while the Member is a Member or within 1 year after the Member ceases to be a Member, if required for payment:

- (a) of the debts and liabilities of the Company (contracted before the Member ceases to be a Member);
- (b) of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up; and
- (c) for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

Membership

9 Number of Members

The number of Members for which the Company proposes to be registered is unlimited.

10 Membership

The Members of the Company are:

- (a) the existing Members; and
- (b) any other persons the Directors admit to Membership in accordance with this Constitution.

11 Categories of Membership

The categories of Membership are:

- (a) Government Members;
- (b) Plant Industry Members; and
- (c) Associate Members.

12 Form of application

12.1 Application

An application for Membership must:

- (a) be in writing in a form approved by the Directors;
- (b) be signed by the applicant; and
- (c) nominate the category of Membership applied for.

12.2 Application to be a Plant Industry Member

If an applicant applies to be a Plant Industry Member, the application must also:

- (a) specify the Crop or Crops for which the applicant purports to represent growers; and
- (b) be accompanied by any other documents or evidence:
 - i) as to the applicant's qualification for the category of Membership applied for;
 - ii) that supports the applicant's qualification to represent the growers of the Crop or Crops specified; and
 - iii) that the Directors may reasonably require.

12.3 Representative to be nominated

The application form must also:

- (a) state the name and contact details of at least 1 person the applicant nominates as its Representative; and
- (b) be signed by such nominated Representative(s).

12.4 Application Fee to accompany form

An application form must be accompanied by the Application Fee.

12.5 Amount of Application Fee

The Application Fee payable by an applicant for Membership is the sum (if any) the Directors determine from time to time for each category of Membership.

12.6 Replacement Body

A Plant Industry Member may submit an application for Membership for a Replacement Body if:

- (a) the Plant Industry Member is proposing to restructure or has restructured or is going to be replaced or has been replaced by another entity as the representative body for the Crop or Crops which the Plant Industry Member currently represents;
- (b) the restructure or replacement will result in or has resulted in the creation of a Replacement Body; and
- (c) the Replacement Body will be qualified on creation or is qualified to represent growers of the same Crop or Crops that the Plant Industry Member is currently qualified to represent.

For the avoidance of doubt, a Plant Industry Member must not submit an application for Membership for a Replacement Body in respect of a new entity that will represent or represents only a subset of the Crops for which the Plant Industry Member is recorded in the Register of Members as the representative body.

12.7 Application for Membership for a Replacement Body

An application for Membership for a Replacement Body must:

- (a) be in writing in a form approved by the Directors;
- (b) specify the name of the applicant and the name and contact details of the Replacement Body;
- (c) specify the Crop or Crops the growers of which the applicant currently represents (and which the applicant claims that the Replacement Body will be qualified on creation or is qualified to represent);

- (d) be accompanied by evidence that supports that the Replacement Body will be qualified on creation or is qualified to represent the growers of the Crop or Crops specified;
- (e) nominate a Representative of the Replacement body in accordance with clause 12.3; and
- (f) subject to clause 12.8, be accompanied by the Application fee.

12.8 Application Fees in respect of a Replacement Body

The Directors may, at their discretion, elect to waive the Application Fee for an application for Membership for a Replacement Body.

13 Admission to Membership

13.1 Notice to Members

The Directors must give written notice to all Members (**Directors' Notice**) of each application submitted in accordance with clause 12 in respect of a person who is qualified for Membership or, in the case of a Replacement Body, who will be qualified for Membership on creation (by reason of being capable of satisfying the respective Member category definition specified in clause 2.1) within 14 days after receipt of the application. The rules in clause 72 for deeming service of notices of general meetings shall apply to service of Directors' Notices.

13.2 Directors to determine

Unless within the Specified Period after the date of service of the Directors' Notice a Member provides written notice to the Directors that it wishes the application to be considered at a general meeting (**Member's Notice**), then at the next Directors' meeting following the expiry of the Specified Period the Directors must determine the admission or rejection of the application.

13.3 Members to determine

If a Member's Notice is received by the Directors within the Specified Period after the date of service of the Directors' Notice, then the Members must determine the admission or rejection of the application at the next general meeting.

13.4 Determinations made in absolute discretion

Determinations under clauses 13.2 and 13.3 may be made in the absolute discretion of the Directors or the Members as the case may be and no reason need be given for the acceptance or rejection of any application for Membership.

13.5 Rejection

If an application for Membership is rejected:

- (a) the Secretary must notify the applicant in writing; and

- (b) the Application Fee shall not be refunded to the applicant.

13.6 Acceptance

If an applicant or Replacement Body is accepted for Membership, the Secretary must:

- (a) notify the applicant or the Replacement Body, as applicable, in writing;
- (b) subject to clause 13.7, request payment of the Annual Subscription
- (c) subject to clause 15.8, specify a date by which the Annual Subscription must be paid; and
- (d) update the Register of Members.

If a Replacement Body is accepted for Membership, the following changes occur on the Transfer Date:

- (e) the Replacement Body becomes the representative of the growers of the Crop or Crops previously represented by the Member that submitted the application for Membership for the Replacement Body; and
- (f) the Member that submitted the application for Membership for the Replacement Body ceases to be a Member.

13.7 Annual Subscription

The Annual Subscription payable by any new Member admitted to Membership to commence on a date other than 1 July, or by a Replacement Body, will be an amount (if any) determined by the Directors in their absolute discretion and such Annual Subscription will apply for the period from commencement of Membership until the following 1 July.

13.8 Failure to pay Annual Subscription

If payment of the Annual Subscription is not received within the time specified in the notice referred to in clause 13.6(c), the Directors may at their discretion revoke the acceptance of the applicant for Membership.

14 Register of Members

14.1 Register to be kept

A Register of Members must be kept in accordance with the Act.

14.2 Details to be entered

The following must be entered in the Register of Members in respect of each Member:

- (a) the full name of the Member;

- (b) the office address, postal address, telephone number, facsimile number and electronic mail address, if any, of the Member;
- (c) the category of Membership;
- (d) the date of admission to and cessation of Membership;
- (e) the date of last payment of the Member's Annual Subscription;
- (f) the full name, office address, postal address, facsimile number and electronic mail address of its Representative;
- (g) in respect of Plant Industry Members, the Crop or Crops for which the Plant Industry Members is a representative body of growers; and
- (h) such other information as the Directors require.

14.3 Change to name or contact details

Each Member must notify the Secretary in writing of any change in that person's name, office address, postal address, telephone number, facsimile number or electronic mail address within 1 month after the change.

14.4 Change to Crop representation

A Plant Industry Member may apply to change a Crop or Crops for which the Plant Industry Member is recorded in the Register of Members as a representative body of growers as follows:

- (a) the Plant Industry Member must provide to the Secretary a written application to change the Crop or Crops, including documents or other evidence supporting that the Plant Industry Member is:
 - i) in the case of an application to add a Crop, qualified to represent the growers of that Crop; or
 - ii) in the case of an application to remove a Crop, no longer qualified to represent the growers of that Crop;
- (b) at the next Director's meeting following receipt of the application by the Secretary (or the following meeting if received within 14 days prior to the next meeting), the Directors must determine their acceptance or rejection of the application;
- (c) the Secretary must give written notice to the Plant Industry Member of the determination by the Directors within 14 days of the determination;
- (d) if the application is accepted by the Directors, the date of effect of the change to the Crop or Crops is, and the corresponding change to the Register of Members must be made prior to and with effect on:

- i) the date 6 months after the date of the application; or
- ii) any later date specified in the application

provided that, for the avoidance of doubt, no adjustment will be made to the Annual Subscription paid or payable by the Plant Industry Member, in relation to the year in which the date of effect occurred unless the date of effect is 1 July.

14.5 Error on Register

A Member may at any time notify the Secretary of a suspected recording error in the Register of Members, including as to the Crop or Crops for which a Plant Industry Member is a representative body, and the Secretary must act immediately to amend any manifest error.

Annual Subscription

15 Annual Subscription

15.1 Annual Subscription

Subject to clause 13.7, the Annual Subscription payable by a Member is as specified in this clause 15.

15.2 Members to determine amounts

The following amounts, calculated as at each 1 July, must be determined by the Members in general meeting, provided that the amounts must be equal:

- (a) the Annual Subscription payable by the Commonwealth;
- (b) STTAS; and
- (c) PITAS.

15.3 State/Territory Members

Subject to clause 15.6, each State/Territory Member as at each 1 July will pay as its Annual Subscription an amount equal to:

STSP x STTAS.

15.4 Plant Industry Members

Subject to clause 15.6, each Plant Industry Member as at each 1 July will pay as its Annual Subscription an amount equal to:

PISP x PITAS.

15.5 Associate Members

The Annual Subscription payable by an Associate Member is the Minimum Subscription.

15.6 Minimum Subscription

The minimum Annual Subscription payable by any Member is the Minimum Subscription. Application of the Minimum Subscription to any Member does not alter the amounts otherwise payable by other Members pursuant to clauses 15.2, 15.3 or 15.4, notwithstanding that the Annual Subscription payable by the Commonwealth, the total Annual Subscriptions payable by all State/Territory Members and the total Annual Subscriptions payable by all Plant Industry Members may not be equal amounts.

15.7 Payment period

Subject to clause 13.7, clause 15.8 and clause 15.10, all Annual Subscriptions shall be for the annual period from 1 July to 30 June and are due and payable no later than 30 days from the date of an invoice for them from the Company.

15.8 Instalments

The Chief Executive Officer may determine that an Annual Subscription of any Member may be paid in several instalments, specify the amount for each payment and the times in which each payment of the Annual Subscription must be made.

15.9 Plant Industry Members – Payments under Funding Act

The liability of a Plant Industry Member to pay its Annual Subscription is discharged to the extent that the Commonwealth has paid amounts to the Company pursuant to section 4(2) or section 5(2) of the Funding Act with respect to the Plant Industry Member for the year. The Plant Industry Member remains liable for any shortfall.

15.10 Plant Industry Members – Levy

If the Commonwealth has notified the Company that a levy has been imposed by the Commonwealth pursuant to which it will be making the payments referred to in clause 15.9 with respect to a Plant Industry Member, the Annual Subscription for that Plant Industry Member may be paid by instalments throughout the respective year. At the end of the year, the Company shall issue an invoice to the Plant Industry Member for any shortfall, which will be payable within 30 days.

15.11 GST

The Annual Subscription payable by each Member will be increased to the extent of any applicable goods and services tax. Such goods and services tax is payable at the same time as the balance of the Annual Subscription.

16 Unpaid Annual Subscriptions

If:

- (a) the Annual Subscription of a Member remains unpaid for 2 months after it becomes payable;
- (b) the Directors resolve to give notice under this clause 16; and
- (c) such notice is given to the Member;

the Member:

- (d) ceases to be entitled to any of the rights or privileges of Membership but these may be reinstated on payment of all arrears if the Directors see fit; and
- (e) must pay to the Company simple interest on an unpaid amount at the current Default Rate calculated daily from the next day after the due date up to and including the date the amount is paid.

Resignation and cessation of Membership

17 Failure to pay

If a Member who has been given a notice under clause 16 has not paid all arrears of the Annual Subscription or, if paid, the Member's rights and privileges are not reinstated under clause 16(d):

- (a) the Member remains liable for all the obligations and liabilities of Membership until the expiration of 6 months after the date of notification under clause 16; and
- (b) at the expiration of the 6 month period the Member ceases to be a Member and the Member's name must be removed from the Register of Members.

18 Resignation

18.1 Notice

A Member may resign from Membership of the Company by giving 6 months written notice to the Secretary.

18.2 Effective Date

The resignation of a Member takes effect on the date stated in the notice or, if no date is stated or the date stated is within 6 months of the date the notice is given, on the date 6 months after the date notice is given.

19 Cessation of Membership

A Member ceases to be a Member if:

- (a) the Member is wound up or is otherwise dissolved or deregistered;
- (b) the Member ceases to be a Member under clause 13.6(f) or 17; or
- (c) the Directors determine that the Member no longer meets the definition specified in clause 2.1 for the Member's category of Membership, provided that the Directors have given the Member at least 14 days prior notice of the proposed resolution and have allowed the Member to provide a written submission on the issue.

20 Effect of cessation of Membership

If any Member ceases to be a Member

- (a) the Member remains liable to pay to the Company any money which, at the time of the Member ceasing to be a Member, the Member owes to the Company on any account.
- (b) no part year adjustment will be made to Annual Subscriptions payable and no refund is payable in relation to Annual Subscriptions paid, although if a Replacement Body has taken the place of the Member, the Replacement Body may be given a credit in respect of any amounts of Annual Subscriptions paid by the Member.

Appointment of Directors

21 Number of Directors

The number of Directors must be not less than 5 and no more than 9 persons, including the Chairperson and the Chief Executive Officer.

22 Appointment and term of Directors

22.1 Appointed at annual general meeting

Subject to clause 27.1, the Directors (not including the Chief Executive Officer) are appointed by the Company, subject to section 201 E of the Act, from nominees nominated by the Selection Committee, at each annual general meeting of the Company at which positions become vacant.

22.2 Term

Subject to clause 27.3, the term of appointment of Directors, not including the Chief Executive Officer, shall be for the period until the fourth annual general meeting after the annual general meeting of his or her appointment.

22.3 Eligible for reappointment

Directors are eligible for re-appointment at the expiry of each term of appointment.

22.4 Chief Executive Officer

The Chief Executive Officer shall be a Director for the period of his or her appointment as Chief Executive Officer.

22.5 Rotation

At the 2003 annual general meeting and every second annual general meeting thereafter, at least one-half of the Directors (not including the Chief Executive Officer), or if their number is not a multiple of two, then the number nearest to but not more than one-half of the Directors (not including the Chief Executive Officer), must retire.

22.6 Rules for rotation

For the purposes of clause 22.5:

- (a) a Chairperson who has vacated his or her office as Director early and is to be replaced pursuant to clause 27.2 at the annual general meeting specified in clause 22.5 shall be regarded as retiring at that meeting;
- (b) in addition to the Chairperson (if any) to whom clause 22.6(a) applies, the other Directors to retire are those Directors who have terms of appointment due to expire at the annual general meeting and, if any further retirements are required, those who have been longest in office since their last election;
- (c) Directors elected on the same day must agree among themselves or determine by lot which of them must retire; and
- (d) a Director appointed under clause 27.1 or 27.2(b) will be regarded as having been in office since the election of the Director he or she replaced.

22.7 First Directors

Notwithstanding clauses 22.1 and 22.2, the initial term of appointment of those First Directors whose initial term of appointment did not expire at the 2001 annual general meeting of the Company will expire at the 2003 annual general meeting. For the purpose of this clause 22.7, **First Directors** means those Directors named in the application for registration of the Company, not including the Chief Executive Officer.

23 Nomination for appointment

The nomination of persons to be appointed Directors, other than to fill a casual vacancy, shall be the responsibility of the Selection Committee.

24 Selection Committee

24.1 Directors to appoint

The Directors shall, as and when required for the purposes of this Constitution, appoint a Selection Committee in accordance with clause 24.3.

24.2 Term

The term of appointment of the Selection Committee shall commence on the date of appointment and continue until the conclusion of the meeting of the Company at which the vacant positions have all been filled.

24.3 Composition

Subject to clauses 24.4 and 24.5 the Selection Committee must comprise 5 people being:

- (a) the Chairperson, who will chair the Selection Committee;
- (b) two persons approved in writing by all Plant Industry Members, to represent the Plant Industry Members; and
- (c) two persons approved in writing by all Government Members, to represent the Government Members.

24.4 Vote for representatives

If, for the purposes of clause 24.3(b) or clause 24.3(c), the Directors are unable to obtain the approval of all Plant Industry Members or all Government Members as the case may be, then the Directors must convene a meeting of Members of the respective category (to be held by telephone or otherwise) to conduct a vote to determine the 2 persons to represent that category on the Selection Committee. The determination will be made by ordinary majority vote at the meeting. Quorum for such meeting is 5 Members from the respective category and each Member of the category may cast the same number of votes as it would be entitled to cast on a poll at a general meeting in accordance with clause 89 or 90 respectively.

24.5 Ineligibility for Selection Committees

Any Director whose term of appointment as Director or Chairperson is to expire at the general meeting at which the nominations of the Selection Committee are to be considered must not be a member of the Selection Committee or vote on the composition of the Selection Committee. In the event that the Chairperson's term of appointment as Director or Chairperson is to expire, the Deputy Chairperson is to chair the Selection Committee. If both the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson's terms of appointment as Director or Chairperson are to expire then those Directors whose terms are not to expire are to select any other person, including one of their number, to chair the Selection Committee.

24.6 Guidelines

The Selection Committee must act in accordance with any Guidelines.

24.7 Attributes

The Selection Committee must, in exercising its functions, nominate to the Members persons that will result in the board of Directors having a combination of expertise and experience in all of the following areas:

- (a) plant industry production, industry operations and marketing;
- (b) plant health policy and government policy processes, plant health management and international trends in plant health practices;
- (c) strategic planning, business and financial management and economics; and
- (d) corporate leadership.

24.8 Nominations may exceed positions

The Selection Committee may, subject to any Guidelines, nominate more persons than the number of positions to be filled.

24.9 Remaining vacancies

If not all vacant positions are filled following the general meeting, the Selection Committee shall nominate other persons as Directors, for consideration by Members at a further general meeting or meetings.

24.10 Nomination of Selection Committee member prohibited

The Selection Committee must not nominate one of their number as Director.

25 Appointment and term of Chairperson

25.1 Selection Committee to nominate

If the term of appointment of the Chairperson is to expire at the next annual general meeting or has become vacant in the manner specified in clause 25.7, the Selection Committee shall nominate a person to be appointed to the position.

25.2 Nominations

Subject to clause 25.3, the Selection Committee may nominate any person, including a person who is a current Chairperson or other Director.

25.3 Nomination of Selection Committee member prohibited

The Selection Committee must not nominate one of their number as Chairperson.

25.4 Members to approve

The Members at the respective general meeting shall consider and may approve by resolution the appointment of the Selection Committee's nominee for the Chairperson, provided that such nominee is a Director or has first been appointed as a Director at the meeting in accordance with clause 22.1 or clause 27.2.

25.5 If Members do not approve

If the Members do not approve the appointment of the Selection Committee's nominee, or if the nominee is not a Director or is not appointed as a Director at the general meeting, the Selection Committee shall select another nominee for consideration by Members at a further general meeting or meetings. If there are no vacant Director positions, such nominee must be a Director.

25.6 Term

Subject to clause 25.7, the term of appointment of a Director as Chairperson shall be:

- (a) 2 years; or
- (b) a period equal to the remainder of the person's term of appointment as Director,

whichever is the shorter, but the person is eligible to be re-appointed as Chairperson. If the Chairperson vacates his or her office as Director, he or she vacates office as Chairperson at the same time.

25.7 Vacancy

If the position of Chairperson becomes vacant other than by expiry of the Chairperson's term of appointment, the Deputy Chairperson shall be appointed as an interim Chairperson to replace the outgoing Chairperson (**Outgoing Chairperson**). A Deputy Chairperson appointed as Chairperson under this clause 25.7 holds office as Chairperson until the next annual general meeting of the Company (or, if the notice of that meeting has already been given to Members, the following general meeting), at

which time the Company shall appoint a new Chairperson (**New Chairperson**) in accordance with this clause 25. The New Chairperson shall hold office as Chairperson for the remainder of the term of the Outgoing Chairperson or, if the term of the Outgoing Chairperson would have expired at the meeting at which the New Chairperson is appointed, for the remainder of the New Chairperson's current term of appointment as Director.

25.8 Eligible for re-appointment

A Chairperson is eligible for re-appointment at the expiry of each term of appointment as Chairperson.

26 Appointment and term of Deputy Chairperson

The Directors may appoint one of their number as Deputy Chairperson for such term as the Directors determine or vary.

27 Casual vacancies and additional Directors

27.1 Directors to appoint

Subject to clause 27.2, the Directors may, on consultation with such Members as the Directors consider appropriate, appoint any person qualified to be a Director to fill a casual vacancy. In appointing a person to fill a casual vacancy the continuing Directors must select a person that enables the board to have the combination of expertise and experience set out in clause 25.7.

27.2 Vacation by Chairperson

If a casual vacancy is caused by a Chairperson vacating his or her office as Director, then such vacancy shall remain until the next annual general meeting of the Company (or, if the notice of that meeting has already been given to Members, the following general meeting), at which time:

- (a) if the meeting is an annual general meeting at which the Chairperson's term as Director was due to expire, the Company shall appoint a new Director in accordance with clause 22.1; or
- (b) if the Chairperson's term as Director was not due to expire at the meeting, the Company shall appoint a new Director in accordance with clause 22.1 as if the meeting was an annual general meeting at which the term had expired.

27.3 Term

Any Director appointed under clause 27.1 or clause 27.2(b) holds office for the remainder of the term of the Director replaced. Any Director appointed under clause 27.2(a) shall hold office for a term in accordance with clause 22.2.

28 Insufficient Directors

In the event of a vacancy or vacancies in the office of a Director or offices of Directors, the remaining Directors may act, but if the number of remaining Directors is not sufficient to constitute a quorum at a meeting of Directors, they may act only pursuant to clause 24 and for the purpose of convening a general meeting of the Company.

Powers and obligations of Directors

29 Validation of acts of Directors and Secretaries

29.1 Defects

The acts of a Director or Secretary are valid despite any defect that may afterwards be discovered in his or her appointment or qualification.

29.2 Vacation of office

Where a person whose office as Director is vacated under a provision of the Act purports to do an act as a Director, that act is as valid, in relation to a person dealing with the Company in good faith and for value and without actual knowledge of the matter because of which the office was vacated, as if the office had not been vacated.

30 General business management

30.1 Managed by Directors

Subject to clause 30.4, the business of the Company is to be managed by or under the direction of the Directors.

30.2 Directors to execute powers of company

The Directors may exercise all the powers of the Company except any powers that the Act or this Constitution requires the Company to exercise in a general meeting.

30.3 No invalidation of prior act

No rule made or resolution passed by the Company in a general meeting can invalidate any prior act of the Directors which would have been valid if that rule or resolution had not been made or passed.

30.4 Consultation with Members

In performing their duties the Directors must, to the extent that is reasonable and appropriate to do so, consult with relevant Members. This clause 30.4 is subject to any obligation of the Directors under the Act.

31 Corporate plan

31.1 Directors to prepare plan

The Directors must prepare a corporate plan for the Company in consultation with the Members. The corporate plan is to be made available to all Members.

31.2 Updates

The corporate plan is to be updated as and when required by the Directors.

31.3 Keep Members informed

The Directors must keep the Members informed about:

- (a) significant changes to the corporate plan; and
- (b) matters that arise that might significantly affect the achievement of objectives in the corporate plan.

32 Annual operational plan

The Directors must prepare an annual operational plan for the Company each year in consultation with the Members. The annual operational plan is to be made available to all Members.

33 Reports

The Directors must report to Members as to the following significant matters:

- (a) the formation by the Company of a subsidiary company; and
- (b) participation by the Company in a significant:
 - i) partnership;
 - ii) trust; or
 - iii) unincorporated joint venture that may affect the financial risk of the Company.

34 Borrowing powers

Without limiting the generality of clause 30, the Directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money, to charge any property or business of the Company and to issue debentures or give any other security for a debt, liability or obligation of the Company or of any other person.

35 Appointment of attorney

35.1 Appointment

The Directors may appoint any person or persons to be the attorney or attorneys of the Company for the purposes, with the powers and discretions (being powers and discretions vested in or exercisable by the Directors), for the period and subject to the conditions they see fit.

35.2 Power of attorney provisions

A power of attorney may contain those provisions for the protection and convenience of persons dealing with the attorney that the Directors see fit and may also authorise the attorney to delegate all or any of the powers and discretions vested in the attorney.

36 Committees of Directors

36.1 Delegation to committee

The Directors may delegate any of their powers to a committee of Directors.

36.2 Exercise of Powers

A committee of Directors must exercise the powers delegated to it in accordance with any directions of the Directors. The effect of the committee exercising a power in this way is the same as if the Directors exercised it.

36.3 Meetings of committees

The meetings and proceedings of any committee consisting of 2 or more Directors are governed by the provisions in this Constitution regulating the meetings and proceedings of the Directors.

Removal and resignation of Directors

37 Removal of Directors

Subject to the Act, the Company may by resolution remove a Director from holding office as a Director.

38 Resignation of Director

A Director may resign as a Director by giving a written notice of resignation to the Company at its registered office.

39 Vacation of office of Director

In addition to any other circumstances in which the office of a Director becomes vacant under the Act, the office of a Director becomes vacant if the Director:

- (a) becomes bankrupt or suspends payment or compounds with his or her creditors;
- (b) becomes of unsound mind or a person whose person or estate is liable to be dealt with in any way under the law relating to mental health;
- (c) is absent from 3 consecutive meetings of Directors without special leave of absence from the Directors;
- (d) becomes prohibited from being a Director under or by reason of any order made under the Act;
- (e) is removed by resolution in accordance with clause 37; or
- (f) resigns from office in accordance with clause 38. Directors' interests

40 Prohibition on being present or voting

A Director who has a material personal interest in a matter that is being considered at a meeting of the Directors:

- (a) must not vote on the matter;
- (b) if not prohibited by the Act from being present at the meeting and voting, may be counted in a quorum; and
- (c) if not prohibited by the Act from being present at the meeting and voting, may be present and heard while the matter is being considered at the meeting

41 Director to disclose interests

41.1 Disclosure of interest in contract

A Director who is in any way, whether directly or indirectly, interested in a contract or proposed contract with the Company must, as soon as practicable after the relevant facts have come to the Director's knowledge, declare the nature of the interest at a meeting of the Directors or by written notice to the Secretary.

41.2 Disclosure of Conflict

A Director who holds any office or possesses any property by which, whether directly or indirectly, duties or interests might be created in conflict with his or her duties or

interests as Director must declare at a meeting of the Directors or by written notice to the Secretary the fact and the nature, character and extent of the conflict.

41.3 Exceptions

For the purposes of clauses 41.1 and 41.2, a Director's interest or any conflict must be disregarded if it arises from or relates solely to:

- (a) a guarantee to be given by the Director (or by persons including the Director or by a body corporate of which the Director is a member or officer) in respect of a loan to the Company; or
- (b) the position of the Director as a director of a related body corporate.

42 Effect of disclosure

42.1 Effect

If a Director has an interest in a Contract or proposed Contract with the Company, or a conflicting interest or duty in relation to any other matter being considered by the Directors, and the Director discloses the nature and extent of the interest or duty as required by clause 41:

- (a) the Contract may be entered into; and
- (b) if the disclosure is made before the Contract is entered into:
 - i) the Director may retain benefits under the Contract even though the Director has an interest in the Contract;
 - ii) the Company cannot avoid the Contract merely because of the existence of the interest; and
 - iii) the Director is not disqualified from the office of Director.

42.2 Definition

For the purposes of clause 42.1, '**Contract**' includes an arrangement, dealing or any other transaction.

43 Other interests

Without limiting clause 41 or clause 42, a Director may to the extent permitted by the Act:

- (a) hold any other office or place of profit under the Company (other than the office of auditor) in conjunction with the office of Director; or

- (b) be interested in any operation, undertaking or business undertaken or assisted by the Company or in which the Company is or may be interested.

44 Extension of meaning of Company

For the purposes of clauses 41, 42 and 43, '**Company**' includes any subsidiary of the Company and any other company in which the Company or any subsidiary of the Company is or becomes a shareholder or is otherwise interested.

45 Other directorships and shareholdings

45.1 Other directorships and shareholdings

A Director may be or become a director, officer, employee or member of any company promoted by the Company or in which the Company may be interested as a vendor, shareholder or otherwise and, subject to clause 48, is not accountable for any reasonable benefits received as a director, officer, employee or member of the other company.

45.2 Permitted act Subject to the Act:

- (a) the Directors may exercise the voting power conferred by the shares or other interest held by the Company in another company in favour of a resolution appointing themselves or any of them as directors or other officers of the other company;
- (b) any Director may vote at a meeting of Directors in favour of a resolution that the Company exercises its voting power conferred by the shares or other interest held by the Company in the other company to appoint that Director as a director or other officer of the other company;
- (c) any Director may be appointed to represent the Company and may vote at a general meeting of the other company in favour of a resolution appointing that Director as a director or other officer of the other company; and
- (d) a Director who is also a director of the other company may vote as a director of the other company in whatever manner he or she sees fit, including voting in favour of a resolution appointing the Director to any other office in the other company and a resolution appointing any other Directors as directors or other officers of the other company.

Remuneration of Directors

46 Directors' remuneration

The remuneration of the Directors, including the Chairperson but not including the Chief Executive Officer, must be determined by the Directors and approved by the Company in general meeting.

47 Directors' expenses

The Company may pay the Directors' travel and other expenses that they properly incur:

- (a) in attending Directors' meetings or any meetings of committees of Directors;
- (b) in attending any general meetings of the Company; and
- (c) in connection with the Company's business.

48 Financial benefit

Each Director must ensure that the requirements of the Act are complied with, to the extent applicable, in relation to any financial benefit given by the Company to the Director or to any other related party of the Director.

Chief Executive Officer

49 Power to appoint

The Directors shall appoint a person to the position of Chief Executive Officer for the period and on the terms (including as to remuneration) the Directors see fit.

50 Powers

50.1 Conferral of powers

The Directors may, upon terms and conditions and with any restrictions they see fit, confer on a Chief Executive Officer any of the powers that the Directors can exercise.

50.2 Powers may be concurrent or exclusive

Any powers so conferred may be concurrent with, or to the exclusion of, the powers of the Directors.

51 Withdrawal of appointment or powers

The Directors may revoke or vary:

- (a) an appointment of; or
- (b) any of the powers conferred on a Chief Executive Officer.

52 Temporary appointments

If a Chief Executive Officer becomes incapable of acting in that capacity the Directors may appoint any other person to act temporarily as Chief Executive Officer.

Secretary

53 Terms of office of Secretary

The Secretary shall be appointed by the Directors and shall hold office on the terms and conditions (including as to remuneration) that the Chief Executive Officer determines.

Indemnity and insurance

54 Indemnity

To the extent permitted by the Act, the Company indemnifies:

- (a) every person who is or has been an Officer of the Company; and
- (b) where the Directors consider it appropriate to do so, any person who is or has been an Officer of a related body corporate of the Company;

against any liability incurred by that person in his or her capacity as an Officer of the Company or of the related body corporate (as the case may be):

- (c) to any other person (other than the Company or a related body corporate) unless the liability arises out of conduct involving a lack of good faith; and
- (d) for costs and expenses:
 - i) in defending proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in favour of the person or in which the person is acquitted; and

- ii) in connection with an application in relation to those proceedings, in which the Court grants relief to the person under the Act.

The amount of any indemnity payable under clauses 54(a) or 54(b) will include an additional amount (**GST Amount**) equal to any GST payable by the officer being indemnified (**Indemnified Officer**) in connection with the indemnity (less the amount of input tax credit claimable by the Indemnified Officer in connection with the indemnity). Payment of any indemnity which includes a GST amount is conditional upon the Indemnified Officer providing the Company with a GST tax invoice for the GST Amount.

55 Insurance

55.1 Permitted insurance

The Company may pay or agree to pay a premium in respect of a contract insuring a person who is or has been an Officer of the Company or a related body corporate of the Company against:

- (a) any liability other than a liability incurred by the person as an Officer of the Company or a related body corporate arising out of conduct involving:
 - i) a wilful breach of duty in relation to the Company; or
 - ii) without limiting clause 55.1(a)i), a contravention of subsection 182 or 183 of the Act; and
- (b) any costs and expenses incurred by the person in defending proceedings, whether civil or criminal, whatever their outcome.

55.2 Interpretation

In the case of a Director, any premium paid under this clause is not remuneration for the purpose of clause 46.

56 Director voting on contract of insurance

Despite anything in this Constitution, a Director is not precluded from voting in respect of any contract or proposed contract of insurance, merely because the contract insures or would insure the Director against a liability incurred by the Director as an Officer of the Company or of a related body corporate.

57 Meaning of Officer

For the purposes of clauses 54, 55 and 56, '**Officer**' means a Director, secretary or executive officer.

Inspection of records

58 Rights of inspection

58.1 Authorisation

The Directors, or the Company by a resolution passed at a general meeting, may authorise a Member to inspect the books of the Company.

58.2 Limitation

A Member does not have the right to inspect any document of the Company other than the minute books for general meetings, except as provided by law or authorised by the Directors or by the Company in a general meeting.

59 Confidential information

Except as provided by the Act, no Member is entitled to require or receive any information concerning the business, trading or customers of the Company or any trade secret, secret process or other confidential information of or used by the Company.

Directors' meetings

60 Circulating resolutions

60.1 Signed statement

The Directors may pass a resolution without a Directors' meeting being held if all the Directors entitled to vote on the resolution, except a Director absent from Australia who has not left a facsimile number or electronic mail address at which he or she may be given notice, sign and date a document containing a statement that he or she is in favour of the resolution set out in the document.

60.2 Counterparts

Separate copies of a document may be used for signing by Directors if the wording of the resolution and statement is identical in each copy.

60.3 When passed

The resolution is passed when the last Director signs.

60.4 Interpretation

For the purpose of this clause 60, each of the following must be treated as a document in writing signed by a Director:

- (a) a facsimile addressed to or received by the Company and purporting to be signed or sent by the Director; and
- (b) a document sent by electronic mail to the Company and purporting to be signed by the Director by a form of electronic signature previously approved by the Directors.

61 Meetings of Directors

61.1 Meetings

The Directors may meet together for the dispatch of business and adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they see fit.

61.2 Minutes

The minutes of any meeting of the Directors must state the method of meeting and the persons present.

62 Calling Directors' meetings

A Director may at any time, and the Secretary must on the requisition of a Director, call a meeting of the Directors.

63 Notice of meeting

63.1 Notice

Reasonable notice of every Directors' meeting must be given to each Director except that it is not necessary to give notice of a meeting of Directors to any Director who:

- (a) has been given special leave of absence; or
- (b) is absent from Australia and has not left a facsimile number or electronic mail address at which he or she may be given notice.

63.2 Manner of notice

Any notice of a meeting of Directors may be given in writing or orally, and whether by facsimile, telephone, electronic mail or any other means of communication.

64 Technology meeting of Directors

64.1 Technology meeting

A Directors' meeting may be held using any technology consented to by all the Directors (**Technology Meeting**). The consent may be a standing one. A Director may only withdraw the consent within a reasonable period before the meeting.

64.2 Deemed consent

If a Technology Meeting is held and all the Directors take part in the meeting, they must be treated as having consented to the use of the technology for that meeting.

64.3 Ability to hear and be heard

Subject to clause 64.8, each of the Directors taking part in a Technology Meeting must be able to hear and be heard by each of the other Directors taking part in the meeting.

64.4 Announce presence

At the commencement of a Technology Meeting each Director must announce his or her presence to all the other Directors taking part in the meeting.

64.5 Minutes

If the Secretary is not present at a Technology Meeting one of the Directors present must authorise an individual to take minutes of the meeting.

64.6 Notify chair before disconnection

A Director may not leave a Technology Meeting by disconnecting his or her link to the meeting unless that Director has previously notified the chair of the meeting.

64.7 Presumed present

A Director is conclusively presumed to have been present and to have formed part of a quorum at all times during a Technology Meeting, except in the case of evident disconnection of that Director's link or if that Director has previously obtained the express consent of the chair to leave the meeting.

64.8 Technology failure

Subject to clause 66, a Technology Meeting may proceed notwithstanding technology failure causing any Directors to fail to establish their link to the meeting or to disconnect their link.

65 Chairing Directors' meetings**65.1 Chairperson is chair**

Subject to clause 65.2, the Chairperson is the chair of all meetings of the Directors.

65.2 Chairperson absent

At a meeting of Directors, if:

- (a) the position of Chairperson is vacant; or
- (b) the Chairperson is not present within 10 minutes after the time appointed for the holding of the meeting or is unwilling to act;

the Deputy Chairperson shall chair the meeting. If the position of Deputy Chairperson is vacant or the Deputy Chairperson is not then present or is unwilling to act, the Directors present must elect a Director present to chair the meeting. If the Chairperson subsequently joins the meeting, he or she may take the chair.

66 Quorum

The quorum for a Directors' meeting is 5 Directors entitled to vote. The quorum must be present at all times during the meeting.

67 Passing of Directors' resolutions

67.1 Majority resolution

A resolution of the Directors must be passed by a majority of the votes cast by Directors entitled to vote on the resolution.

67.2 Casting vote of chair

The chair of the meeting has a casting vote if necessary in addition to any vote he or she has as a Director. The chair has a discretion both as to whether or not to use the casting vote and as to the way in which it is used.

Meetings of Members

68 Calling of general meeting

68.1 Directors may call

A majority of the Directors may call a general meeting whenever they see fit.

68.2 Annual general meeting

Except as permitted by the Act, an annual general meeting must be held at least once in every calendar year.

68.3 Call by Members

Except as provided in the Act, no Member or Members may call a general meeting.

69 Amount of notice of meeting

Subject to the provisions of the Act as to short notice, at least 21 days' notice of a general meeting must be given in writing to those persons who are entitled to receive notices from the Company.

70 Persons entitled to notice of general meeting

70.1 Persons to be given notice

Written notice of a general meeting must be given individually to:

- (a) each Member;
- (b) each Director; and
- (c) the Company's auditor.

70.2 No other person entitled

No other person is entitled to receive notice of general meetings.

71 How notice is given

The Company may give the notice of a general meeting to a Member:

- (a) by serving it on the person;
- (b) by sending it by post to the address for the Member in the Register of Members or the alternative address (if any) nominated by the Member; or
- (c) by sending it to the facsimile number or electronic address (if any) nominated by the Member.

72 When notice is given

72.1 Notice sent by post

A notice of general meeting sent by post is taken to be given 3 days after it is posted.

72.2 Notice sent by facsimile or electronic means

A notice of general meeting sent by facsimile, or other electronic means, is taken to be given on the Business Day after it is sent.

73 Contents of notice

A notice of a general meeting must:

- (a) set out the place, date and time for the meeting (and, if the meeting is to be held in 2 or more places, the technology that will be used to facilitate this);
- (b) state the general nature of the meeting's business;

- (c) if a special resolution is to be proposed at the meeting, set out an intention to propose the special resolution and state the resolution; and
- (d) contain a statement setting out the following information:
 - i) that the Member has a right to appoint a proxy;
 - ii) that the proxy need not be a Member of the Company; and
 - iii) that a Member who is entitled to cast 2 or more votes may appoint 2 proxies and may specify the proportion or number of votes each proxy is appointed to exercise.

74 Notice of adjourned meeting

When a general meeting is adjourned, new notice of the resumed meeting must be given if the meeting is adjourned for 1 month or more.

75 Accidental omission to give notice

The accidental omission to give notice of any general meeting to, or the non-receipt of the notice by, any person entitled to receive notice of a general meeting under this Constitution does not invalidate the proceedings at or any resolution passed at the meeting.

76 Postponement of general meeting

76.1 Postponement by Directors

The Directors may postpone the holding of any general meeting whenever they see fit (other than a meeting requisitioned by Members as provided by the Act) for not more than 42 days after the date for which it was originally called.

76.2 Notice of new meeting

Whenever any meeting is postponed (as distinct from being adjourned under clause 78.2 or clause 79.3) the same period of notice of the meeting must be given to persons entitled to receive notice of a meeting as if a new meeting were being called for the date to which the original meeting is postponed.

77 Technology

The Company may hold a general meeting at 2 or more venues using any technology that gives the Members as a whole a reasonable opportunity to participate.

78 Quorum

78.1 Number

The quorum for a general meeting is 5 Government Members and 5 Plant Industry Members, such Members present in person or by Representative, attorney or proxy, and the quorum must be present at all times during the meeting.

78.2 Quorum not present

If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the time for the meeting set out in the notice of meeting:

- (a) where the meeting was called by the Members or upon the requisition of Members, the meeting is dissolved; or
- (b) in any other case, the meeting is adjourned to the date, time and place the Directors specify. If the Directors do not specify 1 or more of those things, the meeting is adjourned to:
 - i) if the date is not specified – the same day in the next week;
 - ii) if the time is not specified – the same time; and
 - iii) if the place is not specified – the same place.

78.3 Resumed meeting

If no quorum is present at the resumed meeting within 30 minutes after the time for the meeting, the meeting is dissolved.

79 Chair at general meetings

79.1 Chairperson presides as chair

Subject to clause 79.2, the Chairperson presides as chair at every general meeting.

79.2 Chairperson not present

At a general meeting, if:

- (a) the position of Chairperson is vacant; or
- (b) the Chairperson is not present within 10 minutes after the time appointed for the holding of the meeting or is unwilling to act;

the Deputy Chairperson shall chair the meeting. If the position of Deputy Chairperson is vacant or the Deputy Chairperson is not then present or is unwilling to act, the Members present may appoint any Member present or any Director present to be chair of the meeting.

79.3 Adjournment

The chair must adjourn a general meeting if the Members present with a majority of votes at the meeting agree or direct that the chair must do so.

80 Business at adjourned meetings

Only unfinished business is to be transacted at a general meeting resumed after an adjournment.

81 Business of an annual general meeting

81.1 Ordinary business

The business of an annual general meeting may include any of the following, even if not referred to in the notice of meeting:

- (a) the consideration of the annual financial report, Directors' report and auditor's report;
- (b) the election of Directors; and
- (c) the fixing of the auditor's remuneration.

All other business transacted at an annual general meeting and all other business transacted at any other general meeting is special business.

81.2 Special business

The business of the annual general meeting also includes any other business which under this Constitution or the Act ought to be transacted at an annual general meeting.

81.3 Questions from Members

The chair of the annual general meeting must allow a reasonable opportunity for the Members as a whole at the meeting to ask questions about or make comments on the management of the Company.

81.4 Questions to auditor

If the Company's auditor or the auditor's representative is at the meeting, the chair of an annual general meeting must allow a reasonable opportunity for the Members as a whole at the meeting to ask the auditor or that representative questions relevant to the conduct of the audit and the preparation and content of the auditor's report.

Members' Representatives and attorneys

82 Members' Representative

82.1 Appointment

Subject to clause 83, a Member must appoint, in accordance with clause 82.6, at least one individual as a Representative to exercise all or any of the powers the Member may exercise:

- (a) at general meetings;
- (b) at meetings of creditors or debenture holders; and
- (c) relating to resolutions to be passed without meetings. The appointment may be a standing one.

82.2 Restrictions

The appointment may set out restrictions on the Representative's powers.

82.3 Appointment by reference to position

If the appointment is to be by reference to a position held, the appointment must identify the position.

82.4 Number

A Member may appoint more than 1 Representative but only 1 Representative may exercise the Member's powers at any one time.

82.5 Powers

Unless otherwise specified in the appointment, the Representative may exercise, on the Member's behalf, all of the powers that the Member could exercise at a meeting or in voting on a resolution.

82.6 Member to notify change

Each Member must promptly notify the Secretary in writing of any change to its Representative.

83 Representative of Government Members

The Representative of each Government Member is the person from time to time holding the office of Minister of the Crown for that Government responsible for agriculture, or a person nominated by that Minister for the purpose of this clause 83.

84 Attorney of Member

An attorney for a Member may do whatever the Member could do personally as a Member, but if the attorney is to vote at a meeting of Members or a class of Members the instrument conferring the power of attorney or a certified copy of the authority must be produced to the Company at least 24 hours before the meeting.

Voting at Meetings of Members

85A Appointing a Proxy

A proxy is appointed validly if the appointment complies with rules set out in the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth).

The Company may accept as valid an instrument of appointment which contains only some of the information specified as being required in the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth).

85B Voting by Proxy

A proxy may vote on a show of hands in accordance with the rules set out in the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth).

85 How voting is carried out

85.1 Show of hands unless poll demanded

A resolution put to the vote at a general meeting of Members must be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is demanded in accordance with clause 88.1.

85.2 Result of show of hands vote

On a show of hands, a declaration by the chair of the meeting is conclusive evidence of the result. Neither the chair nor the minutes need to state the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour or against.

85.3 Exercise of Member's vote

The vote of a Member may be exercised by the Representative of that Member, by attorney, or by proxy in accordance with the Act.

86 Number of votes

At any general meeting:

- (a) on a show of hands, each Member (other than Associate Members) has 1 vote; and
- (b) on a poll, the votes per Member shall be in accordance with the number of votes prescribed for that Member under clauses 89, 90, 91 and 92.

87 How a resolution is passed

87.1 Majority of votes cast

Subject to the Act in relation to special resolutions (which require at least 75% of the total votes cast to be in favour) and subject to clause 87.2, a resolution before a general meeting is passed on a show of hands or a poll if a majority of the votes cast on the resolution are in favour of the resolution.

87.2 Additional requirements for poll

For any resolution (including a special resolution) to be passed on a poll, in addition to the required majority:

- (a) at least 60% of the votes of Government Members casting a vote on the resolution must be in favour of the resolution; and
- (b) at least 60% of the votes of Plant Industry Members casting a vote on the resolution must be in favour of the resolution.

88 When and how polls must be taken

88.1 May be demanded on any resolution

A poll may be demanded on any resolution at a general meeting whether or not a show of hands on the resolution has occurred.

88.2 May be demanded by Member or chair

A poll may be demanded by:

- (a) any Member (or a Member's Representative, attorney or proxy) entitled to vote on the resolution; or
- (b) the chair of the meeting.

88.3 Direction by chair

A poll on a matter other than the election of a chair or the question of an adjournment must be taken when and in the manner the chair directs.

88.4 Immediate polls

A poll on the election of a chair or on the question of an adjournment must be taken immediately.

88.5 Result of poll

The result of the poll is the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.

89 Number of votes on poll – Plant Industry Members

The number of votes that an individual Plant Industry Member is entitled to cast on a poll is determined as follows:

- (a) first, apply the following formula to calculate TV for the Plant Industry Member:

$$TV = PISP \times 200$$

Where:

TV means the threshold number of votes determined solely for the purpose of this clause 89;

- (b) if TV is less than or equal to 1 then that Plant Industry Member is entitled to cast 1 vote (a **Base Vote**);
- (c) if TV is more than 1, the number of votes that the Plant Industry Member is entitled to cast (**PIV**) is determined as follows:
- i) all Base Votes (if any) of Plant Industry Members are added together (such total being **TBV**); and then
 - ii) the following formula is applied:

$$PIV = PISP \times (200 - TBV).$$

90 Number of votes on poll – Government Members

90.1 Commonwealth votes

The Commonwealth is entitled to cast 100 votes on a poll.

90.2 State/Territory Member votes

The number of votes that each State/Territory Member is entitled to cast on a poll (**STV**) is determined as follows:

$$STV = STSP \times 100.$$

90.3 State/Territory member to have minimum of 1 vote

If STV is less than or equal to 1 then the State/Territory member is entitled to cast 1 vote (a Base Vote).

91 Associate Members not entitled to vote**91.1 Not entitled to vote**

Associate Members are not entitled to vote in relation to any resolution on a show of hands or a poll.

91.2 Right to attend meetings

Associate Members have the right to receive notices of and to attend and be heard at any general meeting.

92 Fractions of votes**92.1 Fractions only counted for rounding**

Fractions of votes must only be counted on a poll for the sole purpose of rounding out the number of votes which a Member is entitled to cast to a whole number.

92.2 Method of rounding fractions

Any fraction of a vote must be rounded out by either:

- (a) if the fraction to the first decimal point is 5 or more, rounding up to the next whole number; or
- (b) if the fraction to the first decimal point is less than 5, rounding down to a fraction of zero.

93 Multiple votes

If:

- (a) a Member is entitled to cast more than 1 vote on a poll; and
- (b) that Member casts a vote in relation to a resolution on a poll;

then all of the votes that the Member is entitled to cast are deemed to be cast in the same manner, unless otherwise specified by the Member.

94 Objections to right to vote

94.1 Challenge to right to vote

A challenge to a right to vote at a general meeting:

- (a) may only be made at the meeting; and
- (b) must be determined by the chair of the meeting, whose decision is final.

94.2 Validity of vote not disallowed

A vote not disallowed following the challenge is valid for all purposes.

95 Chair's casting vote

In the case of an equality of votes, the chair of the meeting has a casting vote. The chair has a discretion both as to whether or not to use the casting vote and as to the way in which it is used.

96 Resolutions proposed by Members

96.1 Moving a resolution

No Member may at any meeting move any resolution relating to special business unless:

- (a) the Member has given not less than 30 business days' previous notice in writing of the Member's intention to move an ordinary resolution or 2 months' notice in writing of the Member's intention to move a special resolution at the meeting by leaving the notice and a signed copy of the resolution at the registered office of the Company; or
- (b) the resolution has previously been approved by the Directors and notified to Members as required by the Act.

96.2 Notice of proposed resolution

Upon receiving a notice referred to in clause 96.1(a) the Secretary must, subject to the notice requirements under the Act:

- (a) if the notice convening the meeting has already been dispatched, immediately notify the Members of the proposed resolution; or
- (b) otherwise include notice of the proposed resolution in the notice convening the meeting.

97 Variation or cancellation of rights

97.1 Variation or cancellation

Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, rights attached to a Member's entitlement may be varied or cancelled only:

- (a) by special resolution of the Company; and
- (b) either:
 - i) by special resolution passed at a meeting of the Members holding rights in a class or category of Membership; or
 - ii) with the written consent of Members with at least 75% of the votes in the class or category of Membership.

97.2 Applies whether or not winding up

Clause 97.1 applies whether or not the Company is being wound up.

97.3 Notice of variation or cancellation

The Company must give a notice in writing of the variation or cancellation of entitlements to Members of the class or category of Membership affected within 7 days after variation or cancellation of the entitlement.

98 Application of meetings provisions

The provisions of this Constitution relating to general meetings apply so far as they are capable of application and with the necessary changes to every meeting of Members holding rights in a class or category of Membership.

Minutes

99 Minutes to be kept

99.1 Required minute books

The Company must ensure that minute books are kept in which it records within 1 month:

- (a) proceedings and resolutions of meetings of Members;
- (b) proceedings and resolutions of Directors' meetings (including meetings of a committee of Directors);
- (c) resolutions passed by Members without a meeting; and

- (d) resolutions passed by Directors without a meeting.

99.2 Minutes of meeting to be signed

The Company must ensure that minutes of a meeting are signed within a reasonable time after the meeting by 1 of the following:

- (a) the chair of the meeting; or
- (b) the chair of the next meeting.

99.3 Minutes of resolution to be signed

The Company must ensure that minutes of the passing of a resolution without a meeting are signed by a Director within a reasonable time after the resolution is passed.

99.4 Required information

Without limiting clause 99.1 the Directors must ensure that the following information is recorded in the minute books:

- (a) all appointments of Directors, Secretaries and executive officers;
- (b) the names of the Directors present at all meetings of Directors; and
- (c) the method by which a meeting of Directors was held. Accounts, audit and records

100 Accounts

100.1 Accounting and other records

The Directors must ensure that proper accounting and other records are kept in accordance with the Act.

100.2 Distribution of accounts

The Directors must ensure that copies of every profit and loss account, balance sheet and statement of cash flows (including every document required by law to be attached to them) are distributed as required by the Act.

101 Audit

101.1 Auditor must be appointed

A registered company auditor must be appointed.

101.2 Remuneration of auditor

The remuneration of the auditor must be fixed and the auditor's duties regulated in accordance with the Act.

Execution of documents and negotiable instruments**102 Common seal**

The Company may, but need not, have a common seal.

103 Use of common seal**103.1 Custody of seal**

If the Company has a common seal, the Directors must provide for its safe custody.

103.2 Fixing of seal

The common seal may not be fixed to any document except by the authority of a resolution of the Directors or of a committee of the Directors duly authorised by the Directors.

103.3 Witnesses to seal

The Company executes a document with its common seal if the fixing of the seal is witnessed by:

- (a) 2 Directors; or
- (b) a Director and the Secretary.

104 Execution of documents without common seal

The Company may execute a document without using a common seal if the document is signed by:

- (a) 2 Directors; or
- (b) a Director and the Secretary.

105 Execution of document as a deed

The Company may execute a document as a deed if the document is expressed to be executed as a deed and is executed in accordance with clause 103 or clause 104.

106 Execution – general

106.1 Dual capacities

The same person may not sign in the dual capacities of Director and Secretary.

106.2 Interested Director

A Director may sign any document as Director, with or without the common seal, although the document relates to a contract, arrangement, dealing or other transaction in which he or she is interested, and his or her signature complies with the requirements of this Constitution as to execution despite his or her interest.

106.3 No limitation

Clauses 103 and 104 do not limit the ways in which the Directors may authorise documents (including deeds) to be executed on behalf of the Company.

107 Negotiable instruments

All cheques and other negotiable instruments may only be signed, drawn, accepted, endorsed or otherwise executed by any 2 Directors, or any 1 Director and the Secretary, unless otherwise determined by the Directors.

Inadvertent omissions

108 Formalities omitted

If some formality required by this Constitution is inadvertently omitted or is not carried out, the omission does not invalidate anything, including any resolution, which but for the omission would have been valid unless it is proved to the satisfaction of the Directors that the omission has directly prejudiced any Member financially. The decision of the Directors is final and binding on all Members.

Winding Up

109 Winding up

109.1 Distribution of surplus

If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Company any property remains, after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, that property must not be paid to or distributed among the Members but must be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions determined by the Members at or before the time of dissolution.

109.2 Application to Supreme Court

If the Members do not make the necessary determination under clause 109.1, the Company may apply to the Supreme Court to determine the institution or institutions.

109.3 Eligibility of institutions

No institution is eligible to receive property under this clause 109 unless:

- (a) it has objects similar to the objects of the Company;
- (b) its constitution prohibits the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Company under clause 6 and this clause 109; and
- (c) its income is exempt from income tax under the Tax Act. Alteration of Constitution

110 Alteration of Constitution

This Constitution may be amended in accordance with the Act.