

a.s.r.
de nederlandse
verzekerings
maatschappij
voor alle
verzekeringen

Dutch Corporate Governance Code

March 2017

Introduction

The Dutch Corporate Governance Code (the 'Code') was first adopted in 2003 and was amended in 2008 and 2016. The Code of 2016 comes into force as of the financial year starting on or after 1 January 2017. Consequently, Dutch listed companies report on the financial year 2016 on their application of the Code of 2008 and elaborate on deviations from any best practice provision.

As a Dutch listed company ASR Nederland N.V. ('ASR Nederland') must adhere to the Code. ASR Nederland considers the principles and best practices of the Code as a useful and efficient guide that contributes to ASR Nederland's effort to carefully take into account the interests of its stakeholders. The Code also supports transparency in decision-making and helps strengthen the principles of good governance.

It is the responsibility of both the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board to monitor ASR Nederland's overall corporate governance structure. Any substantial change to this structure shall be submitted to the General Meeting for discussion. Generally, ASR Nederland complies with the principles of the Code and applies the best practice provisions. In this booklet ASR Nederland clarifies where appropriate how the best practice provisions are implemented in ASR Nederland's corporate governance. An explanation is further given where ASR Nederland does not fully comply with a best practice provision.

On ASR Nederland's website (<http://asrnl.com>) more information can be found on ASR Nederland's corporate governance.

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I. Compliance with and enforcement of the code

The management board and the supervisory board are responsible for the corporate governance structure of the company and for compliance with this code. They are accountable for this to the general meeting and should provide sound reasons for any non-application of the provisions.

Shareholders take careful note and make a thorough assessment of the reasons given by the company for any non-application of the best practice provisions of this code.

They should avoid adopting a 'box-ticking approach' when assessing the corporate governance structure of the company and should be prepared to engage in a dialogue if they do not accept the company's explanation. There should be a basic recognition that corporate governance must be tailored to the company-specific situation and that non-application of individual provisions by a company may be justified.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
I.1 The broad outline of the corporate governance structure of the company shall be explained in a separate chapter of the Annual Report, partly by reference to the principles mentioned in this code. In this chapter the company shall indicate expressly to what extent it applies the best practice provisions in this code and, if it does not do so, why and to what extent it does not apply them.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The Annual Report contains a 'Governance report' chapter where ASR Nederland explains its governance structure. This chapter also describes the application of the Code.
I.2 Each substantial change in the corporate governance structure of the company and in the compliance of the company with this code shall be submitted to the general meeting for discussion under a separate agenda item.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The Executive Board and the Supervisory Board determine the corporate governance structure of ASR Nederland and submit each material change therein to the General Meeting for discussion, or to the extent required, for approval, thereby ensuring compliance with the Code and other applicable laws and regulations.

II. The management board

II.1 Role and procedure

The role of the management board is to manage the company, which means, among other things, that it is responsible for achieving the company's aims, the strategy and associated risk profile, the development of results and corporate social responsibility issues that are relevant to the enterprise. The management board is accountable for this to the supervisory board and to the general meeting. In discharging its role, the management board shall be guided by the interests of the company and its affiliated enterprise, taking into consideration the interests of the company's stakeholders. The management board shall provide the supervisory board in good time with all information necessary for the exercise of the duties of the supervisory board.

The management board is responsible for complying with all relevant primary and secondary legislation, for managing the risks associated with the company activities and for financing the company. The management board shall report related developments to and shall discuss the internal risk management and control systems with the supervisory board and the audit committee.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
II.1.1 A management board member is appointed for a maximum period of four years. A member may be reappointed for a term of not more than four years at a time.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The Executive Board members are appointed for a maximum term of four years and may be reappointed for another term of four years, without any limit to the number of times they may be reappointed.
II.1.2 The management board shall submit to the supervisory board for approval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the operational and financial objectives of the company; b) the strategy designed to achieve the objectives; c) the parameters to be applied in relation to the strategy, for example in respect of the financial ratios; and d) corporate social responsibility issues that are relevant to the enterprise. The main elements shall be mentioned in the annual report.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.
II.1.3 The company shall have an internal risk management and control system that is suitable for the company. It shall, in any event, employ as instruments of the internal risk management and control system: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) risk analyses of the operational and financial objectives of the company; b) a code of conduct which should be published on the company's website; c) guides for the layout of the financial reports and the procedures to be followed in drawing up the reports; and d) a system of monitoring and reporting. 	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. ASR Nederland addresses this appropriately in order to successfully meet its obligations towards clients, regulators and other stakeholders. The Risk governance is described in the Annual Report. ASR Nederland implemented a set of procedures, tools and support to manage risks including the items referred to in this best practice provision. The a.s.r. code of conduct can be found on the website of ASR Nederland (http://asrnl.com). The a.s.r. code of conduct describes the appropriate attitude and conduct that we expect from each other. It forms a guideline for our actions and our decisions, and helps us to perform our duties properly, and with due care and integrity. It also forms the guideline for how we interact with each other, how we serve our customers and how we take responsibility for the environment in which we work and live.
II.1.4 In the Annual Report the management board shall provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a description of main risks related to the strategy of the company; b) a description of the design and effectiveness of the internal risk management and control systems for the main risks during the financial year; and c) a description of any major failings in the internal risk management and control systems which have been discovered in the financial year, any significant changes made to these systems and any major improvements planned, and a confirmation that these issues have been discussed with the audit committee and the supervisory board. 	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.

<p>II.1.5 As regards financial reporting risks the management board states in the Annual Report that the internal risk management and control systems provide a reasonable assurance that the financial reporting does not contain any errors of material importance and that the risk management and control systems worked properly in the year under review. The management board shall provide clear substantiation of this.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>II.1.6 In the Annual Report, the management board shall describe the sensitivity of the results of the company to external factors and variables.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The Annual Report provides insight on the most important risks for ASR Nederland and how these are monitored. In addition the Annual Report contains a paragraph 'Risk management'.</p>
<p>II.1.7 The management board shall ensure that employees have the possibility of reporting alleged irregularities of a general, operational and financial nature within the company to the chairman of the management board or to an official designated by him, without jeopardising their legal position. Alleged irregularities concerning the functioning of management board members shall be reported to the chairman of the supervisory board. The arrangements for whistleblowers shall be posted on the company's website.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The Whistleblower Policy is posted on ASR Nederland's website (http://asrnl.com). The ASR Nederland Whistleblower Policy applies to all employees of ASR Nederland. This policy provides for the possibility for each employee of ASR Nederland to report his or her complaint, be it anonymous or not, to the 'Compliance Officer', in order for the management responsible to do everything necessary in case of possible breaches of internal or external rules or other irregularities (including matters related to accounting, internal administration and auditing).</p>
<p>II.1.8 A management board member may not be a member of the supervisory board of more than two listed companies. Nor may a management board member be the chairman of the supervisory board of a listed company. Membership of the supervisory board of other companies within the group to which the company belongs does not count for this purpose. The acceptance by a management board member of membership of the supervisory board of a listed company requires the approval of the supervisory board. Other important positions held by a management board member shall be notified to the supervisory board.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. An executive board member may not accept the position of (i) supervisory board member of more than two listed companies, other than the companies belonging to the a.s.r.-group and (ii) the position of chairman of the one tier board or the supervisory board of a listed company other than the companies belonging to the a.s.r.-group. The acceptance of any such position is subject to the permission of the chairman of the Supervisory Board.</p>
<p>II.1.9 If the management board invokes a response time within the meaning of best practice provision IV.4.4, such period may not exceed 180 days from the moment the management board is informed by one or more shareholders of their intention to put an item on the agenda to the day of the general meeting at which the item is to be dealt with. The management board shall use the response time for further deliberation and constructive consultation. This shall be monitored by the supervisory board. The response time may be invoked only once for any given general meeting and may not apply to an item in respect of which the response time has been previously invoked or meetings where a shareholder holds at least three quarters of the issued capital as a consequence of a successful public bid.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland shall apply this best practice provision.</p>
<p>II.1.10 If a takeover bid for the company's shares or for the depositary receipts for the company's shares is being prepared, the management board shall ensure that the supervisory board is closely involved in the takeover process in good time.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland shall apply this best practice provision. The Executive Board shall discuss with the Supervisory Board forthwith any public bid for the shares issued by ASR Nederland which is known to the Executive Board to be prepared and any material development in a bidding process.</p>
<p>II.1.11 If the management board of a company for which a takeover bid has been announced or made receives a request from a competing bidder to inspect the company's records, the management board shall discuss this request with the supervisory board without delay.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland shall apply this best practice provision.</p>

II.2 Remuneration: level and composition of the remuneration

The level and structure of the remuneration which the management board members receive from the company for their work shall be such that qualified and expert managers can be recruited and retained. When the overall remuneration is fixed, its impact on pay differentials within the enterprise shall be taken into account. If the remuneration consists of a fixed component and a variable component, the variable component shall be linked to predetermined, assessable and influenceable targets, which are predominantly of a long-term nature. The variable component of the remuneration must be appropriate in relation to the fixed component.

The remuneration structure, including severance pay, shall be simple and transparent. It shall promote the interests of the company in the medium and long term, may not encourage management board members to act in their own interests or take risks that are not in keeping with the adopted strategy, and may not 'reward' failing board members upon termination of their employment. The supervisory board is responsible for this. The level and structure of remuneration shall be determined by reference to, among other things, the results, the share price performance and non-financial indicators that are relevant to the company's long-term value creation.

The shares held by a management board member in the company on whose board he sits are long-term investments. The amount of compensation which a management board member may receive on termination of his employment may not exceed one year's salary, unless this would be manifestly unreasonable in the circumstances.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
II.2.1 Before drawing up the remuneration policy and determining the remuneration of individual management board members, the supervisory board shall analyse the possible outcomes of the variable remuneration components and how they may affect the remuneration of the management board members.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.
II.2.2 The supervisory board shall determine the level and structure of the remuneration of the management board members by reference to the scenario analyses carried out and with due regard for the pay differentials within the enterprise.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.
II.2.3 In determining the level and structure of the remuneration of management board members, the supervisory board shall take into account, among other things, the results, the share price performance and non-financial indicators relevant to the long-term objectives of the company, with due regard for the risks to which variable remuneration may expose the enterprise.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.
II.2.4 If options are granted, they shall, in any event, not be exercised in the first three years after the date of granting. The number of options to be granted shall be dependent on the achievement of challenging targets specified beforehand.	This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland. ASR Nederland's remuneration policy does not provide for granting of options.
II.2.5 Shares granted to management board members without financial consideration shall be retained for a period of at least five years or until at least the end of the employment, if this period is shorter. The number of shares to be granted shall be dependent on the achievement of challenging targets specified beforehand.	This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland. ASR Nederland's remuneration policy does not provide for granting of shares.
II.2.6 The option exercise price may not be fixed at a level lower than a verifiable price or a verifiable price average in accordance with the trading in a regulated market on one or more predetermined days during a period of not more than five trading days prior to and including the day on which the option is granted.	This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland. ASR Nederland's remuneration policy does not provide for granting of options.
II.2.7 Neither the exercise price of options granted nor the other conditions may be modified during the term of the options, except in so far as prompted by structural changes relating to the shares or the company in accordance with established market practice.	This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland. ASR Nederland's remuneration policy does not provide for granting of options.

<p>II.2.8 The remuneration in the event of dismissal may not exceed one year's salary (the 'fixed' remuneration component). If the maximum of one year's salary would be manifestly unreasonable for a management board member who is dismissed during his first term of office, such board member shall be eligible for severance pay not exceeding twice the annual salary.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The remuneration of the Executive Board members in the event of a dismissal shall not exceed one year's salary.</p>
<p>II.2.9 The company may not grant its management board members any personal loans, guarantees or the like unless in the normal course of business and on terms applicable to the personnel as a whole, and after approval of the supervisory board. No remission of loans may be granted.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>

II.2 Remuneration: Determination and disclosure of remuneration

The supervisory board shall determine the remuneration of the individual members of the management board, on a proposal by the remuneration committee, within the scope of the remuneration policy adopted by the general meeting.

The report of the supervisory board shall include the principal points of the remuneration report concerning the remuneration policy of the company. This shall describe transparently and in clear and understandable terms the remuneration policy that has been pursued and give an overview of the remuneration policy to be pursued. The full remuneration of the individual management board members, broken down into its various components, shall be presented in the remuneration report in clear and understandable terms.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
<p>II.2.10 If a variable remuneration component conditionally awarded in a previous financial year would, in the opinion of the supervisory board, produce an unfair result due to extraordinary circumstances during the period in which the predetermined performance criteria have been or should have been achieved, the supervisory board has the power to adjust the value downwards or upwards.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>II.2.11 The supervisory board may recover from the management board members any variable remuneration awarded on the basis of incorrect financial or other data (claw back clause).</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>II.2.12 The remuneration report of the supervisory board shall contain an account of the manner in which the remuneration policy has been implemented in the past financial year, as well as an overview of the remuneration policy planned by the supervisory board for the next financial year and subsequent years. The report shall explain how the chosen remuneration policy contributes to the achievement of the long-term objectives of the company and its affiliated enterprise in keeping with the risk profile. The report shall be posted on the company's website.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The remuneration report of the Supervisory Board is included in the Annual Report. The remuneration report is as part of the Annual Report disclosed on ASR Nederland's corporate website (http://asrnl.com).</p>
<p>II.2.13 The overview referred to in best practice provision II.2.12 shall in any event contain the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) an overview of the costs incurred by the company in financial year in relation to management board remuneration; this overview shall provide a breakdown showing fixed salary, annual cash bonus, shares, options and pension rights that have been awarded and other emoluments; shares, options and pension rights must be recognised in accordance with the accounting standards; b) a statement that the scenario analyses referred to in best practice provision II.2.1 have been carried out; c) for each management board member the maximum and minimum numbers of shares conditionally granted in the financial year or other share-based remuneration components that the management board may member acquire if the specified performance criteria are achieved; 	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) a table showing the following information for incumbent management board members at year-end for each year in which shares, options and/or other share-based remuneration components have been awarded over which the management board member did not yet have unrestricted control at the start of the financial year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. the value and number of shares, options and/ or other share-based remuneration components on the date of granting; ii. the present status of shares, options and/or other share-based remuneration components awarded: whether they are conditional or unconditional and the year in which vesting period and/or lock-up period ends; iii. the value and number of shares, options and/ or other share-based remuneration components conditionally awarded under i) at the time when the management board member obtains ownership of them (end of vesting period), and iv. the value and number of shares, options and/ or other share-based remuneration components awarded under i) at the time when the management board member obtains unrestricted control over them (end of lock-up period); e) if applicable: the composition of the peer group of companies whose remuneration policy determines in part the level and composition of the remuneration of the management board members; f) a description of the performance criteria on which the performance-related component of the variable remuneration is dependent in so far as disclosure would not be undesirable because the information is competition sensitive, and of the discretionary component of the variable remuneration that can be fixed by the supervisory board as it sees fit; g) a summary and account of the methods that will be applied in order to determine whether the performance criteria have been fulfilled; h) an ex-ante and ex-post account of the relationship between the chosen performance criteria and the strategic objectives applied, and of the relationship between remuneration and performance; i) current pension schemes and the related financing costs; and j) agreed arrangements for the early retirement of management board members. 	
<p>II.2.14 The main elements of the contract of a management board member with the company shall be made public after it been concluded, and in any event no later than the date of the notice calling the general meeting where the appointment of the management board member will be proposed. These elements shall in any event include the amount of the fixed salary, the structure and amount of the variable remuneration component, any agreed redundancy scheme and/or severance pay, any conditions of a change-of-control clause in the contract with a management board member and any other remuneration components promised to the management board member, pension arrangements and performance criteria to be applied.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>II.2.15 If a management board member or former management board member is paid severance pay or other special remuneration during a given financial year, an account and an explanation of this remuneration shall be included in the remuneration report.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>

II.3 Conflicts of interest

Any conflict of interest or apparent conflict of interest between the company and management board members shall be avoided. Decisions to enter into transactions under which management board members would have conflicts of interest that are of material significance to the company and/or to the relevant management board member require the approval of the supervisory board.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
<p>II.3.1 A management board member shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) not enter into competition with the company; b) not demand or accept (substantial) gifts from the company for himself or for his wife, registered partner or other life companion, foster child or relative by blood or marriage up to the second degree as defined under Dutch law; c) not provide unjustified advantages to third parties to the detriment of the company; and d) not take advantage of business opportunities to which the company is entitled for himself or for his wife, registered partner or other life companion, foster child or relative by blood or marriage up to the second degree as defined under Dutch law. 	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>II.3.2 A management board member shall immediately report any conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest that is of material significance to the company and/or to him, to the chairman of the supervisory board and to the other members of the management board and shall provide all relevant information, including information concerning his wife, registered partner or other life companion, foster child and relatives by blood or marriage up to the second degree as defined under Dutch law. The supervisory board shall decide, without the management board member concerned being present, whether there is a conflict of interest. A conflict of interests exists, in any event, if the company intends to enter into a transaction with a legal entity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) in which a management board member personally has a material financial interest; (ii) which has a management board member who is related under family law to a management board member of the company, or (iii) in which a management board member of the company has a management or supervisory position. 	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. An Executive Board member shall immediately report any conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest to the other members of the Executive Board and shall provide all relevant information. The chairman of the Executive Board shall inform the chairman of the Supervisory Board and shall provide to him all relevant information. If the chairman of the Executive Board has a potential conflict of interest, he shall inform the other members of the Executive Board and the chairman of the Supervisory Board. He shall provide all relevant information.</p>
<p>II.3.3 A management board member may not take part in any discussion or decision-making that involves a subject or transaction in relation to which he has a conflict of interest with the company</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>II.3.4 All transactions in which there are conflicts of interest with management board members shall be agreed on terms that are customary in the sector concerned. Decisions to enter into transactions in which there are conflicts of interest with management board members that are of material significance to the company and/or to the relevant board members require the approval of the supervisory board. Such transactions shall be published in the Annual Report, together with a statement of the conflict of interest and a declaration that best practice provisions II.3.2 to II.3.4 inclusive have been complied with.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>

III. The supervisory board

III.1 Role and procedure

The role of the supervisory board is to supervise the policies of the management board and the general affairs of the company and its affiliated enterprise, as well as to assist the management board by providing advice. In discharging its role, the supervisory board shall be guided by the interests of the company and its affiliated enterprise, and shall take into account the relevant interests of the company's stakeholders. The supervisory board shall also have due regard for corporate social responsibility issues that are relevant to the enterprise. The supervisory board is responsible for the quality of its own performance.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
<p>III.1.1 The division of duties within the supervisory board and the procedure of the supervisory board shall be laid down in terms of reference. The supervisory board's terms of reference shall include a paragraph dealing with its relations with the management board, the general meeting and the central works council or works council. The terms of reference shall be posted on the company's website.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The terms of reference referred to in this best practice provision are incorporated in the Rules of procedure Supervisory Board which document has been posted on the website of ASR Nederland (http://asrnl.com).</p>
<p>III.1.2 The annual statements of the company shall include a report of the supervisory board. In this report the supervisory board describes its activities in the financial year and which includes the specific statements and information required by the provisions of this code.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.1.3 The following information about each supervisory board member shall be included in the report of the supervisory board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) gender; b) age; c) profession; d) principal position; e) nationality; f) other positions, in so far as they are relevant to the performance of the duties of the supervisory board member; g) date of initial appointment; and h) current term of office. 	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.1.4 A supervisory board member shall retire early in the event of inadequate performance, structural incompatibility of interests, and in other instances in which this is deemed necessary by the supervisory board.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland shall apply this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.1.5 Supervisory board members who are frequently absent shall be called to account for this. The report of the supervisory board shall state which supervisory board members have been frequently absent from meetings of the supervisory board.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.1.6 The supervision of the management board by the supervisory board shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) achievement of the company's objectives; b) corporate strategy and the risks inherent in the business activities; c) the design and effectiveness of the internal risk management and control systems; d) the financial reporting process; e) compliance with primary and secondary legislation; f) the company-shareholder relationship; and g) corporate social responsibility issues that are relevant to the enterprise. 	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>

<p>III.1.7 The supervisory board shall discuss at least once a year on its own, i.e. without the management board being present, its own functioning, the functioning of its committees and its individual members, and the conclusions that must be drawn on the basis thereof. The desired profile, composition and competence of the supervisory board shall also be discussed. Moreover, the supervisory board shall discuss at least once a year without the management board being present both the functioning of the management board as an organ of the company and the performance of its individual members, and the conclusions that must be drawn on the basis thereof. The report of the supervisory board shall state how the evaluation of the functioning of the supervisory board, the separate committees and the individual supervisory board members has been carried out.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.1.8 The supervisory board shall discuss at least once a year the corporate strategy and the main risks of the business, the result of the assessment by the management board of the design and effectiveness of the internal risk management and control systems, as well as any significant changes thereto. Reference to these discussions shall be made in the report of the supervisory board.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.1.9 The supervisory board and its individual members each have their own responsibility for obtaining all information from the management board and the external auditor that the supervisory board needs in order to be able to carry out its duties properly as a supervisory organ. If the supervisory board considers it necessary, it may obtain information from officers and external advisers of the company. The company shall provide the necessary means for this purpose. The supervisory board may require that certain officers and external advisers attend its meetings.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>

III.2 Independence

The composition of the supervisory board shall be such that the members are able to act critically and independently of one another, the management board and any particular interests.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
<p>III.2.1 All supervisory board members, with the exception of not more than one person, shall be independent within the meaning of best practice provision III.2.2.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.2.2 A supervisory board member shall be deemed to be independent if the following criteria of dependence do not apply to him. These criteria are that the supervisory board member concerned or his wife, registered partner or other life companion, foster child or relative by blood or marriage up to the second degree as defined under Dutch law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) has been an employee or member of the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) management board of the company (including associated companies as referred to in Section 5:48 of the Financial Supervision Act (Wet op het financieel toezicht / Wft) in the five years prior to the appointment; b) receives personal financial compensation from the company, or a company associated with it, other than the compensation received for the work performed as a supervisory board member and in so far as this is not in keeping with the normal course of business; c) has had an important business relationship with the company, or a company associated with it, in the year prior to the appointment. This includes the case where the supervisory board member, or the firm of which he is a shareholder, partner, associate or adviser, has acted as adviser to the company (consultant, external auditor, civil notary and lawyer) and the case where the supervisory board member is a management board member or an employee of any bank with which the company has a lasting and significant relationship; d) is a member of the management board of a company in which a member of the management board of the company which he supervises is a supervisory board member; e) holds at least ten percent of the shares in the company (including the shares held by natural persons or legal entities which cooperate with him under an express or tacit, oral or written agreement); f) is a member of the management board or supervisory board - or is a representative in some other way - of a legal entity which holds at least ten percent of the shares in the company, unless such entity is a member of the same group as the company; 	<p>In regard to sub c, Mr. Herman Hintzen started as a new member of the supervisory board on 1 January 2016. He worked until that date as Chairman Insurance EMEA at UBS Investment Bank. UBS regularly acts as an adviser to ASR Nederland. ASR Nederland applies to the other subparagraphs of this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.2.3 The report of the supervisory board shall state that, in the board's view, best practice provision III.2.1 has been fulfilled, and shall also state which supervisory board member is not considered to be independent, if any.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>

III.3 Expertise and composition

Each supervisory board member shall be capable of assessing the broad outline of the overall policy. Each supervisory board member shall have the specific expertise required for the fulfilment of the duties assigned to the role designated to him within the framework of the supervisory board profile. The composition of the supervisory board shall be such that it is able to carry out its duties properly. The supervisory board shall aim for a diverse composition in terms of such factors as gender and age. A supervisory board member shall be reappointed only after careful consideration. The profile referred to above shall also be applied in the case of a reappointment.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
<p>III.3.1 The supervisory board shall prepare a profile of its size and composition, taking account of the nature of the business, its activities and the desired expertise and background of the supervisory board members. The profile shall deal with the aspects of diversity in the composition of the supervisory board that are relevant to the company and shall state what specific objective is pursued by the board in relation to diversity. In so far as the existing situation differs from the intended situation, the supervisory board shall account for this in the report of the supervisory board and shall indicate how and within what period it expects to achieve this aim. The profile shall be made generally available and shall be posted on the company's website.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The Supervisory Board profile has been posted on the website of ASR Nederland (http://asrnl.com).</p>
<p>III.3.2 At least one member of the supervisory board shall be a financial expert with relevant knowledge and experience of financial administration and accounting for listed companies or other large legal entities.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.3.3 After their appointment, all supervisory board members shall follow an introduction programme, which, in any event, covers general financial, social and legal affairs, financial reporting by the company, any specific aspects that are unique to the company and its business activities, and the responsibilities of a supervisory board member. The supervisory board shall conduct an annual review to identify any aspects with regard to which the supervisory board members require further training or education during their period of appointment. The company shall play a facilitating role in this respect.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.3.4 The number of supervisory boards of Dutch listed companies of which an individual may be a member shall be limited to such an extent that the proper performance of his duties is assured; the maximum number is five, for which purpose the chairmanship of a supervisory board counts double.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. A Supervisory Board member shall limit his positions as an employee, an executive director or a supervisory board member with other companies to the extent necessary to ensure due performance of his duties as Supervisory Board member. In order to ensure compliance with this best practice provision, each Supervisory Board member must inform the chairman of the Supervisory Board of its outside positions.</p>
<p>III.3.5 A person may be appointed to the supervisory board for a maximum of three 4-year terms.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.3.6 The supervisory board shall draw up a retirement schedule in order to avoid, as far as possible, a situation in which many supervisory board members retire at the same time. The retirement schedule shall be made generally available and shall be posted on the company's website.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The rotation plan is posted on the website of ASR Nederland (http://asrnl.com).</p>

III.4 The chairman of the supervisory board and the company secretary

The chairman of the supervisory board shall ensure the proper functioning of the supervisory board and its committees, and shall act on behalf of the supervisory board as the main contact for the management board and for shareholders regarding the functioning of the management and supervisory board members. In his capacity of chairman, he shall ensure the orderly and efficient conduct of the general meeting.

The chairman of the supervisory board is assisted in his role by the company secretary.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
<p>III.4.1 The chairman of the supervisory board shall ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the supervisory board members follow their introduction and education or training programme; b) the supervisory board members receive in good time all information which is necessary for the proper performance of their duties; c) there is sufficient time for consultation and decision-making by the supervisory board; d) the committees of the supervisory board function properly; e) the performance of the management board members and supervisory board members is assessed at least once a year; f) the supervisory board elects a vice-chairman; and g) the supervisory board has proper contact with the management board and the works council (or central works council). 	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.4.2 The chairman of the supervisory board may not be a former member of the management board of the company.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.4.3 The supervisory board shall be assisted by the company secretary. The company secretary shall ensure that correct procedures are followed and that the supervisory board acts in accordance with its statutory obligations and its obligations under the articles of association. He shall assist the chairman of the supervisory board in the actual organisation of the affairs of the supervisory board (information, agenda, evaluation, training programme, etc.). The company secretary shall, either on the recommendation of the supervisory board or otherwise, be appointed and dismissed by the management board, after the approval of the supervisory board has been obtained.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.4.4 The vice-chairman of the supervisory board shall deputise for the chairman when the occasion arises. By way of addition to best practice provision III.1.7, the vice-chairman shall act as contact for individual supervisory board members and management board members concerning the functioning of the chairman of the supervisory board</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>

III.5 Composition and role of three key committees of the supervisory board

If the supervisory board consists of more than four members, it shall appoint from among its members an audit committee, a remuneration committee and a selection and appointment committee. The function of the committees is to prepare the decision-making of the supervisory board. If the supervisory board decides not to appoint an audit committee, remuneration committee or selection and appointment committee, best practice provisions III.5.4, III.5.5, III.5.8, III.5.9, III.5.10, III.5.14, V.1.2, V.2.3, V.3.1, V.3.2 and V.3.3 shall apply to the entire supervisory board. In its report, the supervisory board shall report on how the duties of the committees have been carried out in the financial year.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
III.5.1 The supervisory board shall draw up terms of reference for each committee. The terms of reference shall indicate the role and responsibility of the committee concerned, its composition and the manner in which it discharges its duties. The terms of reference may provide that a maximum of one member of each committee may not be independent within the meaning of best practice provision III.2.2. The terms of reference and the composition of the committees shall be posted on the company's website.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The Supervisory Board has (i) an audit & risk committee, (ii) a remuneration committee and (iii) a selection & appointment committee. The composition and the regulations of these Supervisory Board committees have been posted on the website of ASR Nederland (http://asrnl.com).
III.5.2 The report of the supervisory board shall state the composition of the committees, the number of committee meetings and the main items discussed.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.
III.5.3 The supervisory board shall receive from each of the committees a report of its deliberations and findings.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.

Audit & Risk committee	
<p>III.5.4 The audit committee shall in any event focus on supervising the activities of the management board with respect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the operation of the internal risk management and control systems, including supervision of the enforcement of relevant primary and secondary legislation, and supervising the operation of codes of conduct; b) the provision of financial information by the company (choice of accounting policies, application and assessment of the effects of new rules, information about the handling of estimated items in the financial statements, forecasts, work of internal and external auditors, etc.); c) compliance with recommendations and observations of internal and external auditors; d) the role and functioning of the internal audit function; e) the policy of the company on tax planning; f) relations with the external auditor, including, in particular, his independence, remuneration and any non-audit services for the company; g) the financing of the company; and h) the applications of information and communication technology. 	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The responsibilities and tasks of the Audit & Risk Committee are set out in the regulations of the Audit & Risk Committee, which have been posted on the website of ASR Nederland (http://asrnl.com)</p>
<p>III.5.5 The audit committee shall act as the principal contact for the external auditor if he discovers irregularities in the content of financial reporting.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.5.6 The audit committee may not be chaired by the chairman of the supervisory board or by a former member of the management board of the company.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.5.7 At least one member of the audit committee shall be a financial expert within the meaning of best practice provision III.3.2.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.5.8 The audit committee shall decide whether and, if so, when the chairman of the management board (chief executive officer), the chief financial officer, the external auditor and the internal auditor, should attend its meetings.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The Audit & Risk committee has decided that the chief financial officer and the internal auditor should attend its ordinary meetings.</p>
<p>II.5.9 The audit committee shall meet with the external auditor as often as it considers necessary, but at least once a year, without management board members being present.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>

Remuneration committee	
<p>III.5.10 The remuneration committee shall in any event have the following duties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) making a proposal to the supervisory board for the remuneration policy to be pursued; b) making a proposal for the remuneration of the individual members of the management board, for adoption by the supervisory board; such proposal shall, in any event, deal with: (i) the remuneration structure and (ii) the amount of the fixed remuneration, the shares and/or options to be granted and/or other variable remuneration components, pension rights, redundancy pay and other forms of compensation to be awarded, as well as the performance criteria and their application; and c) preparing the remuneration report as referred to in best practice provision III.2.12. 	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The regulations of the remuneration committee have been posted on the website of ASR Nederland (http://asrnl.com).</p>
<p>III.5.11 The remuneration committee may not be chaired by the chairman of the supervisory board or by a former member of the management board of the company, or by a supervisory board member who is a member of the management board of another listed company.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.5.12 No more than one member of the remuneration committee may be a member of the management board of another Dutch listed company.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.5.13 If the remuneration committee makes use of the services of a remuneration consultant in carrying out its duties, it shall verify that the consultant concerned does not provide advice to the company's management board members.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>

Selection & appointment committee	
<p>III.5.14 The selection & appointment committee shall in any event focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. drawing up selection criteria and appointment procedures for supervisory board members and management board members; b. periodically assessing the size and composition of the supervisory board and the management board, and making a proposal for a composition profile of the supervisory board; c. periodically assessing the functioning of individual supervisory board members and management board members, and reporting on this to the supervisory board; d. making proposals for appointments and reappointments; and e. supervising the policy of the management board on the selection criteria and appointment procedures for senior management. 	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The regulations of the selection & appointment committee have been posted on the website of ASR Nederland (http://asrnl.com).</p>

III.6 Conflicts of interest

Any conflict of interest or apparent conflict of interest between the company and supervisory board members shall be avoided. Decisions to enter into transactions under which supervisory board members would have conflicts of interest that are of material significance to the company and/or to the relevant supervisory board members require the approval of the supervisory board. The supervisory board is responsible for deciding on how to resolve conflicts of interest between management board members, supervisory board members, major shareholders and the external auditor on the one hand and the company on the other.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
<p>III.6.1 A supervisory board member shall immediately report any conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest that is of material significance to the company and/or to him, to the chairman of the supervisory board and shall provide all relevant information, including information concerning his wife, registered partner or other life companion, foster child and relatives by blood or marriage up to the second degree as defined under Dutch law. If the chairman of the supervisory board has a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest that is of material significance to the company and/or to him, he shall report this immediately to the vice-chairman of the supervisory board and shall provide all relevant information, including information concerning his wife, registered partner or other life companion, foster child and relatives by blood or marriage up to the second degree as defined under Dutch law. The supervisory board member concerned may not take part in the assessment by the supervisory board of whether a conflict of interest exists. A conflict of interest exists in any event if the company intends to enter into a transaction with a legal entity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) in which a supervisory board member personally has a material financial interest; ii) which has a management board member who is related under family law to a member of the supervisory board of the company; or iii) in which a member of the supervisory board of the company has a management or supervisory position. 	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. A Supervisory Board member shall immediately report any conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest to the other members of the Supervisory Board or, in case such conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest relates to the chairman of the Supervisory Board, to the vice-chairman of the Supervisory Board and shall provide all relevant information.</p>
<p>III.6.2 A supervisory board member may not take part in a discussion and/or decision-making on a subject or transaction in relation to which he has a conflict of interest with the company.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.6.3 All transactions in which there are conflicts of interest with supervisory board members shall be agreed on terms that are customary in the sector concerned. Decisions to enter into transactions in which there are conflicts of interest with supervisory board members that are of material significance to the company and/or to the relevant supervisory board members require the approval of the supervisory board. Such transactions shall be published in the Annual Report, together with a statement of the conflict of interest and a declaration that best practice provisions III.6.1 to III.6.3 inclusive have been complied with.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.6.4 All transactions between the company and legal or natural persons who hold at least ten percent of the shares in the company shall be agreed on terms that are customary in the sector concerned. Decisions to enter into transactions in which there are conflicts of interest with such persons that are of material significance to the company and/or to such persons require the approval of the supervisory board. Such transactions shall be published in the Annual Report, together with a declaration that best practice provision III.6.4 has been observed.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland shall apply this best practice provision.</p>

<p>III.6.5 The terms of reference of the supervisory board shall contain rules on dealing with conflicts of interest and potential conflicts of interest between management board members, supervisory board members and the external auditor on the one hand and the company on the other. The terms of reference shall also stipulate which transactions require the approval of the supervisory board. The company shall draw up regulations governing ownership of and transactions in securities by management or supervisory board members, other than securities issued by their 'own' company.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland shall apply this best practice provision.</p>
<p>III.6.6 A delegated supervisory board member is a supervisory board member who has a special duty. The delegation may not extend beyond the duties of the supervisory board itself and may not include the management of the company. It may entail more intensive supervision and advice and more regular consultation with the management board. The delegation shall be of a temporary nature only. The delegation may not detract from the role and power of the supervisory board. The delegated supervisory board member remains a member of the supervisory board.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland shall apply this best practice provision. The Supervisory Board has not appointed a delegated Supervisory Board member.</p>
<p>III.6.7 A supervisory board member who temporarily takes on the management of the company, where the management board members are absent or unable to fulfil their duties, shall resign from the supervisory board.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland shall apply this best practice provision.</p>

III.7 Remuneration

The general meeting shall determine the remuneration of supervisory board members. The remuneration of a supervisory board member is not dependent on the results of the company.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
III.7.1 A supervisory board member may not be granted any shares and/or rights to shares by way of remuneration.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.
III.7.2 Any shares held by a supervisory board member in the company on whose board he sits are long-term investments.	ASR Nederland shall apply this best practice provision.
III.7.3 The company may not grant its supervisory board members any personal loans, guarantees or the like unless in the normal course of business and after approval of the supervisory board. No remission of loans may be granted.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.

III.8 One-tier management structure

The composition and functioning of a management board comprising both members having responsibility for the day-to-day running of the company (executive directors) and members not having such responsibility (nonexecutive directors) shall be such that proper and independent supervision by the latter category of members is assured.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
III.8.1 The chairman of the management board may not also be or have been an executive director.	This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland as ASR Nederland has a two-tier governance structure.
III.8.2 The chairman of the management board shall check the proper composition and functioning of the entire board.	This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland as ASR Nederland has a two-tier governance structure.
III.8.3 The management board shall apply chapter III.5 of this code. The committees referred to in chapter III.5 shall consist only of non-executive management board members.	This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland as ASR Nederland has a two-tier governance structure.
III.8.4 The majority of the members of the management board shall be non-executive directors and are independent within the meaning of best practice provision III.2.2.	This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland as ASR Nederland has a two-tier governance structure.

IV. The shareholders and the general meeting of shareholders

IV. Powers

Good corporate governance requires the fully-fledged participation of shareholders in the decision-making in the general meeting. It is in the interest of the company that as many shareholders as possible take part in the decision-making in the general meeting. The company shall, in so far as possible, give shareholders the opportunity to vote by proxy and to communicate with all other shareholders. The general meeting should be able to exert such influence on the policy of the management board and the supervisory board of the company that it plays a fully-fledged role in the system of checks and balances in the company.

Management board resolutions on a major change in the identity or character of the company or the enterprise shall be subject to the approval of the general meeting.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
<p>IV.1.1 The general meeting of shareholders of a company not having statutory two tier status (structuurregime) may pass a resolution to cancel the binding nature of a nomination for the appointment of a member of the management board or of the supervisory board and/or a resolution to dismiss a member of the management board or of the supervisory board by an absolute majority of the votes cast. It may be provided that this majority should represent a given proportion of the issued capital, which proportion may not exceed one third. If this proportion of the capital is not represented at the meeting, but an absolute majority of the votes cast is in favour of a resolution to cancel the binding nature of a nomination, or to dismiss a board member, a new meeting may be convened at which the resolution may be passed by an absolute majority of the votes cast, regardless of the proportion of the capital represented at the meeting.</p>	<p>This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland as ASR Nederland applies the two tier regime (volledig structuurregime).</p>
<p>IV.1.2 The voting right attaching to financing preference shares shall be based on the fair value of the capital contribution. This shall in any event apply to the issue of financing preference shares.</p>	<p>This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland as ASR Nederland does not have any financing preference shares outstanding.</p>
<p>IV.1.3 If a serious private bid is made for a business unit or a participating interest and the value of the bid exceeds the threshold referred to in Article 2:107a, paragraph 1 (c), of the Netherlands Civil Code, and such bid is made public, the management board of the company shall, at its earliest convenience, make public its position on the bid and the reasons for this position.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland shall apply this best practice provision.</p>
<p>IV.1.4 The policy of the company on additions to reserves and on dividends (the level and purpose of the addition to reserves, the amount of the dividend and the type of dividend) shall be dealt with and explained as a separate agenda item at the general meeting.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>IV.1.5 A resolution to pay a dividend shall be dealt with as a separate agenda item at the general meeting.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>IV.1.6 Resolutions to approve the policy of the management board (discharge of management board members from liability) and to approve the supervision exercised by the supervisory board (discharge of supervisory board members from liability) shall be voted on separately in the general meeting. Compliance with the Code shall be accounted for as part of the Annual Report.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. At the General Meeting at which it is resolved to adopt the annual accounts, it may be separately proposed that the Executive Board members and the Supervisory Board members are released from liability for their respective duties, insofar as the exercise of such duties is reflected in the annual accounts or otherwise disclosed to the General Meeting prior to taking the proposed resolution relating to the release from liability.</p>
<p>IV.1.7 The company shall determine a registration date for the exercise of the voting rights and the rights relating to meetings.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>IV.1.8 The chairman of the general meeting is responsible for ensuring the proper conduct of business at meetings in</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>

IV.2 Depositary receipts for shares

Depositary receipts for shares are a means of preventing a (chance) majority of shareholders from controlling the decision-making process as a result of absenteeism at a general meeting. Depositary receipts for shares may not be used as an anti-takeover measure. The management of the trust office shall issue proxies in all circumstances and without limitation to the holders of depositary receipts who so request. The holders of depositary receipts thus authorised can exercise the voting right at their discretion. The management of the trust office shall have the confidence of the holders of depositary receipts. Depositary receipt holders shall have the possibility of recommending candidates for the management of the trust office. The company may not disclose to the trust office information which has not been made public.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
<p>IV.2.1 The management of the trust office shall enjoy the confidence of the depositary receipt holders and operate independently of the company which has issued the depositary receipts. The trust conditions shall specify in what cases and subject to what conditions holders of depositary receipts may request the trust office to call a meeting of holders of depositary receipts.</p>	<p>This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland as ASR Nederland has not issued any depositary receipts.</p>
<p>IV.2.2 The managers of the trust office shall be appointed by the management of the trust office. The meeting of holders of depositary receipts may make recommendations to the management of the trust office for the appointment of persons to the position of manager. No management board members or former management board members, supervisory board members or former supervisory board members, employees or permanent advisers of the company should be part of the management of the trust office.</p>	<p>This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland as ASR Nederland has not issued any depositary receipts.</p>
<p>IV.2.3 A person may be appointed to the management of the trust office for a maximum of three 4-year terms.</p>	<p>This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland as ASR Nederland has not issued any depositary receipts.</p>
<p>IV.2.4 The management of the trust office shall be present at the general meeting and shall, if desired, make a statement about how it proposes to vote at the meeting.</p>	<p>This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland as ASR Nederland has not issued any depositary receipts.</p>
<p>IV.2.5 In exercising its voting rights, the trust office shall be guided primarily by the interests of the depositary receipt holders, taking the interests of the company and its affiliated enterprise into account.</p>	<p>This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland as ASR Nederland has not issued any depositary receipts.</p>
<p>IV.2.6 The trust office shall report periodically, but at least once a year, on its activities. The report shall be posted on the company's website.</p>	<p>This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland as ASR Nederland has not issued any depositary receipts.</p>
<p>IV.2.7 The report referred to in best practice provision IV.2.6 shall, in any event, set out:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) the number of shares for which depositary receipts have been issued and an explanation of changes in this number; b) the work carried out in the year under review; c) the voting behaviour in the general meetings held in the year under review; d) the percentage of votes represented by the trust office during the meetings referred to at c); e) the remuneration of the members of the management of the trust office; f) the number of meetings held by the management and the main items dealt with in them; g) the costs of the activities of the trust office; h) any external advice obtained by the trust office; i) the positions of the managers of the trust office; and j) the contact details of the trust office. 	<p>This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland as ASR Nederland has not issued any depositary receipts</p>
<p>IV.2.8 The trust office shall, without limitation and in all circumstances, issue proxies to depositary receipt holders who so request. Each depositary receipt holder may also issue binding voting instructions to the trust office in respect of the shares which the trust office holds on his behalf.</p>	<p>This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland as ASR Nederland has not issued any depositary receipts.</p>

IV.3 Provision of information to and logistics of the general meeting

The management board or, where appropriate, the supervisory board shall provide all shareholders and other parties in the financial markets with equal and simultaneous information about matters that may influence the share price. The contacts between the management board on the one hand and press and analysts on the other shall be carefully handled and structured, and the company may not engage in any acts that compromise the independence of analysts in relation to the company and vice versa. The management board and the supervisory board shall provide the general meeting in good time with all information that it requires for the exercise of its powers.

If price-sensitive information is provided during a general meeting, or the answering of shareholders' questions has resulted in the disclosure of price sensitive information, this information shall be made public without delay.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
<p>IV.3.1 Meetings with analysts, presentations to analysts, presentations to investors and institutional investors and press conferences shall be announced in advance on the company's website and by means of press releases. Provision shall be made for all shareholders to follow these meetings and presentations in real time, for example by means of webcasting or telephone. After the meetings, the presentations shall be posted on the company's website.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>IV.3.2 Analysts' reports and valuations may not be assessed, commented upon or corrected, other than factually, by the company in advance.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>IV.3.3 The company may not pay any fee(s) to parties for the carrying out of research for analysts' reports or for the production or publication of analysts' reports, with the exception of credit rating agencies.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. ASR Nederland will not pay a fee to parties for carrying out research for the benefit of analysts' reports or for the production or publication of analysts' reports, with the exception of credit rating agencies.</p>
<p>IV.3.4 Analysts meetings, presentations to institutional or other investors and direct discussions with the investors may not take place shortly before the publication of the regular financial information (quarterly, half-yearly or Annual Reports).</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. Any such meetings shall not take place during 'closed periods'. A closed period is (i) a period starting 30 days prior to the publication of quarterly, semi-annual or annual statements, and (ii) additional periods of time when specific events may give rise to a closed period.</p>
<p>IV.3.5 The management board and the supervisory board shall provide the general meeting with all requested information, unless this would be contrary to an overriding interest of the company. If the management board and the supervisory board invoke an overriding interest, they must give reasons.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>IV.3.6 The company shall place and update information which is relevant to the shareholders and which it is required to publish or deposit pursuant to the provisions of company law and securities law applicable to it, in a separate section of the company's website.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>IV.3.7 The agenda of the general meeting shall list which items are for discussion and which items are to be voted upon.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>IV.3.8 A resolution for approval or authorisation to be passed by the general meeting shall be explained in writing. In its explanation the management board shall deal with all facts and circumstances relevant to the approval or authorisation to be granted. The notes to the agenda shall be posted on the company's website.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The Executive Board is responsible for drafting the agenda for the General Meeting and thereby observes that explanatory notes to the agenda of the general meeting state the material facts and relevant circumstances with respect to any approval, delegation of powers or authorisation which is required pursuant to the law or the Articles of Association, insofar as requested by the Executive Board or the Supervisory Board.</p>
<p>IV.3.9 Material amendments to the articles of association of the company and resolutions for the appointment of management board members and supervisory board members shall be submitted separately to the general meeting.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland shall apply this best practice provision.</p>

<p>IV.3.10 The report of the general meeting shall be made available, on request, to shareholders no later than three months after the end of the meeting, after which the shareholders shall have the opportunity to react to the report in the following three months. The report shall then be adopted in the manner provided for in the articles of association.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>IV.3.11 The management board shall provide a survey of all existing or potential anti-takeover measures in the Annual Report and shall also indicate in what circumstances it is expected that these measures may be used.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>IV.3.12 The company shall give shareholders and other persons entitled to vote the possibility of issuing voting proxies or voting instructions, respectively, to an independent third party prior to the general meeting.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>IV.3.13 The company shall formulate an outline policy on bilateral contacts with the shareholders and publish this policy on its website.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. A policy on bilateral contacts with shareholders, named 'policy on fair disclosure and bilateral dialogue' is available on ASR Nederland's website (http://asrnl.com).</p>

IV.4 Responsibility of shareholders

Institutional investors shall act primarily in the interests of the ultimate beneficiaries or investors and have a responsibility to the ultimate beneficiaries or investors and the companies in which they invest, to decide, in a careful and transparent way, whether they wish to exercise their rights as shareholder of listed companies.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
IV.4.1 Institutional investors (pension funds, insurers, investment institutions and asset managers) shall publish annually, in any event on their website, their policy on the exercise of the voting rights for shares they hold in listed companies.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. In line with the "Dutch Corporate Governance Code" ASR Nederland has developed this voting policy. The latest update of the policy of March 2016 can be found on the website of ASR Nederland (http://asrnl.com).
IV.4.2 Institutional investors shall report annually, on their website and/or in their Annual Report, on how they have implemented their policy on the exercise of the voting rights in the year under review.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The voting accountability describes how we treat our right to vote at shareholder meetings. A vote summary report is posted on the website of ASR Nederland (http://asrnl.com).
IV.4.3 Institutional investors shall report at least once a quarter, on their website, on whether and, if so, how they have voted as shareholders at the general meeting	ASR Nederland reports twice a year the voting accountability on the website (http://asrnl.com).

IV.4 Responsibility of shareholders (continued)

Shareholders shall act in relation to the company, the organs of the company and their fellow shareholders in keeping with the principle of reasonableness and fairness. This includes the willingness to engage in a dialogue with the company and their fellow shareholders.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
IV.4.1 Institutional investors (pension funds, insurers, investment institutions and asset managers) shall publish annually, in any event on their website, their policy on the exercise of the voting rights for shares they hold in listed companies.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. In line with the "Dutch Corporate Governance Code" ASR Nederland has developed this voting policy. The latest update of the policy of March 2016 can be found on the website of ASR Nederland (http://asrnl.com).
IV.4.2 Institutional investors shall report annually, on their website and/or in their Annual Report, on how they have implemented their policy on the exercise of the voting rights in the year under review.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision. The voting accountability describes how we treat our right to vote at shareholder meetings. A vote summary report is posted on the website of ASR Nederland (http://asrnl.com).
IV.4.3 Institutional investors shall report at least once a quarter, on their website, on whether and, if so, how they have voted as shareholders at the general meeting	ASR Nederland reports twice a year the voting accountability on the website (http://asrnl.com).

V. The audit of the financial reporting and the position of the internal audit function and the external auditor

V.1 Financial reporting

The management board is responsible for the quality and completeness of publicly disclosed financial reports. The supervisory board shall ensure that the management board fulfils this responsibility.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
V.1.1 The preparation and publication of the Annual Report, the financial statements, the quarterly and/ or half-yearly figures and ad hoc financial information require careful internal procedures. The supervisory board shall supervise compliance with these procedures.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.
V.1.2 The audit committee shall determine how the external auditor should be involved in the content and publication of financial reports other than the financial statements.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.
V.1.3 The management board is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal procedures which ensure that all major financial information is known to the management board, so that the timeliness, completeness and correctness of the external financial reporting are assured. For this purpose, the management board ensures that the financial information from business divisions and/or subsidiaries is reported directly to it and that the integrity of the information is not compromised. The supervisory board shall ensure that the internal procedures are established and maintained.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.

V.2 Role, appointment, remuneration and assessment of the functioning of the external auditor

The external auditor is appointed by the general meeting. The supervisory board shall nominate a candidate for this appointment, while both the audit committee and the management board advise the supervisory board. The remuneration of the external auditor, and instructions to the external auditor to provide nonaudit services, shall be approved by the supervisory board on the recommendation of the audit committee and after consultation with the management board.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
<p>V.2.1 The external auditor may be questioned by the general meeting in relation to his report on the fairness of the financial statements. The external auditor shall for this purpose attend and be entitled to address this meeting.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>V.2.2 The management board and the audit committee shall report their dealings with the external auditor to the supervisory board on an annual basis, including his independence in particular (for example, the desirability of rotating the responsible partners of an external audit firm that provides audit services, and the desirability of the same audit firm providing non-audit services to the company). The supervisory board shall take this into account when deciding its nomination for the appointment of an external auditor, which nomination shall be submitted to the general meeting.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>V.2.3 At least once every four years, the supervisory board and the audit committee shall conduct a thorough assessment of the functioning of the external auditor within the various entities and in the different capacities in which the external auditor acts. The main conclusions of this assessment shall be communicated to the general meeting for the purposes of assessing the nomination for the appointment of the external auditor.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>

V.3 Internal audit function

The internal auditor shall operate under the responsibility of the management board.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
V.3.1 The external auditor and the audit committee shall be involved in drawing up the work schedule of the internal auditor. They shall also take cognizance of the findings of the internal auditor.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.
V.3.2 The internal auditor shall have access to the external auditor and to the chairman of the audit committee.	ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.
V.3.3 If there is no internal audit function, the audit committee shall review annually the need for an internal auditor. Based on this review, the supervisory board shall make a recommendation on this to the management board in line with the proposal of the audit committee, and shall include this recommendation in the report of the supervisory board.	This best practice provision is not relevant for ASR Nederland as ASR Nederland has an internal audit function.

V.4 Relationship and communication of the external auditor with the organs of the company

The external auditor shall, in any event, attend the meeting of the supervisory board at which the financial statements are to be adopted or approved. The external auditor shall report his findings in relation to the audit of the financial statements to the management board and the supervisory board simultaneously.

Best practice provisions	Application by ASR Nederland
<p>V.4.1 The external auditor shall in any event attend the meeting of the supervisory board, at which the report of the external auditor with respect to the audit of the financial statements is discussed, and at which financial statements are to approved or adopted. The external auditor shall receive the financial information underlying the adoption of the quarterly and/or half-yearly figures and other interim financial reports and shall be given the opportunity to respond to all information.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>V.4.2 When the need arises, the external auditor may request the chairman of the audit committee for leave to attend the meeting of the audit committee.</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>V.4.3 The report of the external auditor pursuant to Article 2:393, paragraph 4, of the Netherlands Civil Code shall contain the matters which the external auditor wishes to bring to the attention of the management board and the supervisory board in relation to the audit of the financial statements and the related audits. The following examples can be given:</p>	<p>ASR Nederland applies this best practice provision.</p>
<p>A. With regard to the audit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • information about matters of importance to the assessment of the independence of the external auditor; • information about the course of events during the audit and cooperation with internal auditors and/or any ther external auditors, matters for discussion with the management board, a list of corrections that have not been made, etc. 	
<p>B. With regard to the financial figures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analyses of changes in shareholders' equity and results, which do not appear in the information to be published, and which, in the view of the external auditor, contribute to an understanding of the financial position and results of the company; • comments regarding the processing of one-off items, the effects of estimates and the manner in which they have been arrived at, the choice of accounting policies, when other choices were possible, and special effects of such policies; • comments on the quality of forecasts and budgets. 	
<p>C. With regard to the operation of the internal risk management and control systems (including the reliability and continuity of automated data processing) and the quality of the internal provision of information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • points for improvement, gaps and quality assessments; • comments about threats and risks to the company and the manner in which they should be reported in the particulars to be published; • compliance with articles of association, instructions, regulations, loan covenants, requirements of external supervisors, etc. 	

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de nederlandse
verzekerings
maatschappij
voor alle
verzekeringen