

# Lombard Odier Funds (Europe) S.A. Lombard Odier Asset Management (Switzerland) SA Lombard Odier Asset Management (Europe) Ltd Proxy Voting Policy

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# 1. Purpose

Purpose of this policy is to set out the principles for the exercising of voting rights in respect of companies in which the Lombard Odier Investment Managers Companies (as defined below) invest on behalf of the Clients (as defined below).

# 2. Definitions

Term	Definition
Engagement	An active two-way dialogue between the LOIM Companies as investors and the targeted companies, with the goal of enhancing information and improving long-term business performance and value, both in terms of environmental, social and governance issues, strategy, risk management and capital allocation. Refer to the Engagement Policy
AGM	Annual General Meeting
<b>Board of Directors</b>	The board of directors of an LOIM Company
CISA	The Collective Investment Schemes Act of 23 June 2006
Client	The Funds and Discretionary Managed Clients, as listed in Appendix A
Discretionary Managed Client	An entity having signed a discretionary investment management agreement with an LOIM Company and having expressly in writing delegated the discretion to exercise its voting rights for the shares it beneficially owns to an LOIM Company
EGM	Extraordinary General meeting
Fund	Collective investment scheme administered and/or managed by the LOIM Companies
Head of Stewardship	The head of stewardship of the LOIM Companies
LOIM	Lombard Odier Investment Managers
LOIM Group	Lombard Odier Investment Managers, consisting of the following companies, directly owned by LO Holding SA and ultimately owned by Compagnie Lombard Odier SCmA:  Lombard Odier Funds (Europe) S.A. and its branches,  Lombard Odier Asset Management (Europe) Limited,  Lombard Odier Asset Management (Switzerland) SA,  Lombard Odier Asset Management (USA) Corp and  LOIM operational activity based in Tokyo, Hong Kong and Singapore that operates under Bank Lombard Odier license.  Each an "LOIM Group Company"
Material Event	Types of events that have to be referred to the LOIM Company for voting decisions such as merger agreement, merger of funds, merger by absorption, reorganisation/restructuring plan, scheme of arrangement, sale of company assets, joint venture agreement, plan of liquidation, spin-off agreement.
Portfolio Management Team	A team of portfolio managers within the LOIM Companies
Policy	This LOIM Proxy Voting Policy
Proxy Voting Service	A firm providing services to institutional investors relating to the voting of their shares at shareholder meetings of companies in which they invest
SFAMA Code of Conduct	The Code of Conduct of the Swiss Fund & Asset Management Association as amended from time to time
Stewardship Committee	The committee appointed by the LOIM Companies to oversee the implementation of the LOIM stewardship activities
Voting Guidelines	The voting guidelines adopted by the LOIM Companies and appended to this Proxy Voting Policy, as amended from time to time

# 3. Summary

The LOIM Companies take a long-term perspective when exercising ownership rights. Where applicable, the LOIM Companies regard voting rights as an important component of the assets in which they invest on behalf of their Clients. The LOIM Companies will therefore vote at shareholder meetings in accordance with this Policy unless this conflicts with its stewardship objectives, its expectations regarding the long-term performance of the assets, or local requirements.

LOIM Companies may act as management company or asset manager as further detailed below and this Policy must be read *mutatis mutandis*.

## 4. Local requirements

The Policy is applied globally across the LOIM Companies. However, it allows each LOIM Company the discretion to reflect local laws or standards where appropriate.

The LOIM Companies have adopted the Policy and related appendices and documents designed to ensure that where LOIM Companies has the authority to vote proxies, it complies with its legal, fiduciary and contractual obligations. It has developed adequate and effective strategies for determining when and how voting rights attached to instruments held in the Clients' portfolios are to be exercised to the exclusive benefit of the Clients. In addition, LOIM ensures that the exercise of voting rights is in accordance with the investment objectives of the Funds.

Where LOIM Companies are appointed as the asset manager of Clients, it will ensure that voting rights attached to the instruments held in the Clients' portfolio are to be exercised to the exclusive benefit of the relevant Clients.

## 5. Guiding principles

Proxy voting and Engagement are important elements of the portfolio management services the LOIM Companies provide to their Clients, as part of its Stewardship function. LOIM Companies encourage the companies in which they invest to address strategic, operational, financial and structural governance weaknesses to the benefit of their Clients.

Any change LOIM Companies encourage the board or management to make through the exercise of voting rights will be intended to improve a company's long-term performance. Accordingly, LOIM Companies' Corporate Governance Principles and Proxy Voting Guidelines ('Voting Guidelines') in performing proxy voting are to make decisions that (i) favour proposals that in the LOIM Companies' view tend to maximise the Clients' long-term shareholder value, (ii) are not influenced by conflicts of interest and (iii) factor the cost to the Clients (e.g., ballot charges or share-blocking). These principles reflect the LOIM Companies' belief that sound corporate governance and the effective management of social and environmental risks will create a framework within which a company can be run in the interests of its shareholders.

# 6. Use of a proxy voting service

The LOIM Companies have retained a Proxy Voting Service (currently Institutional Shareholder Services) to assist them in the implementation and administration of the voting of the shares in which they invest. The Proxy Voting Service assists the LOIM Companies by providing operational, record-keeping, research and reporting services. It will prepare written analysis and recommendation of each proxy vote, based on the Voting Guidelines.

The LOIM Companies conduct periodic due diligence meetings with the Proxy Voting Service which include but are not limited to, a review of the proxy services, general organisational structure, new developments with respect to research and technology, work flow improvements and internal due diligence with respect to conflicts of interest.

The LOIM Companies may hire other service providers to replace or supplement the Proxy Voting Service with respect to any of the services the LOIM Companies currently receive from the Proxy Voting Service. In addition, a Portfolio Management Team may supplement the information and analyses the Proxy Voting Service provides from other sources.

The LOIM Companies must inform the Proxy Voting Service of any event such as launch, liquidation, merger, change of name, of any Clients covered by the Policy.

## 7. Applicable policy

LOIM Companies' voting rules are as follows:

- LOIM Companies vote systematically on behalf of their Clients wherever applicable and practicable, considering a material threshold
- In case of voting, a systematic vote will take place on 100% of the position, except for the equities issued by a company in a country with share-blocking requirements (see Appendix C: Proxy Voting Service Market Mechanics Guide) for which a systematic voting on 70% of the position apply
- Voting at Swiss AGMs require that the Fund's position is registered in the Fund's name prior to the meeting happening. It is the
  Fund Custodian's responsibility to proceed with such registration early enough to allow the effective casting of our votes
- Voting will be in accordance with LOIM's <u>Corporate Governance Principles and Proxy Voting Guideline.pdf (lombardodier.com)</u>, the Voting Guidelines, as implemented by the proxy voting service via a customised vote recommendation report and LOIM companies' review process, led by the Stewardship team. The Voting Guidelines set out our expectations of companies and give an indication of how we are likely to vote when they are not met. These expectations are structured around five key pillars: leadership, disclosure and transparency, remuneration, share capital management and shareholder resolutions. In addition, material events, including those below, will be systematically referred to the relevant portfolio management team for a voting decision. Sustainability topics will be referred to the stewardship team for a voting decision. PMs are the final vote decision makers

#### **Material events**

Material events, including those below, will be systematically referred to the relevant portfolio management team for a voting decision:

- merger agreement;
- reorganization/restructuring plan;
- joint venture agreement;
- plan of liquidation;
- spin-off agreement.

## Sustainability topics

Sustainability related topics will be systematically referred to our Stewardship team for a voting decision:

- In addition, all matters where the Proxy Voting Service Recommendation is different to the LOIM Proxy Guidelines recommendation, will be referred to the Stewardship team for consideration. In serving the interests of the Clients, an LOIM Company may consider following different rules in respect of specific investment strategy/Portfolio Management Team; rules and processes to be followed will then be documented separately
- As an overriding principle we have regard to the two main global governance standards (G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance (2015) and ICGN Global Corporate Governance Principles (2021) when determining how to vote

## 8. Securities lending

Voting only takes place on positions being free from securities lending. Lombard Odier Asset Management (Switzerland) S.A may use security lending for dedicated funds under management. The LOIM Company may recall a lent security if the position on loan per Fund reaches a defined materiality threshold. The determination of whether to seek a recall will be based on whether it is determined that the benefit of voting outweighs the costs, lost revenue, and/or other detriments of retrieving the securities, recognising that the handling of such recall requests is beyond the LOIM Companies' control and may not be satisfied in time for the LOIM Companies to vote the shares in question.

## 9. Conflicts of interest

LOIM Companies' principal objective when considering how to vote is to ensure that they fulfil their fiduciary duty by acting in the interests of their Clients at all times. They have implemented a Conflict of Interest Policy which describes the processes to address potential conflicts of interest aiming to prevent them from influencing their proxy voting decisions.

Such processes also include an override process, where the Stewardship Committee will be notified of any conflict of interest that would arise in connection with LOIM Companies' exercise of voting rights.

## 10. Reporting & transparency

LOIM operates in a transparent way with clients, displaying transparency of process and transparency towards our activities. The LOIM Companies will make public disclosures of its voting decisions, via the website <u>VDS Dashboard (issgovernance.com)</u>. The Proxy Voting Service will maintain a register of the votes exercised. The Proxy Voting Policy and Voting Guidelines are made available to Clients via the website <u>www.loim.com</u>.

Any Clients, including share/unitholders in the Funds may request to the LOIM Companies are contractually linked free of charge the details of the voting decision taken on the basis of this Policy.

The Head of Stewardship will prepare a report for the local management committee/dirigeants of the LOIM Companies and for the Board of Directors detailing voting undertaken for the Clients.

# **Appendices**

Appendix A - List of Funds and Clients in scope of the Policy

Appendix B - Proxy Voting Service Market Mechanics Guide

Appendix C - Operational procedure

# Appendix A - List of funds and clients in scope of the policy - Only equity sub-funds are in scope

- Swiss Funds:
  - LO Funds CH
  - LO Institutional Strategies (CH)
  - VF (CH)
  - Se Xue (partially covered)

Lombard Odier Asset Management (Switzerland) SA does not apply this policy to Swiss dedicated funds for qualified investors. For these funds specific instructions of the clients may apply.

- Luxembourg Funds:
  - LO Funds
  - LO Funds III
  - LO Gateway
  - LO Selection
  - LO Perspective
  - PrivilEdge
  - VF (Lux)
  - LO Funds IV
- French Funds:
  - Dauphine
  - Frozen
  - Racines Family
  - Hories Invest
  - ARRCO QUANT 2
  - SELECTYS
  - RM Investissements
  - ROPS Obligations convertibles 0 40 Europe 2
  - Carpimko Actions LO
  - CNP GLOBAL CONVERTIBLE LOIM
  - ROPS Obligations Etats OCDE Ex-Euro
  - LEMAN
  - CAMBA Invest
  - Résilience
  - ROPS Smart Index Japon 2
  - Farnese Invest
  - Melba Invest

# Appendix B - Proxy voting service market mechanics guide

This Market Mechanics Guide provides useful information as to share-blocking markets and other market specificities.

This document is publicly available: <a href="https://www.issgovernance.com/file/faq/market-mechanics-guide.pdf">https://www.issgovernance.com/file/faq/market-mechanics-guide.pdf</a>

## Appendix C - Operational procedure in relation to institutional shareholder services

The procedure for implementing voting is based on the following principles:

- The relevant custodian of the Funds and Clients will provide a daily statement of holdings (via SWIFT) to the Proxy Voting Service. See below the Simplified voting process flow
- The relevant LOIM Company will provide on a regular basis a list of positions to vote in accordance with the Policy (materiality threshold may vary)
- Based on the Voting Guidelines, the LOIM Company have developed a set of rules which are implemented as a voting template by the
  Proxy Voting Service. This assists the LOIM Companies' Portfolio Management Teams in determining how votes will be casted and
  supports their dialogue with companies. These rules are updated as required (and at least annually) to reflect current best practice. Clients
  may inspect the voting template at any time
- Voting will follow the above mentioned rules of engagement
- Where a Material Event is taking place, the Proxy Voting Service will notify the LOIM Company Portfolio Managers by e-mail about the
  Material Event, its recommendation and the vote cut-off time. In case the Portfolio Management Team(s) decide(s) to vote differently from
  the Voting Guidelines, they will be able to suggest a vote which will be reviewed by the Stewardship Team before being acted. The Head
  of Stewardship will look for vote consistency across LOIM Companies wherever judged relevant and applicable
- Where a Sustainability Event requiring a REFER is taking place, the Proxy Voting Service will notify the LOIM Stewardship Team by e-mail about the Sustainability Event, its recommendation and the vote cut-off time. In case the Stewardship Team decides to vote differently from the Voting Guidelines, they will manually input their vote decision on ISS Platform
- In case a representative of an LOIM Company would like to attend physically the AGM or EGM, the Proxy Voting Service shall be informed of this early enough before the cut off time, so that they can require the relevant custodian to issue a certificate of holding mentioning among other details the personal references of the person who will attend the AGM or EGM
- On occasions (as special situations may demand), the Proxy Voting Service, at the request of the LOIM Company, may refrain from voting
  on a proportion of the relevant portfolio so as not to adversely affect the management of the portfolio of a Fund or a Client
- Specific markets require a Power of Attorney to be in place to allow effective vote casting. The list of such markets evolves, the objective being to be able to vote on the maximum number of markets while the financial and workload impact remains acceptable
- If a security has been lent, LO Group's Securities Lending Section, upon notification, will recall the relevant security only if judged relevant