

DFSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Summary of Outcomes

The DFSA Board of Directors met by video conference on **22 July 2020**.

The Chairman's Overview

The Chairman gave his customary overview. He congratulated Board Members on their re-appointed to the Board by His Highness Sheikh Maktoum Bin Mohammed Al Maktoum, the President of the DIFC and said that he felt honoured to be reappointed as Chairman. He also congratulated Fadel Al Ali for his appointment as Deputy Chairman and thanked the Apurv Bagri for his considerable contribution as the previous Deputy Chairman.

The Chairman complemented the Legal Division on the DFSA's successful appeal against a decision concerning a 'subject access request' under the DIFC Data Protection Law and a recent successful outcome in the Financial Markets Tribunal.

He also complemented the HR Team and the Operations Team for the work they had done in establishing a safe and good working office environment during these unusual prevailing times.

The Chairman gave an update of his discussions with Chairs of Financial institutions and fellow regulators.

Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive provided an update on key policy matters, as well as regulatory and DFSA operational matters.

He reported on several matters, including:

- the steps that have been taken prior to re-opening the DFSA's offices;
- the DFSA's remote working environment;
- the current office protocol;
- the strength of the operational resilience of the financial services firms in the DIFC;
- the DFSA has received its largest intake for the Innovation Testing Licence Summer Cohort;
- the pipeline of firms applying to the DIFC remains strong;
- the DFSA's continued close engagement with key stakeholders and relevant government departments;
- the DFSA's regulatory relief measures;
- the DIFC Employee Workplace Savings Plan; and
- the progress of the FATF-related work in the UAE.

International Matters

The Director of International Relations provided an update on forthcoming international engagements.

Divisional Updates

The Head Enforcement briefed the Board on key developments within his Division.

Committee Activity

The Legislative Committee approved the release of Consultation Paper 132, which sets out proposals for updating the 'large exposures' regime and the release of Consultation Paper 133, which sets out the DFSA's proposals to make a number of amendments to its regime to address the needs of the venture capital sector. The Committee also approved the release of a discussion paper on sustainable finance in the DIFC.

The Audit Committee reviewed the DFSA's financial performance for the five months to 31 May 2020 and a draft three-year budget. The Committee also received an update from the Head of Internal Audit and an overview on the DFSA's insurance coverage.

The Risk Committee:

- received an update on the work being conducted on the DFSA's crisis management framework;
- received a report on an internal audit review of the DFSA's risk management framework;
- discussed the issue of risks arising from non-regulated DIFC firms;
- reviewed and approved the Risk Tolerance Statement;
- reviewed the 2020 Risk Inventory;
- received an update on macro issues;
- re-affirmed the Board Top Issues; and
- received an update from the Head of Internal Audit on the potential risks arising from Covid-19.

The Governance and Nominations Committee discussed the re-appointment of the FMT President and Members and the appointment of external members to the Legislative Committee and Risk Committee.

The Remuneration Committee discussed a number of confidential matters.

Other Matters

Other DFSA confidential matters were discussed by the Board.

The next meeting of the Board will be on 10 September 2020.