



9. Addition to Section 15 of the articles of incorporation (Virtual Shareholders' Meeting)

Upon enactment of the German Act on the Introduction of Virtual Shareholder Meetings for stock corporations and amendments to the laws governing cooperatives, insolvency and restructuring (Federal Gazette BGBl I No. 27, 2022, p 1166 et seq.) virtual shareholder meetings have been given a permanent legal status in the German Stock Corporation Act (AktG). According to Section 118a (1) sentence 1 AktG, the articles of incorporation can provide for the annual shareholders' meeting to be held as a virtual annual general meeting – or authorise the Managing Board to convene one – for a period of not more than five years after being enshrined in the articles. A virtual annual general meeting means that the shareholders or their proxies do not need to be physically present at the venue where the shareholders' meeting is held. It is planned to exercise this option and authorise the Managing Board accordingly. It is not intended to fully exhaust the time frame of five years for such authorisation permitted under the new law, but limit it to three years. As a result, the shareholders can already decide on renewing the authorisation of the Managing Board to conduct a virtual shareholders' meeting at an earlier time than would otherwise be provided by exhausting the full term permitted under the law. During the three-year authorisation, the Managing Board will decide for each shareholders' meeting whether to convene it as a virtual shareholders' meeting and, if so, under what conditions. The Managing Board will consider the specific circumstances of each case and exercise due professional care in its decision in the best interests of the Company and the shareholders. This entails the Managing Board ensuring that shareholder rights are safeguarded.

The Managing Board and the Supervisory Board propose the following resolution:

Section 15 of the articles on incorporation will be supplemented by the addition of paragraph 8, worded as follows:

“The Managing Board is authorised until 20 May 2029 to convene the Shareholders' Meeting without the physical presence of the shareholders or their proxies at the venue at which the meeting is held (Virtual Shareholders Meeting).”