

STRATEGIES FOR THE EXERCISE OF VOTING RIGHTS

According to legal requirements, the fund management company must exercise the right to vote by proxy in the best interests of the investment funds and their unitholders. The power of decision lies entirely with the fund management. If required by the agenda of the shareholders' meeting, the fund management company may, however, request 'ad hoc' advice from the investment manager/portfolio manager (hereinafter Wyss & Partner). Upon request by Wyss & Partner, the fund management company may, in important cases, delegate the power to exercise voting rights to them.

Wyss & Partner has defined an effective strategy for the exercise of voting rights, adapted to the specific business model. Wyss & Partner thus meets the regulatory requirements in Switzerland as well as in the EU and EEA and the special interests of investors.

Wyss & Partner always acts in the best interest of investors when exercising voting rights for the investment funds it manages, implementing several measures.

1. Active tracking of all relevant corporate events

Wyss & Partner actively monitors all relevant corporate events and agenda items regarding the investment funds it manages. This measure ensures that at all relevant events, such as general meetings, on issues such as share capital changes, compensation programs, etc., the interests of the investors can be safeguarded in accordance with the investment objectives and the investment policy of the investment fund concerned.

2. Exercise of voting rights only with relevant shareholding

The effective exercise of voting rights usually only takes place in those cases in which Wyss & Partner, on behalf of the investment funds it manages, could exercise more than 2.5% of the voting capital of a company held. However, Wyss & Partner may also exercise voting rights in exceptional cases or if this serves the best interests of investors, even if the threshold is not exceeded.

3. Engagement policy with active exercise of voting rights

Monitoring of important matters of the portfolio companies

An integral part of Wyss & Partner's investment strategy is the active monitoring of portfolio companies. Criteria can be strategy, risks, finance, social and environmental impact or corporate governance.

Wyss & Partner monitors the criteria of the portfolio companies independently or in cooperation with third parties. This is done, among other things, by analysing the financial reporting of the companies, participating in investor presentations or through regular personal contacts with investor relations and company management.

Exchange of views with corporate bodies and stakeholders of the portfolio companies

In the interests of its investors, Wyss & Partner promotes a constructive dialogue with the portfolio companies to maintain and increase their value. The dialogue is conducted with the IR department and the boards of directors and supervisory boards of the companies.



Cooperation with other shareholders

Wyss & Partner is generally willing to collaborate with other shareholders if this can make its own engagement activities more successful and if this is done within the legally permissible framework. If a collaborative engagement could be problematic, e.g., due to "Acting in Concert" suspicions, Wyss & Partner will refrain from collaborating with other shareholders.

4. Dealing with conflicts of interest

Wyss & Partner is obliged to act in the best interests of the investment funds it manages and the investors in these investment funds. In the course of Wyss & Partner's service provision, certain internal (e.g., between asset classes and/or investment strategies) and external conflicts of interest (e.g., between clients and asset owners) may arise. For these cases, guidelines and procedures exist that ensure (from a supervisory) legal perspective that conflicts of interest are avoided or unavoidable conflicts of interest are appropriately handled and disclosed.

5. In the case of delegation to third parties, inclusion in delegation contracts

In case of delegation of individual activities to third parties, Wyss & Partner ensures that the exercise of these rights is included in the delegation contracts.

6. Regular monitoring

Wyss & Partner regularly monitors the effectiveness of this policy in order to detect and immediately remedy any deficiencies.

Wyss & Partner, 11.10.2023

