

PEPCO GROUP N.V.
(the Company)

Terms of Reference of the Audit Committee

The Audit Committee (the **Committee**) of the Company consists of non-executive directors including at least one member with recent and relevant financial experience and the Committee as whole has competence relevant to the sector in which the Company operates. The Committee has a schedule of regular, structured meetings and will consult with external auditors and senior management where appropriate.

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| 1. | Constitution |
| | The Committee considers financial and sustainability reporting and reviews the group's accounting policies, annual statements, and internal controls. In particular, any major accounting issues of a subjective nature are discussed by the Committee. The Committee also reviews internal and external audit activity and the effectiveness of the risk management process; significant risk issues are referred to the board of directors for consideration. |
| 2. | Membership |
| 2.1 | The Committee is anticipated to comprise at least three members. Members of the Committee shall be appointed by the board of directors, on the recommendation of the Nomination Committee in consultation with the chair of the Committee. |
| 2.2 | The majority of the members of the Committee, including the Committee chair, shall be independent non-executive directors, at least one of the members of the Committee shall have recent and relevant financial experience and the Committee as a whole shall have competence relevant to the sector in which the Company operates. |
| 2.3 | Only members of the Committee have the right to attend audit committee meetings. However, other board members, the Company's Chief Financial Officer, Group Head of Internal Audit and external audit lead partner will be invited to attend meetings of the Committee on a regular basis and other individuals may be invited to attend all or part of any meeting as and when appropriate. |
| 2.4 | The non-executive directors of the board of directors shall appoint the Committee chair. In the absence of the Committee chair and/or an appointed deputy at a Committee meeting, the remaining members present shall elect one of themselves to chair the relevant meeting. |
| 3. | Secretary |
| | The company secretary, or his or her nominee, shall act as the secretary of the Committee and will ensure that the Committee receives information and papers in a timely manner to enable full and proper consideration to be given to issues. |
| 4. | Quorum |
| | The quorum necessary for the transaction of business shall be three 3 members being present. A duly convened meeting of the Committee at which a quorum is present will be competent to exercise all or any of the authorities, powers and discretions vested in or exercisable by the Committee. |
| 5. | Frequency of meetings |
| 5.1 | The Committee shall meet as often as is required for its proper functioning and with meetings to be held to coincide with key dates in the financial and sustainability reporting and audit cycle. |
| 5.2 | Meetings may be conducted by telephone or video conference and decisions made by such means shall be appropriately recorded and shall have the same effect as those conducted in person. |

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| | 5.3 | Resolutions of the Committee may also be adopted outside of a meeting in writing, provided that all members in office (in respect of whom no conflict of interest exists) have consented in writing to this manner of decision-making. |
| | 5.4 | Outside of the formal meeting programme, the Committee chair, and to a lesser extent the other Committee members, will maintain a dialogue with key individuals involved in the Company's governance, including the chair of the board of directors, the CEO, CFO, the external audit lead partner, and the Group Head of Internal Audit. |
| 6. | Notice of Meetings | |
| | 6.1 | Meetings of the Committee shall be convened by the secretary of the Committee at the request of any of its members or at the request of the external audit lead partner or Group Head of Internal Audit if considered necessary. |
| | 6.2 | Unless otherwise agreed by the Committee, notice of each meeting confirming the venue, time and date together with an agenda of items to be discussed, shall be forwarded to each member of the Committee no later than five days before the date of the meeting. Supporting papers shall be sent to committee members and to other attendees, as appropriate, at the same time. |
| 7. | Minutes of the meetings | |
| | 7.1 | The secretary to the Committee shall minute the proceedings and decisions of all meetings of the Committee, including recording the names of those present and in attendance. |
| | 7.2 | The secretary will ascertain, at the beginning of each meeting, the existence of any conflicts of interest not previously noted and minute them accordingly. |
| | 7.3 | Draft minutes of committee meetings shall be agreed with the Committee chair and then circulated promptly to all members of the Committee, unless it would be inappropriate to do so in the opinion of the Committee chair. Once approved, minutes should be circulated to all other members of the board unless, exceptionally, it would be inappropriate to do so. |
| 8. | Annual general meeting | |
| | The Committee chair (or in their absence another nominee of the Committee) should attend the annual general meeting to answer shareholder questions, including any questions on the Committee's activities. In addition, the Committee chair should seek engagement with shareholders on significant matters related to the Committee's areas of responsibility. | |
| 9. | Duties | |
| | The Committee should have oversight of the group as a whole and, unless required otherwise by regulation, carry out the duties below for major subsidiary undertakings and the group as a whole. | |
| | 9.1 | Financial and sustainability reporting |
| | 9.1.1 | The Committee shall monitor the integrity of the financial statements of the Company, including its annual and half-yearly reports, interim management statements, preliminary announcements and any other formal statements relating to its financial performance, and review and report to the board of directors on significant financial and sustainability reporting issues and judgements which those statements contain having regard to matters communicated to it by the auditor. |
| | 9.1.2 | In particular, the Committee shall review and challenge where necessary: |
| | 9.1.2.1 | the application of significant accounting policies and any changes to them; |
| | 9.1.2.2 | the methods used to account for significant or unusual transactions where different approaches are possible; |

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| | 9.1.2.3 | whether the Company has adopted appropriate accounting policies and made appropriate estimates and judgements, taking into account the external auditor's views on the financial statements; |
| | 9.1.2.4 | all material information presented with the financial statements, including the strategic report and the corporate governance statements relating to the audit and to risk management; and |
| | 9.1.2.5 | the clarity and completeness of disclosures in the financial statements and the context in which statements are made. |
| | 9.1.3 | The Committee shall review any other statements requiring board of directors' approval which contain financial information and sustainability information first, where to carry out a review prior to board of directors' approval would be practicable and consistent with any prompt reporting requirements under any law or regulation including the Dutch Financial Supervision Act (<i>Wet op het financieel toezicht</i> , the "DFSA") and the EU Market Abuse Regulation. |
| | 9.1.4 | Where the Committee is not satisfied with any aspect of the proposed financial and sustainability reporting by the Company, it shall report its views to the board of directors. |
| | 9.2 | Narrative reporting |
| | | Where requested by the board of directors, the Committee should review the content of the annual accounts and advise the board of directors on whether, taken as a whole, they give a fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the Company and its consolidated companies and whether the annual report gives a true and fair view of the situation on the balance sheet date and of developments during the financial year of the Company and its consolidated companies, together with a description of the main risks facing the Company on these matters as is required under the DFSA. |
| | 9.3 | Internal controls and risk management systems |
| | | The Committee shall: |
| | 9.3.1 | review the adequacy and security of the Company's arrangements for its employees and contractors to raise concerns, in confidence, about possible wrongdoing in financial and sustainability reporting or other matters. The Committee shall ensure that these arrangements allow proportionate and independent investigation of such matters and appropriate follow up action; |
| | 9.3.2 | review the Company's procedures for detecting fraud; |
| | 9.3.3 | review the Company's systems and controls for the prevention of bribery, including the group's Global Code of Conduct and anti-bribery policy, and receive reports on non-compliance; |
| | 9.3.4 | keep under review the Company's internal financial control systems that identify, assess, manage and monitor financial risks, and other internal control and risk management systems; and |
| | 9.3.5 | review and approve the statements to be included in the annual report concerning internal control, risk management, including the assessment of principal and emerging risks, and the viability statement. |
| | 9.4 | Internal audit |
| | | The Committee shall: |
| | 9.4.1 | approve the appointment or termination of appointment of the Group Head of Internal Audit; |

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| | 9.4.2 | review and approve the role and mandate of internal audit, monitor and review the effectiveness of its work, and annually approve the internal audit charter ensuring it is appropriate for the current needs of the organisation; |
| | 9.4.3 | review and approve the annual internal audit plan to ensure it is aligned to the key risks of the business, and receive regular reports on work carried out; |
| | 9.4.4 | ensure internal audit maintains its independence, has unrestricted scope, the necessary resources and access to information to enable it to fulfil its mandate, ensure there is open communication between different functions and that the internal audit function evaluates the effectiveness of those functions as part of its internal audit plan, and ensure that the internal audit function is equipped to perform in accordance with appropriate professional standards for internal auditors; |
| | 9.4.5 | ensure the Group Head of Internal Audit has direct access to the board chair and to the Committee chair, providing independence from the executive and accountability to the Committee; |
| | 9.4.6 | carry out an annual assessment of the effectiveness of the internal audit function; and as part of this assessment: |
| | 9.4.6.1 | meet with the Group Head of Internal Audit without the presence of management to discuss the effectiveness of the function |
| | 9.4.6.2 | review and assess the annual internal audit work plan; |
| | 9.4.6.3 | receive a report on the results of the internal auditor's work; |
| | 9.4.6.4 | determine whether it is satisfied that the quality, experience, and expertise of internal audit is appropriate for the business; and |
| | 9.4.6.5 | review the actions taken by management to implement the recommendations of internal audit and to support the effective working of the internal audit function; |
| | 9.4.7 | monitor and assess the role and effectiveness of the internal audit function in the overall context of the Company's risk management system and the work of compliance, finance, and the external auditor; and |
| | 9.4.8 | ensure that an independent third party assesses the performance of the internal audit function at least every five years. |
| | The internal audit function: | |
| | 9.4.9 | reports hierarchically to the Committee chair and the CFO; and |
| | 9.4.10 | informs the CFO and the Committee chair without delay if, during the performance of its duties, it discovers or suspects an instance of material misconduct or irregularity. If the actual or suspected material misconduct or irregularity pertains to the functioning of one or more executive directors of the board, the internal audit function reports this to the chair of the board of directors. Records shall be kept of how the Committee is informed by the internal audit function. |
| | 9.5 | External audit |
| | The Committee shall: | |
| | 9.5.1 | consider and make recommendations to the board of directors, to be put to shareholders for approval at the annual general meeting, in relation to the appointment, re-appointment and removal of the Company's external auditor; |

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| | 9.5.2 | develop and oversee the selection procedure for the appointment of the audit firm, ensuring that all tendering firms have access to all necessary information and individuals during the tendering process; |
| | 9.5.3 | if an external auditor resigns, investigate the issues leading to this and decide whether any action is required; and |
| | 9.5.4 | oversee the relationship with the external auditor. In this context the Committee shall: |
| | 9.5.4.1 | approve their remuneration, including both fees for audit and non-audit services, and ensure that the level of fees is appropriate to enable an effective and high-quality audit to be conducted; and |
| | 9.5.4.2 | approve their terms of engagement, including any engagement letter issued at the start of each audit and the scope of the audit; |
| | 9.5.5 | assess annually the external auditor's independence taking into account the group's relationship with the auditor as a whole, including any threats to the auditor's independence and the safeguards applied to mitigate those threats including the provision of any non-audit services; |
| | 9.5.6 | satisfy itself that there are no relationships between the auditor and the Company (other than in the ordinary course of business) which could adversely affect the auditor's independence and objectivity; |
| | 9.5.7 | advise the board on a policy on the employment of former employees of the Company's auditor and monitor the application of this policy; |
| | 9.5.8 | monitor the auditor's processes for maintaining independence, its compliance with relevant law, regulation, and other professional requirements, including guidance on the rotation of audit partner and staff; |
| | 9.5.9 | assess annually external auditor's functioning, qualifications, expertise and resources of and the effectiveness and quality of the external audit process, which shall include a report from the external auditor on their own internal quality procedures; |
| | 9.5.10 | seek to ensure coordination of the external audit with the activities of the internal audit function; |
| | 9.5.11 | evaluate the risks to the quality and effectiveness of the financial and sustainability reporting process in the light of the external auditor's communications with the Committee; |
| | 9.5.12 | develop and recommend to the board the Company's policy on the provision of non-audit services by the auditor, including prior approval of non-audit services by the Committee and specifying the types of non-audit service to be preapproved, and assessment of whether non-audit services have a direct or material effect on the audited financial statements. The policy should include consideration of the following matters: |
| | 9.5.12.1 | threats to the independence and objectivity of the external auditor and any safeguards in place; |
| | 9.5.12.2 | the nature of the non-audit services; |
| | 9.5.12.3 | whether the external audit firm is the most suitable supplier of the non-audit service; |
| | 9.5.12.4 | the fees for the non-audit services, both individually and in aggregate, relative to the audit fee; and |
| | 9.5.12.5 | the criteria governing compensation; |

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| | 9.5.13 meet regularly with the external auditor (including once at the planning stage before the audit and once after the audit at the reporting stage) and, at least once a year, meet with the external auditor without management being present, to discuss the auditor's remit and any issues arising from the audit; |
| | 9.5.14 discuss with the external auditor the factors that could affect audit quality and review and approve the annual audit plan, ensuring it is consistent with the scope of the audit engagement, having regard to the seniority, expertise and experience of the audit team. The external auditor should inform the executive directors of the board and the Committee chair without delay if, during the performance of its duties, it discovers or suspects an instance of misconduct or irregularity. If the actual or suspected misconduct or irregularity pertains to the functioning of one or more executive directors of the board, the external auditor should report this directly to the Committee chair; |
| | 9.5.15 9.5.15 review the findings of the audit with the external auditor. This shall include but not be limited to the following: |
| | 9.5.15.1 a discussion of any major issues which arose during the audit; |
| | 9.5.15.2 the auditor's explanation of how the risks to audit quality were addressed; |
| | 9.5.15.3 key accounting and audit judgements; |
| | 9.5.15.4 the auditor's view of their interactions with senior management; and |
| | 9.5.15.5 levels of errors identified during the audit; |
| | 9.5.16 9.5.16 review any representation letter(s) requested by the external auditor before they are signed by management; |
| | 9.5.17 review the management letter and management's response to the auditor's findings and recommendations and any other external party involved in auditing the sustainability reporting; and |
| | 9.5.18 review the effectiveness of the audit process, including an assessment of the quality of the audit, the handling of key judgements by the auditor, and the auditor's response to questions from the Committee. |
| 10. | Policies and Compliance |
| | 10.1 The Committee will review annually the group's Treasury Policy and receive reports to confirm compliance with the policy. |
| | 10.2 The Committee will review annually the group's Tax Strategy and receive reports to confirm compliance with the policy. |
| 11. | Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) |
| | The Committee shall review ESG strategies, goals and targets and monitor progress and advise the board as appropriate. |
| 12. | Reporting responsibilities |
| | 12.1 The Committee chair shall report formally to the board of directors on its proceedings after each meeting on all matters within its duties and responsibilities and shall also formally report to the board of directors on how it has discharged its responsibilities. This report shall include: |
| | 12.1.1 the significant issues that it considered in relation to the financial statements (required under paragraph 9.1.1) and how these were addressed; |
| | 12.1.2 its assessment of the effectiveness of the external audit process (required under paragraph 9.5.9), the approach taken to the appointment or reappointment of the external auditor, |

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| | length of tenure of audit firm, when a tender was last conducted and advance notice of any retendering plans; and |
| | 12.1.3 Any other issues on which the board of directors has requested the Committee's opinion. |
| 12.2 | The Committee shall make whatever recommendations to the board of directors it deems appropriate on any area within its remit where action or improvement is needed. |
| 12.3 | The Committee shall compile a report on its activities to be included in the Company's annual report. The report should include an explanation of how the Committee has addressed the effectiveness of the external audit process; the significant issues that the Committee considered in relation to the financial statements and how these issues were addressed, having regard to matters communicated to it by the auditor; an explanation of how auditor independence and objectivity are safeguarded if the external auditor provides non-audit services, having regard to matters communicated to it by the auditor and all other information requirements as may be required by the Code of Best Practice for WSE Listed Companies. |
| 12.4 | In compiling the reports referred to in 12.1 and 12.3, the Committee should exercise judgement in deciding which of the issues it considers in relations to the financial statements are significant but should include at least those matters that have informed the board of directors' assessment of whether the Company is a going concern. The report to shareholders need not repeat information disclosed elsewhere in the annual report and accounts but could provide cross-references to that information. |
| 13. | Other matters |
| | The Committee shall: |
| 13.1 | have access to sufficient resources in order to carry out its duties, including access to the Company secretary for assistance as required; |
| 13.2 | be provided with appropriate and timely training, both in the form of an induction programme for new members and on an ongoing basis for all members; |
| 13.3 | give due consideration to relevant laws and regulations[, the provisions of the Code of Best Practice for WSE Listed Companies and any other applicable rules], as appropriate; |
| 13.4 | be responsible for coordination of the internal and external auditors; |
| 13.5 | oversee any investigation of activities which are within its terms of reference; |
| 13.6 | work and liaise as necessary with all other board of directors' committees ensuring interaction between committees and with the board is reviewed regularly, taking particular account of the impact of risk management and internal controls being delegated to different committees; and |
| 13.7 | arrange for periodic reviews of its own performance and, at least annually, review its constitution and terms of reference to ensure it is operating at maximum effectiveness and recommend any changes it considers necessary to the board of directors. |
| 14. | Authority |
| | The Committee is authorised to: |
| 14.1 | seek any information it requires from any employee of the Company in order to perform its duties; |
| 14.2 | obtain, at the Company's expense, independent legal, accounting or other professional advice on any matter it believes it necessary so to do; |
| 14.3 | call any employee to be questioned at a meeting of the Committee as and when required; and |
| 14.4 | have the right to publish in the Company's annual report, details of any issues that cannot be resolved between the Committee and the board of directors. If the board has not accepted the Committee's |

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| | recommendation on the external auditor appointment, reappointment or removal, the annual report should include a statement explaining the Committee's recommendation and the reasons why the board has taken a different position. |
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12 March 2025