

Soft International Group Ltd
(舒寶國際集團有限公司)
(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 2569)

Terms of Reference of the Audit Committee

1. Constitution

- 1.1 The audit committee (the “**Committee**”) of Soft International Group Ltd (the “**Company**”) is established pursuant to a resolution passed by the board of directors (the “**Directors**”) of the Company (the “**Board**”) at its meeting held on 10 March 2025.

2. Membership

- 2.1 Members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board from amongst the Directors and shall consist of at least three members, all of whom shall be non-executive Directors. At least one of the Committee members shall be independent non-executive Director with appropriate professional qualifications or accounting or related financial management expertise as required under Rule 3.10(2) of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “**Listing Rules**”). A majority of the members should be independent non-executive Directors. LR3.21
- 2.2 The chairman of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board and must be an independent non-executive Director. LR3.21
- 2.3 A former partner of the Company’s existing authorized independent auditors (the “**External Auditors**”) is prohibited from acting as a Committee member for a period of two year from the date of the person ceasing (a) to be a partner of the External Auditor; or (b) to have any financial interest in the External Auditor, whichever is later. App C1 D.3.2
- 2.4 The appointment of the members of the Committee may be revoked, or additional members may be appointed to the Committee, by separate resolutions passed by the Board and by the Committee.
- 2.5 The constitution of the Committee shall comply with the requirements of the Listing Rules as amended from time to time.

3. Proceedings of the Committee

3.1 Notice of Meeting

- (a) Unless otherwise agreed by all the Committee members, a Committee meeting shall be convened by at least fourteen (14) days' notice. App C1 C.5.3
- (b) A Committee member may at any time summon a Committee meeting.
- (c) Notice shall be given to each Committee member in person orally or in writing or by telephone or by telex or telegram or facsimile transmission or email or other form of electronic communication at numbers or addresses from time to time notified to the secretary of the Committee by such Committee member or in such other manner as the Committee members may from time to time determine, provided that a Committee member shall not be in attendance when his/her own remuneration package or benefits are being discussed.
- (d) Any notice given orally shall be followed by confirmation in writing before the meeting.
- (e) Notice of meeting shall state the time and place of the meeting and shall be accompanied by an agenda together with other documents which may be required to be considered by the members of the Committee for the purposes of the meeting. Such agenda and other documents should be sent in a timely manner and at least 3 days before the intended date of a meeting (or other period agreed by the Committee). App C1 C.5.8

3.2 The Committee should meet at least two times per year. The chairman of the Committee may convene additional meetings at his discretion.

3.3 The quorum for the Committee meeting shall be two members of the Committee. A resolution of the Committee shall be passed by the majority of the members present at the meeting.

3.4 The secretary of the Company shall act as the secretary of the Committee.

3.5 The Committee may invite other Board members to attend Committee meeting if the Committee deems appropriate or necessary. However, other Board member(s) who is/are not a Committee member may only be in attendance but shall not have any right to vote.

4. Written resolutions

Written resolutions may be passed by all Committee members in writing. This provision is without prejudice to any requirement under the Listing Rules for a Board or Committee meeting to be held.

5. Alternate Committee members

Notwithstanding the matters as set out in clause 7 below, a Committee member may not appoint any alternate.

6. Authorities of the Committee

- 6.1 The Committee has the authority delegated to it from the Board to deal with the matters set out in clause 7 below. The Board shall seek advice from the Committee prior to making any resolutions on matters with regard to the duties of the Committee. App C1 D.3.4
- 6.2 The Committee should be provided with sufficient resources to perform its duties. App C1 D.3.6
- 6.3 The Committee is granted the authority to investigate any activity within its terms of reference, and all employees are directed to cooperate with the Committee. The Committee is authorized by the Board to obtain outside legal or other independent professional advice and to invite the attendance of outsiders with relevant experience and expertise if it considers this necessary, at the expense of the Company.
- 6.4 The Committee shall report to the Board any suspected frauds and irregularities, failures of internal control or suspected infringements of laws, rules and regulations which come to its attention and are of sufficient importance to warrant the attention of the Board.

7. Duties

The duties of the Committee shall be:

- (a) to assist the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities by providing an independent review and supervision of financial reporting, by satisfying themselves as to the effectiveness of the risk management and internal controls of the Company and its subsidiaries (the “**Group**”), and as to the adequacy of the external and internal audits;
- (b) to assure that appropriate accounting principles and reporting practices are followed;
- (c) to be primarily responsible for making recommendations to the Board on the appointment, re-appointment and removal of the External Auditors, and to approve the remuneration and terms of engagement of the External Auditors, and any questions of its resignation or dismissal; App C1 D.3.3(a)
- (d) to review and monitor the External Auditors’ independence and objectivity and the effectiveness of the audit process in accordance with applicable standards. The Committee should discuss with the External Auditors the nature and scope of the audit and reporting obligations before the audit commences, and ensure co-ordination where more than one audit firm is involved. Procedures to review and monitor the independence of the External Auditors may include: App C1 D.3.3(b)
 - (i) consider all relationships between the Group and the External Auditors (including non-audit services);
 - (ii) obtain from the External Auditors annually, information about policies and processes for maintaining independence and monitoring compliance with relevant requirements, including current regulations of rotation of audit partners and staff; and

- (iii) meet with the External Auditors, at least annually, in the absence of management, to discuss matters relating to its audit fees, any issues arising from the audit and any other matters the External Auditors may wish to raise;
- (e) to develop and implement policy on engaging the External Auditors to supply non-audit services. For the purpose of this clause, “External Auditors” include any entity that is under common control, ownership or management with the audit firm or any entity that a reasonable and informed third party knowing all relevant information would reasonably conclude to be part of the audit firm nationally or internationally. The Committee should report to the Board, identifying any matters where action or improvement is needed and making recommendations as to the steps to be taken. The Committee should ensure that the External Auditors’ provision of non-audit services does not impair its independence or objectivity. When assessing the External Auditors’ independence or objectivity in relation to the provision of non-audit services, the Committee may wish to consider:
 - (i) whether the skills and experience of the External Auditors make it a suitable supplier of non-audit services;
 - (ii) whether there are safeguards in place to ensure that there is no threat to the objectivity and independence of the audit because the External Auditors provide non-audit services;
 - (iii) the nature of the non-audit services, the related fee levels and fee levels individually and in total relative to the External Auditors; and
 - (iv) criteria for compensation of the individuals performing the audit;
- (f) to monitor integrity of the Company’s financial statements, annual report and accounts, half-year report and, if prepared for publication, quarterly reports, and to review significant financial reporting judgments contained in them. In reviewing these reports before submission to the Board, the Committee should focus particularly on:
 - (i) any changes in accounting policies and practices;
 - (ii) major judgmental areas;
 - (iii) significant adjustments resulting from the audit;
 - (iv) the going concern assumptions and any qualifications;
 - (v) compliance with accounting standards;
 - (vi) compliance with the Listing Rules and legal requirements in relation to financial reporting; and
 - (vii) reviewing the fairness of connected transactions and making disclosures in accordance with the Listing Rules and accounting standards;

App C1
D.3.3(c)

App C1
D.3.3(d)

- (g) regarding (f) above:
- (i) members of the Committee should liaise with the Board and senior management and the Committee must meet, at least twice a year, with the External Auditors; and App C1
D.3.3(e)
 - (ii) the Committee should consider any significant or unusual items that are, or may need to be, reflected in the report and accounts, it should give due consideration to any matters that have been raised by the Company's staff responsible for the accounting and financial reporting function, the compliance officer of the Company or External Auditors;
- (h) to review audit and control related corporate representations made to External Auditors, the internal auditors or any person responsible for internal audit function (the “**IA People**”) and to the shareholders of the Company;
- (i) to review with External Auditors and IA People, the Group's management, the adequacy of the Group's policies and procedures regarding internal controls (including financial, operational and compliance controls) and any statement by the Directors to be included in the annual report prior to endorsement by the Board;
- (j) to review the Company's financial controls, and unless expressly addressed by a separate board risk committee, or by the Board itself, to review the Company's risk management and internal control systems; App C1
D.3.3(f)
- (k) to discuss the risk management and internal control systems with management to ensure that management has performed its duty to have effective systems. This discussion should include the adequacy of resources, staff qualifications and experience, training programmes and budget of the Group's accounting and financing reporting function; App C1
D.3.3(g)
- (l) to consider major investigation findings on risk management and internal control matters as delegated by the Board or on its own initiative and management's response to these findings App C1
D.3.3(h)
- (m) where an internal audit function exists, to ensure co-ordination between the IA People and External Auditors, and to ensure that the internal audit function is adequately resourced and has appropriate standing within the Company, and to review and monitor its effectiveness; App C1
D.3.3(i)
- (n) to review the Group's financial and accounting policies and practices; App C1
D.3.3(j)
- (o) to review the External Auditor's management letter, any material queries raised by the External Auditor to management about accounting records, financial accounts or system of control and management's response; App C1
D.3.3(k)
- (p) to ensure that the Board will provide a timely response to the issues raised in the External Auditor's management letter; App C1
D.3.3(l)

- (q) to report to the Board on the matters set out in Code Provision D.3 of Appendix C1 (Corporate Governance Code) to the Listing Rules. The Committee shall be accountable to the Board, and submit proposals to the Board pursuant to the provisions of the Company's articles of association; App C1 D.3.3(m)
 - (r) to consider agreeing with the Board the Company's policies on hiring employees or former employees of the External Auditors and monitoring the application of these policies. The Committee should then be in a position to consider whether there has been or appears to be any impairment of the External Auditor's judgment or independence for the audit;
 - (s) where the Board disagrees with the Committee's view on the selection, appointment, resignation or dismissal of the External Auditors, the Committee should include in the Corporate Governance Report a statement explaining Committee's recommendation and the reasons why the Board has taken a different view; App C1 D.3.5
 - (t) to review arrangements employees of the Company can use, in confidence, to raise concerns about possible improprieties in any matter relating to the Company, including but not limited to financial reporting, internal control or other matters. The Committee should ensure that proper arrangements are in place for fair and independent investigation of these matters to the Committee, and for appropriate follow-up action; App C1 D.3.7(a)
 - (u) to act as the key representative body for overseeing the Company's relations with the External Auditor; App C1 D.3.7(b)
 - (v) to attend annual general meetings of the Company, and to be available to answer questions at such annual general meetings; and App C1 F.2.2
- (Note: the chairman of the Committee shall attend annual general meetings of the Company; and in the absence of the chairman of the Committee, another member of the Committee or failing this, the chairman of the Committee's duly appointed delegate, shall attend)*
- (w) to consider other topics as defined by the Board. App C1 D.3.3(n)

8. Reporting procedures

- 8.1 Full minutes of Committee meeting shall be kept by the secretary of the Committee and should be open for inspection at any reasonable time on reasonable notice by any Director of the Company. Minutes of Committee meeting should record in sufficient detail the matters considered by the Board and decisions reached, including any concerns raised by Directors or dissenting views expressed. The secretary of the Committee shall circulate the draft and final version of minutes of Committee meetings to all the Committee members for their comments and records within a reasonable time after the meeting. App C1 D.3.1
- 8.2 The Committee should report back to the Board on its decisions or recommendations, unless there are legal or regulatory restrictions on its ability to do so (such as a restriction on disclosure due to regulatory requirements). App C1 C.4.2

9. Continuing application of the articles of association of the Company

The articles of association of the Company regulating the meetings and proceedings of the Board so far as the same are applicable and are not replaced by the provisions in these terms of reference shall apply to the meetings and proceedings of the Committee.

10. Powers of the Board

The Board may, subject to compliance with the articles of association of the Company and the Listing Rules (including Appendix C1 (Corporate Governance Code) to the Listing Rules), amend, supplement and revoke these terms of reference and any resolution passed by the Committee provided that no amendments to and revocation of these terms of reference and the resolutions passed by the Committee shall invalidate any prior act and resolution of the Committee which would have been valid if such terms of reference or resolution had not been amended or revoked.

11. Language

If there is any inconsistency between the English and Chinese versions of these terms of reference of the Committee, the English version shall prevail.

12. Effective Date

This terms of reference of the Committee shall take effect from 10 March 2025.