

APEX FROZEN FOODS LIMITED

DIVIDEND DISTRIBUTION POLICY

This Policy will regulate the process of dividend declaration and its pay-out by the Company in accordance with the provisions of Companies Act, read with the applicable Rules framed thereunder, as may be in force for the time being ("Companies Act").

Preamble:

Dividend is the payment made by a Company to its shareholders, usually in the form of distribution of its profits. The profits earned by the Company can either be retained in business or used for acquisitions, expansion or diversification, or it can be distributed to the shareholders. The Company may choose to retain a part of its profits and distribute the balance among its shareholders as dividend.

This Policy aims to reconcile between all these needs. The dividend pay-out of a Company is driven by several factors. Some Companies pay a lower dividend. The idea is to retain profits and invest it for further expansion and modernization of the business. On the other hand, there are Companies which prefer to pay higher dividend. These Companies may not necessarily be growth oriented companies with greater emphasis on retaining their shareholder base.

The objective of this policy is to ensure a regular dividend income for the shareholders and long term capital appreciation for all stakeholders of the Company. The Company would ensure to strike the right balance between the quantum of dividend paid and amount of profits retained in the business for various purposes. The Board of Directors will refer to the policy while declaring/ recommending dividends on behalf of the Company. Through this policy, the Company would endeavor to maintain a consistent approach to dividend pay-out plans.

Category of Dividends

The Companies Act provides for two forms of Dividend- Final & Interim. The Board of Directors shall have the power to recommend final dividend to the shareholders for their approval in the general meeting of the Company. The Board of Directors shall have the absolute power to declare interim dividend during the financial year, as and when they consider it fit.

Final Dividend

The Final dividend is paid once for the financial year after the annual accounts are prepared. The Board of Directors of the Company has the power to recommend the

payment of Final Dividend to the shareholders in a general meeting. The declaration of Final dividend shall be included in the ordinary business items that are required to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting.

Process for approval of Payment of Final Dividend:

- Board to recommend quantum of final dividend payable to shareholders in its meeting in line with this Policy;
- Based on the profits arrived at as per the audited financial statements;
- Shareholders to approve in Annual General Meeting;
- Once in a financial year;

Interim Dividend

This form of dividend can be declared by the Board of Directors one or more times in a financial year as may be deemed fit by it. The Board of Directors of the Company would declare an interim dividend, as and when considered appropriate, in line with this policy. Normally, the Board could consider declaring an interim dividend after finalization of quarterly (or half yearly) financial accounts. This would be in order to supplement the annual dividend or in exceptional circumstances.

Process for approval of Payment of Interim Dividend:

- Board may declare Interim Dividend at its complete discretion in line with this Policy;
- Based on profits arrived at as per quarterly (or half- yearly) financial statements including exceptional items;
- One or more times in a financial year.

Declaration of Dividend

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act, Dividend shall be declared or paid only out of-

- i) Current financial year's profit:
 - a. after providing for depreciation in accordance with law;
 - b. after transferring to reserves such amount as may be prescribed or as may be otherwise considered appropriate by the Board at its discretion.
- ii) The profits for any previous financial year(s):
 - a) after providing for depreciation in accordance with law;
 - b) remaining undistributed; or
- iii) out of i) & ii) both.

In computing the above, the Board may at its discretion, subject to provisions of the law, exclude any or all of (i) extraordinary charges (ii) exceptional charges (iii) one off charges on account of change in law or rules or accounting policies or accounting standards (iv) provisions or write offs on account of impairment in investments (long term or short term)

The Board may, at its discretion, declare a Special Dividend under certain circumstances such as extraordinary profits from sale of investments.

Factors to be considered while declaring Dividend

The decision regarding dividend pay-out is a crucial decision as it determines the amount of profit to be distributed among shareholders and amount of profit to be retained in business. The Board of Directors will endeavor to take a decision with an objective to enhance shareholders wealth and market value of the shares. However, the decision regarding pay-out is subject to several factors and hence, any optimal policy in this regard may be far from obvious.

The Dividend pay-out decision of any company depends upon certain external and internal factors-

External Factors:-

- a) **State of Economy-** in case of uncertain or recessionary economic and business conditions, Board will endeavor to retain larger part of profits to build up reserves to absorb future shocks.
- b) **Statutory Restrictions-** The Board will keep in mind the restrictions imposed by Companies Act with regard to declaration of dividend.

Internal Factors:-

Apart from the various external factors aforementioned, the Board will take into account various internal factors while declaring Dividend, which inter alia will include-

- i. Profits earned during the year;
- ii. Present & future Capital requirements of the existing businesses;
- iii. Brand/ Business Acquisitions;
- iv. Expansion/ Modernization of existing businesses;
- v. Additional investments in subsidiaries/associates of the Company;
- vi. Fresh investments into external businesses;
- vii. Any other factor as deemed fit by the Board.

The Company stands committed to deliver sustainable value to all its stakeholders. The Company will strive to distribute an optimal and appropriate level of the profits earned by it in its business and investing activity, with the shareholders, in the form of dividend. As explained in the earlier part of this Policy, determining the dividend pay-out is dependent upon several factors, both internal to a business and external to it. Taking into consideration the aforementioned factors, the Board will endeavor to maintain a Dividend pay-out based on the financials.

As mentioned above, for computing the PAT for purposes of determining the Dividend, the Board may at its discretion, subject to provisions of the law, exclude any or all of (i) extraordinary charges (ii) exceptional charges (iii) one off charges on account of change in law or rules or accounting policies or accounting standards (iv) provisions or write offs on account of impairment in investments (long term or short term). Further, the Board may amend the pay-out range, whenever considered appropriate by it, keeping in mind the aforesaid factors having a bearing on the dividend pay-out decision including declaring a Special Dividend under certain circumstances such as extraordinary profits from sale of investments.

Review

This Policy will be reviewed periodically by the Board.