

Content

Title :	Regulations Governing Securities Firms <b>Ch</b>
Date :	2015.11.12
Legislative :	<p>Articles 2, 3, 4, 6, 17, 18, 20 to 31, 34, and 36 to 69 were amended by Securities &amp; Futures Commission, Ministry of Finance on 5 October 2000 per Order Ref. No. (89) Taiwan-Finance-Securities-(2)-04351</p> <p>Articles 18, 47, and 60 amended and promulgated and Articles 14-1 to 14-5 added by the Securities &amp; Futures Commission, Ministry of Finance on 19 December 2001 per Order Ref. No. (90) Taiwan-Finance-Securities-(2)-006576</p> <p>Article 37 amended by the Securities &amp; Futures Commission, Ministry of Finance on 11 March 2002 per Order Ref. No. (91) Taiwan-Finance-Securities-(2)-001540</p> <p>Articles 14-3, 16, 18, 42, 49 to 52, 55 to 58, 60, 62, and 63 amended and promulgated and Article 14-4 deleted by the Securities &amp; Futures Commission, Ministry of Finance on 6 August 2002 per Order Ref. No. (91) Taiwan-Finance-Securities-(2)-0910004183</p> <p>Article 32 amended and promulgated and Article 32-1 added by the Securities &amp; Futures Commission, Ministry of Finance on 22 November 2002 per Order Ref. No. Taiwan-Finance-Securities-(2)-0910005883</p> <p>Article 26 amended by the Securities &amp; Futures Commission, Ministry of Finance on 28 November 2002 per Order Ref. No. Taiwan-Finance-Securities-(2)-0910005953</p> <p>Articles 2 and 32 amended and promulgated by the Securities &amp; Futures Commission, Ministry of Finance on 30 April 2003 per Order Ref. No. Taiwan-Finance-Securities-(2)- 0920001862</p> <p>Articles 10, 14-5, 20, 22, 24, and 50 amended and promulgated and Articles 19-1 to 19-4, 31-1 to 31-4, and 58-1 to 58-3 and Chapter V-1 added by the Securities &amp; Futures Commission, Ministry of Finance on 31 December 2003 per Order Ref. No. Taiwan-Finance-Securities-(2)-0920005386</p> <p>Articles 2 and 19-3 amended and promulgated 2 August 2004 per Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-II-0930003706 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan</p> <p>Article 31 amended and promulgated and articles 36-1 and 36-2 added 20 October 2004 per Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-II-0930004935 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan</p> <p>Name of Chapter 5 amended and promulgated and Article 49-1 added 14 February 2005 per Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-II-0940103536 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan</p> <p>32. Articles 18, 19-3, and 19-4 amended and promulgated 6 May 2005 per Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-II-0940001928 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan</p> <p>33. Article 60 amended 28 December 2005 per Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-II-0940006049 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan</p> <p>34. Articles 3, 14-2, 36-1, 36-2, 46, and 48 amended 20 January 2006 per Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-II-0950000377 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan</p> <p>35. Article 29-1 added 14 April 2006 per Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-II-0950001862 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan</p> <p>36. Articles 13 to 16, 18, 19, 19-3, and 59 amended, Articles 19-5 and 30-1 added, and Article 57 deleted 25 August 2006 per Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-II-0950004038 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan</p> <p>37. Article 19-3 amended and issued 3 January 2007 per Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-II-0950005951 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan</p> <p>38. Article 26 amended and issued 28 May 2007 per Order No. Financial-</p>

Supervisory-Securities-II-0960025314 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan

39. Articles 19-1, 19-3 to 19-5, 31-4, and 32-1 amended and issued and Articles 19-6, 19-7, and 35-1 added 17 December 2007 per Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-II-0960067547 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan

40. Articles 19, 19-1, 19-2, and 25 amended and issued 12 May 2008 per Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-II-0970018981 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan

41. Articles 49-1, 50, 58-3 amended and issued 4 August 2008 per Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-II-0970039639 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan

42. Articles 2, 19-6, 40, and 59 to 63 amended, Articles 59-1, and 62-1 to 62-7 and the titles of Chapter VI, Sections 1 to 4 newly added per 23 December 2008 Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-II-0970067670 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan

43. Article 16 amended and issued per 16 June 2009 Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-Firms-0980029344 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan

44. Article 50 amended and issued per 16 March 2010 Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-Firms-0990011992 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan

45. Articles 4, 18, 19, 26, 31, 49-1, and 53 amended and Article 53-1 added per 9 September 2010 Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-Firms-0990045590 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan

46. Articles 13, 40, 60, and 62-3 amended and Articles 11 and 12 deleted per 11 January 2011 Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-Firms-0990073857 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan

47. Articles 10, 13, 18, 19, 19-6, 21, 26, 28, 37, 46, 47, 49-1, 50, 59, 63, and 64 amended and Article 18-1 added per 10 January 2012 Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-Firms-1000064258 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, Executive Yuan

48. Articles 16, 19, 19-1, 19-4, 19-6, 26, 31-1, 47, 49-1, 55, and 69 amended and Articles 60 to 62-7 and the headings of sections 1 to 4 of Chapter 6 deleted per 11 October 2012 Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-Firms-1010037166 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, for enforcement from the date of issuance, with the exception of Articles 16 and 47, which shall be enforced from the fiscal year of 2013.

49. Articles 2, 7, 14-1, 14-3, 16, 19-1 to 19-3, 19-6, 19-7, 23, 26, 31 to 31-4, 32-1, 37, 50, and 69 amended, Article 37-1 added, and Article 14-2 deleted per 30 December 2013 Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-Firms-1020052856 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, for enforcement from the date of issuance, with the exception of Articles 37 and 37-1, which shall be enforced from 6 January 2014

50. Articles 37-1 and 69 amended and issued per 27 June 2014 Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-Trading-1030024095 of the Financial Supervisory Commission, for enforcement from the date of issuance, with the exception of Article 37-1, which shall be enforced from 30 June 2014

51. Articles 5, 9, 13, 18, 19, 19-2 to 19-4, 26, 38, 50, and 64 amended and issued per 4 February 2015 Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-Firms-1040001299 of the Financial Supervisory Commission

52. Article 9 amended and issued and Article 45-1 added per 28 April 2015 Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-Firms-1040014014 of the Financial Supervisory Commission

53. Articles 5, 53, and 54 amended and issued per 3 July 2015 Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-Firms-1040024927 of the Financial Supervisory Commission

54. Articles 19-7, 24, 31, 33, 36-2, 40 and 41 amended and issued per 12 November 2016 Order No. Financial-Supervisory-Securities-Firms-1040044236 of the Financial Supervisory Commission

Content : Chapter I General Provisions

Article 1

These Regulations are prescribed in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article 44 of the Securities and Exchange Act (hereinafter referred to as "the

Act").

#### Article 2

A securities firm shall, according to the Criteria Governing Internal Control Systems of Services Enterprises in the Securities and Futures Market set by the Financial Supervisory Commission (the FSC), and other securities firm internal control regulations set by the Taiwan Stock Exchange Corporation (the TWSE), and other securities-related institutions, establish its own internal control system.

The operation of securities firm shall be in accordance with laws and regulations, articles of incorporation, and the internal control system referred to in the preceding paragraph.

Any amendments to be made to the internal control system referred to in paragraph 1 per the notice of the FSC or a securities-related institution shall be made within the specified time limit.

#### Article 3

In case of any of the following events, a securities firm shall report to the FSC for approval in advance:

1. Change of name of the firm;
2. Change of capital amount, working capital, or the fund for operating business;
3. Change of the business premises of the firm or its branch office;
4. Acquisition of the entire or major part of the business or assets of another person, or transfer of the entire or major part of the business or assets of the firm to another person;
5. Merger or dissolution;
6. Investment in foreign securities firms;
7. Any other matters which under the regulation of the FSC shall be reported to and approved by the FSC in advance.

Where a securities firm has entered into a contract for using the centralized securities market with the TWSE, matters to be reported and approved as referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be submitted to the TWSE for transmittal to the FSC. Where a securities firm only entered into a contract for trading securities on the Taipei Exchange (the TPEX), the said submission shall be made to the FSC through the TPEX. Where no contract has been entered into, the submission shall be made to the FSC through a securities dealers' association.

#### Article 4

In case any of the following events occurs, a securities firm shall report to the FSC:

1. Where the business operation is commenced, suspended, resumed or terminated;
2. Where, through operating or engaging in securities business, a securities firm, or any of its directors, supervisors, or employees becomes involved in litigation or arbitration, or is subject to compulsory execution as an obligor, or a securities firm is a bankrupt or is refused services or has a check dishonored by a bank;
3. Where any director, supervisor, or manager has any of the conditions referred to in Article 53 of the Act;
4. Where any director, supervisor, or employee has violated the order promulgated by the FSC in accordance with the Act;

5. Where there is any change in the shareholding of any director, supervisor, manager or shareholder holding more than 10 percent of the shares of the company; or

6. Where there is any matter required to be reported by the FSC.

For the matters in subparagraph 1 in the preceding paragraph, the securities firm shall report in advance; for the matters in subparagraphs 2 through 4, the securities firm shall report within 5 days from the date on which it becomes aware thereof or on which the matters occur; for matters in subparagraph 5, the securities firm shall report by the 15th day of the following month.

Where a securities firm has entered into a contract for using the centralized securities market with the TWSE, matters to be reported and approved as referred to in paragraph 1 above shall be submitted to the TWSE for transmittal to the FSC. Where a securities firm only entered into a contract for trading securities on the TPEX, the said submission shall be made to the FSC through the TPEX. Where no contract has been entered into, the submission shall be made to the FSC through a securities dealers' association.

The term "business day," as used in these Regulations, means a trading day on the domestic securities markets.

#### Article 5

A securities firm shall operate its business in a fair and reasonable manner. Factors including operating costs, transaction risks, reasonable profits, and a customer's overall contribution shall be taken into consideration in determining the fees to be collected. It is not permitted to use unreasonable fees to solicit or engage in business.

The advertisements produced and broadcasted by a securities firm shall not be exaggerated or biased.

The self-regulatory rules governing the production and broadcasting of advertisements by securities firms referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be prescribed by the securities dealers' association and submitted to the FSC for recordation.

#### Article 6

A securities firm shall install internal auditors to regularly or from time to time examine the company's finance and business and prepare audit reports and keep them available for audit.

The audit reports referred to in the preceding paragraph shall include comments on the compliance of the company's finance and business with relevant laws and regulations and the internal control system of the company.

#### Article 7

A securities firm which engages in more than two types of securities businesses shall independently operate the business based on the types thereof.

Different departments may be established for the operation of each type of business under the preceding paragraph based on the nature of the business.

#### Article 8

In operating securities business, a securities firm shall have its duly registered qualified associated persons business in accordance with the Regulations Governing the Responsible Persons and Associated Persons of

Securities Firms.

## Chapter II Finance

### Article 9

After completion of corporate registration, a securities firm shall lodge an operation bond with a bank designated by the FSC as follows:

1. A securities underwriter: NT\$40 million.
2. A securities dealer: NT\$10 million.
3. A securities broker: NT\$50 million; if the securities broker operates only equity crowdfunding business, the bond shall be NT\$10 million.
4. Operators of two or more types of securities business: aggregate of the amounts as referred to in the preceding three subparagraphs according to the types of business being engaged in.
5. Branch office: additional NT\$5 million for each branch.

The operation bond referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be paid in cash, government bond, or financial bond.

### Article 10

A securities firm operating the business of accepting brokerage orders to trade securities on the centralized securities exchange market shall make deposits to the TWSE settlement and clearing fund in the following manner:

1. Before commencement of business operation, the securities firm shall deposit a basic amount of NT\$15 million; after commencement of business operation, it shall deposit a specified percentage of the net receipt or net payment amount of the executed trades of TWSE listed securities for which it has accepted brokerage trading orders within 10 days after the close of each quarter until the end of the then-current year. The said percentage shall be separately determined by the FSC.
2. From the year following the commencement of business operation, the original basic amount shall be reduced to NT\$3.5 million and combined into the amount equal to the above-mentioned percentage of the net receipt or net payment amount of the executed trades of TWSE listed securities for which it accepted trading orders for the previous year on a yearly basis. At the end of January of each year, the insufficient or excess amount of the fund shall be deposited with or withdrawn from the TWSE.

Before the commencement of business operation, a securities firm trading securities for its own account on the centralized securities exchange shall make a lump sum deposit of NT\$5 million to the TWSE settlement and clearing fund. After commencement of business operation and from the year following commencement of business operation, in addition to the basic amount, it shall furthermore continue to make deposits to the fund based on a specified percentage of the net receipt or net payment amount of the trades of TWSE listed securities that it has executed for its own account. The method for calculation and lodging of the deposit shall follow that set out in the preceding paragraph.

A securities firm trading securities for customers' accounts and its own account on the centralized securities exchange shall deposit an aggregate of the amounts referred to in the preceding two paragraphs.

Before commencement of business operation of each domestic branch office, a securities firm shall make a lump sum deposit of NT\$3 million to the settlement and clearing fund; provided that from the year following the business operation, the original amount shall be reduced to NT\$500,000.

A joint liability system shall be adopted for the settlement and clearing fund deposited by securities firms, and a special management committee of the fund shall be set up. The management rules shall be drafted by the TWSE with input from the securities dealers' association and reported to the FSC for approval. This provision shall apply to the amendment of the said rules.

The special management committee of the fund may, depending on the degree of overall risk of a securities firm, notify the securities firm to make additional deposits to the settlement and clearing fund and report such to the FSC for recordation. The detailed rules for the above fund shall be drafted by the special management committee of the fund and reported to the FSC for approval. This provision shall apply to the amendment of the said rules.

A securities firm operating over-the-counter securities trading business for customers' accounts or its own account shall make deposits to the TPEX settlement and clearing fund in compliance with the applicable requirements of the TPEX.

Article 11

(deleted)

Article 12

(deleted)

Article 13

Unless a securities firm has obtained special-case approval for its special needs, or is concurrently operated by a financial institution and subject to other relevant acts or regulations, its total debts to other parties shall not be more than 4 times its net worth. The total amount of its current liabilities shall not exceed the total amount of its current assets; provided that, unless otherwise provided by the FSC, the total amount of debts to other parties of a securities firm trading securities for customers' accounts or for its own account shall not exceed its net worth.

In calculating the total amount of liabilities referred to in the preceding paragraph, the liabilities arising from trading of government bonds may be deducted.

Article 14

A securities firm, unless concurrently operated by a financial institution and subject to other relevant acts or regulations, shall, if it has already issued securities pursuant to the Act, set aside a 20 percent special reserve from the annual after-tax profit pursuant to Article 41 of the Act. However, if the accumulated amount reaches the paid-in capital amount, no further fund needs to be set aside.

If it has not issued securities pursuant to the Act, it shall set aside a 20 percent special reserve from the annual after-tax profit. However, if the accumulated amount reaches the paid-in capital amount, no further fund needs to be set aside.

The special reserve referred to in the preceding paragraph shall not be used for purposes other than covering the losses of the company or, when the special reserve reaches 50 percent of the amount of paid-in capital, half of it may be used for capitalization.

Article 14-1

Where any of the following circumstances applies to a securities firm, the FSC may reject its filing to carry out a capital increase for cash or issue corporate bonds; provided, this restriction shall not apply where the reason is a merger of securities firms, or where concrete improvement has been made, and the improvement has been recognized by the FSC:

1. It has been sanctioned by the FSC under Article 66, subparagraph 1 of the Act within the past 3 months.
2. It has been sanctioned by the FSC under Article 66, subparagraph 2 of the Act within the past half year.
3. It has been sanctioned by the FSC under Article 66, subparagraph 3 of the Act within the past 1 year.
4. It has been sanctioned by the FSC under Article 66, subparagraph 4 of the Act within the past 2 years.
5. It has had its trading rights terminated or restricted by the TWSE, the TPEX, or the Taiwan Futures Exchange (the TAIFEX) pursuant to bylaws thereof within the past 1 year.

Calculation of the periods in the subparagraphs of the preceding paragraph shall commence from the date of issuance of the disposition letter by the FSC, the TWSE, the TPEX, or the TAIFEX.

#### Article 14-2

(Deleted).

#### Article 14-3

Where a securities firm files for offering and issuance of securities pursuant to Article 6 of the Criteria Governing the Offering and Issuance of Securities by Securities Issuers, it may refrain from engaging a lead securities underwriter to conduct assessment if it meets the following financial and operational requirements: .

1. None of the circumstances in Article 14-1, paragraph 1 exist.
2. Its financial condition meets the provisions of Articles 13, 14, 16, 18, 18-1 and 19.
3. Its regulatory capital adequacy ratio 6 months prior to the date of reporting is 200 percent or greater.

#### Article 14-4

(deleted)

#### Article 14-5

A securities firm offering and issuing securities shall comply with the provisions of the Criteria Governing the Offering and Issuance of Securities by Securities Issuers or the Criteria Governing the Offering and Issuance of Overseas Securities by Issuers in addition to the provisions of these Regulations.

The FSC shall separately prescribe the required application forms and rules applicable to issuance of securities by securities firms that have not publicly issued stock.

#### Article 15

A securities firm, unless concurrently operated by a financial institution and subject to other relevant acts or regulations, shall not act as a guarantor of any nature, make endorsement for transfer of negotiable instruments, or provide its property as security for other persons without the approval of the FSC.

#### Article 16

A securities firm, unless it is concurrently operated by a financial institution and subject to other relevant laws or regulations, may not purchase real property for non-operating purposes. However, this restriction shall not apply to a securities firm that holds real property for non-operating purposes as a result of a merger, acquisition, branch unit closure, change in or reduction of places of business, or as a result of conducting business, or as approved by the FSC. The sum of the total amount of property and equipment used for operating purposes and the total amount of real property used for non-operating purposes of a securities firm shall not be more than 60 percent of its total assets.

#### Article 17

A securities firm, unless concurrently operated by a financial institution, shall not borrow funds from a non-financial or non-insurance institution; provided that this rule shall not apply to the following:

1. Issuance of commercial paper;
2. Issuance of corporate bonds;
3. Meeting urgent capital needs of the company.

When borrowing funds to meet urgent capital needs referred to in subparagraph 3 of the preceding paragraph, a securities firm shall report to the FSC within 2 days from the date of occurrence of the event.

#### Article 18

Unless a securities firm has obtained approval from the FSC or is concurrently operated by a financial institution and subject to other relevant acts or regulations, its funds not required for business operation shall not be loaned to other persons or used for other purposes; the funds shall be used for the following purposes only:

1. Bank deposits;
2. Purchase of government bonds or financial bonds;
3. Purchase of treasury bills, transferable certificates of deposit, or commercial papers;
4. Purchase of securities in a specific ratio in compliance with FSC provisions; and
5. Other purposes approved by the FSC.

When funds are utilized under subparagraphs 4 and 5 of the preceding paragraph, the total original acquisition cost shall not exceed 30 percent of the securities firm's net worth.

#### Article 18-1

When a securities firm makes equity investment in any securities, futures, financial, or other enterprises, the total amount of its equity investments in those enterprises may not exceed 40 percent of the securities firm's net worth, and shall comply with Article 13 of the Company Act. The FSC shall separately prescribe the scope of individual enterprises within which a securities firm may make equity investment and related provisions.

When a securities firm merges with or acquires a financial institution, if approval is obtained from the FSC, the total amount of the investment therein may be exempted from the restriction in the preceding paragraph. In that event, the amount in excess shall be brought into compliance with the restriction within 6 months after the merger or acquisition.

A securities firm that operates only securities brokerage business, when holding shares in any single company, may do so either by the method in



paragraph 1, subparagraph 4 of the preceding article, or by the equity investment method in paragraph 1 herein, but not by both methods.

#### Article 19

A securities firm trading securities for its own account, unless it is concurrently operated by a financial institution and subject to other relevant acts or regulations, shall do so in accordance with the following rules:

1. The firm shall not hold more than 10 percent of the total issued shares of any domestic company. The total amount of the cost of the securities issued by any domestic company held by such securities firm shall not be more than 20 percent of the securities firm's net worth.
2. The firm shall not hold more than 5 percent of the total issued shares of any foreign company. The total amount of the cost of the securities issued by any foreign company held by the securities firm shall not be more than 20 percent of the securities firm's net worth; however, the total amount of the cost of such securities with equity characteristics shall not be more than 10 percent of the securities firm's net worth.
3. The total amount of the investment cost of a securities firm in holdings of equity securities issued by a single related party may not exceed 5 percent of the firm's net worth. The total amount of the investment cost of a securities firm in holdings of equity securities issued by all related parties may not exceed 10 percent of the firm's net worth. However, these restrictions are exempted in the handling of exercise and hedging operations for call (put) warrants and structured instruments, and in the hedging of beneficial certificates of exchange traded funds and the underlying baskets of stock represented by such beneficial certificates.
4. The total amount of the investment cost of a securities firm in holdings of straight corporate bonds issued by a single securities firm may not exceed 5 percent of the securities firm's net worth. The total amount of the investment cost of a securities firm in holdings of straight corporate bonds issued by all securities firms may not exceed 10 percent of the securities firm's net worth.

The term "related party" in these Regulations is defined as determined in accordance with the Regulations Governing the Preparation of Financial Reports by Securities Firms.

A securities firm, when holding shares in any single company, may do so either by the method of a proprietary trading position or by the equity investment method in paragraph 1 of the preceding article, but not by both methods.

If the aggregate of the securities acquired by a securities firm for underwriting purposes, counted in combination with those acquired under the preceding paragraph, exceeds the limit prescribed by the FSC, the portion in excess shall be sold within 1 year after its acquisition in accordance with Article 75 of the Act.

#### Article 19-1

The FSC shall prescribe the total amount limits, and methods for calculation thereof, on the positions held in foreign securities and the expenditures on derivative financial product transactions of a securities firm trading foreign securities for its own account.

When a securities firm engages in the business of trading foreign

securities for its own account as referred to in the preceding paragraph, if such trading is neither an investment of proprietary funds nor done to meet hedging needs, it shall apply to the Central Bank for permission for any portion involving an inward or outward remittance of funds, and any trading of foreign bonds for its own account shall be done in compliance with the provisions of the TPEX.

#### Article 19-2

Exchange settlement matters for securities firms trading securities denominated in a foreign currency for their own accounts or engaging in derivative financial product trading shall be handled in accordance with the Regulations Governing the Reporting of Foreign Exchange Receipts and Disbursements or Transactions.

A securities firm may conduct the trading referred to in the preceding paragraph only in the capacity of a customer, through a designated bank approved by the Central Bank to conduct derivative foreign exchange product business, or through an overseas financial institution.

Except as otherwise provided by the Central Bank, a securities firm trading securities denominated in a foreign currency for its own account, when conducting payment of settlement funds and fees by remittance of the exchange of New Taiwan Dollars or of the original foreign currency from Taiwan to the overseas settlement account, or when having fees remitted back into Taiwan from abroad, shall do so through a segregated foreign exchange deposit account in the selected foreign currency that it has opened at a designated foreign exchange bank.

#### Article 19-3

A securities firm meeting the qualifying requirements listed below may operate derivative financial product trading business at its business premises, and shall do so in accordance with the provisions of the TPEX:

1. It must be an integrated securities firm that concurrently engages in brokerage, underwriting, and dealership business
2. Its CPA audited or reviewed financial report for the most recent period shows no accumulated deficit, and its financial condition meets the provisions of Articles 13, 14, 16, 18, 18-1 and 19.
3. It must have reported a regulatory capital adequacy ratio meeting the requirements of the FSC for each of the most recent 6 months.
4. It must be free of any of the following circumstances:
  - A. Any sanction, during the preceding 3 months, under Article 66, subparagraph 1 of the Act or Article 100, paragraph 1, subparagraph 1 of the Futures Exchange Act.
  - B. Any sanction, during the preceding 6 months, equal to or greater than those under Article 66, subparagraph 2 of the Act or Article 100, paragraph 1, subparagraph 2 of the Futures Trading Act.
  - C. Any sanction imposed by the FSC during the preceding year requiring a suspension of business.
  - D. Any sanction imposed by the FSC during the preceding 2 years voiding approval for any part of its business.
  - E. Any sanction during the preceding 1 year whereby the TPEX, the TWSE, or the Taiwan Futures Exchange Corporation (the TAIIFEX), acting pursuant to its operating rules or bylaws, has suspended or restricted the firm's trading privileges.

Any securities firm in non-conformance with the conditions of subparagraph 4 of the preceding paragraph but that has made concrete improvement and has satisfied the FSC thereof shall not be subject to the restrictions of that subparagraph.

#### Article 19-4

Securities firms operating derivative financial product trading business that involves foreign exchange operations shall apply to the Central Bank for permission for any portion involving an inward or outward remittance of funds.

Securities firms operating business referred to in the preceding paragraph and engaging in related hedge trades shall handle exchange settlement matters in accordance with the Regulations Governing the Reporting of Foreign Exchange Receipts and Disbursements or Transactions and related provisions.

A securities firm may, in the capacity of customer, conduct hedge trading through a designated bank approved by the Central Bank to conduct derivative foreign exchange product business, or through an overseas financial institution.

For a securities firm operating business referred to in paragraph 1, matters relating to settlement of funds, payment and receipt of fees, and payment of funds upon early rescission or expiration of contracts shall be carried out according to the following:

1. When denominated in New Taiwan Dollars, all settlement of funds and payment and receipt of fees with a customer shall be carried out in New Taiwan Dollars.
2. When denominated in a foreign currency, all settlement of funds and payment and receipt of fees with a customer shall be carried out in foreign currency. The customer's payment of funds may be carried out by transfer from its own foreign exchange deposit account. Where foreign exchange settlement is required, it shall be carried out by the customer at a designated foreign exchange bank in accordance with the Regulations Governing the Reporting of Foreign Exchange Receipts and Disbursements or Transactions.
3. Upon early rescission by the customer or expiration of the contract, the securities firm shall deposit the funds receivable by the customer in its New Taiwan Dollar or foreign exchange deposit account on the settlement date based on the currency stipulated in the contract.

A securities firm operating business referred to in paragraph 1 shall submit a monthly operations statement to the foreign exchange authority and the TPEX by the 5th business day after the end of each business month.

A securities firm operating trading business in structured instruments linked to foreign financial products shall submit a monthly operations statement on its trading business in structured instruments linked to foreign financial products to the foreign exchange authority and the TPEX by the 5th business day after the end of each business month.

#### Article 19-5

A securities firm operating equity-linked derivative financial product trading business at its place of business may not make any use of such trading to carry out mergers or acquisitions or unlawful trades on its own behalf or in cooperation with its clients.

#### Article 19-6

Derivative financial product trading business operated by a securities firm may not be linked to any of the below-listed underlyings, unless it is in trading with a professional institutional investor and an application has been made under Article 19-7:

1. Securities privately placed domestically or abroad.
2. Certificates of beneficial interest that are issued overseas by domestic securities investment trust enterprises and are not listed for trading on a securities market.
3. Any Taiwan stock index compiled by a domestic or foreign institution and related financial commodities, provided that this restriction shall not apply to an index compiled by the TPEX or the TWSE, either singly or in cooperation.
4. Any foreign exchange product involving a requirement of approval by the Central Bank.

#### Article 19-7

A securities firm that will engage with a professional institutional investor in a derivative financial product trade involving a linked underlying set out in Article 19-6, subparagraphs 1 to 3 shall submit an application to the TPEX with the relevant documentation. The TPEX will forward the application to the FSC, and such a trade may take place only subsequent to the FSC's first issuance of an approval to a securities firm for such a trade. An application must be submitted to the Central Bank for any trade of a derivative financial product set out in Article 19-6, subparagraph 4.

The term "professional institutional investor" as used in Article 19-6, and the preceding paragraph means the professional institutional investors as defined in Article 3 of the Regulations Governing Offshore Structured Products.

#### Article 20

Except in a case involving its equity investment in another enterprise as approved by the FSC, a securities firm, when exercising rights on any company shares that it has acquired shall do so for the greatest benefit of the company and may not directly or indirectly participate in the operation of the issuer company or other inappropriate actions.

Except where otherwise provided by law or regulation, a securities firm exercising voting rights of stock it holds in a public company shall dispatch a personnel member to attend and do so as its representative.

#### Article 21

Within 3 months after the close of each fiscal year, a securities firm shall publicly announce and report to the FSC the annual financial reports audited and attested by certified public accounts, approved by the board of directors, and recognized by the supervisors; within 2 months after close of each half fiscal year, it shall publish and report to the FSC the financial reports audited and attested by certified public accountants, approved by the board of directors, and recognized by the supervisors.

Where the stocks of such securities firm have been listed on the TWSE or the TPEX, the provisions of Article 36 of the Act shall be complied with. Auditing and attestation of the financial reports referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be performed jointly by two or more practicing

certified public accountants of a joint accounting firm approved by the FSC in accordance with the Regulations Governing Approval of Certified Public Accountants to Audit and Attest to the Financial Reports of Public Companies.

A securities firm shall submit to the FSC its monthly accounting summary for the preceding month by the 10th day of each month.

Where a securities firm has entered into a contract for using the centralized securities market with the TWSE, submission of matters referred to in paragraph 1 and the preceding paragraph shall be made to the FSC through the TWSE. Where a securities firm only entered into a contract for trading securities on the TPEX, the said submission shall be made to the FSC through the TPEX. Where no has been entered into, the submission shall be made to the FSC through a securities dealers' association.

### Chapter III Business Operation

#### Article 22

Where a securities firm underwrites securities on a firm commitment basis, the total underwriting amount shall not be more than 15 times the balance of its current assets less current liabilities. Within such amount, the total amount of firm commitment securities underwriting by overseas branch offices of the securities firm shall not be more than 5 times the balance of its current assets less current liabilities.

Where the regulatory capital adequacy ratio of a securities firm is less than 120 percent, the multiple for total firm commitment securities underwriting under the preceding paragraph may be adjusted to 10, and the multiple for total firm commitment underwriting by overseas branch offices thereof may be adjusted to 3. Where it is less than 100 percent, the total firm commitment underwriting multiple may be adjusted to 5, and overseas branch offices thereof shall not underwrite securities on a firm commitment basis.

#### Article 23

A securities firm that underwrites securities on a firm commitment basis by subscribing securities before putting them for re- sale or specifying in the underwriting contract that a portion of the securities covered in the contract shall be subscribed by the securities firm for its own account in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 71 of the Act shall meet the conditions listed below; however, if a securities firm does not meet the condition in subparagraph 2, but the period of the suspension of business has expired, and concrete improvement has been made, and the improvement has been recognized by the FSC, it may be exempted therefrom:

1. Its financial condition meets the provisions of Articles 13, 14, 16, 18, 18-1 and 19.
2. The securities firm has not been sanctioned by any suspension of business imposed by the FSC in accordance with Article 66 of the Act during the most recent half year due to underwriting related business.

#### Article 24

A securities firm that underwrites securities shall make a public announcement of the underwriting and shall publish such announcement in local daily newspapers. Matters to be published shall include the method for deciding the offering price and a description of the basis of pricing, conclusions of the assessment report of the securities firm, the place

where the prospectus is available and the method to obtain such prospectus. A securities firm that underwrites straight corporate bonds shall not be subject to the restrictions of the preceding subparagraph regarding the publishing of such announcement in local daily newspapers, if the sales target is limited to professional institutional investors as specified in the Taipei Exchange Rules Governing Management of Foreign Currency Denominated International Bonds, and the underwriting announcement has been published on the website of the securities dealers association.

If the offering price referred to in paragraph 1 is decided through negotiations between the securities underwriter and the issuer or holder of the securities, in addition to the matters referred to paragraph 1, the public announcement shall include financial information based on which the offering price is decided and the audited opinion of the certified public accountants on the financial information. In calculation of the profitability of each share, the financial information based on which the offering price is decided shall fully reflect the dilution effect caused by the increase of issued shares. The calculation basis of information obtained from different sources of different time periods shall be consistent.

#### Article 25

When a securities underwriter is mandated to handle matters relating to the offering, issuing, TWSE listing, or TPEX listing of securities, the assessment report, conclusion opinion and relevant information provided by it shall not have any of the following conditions:

1. Containing false statement or concealment which would mislead others;
2. Containing material omission or obvious errors which would affect investment judgment;
3. Failing to prepare work sheets or failing to keep work sheets according to regulation; adopted so that objective and reasonable evidence is not obtained;
4. The issuer violates Articles 7 and 8 of the Guidelines for Handling Offering and Issuance of Securities by Issuers or Article 8 of the Regulations Governing the Offering and Issuance of Securities by Foreign Securities Issuers, and its application shall be returned; however, if the underwriter can prove that he has exercised as much care as possible, this is not applicable;
5. The underwriter fails to conduct necessary assistance and assessment on major items that require assessment, thus causing major difference between assessment conclusions and facts;
6. After the assessment report or conclusion opinion is submitted, and before the prospectus is printed and published, if the company has a condition that will materially affect shareholders' interests or the price of securities under Article 36, paragraph 2, subparagraph 2 of the Securities and Exchange Act and the underwriter does not immediately carry out supplementation and updating; or
7. Violating other securities laws and regulations and other relevant laws and regulations.

#### Article 26

If any of the following events exists between a securities underwriter and an issuer, such underwriter shall not act as the lead underwriter of the

said issuance:

1. Where either party and its parent company, and all of the subsidiaries of its parent company, aggregately hold 10 percent or more of the total shares of the other party.
2. Where either party and its subsidiaries appoint more than half of the directors of the other party.
3. Where the board chairman or president of either party is the spouse or a relative within the second degree or closer of the board chairman or president of the other party.
4. Where 20 percent or more of the total number of shares of either party is held by the same shareholder.
5. Where half or more of the directors or supervisors of either party are the same as the directors or supervisors of the other party; the spouses, children, and relatives within the second degree or closer of the said persons count as "the same".
6. Where either party and related parties hold a total of 50 percent or more of the total issued shares of the other party. However, where the securities underwriter is a subsidiary securities firm of a financial institution or a financial holding company, this restriction shall not apply if the total shares of the issuing company held aggregately by the subsidiary's parent company, and by all subsidiaries of the parent company, do not exceed 10 percent of the total issued shares of the issuing company, and neither the director nor supervisor seats of the issuing company held by such companies exceed one-third of the director or supervisor seats, respectively.
7. Where the two parties, according to the relevant laws or regulations, must apply for combination, or have filed with the Fair Trade Commission for combination and have not had the combination prohibited thereby.
8. Where, under the regulations of other laws or in actuality, either party directly or indirectly controls the personnel, financial, or business affairs of the other party.

If an issuer issues straight corporate bonds, or financial bonds without equity characteristics, and the sales target is limited to professional institutional investors as specified in the Taipei Exchange Rules Governing Management of Foreign Currency Denominated International Bonds, the lead underwriter is exempt from the restrictions of paragraph 1. If the issuer qualifies as a securities underwriter, it may also act as the lead underwriter.

The terms "parent company" and "subsidiaries" in these Regulations are defined as determined in accordance with the Regulations Governing the Preparation of Financial Reports by Securities Firms.

#### Article 27

The securities subscribed to by a securities firm under the first part of paragraph 2 of Article 81 of the Act shall be re-sold within the underwriting period as prescribed in the underwriting agreement.

The provisions of Article 24 shall apply mutatis mutandis to the public announcement for the re-sale by the securities firm referred to in the preceding paragraph.

If the securities for re-sale under paragraph 1 above is not fully sold, the unsold portion shall be sold in accordance with Article 75 of the Act.

#### Article 28

A securities firm shall underwrite securities by fair and reasonable means. Underwriting fees collected may not, by any means or under any name, be reimbursed or refunded to the issuer, or to any related party thereof, or to any person designated by the issuer or a related party thereof.

A securities firm shall underwrite or re-sell securities in accordance with the handling rules prescribed by the securities dealers' association.

The securities dealers' association shall submit the handling rules referred to in the preceding paragraph to the FSC for approval.

When a securities firm underwrites or re-sells listed securities, it may conduct stabilized operation transactions when necessary. Regulations governing the administration thereof shall be prescribed by the TWSE and submitted to the FSC for approval.

#### Article 29

When a securities firm underwrites securities, it shall mandate a bank to establish a separate account to collect prices on its behalf unless the securities are delivered on the spot.

The prices collected under the preceding paragraph shall not be used unless and until a certificate evidencing payment or the securities sold are delivered to the subscriber.

#### Article 29-1

A securities firm underwriting securities shall create and keep a file recording the sales results for the securities and the quantity of its own subscription, following the format and content set out in the handling rules prescribed by the securities dealers' association under Article 28 hereof. The FSC may require the securities firm to provide relevant materials at any time.

A securities firm shall preserve relevant materials in underwriting cases referred to in the preceding paragraph for at least 5 years after the conclusion of the underwriting period.

#### Article 30

In trading securities for its own account or selling the securities acquired by underwriting, a securities firm shall efficiently adjust the demand and supply in the market depending on the market situation, and ensure that the formation of fair price and its sound operation are not harmed.

#### Article 30-1

A securities firm operating derivative financial product business may not damage fair market price formation or investor rights and interests when conducting hedging operations or when calculating product gains or carrying out settlement upon cancellation or expiration.

#### Article 31

A securities firm trading securities for its own account shall adopt a trading policy and related procedures. Except as otherwise provided by the FSC, the operational procedures for trade analysis, decision-making, execution, change, and review shall be included in its internal control system.

The materials referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be recorded in chronological order and kept in files. They shall be preserved for a period of not less than 5 years.



#### Article 31-1

For a securities firm trading foreign securities for its own account or engaging in foreign derivative financial product transactions, the scope of the foreign securities, types of foreign derivative financial products, and foreign trading markets shall be determined by the FSC.

#### Article 31-2

A securities firm trading foreign securities for its own account or engaging in foreign derivative financial product transactions shall adopt handling procedures, which shall be implemented after approval by the board of directors, as shall any amendments thereto.

The handling procedures under the preceding paragraph shall include all the following items:

1. Trading principles and policies: shall include types of underlyings traded, trading or hedging strategies, setting of position limits.
2. Trading procedures: shall include hierarchy of responsibility, trading process, division of powers and duties of relevant departments, procedures for preservation of trading records.
3. Risk management measures: shall include risk management scope, risk management procedures, methods and frequency of position evaluation, production and review of position evaluation reports, irregularity reports and procedures for follow-up surveillance.
4. Audit procedures: shall include internal audit and self-inspection, frequency and scope of audits, audit reports and procedures for correction and follow-up of deficiencies.

#### Article 31-3

A securities firm trading foreign securities for its own account or engaging in foreign derivative financial product transactions shall not be involved in any of the following:

1. Engaging in margin transactions.
2. Engaging in trading or transactions with any overseas affiliated enterprise; provided, this restriction shall not apply where it mandates the affiliated enterprise to trade or transact on its behalf.

"Affiliated enterprise" in the preceding paragraph shall be as defined in the Affiliated Enterprises chapter of the Company Act.

#### Article 31-4

A securities firm trading foreign securities for its own account or engaging in foreign derivative financial product transactions, and whose regulatory capital adequacy ratio is lower than the requirement set by the FSC for 3 consecutive months, may only sell or close out its existing positions, and may not engage in any further trading or transactions, unless its regulatory capital adequacy ratio has already been corrected.

#### Article 32

Unless otherwise provided by law or regulation, a securities firm trading securities for its own account on the centralized securities exchange shall not give a quote for the sale of securities not held by it.

A securities firm concurrently operated by a financial institution that uses its own fund and the trust fund to conduct cross-trades for its own account of the same kind of securities on the same day shall be subject to the provisions of Article 108 of the Banking Act and report such transactions to the FSC for recordation.

#### Article 32-1

As needed for hedging in the issuance of call (put) warrants and the operation at its place of business of structured instruments and equity derivatives, a securities firm may borrow and sell, or sell short, the underlying securities, exempt from the restriction that the selling price of the securities borrowed or sold short may not be lower than the closing price of the previous business day.

A securities firm selling securities by borrowing them as referred to in the preceding paragraph shall enter into a loan contract with the lender of the securities. The following particulars shall be specified in the loan contract:

1. Name, volume, period, and rate of the loaned securities.
2. Means of exercise of shareholders' rights of the loaned underlying securities.
3. The means of reimbursement by the securities firm of the rights/dividend value to the lender for ex-rights/ex-dividend dates of the loaned securities (including the means of calculation, whether reimbursement is to be made in cash or securities, and the reimbursement date).
4. Means stipulated between the parties for return of the securities upon expiry of the contract (including whether or not the securities may be refunded as cash).
5. Means stipulated between the parties for handling of breach and related matters of damages.

#### Article 33

When a securities firm enters into a brokerage agreement with its customer, it shall explain the contents of the contract and the relevant procedures for trading securities.

#### Article 34

A securities firm accepting orders to trade securities shall establish the following information on its customers:

1. Name, domicile, and mailing address;
2. Occupation and age;
3. Assets status;
4. Investment experience;
5. Reason of opening account; and
6. Other necessary information.

A securities firm shall keep confidential the information referred to in the preceding paragraph unless being inquired according to law.

#### Article 35

A securities firm accepting orders to trade securities shall evaluate a customer's investment ability based on the information referred to in the preceding article and transaction conditions. If the evaluation of a customer's credit status shows that the customer's order is beyond his/her investment ability, unless proper security is furnished, the securities firm may refuse the order for trading.

#### Article 35-1

For trades of a certain dollar amount or greater, or suspected to involve money laundering, the securities firm shall keep trade documentation sufficient for a full and complete understanding of the trade, records of verification of the customer's identity, and reporting records, and shall

comply with the Money Laundering Control Act.

#### Article 36

When a securities broker recommends that a customer trade in a securities, it shall first evaluate the customer's investment ability and that the customer possesses reasonable information and shall not guarantee the value of the recommended securities.

When a securities broker recommends that a customer trade in a securities, if such securities are to be traded on the centralized securities exchange, it shall follow the rules prescribed by the TWSE; if the securities are to be traded on the TPEX, it shall follow the rules prescribed by the same. The above-mentioned rules shall be reported to the FSC for approval.

#### Article 36-1

Where a department of a securities firm that concurrently operates securities investment consulting services or futures advisory services (hereinafter, collectively, "consulting services department") produces research reports, or a department of a securities firm that concurrently operates a securities investment consulting enterprise handling discretionary investment services ("discretionary investment department") produces analysis reports or investment strategies for customers, personnel other than of those departments shall not participate in composing or reviewing the reports.

Within two hours from the time market trading hours begin after a research report provided by a consulting services department of a securities firm is publicly disclosed, other departments and personnel apart from that department may not engage in any trading of any security recommended in the research report, unless otherwise provided by the FSC.

"Market" in the preceding paragraph refers to the TWSE, the TPEX, and the TAIFEX .

The compensation or bonuses paid to personnel of a consulting services department or discretionary investment department of a securities firm shall not be directly linked to the performance of any other department.

#### Article 36-2

When an underwriting department of a securities firm underwrites securities, during the period from the time the securities firm enters into an advisory contract with a public issuer until the termination of the advisory relationship, or from the time the securities firm enters into an underwriting contract with a TWSE listed or TPEX listed company until the deadline for payment, its consulting services department shall not recommend any trading of that security or any derivative financial product thereof; a discretionary investment department may not purchase securities for a customer without first explicitly informing the customer of any related conflicts of interest and control measures and then obtaining the customer's consent on an instance-by-instance basis, and specifically stating the quantity of the securities that may be purchased.

When an underwriting department of a securities firm obtains securities through a firm commitment underwriting, the provisions of the preceding paragraph shall apply mutatis mutandis to the handling of those securities by the consulting services department and discretionary investment department of the securities firm until such time as all the procedures of the firm commitment underwriting have been completed in accordance with

regulations.

#### Article 37

Unless otherwise provided by the laws and regulations, a securities firm operating securities business shall not:

1. Provide opinion on the rise or drop of the price of securities to induce customers to trade;
2. Agree to or provide specified interest or to share losses to induce customers to trade;
3. Provide account for customers to subscribe to and/or trade securities;
4. Commit false, fraudulent, or other misleading act in providing information of securities to customers;
5. Accept general authorization from customers in connection with the type, quantity, price, and purchase or sale of securities;
6. Accept settlement of customers who use the same account for offsetting purchase against sale or offsetting sale against purchase of the same type of securities, provided that this restriction does not apply if the requirements of Article 37-1 are met;
7. Accept settlement of customers who use different accounts for offsetting purchase against sale or offsetting sale against purchase of the same type of securities;
8. Directly or indirectly set up fixed places outside the business premises of the head office or branch office to accept orders for securities trading;
9. Directly or indirectly set up fixed places outside the business premises of the head office or branch office to sign brokerage agreements with customers or settle securities transactions; however, this restriction shall not apply where the FSC has provided otherwise;
10. Accept securities transactions of a customer who has not signed a brokerage contract;
11. Accept the company's director, supervisor, or employee as an agent for others for the account opening, subscription, trade, or settlement of securities;
12. Accept from any person other than the customer himself/herself the customer's instructions for account opening; however, this is not applicable for those in accordance with other regulations set by the FSC;
13. Accept from any person other than the customer himself/herself or an agent without a power of attorney issued by the customer's instructions for subscription, trade, or settlement.;
14. Knowingly accept a trading order from a customer who intends to use an issuer's non-public information which may materially affect the price of its stocks or who intends to manipulate the prices of the market;
15. Use the name or account of a customer to subscribe to and/or trade securities;
16. Disclose, not in response to inquiries given in accordance with laws and regulations, the contents of orders placed by a customer or other secrets obtained in the course of operation of business;
17. Misappropriate the securities or funds owned by a customer or temporarily kept under the custody of the securities firm in the course of business;
18. Safekeep the securities, funds, seal, or passbook under its custody for

its customers;

19. Directly or indirectly provide funds or securities to customers in connection with margin purchases or short sales to effect settlement without the FSC's approval;

20. Violate settlement obligation to the securities exchange market;

21. Use personnel other than securities firm personnel to solicit business, or pay unreasonable commission; or

22. Conduct other acts in violation of laws and regulations governing securities or orders of the FSC on mandatory or unpermitted acts.

#### Article 37-1

When a securities firm, in brokerage trading of securities, accepts customer settlement by means of mutually offsetting an equal quantity of cash purchases and spot sales of the same security that have been executed through the same account on the same business day, it shall do so in accordance with the Operational Rules Governing Day Trades of Securities as adopted by the Taiwan Stock Exchange and the GreTai Securities Market. The types and scope of the securities under the preceding paragraph shall be separately prescribed by the FSC.

#### Article 38

A securities firm accepting orders to trade securities shall establish a separate demand deposit account with a bank for paying and receiving settlement funds of the customer. The funds in the said account shall not be used for other purposes.

A securities firm may, with the consent of the customer, retain the customer's settlement funds in the securities firm's settlement account. The securities firm shall set up a separate account ledger for each customer in the settlement account, and record therein on a daily basis the itemized receipts and payments of funds, and shall retain the record. The securities firm may not utilize such funds except for making payments of funds payable on behalf of the customer.

#### Article 39

A securities firm accepting orders to trade securities shall clear and settle transactions in the manner provided in the Operating Rules of the TWSE or the Taipei Exchange Rules Governing Securities Trading on the TPEX.

#### Article 40

A securities firm accepting orders to trade securities shall not place the securities deposited by the customers under its custody. It shall handle the securities pursuant to the regulations of the centralized securities depository.

#### Article 41

A securities firm accepting orders to trade securities shall collect or deliver the funds or securities within the time limit for settlement.

#### Article 42

A securities firm accepting orders to trade securities shall prepare a trade report for signing/sealing by the customer after the customer executes a trade; provided that the trade report may be waived if the securities firm is concurrently operated by a financial institution, and the delivery of funds for trading the securities may be verified through the separate saving account of the customer.

If the trade report referred to in the preceding paragraph is confirmed by

an agent engaged by the customer to trade securities on its behalf, a power of attorney issued by the customer shall be provided.

If the funds and securities of the customers of a securities firm accepting orders to trade securities are settled through book-entry transfer, or trade confirmation has been carried out and records have been kept, the signing/sealing referred to in paragraph 1 above may be waived, and Article 28, paragraph 1 of the Rules Governing Book-entry Operations of securities in Centralized Custody regarding recordation on passbook shall not apply.

#### Article 43

A securities firm trading securities on centralized stock exchange for its own account and customers' accounts shall establish separate accounts for placing orders and settlement. After placing orders, no inter-change between the accounts shall be allowed.

#### Article 44

When a securities firm accepts orders to trade securities, it shall not use information obtained from a trading order to take the opposite side of the customer's order for trading in its own account; provided that this provision shall not apply if the securities firm engages in securities trading on the TPEX and based on the quotation it should sell the securities and concurrently places an order for purchase.

#### Article 45

While operating its securities business, when a securities firm obtains information which may materially affect the price of the stocks listed on the TWSE or traded on the TPEX, it shall not trade on such stocks or provide the said information to its customers or other persons before the information becomes public.

#### Article 45-1

Securities firms operating equity crowdfunding business shall do so in accordance with applicable rules adopted by the TPEX.

A securities firm that operates only equity crowdfunding business is not subject to the provisions of Article 2, Article 5, Article 6, Article 13, Article 14, Article 18, Article 18-1, Article 21, Chapter V, and Chapter VI.

#### Chapter IV Merger

#### Article 46

Securities firms applying for merger shall meet the following conditions:

1. The regulatory capital adequacy ratio has reached 200 percent or more 6 months before the merger.
2. The pro forma consolidated regulatory capital adequacy ratio shall reach 200 percent 1 month before the application.
3. Have not been subject to a disposition under Article 66, subparagraphs 2 to 4 of the Act or under paragraph Article 100, paragraph 1, subparagraphs 2 to 4 of the Futures Trading Act or under Article 103, subparagraphs 2 to 5 of the Securities Investment Trust and consulting Act within the last 6 months.
4. In the most recent 1 year, the TWSE and TPEX have found, according to their inspection of the condition of internal control operations of the applicant's head office and branches to be satisfactory and meeting the standards set by the FSC.

In the case that the securities firm applying for merger does not meet the

criteria in the preceding paragraph, the FSC may approve the application as a special case based on the goals of facilitating the healthy expansion of the securities market and increasing the competitiveness of securities firms.

#### Article 47

Securities firms applying for merger shall provide the following documents to the FSC:

1. The application.
2. Merger plan: shall specify the content of the merger plan (including particulars such as the merger method, evaluation of economic efficiency, post-merger business regions, business items, business development plan, and financial forecasts for the next 3 years) and analyze the forecasted timetable, feasibility, necessity, rationality, and legality and assessment of the factors for consideration under Article 6 of the Financial Institutions Merger Act.
3. Merger contract: in addition to the particulars required under Article 8, paragraph 2 of the Financial Institutions Merger Act, shall also include material particulars such as treatment of employee equity.
4. Minutes of the general shareholders meetings of the institutions to survive and to be extinguished. However, a securities firm conducting a merger under Article 18, paragraph 6, or Article 19, of the Business Mergers and Acquisitions Act may substitute the minutes of the board of directors meeting.
5. Content of the merger resolutions (board of directors meeting minutes) and documentation of publication (notification) of relevant required contract content.
6. Information on prospective shareholders seeking to purchase shares.
7. Certified public accountant's opinion on the reasonableness of the share conversion ratio for the merger and valuation method.
8. An itemized report on the pro forma consolidated regulatory capital adequacy ratio at the end of the month before the merger.
9. Balance sheets, statements of comprehensive income, inventories of assets, statements of changes in equity, and cash flow statements audited and attested by the certified public accountant for the record date of the merger share swap.
10. Legal opinion of an attorney at law.
11. Consent letter, or documentation, of compliance by the TWSE listed or TPEX listed securities firm with the merger-related provisions of the Operating Rules of the Taiwan Stock Exchange or the Taipei Exchange Rules Governing Securities Trading on the TPEX.
12. Other documents required by the FSC.

For a securities firm to be newly created by a merger, in addition to complying with requirements of the preceding paragraph, the promoters of the securities firm to be newly created shall apply to the FSC for approval of establishment, annexing the following documents:

1. Roster of promoters.
2. Minutes of the promoters' meeting.
3. Certification of qualifications of presidents, vice presidents, and assistant vice presidents.
4. Articles of incorporation of the securities firm to be newly created.

5. Other documents required by the FSC to be submitted.

The formats of the documents required under the preceding two paragraphs shall be prescribed by the FSC.

#### Article 48

Where the securities firm surviving after the merger is a TWSE listed or TPEX listed securities firm, the securities firm shall have the certified public accountant make a special auditing of its internal control system within 6 months after the merger, and after sending the report to the TWSE or the TPEX, respectively, for inspection, shall file it with the FSC for recordation.

### Chapter V Investment In Foreign And Mainland Chinese Securities Enterprises

#### Article 49

Investment by securities firms in foreign enterprises shall be limited to investments set forth in the following subparagraphs:

1. Securities enterprises, including securities, futures, and financial business they are allowed to operate under the local laws and regulations of the country of the investment.
2. Other related enterprises in which the FSC has approved investment.

#### Article 49-1

Securities firms or their subsidiaries investing in securities or futures institutions in the Mainland China area shall comply with the provisions of the Regulations Governing Approval and Management of Securities and Futures Transactions and Investment Between the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area. Securities firms or their subsidiaries investing in non-securities/non-futures institutions in the Mainland China area shall apply to the FSC for permission.

#### Article 50

A securities firm applying to invest in a foreign enterprise, unless otherwise provided by laws or regulations, shall meet the requirements listed below; however, if a securities firm does not meet a condition in subparagraphs 1 to 5, but concrete improvement has been made, and the improvement has been recognized by the FSC, it may be exempted therefrom:

1. Have not received any disciplinary warning from the FSC in the most recent 3 months.
2. Have not been ordered by the FSC to relieve or replace the duties of its director, supervisor, or manager in the most recent 6 months.
3. Have not had business suspended as punishment from the FSC within the last 1 year.
4. Have not had the license of branch offices or of a portion of the business invalidated by the FSC as punishment within the last 2 years.
5. Have not had trading terminated or restricted by the TWSE, the TPEX, or the TAIIFEX as punishment under each of their regulations or rules.
6. The regulatory capital adequacy ratio has not been below 200 percent within the most recent 3 months, and its CPA audited or reviewed financial report for the most recent period shows no accumulated deficit, and its financial condition meets the provisions of Articles 13, 14, 16, 18, 18-1 and 19, provided that the requirement regarding the aforementioned regulatory capital adequacy ratio does not apply if special-case approval has been obtained due to special needs.
7. The combined total amount invested in foreign enterprises plus the funds



that a securities firm establishing an overseas branch office(s) appropriates there for local operations and the amount invested in Mainland China enterprises do not exceed 40 percent of the securities' firm's net worth. However, when there is special need and approval as a special case has been received, this provision does not apply.

#### Article 51

Securities firms applying for investment in a newly formed foreign enterprise shall provide the following documents to the FSC in their application:

1. The company's articles of incorporation/by laws or a document equivalent to the company's constitution/regulations.
2. The plan for investment, the contents of which shall include the following items:
  - A. The plan for investment including: the purpose of investment, the estimated effect, the origin of capital, the implementation plan, the operation plan, the recapitalization plan, etc. If the type of investment is company, then its reinvestment plan shall be included as well.
  - B. Guidelines for business operations including: the establishment location, amount of capital, the business to be operated, the scope/items of business, business operation strategies, etc. of the company.
  - C. Structure and functions of the organization including: a chart of the organization of the company or a group organizational chart for a holding company, functions and allocation of duties of departments, etc.
  - D. Personnel plan including: personnel allocation/structuring, personnel training, and regulations of personnel management, etc.
  - E. Condition of the site and facilities including: site layout, the summary of important equipment/facilities, etc.
  - F. Financial projection for the next 3 years including: opening costs, financial estimates and notes for financial statement for the next 3 years, etc.
3. The minutes of the board of directors' or board of governors' meeting or minutes of the shareholders' meeting resolution.
4. The most recent financial report, audited and attested or reviewed by the certified public accountant.
5. Management/administration rules shall be set up for those invested or sub-invested foreign enterprises where the investment shareholding percentage is 50 percent or above. The contents of such management/administration rules shall include the following items:
  - A. the scope of management
  - B. the direction and principles of management
  - C. the management of financial, business, and accounting affairs.
  - D. the management of assets
  - E. the financial statements to be regularly prepared
  - F. the method of regular auditing of internal financial and business affairs
  - G. others, such as: management of personnel operations, internal control auditing of the invested enterprises, etc.
6. A list detailing the domestic and foreign invested enterprises as of the date of application.
7. Other documents required by the FSC.

#### Article 52

Securities firms applying for investment in foreign enterprises shall provide the following documents to the FSC with the application for an approval:

1. The company's articles of incorporation/bylaws or a document equivalent to the company's constitution/regulations.
2. The plan for investment including: the purpose of investment, the estimated effect, the origin of capital, the recapitalization plan, the estimated income/expenses/profits of the invested foreign enterprise of each year for the next 3 years, etc.
3. The minutes of the board of directors' or board of governors' meeting or minutes of the shareholders' meeting resolution.
4. The most recent financial report, audited and attested or reviewed by the certified public accountant.
5. Management/administration rules shall be set up for those invested or sub-invested foreign enterprises where the investment shareholding percentage has exceeded 50 percent. The contents of such management/administration rules shall include the following items:
  - A. the scope of management
  - B. the direction and principles of management
  - C. the management of financial, business, and accounting affairs.
  - D. the management of assets
  - E. the financial statements to be regularly prepared
  - F. the method of regular auditing of internal financial and business affairs
  - G. others, such as: management of personnel operations, internal control auditing of the invested enterprises, etc.
6. A list detailing the domestic and foreign invested enterprises as of the date of application.
7. General description of the invested foreign enterprise including: a synopsis of the company, the company organization, capital and shares, scope of business, and financial condition for the most recent 3 fiscal years, etc.
8. The investment (or joint venture) agreement.
9. Other documents required by the FSC.

#### Article 53

When any of the following circumstances occurs in connection with any investment by the securities firm as approved by the FSC, the securities firm shall immediately report the reasons to the FSC along with relevant documentation:

1. Change in business items or material operating policies.
2. Change in authorized capital resulting in a change in the original shareholding ratio of the securities firm or its third-region overseas subsidiary.
3. Material equity investment in another company.
4. Dissolution or suspension of operations.
5. Change in the institution's name.
6. Merger with another financial institution, or assignment to or receipt of assignment from another of all or a major part of assets or operations.
7. Occurrence of reorganization, liquidation, or bankruptcy.

8. Occurrence or foreseeable occurrence of any instance of material loss.
9. Material violation of law or regulation or the voidance or revocation of the business permit by the overseas competent authority.
10. Any other material matter.

For any circumstance under subparagraphs 1 to 7 of the preceding paragraph, unless otherwise provided by the FSC, the securities firm shall report to the FSC in advance.

#### Article 53-1

Unless otherwise provided by the FSC, a securities firm that has made an equity investment in an overseas enterprise(s) as approved by the FSC shall do the following:

1. Submit to the FSC, within 15 days after the end of each quarter, an operations report on the invested overseas subsidiary(ies), including status of operations, revenues and expenditures, and an efficiency assessment.
2. Submit a report on the operational status of the invested overseas enterprise(s) along with the monthly accounting summary.
3. Report basic company information on the invested overseas enterprise(s) through the information reporting system designated by the FSC.
4. Submit other information or documentation as required by the FSC.

#### Article 54

Where the overseas subsidiary company invested by the securities firm invests in another institution or where the institution invested by the overseas subsidiary company sub-invests in another institution, if such investment has constituted the substantial controlling and subordinating relationship as regulated under the Chapter governing related enterprises of the Company Act, unless otherwise provided by the FSC, a report shall be made to the FSC for approval before proceeding with the investment.

For the investment of the preceding paragraph that has been approved by the FSC, within 10 days after the actual investment, the related documents shall be provided to the FSC for recordation.

Securities firms investing in overseas enterprises according to paragraph 1 above, may submit the management rules for the foreign invested enterprises required under subparagraph 5 of Article 51 and subparagraph 5 of Article 52 along with the documents referred to in the preceding paragraph to the FSC for recordation within 10 days after the actual investment.

#### Article 55

An overseas subsidiary of a securities firm may not further invest in any securities-related enterprise in the ROC.

#### Article 56

The means by which a securities firm investing in a foreign enterprise may put up the capital are limited to the following:

1. Outward remittance.
2. Net profit or other benefits obtained from outward investment.
3. Remuneration or other benefits obtained from outward technical cooperation.

#### Article 57

(deleted)

#### Article 58

After the securities firm has been approved and invested in foreign

enterprises, within 5 days after receiving documents concerning outward remittance of capital, or the registration or any change in the registration of the invested foreign securities enterprises, these documents shall be reported to the FSC for recordation.

#### Chapter V-1 Administration Of Overseas Branch Offices

##### Article 58-1

If the business that an overseas branch office of a securities firm would handle under the local securities acts and regulations and customary business practices of the place surpass the business items of the head office, an application for approval, accompanied by the following documents, shall be filed with the FSC in advance:

1. Business item particulars: including the products to be handled, types of transactions, and trading counterparts and markets.
2. Local acts and regulations that must be complied with when engaging in such business.
3. Minutes of the board of directors' (board of governors') meeting.
4. Internal control and risk management plans.
5. Legal opinion by a lawyer.
6. Other documents that the FSC requires to be submitted.

If there is any change in the FSC-approved business items of an overseas branch office of a securities firm, the change shall be reported to the Commission for recordation within 10 days from the day of the change.

The overseas branch offices of a securities firm shall abide by the local securities acts and regulations of the place where they are conducting business.

##### Article 58-2

A securities firm shall implement internal audit procedures in its overseas branch offices in accordance with the securities firm's internal control system.

A securities firm shall dispatch personnel to conduct on-site audits of its overseas branch offices at least once per year. Audit reports shall be submitted to the TWSE and forwarded by it to the Commission for recordation within 1 month from completion of the audit.

A securities firm whose overseas branch office receives an audit report from a local competent authority or auditing agency shall file the report or any deficiencies discovered in the audit with the Commission for recordation within 10 days from the day next following the receipt of the audit.

Where any material emergency or incident of malpractice, or disposition by a local competent authority, occurs with respect to an overseas branch office, a report shall be filed with the Commission within 2 days from the day next following the occurrence of the incident or receipt of the disposition notice from the local competent authority.

##### Article 58-3

A securities firm establishing an overseas branch office shall report any matters relating to outward remittance of capital, registration, or amendment registration in accordance with Article 58.

#### Chapter VI Management Of Regulatory Capital

##### Section 1 (Deleted)

##### Article 59

A securities firm, unless concurrently operated by a financial institution and subject to other acts or regulations, shall maintain an appropriate ratio between its regulatory capital and its overall risk equivalent, except as approved by the Commission.

The appropriate ratio referred to in the preceding paragraph is called the regulatory capital adequacy ratio and its calculation method is the net amount of eligible regulatory capital divided by the overall risk equivalent.

For those foreign securities firms having Taiwan branches, if their home-country head office have already calculated their regulatory capital adequacy ratio under their local laws with the overall risk of their Taiwan branch office already entered into the calculation, and have met the standard, they may send those documents and information relating to the said regulatory capital adequacy ratio which have met the standard to the Commission to apply for a waiver of application of the provisions in this Chapter. However, unless specifically approved by the Commission, a monthly report on the head offices' regulatory capital adequacy ratio shall still be reported according to Article 21, paragraph 4.

Article 59-1

The calculation of the net amount of eligible regulatory capital and the overall risk equivalent of the regulatory capital adequacy ratio as referred to in paragraph 2 of the preceding article is categorized into a simple calculation method and an advanced calculation method.

The securities firms to which the advanced calculation method for the regulatory capital adequacy ratio under the preceding paragraph applies, and the implementation date, shall be prescribed by the FSC.

Section 2 (Deleted)

Article 60

(deleted)

Article 61

(deleted)

Article 62

(deleted)

Section 3 (Deleted)

Article 62-1

(deleted)

Article 62-2

(deleted)

Article 62-3

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Article 62-4

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Article 62-5

(deleted)

Article 62-6

(deleted)

Article 62-7

(deleted)

Section 4 (Deleted)

Article 63

Securities firms, other than those concurrently operating financial institutions and foreign securities firms who have the FSC approval for waiver of this Chapter's regulations, shall fill out the Itemized Statement of the Regulatory Capital Adequacy of the Securities Firm monthly in accordance with the applicable calculation method, and by the 10th of the next month, report it according to the method prescribed in Article 21, paragraph 4. When necessary, the FSC shall require securities firms to file reports at any time.

The format of the Itemized Statement of the Regulatory Capital Adequacy of the Securities Firm referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be prescribed by the FSC.

In addition to disclosing capital adequacy information of the securities firm pursuant to the requirements of the FSC, the TWSE, or other relevant institutions, a securities firm shall disclose the most recent regulatory capital adequacy ratio information in the annual report.

#### Article 64

When the regulatory capital adequacy ratio of a securities firm is at least 120 percent but is less than 150 percent, the FSC may take the following actions:

1. Postpone any additions by the securities firm to its types of operations or lines of business, any establishment of additional branch offices, and any equity investment in any securities, futures, financial, or other enterprises.
2. Require the securities firm to strengthen the internal control and increase the frequency of internal auditing, and within one week of filing the report, send a concrete, detailed explanation and plan of improvement to the relevant authorities according to Article 21, paragraph 4.
3. If there has been no improvement made on the capital adequacy ratio at the end of the month that preceded the board of directors making proposal for distribution of profits, in addition that it shall be required to deduct from its undistributed profits those items to be set aside according to regulations, it shall further set aside 20 percent for special reserve according to Article 41, paragraph 1 of the Act.

#### Article 65

When the regulatory capital adequacy ratio of a securities firm is at least 100 percent but is less than 120 percent, the FSC, in addition to handling the matter according to subparagraphs 1 and 2 of the preceding article, may also handle the matter in the following ways:

1. Reduce its scope of business operations.
2. Require the securities firm to fill out and report weekly a securities firm capital adequacy reporting form.
3. If there has been no improvement made on the capital adequacy ratio at the end of the month that preceded the board of directors making proposal for distribution of profits, in addition that it shall be required to deduct from its undistributed profits those items to be set aside according to regulations, it shall further set aside 40 percent for special reserve according to Article 41, paragraph 1 of the Act.

#### Article 66

When the regulatory capital adequacy ratio of a securities firm falls below 100 percent, the FSC, in addition to handling the matter according to

Article 64, subparagraphs 1 and 2 and Article 65, subparagraphs 1 and 2 herein, may also handle the matter in the following ways:

1. Disapprove any of its applications for increasing the number of branch offices.
2. If there has been no improvement made on the capital adequacy ratio at the end of the month that preceded the board of directors making proposal for distribution of profits, in addition that it shall be required to deduct from its undistributed profits those items to be set aside according to regulations, it shall further set aside the total amount as special reserve according to Article 41, paragraph 1 of the Act.

#### Article 67

Securities firms that have already set aside special reserve in accordance with Articles 64 to 66 for the previous year, when setting aside various special reserves as required for this year pursuant to relevant regulations, shall include it as part of the undistributed profits, and then recalculate the required special reserve to be set aside according to the actual condition of the regulatory capital adequacy ratio.

#### Chapter VII Supplemental Provisions

#### Article 68

A securities firm operating securities business in violation of these Regulations shall be subject to the punishment under the Act.

#### Article 69

These Regulations shall enter into force from the date of issuance, with the exception of Articles 16 and 47 as amended and issued on 11 October 2012, which shall enter into force from the fiscal year of 2013, and of Articles 37 and 37-1 as amended and issued on 30 December 2013, which shall enter into force from 6 January 2014, and of Article 37-1 as amended and issued on 27 June 2014, which shall enter into force from 30 June 2014.