

# AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER

January 1, 2018 Last Updated: November 3, 2022

# **AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER**

#### Introduction

The Audit Committee (the "Committee") is established to assist the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Nutrien Ltd. (the "Corporation") in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities with respect to the accounting and financial reporting processes and the reviews and audits of the financial statements of the Corporation by monitoring: (i) the quality and integrity of the Corporation's financial statements and related disclosures; (ii) the Corporation's internal control systems, including internal control over financial reporting; (iii) specific elements of risk management (including all financial risk management) delegated to the Committee by the Board; (iv) the qualifications

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and independence of the external auditors of the Corporation and the recommendation of the Board to shareholders for the appointment thereof; (v) the performance of the Corporation's Internal Audit function and external auditors; and (vi) the Corporation's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements with respect to matters within the Committee's mandate and the Code of Conduct. Such oversight is all with a view to supporting the long-term viability of the Corporation, including its consideration of stakeholders relevant to the creation and preservation of long-term value.

Management is responsible for preparing the consolidated financial statements of the Corporation and the external auditors are responsible for auditing those financial statements. Nothing in this Charter is intended, or may be construed, to impose on any member of the Committee a standard of care or diligence that is in any way more onerous or extensive than the standard to which all directors are subject under applicable laws or regulatory requirements.

In this Charter, "Committee Chair" means the Chair of the Committee; "Chair" means the Board Chair; and "CEO" means the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation.

# Composition

The members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board, on the recommendation of the Corporate Governance & Nominating Committee. Any member of the Committee may be removed or replaced at any time by the Board and shall cease to be a member of the Committee on ceasing to be a director. Subject to the above, each member of the Committee shall serve as a member of the Committee until the next annual meeting of shareholders after his or her appointment.

The Committee shall consist of not less than three and not more than eight members. Each Committee member shall be independent according to the independence standards set out in the Corporate Governance Framework, including applicable independence requirements of stock exchanges on which the Corporation is listed and securities laws, rules and regulations.

Each member of the Committee shall be "financially literate", and at least one member of the Committee shall be designated as the "audit committee financial expert" and shall have "accounting or related financial management expertise", in each case, as such qualification is interpreted by the Board in its business judgment and as defined by applicable requirements of stock exchanges on which the Corporation is listed and securities laws, rules and regulations.

No member of the Committee shall serve on the audit committees of more than two other publicly listed companies, unless the Board determines that such simultaneous service would not impair the ability of such member to effectively serve on the Committee and discloses such determination in the Corporation's annual management proxy circular.

The Board may fill vacancies on the Committee from among its members, on the recommendation of the



Corporate Governance & Nominating Committee. If and whenever a vacancy shall exist on the Committee, the remaining members may exercise all its powers so long as a quorum remains in place.

The members of the Committee shall be entitled to receive such remuneration for acting as members of the Committee as the Board may from time to time determine.

The Corporate Secretary or such other person acceptable to the members shall act as Secretary to the Committee.

#### **Committee Chair**

The Board, upon recommendation of the Corporate Governance & Nominating Committee, shall appoint a Committee Chair. The Committee Chair may be removed and replaced by the Board.

If the Committee Chair is not present at any meeting of the Committee, one of the other members of the Committee present at the meeting shall be chosen by the Committee to chair the meeting.

The Committee Chair shall have the duties and responsibilities set forth in **Annex 1** which is incorporated by reference herein.

# Quorum

Fifty percent of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum. All determinations of the Committee shall be made by a majority of its members present at a meeting duly called and held.

# <u>Meetings</u>

All Committee members are expected to attend, in person or via teleconference, video conference, or other electronic communications facilities that permits all participants to communicate adequately, all meetings of the Committee, to come prepared for the meeting, and to remain in attendance for the duration of the meeting. The powers of the Committee may be exercised by resolution in writing signed by all members of the Committee who would have been entitled to vote on that resolution at a meeting of the Committee.

The Committee may invite such directors, officers, employees and external advisors of the Corporation as it may see fit from time to time to attend meetings of the Committee and assist in the discussion and consideration of the duties of the Committee.

The time at which and place where the meetings of the Committee shall be held, and the calling of meetings and the procedure at such meetings, shall be determined by the Committee in accordance with the Corporation's articles, by-laws, and applicable laws.

The Committee shall meet at each Committee meeting alone without Management present, and shall meet separately with applicable senior Management, the external auditors, and the Chief Audit Executive.

# Responsibilities

The Committee, to the extent required by applicable laws or rules, or otherwise considered by the Committee to be necessary or appropriate, is responsible for the oversight in respect of the Corporation's financial disclosure and accounting practices, internal control systems (including internal control over financial reporting), specific elements of risk management (including all financial risk management) delegated to the Committee by the Board, the external auditors, the Internal Audit function, and legal and regulatory compliance with respect to matters within the Committee's mandate and the Code of Conduct.

To fulfill its duties and responsibilities, the Committee shall:

Financial Disclosure and Accounting



- meet with Management and the external auditors to review and discuss, and to recommend to the Board for approval prior to public disclosure, the annual audited financial statements and the specific disclosures in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" ("MD&A");
- meet with Management and the external auditors to review and discuss, and to approve prior to public disclosure, the unaudited quarterly financial statements, including the specific disclosures in the MD&A and quarterly interim reports (including annual guidance);
- review and discuss with Management and the external auditors prior to public disclosure each press release that contains significant financial information respecting the Corporation or contains estimates or information regarding the Corporation's future financial performance or prospects; and the type and presentation of information to be included in such press releases (in particular, the use of "pro forma" or "adjusted" information that is not in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IFRS"));
- review and discuss with Management and the external auditors, and recommend to the Board for approval prior to public disclosure:
  - the portions of the Annual Information Form containing significant information within the Committee's mandate;
  - the portions of the Corporation's annual management proxy circular containing significant information within the Committee's mandate;
  - all financial statements included in prospectuses or other offering documents;
  - all prospectuses and all documents which may be incorporated by reference in a prospectus, other than any pricing supplement issued pursuant to a shelf prospectus; and
  - significant financial information, including "pro forma" or "adjusted" non-IFRS information respecting the Corporation contained in a publicly disclosed document (other than routine investor relations or similar communications);
- review and discuss with Management and the external auditors (including those of the following that are contained in any report of the external auditors): (1) any analyses prepared by Management and/or the external auditors setting forth significant financial reporting issues and judgments made in connection with the preparation of the financial statements, including analyses of the effects of alternative accounting principles in accordance with IFRS; (2) all critical accounting policies and practices to be used by the Corporation in preparing its financial statements; (3) all material alternative treatments of financial information within IFRS that have been discussed with Management, ramifications of the use of these alternative treatments, and the treatment preferred by the external auditors; and (4) other material communications between the external auditors and Management, such as any Management Representation Letter or Schedule of Unadjusted Differences;
- review and discuss with Management and the external auditors significant accounting and reporting
  issues and understand their impact on the financial statements, including complex or unusual
  transactions and areas involving significant assumptions; major issues regarding accounting
  principles and financial statement presentation, including any significant changes in the
  Corporation's selection or application of accounting principles, and the effect of regulatory and
  accounting initiatives, as well as off balance sheet structures, on the financial statements of the
  Corporation, any significant issues as to the adequacy of the Corporation's internal controls and
  any special audit steps adopted in light of significant control deficiencies;
- review and discuss with Management and the external auditors non-IFRS financial measures, as well as financial information and earnings guidance provided externally, including to analysts and rating agencies;



- review with Management and the external auditors the results of the annual audit, including any
  restrictions on the scope of the external auditors' activities or on access to requested information,
  and the resolution of any significant disagreements with Management;
- review Management's Internal Control Report and the related attestation by the external auditors
  of the Corporation's internal controls over financial reporting; and
- review with Management and the external auditors and, if necessary, legal counsel, any litigation, claim or contingency, including tax assessments, or material reports or inquiries from regulators or governmental agencies, that could have a material effect upon the financial position of the Corporation, and the manner in which these matters have been disclosed in the financial statements.

# Internal Controls

- assess the effectiveness of the Corporation's internal control systems, including internal control
  over financial reporting and information technology strategy, risks and, in consultation with the
  Safety &Security Committee, cyber security controls and related matters;
- understand the scope of Internal Audit's and the external auditors' review of internal controls over financial reporting, and obtain reports on significant findings and recommendations, together with Management's responses;
- annually review the Corporation's disclosure controls and procedures, including any significant deficiencies in or material non-compliance with such controls and procedures;
- receive and review reports from the Corporation's Disclosure Committee and periodically review the Corporation's Disclosure Policy;
- review and discuss with the CEO and Chief Financial Officer their disclosures made during their annual and quarterly certification processes about significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal controls or any fraud that involves Management or other employees who have a significant role in the Corporation's internal controls;
- discuss with Management the Corporation's material financial risk exposures and the steps Management has taken to monitor and control such exposures; and
- review executive officers' expenses and aircraft usage reports and periodically report to the Corporate Governance & Nominating Committee thereon, as appropriate.

#### Risk Management

- regularly review with Management the Corporation's material risks within the Committee's scope
  (i.e. the principal financial risks facing the Corporation and any other risks specifically delegated to
  the Committee by the Board), the assessment of those risks, and how they are being managed or
  mitigated, including, reviewing the mid-year update report from the Corporation's Enterprise Risk
  Management team; and
- monitor and review at least annually Management processes and controls designed to identify, assess, monitor and manage the risks referred to above.

# Internal Audit

• review with Management, the external auditors, and Internal Audit (and if appropriate, approve) the Charter, plans, activities, and organizational structure of the Internal Audit function;



- review the significant findings prepared by Internal Audit and recommendations issued by any external party relating to Internal Audit issues, together with Management's response thereto;
- take reasonable steps to ensure there are no unjustified or inappropriate restrictions or limitations on the functioning of the Internal Audit function, or on access to requested information;
- review the adequacy of the resources of Internal Audit to satisfy itself as to the effectiveness, objectivity and independence of the Internal Audit function;
- review and concur on the appointment, replacement, or dismissal of the Chief Audit Executive (or such individual in a similar capacity or position who performs a substantially similar function); and
- review the performance and effectiveness of the Internal Audit function.

#### **External Audit**

- meet with the external auditors prior to the annual audit to review (and if appropriate, approve) the
  proposed audit scope, approach and staffing (including coordination of audit efforts with Internal
  Audit) and budget;
- monitor the progress of the annual audit;
- obtain feedback about the conduct of the external audit from key employees engaged in the process;
- when applicable, review the annual post-audit letter from the external auditors and Management's response thereto and follow-up in respect of any identified weakness;
- at least annually, obtain and review a report by the external auditors describing: (i) the external
  auditors' internal quality control procedures, and (ii) any material issues raised by the most recent
  internal quality control review, or peer review, of the external auditors, or by any inquiry or
  investigation by governmental or professional authorities, within the preceding five years,
  respecting one or more independent audits carried out by the external auditors, and any steps
  taken to deal with any such issues;
- annually receive from the external auditors, and review, a report on items required to be communicated to the Committee by applicable rules and regulations;
- annually review the independence of the external auditors, including their formal written statement
  of independence delineating all relationships between the external auditors and the Corporation,
  review all such relationships, and consider applicable auditor independence standards and take
  any decisions and actions that are necessary and appropriate where the Committee becomes
  aware of the potential for a conflict (or the reasonable perception of a conflict) between the interests
  of the external auditors and the interests of the Corporation;
- annually evaluate the performance of the external auditors, including the lead audit partner, and report to the Board on its conclusions regarding the external auditors and recommendation to shareholders for appointment of the external auditors;
- investigate and consider whether any action is required if the external auditors resign;
- ensure the rotation of the lead audit partner having primary responsibility for the audit as required by applicable law; and
- set clear hiring policies for partners, employees and former partners and employees of the present and former external auditors.



#### Oversight in Respect of Audit and Non-Audit Services

- subject to confirmation by the external auditors of their compliance with Canadian and U.S.
  regulatory requirements, be directly responsible (subject to Board confirmation) for the appointment
  of the external auditors for the purpose of preparing or issuing any audit report or performing other
  audit, review or attest services for the Corporation, such appointment to be confirmed by the
  Corporation's shareholders at each annual meeting;
- be directly responsible (subject to Board confirmation) for the approval of fees to be paid to the external auditors for audit services, and shall pre-approve the retention of the external auditors for any permitted non-audit service to the Corporation;
- be directly responsible for the retention and oversight of the services of the external auditors (including resolution of disagreements between Management and the external auditors regarding financial reporting) for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or performing other audit, review or attest services for the Corporation (with the external auditors reporting directly to, and being accountable to, the Committee);
- have the sole authority to pre-approve all audit services and all permitted non-audit services to the Corporation, provided that the Committee need not approve in advance non-audit services where:
  - the aggregate amount of all such non-audit services provided to the Corporation constitutes not more than 5% of the total amount of fees paid by the Corporation to the external auditors during the fiscal year in which the non-audit services are provided; and
  - such services were not recognized by the Corporation at the time of the engagement to be non-audit services; and
  - such services are promptly brought to the attention of the Committee and approved prior to the completion of the audit by the Committee or by one or more members of the Committee to whom authority to grant such approvals has been delegated by the Committee;
- have the sole authority to delegate to one or more designated members of the Committee the authority to grant pre-approvals required by this section, provided that the decision of any member to whom authority is delegated to pre-approve a service shall be presented to the Committee at its next scheduled meeting. If the Committee approves an audit service within the scope of the engagement of the external auditors, such audit service shall be deemed to have been preapproved for purposes of this section.

#### Compliance

- establish procedures for: (i) the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the Corporation regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters; and (ii) the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of the Corporation of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters, and institute and oversee any special investigations as needed;
- provide the Chief Integrity Officer the authority to communicate directly to the Committee about actual and alleged violations of the Code of Conduct, its associated polices, or the law, including any matters involving criminal or potential criminal conduct;
- review with the Chief Integrity Officer or Chief Legal Officer (or such individual in a similar capacity
  or position who performs a substantially similar function) the Corporation's significant compliance
  policies and any legal matters or reports or inquiries received from regulators or governmental
  agencies that could have a material effect upon the financial position of the Corporation and that
  are not subject to the oversight of another committee of the Board;



- review the effectiveness of the system for monitoring compliance with laws and regulations (including those with respect to anti-fraud and anti-bribery) and the results of Management's investigations and follow-up of any instances of non-compliance that could have a material effect upon the financial position of the Corporation and that are not subject to the oversight of another committee of the Board;
- review the process for communicating the Corporation's Code of Conduct to the Corporation's personnel and monitoring compliance therewith; and
- report annually to shareholders describing the Committee's composition, responsibilities and how
  they were discharged, and any other information required by applicable legislation or regulation,
  including approval of non-audit services.

The Committee may perform such other functions as the Committee deems necessary or appropriate for the performance of its responsibilities and duties.

# Delegation

The Committee may from time to time delegate any of its responsibilities to a subcommittee comprised of one or more members of the Committee and shall also carry out such other duties that may be delegated to it by the Board from time to time.

# **Other Matters**

At the Corporation's expense, the Committee may retain, when it considers it necessary or desirable, outside consultants and advisors to advise the Committee independently on any matter. The Committee shall have the sole authority to retain and terminate any such consultants or advisors, including sole authority to establish or review a consultant's or advisor's fees and other retention terms, and to direct the payment thereof.

The Corporation will provide appropriate funding, as determined by the Committee, for payment of ordinary administrative expenses of the Committee that are necessary or appropriate in carrying out its duties.

Authority to make minor technical amendments to this Charter is hereby delegated to the Corporate Secretary, who will report any amendments to the Committee at its next meeting.

The Committee's performance and effectiveness shall be evaluated annually, in accordance with a process developed by the Corporate Governance & Nominating Committee and approved by the Board. The results of that evaluation, including progress on adopted recommendations, shall be reported to the Corporate Governance & Nominating Committee and to the Board.

On an annual basis, this Committee Charter shall be reviewed and assessed, and any proposed changes shall be submitted to the Corporate Governance & Nominating Committee for review and recommendation, and then to the Board for approval.

Date of Last Revision: November 3, 2022



# **ANNEX 1**

# AUDIT COMMITTEE CHAIR POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Committee Chair shall provide overall leadership to enhance the effectiveness of the Committee and be responsible to:

- set the "tone" for the Committee and its members to foster ethical and responsible decision making, appropriate oversight of Management and appropriate corporate governance practices;
- encourage free and open discussion at meetings of the Committee;
- schedule and set the agenda for Committee meetings with input from other Committee members, the Chair and Management as appropriate;
- facilitate the timely, accurate and proper flow of information to and from the Committee, and arrange sufficient time during Committee meetings to fully discuss agenda items;
- report to the Board following each meeting of the Committee on the activities, findings and any recommendations of the Committee;
- provide advice and counsel to the senior members of Management in the areas covered by the Committee's mandate:
- proactively encourage training and education of the Committee and its members in areas falling within the Committee's mandate;
- take reasonable steps to ensure that Committee members understand the boundaries between the Committee and Management responsibilities;
- organize the Committee to function independently of Management and take reasonable steps to
  ensure that the Committee has an opportunity at each of its meetings to meet in separate closed
  sessions without Management present, and with or without internal personnel or external advisors
  as needed or appropriate;
- lead the Committee in monitoring and evaluating, in consultation with the Corporate Governance & Nominating Committee, the performance and effectiveness of the Committee as a whole and the contributions to the Committee of individual directors; and
- take all other reasonable steps to ensure that the responsibilities and duties of the Committee, as outlined in its Charter, are well understood by the Committee members and executed as effectively as possible.

