

# PRESS RELEASE 8 AUGUST 2022

NIKKO ASSET MANAGEMENT CO., LTD.

# Nikko Asset Management Discloses its Voting Results for 2021/22 Shareholder Meetings

At the shareholder meetings of 2,385 Japanese companies in which Nikko Asset Management Co., Ltd. (Nikko AM) held voting rights between July 2021 and June 2022, the firm exercised proxy voting rights regarding 24,619 company-generated proposals and 298 shareholder proposals for a total of 24,917 proposals. Please refer to the tables below for further details.

#### Proxy voting rights exercised at shareholder meetings between July 2021 and June 2022

## 1. Company-generated proposals

Proposal		Yea	Nay	Subtotal	Nay ratio
Proposals on company bodies	Election/dismissal of directors	15,185	2,915	18,100	16.1%
	Ref: number of companies	1,269	976	2,245	43.5%
	Election/dismissal of corporate auditors	1,285	119	1,404	8.5%
	Ref: number of companies	727	105	832	12.6%
	Appointment/dismissal of accounting auditors	81	0	81	0.0%
Proposals on executive	Executive remuneration amount	929	91	1,020	8.9%
remuneration	Retirement benefit payments	26	85	111	76.6%
Proposals on capital policy (excluding proposals on articles of incorporation)	Appropriation of surpluses	1,354	100	1,454	6.9%
	Restructuring	54	6	60	10.0%
	Introduction/renewal/abolishment of anti-takeover measures	0	61	61	100.0%
	Other capital policy proposals	91	5	96	5.2%
Revision to articles of incorporation		2,155	74	2,229	3.3%
Other		1	2	3	66.7%
Total		21,161	3,458	24,619	14.0%

<sup>\*</sup>Furthermore, a summary of Nikko AM's proxy voting rights at shareholder meetings during the April-June 2022 quarter can be found on page 3 of this press release.



### 2. Shareholder Proposals

Proposal		Yea	Nay	Subtotal	Yea ratio
Proposals on company bodies	Election/dismissal of directors	2	44	46	4.4%
	Ref: number of companies	1	19	20	5.0%
	Election/dismissal of corporate auditors	0	9	9	0.0%
	Ref: number of companies	0	5	5	0.0%
	Appointment/dismissal of accounting auditors	0	0	0	0.0%
Proposals on executive remuneration	Executive remuneration amount	0	10	10	0.0%
	Retirement benefit payments	0	0	0	0.0%
Proposals on capital policy (excluding proposals on articles of incorporation)	Appropriation of surpluses	3	20	23	13.0%
	Restructuring	0	1	1	0.0%
	Introduction/renewal/abolishment of anti-takeover measures	0	0	0	0.0%
	Other capital policy proposals	1	24	25	4.0%
Revision to articles of incorporation		3	180	183	1.6%
Other		0	1	1	0.0%
Total		9	289	298	3.0%

Nikko AM makes voting decisions in accordance with the firm's Guidelines on Exercising Voting Rights and Standards for Exercising Voting Rights on Japanese Stocks. In addition to these clear guidelines and conditions, the firm also engages with each investee company to best understand its particular situation, and then exercises flexibility to vote in the best interest of each investee's sustainability and effective use of capital.

The pace of corporate governance reforms is accelerating. The Tokyo Stock Exchange has reorganised its markets in 2022, and companies listed on its Prime Market are required to maintain a higher standard of corporate governance. At the same time, firms' initiatives to address climate change and other sustainability issues are becoming more important than ever. In view of these changes, Nikko AM has revised its standards for exercising voting rights regarding the composition and diversity of boards of directors and the independence of outside directors etc. on Japanese stocks. This is part of the firm's mission to contribute to ongoing corporate growth and stronger medium and long-term corporate value creation through the exercise of voting rights. These revised standards were applied from April 2022\*.

[Reference] "Revisions to Nikko AM's Standards for Exercising Voting Rights on Japanese Stocks" (4 February 2022)

Nikko AM is committed to fully adhering to its stewardship responsibilities, as part of efforts to maximise medium and long-term investment returns and protect the assets of its clients and beneficiaries, and in accordance with the firm's fiduciary principles.

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<sup>\*</sup> One item will apply from January 2023.



# (For reference) proxy voting rights exercised at shareholder meetings between April and June 2022

# 1. Company-generated proposals

Proposal		Yea	Nay	Subtotal	Nay ratio
Proposals on company bodies	Election/dismissal of directors	10,890	2,401	13,291	18.1%
	Ref: number of companies	814	792	1,606	49.3%
	Election/dismissal of corporate auditors	927	102	1,029	9.9%
	Ref: number of companies	529	89	618	14.4%
	Appointment/dismissal of accounting auditors	45	0	45	0.0%
Proposals on executive	Executive remuneration amount	624	42	666	6.3%
remuneration	Retirement benefit payments	20	60	80	75.0%
Proposals on capital policy (excluding proposals on articles of incorporation)	Appropriation of surpluses	993	77	1,070	7.2%
	Restructuring	25	1	26	3.8%
	Introduction/renewal/abolishment of anti-takeover measures	0	52	52	100.0%
	Other capital policy proposals	49	1	50	2.0%
Revision to articles of incorporation		1,695	47	1,742	2.7%
Other		0	1	1	100.0%
Total		15,268	2,784	18,052	15.4%

# 2. Shareholder Proposals

Proposal		Yea	Nay	Subtotal	Yea ratio
Proposals on company bodies	Election/dismissal of directors	0	40	40	0.0%
	Ref: number of companies	0	16	16	0.0%
	Election/dismissal of corporate auditors	0	9	9	0.0%
	Ref: number of companies	0	5	5	0.0%
	Appointment/dismissal of accounting auditors	0	0	0	0.0%
Proposals on executive remuneration	Executive remuneration amount	0	8	8	0.0%
	Retirement benefit payments	0	0	0	0.0%
Proposals on capital policy (excluding proposals on articles of incorporation)	Appropriation of surpluses	1	20	21	4.8%
	Restructuring	0	0	0	0.0%
	Introduction/renewal/abolishment of anti-takeover measures	0	0	0	0.0%
	Other capital policy proposals	1	20	21	4.8%
Revision to articles of incorporation		3	173	176	1.7%
Other		0	1	1	0.0%
Total		5	271	276	1.8%



#### **About Nikko Asset Management**

With US\$243.2 billion\* under management, Nikko Asset Management is one of Asia's largest asset managers, providing high-conviction, active fund management across a range of equity, fixed income, multi-asset and alternative strategies. In addition, its complementary range of passive strategies covers more than 20 indices and includes some of Asia's leading exchange-traded funds (ETFs).

Headquartered in Asia since 1959, Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries employ personnel representing around 25 nationalities, including approximately 200 investment professionals\*\*. The firm has a presence through subsidiaries or affiliates in a total of 11 countries and regions. More than 400 banks, brokers, financial advisors and life insurance companies around the world distribute the firm's products.

The investment teams benefit from a unique global perspective complemented by the firm's historic Asian DNA, striving to deliver consistent excellence in performance. The firm also prides itself on its progressive, solution-driven approach, which has led to many innovative funds launched for its clients.

For more information about Nikko Asset Management and to access its investment insights, please visit the firm's <a href="https://homepage">homepage</a>.

\* Consolidated assets under management and sub-advisory of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries as of 31 March 2022.

\*\* Including employees of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries as of 31 March 2022.

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