

Letter of Appointment

Date: []

To,

Subject: Letter of Appointment as a Non – Executive Independent Director of SMPP Limited (formerly known as SMPP Private Limited)

Dear Ma'am/Sir,

We thank you for your confirmation to SMPP Limited (formerly known as SMPP Private Limited) that you meet the “independence” criteria as envisaged in Section 149(6) of the Companies Act, 2013 (“**2013 Act**”) and Regulation 16(1)(b) of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and also for your consenting to hold the office as a Director of the Company.

We are pleased to inform you that approval of the Board of Directors of the Company in their meeting held on _____ and approval of Shareholders of the Company at the Annual/Extra-Ordinary General Meeting held on _____, you are being appointed as an Non- Executive Independent Director on the Board of the Company for a term of five years commencing from _____ and shall not be liable to retire by rotation.

This letter sets out the terms of your appointment as an Independent Director. Your relationship with the Company will be that of an office-holder and not one of contract for employment in the Company.

The terms of your appointment, as set out in this letter and are subject to the extant provisions of the applicable laws, including but not limited to;

- a) Companies Act, 2013,
- b) erstwhile Companies Act, 1956 to the extent applicable, if any,
- c) SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 (as amended from time to time)
- d) Articles of Association of the Company, and
- e) such other acts as may be applicable.

1. Appointment

Your appointment will be for an initial term of five years commencing from _____ up to _____, unless terminated earlier or extended, as per the provisions of this letter or applicable laws (“**Term**”).

As an Independent Director you will not be liable to retire by rotation.

Re-appointment for another term of maximum period of five years at the end of the current term shall be based on the recommendation of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee and subject to the approval of the Board and the shareholders by way of Special Resolution. Your re-appointment would be considered by the Board based on the outcome of the performance evaluation process and you continuing to meet the independence criteria.

The Board may reconstitute the composition of any/all Committees, from time to time, and any such change shall be promptly communicated to you. In such an event you may also be required to serve on other Committees of the Board.

2. Role, duties and responsibilities

- A. As member of the Board, you along with the other Directors will be collectively responsible for meeting the objectives of the Board which include:
- Requirements under the Companies Act, 2013,
 - Requirements as applicable under the SEBI regulations,
 - Responsibilities of the Board as outlined under Regulation 4(2)(f) of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015,
 - Accountability under the Directors' Responsibility Statement,
 - Overseeing the maintenance of high standards of values and ethical conduct of business,
 - Overseeing the Company's contribution to enhancing the quality of life of Communities.
- B. You shall abide by the Code of Conduct - Applicable to all Directors & Senior Management of the Company.
- C. You shall also abide by the "Code for Independent Directors" as outlined in Schedule IV to section 149(8) of the 2013 Act, and duties of Directors as provided in the 2013 Act (including Section 166) and in Regulation 4(2)(f) of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.

For your ready reference, the relevant provisions have been extracted and attached to this letter at **Annexure -I**.

3. Time Commitment

Considering the nature of the role of a director, it is difficult for the Company to lay down specific parameters on time commitment. You agree to devote such time as is prudent and necessary for the proper performance of your role, duties and responsibilities as an Independent Director.

4. Remuneration

As an Independent Director you may be paid sitting fees for attending the meetings of the Board and the Committees of which you are a member as fixed by the Board from time to time.

In addition to the sitting fees, profit related commission may also be payable to you within the overall limit prescribed under the Companies Act, 2013 as may be determined by the Board from time to time. In determining the amount of this commission, the Board may consider various factors as disclosed in the Remuneration Policy forming part of the Board's report. An indicative list of the factors that may be considered are as follows:

- Attendance at Board meetings,
- Attendance at Board Committee meetings,
- Chairmanship of the Board,
- Chairmanship of Board Committees,
- Contribution at Board and Committee meetings,
- Guidance and support provided to Senior Management of the Company outside of Board meetings,
- Industry practices,

- Performance evaluation, and
- Performance of the Company.

Further, the Company may pay or reimburse to you such fair and reasonable expenditure, as may have been incurred by you while performing your role as an Independent Director of the Company. This could include reimbursement of expenditure incurred by you for attending Board/ Committee meetings, Annual General Meetings, Extraordinary General Meetings, court convened meetings, meetings with shareholders/ creditors/ management, site visits, induction and training (organized by the Company for Directors) and in obtaining, subject to prior consultation with the Board, professional advice from independent advisors in the furtherance of your duties as an Independent Director.

5. Induction and Development

The Company shall, if required, conduct formal induction program for its Independent Directors, in accordance with the familiarization programme for Independent Directors, which may include any or all of the following:

- Board roles and responsibilities, whilst seeking to build working relationship among the Board members,
- Company's vision, strategic direction, core values, ethics and corporate governance practices,
- Familiarization with financial matters, management team and business operations,
- Meetings with stakeholders, visits to business locations and meetings with senior and middle management.

The Company shall, as may be required, support Directors to continually update their skills and knowledge and improve their familiarity with the company and its business. The Company will fund/arrange for training on all matters which are common to the whole Board.

6. Performance Appraisal / Evaluation Process

As a member of the Board, your performance as well as the performance of the entire Board and its Committees shall be evaluated annually. Evaluation of each Director shall be done by all the other Directors. The criteria for evaluation shall be determined by the Nomination, Remuneration and Compensation Committee and disclosed in the Company's Annual Report. However, the actual evaluation process shall remain confidential and shall be a constructive mechanism to improve the effectiveness of the Board / Committee. An indicative list of factors that may be evaluated as part of this exercise is:

- Commitment (including guidance provided to senior management outside of Board/ Committee meetings),
- Effective deployment of knowledge and expertise,
- Effective management of relationship with stakeholders,
- Integrity and maintenance of confidentiality,
- Independence of behavior and judgment, and
- Impact and influence.

7. Disclosures, other directorships and business interests

During the Term, you agree to promptly notify the Company of any change in your directorships, committee-ships and provide such other disclosures and information as may be required under the applicable laws. You also agree that upon becoming aware of any potential conflict of interest with your position as Independent Director of the Company, you shall promptly disclose the same to the Chairman

and the Company Secretary. You also confirm that as on date of this letter, you have no such conflict-of-interest issues with your existing directorships.

During your term, you agree to promptly provide a declaration under Section 149(7) of the 2013 Act, every year and upon any change in circumstances within 20 days which may affect your status as an Independent Director.

Further, you also confirm that as on date of this letter, you are not debarred from holding the office of Director by virtue of any SEBI order or any other such authority.

In future, if, by virtue of any SEBI order or any other such authority, if you are debarred from holding the office of Director, you will promptly disclose the same to the Company and shall voluntarily resign with immediate effect, failing which the Company may initiate the process of removal in terms of relevant sections of the Companies Act, 2013.

8. Changes of personal details

During the term, you shall promptly intimate the Company Secretary and the Registrar of Companies in the prescribed manner, of any change in address or other contact and personal details provided to the Company.

9. Termination

Your directorship on the Board of the Company shall terminate or cease in accordance with law. Apart from the grounds of termination as specified in the 2013 Act, your directorship may be terminated for violation of any provision of the Code of Conduct as applicable to Non-Executive Directors.

You may resign from the directorship of the Company by giving a notice in writing to the Company stating the reasons for resignation and also to Registrar of Companies (RoC). The resignation shall take effect from the date on which the notice is received by the Company or the date, if any, specified by you in the notice, whichever is later.

If at any stage during the Term, there is a change that may affect your status as an Independent Director as envisaged in Section 149(6) of the 2013 Act or, if applicable, you fail to meet the criteria for “independence” under the provisions of Regulation 16(1)(b) of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, or if you are debarred from holding the office of Director, by virtue of any SEBI order or any other such authority, you agree to promptly submit your resignation to the Company with effect from the date of such change.

10. Co-operation

In the event of any claim or litigation against the Company, based upon any alleged conduct, act or omission on your part during your Term, you agree to render all reasonable assistance and co-operation to the Company and provide such information and documents as are necessary and reasonably requested by the Company or its counsel.

11. Miscellaneous

- This letter represents the entire understanding, and constitutes the whole agreement, in relation to your appointment and supersedes any previous agreement between yourself and the Company with respect thereto and, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, excludes any warranty, condition or other undertaking implied at law or by custom.

- No waiver or modification of this letter shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by you and the Company.
- As per the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, this letter along with your detailed profile shall be disclosed on the website of the Company and the stock exchange(s) i.e., National Stock Exchange of India Limited (“NSE”) and BSE Limited (“BSE”).

12. Acceptance of Appointment

We are confident that the Board and the Company will benefit immensely from your rich experience and we are eager to have you as an integral part of the growth of our Company. If these terms of appointment are acceptable to you, please confirm your acceptance by signing and returning the enclosed copy of this letter.

We thank you for your continued support and commitment to the Company. Yours Sincerely,

For SMPP Limited (formerly known as SMPP Private Limited)

Date:
Place:

AGREE AND ACCEPT

I have read and understood the terms of my appointment as an Independent Director of the Company and I hereby affirm my acceptance to the same.

Name: DIN No.:
Designation:Address:

Place:Date:

Annexure -I

SCHEDULE IV read with Section 149(8) of the Companies Act 2013

CODE FOR INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS

The Code is a guide to professional conduct for Independent Directors. Adherence to these standards by Independent Directors and fulfillment of their responsibilities in a professional and faithful manner will promote confidence of the investment community, particularly minority shareholders, regulators and companies in the institution of Independent Directors.

I. Guidelines of professional conduct:

An Independent Director shall:

- 1) uphold ethical standards of integrity and probity;
- 2) act objectively and constructively while exercising his duties;
- 3) exercise his responsibilities in a bona fide manner in the interest of the company;
- 4) devote sufficient time and attention to his professional obligations for informed and balanced decision making;
- 5) not allow any extraneous considerations that will vitiate his exercise of objective independent judgment in the paramount interest of the company as a whole, while concurring in or dissenting from the collective judgment of the Board in its decision making;
- 6) not abuse his position to the detriment of the company or its shareholders or for the purpose of gaining direct or indirect personal advantage or advantage for any associated person;
- 7) refrain from any action that would lead to loss of his independence;
- 8) where circumstances arise which make an independent director lose his independence, the independent director must immediately inform the Board accordingly;
- 9) assist the company in implementing the best corporate governance practices.

II. Role and functions:

The Independent Directors shall:

- 1) help in bringing an independent judgment to bear on the Board's deliberations especially on issues of strategy, performance, risk management, resources, key appointments and standards of conduct;
- 2) bring an objective view in the evaluation of the performance of board and management;
- 3) scrutinize the performance of management in meeting agreed goals and objectives and monitor the reporting of performance;
- 4) satisfy themselves on the integrity of financial information and that financial controls and the systems of risk management are robust and defensible;
- 5) safeguard the interests of all stakeholders, particularly the minority shareholders;
- 6) balance the conflicting interest of the stakeholders;
- 7) determine appropriate levels of remuneration of executive directors, key managerial personnel and senior management and have a prime role in appointing and where necessary recommend removal of executive directors, key managerial personnel and senior management;
- 8) moderate and arbitrate in the interest of the company as a whole, in situations of conflict between management and shareholder's interest.

III. Duties :

The Independent Directors shall—

- 1) undertake appropriate induction and regularly update and refresh their skills, knowledge and familiarity with the company;
- 2) seek appropriate clarification or amplification of information and, where necessary, take and follow appropriate professional advice and opinion of outside experts at the expense of the company;
- 3) strive to attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and of the Board committees of which he is a member;
- 4) participate constructively and actively in the committees of the Board in which they are chairpersons or members;
- 5) strive to attend the general meetings of the company;
- 6) where they have concerns about the running of the company or a proposed action, ensure that these are addressed by the Board and, to the extent that they are not resolved, insist that their concerns are recorded in the minutes of the Board meeting;
- 7) keep themselves well informed about the company and the external environment in which it operates;
- 8) not to unfairly obstruct the functioning of an otherwise proper Board or committee of the Board;
- 9) pay sufficient attention and ensure that adequate deliberations are held before approving related party transactions and assure themselves that the same are in the interest of the company;
- 10) ascertain and ensure that the company has an adequate and functional vigil mechanism and to ensure that the interests of a person who uses such mechanism are not prejudicially affected on account of such use;
- 11) report concerns about unethical behaviour, actual or suspected fraud or violation of the company's code of conduct or ethics policy;
- 12) act within their authority, assist in protecting the legitimate interests of the company, shareholders and its employees;
- 13) not disclose confidential information, including commercial secrets, technologies, advertising and sales promotion plans, unpublished price sensitive information, unless such disclosure is expressly approved by the Board or required by law.

IV. Manner of appointment:

- (1) Appointment process of independent directors shall be independent of the company management; while selecting independent directors the Board shall ensure that there is appropriate balance of skills, experience and knowledge in the Board so as to enable the Board to discharge its functions and duties effectively.
- (2) The appointment of independent director(s) of the company shall be approved at the meeting of the shareholders.
- (3) The explanatory statement attached to the notice of the meeting for approving the appointment of independent director shall include a statement that in the opinion of the Board, the independent director proposed to be appointed fulfils the conditions specified in the Act and the rules made thereunder and that the proposed director is independent of the management.
- (4) The appointment of independent directors shall be formalised through a letter of appointment, which shall set out :
 - a. the term of appointment;
 - b. the expectation of the Board from the appointed director; the Board-level committee(s) in which the director is expected to serve and its tasks;
 - c. the fiduciary duties that come with such an appointment along with accompanying

- liabilities;
 - d. provision for Directors and Officers (D and O) insurance, if any;
 - e. the Code of Business Ethics that the company expects its directors and employees to follow;
 - f. the list of actions that a director should not do while functioning as such in the company; and
 - g. the remuneration, mentioning periodic fees, reimbursement of expenses for participation in the Boards and other meetings and profit related commission, if any.
- (5) The terms and conditions of appointment of independent directors shall be open for inspection at the registered office of the company by any member during normal business hours.
- (6) The terms and conditions of appointment of independent directors shall also be posted on the company's website.

V. Re-appointment:

The re-appointment of independent director shall be on the basis of report of performance evaluation.

VI. Resignation or removal:

- (1) The resignation or removal of an independent director shall be in the same manner as is provided in sections 168 and 169 of the Act.
- (2) An independent director who resigns or is removed from the Board of the company shall be replaced by a new independent director within three months from the date of such resignation or removal, as the case may be.
- (3) Where the company fulfils the requirement of independent directors in its Board even without filling the vacancy created by such resignation or removal, as the case may be, the requirement of replacement by a new independent director shall not apply.

VII. Separate meetings:

- (1) The independent directors of the company shall hold at least one meeting in a financial year, without the attendance of non-independent directors and members of management;
- (2) All the independent directors of the company shall strive to be present at such meeting;
- (3) The meeting shall:
 - a. review the performance of non-independent directors and the Board as a whole;
 - b. review the performance of the Chairperson of the company, taking into account the views of executive directors and non-executive directors;
 - c. assess the quality, quantity and timeliness of flow of information between the company management and the Board that is necessary for the Board to effectively and reasonably perform their duties.

VIII. Evaluation mechanism:

- (1) The performance evaluation of independent directors shall be done by the entire Board of Directors, excluding the director being evaluated.
- (2) On the basis of the report of performance evaluation, it shall be determined whether to extend or continue the term of appointment of the independent director.

Duties of Directors as per Section 166 of the Companies Act, 2013

- 1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, a director of a company shall act in accordance with the articles of the company.
- 2) A director of a company shall act in good faith in order to promote the objects of the company for the benefit of its members as a whole, and in the best interests of the company, its employees, the shareholders, the community and for the protection of environment.
- 3) A director of a company shall exercise his duties with due and reasonable care, skill and diligence and shall exercise independent judgment.
- 4) A director of a company shall not involve in a situation in which he may have a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict, with the interest of the company.
- 5) A director of a company shall not achieve or attempt to achieve any undue gain or advantage either to himself or to his relatives, partners, or associates and if such director is found guilty of making any undue gain, he shall be liable to pay an amount equal to that gain to the company.
- 6) A director of a company shall not assign his office and any assignment so made shall be void.
- 7) If a director of the company contravenes the provisions of this section such director shall be punishable with fine which shall not be less than one lakh rupees but which may extend to five lakh rupees.

Regulation 4(2)(f) of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015

Responsibilities of the board of directors:

(i) Disclosure of information:

- (1) Members of board of directors and key managerial personnel shall disclose to the board of directors whether they, directly, indirectly, or on behalf of third parties, have a material interest in any transaction or matter directly affecting the listed entity.
- (2) The board of directors and senior management shall conduct themselves so as to meet the expectations of operational transparency to stakeholders while at the same time maintaining confidentiality of information in order to foster a culture of good decision-making.

(ii) Key functions of the board of directors-

- (1) Reviewing and guiding corporate strategy, major plans of action, risk policy, annual budgets and business plans, setting performance objectives, monitoring implementation and corporate performance, and overseeing major capital expenditures, acquisitions and divestments.
- (2) Monitoring the effectiveness of the listed entity's governance practices and making changes as needed.
- (3) Selecting, compensating, monitoring and, when necessary, replacing key managerial personnel and overseeing succession planning.
- (4) Aligning key managerial personnel and remuneration of board of directors with the longer-term interests of the listed entity and its shareholders.
- (5) Ensuring a transparent nomination process to the board of directors with the diversity of thought, experience, knowledge, perspective and gender in the board of directors.
- (6) Monitoring and managing potential conflicts of interest of management, members of the board of directors and shareholders, including misuse of corporate assets and abuse in related party transactions.
- (7) Ensuring the integrity of the listed entity's accounting and financial reporting systems, including the independent audit, and that appropriate systems of control are in place, in particular, systems for risk management, financial and operational control, and compliance with the law and relevant standards.
- (8) Overseeing the process of disclosure and communications.
- (9) Monitoring and reviewing board of director's evaluation framework.

(iii) Other responsibilities:

- (1) The board of directors shall provide strategic guidance to the listed entity, ensure effective monitoring of the management and shall be accountable to the listed entity and the shareholders.
- (2) The board of directors shall set a corporate culture and the values by which executives throughout a group shall behave.
- (3) Members of the board of directors shall act on a fully informed basis, in good faith, with due diligence and care, and in the best interest of the listed entity and the shareholders.
- (4) The board of directors shall encourage continuing directors training to ensure that the members of board of directors are kept up to date.
- (5) Where decisions of the board of directors may affect different shareholder groups differently, the board of directors shall treat all shareholders fairly.
- (6) The board of directors shall maintain high ethical standards and shall take into account the interests of stakeholders.

- (7) The board of directors shall exercise objective independent judgement on corporate affairs.
- (8) The board of directors shall consider assigning a sufficient number of nonexecutive members of the board of directors capable of exercising independent judgement to tasks where there is a potential for conflict of interest.
- (9) The board of directors shall ensure that, while rightly encouraging positive thinking, these do not result in over-optimism that either leads to significant risks not being recognised or exposes the listed entity to excessive risk.
- (10) The board of directors shall have ability to „step back“ to assist executive management by challenging the assumptions underlying: strategy, strategic initiatives (such as acquisitions), risk appetite, exposures and the key areas of the listed entity’s focus.
- (11) When committees of the board of directors are established, their mandate, composition and working procedures shall be well defined and disclosed by the board of directors.
- (12) Members of the board of directors shall be able to commit themselves effectively to their responsibilities.
- (13) In order to fulfil their responsibilities, members of the board of directors shall have access to accurate, relevant and timely information.
- (14) The board of directors and senior management shall facilitate the independent directors to perform their role effectively as a member of the board of directors and also a member of a committee of board of directors.