Triodos @ Investment Management

KUBOTA CORP

MEETING DATE	Fri, 22 Mar 2019 10:00 am	TYPE	AGM	ISSUE DATE	Fri, 08 Mar 2019
MEETING LOCATION	Convention Hall of Kubota Corporation 1-chome, Naniwa-ku, Osaka, Japan	2-47, Shik	kitsuhiga	ashi	
CURRENT INDICES	PIRC Japan				
SECTOR	Farm machinery and equipment				

	PROPOSALS	ADVICE
1.1	Elect Kimata Masatoshi President. After this meeting, there will be no female directors on the Board. Regardless of the level of independence, it is considered that it is the responsibility of the most senior Board members to ensure that there is adequate gender diversity on the Board. Although there are no specific legal requirements or recommendations in this market, it is considered that companies should not rely on minimum standards, but aim to best practice, including in gender diversity.	Oppose
1.2	Elect Kitao Yuuichi Executive Director.	For
1.3	Elect Yoshikawa Masato Executive Director.	For
1.4	Elect Sasaki Shinji Executive Director.	For
1.5	Elect Kurosawa Toshihiko Newly appointed Executive Director. After this meeting, there will be no female directors on the Board. Regardless of the level of independence, it is considered that the election of new executives should not be supported until gender diversity is introduced on the Board. Although there are no specific legal requirements or recommendations in this market, it is considered that companies should not rely on minimum standards, but aim to best practice, including in gender diversity. Elect Watanabe Dai	Oppose
1.0	Newly appointed Executive Director. After this meeting, there will be no female directors on the Board. Regardless of the level of independence, it is considered that the election of new executives should not be supported until gender diversity is introduced on the Board. Although there are no specific legal requirements or recommendations in this market, it is considered that companies should not rely on minimum standards, but aim to best practice, including in gender diversity.	Oppose
1.7	Elect Matsuda Yuzuru Independent Non-Executive Outside Director.	For
1.8	Elect Ina Kouichi Independent Non-Executive Outside Director.	For
1.9	Elect Shintaku Yuutarou Independent Non-Executive Outside Director.	For
2.1	Elect Hinenoya Masato Independent Corporate Auditor. Triodos supports this resolution.	For
2.2	Elect Arakane Kumi Independent Corporate Auditor. Triodos supports this resolution.	For

3 Payment of Bonus to Directors

For

The company proposes the payment of bonuses to directors and corporate auditors. Although shareholders are given an opportunity to vote at the Annual Meeting on whether bonus would be paid, the level of individual payment is unclear and is decided entirely by the board. However, the company does disclose that only internal directors will be able to benefit from this awards scheme and aggregate amount payable is disclosed. Triodos supports this resolution.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR RESOLUTIONS

Proposal 2.1 - Elect Hinenoya Masato

The traditional governance structure for Japanese companies (Kansayaku) involves the appointment of corporate auditors. Large Japanese companies are required to form a board of corporate auditors with powers to examine board activities and oversee financial reports. Such companies are required by law to appoint at least three statutory auditors to the corporate audit board. At least half the corporate auditors must qualify as 'outsiders'. Beyond this legal minimum, it is considered to be best practice that boards of corporate auditors should be composed wholly of outsiders. New appointments are therefore considered in the context of their effect on the balance of independence.

Note: It is considered that the corporate auditor board will be 60% independent following the Annual Meeting.

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Researcher: Adam Garside Email: pircresearch@pirc.co.uk

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Pensions & Investment Research Consultants Limited 8th Floor, Suite 8.02, Exchange Tower 2 Harbour Exchange Square E14 9GE

> Tel: 020 7247 2323 Fax: 020 7247 2457 http://www.pirc.co.uk

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