### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Board of Directors of S. S. Steels Ltd. also established a separate Code of Conduct for its Directors in compliance with the requirement of Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) notification.

# **CODE OF CONDUCT**

[As per Condition no. 1(7) of the Notification on Corporate Governance Code issued by the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission vide BSEC/CMRRCD/2006- 158/207/Admin/80 Dated: 3 June 2018]

#### 1.00 OVERVIEW

#### **PREFACE**

This Code of Conduct for the Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer (hereinafter referred to as "the Code") has been framed and adopted by S. S. Steel Limited (hereinafter referred to as "the Company or SSSTEEL") in compliance with the requirements of the Condition 1 (7) of Corporate Governance Code Notification BSEC/CMRRC-D/2006-158/207/Admin/80 Dated: 3 June 2018 of Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission.

This Code is intended to provide guidance to the Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer to manage the affairs of the Company in an ethical manner. The purpose of this code is to recognize and emphasize upon the ethical behavior and to develop a culture of honesty and accountability.

This Code of Conduct attempts to set forth the guiding principles on which the Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer shall operate and conduct themselves with the stakeholders, government and regulatory agencies, employees, customers and suppliers and anyone else with whom it is connected.

# **APPLICABILITY**

This Code shall be applicable and binding on the Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer of the Company. The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer shall continue to comply with other applicable /to be applicable policies, rules and procedures of the Company.

# 2.00 DEFINITIONS & INTERPRETATION

Unless repugnant to the meaning or context thereof, the following expressions, wherever used in this Code, shall have the meaning assigned to them below:

"Board "shall mean the Board of Directors of the Company. "Directors "shall mean directors on the Board.

"Company" shall mean S. S. Steel Limited.

#### 3.00 PRINCIPLES OF THE CODE

The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive officer of the Company shall act within the authority conferred upon them, in the best interests of the Company and observe the following:

# PRUDENT CONDUCT AND BEHAVIOR

- The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer shall act honestly, ethically, in good faith and in the best interest of the Company.
- ➤ Whilst carrying out the duties, the Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer shall ensure that it is executed in terms of the authorizations granted and within the limits prescribed under the relevant policies, codes, guidelines and other directives issued by the Board of Directors of the Company from time to time.
- ➤ The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer shall refrain from indulging in any discriminatory practice or behavior based on race, color, sex, age, religion, ethnic or national origin, disability or any other unlawful basis. The ethical conduct, performance and skills shall be the qualifying indicatives for an employee's performance.
- > The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer shall conduct themselves in a professional, courteous and respectful manner and shall not take any improper advantage of their position.
- ➤ The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer shall use the Company's assets, property, proprietary information and intellectual rights for business purposes of the Company and not for any personal benefits or gains.

# **CONFIDENTIALITY**

- ➤ The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer should conduct themselves so as to meet the expectations of operational transparency of the stakeholders while at the same time maintaining confidentiality of information in order to foster a culture conducive to good decision making. "Confidential information" includes, amongst others, all information of the Company not authorized by the management of the Company for public dissemination.
- All confidential information must be held in confidence, unless authorized by the Board or otherwise permissible in accordance with this Code; or the same is part of the public domain at the time of disclosure; or is required to be disclosed in accordance with applicable laws.

#### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- ➤ The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer shall not enter into any transaction which is or may likely to have a conflict with the interest of the Company.
- The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer should disclose to the board whether they directly, indirectly or on behalf of third parties have a material interest in any transaction or matter directly affecting the Company.
- All transactions having conflict of interest should be carried out in accordance with law and be fully disclosed to the Board of Directors.

# COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS. RULES AND REGULATIONS

➤ The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer shall ensure compliance with the various legal/- regulatory requirements as applicable to the business of the Company and endeavor that before any directions are given or decisions taken, relevant legal/regulatory requirements are taken into account.

# PROHIBITION OF INSIDER TRADING

- ➤ The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer shall comply with all laws, rules, and regulations governing trading in the shares of the Company and the Company's Code of Conduct for Prohibition of Insider Trading in dealing with the securities of the Company which, inter-alia, prohibits buying or selling of the Company's securities on the basis of any unpublished price sensitive information and prohibits disclosure of such information to any other person (including relatives) where such information may be used by such person for his or her personal benefit or gain.
- ➤ The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer should comply with the provision of the Companies Act, 1994 and applicable rules and regulations issued by the Bangladesh Securities Exchange Commission, Dhaka Stock Exchange and Chittagong Stock Exchange, insofar as they relate to prohibitions on insider trading.

# RELATIONSHIP WITH ENVIRONMENT

- ➤ The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer should cause the Company to strive to provide a safe and healthy working environment and comply, in the conduct of the business affairs of the Company, with all regulations regarding the preservation of the environment of the industry it operates in.
- ➤ The Company should be committed to prevent the wasteful use of natural resources and minimize any hazardous impact of the development, production, use and disposal of any of its products and services on the ecological environment in accordance with the applicable laws.

# **RELATIONSHIP MTH EMPLOYEES**

- ➤ The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer should strive for causing the Company to maintain cordial employee relations.
- ➤ The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer should cause the Company to build competency based human resource systems and maintain human resource policies that have been directed at managing the growth of the organization efficiently.
- > The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer should assist the Company in further aligning its human resource policies, processes and initiatives to meet its business needs.

# **RELATIONSHIP WITH CUSTOMERS**

➤ The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer should ensure that the Company is committed to supply products and services of the highest quality

- standards backed by efficient after-sales service consistent with the requirements of the customers to ensure their total satisfaction.
- ➤ The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer should ensure that Company will properly engage in product advertising, publicity, and sales promotion activities to avoid misleading the customers.
- ➤ The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer should ensure that the Company will engage in free and open competition with competitors to maintain its stance as a company trusted by customers and society.

# RELATIONSHIP WITH SUPPLIERS

- This Code contains general requirements applicable to all suppliers to Company. Particular supplier contracts may contain more specific provisions addressing some of these same issues. Nothing in this Code is meant to supersede any specific provision in a particular contract, and to the extent there is any inconsistency between this Code and any other provision of a particular contract, the other provision will prevail.
- ➤ The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer should act in the best interest of the Company. Accordingly, the Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer should have no relationship, financial or otherwise, with any supplier that might conflict, or appear to conflict, with the Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer's obligation to act in the best interest of Company.

# **INDEPENDENCY**

- The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer should remain independent in all material respects.
- ➤ The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer should act impartial to the Employees, Customers, Suppliers, Shareholders and other Stakeholders.

# 4.00 COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE

This Code has not specifically addressed every potential form of unacceptable conduct and it is expected that the Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer will exercise good judgment in compliance with the principles set out in this Code. The Chairperson, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer have a duty to avoid any circumstances that would violate the letter or spirit of the Code.

# 5.00 AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT

The provisions of this Code can be amended/ modified by the Board of Directors, based on the recommendation of the Nomi- nation and Remuneration Committee (NRC), from time to time and all such amendments/ modifications shall take effect from the date stated therein. The Chairperson, other 80ard members and Chief Executive Officer shall be duly informed of such amendments and modifications.

### 6.00 PUBLICATION OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Pursuant to Condition 01(7) (b) of Corporate Governance Code Notification BSEC/CMRRCD/2006-158/207/Admin/80 Dated: 3 June 2018 of Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission, this Code of Conduct and any amendments thereto shall be published/posted on the website of the Company.

# **COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS**

Ethical business conduct and compliance with applicable laws and regulations are fundamental aspects of S. S. Steel Limited To this end, the company established procedures to ensure compliance with all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements. The secretariat department is responsible for ensuring proper compliance with applicable laws and regulations and this process is being followed by the Company. "Atik Khaled Chowdhury", independent Corporate Governance Compliance Auditor was appointed by the Board to conduct Corporate Compliance Certification as per requirement of Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC).

# **COMPANY'S CORPORATE WEBSITE**

# www.sssteel.biz

The Company's website <u>www.sssteel.biz</u> displays, the Annual Reports, Half-Yearly Reports and Quarterly Reports and all disclosers required by the Bangladesh Securities & Exchange Commission (BSEC), Listing Regulations of Dhaka Stock Exchange Limited and Chittagong Stock Exchange Limited in form of Price Sensitive Information are made adequately and promptly.

# **CONCLUSION**

S. S. Steel Limited ensured highest standards in corporate good governance and strict adherence to the requirements of ethical code of conduct, through close monitoring. The Company recognizes that corporate governance is a continuous process which is to be established, nurtured and excelled by means of concerted efforts of all. And that is why the Company engages all its team in the process because good governance entails managing the business professionally, effectively and responsibly and in a way which is transparent, ethical, law abiding and ensures accountability. The Board is committed to ensure the good corporate governance in the Company.