

# REPORT ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND OWNERSHIP SET-UPS

Pursuant to Article 123-bis of the FCA

GEOX S.p.A.

www.geox.biz

**2015 ACCOUNTING PERIOD** 

Approved on: 25 February 2016
TABLE OF CONTENTS

# **GEOX**

I. ISSUER PROFILE	4
2. INFORMATION ON THE OWNERSHIP SET-UPS AS OF 31/12/2014	6
3. COMPLIANCE	13
4. BOARD OF DIRECTORS	15
5. HANDLING OF CORPORATE INFORMATION	36
6. COMMITTEES WITHIN THE BOARD	38
7. APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE	39
8. REMUNERATION COMMITTEE	41
9. REMUNERATION OF DIRECTORS	41
10. AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE	42
II. RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL AUDIT SYSTEM	45
12. INTERESTS OF DIRECTORS AND TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED I	PARTIES 56
13. APPOINTMENT OF THE BOARD OF STATUTORY AUDITORS	59
<b>14.</b> COMPOSITION AND OPERATION OF THE BOARD OF STATUTORY AUDITORS	63
15. DEALINGS WITH THE SHAREHOLDERS	65
16. GENERAL MEETINGS	65
17. OTHER PRACTICES PERTAINING TO CORPORATE GOVERNANCE	67
18. CHANGES SINCE THE END OF THE ACCOUNTING PERIOD IN QUE	STION 67

**TABLES** 



## **GLOSSARY**

Code/Corporate Governance Code	The Corporate Governance Code of listed		
	companies, approved in March 2006 (as amended		
	in March 2010, in December 2011 and in July 2014)		
	by the Corporate Governance Committee.		
Civil Code/c.c.	The Italian civil code.		
Board	The Issuer's Board of Directors.		
Issuer/Company/Geox	GEOX S.p.A.		
Accounting period	The fiscal year which refers to the period ended on		
	31 December 2014.		
Consob Issuers' Regulations	The Regulations issued by CONSOB under		
	resolution no. 11971/1999 (as subsequently		
	amended) regarding issuers.		
Consob Market Regulations	The Regulations issued by CONSOB under		
	resolution no. 16191/2007 (as subsequently		
	amended) regarding markets.		
Consob RPT Regulations	The Regulations issued by CONSOB under		
	resolution no. 17221 of 12 March 2010 (as		
	subsequently amended) regarding related party		
	transactions.		
Report	This report on corporate governance and		
	ownership set-ups that companies are required to		
	draw up pursuant to Article 123-bis of the FCA.		
FCA/Finance Consolidation Act	Italian legislative decree no. 58 of 24 February		
	1998, as subsequently amended.		



#### 1. ISSUER PROFILE

#### **MISSION AND VALUES**

The footwear and clothing market is extremely competitive.

Geox distinguishes itself from its competitors by allowing its products to "breathe." The name of the brand Geox derives from the combination of the words "geo" (earth in Greek) on which we all walk and "x" a letter/element that symbolizes technology.

The origin of the Geox name underlines the vocation and DNA of a company that started from a revolutionary idea and made comfort, wellbeing and health corporate must-haves. The company looks forward by "breathing" internally as well, through the practical application of very strong values of the typically Venetian "do it" culture, but always with respect for interpersonal relationships and corporate ethics.

Geox's mission: to offer wellbeing to people from their head to their toes, by continuously developing new technologies and by complying with corporate ethics.

#### The principles of our mission

Geox's mission derives from the application of values that are fundamental to the company:

#### **Technology**

Constant focus on the product through application of patented innovative and technological solutions invented by Geox.

#### Focus on the consumer

Cross positioning of our products for men, women and children in the broader medium and medium/high segment of the market (family brand) and promotion of the direct relation with consumers through a widespread retail network.

#### **Brand recognition**

The Geox brand enjoys a high level of recognition, thanks to an effective communication strategy and its identification by consumers with the "breathable" concept.

#### Internationalisation

A growing presence in international markets thanks to the replicability of the business model established in Italy.



#### **Sustainability**

Implementing day-to-day operating policies and behaviours that take into account the interests of all stakeholders and the impact that the company's operations may have on the economy, society, and the environment.

Implementing ethical, solidarity and environmental sustainability principles necessary for the long-lasting development of the company and the world we live in.

Paying attention to the quality of our products as the result of fair labour standards as well as innovative and sustainable manufacturing processes that respect the ecosystems.

### The values of people

Each day, Geox staff absorb its fundamental values:

- Working with enthusiasm and dynamically
- Believing in their own ideas and in innovative projects
- Common sense
- Honesty and integrity
- Temperance in conduct (and costs)
- Responsibility towards employees, customers, partners and shareholders
- Recognition of the importance of training
- Observance of the code of conduct
- Sensitivity with regard to environmental pollution
- Trust in the management.

It has been proven that compliance with these principles reinforces the value of Geox's corporate culture and our trust in the company's future.

# SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF GEOX S.P.A.'S CORPORATE GOVERNANCE SYSTEM

During 2015, the Company fully abided by the recommendations included in the Corporate Governance Code.

The Company intends to provide below complete information on the procedures to implement its corporate governance system and on compliance with the Code, according to the guidelines contained in the format developed by Borsa Italiana as updated in January 2015, as well as according to Article 123-bis of the FCA.



This report refers to the Company's Articles of Association, amended on 22 December 2014 (the "Articles of Association").

On 19 December 2013, the Company's Board of Directors approved the review of its internal regulations, which identify the principles which Geox abides by in order to ensure the transparency and essential and procedural correctness of transactions with related parties, in application and compliance with Consob's RPT Regulations (the "Regulation governing Related-Party Transactions") approved initially on 28 October 2010.

Geox S.p.A.'s corporate bodies are: the Shareholders' Meeting, the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, the Audit and Risk Committee, the Remuneration Committee, the Appointment Committee, the Board of Statutory Auditors. The Committees represent the internal structure of the Board of Directors and have been established with the aim of improving the functioning and strategic policy capability of the Board.

In addition, there is an Ethics and Sustainable Development Committee consisting of Mario Moretti Polegato, Joaquìn Navarro-Valls, Umberto Paolucci and lawyer Renato Alberini, to direct and promote the Company's sustainable development and ethical conduct.

The aim of the corporate governance system is to ensure the correct functioning of the Company and the Group, in general, as well as the development on a global scale of the reliability of its products and, as a consequence, its name.

# 2. INFORMATION ON THE OWNERSHIP SET-UPS AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2014

Ex art. 123-bis, par. I, FCA

#### a) Share capital structure

The share capital, fully subscribed and paid-in, amounts to Euro 25,920,733.10 and is divided into 259,207,331 ordinary shares, each with a par value of Euro 0.10 (nought point ten).

The Issuer's share capital structure is shown in the table below.



SHARE CAPITAL STRUCTURE				
	No. of	% of	Listed	Rights and
	shares	share	(indicate	obligations
		capital	markets) /	
			not listed	
Ordinary	259.207.331	100%	MTA	Each share is
shares				entitled to one
				vote. The rights
				and obligations of
				the shareholders
				are those laid down
				by articles 2346 and
				subsequent articles
				of the Italian civil
				code
Shares with	-	-	-	-
multiple				
voting rights				
Shares with	-	-	-	-
limited voting				
rights				
Shares	-	-	-	-
without				
voting rights				
Other	-	-	-	-

The extraordinary shareholders' meeting held on 18 December 2008 resolved a share capital increase, with progressive efficacy and against payment, for a maximum amount of Euro 1,200,000 (one million two hundred thousand\00), by means of the issue of a maximum number of ordinary shares equating to 12,000,000 ordinary shares, with a par value of Euro 0.10 (nought point ten) each, regular dividend rights, with the exclusion of the purchase option, and with the latest deadline for subscription established as of 31 December 2020. The shares relating to the increase are reserved for the beneficiaries of the share incentive



plans (stock option plans), either already approved or future and possible ones. The resolution confers on the Board of Directors (or on one of its members to whom the Board intends to entrust the engagement) the task of establishing the final issue price of the shares which will be equal to the average of the official prices recorded by Geox shares on the MTA (screen-based stock exchange), in the month prior to the date(s) of assignment (where "month prior" means the period from the date(s) of assignment of the subscription rights to the same day in the previous month, and without prejudice to the fact that in this period, for the purposes of determining the average, account will be taken solely of the openmarket days on which Geox ordinary shares were effectively traded), in compliance with the minimum price per share which is 1.20 Euro. This resolution was subsequently modified and supplemented by the extraordinary Shareholders' Meeting of 22 December 2014 with particular reference to the issue price of the newly issued shares to service the 2014-2016 Stock Option plan. This issue price will be 2.039 Euro, equal to the average of the official prices recorded by Geox shares on the MTA, on the thirty days prior to the date of approving the 2014-2016 Industrial Plan (i.e. 14 November 2013), and thus from 15 October 2013 to 14 November 2013, in reference to the issue of shares to service the 2014-2016 Stock Option plan as part of the share capital increase, excluding the option right pursuant to art. 2441, par. 8, of the Italian Civil Code.

As of the date of this report the 2014-2016 Stock Option Plan is in effect. The plan establishes vesting period for the Options starting from the date of assignment of the Options themselves and the date of approval of the Group's consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016 ("vesting period"), as well as a deadline, i.e. 31 December 2020, for exercising the options before they expire ("expiration date"). Therefore, the Options which have not vested, or in any case which have not been exercised, by the Expiration Date will be understood as extinguished to all effects and purposes with reciprocal release of the Company and the beneficiary concerned from any obligation and responsibility.

The exercise of the stock options is subject to the achievement of certain performance conditions concerning the Group's accumulated net profit at the end of the vesting period based on the Geox Group's 2014-2016 consolidated business plan.



The 2014-2016 Stock Option Plan, approved by the Shareholders' Meeting of 22 December 2014, regards a maximum number of options totalling 3.150.000 and envisages an option assignment cycle which was completed in December 2014. 2,261,550 options were assigned, the exercise price of which was determined by using the average of the official prices of Geox shares on the thirty days prior to approval of the 2014-2016 Industrial plan, i.e. 2.039 Euro. The vesting period ends with the approval of the Group's consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016, while the expiration date is 31 December 2020.

Further details on the incentive plans are contained in the financial statements as of 31 December 2015, as well as in the Governance section on the website <a href="https://www.geox.biz">www.geox.biz</a>.

Concerning the 2011-2012 Stock Option Plan, on 25 February 2016 the Board of Directors resolved that the stock options concerned cannot be exercised because of the failure to meet the performance conditions concerning the Group's EBIT in the period of the relevant grant cycle, and that it would not allow the recipients to exercise part or all of the stock options even though the performance conditions were not met. Therefore, the 2011-2012 Stock Option

In addition, please note that the expiration date for the 2005 Stock Option Plan was 31 December 2015.

Plan has expired without the exercise of any stock option.

Without prejudice to the matters indicated above in relation to the stock option plans, the Company has issued no financial instruments that grant the right to subscribe newly issued shares.

#### b) Restrictions on transfer of securities

The Company's ordinary shares are freely transferable and contain no restrictions with regard to their transfer. Moreover, there is no limit on ownership of securities and the Company or other securities' holders confer no approval requirements in relation to the transfer of said shares.

The purchase options that were assigned by the Issuer as part of the stock option plans described in paragraph a) above are non-negotiable and cannot be transferred.



## c) Significant equity investments in the share capital

As of the date of approval of the Report, the parties who invest directly or indirectly, to an extent greater than 2% of the share capital, in accordance with the information emerging from the communication made in accordance with Article I 20 of the FCA, are:

SIGNIFICANT EQUITY INVESTMENTS IN SHARE CAPITAL				
Direct	Direct	Direct	% of share	
shareholder	shareholder	shareholder	capital	
Mario Moretti	LIR S.r.l.	71,1004%	71,1004%	
Polegato				
JPMorgan Asset	JPMorgan Asset	2,0137%	2,0137%	
Management	Management (UK)			
Holdings Inc.	Limited			
FMR LLC	FMR LLC	2,1309%	2,1309	

## d) Securities with special rights

The Issuer has issued no securities that grant special control rights.

# e) Shareholding participation of employees: exercise of voting rights mechanism

There is no mechanism providing for the exercise of employee voting rights.

## f) Restrictions on the right to vote

There is no restriction on the right of shareholders to vote.

# g) Shareholders' agreements

To the best of the Company's knowledge, there exist no agreements between the Company's shareholders pursuant to article 122 of the FCA.

# h) Change of control clauses and provisions of the articles of association concerning PPOs



The Group has not concluded significant agreements that will enter into effect, become amended or be extinguished in the event of a change of control within the contracting company.

The Articles of Association of Geox do not contain any provisions departing from the provisions on the passivity rule laid down by art. 104, paragraphs 1 and 2, of the FCA nor do they envisage the application of the neutralisation rules laid down in art. 104-bis, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the FCA.

# i) Proxies to increase the share capital and authorisations to purchase treasury shares

#### Powers to increase the share capital

As of the date of approval of the Report, the Extraordinary Shareholders' Meeting did not grant the Board of Directors authority to increase the share capital pursuant to Articles 2420-ter and 2443 of the Italian Civil Code.

#### Authorisation to purchase treasury shares

On the date of approval of this Report, the authorisation exists of the Shareholders' Meeting of the Company on 22 December 2014 to purchase own shares in compliance with art. 2357 and 2357-ter of the Italian civil code.

In particular, on 22 December 2014 the Shareholders' Meeting authorised, pursuant to art. 2357 and 2357-ter of the Italian Civil Code and art. 132 of the FCA, the purchase, in one or more transactions, of a maximum, on a rotation basis (meaning by this the maximum number of own shares held each time in the portfolio), of 25,920,733 ordinary Geox shares with a par value of Euro 0.10 each and, in any case, within the limits of 10% of the Company's share capital., taking account to this end also of any shares which might be held by subsidiaries. The shares may be purchased until the end of the eighteenth month and starting from the date of the resolution. The purchase may be made, according to one of the methods laid down by the joint provision as per art. 132 of the FCA and art. 144bis, paragraph I, letter b) and c) of the Issuers Regulations. The unit payment for the purchase of the shares may be made at a maximum and minimum unitary price equal to the price of the Geox share at closure of the stock exchange recorded in the working day prior to the purchase date, plus or minus 10% respectively for the maximum and the minimum price. In any case, the payment may not exceed any limits provided by applicable legislation or, if recognised, by allowed market practices. Finally, the maximum purchase volumes shall not be



more than 25% of the average of the daily volumes of the 20 sessions of the Stock Exchange prior to the date of the purchase operation. In compliance with art. 5 of Regulation EC 2273/2003, such a limit may be exceeded, in the event of extremely low liquidity in the market, at the conditions laid down in the mentioned provision; in any case the maximum number of own shares which can be purchased daily as part of the program shall not be over 50% of the average daily volume as calculated above. In any case, the volumes shall not exceed the limits which may be provided by applicable legislation or, if recognised, by the allowed market practices.

As at 31 December 2015, the Issuer held no treasury shares.

# j) Management and co-ordination activities

The Company manages and coordinates the companies belonging to the Geox Group, including in matters of governance. Despite it being controlled by another company, Geox does not consider itself to be subject to the management and coordination activities of third parties, since the decision-making bodies and the management headquarters of the entire Group are concentrated within Geox's structure.

The company LIR S.r.l. controls the Geox Group, as it owns 71.1% of the share capital and, therefore, includes the Company in its consolidated financial statements. However, as at 31 December 2015, Geox was not subject to management and co-ordination (as defined in Article 2497 and seq. of the Italian Civil Code) by any entity, including LIR S.r.l.

This is because the assumption referred to in Article 2497-sexies of the Italian Civil Code – i.e. that, in the absence of any indication to the contrary, the management and co-ordination activities are carried out by the entity that prepares the consolidated financial statements – does not apply to this specific case for the following reasons:

- (i) the Company continues to independently define its own general strategic and operating guidelines as well as do business with customers and suppliers;
- (ii) Geox has an independent risk management system and its own financial structure;
- (iii) most members of the Company's Board of Directors are not related to LIR
   S.r.I. In addition, Geox has enough independent directors to ensure that their opinions carry significant weight in the Board's decisions;



(iv) the Executive Committee, which has the powers for the ordinary and extraordinary administration of the Company, operates under the supervision of the Board of Statutory Auditors.

#### \*\*\*\*\*

With reference to the information relating to the agreements between the company and the Directors which provide for indemnities in the event of resignations or dismissal without just cause or if their employment relationship should cease following a public purchase offer, please refer to the contents of the remuneration report published in compliance with art. 123-ter of the FCA (see Section 9 of this Report).

The information relating to the rules applicable to the appointment and replacement of the Directors and amendments to the Articles of Association, if other than the additional legislative and regulatory rules applicable on a supplementary basis, are set forth in Section 4.1 of the Report.

#### 3. COMPLIANCE

## Ex art. 123-bis, par. 2, letter a), FCA

The Company has formally adopted the Corporate Governance Code for listed companies drawn up by Borsa Italiana S.p.A.'s Corporate Governance Committee, as approved in March 2006 by means of the BoD meeting held on 22 January 2007.

The Corporate Governance Code was amended in March 2010 in its section related to the remuneration of directors and executives ("dirigenti") having strategic responsibility, and again in December 2011 with the aim, on the one hand, of increasingly adjusting the Code's recommendations to the size of listed companies, and on the other hand, of strengthening the central role of the Board of Directors and rationalizing the auditing system. The Corporate Governance Code, furthermore, was updated in July 2014, mainly in order to strengthen the "comply or explain" principle relating to the procedure for self-assessment and forewarning the Board as well as the remuneration of directors and transparency on the severance packages of managers.

The Corporate Governance Code was most recently updated in July 2015. The amendments concerned, among other things, the principles that apply to the Board of Directors and the Board Committees (attendance of management personnel at Board meetings and reporting to the Board of Directors on the



meetings of the Board Committees), the independent directors (meeting procedures), the Board of Statutory Auditors (assessment of independence and remuneration), risk management (duty of the Board of Directors to assess risks considering the company's sustainability in the medium-long term, description of co-ordination procedures, duty of the audit committee to provide support, and risks associated with the assessments and resolutions of the Board of Directors concerning risk management), as well as the introduction of a number of references to corporate sustainability and the whistleblowing systems for the issuers listed on the FTSE-MIB index.

In reference to the changes made to the Corporate Governance Code in December 2011, the Board of Directors of 20 December 2012 resolved to make some organisational changes in order to transpose these changes, including in particular some changes to the Risk Management and Internal Audit System and to the departments that are involved in this. Moreover, during the above-mentioned meeting held on 20 December 2012, the Board of Directors also resolved to create an Appointment Committee, in compliance with Articles 4 and 5 of the Code. In reference to the changes made to the Corporate Governance Code in July 2014, the Board of Directors of 5 March 2015 transposed the related supplementary disclosure into this report with reference to the self-assessment process of the Board of Directors, the training programmes for directors and auditors, the Board's internal committees and remuneration.

As for the amendments to the Corporate Governance Code introduced in July 2015, listed companies shall apply them by the end of 2016 (except for the changes to the principles concerning the board of statutory auditors, which shall be implemented starting from the first renewal of the auditing body after the end of the year that begins in 2015), informing the market with the 2016 corporate governance report.

The text of the Corporate Governance Code is available to the public on the website of Borsa Italiana (www.borsaitaliana.it).

Neither the Issuer nor its strategically significant subsidiaries are subject to the provisions of non-Italian laws that influence the Issuer's corporate governance structure.



#### 4. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

# 4.1 Appointment and replacement of Directors and Article of Association amendments

The provisions applicable for the appointment and replacement of Directors, illustrated below, are indicated under Article 17 of the Articles of Association:

"The Directors are appointed for the first time in the memorandum of association and subsequently by the ordinary shareholders' meeting. Undertaking of the office of Director is dependent on possession of the requisites established by the law, the Articles of Association and other applicable provisions.

Those who cover more than ten appointments as director or statutory auditor in other companies listed on organized markets (also abroad), in financial, banking and insurance companies or companies of a significant size, cannot be appointed to the office of Director of the Company and, if appointed, fall from office.

When the Board of Directors is appointed by the Shareholders' Meeting, the Directors are appointed by the ordinary meeting on the basis of lists presented by the Shareholders, in which the candidates will be listed by means of progressive numbers.

The lists must be lodged at the registered office of the company at least twenty-five days before the date established for the Shareholders' Meeting and must be put at the disposal of the public at the registered office, on the Internet site and with the other procedures laid down by laws and regulations at least twenty-one days before such a meeting.

Each Shareholder may present or contribute towards presenting just one list and each candidate can stand for just one list, on penalty of ineligibility. Each Shareholder, as well as the Shareholders belonging to the same group (this being understood to be the party, not necessarily a company, which controls the same in accordance with Article 93 of Italian Legislative Decree No. 58/1998 as well as the subsidiary and associated companies of the same party), or who comply with a shareholders' agreement pursuant to Article 122 of Italian Legislative Decree No. 58/98, cannot present or contribute towards presenting or vote for – directly, via third parties or trust companies – more than one list.

Only the Shareholders who alone or together with other Shareholders represent at least one fortieth of the share capital (or a lower threshold determined in



accordance with legislation in force as of the date of the shareholders' meeting) have the right to present lists.

Ownership of the aforesaid minimum shareholding necessary to present the lists is calculated taking into account the shares registered in the shareholders' name as at the date when the lists are lodged at the Company's registered office.

In order to prove ownership of the number of shares necessary for presentation of the lists, Shareholders who present or contribute to the submission of the lists, must present and/or send to the registered office a copy of the relevant certificate issued by a broker authorised by law, at least twenty-one days before the Shareholders' Meeting called to deliberate on the appointment of the members of the Board of Directors. The declarations by means of which the individual candidates accept their candidature and declare, at their own liability, the inexistence of the causes of ineligibility and incompatibility envisaged by the law and the Articles of Association, as well as the existence of the requisites which may be laid down by law and the regulations for the respective offices, must be lodged together with each list. Together with the declarations, a curriculum vitae will be lodged for each candidate, including the personal and professional characteristics and, if required, the indication of the suitability for qualifying as independent in accordance with current legislation and in observance of the limit on the accumulation of offices described above.

The lists in relation to which these provisions have not been observed will not be considered as presented.

At least one of the members of the Board, if the Board of Directors is made up of a number of members ranging up to seven, or two members of the Board if the Board of Directors is made up of more than seven members, must possess the independence requisites described above. Directors with the requirements of independence who, subsequent to appointment, lose the afore-mentioned independence requisites, must inform the Board of Directors immediately and, in any event, fall from office.

Periodically, the Board will assess the independency and honourable nature of the Directors. In the event that the independence and uprightness requisites do not exist or cease to exist and in the event that the minimum number of independent Directors established in these Articles of Association ceases to exist, the Board declares the fall from office of the Directors lacking said requisite and sees to the replacement of the same.



Each holder of voting rights can vote for just one list. Every list shall contain a number of candidates equal to the maximum number of members of the Board of Directors as stated in Article 16 and at least two of them shall meet the independence requisites specified above, and unless such lists present a number of candidates lower than three, both genders shall be represented, so that the candidates of the less represented gender are, for the first term of office following one year of the coming into force of Law no. 120/2011, at least 1/5 of the total number and, in the two subsequent terms of office, at least one third of the total number, with rounding off to the higher unit in the case of a fraction.

The election of the Directors will take place as follows:

- a) from the list that has obtained the majority of the votes of the Shareholders the eight tenths of the Directors to be appointed with a rounding down in case of fractions less than one unit shall be taken in the progressive order with which they are listed on said list;
- the remaining Directors shall be drawn from the other lists, it being clear that b) at least one director must be taken from a list that is no way connected, even indirectly, with the members that have presented or voted the list referred to in point a) and that came first in terms of number of votes; for this purpose, the votes obtained from the said lists will be divided subsequently by one, two, three and so on according to the progressive number of the Directors to be appointed. The quotients obtained in this way will be progressively assigned to the candidates in each of these lists, following the relevant order. The quotients attributed in this way to the candidates on the various lists will constitute a single ranking list in a decreasing order. Those who have obtained the highest quotients will be elected. If more than one candidate has obtained the same quotient, the candidate of the list that has not yet elected any director or that has elected the lower number of Directors shall be elected. In cases where none of these lists have elected a director yet or all have elected the same number of Directors, the candidate of the list that has obtained the greatest number of votes shall be elected. If the votes on the list are tied and with tie in the quotients, a new vote will be cast by the entire Shareholders' Meeting and the candidate obtaining the simple majority of the votes will be elected.

If with the candidates elected with the above-mentioned proceedings the appointment of a Director with the independence requirements referred to above



is not guaranteed, the last non-independent candidate elected, following the progressive order on the list with the greatest number of votes referred to in previous point a), shall be replaced by the independent not elected candidate on the same list in accordance with the progressive order.

Should the resulting composition of the body fail to respect the gender balance, taking into account the order in which candidates are listed, the last candidates elected in the Majority List of the most represented gender shall fall from office in a number necessary to ensure the fulfilment of the gender balance requirement, and they shall be replaced by the first non-elected candidates of the less represented gender contained in the same list. If the candidates of the less represented gender in the Majority List are not in sufficient number to proceed with replacement, the Shareholders' Meeting shall appoint other members with the legal majorities, thus ensuring that the gender balance requirement is met.

For the purposes of the division concerning the Directors to be elected, account must not be taken of the lists that have not obtained a percentage of votes equivalent to at least half of those required by the Articles of Association for their submission.

If a single list is presented or if no list at all is presented, the Shareholders' Meeting shall pass resolutions with the majority required by the law, without complying with the above described procedure, without prejudice to the requirement of the minimum number of directors with the requirements of independence specified in these Articles of Association and, in any case, in compliance with the division criterion envisaged by Article 147-ter, par 1-ter, Legislative Decree no. 58/1998.

The term of office of the Directors shall be determined by the Shareholders' Meeting at the time of appointment and cannot exceed three financial years. The Directors shall fall from office on the date of the Shareholders' Meeting convened for the approval of the financial statements related to the last accounting year in which they are in office.

Without prejudice to the provisions of the next paragraph, if one or more Directors should cease to be present for any reason during the three-year period, the Board of Directors shall proceed with the relevant replacement pursuant to Article 2386 of the Italian Civil Code. If one or more Directors who have ceased to fill their office have been drawn from a list that also contains the names of candidates who have not been elected, the Board of Directors will make the replacement by appointing, in accordance with the progressive order, people



drawn from the same list to which the Director who is no longer filling his or her office belongs, who are still eligible and agree to accept the office, by respecting the division criterion envisaged by Article 147-ter, par I-ter, of Legislative Decree no. 58/98. Where an independent Director ceases to fill his or her office, the substitution will occur wherever possible by appointing the first of the independent not elected Directors on the list from which the Director no longer filling his or her office has been taken; pursuant to Article 2386 of the Italian Civil Code the election of the Directors is carried out by the Shareholders' Meeting with the majority required under the law by appointing the replacements on the basis of the same criteria mentioned in the previous paragraph and by respecting the division criterion envisaged by Article 147-ter, par 1-ter, of Legislative Decree no. 58/98; and the terms of office of the Directors appointed in this way will expire together with those of the Directors in office when they were appointed. Should it happen that there are no longer (in the above-mentioned list) candidates not elected previously, or should it happen that the replacement methods indicated previously do not respect the minimum number of directors with the requirements of independence or the equal balance of genders, or that one list only has been submitted, or that no lists at all have been submitted, the Board of Directors shall replace the ceased Directors pursuant to Article 2386 of the Italian Civil Code without observing the criteria indicated above, as resolved by the Shareholders' Meeting still with the legal majorities, without prejudice - both for co-optation and for meeting resolution - to the minimum number of directors with the requirements of independence and to the division criterion provided for by Article 147-ter, par 1-ter of D. Legislative Decree no. 58/1998; and the directors so appointed shall fall from office along with those in office at the time of their appointment. If during the mandate, the majority of Directors appointed by the Shareholders' Meeting should for any reason cease their offices, the entire Board of Directors will be considered to have ceased the office, and the Shareholders' Meeting must be called urgently by the remaining Directors for the appointment of the new Board of Directors.

If during the financial year, one or more Directors cease to fill their office, providing that the majority is still made up of Directors appointed by the Shareholders' Meeting, the Shareholders' Meeting is anyway entitled to reduce the number of the members of the Board of Directors to that of the Directors in office for the remainder term of office, providing that the minimum number of



Directors with the requirements of independence mentioned above is respected and provided that there is at least one of the Directors elected from the minority lists (if previously elected) and provided that the division criterion provided for by Article 147-ter, par. 1-ter, of Legislative Decree no. 58/1998 too is respected.

If the number of Directors is lower than the maximum provided for in Article 16 above, the Shareholders' Meeting, even during the term of office of the Board of Directors, will be able to increase this number up to the maximum limit specified in said article. For the appointment of further members of the Board of Directors the procedure is as follows: the additional Directors shall be taken from the list that has obtained the highest number of votes cast by the Shareholders on the occasion of the appointment of the members in office at the time, from among the candidates who can still be elected, and the Shareholders' Meeting shall resolve with the legal majorities, by respecting this principle and the division criterion provided for by Article 147-ter, par 1-ter, of Legislative Decree no. 58/98; conversely, should it happen that there are no longer (in the above-mentioned list) candidates not elected previously, or that one list only has been submitted, or that no lists at all have been submitted, the Shareholders' Meeting shall proceed with appointment without observing the criteria indicated above, with the legal majorities and still in accordance with the division criterion provided for by Article 147-ter, par 1-ter, Legislative Decree no. 58/1998. The Directors elected in this way shall cease their office together with those in office at the time of their appointment.

The Shareholders' Meeting shall determine the overall remuneration due to the Directors, including those with special offices. After consulting the Board of Statutory Auditors, the Board of Directors shall split the overall remuneration determined by the Shareholders' Meeting among its members. The Directors are entitled to be reimbursed for expenses incurred while carrying out their functions".

By means of Resolution no. 19499 published on 28 January 2016, Consob established the shareholding required for presentation of the lists of candidates for election to the administration and control bodies that closed the accounting period ended on 31 December 2015, unless a lower shareholding is envisaged by the Articles of Association. In particular, the shareholding set for GEOX S.p.A. is the following:



CRITERIA FOR T				
CATEGORY OF CAPITALISATION	FREE FLOAT	MAJORITY STAKE %	SHARE-HOLDING	
> I billion and <= 15 billion	Not material	Not material	1.0%	

#### **Succession plans**

Still in regard to the appointment of Directors, the Board of Directors of the Company has not adopted any plan for the replacement of executive Directors. The Board of Directors, actually, reckons that it is primarily important to assess, on a case-by-case basis, the need to replace at least some of the directors or otherwise regulate the relationship between the Company and the Directors on an individual basis and taking into account the peculiarities that regard each of them.

#### 4.2 Composition

Art. 16 of the Articles of Association envisages that the Company is administered by a Board of Directors (hereafter also the "Board" or "BoD") consisting of a minimum of five to a maximum of eleven directors, who can be re-elected, in compliance with the gender balance requirement pursuant to article 147-ter, par. 1-ter, of the FCA, introduced by Law no. 120 of 12 July 2011. Consequently, for the first mandate after a year from the coming into force of Law 120/2011, the Board must contain at least 1/5 of the least represented gender, while in the two subsequent mandates at least 1/3 of the members must belong to the least represented gender, rounding up to the nearest whole number where necessary. The Shareholders' meeting of 17 April 2013 set the number of members of the Board of Directors at 9 and this Board will serve until the Shareholders' meeting to approve the financial statements at 31 December 2015. The nine members of the Board of Directors were appointed by the Shareholders' meeting of 17 April 2013 (except as specified below in relation to the director Duncan Niederauer) on the basis of the single list presented by the majority shareholder LIR S.r.l., approved on a majority basis by the Shareholders' meeting, with 99.88% of the share capital with voting rights.



Further to the resignation of the Director Renato Alberini, on 13 November 2014, the Board of Directors of the Company resolved to co-opt Mr. Duncan Niederauer as a new member of the Board of Directors, pursuant to Article 2386 of the Italian Civil Code, and therefore up until the following Shareholders' Meeting. This appointment was subsequently reconfirmed by the Shareholders' meeting of 22 December 2014, which was called on to approve the appointment of a new director, also establishing the duration of Mr Niederauer's engagement until the Shareholders' meeting to approve the financial statements as at 31 December 2015, in line with the mandate of the current Board of Directors. Finally, it should be noted that Duncan Niederauer has the prerequisites to be considered an independent director of the Company.

It emerges that the structure of the Board of Directors in office as at 31 December 2015, and of the Committee, is as illustrated in Table 2 attached:

The following table indicates the number of meetings held by the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, the Remuneration Committee, the Audit and Risk Committee and the Appointment Committee during the accounting period ended on 31 December 2015:

	Board of	Executive	Remunerati	Audit and	Appointm
	Directors	Committe	on	Risk	ent
		е	Committee	Committee	Committe
					e
Numb	6	13	5	8	I
er of					
meeti					
ngs					

There were no changes to the composition of the Board of Directors from 31 December 2015 to the date of approval of this Report.

#### Maximum limit on offices held in other companies

The list of offices covered by the Company's Directors in other companies listed on regulated markets (in Italy and/or abroad), in financial, banking and insurance companies or large-scale companies is presented in an attachment to this Report.



By means of the resolution dated 22 January 2007, the BoD established to set at 10 the maximum number of appointments as director or statutory auditor that can be covered by each Geox's director in other companies listed on regulated markets (in Italy and/or abroad), in financial, banking or insurance companies or companies of significant size. This provision has also been included in Article 17 of the Articles of Association.

The current composition of the Board of Directors respects this general approach.

The personal and professional qualities of the individual Directors are included in their *curricula* vitae published on the Company website <a href="www.geox.biz">www.geox.biz</a> in the Governance - corporate bodies section.

#### Induction programme

In accordance with Article 2.C.2. of the Code, the Chairman encourages the participation of the Directors in Board of Directors meetings and Shareholders' Meetings and other initiatives aimed at increasing their awareness of the corporate situation and dynamics, as well as the applicable legal and self-regulatory framework and proper risk management principles, via, for example, direct dialogue with certain key executives, visits to the Group companies, etc.

In this regard in July 2014 the Company organised training with the collaboration of the law firm Orrick for all its directors and auditors, aimed at analysing Legislative Decree no. 231/2001 on the administrative liability of companies and bodies.

In 2015, the structure and contents of the Organisation, Management and Control Model underwent a comprehensive review and were updated in accordance with the types of offences most recently recognised by law. In 2016, the Company plans to offer new training programmes to all its Directors and Statutory Auditors.

#### 4.3 Role of the Board of Directors

During 2015, six meetings of the Board of Directors were held with an average length of two hours each, called in accordance with the formalities envisaged by the Articles of Association. For the current accounting period a similar number of meetings is expected.

The management of the Company is the exclusive responsibility of the BoD, which carries out all the activities necessary for the implementation and achievement of the corporate purposes, with the sole exclusion of the acts



assigned peremptorily to the Shareholders' Meeting by law and by the Articles of Association.

In conformity with art. 2365, par. 2, of the Italian Civil Code, the Board is also responsible for: (a) the merger resolution pursuant to Articles 2505 and 2505 bis of the Italian Civil Code; (b) the establishment and closing down of secondary offices; (c) the reduction of the share capital in the event of withdrawal of shareholders; (d) the adaptation of the Articles of Association to legislative provisions; (e) the transfer of the registered office to another Municipality in Italy (Art. 16 of the Articles of Association).

The issue of bonds is also the responsibility of the BoD, with the exception of the issue of bonds convertible into shares of the Company or in any event backed by warrants for the underwriting of Company shares, which is resolved by the extraordinary Shareholders' Meeting of the Company (Article 8 of the Articles of Association).

The Articles of Association reserve the following for the BoD: decisions concerning disposal, for any purpose and of any nature, of trademarks, patents and other intellectual property rights, which are the exclusive competence of the BoD (Article 18 of the Articles of Association). Furthermore, the following are the exclusive responsibility of BoD and cannot be delegated: decisions to be adopted, upon the proposal of the Chairman of the BoD, regarding the definition of the growth and policy strategies for corporate management, also on a long-term basis, as well as regarding the annual business and economic-financial plan (budget) and the long-term forecast plans with the related investment plans (Article 16 of the Articles of Association).

Without prejudice to the powers that, as illustrated above, cannot be delegated by law or in any Articles of Association provisions, the BoD has identified additional matters reserved for its exclusive competence, taking into account the particular significance of the related transactions.

In detail, as of today's date the following decisions are reserved for the responsibility of the BoD, concerning:

 a) transactions for the purchase or sale, also by means of subscription and conferral, of equity investments and/or companies and/or business segments, if the total value of the individual transaction is higher than Euro 10 (ten) million;



- b) the granting of loans, if the aggregate value for the accounting period is higher than Euro 5 (five) million;
- c) the issue of unsecured and/or secured guarantees, if the aggregate value for the accounting period is higher than Euro 5 (five) million;
- d) the issue of bonds or financial instruments, if the overall value of the individual transaction is higher than Euro 10 (ten) million;
- e) the raising of loans and/or other financial debt transactions, if the overall value of the individual transaction is higher than Euro 40 (forty) million;
- f) the transactions pursuant to the previous points (a), (c), (d) and (e) entered into with Group companies in the event of exceeding half the thresholds respectively indicated in the afore-mentioned points, as well as the granting of loans to Group companies, if the aggregate value for the accounting period is higher than Euro 2.5 (two point five) million for each company;
- g) all the transactions with related parties outside the Group which are not typical or usual transactions to be concluded under *standard conditions*;
- h) checking of the adequacy of the general organizational and administrative set-up of the Company and the Group arranged by the Managing Directors.

Over the course of 2015, on the basis of the provisions of the Articles of Association specified above and without prejudice to the decisions made by the Managing Director and the Executive Committee, on the basis of the delegated powers and in line with Article I, par. I of the Code, the Board of Directors of Geox discussed the strategic, industrial and financial plans of Geox and the Group and periodically monitored the implementation thereof, defined the type and level of risk that is compatible with the strategic objectives, considering all risks for the sustainability of the Issuer's business in the medium-long term that may potentially become significant, whilst also assessing the adequacy of the corporate governance system, the organizational, administrative and general accounting model of Geox S.p.A. and of the subsidiaries having strategic relevance, especially with reference to the Internal Auditing and Risk Management System and to the management of the conflicts of interest, as well as of the general management performance, taking into account the information received from the delegated bodies and by making on a regular basis a comparison of the results achieved with the planned results, and the structure of the Group. Furthermore, the BoD



examined and approved the transactions of significant strategic importance of the Parent Company and its subsidiaries, and confirmed minor transactions between related parties approved by the Executive Committee.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 36 of the CONSOB Market Regulations and after having identified the scope of application of the regulations within the Group, the Company acknowledged that the administrative, accounting and reporting systems of the Group allow for disclosure to the public of the accounting schedules prepared for the purposes of drafting the consolidated financial statements and appropriately provide the Parent Company's management and auditors with the information necessary for the purposes of drafting the consolidated financial statements themselves. Similarly, the information flow towards the central auditor, coming from various levels along the chain of corporate control and active throughout the entire accounting period and used for the auditing of the Parent Company annual and interim financial statements, was considered to be effective. Finally, the Company maintains itself updated in regard to the subsidiaries' corporate bodies through lists of the offices held and provides for the centralized collection of official documents relating to the Articles of Association and the assignment of powers thereto, which it updates regularly.

In addition to governing in the Related-Party Transactions Regulation possible transactions with related parties which can include situations in which a director has a personal interest or an interest exercised on behalf of others, the Board of Directors, on 31 July 2012, assessed and adopted the Code of Ethics, which provides for operating solutions designed to make it easier to identify and manage adequately situations in which a director has a personal interest or an interest exercised on behalf of others. Any personal interests of the Directors or interests exercised on behalf of others in corporate transactions have always been highlighted to the Board of Directors or to the Executive Committee.

As envisaged by the Corporate Governance Code, each year the Board of Directors assesses the operation of the Board itself and its committees, as well as the relative size and composition, also taking account of the professional characteristics, experience – also managerial and international – and gender of its members, as well as their length of service.

On 25 February 2016, given also the opinion of the Appointment Committee, the BoD carried out a positive assessment of the current dimension, composition and



functioning of said Board and its committees, appreciating the variety of the spheres of competence of each director and the consequent diverse contribution which each one has been able to make during their period in office. These features, combined with the elevated professional level of each director, have permitted the Directors to act and resolve in full awareness of the facts and autonomously, pursuing the priority aim of the creation of value for the Shareholders.

Furthermore, it has been possible to focus on a varied composition of the internal committees, so as to avoid— as far as it is possible— the concentration of the offices in the hands of just a few individuals. In line with the matters recommended by Article I of the Code, the management body is assigned a central role in the Company's Corporate Governance system. The self-assessment has not been connected to the three-year term of the Board of Directors' mandate with differing methods over the three years. For 2015, the Company did not consider it necessary to make use of external consultants for the aforementioned self-assessment while it deemed it appropriate to support the self-assessment process with a multiple choice questionnaire, which each director completed and turned in anonymously to the Appointment Committee. The latter announced the results in February 2016.

The Board of Directors meets at regular intervals, organizing itself and operating so as to ensure an effective and efficient performance of its functions. With the BoD's meetings approaching, the Company shall provide Directors, through the Chairman of the BoD, reasonably in advance and in any case subject to adequate procedures and timeframes, also in consideration of the resolutions to be passed, with the documentation necessary to ensure adequate information in relation to the items on the agenda (as envisaged by Article 17 of the Articles of Association and Article I of the Corporate Governance Code). Generally, three days is considered to be adequate notice for the purposes of sending such documentation to the Directors. This notice has been complied with concerning the Board meetings held in 2015. On some occasions, in addition to providing pre-meeting information, the Chairman decided to have also comprehensive and in-depth discussions during the meetings as required by the comment to the Article I of the Corporate Governance Code.

The Chairman convenes Board meetings, also when a written request to do so has been received from at least two Directors, from the Board of Auditors or



from a Statutory Auditor or from a CEO (art. 20 of the Articles of Association). The presence of the majority of the Directors in office is necessary for the validity of the resolutions; the Board resolutions are adopted by means of absolute majority of the Directors present. In the event equal votes are cast, the Chairman's vote prevails. With regard to decisions concerning disposal, for any purpose and of any nature, of trademarks, patents and other intellectual property rights, the Board of Directors resolves with the favourable vote of five sevenths of its members, with rounding up to the unit (Article 18 of the Articles of Association). The Chairman of the Board of Directors shall make sure that the items on the agenda are examined for the time necessary to enable a constructive debate, by encouraging interventions on the part of Directors during the meetings.

Finally, the Shareholders' Meeting has not authorized, on a general, preventive basis, any departures from the non-compete obligation provided for by Article 2390 of the Italian Civil Code.

#### 4.4 Decision-making bodies

#### a) Managing Director

Within the limits of the law and the Articles of Association, in observance of the reservations of responsibility of the Shareholders' Meeting, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee and the limits specifically indicated in relation to each power, the BoD granted the Managing Director the powers of ordinary and extraordinary business illustrated below.

In regard to the statutory limitations on the powers of delegation, it is noted that pursuant to Article 18 of the Articles of Association, the Board of Directors has exclusive competence with regard to the decisions concerning disposal, for any purpose and of any nature, of trademarks, patents and other intellectual property rights belonging to the Company.

#### The Managing Director, Mr. Giorgio Presca, is granted the power to:

 (i) act with full decision-making powers and under his own responsibility, oversee the production, technological, commercial and technical-plant sectors, coordinate any aspect of the manufacturing activities of the Company, within the limits of the pre-established production and budget plans;



- (ii) ensure, also by means of on-going maintenance, repairs and replacements, that the Company's plants are fully compliant with the provisions directed at containing emissions or inflows of fumes, gas, powders, vapours, liquid and solid residues within the limits prescribed by Italian legislation, so that it does not contribute to polluting the atmosphere, the ground, the waterways and does not exceed the limit of normal tolerability for those nearby;
- (iii) undertake commitments on subjects relating to corporate activities, in particular finalize contracts with customers, including franchise contracts, and with suppliers of products, raw materials and services for external processing; sell Company's products, finalizing the related agreements and also granting payment extensions and discounts, agreeing prices and payment methods provided that, as far as contracts with suppliers are concerned, the total amount does not exceed Euro 500,000 (five hundred thousand) per individual contract;
   (iv) finalise contracts relating to the purchase and/or sale of machinery, equipment, vehicles and other movable assets, also those recorded in Public Registers, finalising the related deeds, negotiating the related
- (v) purchase any services necessary to carry out corporate activities, with the express power to enter into the relevant contracts and/or finalise any service and/or consulting contracts, negotiate prices and payment terms, provided that the total amount does not exceed Euro 500,000 (five hundred thousand) per single contract contracts for administrative and/or financial services and insurance contracts are expressly excluded from this point;

500,000 (five hundred thousand) per single contract;

prices and payment methods, granting payment extensions and discounts, provided that the total amount does not exceed Euro

(vi) conclude lease agreements, gratuitous loan agreements ("comodato"), rental agreements and financial lease agreements regarding movable properties necessary for the performance of corporate activities, provided that the overall value does not exceed Euro 500,000 (five hundred thousand) per agreement, it being understood that the agreements regarding the lease of business units are expressly excluded from this point;



- (vii) perform, in view of the Company's commitments, the following transactions on the Company's accounts, in Italy and abroad, within the limit of Euro 500,000 (five hundred thousand) per transaction:
  - draw current account cheques also for the use of overdraft amounts, within the limits of the credit facilities granted;
  - transfer funds between accounts;
  - endorse bank current account cheques, postal or telegraphic orders and any other credit instrument in favour of the Company or bank transfers in favour of third parties;
  - make payments by means of any technical form;
  - open letters of credit and see to their payment.

With regard to transfers between banks; the aforementioned limit is increased to Euro 5,000,000 (five million), the aforementioned limit of Euro 500,000 (five hundred thousand) relating to this point (vii) does not apply to the payment of income taxes, duties and social security contributions due by the Company based on applicable laws. With regard to withdrawals, this limit is reduced to Euro 100,000 (one hundred thousand).

- (viii) carry out, on behalf of the Company, the following transactions on Company's accounts held in Italy or abroad, within the limit of Euro 3,000,000 (three million) per individual transaction with the joint signature of the Manager of the Administration, Finance and Control Department the Manager of the Legal and Corporate Affairs Department, or the Group Treasury Manager:
  - draw current account cheques also for the use of overdraft amounts, within the limits of the credit facilities granted;
  - transfer funds between accounts;
  - endorse bank current account cheques, postal or telegraphic orders and any other credit instrument in favour of the Company or bank transfers in favour of third parties;
  - make payments by means of any technical form;
  - open letters of credit and see to their payment.

With regard to transfers between banks, the aforementioned limit is increased to Euro 5,000,000 (five million), the aforementioned limit of Euro 3,000,000 (three million) related to this point (viii) does not



apply to the payment of income taxes, duties and social security contributions due by the Company based on applicable laws. With regard to withdrawals, this limit is reduced to Euro 100,000 (one hundred thousand).

- (ix) exclusively for the purpose of, and within the limits of that which is necessary for, setting up hedging transactions relating to exchange and/or interest rate risks, purchase and sell and in general finalize any transaction concerning foreign currency, as well as enter into and terminate contracts on interest and exchange rates; all of which in observance of the monetary provisions in force, as well as those which may be introduced in the future, up to the limit of Euro 20,000,000 (twenty million) per individual transaction, signing jointly, together with the administration, finance and control director;
- (x) carry out payments into current accounts, endorse bank cheques, promissory notes, certificates of credit, bills of exchange and postal orders for discount and for collection, payable at credit agencies, post and telegraph offices, and in general with any individual or corporate entity, endorse payment orders, including warrants on State, Regional, Provincial and Municipal Authority Treasury Offices and on any public banks, endorse bankers' drafts, and in any event issue the corresponding receipts;
- (xi) finalize and terminate any other contract which appears useful or necessary for the pursuit of the corporate purpose, including agency, representation, mediation and business canvassing contracts, also with exclusive rights, as well as in any event those pertaining to the distribution of Company products, provided that the value and/or overall expenditure commitment (also when the contracts are long-term) does not exceed Euro 250,000 (two hundred and fifty thousand) in total per individual contract, if a quantification is possible in relation to the nature of the contract. Licence and distribution agreements must be subject to the assessment of the Executive Committee;
- (xii) deal with any public and government body, none excluded, including by way of example and not limited to Chambers of Commerce, the



- Register of Commercial Concerns and public registers, finalising any document, application, or receipt in the name of the Company;
- (xiii) perform any act and fulfil any task in the field of social welfare, seeing to relations with all the social security welfare and insurance institutes, seeing to the matters required by current provisions regarding labour matters, especially with regard to insurance, contributions, indemnities and taxes;
- (xiv) deal with any authority, body, agency regarding labour issues, with trade unions and employers' associations, as well as with employment bureaus and conciliation and arbitration boards, with the power to settle disputes, carry out any other act and accomplish any other task concerning labour issues, considered as appropriate in the Company's interests;
- (xv) handle relationships with Post Offices and with the enterprises of the railway, sea, air and truck transport, with the right to draw up any document and raise any claim, receive registered and insured letters, parcels, and documents of any type, collect amounts and sums of any kind, by issuing the relevant receipts;
- (xvi) in relation to the matters listed in the previous points from (i) to (xv), and within the limits envisaged above for each one of them, represent the Company in dealings with any third party, public and/or private, in the name and on behalf of the Company, signing any deed and/or document;
- (xvii) sign the correspondence and documents in general;
- (xviii) represent the Company, as a plaintiff or as a defendant, before any judicial authority at any level or type of jurisdiction, for all types of litigation or proceedings of any kind, and also before the Tax Commissions at any level, with the power to appoint lawyers, ad lites and ad negotia, arbitrators, and experts, removing and/or replacing them, in Italy and abroad, with the power to elect domicile, settle disputes and in any event to manage them, and sign the necessary powers of attorney for such purposes;
- (xix) raise protests and serve injunctions, see to preventive and executive measures, if necessary see to the revocation of the same, intervene in



bankruptcy proceedings, agreements with creditors, receivership and further the declaration thereof, make and accept effective offers;

- (xx) carry out, with the faculty to sub-delegate and with the exclusion of the procedures relating to company executives, all the transactions concerning employees such as, by way of example but by no means a complete list:
  - the employment of Geox S.p.A. employees;
  - contractual transformations (for example: from part-time to full time, from temporary to permanent, etc.);
  - reprimands and disciplinary measures;
  - disciplinary dismissals, due to just cause and justified reasons;
  - promotions and various wage/salary increases;
  - the granting of one-off bonuses and management by objective bonuses;
  - work location transfers and secondment/mission contracts abroad for employees;
  - project work contracts and related changes.
- (xxi) appoint, within the powers indicated above, ad acta or general attorneys-in-fact, providing them with the related powers, and revoke said appointments;
- (iixx) represent GEOX SPA in meetings and, in general, at decision-making levels that involve resolving or decision-making bodies of EU or non-EU subsidiaries or investee companies, with the right to intervene, vote, provide opinions or consent, appeals or claims, and in particular, within the context of these decisions, to appoint, revoke appointments, replace and/or add members of these companies' management and/or control bodies, with the right to appoint himself as the sole director or a board member of these companies without this being understood as or implying a conflict of interest, to provide or sign, in the name and on behalf of GEOX SPA, however in the interest of said subsidiaries or investee companies, declarations, applications, requests and documents which are generally addressed to Public Administrations, Public Registries, Rolls, Archives or private entities providing public services, including in order to obtain registrations, permits, authorizations, clearance and other similar



measures; provide a specimen signature as the Managing Director of GEOX SPA.

Finally, the Managing Director qualifies as the person principally responsible for the Company's management (chief executive officer); however, there are no situations of interlocking directorate pursuant to the application criterion 2.C.5. of the Code.

#### b) Chairman of the Board of Directors

The Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mr. Mario Moretti Polegato, has not received any operating power of attorney, apart from the signature of documents relating to company executives. However, he has a specific role in the development of business strategies, chairs the Executive Committee and is the Chairman of the Board of Directors of LIR S.r.l., controlling shareholder of Geox.

#### c) Executive Committee

The BoD meeting held on 17 April 2013 confirmed the assignment of the power of ordinary and extraordinary business granted to the Executive Committee by the BoD on 9 December 2004. In detail, the Committee is granted the powers of ordinary and extraordinary business of the Company, with the exception of the following indicated below:

- (i) the powers indicated in Articles 2420-ter, 2423, 2443, 2446, 2447, 2501-ter, 2506-bis of the Italian Civil Code; and
- (ii) the matters reserved for the Board of Directors by the Articles of Association these, in particular, include the disposal, for any purpose and of any nature, of trademarks, patents and other intellectual property rights of the Company as well as the growth and policy strategies for corporate management, also on a long-term basis, and the annual business and economic-financial plan (budget) and the long-term forecast plans with the related investment plans, and;
- (iii) the additional matters, identified by, and reserved for, the Board of Directors taking into account, as already



illustrated above, the recommendations of the Corporate Governance Code.

The Executive Committee is currently composed by directors Mario Moretti Polegato (Chairman), Giorgio Presca and Enrico Moretti Polegato (attorney).

During 2015 the Executive Committee met 13 times with the regular participation of the Board of Statutory Auditors. The average duration of the meetings was forty minutes. For the current accounting period, a precise number of meetings has not been established. As at the date of this report, in 2016 the Executive Committee has met twice.

### d) Reporting to the Board

The Managing Director reports to the Board on the performance of his duties at the earliest opportunity.

#### 4.5 Other executive Directors

The Chairman, Mr. Mario Moretti Polegato, is considered to be an executive director, despite the absence of specific operational powers, in consideration of his specific role when drawing up company strategies and his office of Chairman of the Executive Committee (Article 2.C.I of the Code).

Mr. Enrico Moretti Polegato is also considered to be an executive director, by virtue of his appointment as member of the Executive Committee.

#### 4.6 Directors with the requirements of independence

The Board of Directors is composed by 9 Directors including 4 Independent Directors. The Board of Directors assessed the independence of the 4 Directors among the non-executive members both before their appointment and during presentation of the lists by the majority shareholder, where the individual declarations were also attached and, finally, also following their appointment. The assessment is repeated should relevant events occur in terms of independence and, in any case, is repeated on an annual basis; the assessment was last undertaken on 25 February 2016, also on the basis of statements signed by the independent directors confirming the independence prerequisites.

The Board of Directors shall make the assessment on the basis of the requirements of independence provided for by law, and also by applying all the criteria of the Corporate Governance Code. Moreover, the Board of Directors



which met on 20 December 2012, in compliance with Article 3.C.4 of the Code, resolved to adopt additional criteria to assess the Independent Directors' independence and autonomy in expressing their opinions; in particular, the abovementioned Board approved to consider the independence requirement unmet when, in the case of business relationships, the turnover generated between the Director and the Company is equal to, or exceeds, the remuneration for the office of Director. As a consequence, on the occasion of the next assessments, for the purposes of assessing the independence of its non-executive Directors, the Company shall also take said parameter into account.

The Board of Statutory Auditors also ascertained the correct application of the assessment criteria and procedures adopted by the Board for assessing the independence of its members.

During 2015 the independent directors did not have thought it necessary to meet without the other directors, although they met within internal committees in carrying out their duties as members of these committees. However, with reference to 2015, as at the date of this report the Independent Directors have met once in 2016. Starting from 2016, independent directors will hold ad hoc meetings that will be separate and distinct from the meetings of the board committees. Moreover, the Independent Directors committed themselves to remaining independent during their term of office and resigning in the case of loss of the r

requirements of independence.

### 4.7 Lead independent director

The Board of Directors, which met on 17 April 2013, appointed the independent director Mr. Fabrizio Colombo as lead independent director. Mr. Colombo held office as lead independent director, acting as a point of reference and coordination in relation to the needs and contributions of the independent directors; he also cooperated with the Chairman of the Board of Directors in order to ensure that the directors were informed in an exhaustive and timely way with reference to every issue relevant for the Company.

#### 5. HANDLING OF CORPORATE INFORMATION

In line with the provisions of Article I C.I lett. j) of the Corporate Governance Code, the Company – via the Board of Directors meeting held on 20 April 2006 –



completed the organizational adaptation to the legislation regarding "market abuse" as per Consob Resolution No. 15232 dated 29 November 2005, approving the "Regulation concerning privileged information and the institution of a Registry of persons having access", which was recently reviewed by the Board of Directors on 19 December 2013 solely in order to update the names of the persons having access, and setting up the specific Registry (the "Registry"). Subsequently, the other Group companies also adopted the aforementioned regulation, guaranteeing observance thereof and delegating Geox with the establishment, handling and keeping of the Registry, for the purpose of permitting a co-ordinated management of the circulation of privileged information.

In particular, the Regulation for the management of privileged information and the institution of a Registry of persons having access provides, *inter alia*, for:

- rules of conduct (which essentially refer to confidentiality obligations, the treatment of privileged information with due care and the prohibition to disclose privileged information unless necessary within the environment of one's work, profession or duties carried out and to carry out transactions, directly or indirectly, for one's own account or that of third parties, in the name and/or on behalf of the Company, which involve financial instruments which the privileged information refers to and to recommend or lead others to carry out such transactions);
- the roles and responsibilities of the corporate bodies and/or corporate functions and/or managers in regard to the assessment on the relevance of the information and the speed with which price sensitive information concerning the Company and its subsidiaries is disclosed to the public;
- specific rules to follow in the event of a delay in disclosure to the public pursuant to Article 114, paragraph 3, of the FCA;
- rules for the management of relations with the press and rumours and for meetings with financial analysts or other market operators;
- a specific flow of information from the subsidiaries to the Company.



For further details, the regulation in question can be viewed on the Company's website, in the Governance section.

The procedure for the management of privileged information and the institution of a Registry of persons having access, was always observed during 2015.

### 6. COMMITTEES WITHIN THE BOARD

### Ex art. 123-bis, par. 2, letter d), FCA

The Board of Directors has arranged to set up, internally, committees consisting of directors in accordance with the indications of the Corporate Governance Code, in particular, the Appointment Committee, the Remuneration Committee, and the Audit and Risk Committee, whose functions, activities and composition are set out in detail in the subsequent paragraphs:

### a) Appointment Committee

The Appointment Committee (3 non-Executives Directors, in the majority Independent), on the date of the Report, is composed as follows:

- Roland Berger
- Fabrizio Colombo
- Alessandro Antonio Giusti

For the duties and operation of the Committee refer to section 7.

### b) Remuneration Committee

As at the date of this Report, the Remuneration Committee is composed by three non-executive directors, in the majority independent directors:

- Lara Livolsi
- Fabrizio Colombo
- Alessandro Antonio Giusti

The information related to the functions and operation of the Remuneration Committee is indicated in detail in the remuneration report, drafted pursuant to Article 123-ter of the FCA (the "**Remuneration Report**"), to which reference is made for any necessary supplemental information.

### c) Audit and Risk Committee

The Audit and Risk Committee is composed exclusively by non-executive Directors (Article 7.P.4.) in the majority Independent Directors:



- Fabrizio Colombo
- Roland Berger
- Alessandro Antonio Giusti

In addition, the Chairman of the Board of Statutory Auditors or another Auditor nominated by the Chairman of the Board itself takes part in the works of the Committee.

For the duties and operation of the Committee refer to section 10.

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The Board of Directors, in adhering to the indications in the Corporate Governance Code, has not envisaged any incorporation of the various functions into a single committee, or a different distribution of them, or the reservation of these functions solely to the *plenum* of the Board of Directors.

### 7. APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE

The Board of Directors meeting held on 17 April 2013 confirmed the establishment of an Appointment Committee and assigned it the tasks pursuant to Article 5 of the Code.

In line with Article 5.C.1. of the Code, the Appointment Committee shall have the following duties:

- formulate opinions for the Board of Directors in relation to the size and composition thereof, and make recommendations in relation to the professionals whose presence in the Board is considered to be appropriate. The Appointment Committee shall make recommendations also in relation to the maximum number of offices as director or statutory auditor that may be held in other companies listed on regulated markets, holding companies, banks, insurance companies or companies of a considerable size, considered as compatible with an effective fulfilment of the appointment as issuer's director, as well as in relation to the assessment of the granting of departures from the non-compete obligation provided for by Article 2390 of the Italian Civil Code; and
- propose to the Board of Directors candidates to the office of director in the cases of co-optation, when it is necessary to replace independent directors.



Moreover, still in compliance with what is provided for by Article 5 of the Code, should the Company adopt a plan for the replacement of ceased executive directors, the activities preliminary to the elaboration of the plan shall be performed by the Appointment Committee (or by any other Committee charged with this task inside the Board).

When carrying out its functions, the Appointment Committee may avail itself of outside consultants, at the Company's expense.

The Committee meets whenever its Chairman considers it appropriate, or should at least one of its members or the Chairman of the Board of Directors so request, and in any case as frequently as it is required for the correct fulfilment of its tasks. The Committee meetings are convened through a notice sent by the Chairman of the Committee. The available (and in any case, the necessary) documentation and information is sent to all the Committee members sufficiently in advance to enable them to express opinions with respect to the meeting. For the Committee meetings to be valid, the majority of the members in office must be in attendance, and resolutions are passed with the absolute majority of the members in attendance. The Committee meetings, coordinated by the Chairman, are duly recorded in minutes and then entered in a specifically kept book Starting from 2016, the Committee's Chairman shall report to the Board of Directors on the meetings of the Committee at the earliest opportunity. The Committee which, in performing its tasks, may also avail itself of external consultants - shall have adequate financial resources for the performance of its tasks, and such resources are allocated on the basis of contingent needs. The Committee is entitled to access the Company's information and functions that are relevant for the performance of its tasks. The meetings of the Appointment Committee may also be attended by those who are not members of the Committee, upon invitation of the Committee and in relation to single items on the agenda.

During 2015 the Appointment Committee met once, in order to formulate its opinion to the Board of Directors regarding the Committee's size and composition and to make recommendations during the annual self-assessment of the Board.

. As at the date of this report, in 2016 the Appointment Committee has met twice.



### 8. REMUNERATION COMMITTEE

The Board of Directors meeting held on 17 April 2013 confirmed the establishment of a Remuneration Committee and assigned it the tasks pursuant to Article 6 of the Corporate Governance Code.

The information related to the functions and operation of the Remuneration Committee is indicated in detail in the remuneration report, drafted pursuant to Article 123-ter of the FCA (the "**Remuneration Report**"), to which reference is made for any necessary supplemental information.

In accordance with Article 6.C.5 of the Corporate Governance Code, the Appointment Committee shall:

- periodically evaluate the adequacy, overall consistency and actual application of the policy for the remuneration of directors and key management personnel, also on the basis of the information provided by the managing directors; it shall formulate proposals to the Board of Directors in that regard;
- submit proposals or issue opinions to the Board of Directors
  for the remuneration of executive directors and other
  directors who cover particular offices as well as for the
  identification of performance objectives related to the variable
  component of that remuneration; it shall monitor the
  implementation of decisions adopted by the Board of
  Directors and verify, in particular, the actual achievement of
  performance objectives.

During 2015, the Remuneration Committee met 5 times. For further information, please refer to the remuneration report, prepared pursuant to Article 123-ter of the FCA (the "Remuneration Report"), which contains detailed information about the Committee's operations. As at the date of this report, in 2016 the Remuneration Committee has met twice.

### 9. DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION

In February 2016, the Remuneration Committee presented the Board of Directors with a proposal referring to the general policy for the remuneration of directors, including therein the remuneration of executive directors, and executives with strategic responsibilities for the financial year 2016 (the



"Remuneration Policy"), which is indicated in greater detail in the Remuneration Report.

Information on the Remuneration Policy and on the remuneration of directors and strategic executives in the financial year 2015 is provided through reference to the Remuneration Report available to the public at the registered office of the Company, at Borsa Italiana S.p.A. (<a href="www.borsaitaliana.it">www.borsaitaliana.it</a>) and also on the Company website <a href="www.geox.biz">www.geox.biz</a>).

The above-mentioned proposal of the Remuneration Committee, positively assessed by the Directors, shall be submitted along with the Remuneration Report to the Board of Directors for approval.

The Shareholders' Meeting of the Company, called to approve the financial statements for FY 2015, as per art. 2364, paragraph 2 of the Italian Civil Code, is convened to deliberate, with a purely advisory vote, for or against Section I of the Remuneration Report.

During the current financial year, the Remuneration Committee will verify the correct implementation of the Remuneration Policy referring fully to the Board of Directors.

The regulations of the stock option plans of Geox which are valid and effective on the date of this Report are available on the Company website (www.geox.biz) in the Governance section.

The incentives mechanisms of the internal auditing manager and the executive appointed to draft the company's accounting documents, are in line with the duties assigned to them.

Compensation to directors in the case of resignation, dismissal or ending of the relationship following a takeover bid

No compensation has been envisaged for this situation.

### **10. AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE**

The Audit and Risk Committee was set up by the Board of Directors on 9 December 2004 and confirmed by the Board of Directors' meetings on 12 April 2007, 21 April 2010 and 17 April 2013. On 20 December 2012, the Board of Directors, besides formally reappointing the "Audit and Risk Committee", formerly the "Internal Audit Committee" reconfirmed the functions of the Committee in order to bring it into line with the Corporate Governance Code as modified by the Corporate Governance Committee in December 2011.



The Committee is charged with the tasks under Article 7.C.1 (with reference to the fact that it provides a preventive opinion as to the performance of the tasks assigned under the Code to the Board of Directors in relation to internal audit and risk management, as well as an opinion in the case of decisions related to the appointment, revocation, remuneration and allocation of resources of who is in charge of internal audit) and under Article 7.C.2 of the Code. (as amended in July 2015 with reference to the support to the assessments and resolutions of the Board of Directors concerning the management of risks arising from detrimental facts starting from the meetings concerning the year 2016).

In addition, the Company's Audit and Risk Committee can undertake, provided that it has the prerequisites in terms of composition envisaged by the applicable legal and regulatory provisions, the functions attributed to the committees responsible for related party transactions (RPT) (Committee for Less Significant RPTs and Committee for More Significant RPTs) envisaged by the Regulation to govern related-party transactions approved by the Board of Directors with its resolution of 28 October 2010 (see section 10 below) in conformity with the CONSOB RPT Regulation and subsequently modified by the Board of Directors with its resolution of 19 December 2013 during the three-yearly review.

The Audit and Risk Committee is composed exclusively by non-executive Directors (Article 7.P.4.) in the majority Independent Directors: Mr. Fabrizio Colombo (Independent Director), Roland Berger (Independent Director) and Alessandro Antonio Giusti (non-executive and non-independent Director). In addition, the Chairman of the Board of Statutory Auditors or other auditor nominated by the Chairman of the Board itself take part in the works of the Committee.

One of the members, Alessandro Antonio Giusti, is a qualified accountant and has acknowledged accounting and financial experience which was considered adequate by the Board of Directors on his appointment and since 17 April 2013 he has also held the position of the director responsible for the Risk Management and Internal Audit System. Despite holding the above mentioned position, Mr Giusti is considered a non-executive and non-independent director, as he is not vested with operational powers.

When carrying out its functions, the Audit and Risk Committee is entitled to access the information and corporate functions necessary for the performance of its tasks, as well as avail itself of outside consultants.



When meeting any costs, the Committee may avail itself of financial resources which are set aside on the basis of contingent needs.

During 2015, the Audit and Risk Committee met eight times. The meetings, which lasted one hour on average, were coordinated by a chairman and were duly recorded in minutes. Some meetings were attended by individuals who are not members of the Committee and their participation took place upon the invitation of said Committee and with regard to specific items on the agenda.

With regard to the current accounting period, a similar number of meetings is envisaged. We specify furthermore that during the current accounting period several meetings of the Committee have already taken place. Starting from 2016, the Committee's Chairman shall report to the Board of Directors at the earliest opportunity on the meetings of the Committee.

Over the course of the accounting year 2015, in observance of the provisions set forth in the Corporate Governance Code (Article 7.C.I), the Audit and Risk Committee expressed an opinion in relation to the following activities performed by the Board of Directors:

- definition of the guidelines of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System, in such a way that the main risks to which the Company and its subsidiaries are exposed are correctly identified, and adequately measured, handled, monitored, also by determining the degree of compatibility of such risks with a company management consistent with the strategic objectives identified;
- assessment of the adequacy and effectiveness of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System in view of the characteristics of the Company and of the risk profile;
- approval of the business plan prepared by who is in charge of Internal Audit;
- description, in the corporate governance report, of the main characteristics
  of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System as well as the coordination between the parties involved, providing its own assessment of the
  adequacy thereof; and;
- assessment, after having heard the Board of Statutory Auditors, of the results
  illustrated by the legal auditor in the letter of suggestions, if any, and in the
  report on the fundamental issues emerged during the legal audit of accounts.

The Audit and Risk Committee also monitored the activities for checking the control protocols envisaged by the Management and Organisation Model pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree No. 231/2001, which was updated in 2015 and



approved by the Board of Directors on 12 November 2015, in certain significant company processes, performed by Geox's Supervisory Body with the support of the Company's Internal Audit division.

In observance of the provisions set forth in the Corporate Governance Code Art. 7.C.2, letter a), the Audit and Risk Committee met and assessed, along with the executive in charge of drafting the accounting documents and the legal auditor, the correct use of the accounting principles and their homogeneity for the purposes of drafting the consolidated financial statements.

In observance of the provisions set forth in the Corporate Governance Code, Art. 7.C.2, letter c), the Audit and Risk Committee examined the periodical reports drafted in relation to the assessments of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System, as well as those reports particularly relevant drafted by the Internal Audit function.

Moreover, in observance of the provisions set forth in the Corporate Governance Code Art. 7.C.2, letter d), the Audit and Risk Committee monitored the independence, adequacy, effectiveness and efficiency of the internal audit function. The Committee evaluated the state of implementation of the internal procedures defined and disclosed so far.

The Committee also expresses opinions on specific aspects regarding the identification of the main business risks.

Finally, in observance of the provisions set forth in the Corporate Governance Code Art. 7.C.2, letter f), the Audit and Risk Committee regularly reported to the Board of Directors, at least twice a year, on the activities performed and on the adequacy of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System.

### II. RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL AUDIT SYSTEM

The Board of Directors, within the definition of strategic, industrial, and financial plans, defined the nature and level of risk compatible with the Issuer's strategic objectives.

The Board of Directors shall define the guidelines of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System through the coordination of the dedicated internal bodies and the assessment of their periodical reports, so that the main risks regarding the Company and its subsidiaries are correctly identified, and adequately measured, handled and monitored, also by determining the degree of compatibility



of such risks with a company management consistent with the strategic objectives identified.

The Board of Directors meeting of 25 February 2016, taking into consideration the indications provided by the Audit and Risk Committee and the director responsible for the risk management and internal audit system, as well as the work of the Head of Internal Audit, with reference to the year 2015, gave a positive assessment of the adequacy, effectiveness and actual functioning of the risk management and internal audit system.

# Main features of the existing risk management and internal audit systems in relation to the financial disclosure process

Introduction

The Risk Management and Internal Audit System is a process implemented by the Board of Directors, by the management and by other Company's functions that consists of the set of organisational rules, procedures and structures allowing to identify, measure, manage and monitor major risks; it helps conducting the company's business consistently with its objectives and contributes to ensuring the protection of the company's assets, the efficiency and effectiveness of corporate processes, is used for formulating strategies throughout the organization and is devised to identify potential events that may impact on the Company's business, manage risk within the limits of the acceptable risk and provide reasonable certainty on the achievement of business objectives, including the reliability, accuracy, truthfulness and timeliness of the financial informational notice of the information provided to corporate bodies and the market, compliance with applicable laws and regulations as well as the company's articles of association and internal procedures.

In addition, since the entry into force of Italian Law no. 262/2005, Geox has implemented procedures aimed at making the company's disclosures more transparent and the internal audit system more effective, especially as far as financial reporting is concerned.

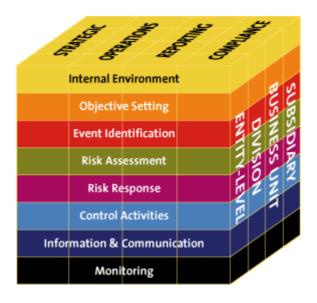
In particular, Geox's Risk Management and Internal Audit System was created on the basis of inspiring models such as the CoSO Report - Integrated Framework and CoSO Enterprise Risk Management developed by the Committee of Sponsoring Organization of the Treadway Commission, whilst taking into due



account the national guidelines issued by the organizations operating in the same sectors as Geox's.

Specifically, the CoSO Enterprise Risk Management is represented by a cube consisting of:

- 8 components, the "rows" (Internal Environment; Objective Setting; Event Identification; Risk Assessment; Risk Response; Control Activities; Information & Communication; Monitoring);
- 4 categories of objectives, the "columns" (Strategic; Operations;
   Reporting; Compliance);
- 4 organisational levels, the "sections" (Entity-Level; Division; Business Unit; Subsidiary).



In exercising its activity of managing and coordinating subsidiary companies, Geox establishes the general principles concerning the operations of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System for the whole group. It is understood that each subsidiary implements these principles in line with local regulations through organisational structures and operating procedures that are appropriate to the specific context.

### Enterprise Risk Management

At the request of the Board of Directors, the director responsible for the Internal Audit System hired the company KON S.p.A. for specialist assistance with implementing the Enterprise Risk Management (hereinafter referred to as ERM)



model. Implementing an ERM model shifts the focus to the concept of integrated risk and the assessment of the interdependencies between the various business risks in order to make the assessment and management of the latter more effective and efficient.

In addition, in its recommendations, the previously mentioned Corporate Governance Code specifies that:

- a) the modern view of controls revolves around the notion of business risks, their identification, evaluation and monitoring; and this is one of the reasons why the regulations and the Code refer to the internal control and risk management system as a global system based essentially on enterprise risk governance;
- b) a control system must be "integrated" in order to be efficient; this implies that its constituents are to be coordinated and interdependent among themselves and that the system as a whole is, at its own turn, integrated in the general organisational, administrative and accounting structure of the company

#### Therefore, Geox:

- conducted an overall assessment of all the existing risks "mapped" by the various internal functions;
- implemented an integrated system for managing said risks.

The resulting assessment found that Geox's ERM model appears adequate.

Description of the main features of the existing risk management and internal audit system in relation to the financial disclosure process

a) Phases of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System existing in relation to the financial information process

### Identification of Risks

The Managing Director and the Executive in Charge, consistently with the principles of operation of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System related to the financial information process, shall prudently and accurately identify on an annual basis the main risks connected to that activity (so-called scoping activity). The risk identification process involves identification of the group companies and the operating flows liable to material errors or fraud, in relation to the economic values presented in the items of Geox's financial statements and/or the consolidated financial statements.



The result of the scoping activity is the definition of a set of Company Processes/Legal Entities, in consideration of the typical risks incurred in the preparation of financial information intended for the public.

The companies and processes considered to be significant with reference to the financial information process shall be identified through quantitative and qualitative analyses.

By referring to the national and international market best practices, the quantitative selection of companies shall be made on the basis of consolidated data, taking into account the contribution of the single companies to the formation of such data.

The companies not relevant from a quantitative viewpoint shall be subject to qualitative analysis to verify whether or not their characteristics are such as to make it necessary to include them in the analysis of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System.

Some of the factors, among others, considered in the analysis are indicated below.

- Presence of specific risks in connection with certain sections of the financial statements, likely to result in relevant mistakes in the Group's financial information. Possible indicators are:
- Extraordinary transactions (mergers / demergers / acquisitions) to such an extent as to be able to result in a relevant mistake in the financial statements;
- Non-recurrent transactions of a considerable amount with related parties;
- Presence of local factors that impact on the performance of activities (for example, country with a high level of corruption / risk of fraud);
- Company subject to special tax rules or residing in countries included in black lists;

For each relevant Company the main classes of transactions (or significant processes) that lead to the formation of the relevant financial statements shall be identified.

The identification of significant processes requires, first of all, the identification of significant accounts, i.e. of those accounts that exceeds, in relation to the amounts appearing in the last statement of assets and liability and profit and loss account, a threshold of materiality identified on an annual basis.



In the context of each process so identified, events that may compromise the objectives of the financial information process shall be pinpointed.

Assessment of the Risks on financial information

For each risk, the management shall define the limits of tolerance in the likelihood of occurrence and in the impact that such risks may produce.

Risks shall be identified by classifying them on the basis of the main sources of risk identified on a regular basis by the Director in Charge of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System.

The assessment consequent to the identification of the events of risk must be made in relation to the two aspects of risk analysis, namely, the likelihood of occurrence and the potential impact on objectives.

The importance of the risk shall be assessed both for the purpose of determining the relevant risk and for the assessment of the residual risk, in order to enable the correct interpretation of the degree of exposure to risk and the redefinition, if any, of the risk management strategy.

As a matter of fact, the risk management strategy must be re-considered on the basis of the actual reduction of the likelihood of occurrence, of the impact or of both these elements on the part of the defined reactions.

This involves that the reaction to risk may be identified for the first time – or changed, if already defined – further to the assessment of the overall development and adequacy of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System.

Please note that in order to constantly update the existing risks associated with the financial reporting process, in 2016 the Company plans to conduct a comprehensive review of the risks currently being monitored.

Identification of Controls in view of identified Risks

Control activities include the policies and procedures that ensure to the management the correct implementation of risk management measures. Control activities shall be implemented throughout the company organization, at all functional and management levels.

Such activities are represented by a set of diversified transactions such as, by way of example, without limitation, approvals, authorizations, comparisons, reconciliations, protection measures, separation of tasks, etc.

Control activities may operate with ex-ante effects (so-called preventive activities) or ex-post effects (so-called detective activities); they may be performed manually



by who is in charge of controls or be integrated in the Company's automated computer systems.

Assessment of controls in view of identified risks

Controls are generally assessable in relation to many characteristics, but within the financial information process, they must ensure the correct implementation of at least two characteristics:

- 1. Traceability: a control must leave traces of its execution;
- Effectiveness: a control must effectively mitigate, alone or jointly with other controls, the associated risk by acting alternatively or jointly on the likelihood of occurrence and on risk impact.

Controls shall be assessed by analysing the correct aims of control activities and their actual and effective application over time.

In relation to the financial information process, control activities shall be assessed in two half-year sessions, possibly followed by equally regular follow-up phases should some problematic aspects emerge.

### b) Roles and functions involved

Without prejudice to the responsibility of every company Manager as described in point a), the main players in the Risk Management and Internal Audit System in the financial disclosure process are:

- The Managing Director and the Executive in Charge pursuant to Article 154bis of the FCA, who are in charge of defining and evaluating specific control procedures for protection against risks when drawing up the accounting records;
- The Internal Auditing function, which, remaining objective and independent, provides methodological advices in the verification of the adequacy and of the actual application of the control procedures defined by the Executive in Charge. In this ambit of activity, the Internal Auditing shall also report any relevant circumstance of which it becomes aware to the Audit and Risk Committee and to the Executive in Charge;
- The Director in charge of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System, as
  person primarily responsible for the initiatives regarding the assessment and
  management of business risks;



- The Audit and Risk Committee, which, to support the Board of Directors, analyses the results of audit activities on the Risk Management and Internal Audit System to identify the actions to be taken, if any;
- The Supervisory Authority ex Leg. Decree 231/01, which acts within the scope of its supervisory activities for corporate crimes envisaged by Leg. Decree 231/01, identifying risk scenarios and verifying at first hand compliance with the control systems. Furthermore, the Supervisory Authority monitors compliance with and application of the group's Code of conduct.

# II.I Director in charge of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System

On 17 April 2013 the Board of Directors appointed the non-executive director Alessandro Antonio Giusti as the person responsible for the Risk Management and Internal Audit System.

Mr. Giusti saw to the identification of the main company risks (strategic, operative, financial and compliance risks), taking into account the characteristics of the activities performed by the company and by its subsidiaries, submitting them periodically to the Board. He also executed the guidelines defined by the Board, aimed at an on-going adjustment of the internal audit system and its management, by designing, implementing and managing the risk and internal audit system and constantly verifying its overall adequacy, efficacy and efficiency.

The director in charge of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System acted in the sense of adjusting such a system to operational conditions and legislative and regulatory frameworks.

The director in charge of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System has the power to ask the internal audit function to make verifications on specific operational areas and on the compliance with the internal procedural rules governing the performance of company transactions, giving prior notice thereof to the Chairman of the Board, the Chairman of the Audit and Risk Committee and to the Chairman of the Board of Statutory Auditors.

His activity has been carried out in coordination with the Audit and Risk Committee.

### 11.2 Person in charge of the Internal Audit



The Board of Directors, at the proposal of the Director responsible for the Risk Management and Internal Audit System and after hearing the opinion of the Audit and Risk Committee, on 12 November 2015 resolved to appoint Mr Francesco Allegra as Head of Internal Audit. Up to said date, this position had been held by an external individual, Mr Stefano Romito, pursuant to the resolution of the Board of Directors of 3 November 2014.

The Board of Directors engaged the head of the Internal Audit function to verify that the Risk Management and Internal Audit System operates adequately (*Principle 7.P.3.*, *lett. b*).

The Board also made sure that Mr. Simone Colombo was given the resources appropriate for the performance of his tasks (Application criterion 7.C.1., second section).

Starting from the date of the Board of Directors meeting of 17 December 2012, the Head of Internal Audit has been a direct report to the Board (application criteria 7.C.5., lett. b).

The person in charge of the internal audit function:

- has verified, on an on-going basis and in relation to specific needs and in compliance with international standards, the operations and adequacy of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System, through an audit plan approved by the Board of Directors and based on a structured process of analysis and prioritization of the main risks (Application criterion 7.C.5., let. a);
- has had direct access to all the information useful for the performance of the task (Application criterion 7.C.5., let. c);
- has prepared periodical reports containing adequate information on his activities, on the ways in which risks are managed, and on the compliance with the plans defined to limit them, and has also assessed the adequacy of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System (Application criterion 7.C.5., let. d) providing the reports to the Chairmen of the Board of Statutory Auditors, of the Audit and Risk Committee and of the Board of Directors as well as to the director in charge of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System (Application criterion 7.C.5., let. f);
- has promptly drafted reports on particularly relevant events (Application criterion 7.C.5., let. e) and sent them to the Chairmen of the Board of Statutory Auditors, of the Audit and Risk Committee and of the Board of



Directors as well as to the director in charge of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System (Application criterion 7.C.5., let. f); and

 verified, as part of the audit plan, the reliability of the information systems, including the accounting systems (Application criterion 7.C.5., lett. g).

In 2015 the person in charge of the Internal Audit could rely on an overall budget of about Euro 125.000,00 intended for consultancy, business travel and overheads pertaining to his function. The function of Internal Auditing has carried out his/her activities in line with and within the limits of an official mandate which provides him/her with free and direct access to all the information considered useful to carrying out his/her duties.

Within the limits of the above-mentioned task, the Internal Audit has completed the execution of an annual plan involving verifications functional to the assessment of adequacy of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System. Secondly, the Person in charge of Internal Audit has supported the Company by providing advice in the implementation of company policies and procedures and in several transactions connected with the company organization.

### 11.3 Organisation model pursuant to Legislative Decree 231/2001

For some time now, the Group has adopted its Model for Organisation, Management and Control in compliance with Legislative Decree no. 231/01 (hereafter "Model 231") available in the governance section of the website www.geox.biz.

In 2015, the company comprehensively reviewed the 231 Model following a risk assessment process that allowed to identify the sensitive processes as defined in the decree and include the types of offences most recently recognised by law. In addition, chief among the elements that underwent a review are: a) the disciplinary system, and b) the formalisation of the periodic information flows to the Supervisory Body.

The Board of Directors approved the new 231 Model on 12 November 2015. In order to oversee the correct functioning of the Model, already as from 17 April 2013, the Board of Directors attributed the role of the Supervisory Body to the Board of Statutory Auditors consisting of Francesco Gianni, Francesca Meneghel and Valeria Mangano.



The Supervisory Body, provided with a specific budget, also executed its own annual audit plan aimed at detecting observance of the audit protocols in relation to offence risks, availing itself during its activities of the Internal Auditing division as well.

### 11.4 Independent auditing firm

The Shareholders' Meeting held on 17 April 2013 granted the appointment for the auditing of the accounts to the firm Deloitte & Touche S.p.A., for the accounting periods as from 31 December 2013 until 31 December 2021.

## 11.5 Executive in charge of drafting the corporate accounting documents and other company roles and functions

Mr. Livio Libralesso, Geox's Administration, Finance and Audit Director, was appointed as executive tasked with drawing up the company accounting documents by the Board of Directors, upon the proposal of the Managing Director and in agreement with the Chairman, subject to the opinion of the Board of Statutory Auditors on 17 April 2013.

Article 18 bis of the Articles of Association envisages that the executive in question is chosen from among the executives who have carried out, for a suitable period of time, administration, management or auditing activities and who are in possession of the honourability requisites envisaged by current legislation.

For the performance of his duties, the executive is provided with an annual expenditure budget and, subject to the agreement of the Company, may avail himself of the advice of the Internal Auditing Department.

## I I.6 Coordination between those involved in the Risk Management and Internal Audit System

To maximize the efficiency of the Risk Management and Internal Audit System and reduce the duplication of activities, Geox has defined some procedures for coordination between the above-listed persons.

The members of the Board of Statutory Auditors shall be invited, along with others, to attend every institutional meeting having as subject matter specific discussions regarding the Risk Management and Internal Audit System.

The meetings of the Risk and Audit Committee are also attended by the head of Internal Audit so as to guarantee constant alignment.



The Director in charge and the Person in charge of Internal Audit shall meet on a monthly basis in such a way as to inform each other of their activities and define less relevant interventions, if any, of which it is reckoned that the Board of Directors need not be informed.

The Audit and Risk Committee shall meet the Executive in Charge and the Person in charge of the Internal Audit on a six-monthly basis, to analyse the specific results of the assessment of the controls regarding the management of the financial information process

## 12. INTERESTS OF DIRECTORS AND TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

Pursuant to art. 2391-bis of the Italian Civil Code, and the CONSOB RPT Regulations, the Board of Directors of 28 October 2010 approved the Regulation governing Related-Party Transactions concerning the governance of related-party transactions, in force since 1st January 2011, and subsequently modified by the Board of Directors with its resolution of 19 December 2013 during the three-yearly review, and published in the Governance section of the company website www.geox.biz.

In drafting the contents of the Regulation governing Related-Party Transactions, the Board established the criteria for identifying transactions which must be approved by the Board subject to the opinion of a special Committee that may coincide with the Audit and Risk Committee and, where necessary, the advice of independent experts.

The Regulation governing Related-Party Transactions identifies the principles which Geox abides by in order to ensure the transparency and essential and procedural correctness of transactions with related parties, in application and compliance with CONSOB RPT Regulations.

The Regulation governing Related-Party Transactions defines, among other things, the "material" transactions that require approval by the Board of Directors in advance, upon the documented and binding opinion (without prejudice to the provisions of the Articles of Association concerning shareholders' meeting authorisation) of a committee composed exclusively of independent, unrelated Directors; the transactions must be disclosed to the public.

Other transactions, unless they fall within the categories of exclusion or exemption pursuant to art. 6 of the Regulation governing Related-Party

## **GEOX**

<u>Transactions</u>, are defined as "Less Relevant RTPs" and may be approved by the Board of Directors or by any bodies which may be appointed, subject to the motivated and non-binding opinion of a committee that may coincide with the audit and risk management committee.

The Regulation governing Related-Party Transactions identifies the cases in which the procedures can be excluded or which are exempted from them, including, among other things, transactions involving a low amount (with a value lower than Euro 100,000), the ordinary transactions concluded under standard or market conditions, the transactions with or between subsidiaries and those with associated companies, provided that parties related to the Company do not have significant interests in them, some transactions relating to the remuneration of the Directors and the managers with strategic responsibilities and urgent transactions carried out under specific conditions.

The Audit and Risk Committee, in its capacity as Minor Related-Party Transactions Committee, met twice during 2015.

The provisions of the Articles of Association governing transactions with related parties were adapted to the CONSOB RPT Regulations. In particular, with a resolution of the Extraordinary Shareholders' Meeting of 28 October 2010, a new section was included in the Articles of Association, titled "Related-party transactions" (with the consequent re-numbering of the articles of the Articles of Association in force), containing the three articles indicated below:

- Article 24 of the Articles of Association is an introductory article which provides that the Company must approve the transactions with related parties in compliance with current legal and regulatory provisions, as well as with its own Articles of Association requirements and relevant procedures adopted by the Company.
- art. 25 of the Articles of Association which allows the Regulation governing Related-Party Transactions to envisage approval by the Board of Directors of the more relevant RPTs despite the adverse opinion of the independent directors, as long as implementation of such transactions is authorised by the Shareholders' Meeting, pursuant to art. 2364, paragraph I, number 5) of the Italian Civil Code. In the case indicated in the previous paragraph and also if a proposed resolution to be submitted to the Shareholders' Meeting concerning a material transaction is approved despite the directors with the requirements of independence' adverse opinion, the Shareholders' Meeting

## **GEOX**

resolves with legally established majorities, as long as – if the unrelated shareholders present at the Shareholders' Meeting account for at least 10% of voting share capital – the aforesaid legal majorities are achieved with the favourable vote of the majority of the unrelated shareholders voting at the Shareholders' Meeting.

 art. 26 of the Articles of Association which allows the Regulation governing Related-Party Transactions to exclude urgent transactions from their area of application, even if pertaining to the Shareholders' Meeting, within the limits of that are allowed by applicable laws and regulations.

In regard to the procedure for the approval of the proposed resolution to the Shareholders' Meeting concerning the aforementioned amendments to the Articles of Association on transactions with related parties (or which are connected to the introduction of the provisions on this issue), it is noted that on 22 September 2010 the Board of Directors met to discuss the adoption of procedures for transactions with related parties provided for by the CONSOB Regulation and, within this examination and discussion, resolved to propose to the Shareholders' Meeting the above-mentioned amendments to the Articles of Association, subject to the prior favourable opinion of the specifically established committee, composed by independent directors.

In addition to governing in the Related-Party Transactions Regulation possible transactions with related parties which can include situations in which a director has a personal interest or an interest exercised on behalf of others, the Board of Directors assessed and adopted with the Code of Ethics operating solutions designed to make it easier to identify and manage adequately situations in which a director has a personal interest or an interest exercised on behalf of others.

In particular, the Board of Directors in its meeting of 13 May 2005 approved a Code of Ethics; that Code of Ethics was entirely replaced by the Board of Directors on 31 July 2012. The new Code of Ethics, just as the previous one, is intended for corporate bodies and their members, staff, temporary employees, consultants and associates of any type, agents, attorneys and any other entity acting for or on behalf of Geox and, in general, all those with whom Geox and other Group companies come into contact while carrying out their activities. This Code of Ethics, which, moreover, is a fundamental element of the organizational model provided for by Legislative Decree no. 231/2001 and of the Group's Risk Management and Internal Audit System, emphasizes, in particular, the prevention



and management of the situations of conflict of interests. In particular, art. 1, par. 5, of this Code stipulates that "any situation of conflict between personal interests and Geox S.p.A.'s interest must be necessarily avoided or, should this be impossible, prior notice of that must be given to the Supervisory Body". Pursuant to Article 11, par. 3, of the Code of Ethics, specific penalties are provided for in the event of failure to comply with the principles contained in the Code of Ethics (including those involving the prevention and disclosure of conflicts of interest): "With regard to the Directors and the Auditors, breach of the provisions of the Code may involve the adoption, on the part of the Board of Directors or the Board of Auditors, respectively, of provisions in proportion to the severity or the repetition or the degree of the breach, as far as removal from office for just cause, to be proposed to the Shareholders' Meeting".

# 13. APPOINTMENT OF THE BOARD OF STATUTORY AUDITORS

The Geox Board of Directors' meeting of 6 February 2013 modified, among other things, the provisions of the Articles of Association relating to the appointment and replacement of Auditors in order to update the Articles of Association to the provisions of Law no. 120/2011. In particular, the rules applicable to the appointment and replacement of the Board of Statutory Auditors are envisaged by Article 22 of the Articles of Association and presented below.

"When the Auditors are appointed and before they accept the office, the administration and control tasks carried out in other companies are made known to the Shareholders' Meeting.

Persons holding office as standing Statutory Auditors in more than seven companies issuing securities listed in regulated markets cannot be appointed as the Company's Statutory Auditors (without prejudice to any other limit introduced according to Article 148-bis of Legislative Decree no. 58/1998).

Statutory Auditors are appointed for the first time in the memorandum of association and thereafter by the ordinary Shareholders' Meeting, which also appoints from among them the Chairman of the Board of Statutory Auditors, according to the procedures indicated hereunder. Before appointing the Statutory Auditors, the Shareholders' Meeting determines the Statutory Auditors' remuneration for their entire term of office.

Statutory Auditors are appointed on the basis of lists presented by Shareholders, in which candidates must be listed in progressive order.

## **GEOX**

The lists must be divided into two sections, one related to the Permanent Statutory Auditors and one related to the Alternate Statutory Auditors; should these contain a number of candidates equal to or exceeding three, they must ensure the presence of both genders, so that the candidates of the less represented gender are at least, for the first appointment one year after the entry into force of Law no. 120/2011, 1/5 of the total number, whereas in relation to the two subsequent appointments, they shall be at least 1/3 of the total number, with rounding off to the higher unit in the case of fraction.

Each Shareholder can present or take part in the presentation of just one list. Only those Shareholders who, alone or together with other Shareholders presenting the same list, account for at least a fortieth of the share capital (or any other lower limit provided by the law in force at the date of the Shareholders' Meeting) can present or take part in presentation of the lists.

The minimum shareholding necessary to present the lists is calculated taking into account the shares registered in the shareholders' name as at the date when the shares are lodged at the Company's registered office. In order to prove ownership of the number of shares necessary to present the lists, the Shareholders who present, or contribute to the presentation of, the lists must present and/or deliver to the Company's registered office, a copy of the specific certification issued by a legally qualified intermediary by the deadline established for publication of the lists.

Every shareholder, as well as the shareholders which belong to a same group (this meaning the even non-corporate controlling shareholder, pursuant to Article 93 of Legislative Decree no. 58/1998 as well as the subsidiaries and associated companies of the same shareholder), or which are parties to a Shareholders' Agreement pursuant to Article 122 of Legislative Decree no. 58/98, cannot either submit or contribute to submit or vote more than one list, either directly, or through a third party or through a trust company. Each list shows a number of candidates not exceeding the maximum number of members of the Board of Statutory Auditors.

The lists presented by Shareholders must be lodged at the Company's registered office at least 25 (twenty-five) days before the date fixed for the Shareholders' Meeting convened to appoint the Statutory Auditors and are made available to the public at the Company's registered office, on its website and in the other ways



envisaged by applicable legal and regulatory requirements, at least 21 (twenty-one) days before the meeting,

The lists must include (i) any information related to the identity of the Shareholders presenting the lists, the total percentage of shareholding held, and a certification proving their ownership and (ii) a declaration from the Shareholders who do not hold a controlling or relative majority shareholding, neither on a joint basis, stating that they do not have any relation provided by Article 144-quinquies of the Consob Issuers' Regulations.

Each candidate can appear on one list only on pain of ineligibility. At the same time when lists are lodged at the Company's registered office, the declarations must be lodged with which individual candidates accept their candidacy and certify, under their own responsibility, the absence of causes of ineligibility and of incompatibility, as well as the existence of the requirements envisaged by applicable regulations and by the Articles of Association including the limit of the number of accumulated offices previously described. Together with these declarations a curriculum vitae is lodged for each candidate concerning the latter's personal and professional characteristics as well as the indication of the suitability to qualify as an independent.

When just one single list is presented within the above mentioned twenty-five days term, or if only lists from shareholders subject to the relations provided by Article 144-quinquies of the Consob Issuers' Regulations are presented, other lists can be presented up to the fifth day after that date. In that case, the minimum shareholding requirement for shareholders presenting the lists is cut by half.

Lists for which the previous requirements are not observed are not considered to have been presented.

Each holder of voting rights can vote for just one list.

Two standing auditors and one substitute auditor are taken from the list obtaining the highest number of Shareholders' votes, in the progressive order with which they are listed in the list concerned. The remaining standing auditor and substitute auditor are taken from the lists having obtained the second highest number of votes. In the case of a tie vote between two or more lists obtaining the highest number of votes, the youngest candidates (in terms of age) will be elected as standing and substitute auditors up to the number of offices to be assigned, in any case ensuring that standing auditors are taken from at least two different lists; all



this, however, in compliance with the rules related to the balance of genders in the bodies of listed companies pursuant to Law no. 120/2011.

Should the resulting composition of the collective body or of the category of the alternate Statutory Auditors fail to respect the balance of genders, taking into account the order in which they are listed in the respective section, the last elected candidates of the Majority List of the most represented gender shall fall from office in the number necessary to ensure the compliance with the required quota, and they shall be replaced by the first non-elected candidates of the same list and of the same section of the less represented gender. If there are no candidates of the less represented gender in the relevant section of the Majority List in a sufficient number to proceed with replacement, the Shareholders' Meeting shall appoint the missing permanent or alternate Statutory Auditors subject to the legal majorities, thus ensuring that the required quota is met.

For the purpose of implementing the provisions of this article, the lists presented by minority shareholders that are directly or indirectly connected with shareholders that have presented or voted for the list that has obtained the highest number of votes shall not be included.

The chairmanship of the Board of Statutory Auditors is assigned to the standing auditor indicated as the first candidate on the list that at the Shareholder's Meeting has obtained most votes after the first one.

The above-mentioned provisions for the appointment of the Board of Statutory Auditors are not applicable to Shareholders' Meetings appointing the Board of Statutory Auditors following replacement or cease of office of members of the Board, in compliance with legal requirements, or to Shareholders' Meetings appointing the Board of Statutory Auditors whom, for any reason whatsoever, including non-presentation of several lists, it was not possible to elect using the list vote approach. In such cases, the Shareholders' Meeting shall resolve with the legal majorities, in any case in compliance with the division criterion capable of ensuring the gender balance under Article 148, par. I-bis of Legislative Decree no. 58/1998.

Statutory auditors hold office for three financial years and cease their office on the date of the Shareholders' Meeting convened to approve the financial statements for the last financial year of their term of office. Statutory Auditors' ceasing of office takes effect when the Board of Statutory Auditors has been reelected. If a standing Statutory Auditor ceases his/her office for any reason, the



substitute auditor belonging to the same list as the auditor leaving office takes his/her place. The new Statutory Auditors shall remain in office until the following Shareholders' Meeting, which shall replace the missing members of the Board of Statutory Auditors according to the legal provisions and in compliance with the division criterion capable of ensuring the gender balance under Article 148, par. I-bis of Legislative Decree no. 58/1998".

By means of Resolution no. 19499 published on 28 January 2016, Consob established the shareholding required for presentation of the lists of candidates for election to the administration and control bodies that closed the accounting period ended on 31 December 2015, unless a lower quota is envisaged by the Articles of Association. In particular, the quota set for GEOX S.p.A. is the following:

CRITERIA FOR THE D	SHAREHOLDING		
CATEGORY CAPITALISATION	FREE FLOAT %	MAJORITY STAKE %	
> I billion and <= 15 billion	Not material	Not material	1.0%

## 14. COMPOSITION AND OPERATION OF THE BOARD OF STATUTORY AUDITORS

Ex art. 123-bis, par. 2, letter d), FCA

Pursuant to art. 22 of the Articles of Association, as modified in February 2013, the Board of Statutory Auditors consists of three standing members and two substitutes in compliance with the gender balance pursuant to article 148, par. Ibis of Leg. Decree no. 58/1998, as introduced by Law 120/2011. Therefore, for the first mandate following on one year from the coming into force of Law 120/2011, the Board must contain at least 1/5 of the least represented gender, while in the two subsequent mandates at least 1/3 of the members must belong to the least represented gender, rounding up to the nearest whole number where necessary. The members of the Board of Statutory Auditors may be reappointed. The Auditors currently in office were appointed by the Shareholders during the Shareholders' Meeting held on 17 April 2013 on the basis of the single list presented by the majority shareholder LIR S.r.l. and approved by the majority of



the Shareholders' attending the meeting; they will remain in office until the meeting for the approval of the financial statements as of 31 December 2015.

During 2015, the Board of Statutory Auditors held 8 meetings with an average length of two hours each. For the current accounting period, a precise number of meetings has not been established. As at the date of this report, in 2016 the Board of Statutory Auditors has met once.

The structure of the Board of Statutory Auditors as at 31 December 2015 is set out in Table 3 attached.

The list of administration and control offices covered by the Company Auditors in companies pursuant to Book V, Title V, Chapters V, VI and VII of the Italian Civil Code, is enclosed with this Report. The complete list of offices is published by Consob on its own website in the cases and pursuant to Article 144-quinquesdecies of the Issuers' Regulations. The personal and professional characteristics of each auditor are presented in their curriculum vitae which is published in the Governance section of the website <a href="https://www.geox.biz">www.geox.biz</a>.

Observance of the criteria of independence was verified at the time of appointment both in compliance with art. 148, paragraph 3 of the FCA and with art. 8.C.1 of the Corporate Governance Code. In addition, the Board of Statutory Auditors assessed the independence of its members at the first available opportunity after their appointment. The Board of Statutory Auditors assesses the independence of its members also on a yearly basis. The most recent assessment was conducted on 24 March 2015 and confirmed that the members meet the independence requirements.

In observance of Article 2.C.2. of the Corporate Governance Code, the Chairman of the Board of Directors shall make sure that the Statutory Auditors adequately know the sector of activity in which the Company operates, the company dynamics and their development, as well as the applicable legal framework, and he or she shall take specific initiatives intended for this purpose, encouraging Statutory Auditors to join such initiatives.

Responsibility for promptly and thoroughly informing the other Auditors and the Chairman of the Board of Statutory Auditors of any interests in a specific Company transaction, specifying the nature, terms, origin and purport, is left to the initiative of each Auditor.

When performing its activities, the Board of Statutory Auditors co-ordinated with the internal audit department and with the Audit and Risk Committee, by means



of the periodic participation in meetings providing updates on internal audit matters.

### 15. DEALINGS WITH THE SHAREHOLDERS

In line with the matters recommended by Article 9 of the Corporate Governance Code, in the Governance section of the website biz significant information is made available to the shareholders with particular reference to the methods envisaged for participation in and exercise of the right to vote during shareholders meetings, along with the documentation relating to the business placed on the agenda.

The investor relations' function is handled by Mr. Livio Libralesso and Ms. Marina Cargnello.

### **16. GENERAL MEETINGS**

### Ex art. 123-bis, par. 2, letter c), FCA

Article 12 of the Articles of Association provides that parties qualifying as owners of shares on the seventh open market day prior to the Shareholders' Meeting date are entitled to intervene and to vote, provided they have announced their wish to intervene in the Shareholders' Meeting through a duly authorised intermediary, pursuant to the provisions of the law and applicable regulations.

Intervention during Meetings by means of telecommunications facilities is permitted, via methods which allow the identification of all the participants and permit the latter to follow the discussion and intervene in real time when handling the business dealt with. In this case, the meeting will be considered to have been held where the chairman of the Meeting and the secretary are located. The method of telecommunication used must be mentioned in the minutes.

Those who are entitled to vote may exercise this right electronically via certified email (PEC) pursuant to the laws, regulatory provisions on this issue and the provisions within the shareholders' meeting regulations. This provision of the Articles of Association shall enter into effect as from the shareholders' meeting resolution that approves the amendments to the shareholders' meeting regulations which govern the ways in which a vote can be placed electronically.

Individuals who are entitled to participate and vote in the Shareholders' Meeting may be represented by another natural or legal person, including non-shareholders, via a written authorisation in the cases and within the limits set by



the applicable law and regulatory provisions. The authorisation may be sent electronically via certified email and through any other methods provided for in the convocation notice, according to the procedures allowed by the applicable provisions of the law and the regulations.

Pursuant to article 127-ter of the FCA, shareholders can ask questions on the agenda items even prior to the Shareholders' Meeting, by recorded delivery letter with advice of delivery to be addressed to Geox S.p.A. Direzione Affari Legali e Societari, via Feltrina Centro no. 16, 31044 Biadene di Montebelluna (TV), Italy or by certified email to <a href="mailto:societario@pec.geox.com">societario@pec.geox.com</a>. These questions will be answered at the latest during the Meeting, while the Company is entitled to provide a joint response to questions having the same content.

Pursuant to Article 10 of the Articles of Association, the shareholders who, even jointly, represent at least one fortieth of the share capital may request, within 10 days of the publication of the notice to convene the Shareholders' Meeting (unless the law provides for other time limits), additions to the lists of the items on the agenda, indicating in their request the additional items they propose, or submit proposals for resolution on items already on the Agenda, within the limits and subject to the methods provided for by the applicable legal provisions and regulations, through a signed original letter to be sent to the Legal and Corporate Affairs Department of Geox S.p.A., along with a report on the items proposed for discussion. Addition is not allowed for issues that the shareholders' meeting deliberates about, pursuant to the law, upon the proposal of Directors or based on a project or report prepared by them. Any list of additional issues to be discussed at the shareholders' meeting will be published following the same terms and conditions as for this notice, at least fifteen days prior to the Shareholders' Meeting.

The course of the Meeting is disciplined by specific regulations for general shareholders' meeting business, available in the investor relations section, governance, general shareholders' meeting on the website www.geox.biz.

Article 6 of the Shareholders' Meeting Regulations envisages the possibility for each shareholder to request the floor on any of the matters being discussed, requesting information and making any proposals.

During the general Shareholders' Meeting held on 16 April 2015, attended by the majority of the Directors of the Company, the Board reported on the activities carried out and scheduled and took action so as to ensure the shareholders



adequate disclosure regarding the elements necessary in order that they may adopt, in full awareness of the facts, decisions which are the responsibility of the meeting.

## 17. OTHER PRACTICES PERTAINING TO CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Ex art. 123-bis, par. 2, letter a), FCA

The Company established an Ethics Committee, subsequently reappointed on 17 April 2013, in compliance with the new Code of Ethics adopted by the Board on 20 December 2012, "Committee for Ethics and Sustainable Development". The aforementioned Committee consists of Mario Moretti Polegato, Joaquin Navarro-Valls and Umberto Paolucci, to direct and promote the Company's commitment and ethical conduct. Subsequently, on 30 July 2015, in light of the Company's increasingly strong commitment to ethics, corporate social responsibility and sustainability, the Board of Directors resolved to expand the number of members of the Committee to four, appointing Mr Renato Alberini, who has considerable expertise and knowledge of the Company's business, as new member of the Committee for Ethics and Sustainable Development, for a term of office until the approval of the financial statements as at 31.12.2015, as the other three existing members Mr Mario Moretti Polegato, Mr Joaquin Navarro-Valls, and Mr Umberto Paolucci.

# 18. CHANGES SINCE THE END OF THE ACCOUNTING PERIOD IN QUESTION

As at the closing date, no changes in the corporate governance structure took place in respect to those indicated in the specific sections.

Today, 25 February 2016

On behalf of the Board of Directors
The Chairman

dr. Mario Moretti Polegato

### Attachment to the Annual Corporate Governance Report for 2015

List of offices held by Geox's Directors in other companies listed on regulated markets (in Italy and/or abroad), in financial, banking and insurance companies or large companies; List of offices held by the Statutory Auditors in other companies.

### **Board of Directors**

Name	Office	Other offices
		Chairman of the Board of Directors of:
Mario Moretti Polegato	Chairman	LIR S.r.l., parent company of Geox S.p.A.
in and the second of the secon		Regent of the Bank of Italy at the Office in Venice.
Giorgio Presca	CEO	No
		Director of:
		LIR S.r.l., parent company of Geox S.p.A.
		Chairman of the Board of Directors and CEO of:
Enrico Moretti Polegato	Vice Chairman	Diadora Sport S.r.l.
		Member of the Governing Board of:
		UNINDUSTRIA TREVISO
		Director of:
		BRIOSCHI SVILUPPO IMMOBILIARE S.p.A.
		Standing Auditor:
		CRÉDIT AGRICOLE VITA S.p.A.
Fabrizio Colombo	Independent Director	ACCIAIERIA ARVEDI S.p.A.
	Lead Independent Director	FINARVEDI S.p.A.
		SISTEMI INFORMATIVI S.r.l.
		BNP PARIBAS FOR INNOVATION ITALIA S.r.l.
		VALUE TRANSFORMATION SERVICES S.p.A.
		Director of:
		FRESENIUS SE & Co. KGaA, Germany
Roland Berger	Independent Director	FRESENIUS MANAGEMENT SE, Germany
		ROCKET INTERNET SE, Germany
		SCHULER AG, Germany
	Non-independent director	Standing Auditor of:
Alessandro Antonio Giusti	responsible for overseeing the	FIDICONTROL S.p.A.
	Audit and Risk System	TIDICONTROL S.p.A.

		Chairman of the Board of Statutory Auditors of:
		STB S.p.A.
		X Capital S.p.A.
		NEXT S.p.A.
		STILAB S.p.A.
		INTERPORTO DELLA TOSCANA CENTRALE Spa
Lara Livolsi	Independent Director	Director of: LIVOLSI & PARTNERS Spa FONDAZIONE PASSARÈ DIADORA SPORT Srl DARIO'S S.r.l.
Duncan Niederauer	Independent Director	Director of: FIRST REPUBLIC BANK (listed on the NYSE). REALOGY (listed on the NYSE)
Claudia Baggio	Director	NO

### **Board of Statutory Auditors**

Name	Office	Other offices
	Chairman	Director and Chairman of the Board of Directors:
		PROPERTIES ITALIA S.P.A. SIIQ
		OPPIDUM S.R.L.
		FIDEROUTSOURCING S.R.L.
		FIDERSERVIZI S.R.L.
		Director and Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors:
		CASSA DI RISPARMIO DI RAVENNA S.P.A.
Francesco Gianni		Director:
		PANTHEON.IT S.R.L.
		PANTHEON ITALIA S.R.L.
		VALVITALIA FINANZIARIA S.P.A.
		MAGGIOLI S.P.A.
		D.E. HOLDING ITALY S.R.L.
		VITROCISET S.P.A.
		IDEA FIMIT SGR S.P.A.
		VALVITALIA S.p.A.

		Sole director:									
		FULL SERVICES S.R.L.									
		OUTSOURCING NETWORK S.r.l.									
		Partner:									
		SOCIETÀ AGRICOLA RUSTICA OPPIDI SOCIETÀ SEMPLICE									
	Standing Auditor	Chairman of the Board of Statutory Auditors:									
		A2A CALORE & SERVIZI Srl									
		AVON COSMETICS SRL									
		Standing Auditor of:									
		DUEMME SGR SPA									
		LIR SRL									
Francesca Meneghel		IMMOBILIARE IDRA SPA									
Trancesca Menegner		MEDIASET SPA									
		MEDIOLANUM COMUNICAZIONE SPA									
		MEDIOLANUM FIDUCIARIA SPA									
		MEDIOLANUM GESTIONE FONDI SGR SPA									
		MONDADORI PUBBLICITA' SPA									
		PLURIGAS SPA IN LIQUIDAZIONE									
		VIDEODUE SRL									
	Standing Auditor	Standing Auditor of:									
Valeria Mangano		Inipress Spa; Altana Spa Alchimia Spa Moncler Enfant Srl									

### TABLE 1: INFORMATION ON THE OWNERSHIP STRUCTURE

	SHARE CAPITAL STRUCTURE											
	No. of shares				isted (indicate kets) / not listed	Rights and obligations						
Ordinary shares 259,207,331			100%		МТА	Each share is entitled to one vote. The rights and obligations of the shareholders are those laid down by articles 2346 and following of the Italian civil code.						
Shares with mu voting rights	-	-		-	-							
Shares with lin				-			-					
Shares without v	oting	-	-		-	-						
Other		-	-		-		-					
		(that gran			INSTRUMENTS be for newly issued	shares)						
	Listed (indicate markets) / not listed		No. of instruments in circulation		Category of share for conversion,		No. of shares available for conversion/ exercise					
Convertible bonds			-		-		-					
Warrant	Warrant -				-		-					

SIGNIFICANT EQUITY INVESTMENTS IN THE SHARE CAPITAL										
Party	Direct shareholder	% of ordinary share capital	% of voting capital							
Mario Moretti Polegato	LIR S.r.l.	71.1004%	71.1004%							
JPMorgan Asset Management Holdings Inc.	JPMorgan Asset Management UK Limited	2.0137%	2.0137%							
FMR LLC	FMR LLC	2.1309%	2.1309%							

### TABLE 2: STRUCTURE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THE COMMITTEES

	Board of Directors										Audit and Risk Committe		Remun. Committee		Appoint. Committee		Executive Committee if any			
Office	Members	Year of birth	Date of first appointment	In office from	In office until	List **	Exec	Non- exec.	Indep. as per Code	Indep. as per FCA	No. of other offices	(*)	(*)	(**)	(*)	(**)	(*)	(**)	(*)	(**)
Chairman	Polegato Moretti Mario	1952	20.05.2002	17.04.2013	Approval of the financial stat.	М	х				2	6/6							13/13	С
CEO ◊	Presca Giorgio	1963	28.09.2012	17.04.2013	Approval of the financial stat. 31.12.15	М	х					6/6							11/13	М
Vice Chairman	Polegato Moretti Enrico	1981	27.07.2004	17.04.2013	Approval of the financial stat.	М	х				3	6/6							12/13	М
Director-	Berger Roland	1937	08.11.2012	17.04.2013	Approval of the financial stat. 31.12.15	М		x	x	x	4	1/6	4/8	М			1/1	С		
Director-	Colombo Fabrizio	1968	17.04.2013 (2)	17.04.2013	Approval of the financial stat. 31.12.15	М		X	Х	х	7	6/6	8/	С	5/5	М	1/1	М		
Director-	Giusti Alessandro Antonio	1950	20.10.2004	17.04.20	Approval of the financial stat.	М		Х			6	6/6	8/8	М	5/5	М	1/1	М		

				10	01 10 15														
				13	31.12.15														
Director	Baggio Claudia	1981	08.11.2012	17.04.2013	Approval of the financial stat.	М		X			-	6/6							
Director	Livolsi Lara	1974	17.04.2013	17.04.2013	Approval of the financial stat.	М		X	Х	X	4	6/6			5/5	С			
Director	Niederauer Duncan	1959	13.11.2014	22.12.2014	stat. 31.12.15	М		Х	Х	х	2	5/6							
				DIRI	ECTORS WHO	CEAS	ED TO	HOLD O	FFICE DURIN	G THE ACC	OUNTING P	ERIOD II	QUEST	10N					
No. of meetings held during the accounting period: 6						Au	Audit and Risk Committee: 8			Remun. Committee: 5		Appointment Committee: 1			Executive Committee: 13				
Indicate the quor	um required to pre	sent minor	ity lists for th	ne election o	f one or more	mem	bers (	ex art. 1	47-ter FCA):	1%									

#### NOTES

The symbols indicated below must be included in the "Office" column:

- This symbol indicates the director responsible for the risk management and internal audit system.
- ♦ This symbol indicates the main person in charge of the operations of the issuer (Chief Executive Officer or CEO).
- This symbol indicates the Lead Independent Director (LID).
- \* "Date of first appointment" for each director means the date on which the director was appointed for the first time (in absolute terms) to the Board of the issuer.
- \*\* This column indicates the list from which each director has been taken ("M": majority list; "m": minority list; "BoD": list presented by the Board).
- \*\*\* This column indicates the number of offices held as director or auditor by the person concerned in other companies listed on regulated markets, including those abroad, in finance, banking, insurance or large companies. In the Corporate Governance Report the offices are indicated in full.
- (\*). This column indicates the participation of directors in the respective meetings of the Board and committees (indicate the number of meetings in which they took part compared to the total number of meetings they could have taken part in; e.g. 6/8; 8/8 etc.).
- (\*\*). This column indicates the position of the director in the Committee: "C": Chairman; "M": member.

#### Company notes:

- (1) Appointment before listing of the company on 1 December 2004.
- (2) Date of first appointment as director. Previously Chairman of the Board of Statutory Auditors from 20.10.2004 to 17.04.2013.
- (3) Date of first appointment, with start of first appointment as from 1 December 2004.

### TABLE 3: STRUCTURE OF THE BOARD OF STATUTORY AUDITORS

Board of Statutory Auditors											
Office	Members	Year of birth	Date of first appointment	In office from	In office until	List**	Independent as per Code	participation in the meetings of the Board***	No. of other offices****		
Chairman	Gianni Francesco	1951	17.04.2013 (1)	17.04.2013	Approval of the financial stat. 31.12.15	М	х	6/8	16		
Standing auditor	Meneghel Francesca	1961	18.12.2008 (2)	17.04.2013	Approval of the financial stat. 31.12.15	М	х	8/8	12		
Standing auditor	Mangano Valeria	1969	17.04.2013	17.04.2013	Approval of the financial stat. 31.12.15	М	х	8/8	4		
Substitute auditor	Massari Giulia	1967	20.10.2004(3)	17.04.2013	Approval of the financial stat. 31.12.15	М					
Substitute auditor	Rosati Andrea Luca	1950	20.10.2004(4)	17.04.2013	Approval of the financial stat. 31.12.15	М					
	AUDITORS WHO CEASED TO HOLD OFFICE DURING THE ACCOUNTING PERIOD IN QUESTION										
No. of meetings held du	ring the accounting period::	8									

Indicate the quorum required to present minority lists for the election of one or more members (ex art. 148 FCA): 1%

#### NOTES

\*\* This column indicates the list from which each auditor has been drawn ("M": majority list; "m": minority list).

- (1) Date of first appointment as member and Chairman of the Board of Statutory Auditors. Previously director of the company from 01.12.2004 (appointed on 20.10.2004) until 17.04.2013.
- (2) Serving as substitute auditor as from 12.04.2007 and as standing auditor as from 18.12.2008.
- (3) Serving as substitute auditor as from 20.10.2004 to 12.04.2007
- (4) Serving as standing auditor as from 20.10.2004 to 12.04.2007

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;Date of first appointment" of each auditor means the date on which the auditor was appointed for the first time (in absolute terms) to the Board of Statutory Auditors of the issuer.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> This column indicates the participation of auditors in the meetings of the Board of Statutory Auditors (indicate the number of meetings they took part in compared to the total number of meetings they could have taken part in; e.g. 6/8; 8/8 etc.).

\*\*\*\*This column indicates the number of positions as director or auditor held by the person concerned pursuant to art. 148-bis FCA and the related implementation provisions contained in the CONSOB Regulation for Issuers. The full list of positions is published by CONSOB on its website pursuant to art. 144-quinquiesdecies of the CONSOB Regulation for Issuers.