

## **ENI S.P.A. BY-LAWS**

### Part I - Establishment - Name - Registered Office and Duration of the Company

#### **ARTICLE 1**

**1.1** "Eni S.p.A." resulting from the transformation of Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi, a public law agency, established by Law 136 of February 10, 1953, is regulated by these by-laws.

#### **ARTICLE 2**

**2.1** The registered head office of the company is located in Rome, Italy and the company's two branches in San Donato Milanese (MI).

**2.2** Main representative offices, affiliates and branches may be established and/or wound up in Italy or abroad in compliance with the law.

#### **ARTICLE 3**

**3.1** The company is expected to exist until December 31, 2100. Its duration may be extended one or more times by resolution of the shareholders' meeting.

### Part II - Company Objects

#### **ARTICLE 4**

**4.1** The company objects are the direct and/or indirect management, by way of shareholdings in companies, agencies or businesses, of activities in the field of hydrocarbons and natural vapours, such as exploration and development of hydrocarbon fields, construction and operation of pipelines for transporting the same, processing, transformation, storage, utilisation and trade of hydrocarbons and natural vapours, all in respect of concessions provided by law.

The company also has the object of direct and/or indirect management, by way of shareholdings in companies, agencies or businesses, of activities in the fields of chemicals, nuclear fuels, geothermy and renewable energy sources, in the sector of engineering and construction of industrial plants, in the mining sector, in the metallurgy sector, in the textile machinery sector, in the water sector, including derivation, drinking water, purification, distribution and reuse of waters; in the sector of environmental protection and treatment and disposal of waste, as well as in every other business activity that is instrumental, supplemental or complementary with the aforementioned activities.

The company also has the object of managing the technical and financial co-ordination of subsidiaries and affiliated companies as well as providing financial assistance on their behalf.

The company may perform any operations necessary or useful for the achievement of the company objects; by way of example, it may initiate operations involving real estate, moveable goods, trade and commerce, industry, finance and banking asset and liability operations, as well as any action that is in any way connected with the company objects with the exception of public fund raising and the performance of investment services as regulated by Legislative Decree No. 58 of February 24, 1998.

The company may take shareholdings and interests in other companies or businesses with objects similar, comparable or complementary to its own or those of companies in which it has holdings, either in Italy or abroad, and it may provide real and or personal bonds for its own and others' obligations, especially guarantees.

### Part III - Capital - Shareholdings - Bonds

#### **ARTICLE 5**

**5.1** The company capital is euro 4,005,358,876.00 (four billion five million three hundred and fifty-eight thousand eight hundred and seventy-six) represented by 4,005,358,876 (four billion five million three hundred and fifty-eight thousand eight hundred and seventy-six) shares of ordinary stock with a nominal value of euro 1 (one) each.

**5.2** Shares may not be split up and each share is entitled to one vote.

**5.3** The fact of being a Shareholder in itself constitutes approval of these by-laws.

#### **ARTICLE 6**

**6.1** Pursuant to Article 3 of Law Decree 332 of May 31, 1994, converted with amendments into Law 474 of July 30, 1994, no one, in any capacity, may own company shares that entail a holding of more than 3 per cent of voting share capital.

Such maximum shareholding limit is calculated by taking into account the aggregate shareholding held by the controlling entity, either a physical or legal person or company; its directly or indirectly controlled entities, as well as entities controlled by the same controlling entity; affiliated entities as well as people related to the second degree by blood or marriage, also in the case of a legally separated spouse.

Control exists, with reference also to entities other than companies, in the cases envisaged by Article 2359, paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Civil Code.

Affiliation exists in the case set forth in Article 2359, paragraph 3, of the Civil Code as well as between entities that directly or indirectly, by way of subsidiaries, other than those managing investment funds, are bound, even with third parties, in agreements regarding the exercise of voting rights or the transfer of shares or portions of third companies or, in any event, in agreements or pacts as per Article 122 of Legislative Decree No. 58 of February 24, 1998 regarding third party companies if said agreements or pacts concern at least 10 per cent of the voting capital, if they are listed companies, or 20 per cent if they are unlisted companies.

The aforementioned shareholding limit (3 per cent) is calculated by taking into account shares held by any fiduciary nominee or intermediary. Any voting rights attributable to voting capital held or controlled in excess of the maximum limit indicated in the foregoing cannot be exercised and the voting rights of each entity to whom such limit on shareholding applies are reduced in proportion, unless otherwise jointly provided in advance by the parties involved. In the event that shares exceeding this limit are voted, any Shareholders' resolution adopted pursuant to such a vote may be challenged pursuant to Article 2377 of the Civil Code, if the required majority had not been reached without the votes exceeding the aforementioned maximum limit.

Shares not entitled to vote are included in the determination of the quorum at shareholders' meetings.

**6.2** Pursuant to Article 2, paragraph 1 of Law Decree 332 of May 31, 1994, converted with amendments into Law 474 of July 30, 1994, as modified by Article 4, Paragraph 227, of Law December 24, 2003 no. 350, the Minister of Economy and Finance retains the following special powers to be exercised in agreement with the Minister of the Economic Development and according to the criteria contained in the Decree issued by the President of the Council of Ministers on June 10, 2004:

- a) opposition with respect to the acquisition of material shareholdings by entities affected by the shareholding limit as set forth in Article 3 of Law Decree 332 of May 31, 1994, converted with amendments into Law 474 of July 30, 1994, by which – as per Decree issued by the Minister of Treasury on October 16, 1995 – are meant those representing at least 3% of share capital with the right to vote at the ordinary shareholders' meeting. The opposition is expressed within ten days of the date of the notice to be filed by the Board of Directors at the time request is made for registration in the Shareholders' Register if the Minister considers that such an acquisition may prejudice the vital interests of the Italian State. Until the ten-day term is not lapsed, the voting rights and the non-asset linked rights connected with the shares representing a material shareholding may not be exercised. If the opposition power is exercised, through a duly motivated act in connection with the prejudice that may be caused by the operation to the vital interests of the Italian State, the transferee may not exercise the voting rights and the other non-asset linked rights connected with the shares representing a material shareholding and must sell said shares within one year. Failing to comply, the law court, upon request of the Minister of Economy and Finance, will order the sale of the shares representing a material shareholding according to the procedures set forth in Article 2359-ter of the Civil Code. The act through which the opposition power is exercised may be sued by the transferee before the Regional Administrative Court of Latium within sixty days as of its issue;
- b) opposition with respect to the subscription of Shareholders' pacts or agreements as per Article 122 of Legislative Decree No. 58 of February 24, 1998, involving – as per Decree issued by the Minister of Treasury on October 16, 1995 – at least 3% of the share capital with the right to vote at ordinary shareholders' meetings. In order to allow the exercise of the above mentioned opposition power, Consob notifies the Minister of Economy and Finance of the relevant pacts or agreements communicated to it pursuant to the aforementioned Article 122 of Legislative Decree No. 58 of February 24, 1998.

The opposition power may be exercised within ten days as of the date of the notice by Consob. Until the ten-day term is not lapsed, the voting right and the other non-asset linked rights connected with the shares held by the shareholders who have subscribed the above mentioned pacts or agreements may not be exercised. If the opposition power is exercised through the issue of an act that shall be duly motivated in consideration of the prejudice that may be caused by said pacts or agreements to the vital interests of the Italian State, the shareholders pacts or agreements shall be null and void. If in the shareholders' meetings the shareholders who have signed shareholders' pacts or agreements behave as if those pacts or agreements disciplined by Article 122 of Legislative Decree No. 58 of February 24, 1998 were still in effect, the resolutions approved with their vote, if determining for the approval, may be sued. The act through which the opposition power is exercised may be sued by the shareholders who joined the above mentioned pacts or agreements before the Regional Administrative Court of Latium within sixty days as of its issue;

- c) veto power with respect to resolutions to dissolve the company, to transfer the business, to merge, to demerge, to transfer the company's registered office abroad, to change the company objects and to amend the by-laws cancelling or modifying the powers indicated in this Article. The act through which the veto power is exercised shall be duly motivated in consideration of the prejudice the related resolution may cause to the vital interests of the Italian State and may be sued by the dissenting Shareholders before the Regional Administrative Court of Latium within sixty days as of its issue;
- d) appointment of one Board member with no voting rights. Should such appointed Director lapse, the Minister of Economy and Finance in agreement with the Minister of the Economic Development will appoint his substitute.

## **ARTICLE 7**

**7.1** When shares are fully paid, and if the law so allows, they may be issued to the bearer. Bearer shares may be converted into registered shares and vice-versa. Conversion operations are performed at the Shareholder's expense.

## **ARTICLE 8**

**8.1** In the event, and for whatever reason, a share belongs to more than one person, the rights relating to said share may not be exercised by other than one person or by a proxy for all co-owners.

## **ARTICLE 9**

**9.1** The shareholders' meeting may resolve to increase the company capital and establish terms, conditions and means thereof.

**9.2** The shareholders' meeting may resolve to increase the company capital by issuing shares, including shares of different classes, to be assigned for no consideration pursuant to Article 2349 of the Civil Code.

## **ARTICLE 10**

**10.1** Payments on shares are requested by the Board of Directors in one or more times.

**10.2** Shareholders who are late in payment are charged an interest calculated at the official discount rate established by the Bank of Italy besides the provisions envisaged in Article 2344 of the Civil Code.

## **ARTICLE 11**

**11.1** The company may issue bonds, including convertibles and warrant bonds in compliance with the law.

### Part IV - Shareholders' meeting

## **ARTICLE 12**

**12.1** Ordinary and extraordinary shareholders' meetings are usually held at the company registered office unless otherwise resolved by the Board of Directors, provided however they are held in Italy.

**12.2** Ordinary shareholders' meetings must be called at least once a year to approve the financial statements, within 180 days of the end of the business year, as the Company approves the Group Financial Statements.

## **ARTICLE 13**

**13.1** Shareholders' meetings are convened through a notice to be published on the Italian Official Gazette or the following newspapers: "Il Sole 24 Ore", "Corriere della Sera" and "Financial Times", according to the current legislation and in compliance with the rules in force regulating the exercise of the vote by mail.

The Shareholders that, severally or jointly, represent at least one fortieth of Eni share capital, may ask, within five days as of the date of publication of the shareholders' meeting notice, to add other items in the agenda. The request shall contain the matters to be proposed to the shareholders' meeting. Said faculty may not be exercised on the matters upon which, pursuant to the applicable legislation, the shareholders' meeting resolves on the basis of a proposal of the Board of Directors or on the basis of a project or report of the Board. The integrations accepted by the Board shall be published at least ten days before the shareholders' meeting date, through a notice to be published as indicated above.

**13.2** Admission to the shareholders' meeting is subject to the delivery, also for registered shares, of the communication issued by financial intermediaries at least two labour days before the date of the shareholders' meeting on first call.

## **ARTICLE 14**

**14.1** Each Shareholder entitled to attend the meeting may also be represented in compliance with the law by a person appointed by written proxy. Incorporated entities and companies may attend the meeting by way of a person appointed by written proxy. In order to simplify collection of proxies issued by Shareholders who are employees of the company or its subsidiaries and members of Shareholders associations incorporated under and managed pursuant to current legislation regulating proxies collection, notice boards for communications and rooms to allow proxies collection are made available to said associations according to terms and conditions agreed from time to time by the company with the associations representatives.

**14.2** The Chairman of the meeting has to assure the regularity of written proxies and, in general, the right to attend the meeting.

**14.3** The right to vote may also be exercised by mail according to the laws and regulations in force concerning this matter.

**14.4** Eni S.p.A. shareholders' meetings are disciplined by Eni S.p.A.'s shareholders' meeting Regulation approved by the ordinary shareholders' meeting.

## **ARTICLE 15**

**15.1** The meeting is chaired by the Chairman of the Board of Directors, or in the event of absence or impediment, by the Chief Executive Officer; in absence of both, by another person, duly delegated by the Board of Directors, failing which the meeting may elect its own Chairman.

**15.2** The Chairman of the meeting is assisted by a Secretary, who need not be a Shareholder, to be designated by the Shareholders present, and may appoint one or more scrutineers.

## **ARTICLE 16**

**16.1** The ordinary shareholders' meeting decides on all the matters for which it is legally entitled and authorises the transfer of the business.

**16.2** Resolutions either at ordinary or extraordinary meetings, either on first, second or third call, must be taken with the majority required by the law in each case.

**16.3** Resolutions of the meeting taken in compliance with the law and these by-laws are binding for all Shareholders even if absent or dissenting.

**16.4** The minutes of ordinary meetings must be signed by the Chairman and the Secretary.

**16.5** The minutes of extraordinary meetings must be drawn up by a notary public.

## Part V - The Board of Directors

### **ARTICLE 17**

**17.1** The company is managed by a Board of Directors consisting of no fewer than three and no more than nine members. The shareholders' meeting determines the number within these limits. The Minister of Economy and Finance in agreement with the Minister of the Economic Development may appoint another member, with no voting rights, pursuant to Article 6, second Paragraph, letter d), of the by-laws.

**17.2** The Board of Directors is appointed for a period of up to three financial years; this term lapses on the date of the shareholders' meeting convened to approve the financial statements of the last year of their office. They may be reappointed.

**17.3** The Board of Directors, except for the member appointed pursuant to Article 6.2, letter d) of these by-laws, is appointed by the shareholders' meeting on the basis of lists presented by Shareholders and by the Board of Directors; in such lists the candidates must be listed in numerical order. Should the retiring Board of Directors present its own candidate list, it must be deposited at the company's registered office and published in at least three Italian newspapers of general circulation, two of them business dailies, at least twenty days before the date set for the first call of the shareholders' meeting. Candidate lists presented by Shareholders must be deposited and published as indicated in the foregoing at least ten days before the date set for the first call of the shareholders' meeting.

Each Shareholder may present or take part in the presenting of only one candidate list and vote only one candidate list. Those who are controlling or controlled entities or are under common control, as defined by Article 93 of Legislative Decree no. 58 issued on February 24, 1998, by the same entity of the shareholder presenting a list shall not present nor take part in the presentation of another candidate list, nor vote them, also through intermediaries or fiduciaries. Each candidate may appear in one list only or he will be ineligible. Only those Shareholders who, alone or together with other Shareholders, represent at least 1 per cent of voting share capital at the ordinary shareholders' meeting may present candidate lists. In order to demonstrate the title on the number of shares necessary to present candidate lists, the Shareholders must present and/or deliver with the company's registered office a copy of the communication issued by the authorised financial intermediaries that are depositaries of their shares at least five days prior to the date set for the first call of the shareholders' meeting.

At least one Board member, if the Board members are no more than five, or at least three Board members if the Board members are more than five, shall have the independence requirements set for the Board of Statutory Auditors members of listed companies. The independent candidates shall be expressly indicated in each list.

All candidates shall also have the honorability qualifications set forth by the applicable legislation.

Together with the deposit of each list, in order to assure its validity, the following documents shall be deposited: (i) the curriculum of each candidate; (ii) statements of each candidate to accept his nomination and attest, in his own responsibility, that causes for his ineligibility and incompatibility are non existing and that he possesses the aforementioned honorability and, if any, independence requirements.

The Directors appointed shall communicate to the Company if they have lost the above mentioned independence and honorability requirements and if situations of ineligibility or incompatibility have arisen.

The Board of Directors evaluates periodically the independence and the honorability of its members and if situations of ineligibility or incompatibility have arisen.

If the honorability or independence requirements declared and set forth by the legislation in force are not present or elapse for a Board member or if situations of ineligibility or incompatibility have arisen, the Board of Directors removes said Board member and resolves upon his substitution or invites him to remove the situation of incompatibility within the term set by the Board itself; if this last condition is not met, the Director will be removed from office.

Board members will be elected in the following manner:

- a) seven tenths of the members to be elected will be drawn out from the candidate list that receives the majority of votes expressed by the Shareholders in the numerical order in which they appear on the list, rounded off in the event of a fractional number to the next lower number;
- b) the remaining Board members will be drawn out from the other candidate lists; said lists shall not be linked in any way, neither indirectly, to the shareholders who have presented or voted the list that has obtained the highest number of votes; to this purpose the votes obtained by each candidate list will be divided by one or two depending on the number of the members to be elected. The quotients thus obtained will be assigned progressively to candidates of each said list in the order given in the lists themselves. Quotients thus assigned to candidates of said lists will be set in one decreasing numerical order. Those who obtain the highest quotients will be elected.

In the event that more than one candidate obtains the same quotient, the candidate elected will be the one of the list that has not hitherto had a Board member elected or that has elected the least number of Board members.

In the event that none of the lists has yet elected a Board member or that all of them have elected the same number of Board members, the candidate from all such lists who has obtained the largest number of votes will be elected. In the event of equal list votes and equal quotient, a new vote will be taken by the entire shareholders' meeting and the candidate elected will be the one who obtains a simple majority of the votes;

- c) if through the procedure described above the minimum number of independent Directors set by these by-laws is not elected, the quotient is calculated according to

letter b) above in order to be assigned to the candidates present in each list; the independent candidates not yet drawn from the lists pursuant to letters a) and b) above, who have got the highest quotients will be elected in order to meet the provision of the by-laws on the number of the independent Directors. The Directors so appointed will replace the non independent Directors to whom the lowest quotients have been assigned. If the number of independent candidates is lower than the minimum limit set by the By-laws, the shareholders' meeting will make a resolution with the majorities prescribed by the law to substitute the not independent candidates who have got the lowest quotients;

d) to appoint Board members for any reason not covered by the terms of the aforementioned procedure, the shareholders' meeting will make a resolution with the majorities prescribed by the law in order, however, to assure that the Board composition complies with the current legislation and the by-laws.

The vote by list procedure shall apply only in case of appointment of the entire Board of Directors.

**17.4** The shareholders' meeting may, even during the Board's term of office, change the number of members of the Board of Directors, always within the limits set forth in paragraph 17.1 above, and make the relating appointments. Board members so elected will expire at the same time as the rest of the Board.

**17.5** If during the term of office one or more members leave the Board, action will be taken in compliance with Article 2386 of the Civil Code with exception of the Board member appointed pursuant to Article 6.2 letter d) of these by-laws. If a majority of members leaves the Board, the whole Board will be considered lapsed and the Board must promptly call a shareholders' meeting to appoint a new Board.

**17.6** The Board may establish Board Committees that shall have advisory and consulting tasks on specific items.

## **ARTICLE 18**

**18.1** If the shareholders' meeting has not appointed a Chairman, the Board will elect one of its members. The Director appointed pursuant to Article 6, second paragraph, letter d) of the by-laws cannot be appointed as Chairman.

**18.2** The Board, at the Chairman's proposal, appoints a Secretary, who need not belong to the company.

## **ARTICLE 19**

**19.1** The Board meets in the place indicated in the notice whenever the Chairman or, in case of absence or impediment, the Chief Executive Officer deems necessary, or when written application has been made by the majority of the members. The Board of Directors may be convened also pursuant to Article 28.4 of the by-laws. The Board of Directors' meetings may be held by video or teleconference if each of the participants to the meetings may be identified and if each is allowed to follow the discussion and take part

to it in real time. If said conditions are met, the meeting is considered duly held in the place where the Chairman and the Secretary are present.

**19.2** Usually notice is given at least five days in advance. In cases of urgency notice may be sent earlier. The Board of Directors decides on how to convene its meetings.

**19.3** The Board of Directors must likewise be convened when so requested by at least two Board members or by one member if the Board consists of three members to decide on a specific matter considered of particular importance, pertaining to management, matter to be indicated in the request.

## **ARTICLE 20**

**20.1** The Chairman of the Board or, in his absence, the oldest Board member in attendance chairs the meeting.

## **ARTICLE 21**

**21.1** A majority of members of the Board having a voting right must be present for a Board meeting to be valid.

**21.2** Resolutions are taken with the majority of votes of the Board members having a voting right present; should votes be equal, the person who chairs the meeting has a casting vote.

## **ARTICLE 22**

**22.1** Resolutions of the Board are entered in the minutes, which are recorded in a book kept for that purpose pursuant to the law, and said minutes are signed by the Chairman of the meeting and by the Secretary.

**22.2** Copies of the minutes are bona fide if they are signed by the Chairman or the person acting for him and countersigned by the Secretary.

## **ARTICLE 23**

**23.1** The Board of Directors is invested with the fullest powers for ordinary and extraordinary management of the company and, in particular, the Board has the power to perform all acts it deems advisable for the implementation and achievement of the company objects, except for the acts that the law or these by-laws reserve for the shareholders' meeting.

**23.2** The Board of Directors is allowed to resolve on the following matters:

- the merger and the demerger of at least 90% directly owned subsidiaries;
- the establishment and winding up of branches;
- the amendment to the by-laws in order to comply with the current legislation.

**23.3** The Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer report timely, at least every three months and however in the Board of Directors meetings, to the Board of Statutory Auditors on the activities and on the most relevant operations regarding the operational, economic and financial management of the company and its subsidiaries; in particular the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer report to the Board of Statutory Auditors on operations entailing an interest on their behalf or on behalf of third parties.

## **ARTICLE 24**

**24.1** The Board of Directors delegates its powers to one of its members with the exception of the Director appointed pursuant to Article 6, second paragraph, letter d) of the by-laws, in compliance with the limits set forth in Article 2381 of the Civil Code. In addition the Board of Directors may delegate powers to the Chairman for researching and promoting integrated projects and strategic international agreements. The Board of Directors may at any time withdraw the delegations of powers hereon; if the Board of Directors withdraws powers delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, a new Chief Executive Officer is simultaneously appointed.

The Board of Directors, upon proposal of the Chairman and in agreement with the Chief Executive Officer, may confer powers for single acts or categories of acts to other members of the Board of Directors with the exception of the Director appointed pursuant to Article 6, second paragraph, letter d) of the by-laws. The Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer, in compliance with the limits of their delegations, may delegate and empower company employees or persons not belonging to the company to represent the company for single acts or specific categories of acts.

Further, upon proposal of the Chief Executive Officer and in agreement with the Chairman, the Board of Directors may also appoint one or more General Managers and determines the powers to be conferred to them. In order to make the appointment effective, the Board of Directors shall verify if the General Manager to be appointed has the honorability requirements set by the current legislation. The Board of Directors shall periodically verify said honorability requirements. The General Managers without said requirement shall be removed.

Upon proposal of the Chief Executive Officer presented and in agreement with the Chairman, the Board of Directors appoints the Manager responsible for the preparation of financial reporting documents. The appointment is subject to the favourable opinion of the Board of Statutory Auditors.

The Manager responsible for the preparation of financial reporting documents is chosen among people who, for at least three years, have exercised:

- a) administration or control activities or directive tasks in companies listed on regulated stock exchanges in Italy or other European Union countries or other countries member of OECD with a share capital not less than two million euro or
- b) audit activities in the companies mentioned in letter a) above, or
- c) professional activities or teaching activities in universities in the financial or accounting sectors, or
- d) managerial functions in public or private bodies in the financial, accounting, or control sectors.

The Board of Directors assures that the Manager responsible for the preparation of financial reporting documents is given adequate powers and means to execute his or her tasks and to respect the administrative and accounting procedures.

## **ARTICLE 25**

**25.1** Legal representation towards any judicial or administrative authority and towards third parties, together with the company signature, are vested either onto the Chairman or the Chief Executive Officer.

## **ARTICLE 26**

**26.1** The Chairman and the members of the Board are remunerated in an amount established by the ordinary shareholders' meeting. Said resolution, once taken, will remain valid for subsequent business years until the shareholders' meeting decides otherwise.

## **ARTICLE 27**

**27.1** The Chairman:

- a) represents the company according to the provisions of Article 25.1;
- b) chairs the shareholders' meeting pursuant to Article 15.1;
- c) convenes and chairs meetings of the Board of Directors pursuant to Articles 19.1 and 20.1;
- d) ascertains whether Board resolutions have been implemented;
- e) exercises the powers delegated to him by the Board of Directors pursuant to Article 24.1 of these by-laws.

## Part VI - Board of Statutory Auditors

## **ARTICLE 28**

**28.1** The Board of Statutory Auditors consists of five effective members and two alternate members. The Auditors shall have the professional and honour requirements set forth by the Ministerial Decree No. 162, dated March 30, 2000 issued by the Ministry of Justice.

Pursuant to the aforementioned Ministerial Decree, the matters strictly connected to those of interest of the Company are: companies law, business economics and corporate finance.

Pursuant to said Ministerial Decree, the sectors strictly connected with those of interest of the Company are the engineering and geological sectors.

The Statutory Auditors may be appointed members of administration and control bodies in other companies within the limits set by Consob regulation.

Until those provisions do not come in force, those who are already appointed effective auditor or supervisory board member or audit committee member in at least five companies with securities listed on regulated securities markets other than Eni S.p.A. subsidiaries may not be appointed Statutory Auditor; if elected, they will lapse.

**28.2** The Board of Statutory Auditors is appointed by the shareholders' meeting on the basis of lists presented by the Shareholders; in such lists candidates are listed in numerical order.

For the presentation, deposit and publication of candidate lists the procedures set forth in Article 17.3 shall apply and according to the rules set forth by Consob.

Lists shall be divided into two sections: the first one for the candidates to be appointed effective Auditors and the second one for the candidates to be appointed alternate Auditors. At least the first candidate of each section shall be chartered accountant and have exercised audit activities for not less than three years.

Three effective Auditors and one alternate Auditor will be drawn from the list that obtains the majority of votes. The other two effective Auditors and the other alternate Auditor will be appointed pursuant to Article 17.3, letter b) of the by-laws. The procedure described in this last Article shall be applied to each section of the lists involved separately.

The shareholders' meeting appoints the Chairman of the Board of Statutory Auditors among the effective Auditors appointed according to article 17.3 letter b) of these by-laws.

To appoint effective or alternate Auditors for any reason not elected according to the terms of the aforementioned procedure, the shareholders' meeting will resolve with the majorities prescribed by the law.

The vote by list procedure shall apply only in case of appointment of the entire Board of Statutory Auditors.

Should an effective Auditor drawn out from the candidate list that receives the majority of votes expressed by the Shareholders be replaced, he will be succeeded by the alternate Auditor drawn out from the same candidate list; should an effective Auditor drawn out from the other candidate list be replaced, he will be substituted by the Alternate Auditor drawn by those other lists.

**28.3** Retiring Auditors may be reelected.

**28.4** Subject to a previous communication to the Chairman of the Board of Directors, the Board of Statutory Auditors is empowered to convene the shareholders' meeting and the Board of Directors. At least two effective Auditors are empowered to convene the shareholders' meetings and at least one effective Auditor is empowered to convene the Board meetings.

The Board of Statutory Auditors' meetings may be held by video or teleconference if each of the participants to the meetings may be identified and if each is allowed to follow the

discussion and take part to it in real time. If said conditions are met, the Meeting is considered duly held in the place where the Chairman and the Secretary are present.

#### Part VII - Financial Statements and Profits

### **ARTICLE 29**

**29.1** The business year ends on December 31 every year.

**29.2** At the end of each business year, the Board of Directors sees to the preparation of the company financial statements in conformity with the law.

**29.3** The Board of Directors may, during the course of the business year, pay interim dividends to the Shareholders.

### **ARTICLE 30**

**30.1** Dividends not collected within five years of the day on which they are payable will be prescribed in favour of the company and allocated to reserves.

#### Part VIII - Winding Up and Liquidation of the Company

### **ARTICLE 31**

**31.1** In the event the company is wound up, the shareholders' meeting will decide the manner of liquidation, appoint one or more liquidators and determine their powers and remuneration.

#### Part IX - General Provisions

### **ARTICLE 32**

**32.1** For matters not expressly regulated by these by-laws, the norms of the Civil Code and specific laws concerning these matters will apply.

**32.2** The Ministry of Economy and Finance may retain his shareholding in the company share capital in excess of the limit set forth in Article 6.1 of these by-laws and will not be subject to the provisions of said Article 6.1 for the period set by the law.

### **ARTICLE 33**

**33.1** The company retains all assets and liabilities held before its transformation by the public law agency Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi.

