



# **ECS Botanic Holdings Ltd**

## **(ACN 009 805 298)**

### **NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

**Thursday, 26 October 2023**

**11:30am AEST**

**To be held at**

**Level 12, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000**

The Annual Report is available online at <https://ecs-botanics.com/>

This Notice of Annual General Meeting and Explanatory Memorandum should be read in its entirety. If Shareholders are in doubt as to how to vote, they should seek advice from their accountant, solicitor or other professional adviser without delay.

Should you wish to discuss any matter please do not hesitate to contact the Company by telephone on (08) 6559 -1792.

# NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is given that the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders of ECS Botanics Holdings Ltd (ACN 009 805 298) (**Company**) will be held in person at Level 12, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000 on Thursday, 26 October 2023 commencing at 11:30am AEST.

The Explanatory Memorandum to this Notice provides additional information on matters to be considered at the Meeting. The Explanatory Memorandum and the Proxy Form form part of this Notice.

The Directors have determined pursuant to regulation 7.11.37 of the Corporations Regulations 2001 (Cth) that the persons eligible to vote at the Meeting are those who are registered as Shareholders at 11:30am AEST on Tuesday, 24 October 2023.

Terms and abbreviations used in this Notice and Explanatory Memorandum are defined in Schedule 1.

## AGENDA

### Annual Report

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To table and consider the Annual Report of the Company and its controlled entities for the financial year ended 30 June 2023, which includes the Financial Report, the Directors' Report and the Auditor's Report.

### 1. Resolution 1 – Adoption of Remuneration Report

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To consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following resolution as a **non-binding resolution**:

*“That, for the purposes of section 250R(2) of the Corporations Act and for all other purposes, the Remuneration Report that forms part of the Directors' Report for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 be adopted by the Shareholders on the terms and conditions in the Explanatory Memorandum.”*

Please note that a vote on this Resolution is advisory only and does not bind the Directors or the Company.

#### Voting Prohibition

In accordance with section 250R of the Corporations Act, a vote on this Resolution must not be cast (in any capacity) by, or on behalf of, a member of the Key Management Personnel whose remuneration details are included in the Remuneration Report, or a Closely Related Party of such member. However, a vote may be cast by such person if:

- (a) the person is acting as a proxy and the Proxy Form specifies how the proxy is to vote, and the vote is not cast on behalf of a person who is otherwise excluded from voting on this Resolution as described above; or
- (b) the person is the Chair voting an undirected proxy which expressly authorises the Chair to vote on a resolution connected with the remuneration of a member of the Key Management Personnel.

## 2. Resolution 2 – Re-election of Director – Mr Alex Keach

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To consider and, if thought fit, to pass with or without amendment, the following resolution as an **ordinary resolution**:

*“That, for the purpose of clause 6.3 of the Constitution, ASX Listing Rule 14.4 and for all other purposes, Alex Keach, a Director who was appointed on 11 July 2019, retires, and being eligible for re-election, is elected as a Director with immediate effect.”*

## 3. Resolution 3 – Re-election of Director – Mr Michael Nitsche

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To consider and, if thought fit, to pass with or without amendment, the following resolution as an **ordinary resolution**:

*“That for the purpose of clause 6.3 of the Constitution, ASX Listing Rule 14.4 and for all other purposes, Michael Nitsche, a Director, who was last re-elected on 19 November 2020, retries, and being eligible for re-election, is elected as a Director with immediate effect.”*

## 4. Resolution 4 – Approval of 10% Placement Facility

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To consider and, if thought fit, to pass with or without amendment, the following resolution as a **special resolution**:

*“That, pursuant to and in accordance with Listing Rule 7.1A and for all other purposes, Shareholders approve the issue of Equity Securities up to 10% of the issued capital of the Company (at the time of issue) calculated in accordance with the formula prescribed in Listing Rule 7.1A.2 and on terms and conditions in the Explanatory Memorandum.”*

### **Voting Exclusion Statement**

The Company will disregard any votes cast in favour of the Resolution by or on behalf of:

- (a) any person who is expected to participate in, or who will obtain a material benefit as a result of, the proposed issue (except a benefit solely by reason of being a holder of ordinary securities in the Company); or
- (b) an Associate of that person or those persons.

However, this does not apply to a vote cast in favour of the Resolution by:

- (a) a person or proxy or attorney for a person who is entitled to vote on the Resolution, in accordance with directions given to the proxy or attorney to vote on the Resolution in that way; or
- (b) the Chair of the meeting as proxy or attorney for a person who is entitled to vote on the Resolution, in accordance with a direction given to the Chair to vote on the Resolution as the Chair decides; or
- (c) a holder acting solely in a nominee, trustee, custodial or other fiduciary capacity on behalf of a beneficiary provided the following conditions are met:
  - (i) the beneficiary provides written confirmation to the holder that the beneficiary is not excluded from voting, and is not an Associate of a person excluded from voting, on the Resolution; and
  - (ii) the holder votes on the Resolution in accordance with directions given by the beneficiary to the holder to vote in that way.

## 5. Resolution 5 – Approval of Employee Securities Incentive Plan

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To consider, and if thought fit, to pass with or without amendment, the following resolution as an **ordinary resolution**:

*“That, for the purposes of Listing Rule 7.2 Exception 13(b) and for all other purposes, Shareholders approve:*

- (a) *the establishment of an employee securities incentive plan, to be called the “ECS Employee Securities Incentive Plan” (Plan); and*
  - (b) *the issue of up to 166,009,600 securities under the Plan,*
- in accordance with the terms and conditions in the Explanatory Memorandum.”*

#### **Voting Exclusion Statement**

The Company will disregard any votes cast in favour of the Resolution by or on behalf of:

- (a) a person who is eligible to participate in the employee incentive scheme; or
- (b) an Associate of that person or those persons.

However, this does not apply to a vote cast in favour of the Resolution by:

- (a) a person or proxy or attorney for a person who is entitled to vote on the Resolution, in accordance with directions given to the proxy or attorney to vote on the Resolution in that way; or
- (b) the Chair of the meeting as proxy or attorney for a person who is entitled to vote on the Resolution, in accordance with a direction given to the Chair to vote on the Resolution as the Chair decides; or
- (c) a holder acting solely in a nominee, trustee, custodial or other fiduciary capacity on behalf of a beneficiary provided the following conditions are met:
  - (i) the beneficiary provides written confirmation to the holder that the beneficiary is not excluded from voting, and is not an Associate of a person excluded from voting, on the Resolution; and
  - (ii) the holder votes on the Resolution in accordance with directions given by the beneficiary to the holder to vote in that way.

#### **Voting Prohibition Statement**

A person who is appointed as a proxy must not vote, on the basis of that appointment, on this Resolution if:

- (a) The Proxy is either:
  - (i) a member of the Key Management Personnel; or
  - (ii) a Closely Related Party of such a member; and
- (b) the appointment does not specify the way that the Proxy is to vote on this Resolution.

However, the above prohibition does not apply if:

- (a) the Proxy is the Chair; or
- (b) the appointment expressly authorises the Chair to exercise the Proxy even though this Resolution is connected director or indirectly with remuneration of a member of the Key Management Personnel.

## **6. Resolution 6 – Appointment of Auditor at AGM to fill vacancy**

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To consider, and if thought fit, to pass with or without amendment, the following resolution as an **ordinary resolution**:

*“That, for the purposes of section 327B of the Corporations Act and for all other purposes, William Buck having been nominated by a Shareholder and having consented in writing to act in the capacity of auditor, be appointed as auditor of the Company with effect from the close of the Meeting.”*

Dated 20 September 2023

**BY ORDER OF THE BOARD**



Mauro Piccini  
Company Secretary

# EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

## 1. Introduction

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This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared for the information of Shareholders of the Company in connection with the business to be conducted at the Meeting to be held at Level 12, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000 on Thursday, 26 October 2023 commencing at 11:30am AEST.

This Explanatory Memorandum should be read in conjunction with and forms part of the accompanying Notice. The purpose of this Explanatory Memorandum is to provide information to Shareholders in deciding whether or not to pass the Resolutions in the Notice.

A Proxy Form is located at the end of the Explanatory Memorandum.

## 2. Action to be taken by Shareholders

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Shareholders should read the Notice and this Explanatory Memorandum carefully before deciding how to vote on the Resolutions.

### 2.1 Proxies

A Proxy Form is attached to the Notice. This is to be used by Shareholders if they wish to appoint a representative (a proxy) to vote in their place. All Shareholders are invited and encouraged to participate in the Meeting, and are encouraged to lodge a directed Proxy Form to the Company in accordance with the instructions thereon. Lodgement of a Proxy Form will not preclude a Shareholder from attending and voting at the Meeting.

Please note that:

- (a) a member of the Company entitled to attend and vote at the Meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy;
- (b) a proxy need not be a member of the Company; and
- (c) a member of the Company entitled to cast two or more votes may appoint two proxies and may specify the proportion or number of votes each proxy is appointed to exercise, but where the proportion or number is not specified, each proxy may exercise half of the votes.

Shareholders and their proxies should be aware that:

- (a) If proxy holders vote, they must cast all directed proxies as they are directed to; and
- (b) Any directed proxies which are not voted will automatically default to the Chair, who must vote the proxies as directed.

Further details are set out below.

### ***Proxy vote if appointment specifies way to vote***

Section 250BB(1) of the Corporations Act provides that an appointment of a proxy may specify the way the proxy is to vote on a particular resolution and, if it does:

- (a) the proxy need not vote on a show of hands, but if the proxy does so, the proxy must vote that way (i.e. as directed); and
- (b) if the proxy has 2 or more appointments that specify different ways to vote on the resolution – the proxy must not vote on a show of hands; and
- (c) if the proxy is the Chair of the meeting at which the resolution is voted on – the proxy must vote on a poll, and must vote that way (i.e. as directed); and
- (d) if the proxy is not the Chair – the proxy need not vote on the poll, but if the proxy does so, the proxy must vote that way (i.e. as directed).

### ***Transfer of non-chair proxy to Chair in certain circumstances***

Section 250BC of the Corporations Act provides that, if:

- (a) an appointment of a proxy specifies the way the proxy is to vote on a particular resolution at a meeting of the Company's members; and
- (b) the appointed proxy is not the Chair of the meeting; and
- (c) at the meeting, a poll is duly demanded, or is otherwise required under section 250JA, on the question that the resolution be passed; and
- (d) either of the following applies:
  - (i) if a record of attendance is made for the meeting - the proxy is not recorded as attending;
  - (ii) the proxy does not vote on the resolution,

the Chair of the meeting is taken, before voting on the resolution closes, to have been appointed as the proxy for the purposes of voting on the resolution at the meeting.

The enclosed Proxy Form provides further details on appointing proxies and lodging Proxy Forms.

## **2.2 Proxy Holders and Voting Instructions**

If the Chair is appointed as your proxy and the Chair is not directed how to vote, you are authorising the Chair to cast your undirected vote on all proposed resolutions.

If a member of the Company's Key Management Personnel, or a Closely Related Party of such member, is appointed as your proxy, they will not be able to vote your proxy on Resolution 1 and Resolution 5.

If you intend to appoint a member of the Company's Key Management Personnel, or a Closely Related Party of such member, or the Chair, as your proxy, you are encouraged to direct them how to vote on Resolution 1 and Resolution 5, by marking "For", "Against" or "Abstain" for each of those resolutions.

## 2.3 Submit your Proxy Vote

### 2.3.1 Online

Vote online at <https://investor.automic.com.au/#/loginsah> and simply follow the instructions on the enclosed proxy form.

### 2.3.2 By Paper

If you do not wish to vote online, then it is necessary to complete in accordance with the detailed instructions set out on the enclosed Proxy Form.

The return of your completed form (ONLY if you do NOT vote online) can be done by one of the following ways:

<b>BY MAIL</b>	Automic GPO Box 5193, Sydney NSW 2001
<b>BY FAX</b>	+61 2 8583 3040
<b>BY MOBILE</b>	Scan the QR Code on your proxy form and follow the prompts
<b>BY EMAIL</b>	<a href="mailto:meetings@automicgroup.com.au">meetings@automicgroup.com.au</a>
<b>IN PERSON</b>	Automic Level 5, 126 Phillip Street, Sydney NSW 2000

## 3. Annual Report

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There is no requirement for Shareholders to approve the Annual Report.

Shareholders will be offered the following opportunities:

- (a) discuss the Annual Report which is available online at <https://ecs-botanics.com/>;
- (b) ask questions or make comment on the management of the Company;
- (c) ask the auditor questions about the conduct of the audit and the preparation and content of the Auditor's Report.

In addition to taking questions at the Meeting, written questions to the Chair about the management of the Company, or to the Company's auditor about:

- (a) the preparation and the content of the Auditor's Report;
- (b) the conduct of the audit;
- (c) accounting policies by the Company in relation to the preparation of the financial statements; and
- (d) the independence of the auditor in relation to the conduct of the audit,

may be submitted no later than 5 Business Days before the Meeting to the Company Secretary at the Company's registered office.

## 4. Resolution 1 – Adoption of Remuneration Report

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Section 250R(2) of the Corporations Act provides that the Company is required to put the Remuneration Report to the vote of Shareholders. The Directors' Report contains the Remuneration Report which sets out the remuneration policy for the Company and reports the remuneration arrangements in place for the executive Directors, specified executives and non-executive Directors.

Section 250R(3) of Corporations Act provides that Resolution 1 is advisory only and does not bind the Directors of the Company of itself, a failure of Shareholders to pass Resolution 1 will not require the Directors to alter any of the arrangements in the Remuneration Report.

However, the Corporations Act also gives Shareholders the opportunity to remove the Board if the Remuneration Report receives a 'no' vote of 25% or more at two consecutive annual general meetings (**Two Strikes Rule**).

Under the Two Strikes Rule, where a resolution on the Remuneration Report receives a 'no' vote of 25% or more at two consecutive annual general meetings, the Company will be required to put to Shareholders at the second annual general meeting a resolution on whether another meeting should be held (within 90 days) at which all Directors (other than the managing director) who were in office at the date of approval of the applicable Directors' Report will cease to hold office immediately before that further meeting but may stand for re-election.

At the Company's previous annual general meeting the votes cast against the Remuneration Report considered at that annual general meeting were less than 25%. Accordingly, a further resolution relating to the Two Strikes Rule is not relevant for this Annual General Meeting.

The Chair will allow a reasonable opportunity for Shareholders as a whole to ask about, or make comments on the Remuneration Report.

The Chair intends to exercise all undirected proxies in favour of Resolution 1. If the Chair of the Meeting is appointed as your proxy and you have not specified the way the Chair is to vote on Resolution 1, by signing and returning the Proxy Form, the Shareholder is considered to have provided the Chair with an express authorisation for the Chair to vote the proxy in accordance with the Chair's intention.

## 5. Resolution 2 – Re-election of Director – Alex Keach

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### 5.1 General

Clause 6.3 of the Constitution requires that at the Company's annual general meeting in every year, one-third of the Directors for the time being, or, if their number is not a multiple of 3, then the number nearest one-third (rounded down to the nearest whole number), shall retire from office, provided always that no Director (except a managing director) shall hold office for a period in excess of 3 years, or until the third annual general meeting following his or her appointment, whichever is the longer, without submitting himself or herself for re-election.

The Directors to retire at an annual general meeting are those who have been longest in the office since their last election, but, as between persons who became Directors on the same day, those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by drawing lots.

Further, Listing Rule 14.4 provides that a director of an entity (except for the Managing Director), must not hold office (without re-election) past the third annual general meeting following the director's appointment or 3 years, whichever is longer.

A Director who retires by rotation under clause 6.3 of the Constitution is eligible for re-election.

Alex Keach (**Mr Keach**), having been appointed on 11 July 2019, and previously being Managing Director, will retire in accordance with clause 3.6 of the Constitution and being eligible, seeks re-election.

## 5.2 Qualifications and experience

Mr Keach has a diverse background with 15 years' experience in financial markets as a senior manager, investor, adviser and fund manager. Mr Keach has also acted as a corporate advisor, and managed the development and implementation of new strategies, governance and change management within an organisation. Mr Keach has founded, grown and financed companies across agriculture, financial services and mining. Mr Keach has practical skills in agriculture including many years' experience working on properties, including the cultivation of poppies, a narcotic raw material that is further processed to become an active pharmaceutical ingredient.

## 5.3 Board recommendation

The Board (excluding Mr Keach) recommends that Shareholders vote in favour of Resolution 2. The Chair of the meeting intends to vote undirected proxies in favour of Resolution 2.

## 6. Resolution 3 – Re-election of Director – Mr Michael Nitsche

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### 6.1 General

Clause 6.3 of the Constitution requires that at the Company's annual general meeting in every year, one-third of the Directors for the time being, or, if their number is not a multiple of 3, then the number nearest one-third (rounded down to the nearest whole number), shall retire from office, provided always that no Director (except a managing director) shall hold office for a period in excess of 3 years, or until the third annual general meeting following his or her appointment, whichever is the longer, without submitting himself or herself for re-election.

The Directors to retire at an annual general meeting are those who have been longest in the office since their last election, but, as between persons who became Directors on the same day, those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by drawing lots.

Further, Listing Rule 14.4 provides that a director of an entity must not hold office (without re-election) past the third annual general meeting following the director's appointment or 3 years, whichever is longer.

A Director who retires by rotation under clause 6.3 of the Constitution is eligible for re-election.

Michael Nitsche (**Mr Nitsche**), having been last re-elected 19 November 2020, will retire in accordance with clause 3.6 of the Constitution and being eligible, seeks re-election.

### 6.2 Qualifications and experience

Mr Nitsche is the founder and executive director of ARQ Capital, a boutique corporate advisory firm based in Perth, Western Australia. Mr Nitsche has extensive experience in equity capital markets, particularly advising on deal structuring for initial public offerings, equity capital raisings, mergers and acquisitions.

## 6.3 Board recommendation

The Board (excluding Mr Nitsche) recommends that Shareholders vote in favour of Resolution 3. The Chair of the meeting intends to vote undirected proxies in favour of Resolution 3.

## 7. Resolution 4 – Approval of 10% Placement Facility

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### 7.1 General

Listing Rule 7.1A enables eligible entities to issue Equity Securities up to 10% of its issued share capital through placements commencing from the date of the Meeting where the Company obtains the approval until the earlier of the following:

- (a) the date that is 12 months after the date of the Meeting at which the approval is obtained;
- (b) the time and date of the Company's next annual general meeting; or
- (c) the time and date of the approval of Shareholders of a transaction under Listing Rule 11.1.2 or 11.2 in respect of the Company,

**(10% Placement Facility).** The 10% Placement Facility is in addition to the Company's 15% placement capacity under Listing Rule 7.1.

An eligible entity for the purposes of Listing Rule 7.1A is an entity that is not included in the S&P/ASX 300 Index and has a market capitalisation of \$300 million or less. The Company currently has a market capitalisation of \$27,668,266 and is an eligible entity.

The Company is now seeking Shareholder approval by way of a special resolution to have the ability to issue Equity Securities under the 10% Placement Facility.

The exact number of Equity Securities to be issued under the 10% Placement Facility will be determined in accordance with the formula prescribed in Listing Rule 7.1A.2 (refer Section 7.2(c) below).

### 7.2 Description of Listing Rule 7.1A

#### (a) Shareholder approval

The ability to issue Equity Securities under the 10% Placement Facility is subject to shareholder approval by way of a special resolution at an annual general meeting. Accordingly, at least 75% of votes cast by Shareholders present and eligible to vote at the Meeting must be in favour of Resolution 4 for it to be passed.

#### (b) Equity Securities

Any Equity Securities issued under the 10% Placement Facility must be in the same class as an existing quoted class of Equity Securities of the Company.

The Company, as at the date of the Notice, has on issue two classes of quoted Equity Securities, being Shares (ASX: ECS) and Listed Options (ASX: ECSO).

(c) **Formula for calculating 10% Placement Facility**

Listing Rule 7.1A.2 provides that eligible entities which have obtained shareholder approval at an annual general meeting may issue or agree to issue, during the 12 month period after the annual general meeting, a number of Equity Securities calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$(A \times D) - E$$

Where:

**A** is the number of fully paid ordinary securities on issue at the commencement of the relevant period:

(A) plus the number of fully paid ordinary securities issued in the relevant period under an exception in Listing Rule 7.2 other than Exception 9, 16 or 17;

(B) plus the number of fully paid ordinary securities issued in relevant period on the conversion of convertible securities within Listing Rule 7.2 Exception 9 where:

(1) the convertible securities were issued or agreed to be issued before the commencement of the relevant period; or

(2) the issue of, or agreement to issue, the convertible securities approved, or taken to have been approved, under Listing Rule 7.1 or 7.4;

(C) plus the number of fully paid ordinary securities issued in relevant period under an agreement to issue securities within Listing Rule 7.2 Exception 16 where:

(1) the agreement was entered into before the commencement of the relevant period; or

(2) the agreement or issue was approved, or taken under these rules to have been approved, under rule 7.1 or rule 7.4;

(D) plus the number of any other fully paid ordinary securities issued in the relevant period with approval under rule 7.1 or rule 7.4;

(E) plus the number of partly paid ordinary securities that became fully paid in the relevant period;

(F) less the number of fully paid shares cancelled in the relevant period.

*Note that A has the same meaning in Listing Rule 7.1 when calculating an entity's 15% placement capacity.*

**D** is 10%.

**E** is the number of Equity Securities issued or agreed to be issued under Listing Rule 7.1A.2 in the relevant period where the issue or agreement has not been subsequently approved by the holders of its ordinary securities under Listing Rule 7.4.

(d) **Listing Rule 7.1A and Listing Rule 7.3A**

The ability of an entity to issue Equity Securities under Listing Rule 7.1A is in addition to the entity's 15% placement capacity under Listing Rule 7.1.

At the date of this Notice, the Company has on issue 1,106,730,667 Shares and therefore has a capacity to issue:

- (i) 166,009,600 Equity Securities under Listing Rule 7.1; and
- (ii) 110,673,066 Equity Securities under Listing Rule 7.1A.

The actual number of Equity Securities that the Company will have capacity to issue under Listing Rule 7.1A will be calculated at the date of issue of the Equity Securities in accordance with the formula prescribed in Listing Rule 7.1A.2 (refer to Section 7.2(c) above).

(e) **Minimum Issue Price**

The issue price of Equity Securities issued under Listing Rule 7.1A must be not less than 75% of the VWAP of Equity Securities in the same class calculated over the 15 Trading Days on which trades in that class were recorded immediately before:

- (i) the date on which the price at which the Equity Securities are to be issued is agreed; or
- (ii) if the Equity Securities are not issued within 10 Trading Days of the date in paragraph (i) above, the date on which the Equity Securities are issued.

(f) **10% Placement Period**

Shareholder approval of the 10% Placement Facility under Listing Rule 7.1A is valid from the date of the Meeting at which the approval is obtained and expires on the earlier to occur of:

- (i) the date that is 12 months after the date of the Meeting at which the approval is obtained;
- (ii) the time and date of the entity's next annual general meeting; or
- (iii) the time and date of the approval by shareholders of the eligible entity's ordinary securities of a transaction under Listing Rules 11.1.2 (a significant change to the nature or scale of activities) or 11.2 (disposal of main undertaking),

(10% Placement Period).

### 7.3 Listing Rule 7.1A

The effect of Resolution 4 will be to allow the Directors to issue the Equity Securities under Listing Rule 7.1A during the 10% Placement Period without using the Company's 15% placement capacity under Listing Rule 7.1.

Resolution 4 is a special resolution and therefore requires approval of 75% of the votes cast by Shareholders present and eligible to vote (in person, by proxy, by attorney or, in the case of a corporate Shareholder, by a corporate representative) on the Resolution.

## 7.4 Specific information required by Listing Rule 7.3A

Pursuant to and in accordance with Listing Rule 7.3A, information is provided in relation to the approval of the 10% Placement Facility as follows:

- (a) The Equity Securities will be issued at an issue price of not less than 75% of the VWAP for the Company's Equity Securities over the 15 Trading Days on which trades in that class were recorded immediately before:
  - (i) the date on which the price at which the Equity Securities are to be issued is agreed; or
  - (ii) if the Equity Securities are not issued within 10 Trading Days of the date in paragraph (i) above, the date on which the Equity Securities are issued.
- (b) If Resolution 4 is approved by Shareholders and the Company issues Equity Securities under the 10% Placement Facility, the existing Shareholders' voting power in the Company will be diluted as shown in the below table (in the case of Listed Options, only if the Listed Options are exercised). There is a risk that:
  - (i) the market price for the Company's Equity Securities in that class may be significantly lower on the date of the issue of the Equity Securities than of the date of the Meeting; and
  - (ii) the Equity Securities may be issued at a price that is at a discount to the market price for the Company's Equity Securities on the issue date,

which may have an effect on the amount of funds raised by the issue of the Equity Securities.

The below table shows the dilution of existing Shareholders on the basis of the current market price of Shares and the current number of ordinary securities for variable "A" calculated in accordance with the formula in Listing Rule 7.1A(2) as at the date of this Notice.

The table shows:

- (i) two examples where variable "A" has increased, by 50% and 100%. Variable "A" is based on the number of ordinary securities the Company has on issue. The number of ordinary securities on issue may increase as a result of issues of ordinary securities that do not require Shareholder approval (for example, a pro rata entitlements issue or scrip issued under a takeover offer) or future specific placements under Listing Rule 7.1 that are approved at a future Shareholders' meeting; and
- (ii) two examples of where the issue price or ordinary securities has decreased by 50% and increased by 100% as against the current market price.

Variable "A" in Listing Rule 7.1A.2		Dilution		
		\$0.0125 50% decrease in Issue Price	\$0.025 Issue Price	\$0.05 100% increase in Issue Price
<b>Current Variable "A"</b> <b>1,106,730,667 Shares</b>	10% Voting Dilution	110,673,067 Shares	110,673,067 Shares	110,673,067 Shares
	Funds raised	\$1,383,413	\$2,766,827	\$5,533,653
<b>50% increase in current Variable "A"</b> <b>1,660,096,001 Shares</b>	10% Voting Dilution	166,009,600 Shares	166,009,600 Shares	166,009,600 Shares
	Funds raised	\$2,075,120	\$4,150,240	\$8,300,480
<b>100% increase in current Variable "A"</b> <b>2,213,461,334 Shares</b>	10% Voting Dilution	221,346,133 Shares	221,346,133 Shares	221,346,133 Shares
	Funds raised	\$2,766,827	\$5,533,653	\$11,067,307

**Note**

The table has been prepared on the following assumptions:

1. The Company issues the maximum number of Equity Securities available under the 10% Placement Facility.
  2. No Options (including any Options issued under the 10% Placement Facility) are exercised into Shares before the date of the issue of the Equity Securities;
  3. The 10% voting dilution reflects the aggregate percentage dilution against the issued share capital at the time of issue. This is why the voting dilution is shown in each example at 10%.
  4. The table does not show an example of dilution that may be caused to a particular Shareholder by reason of placements under the 10% Placement Facility, based on the Shareholder's holding at the date of the Meeting.
  5. The table shows only the effect of issue of Equity Securities under Listing Rule 7.1A, not under the 15% placement capacity under Listing Rule 7.1.
  6. The issue of Equity Securities under the 10% Placement Facility consists only of Shares. If the issue of Equity Securities includes Listed Options, it is assumed that those Listed Options are exercised into Shares for the purpose of calculating the voting dilution effect on existing Shareholders.
  7. The issue price is \$0.025, being the closing price of the Shares on ASX on 13 September 2023.
- (c) The Company will only issue and allot the Equity Securities during the 10% Placement Period. The approval under Resolution 4 for the issue of the Equity Securities will cease to be valid in the event that Shareholders approve a transaction under Listing Rule 11.1.2 (a significant change to a significant change to the nature or scale of activities) or 11.2 (disposal of main undertaking).
- (d) The Company can only issue Equity Securities for cash consideration. In such circumstances, the Company intends to use the funds raised towards an acquisition of new assets or investments (including expenses associated with such acquisition), continued exploration and general working capital.
- (e) The Company will comply with the disclosure obligations under the Listing Rule 7.1A(4) upon issue of any Equity Securities.
- (f) The Company's allocation policy is dependent on the prevailing market conditions at the time of any proposed issue pursuant to the 10% Placement Facility. The identity of the allottees of the Equity Securities will be determined on a case-by-case basis having regard to the factors including but not limited to the following:

- (i) the methods of raising funds that are available to the Company, including but not limited to, rights issue or other issue in which existing security holders can participate;
- (ii) the effect of the issue of the Equity Securities on the control of the Company;
- (iii) the financial situation and solvency of the Company; and
- (iv) advice from corporate, financial and broking advisers (if applicable).

The allottees under the 10% Placement Facility have not been determined as at the date of this Notice but may include existing substantial Shareholders and/or new Shareholders who are not Related Parties or associates of a Related Party of the Company.

- (g) The Company previously obtained Shareholder approval under Listing Rule 7.1A at its annual general meeting held on 26 October 2022. In the 12 months preceding the date of the 2023 Annual General Meeting, the Company has not issued any Equity Securities.
- (h) For the purpose of ASX Listing Rule 14.1A (and in addition to the disclosure in clause 7.4(b) above):
  - (i) if Resolution 4 is passed, the Directors will be able to issue the Equity Securities under Listing Rule 7.1A during the 10% Placement Period without using the Company's 15% placement capacity under Listing Rule 7.1; and
  - (ii) if Resolution 4 is not passed, the Directors will not be able to issue the Equity Securities under Listing Rule 7.1A, and will have to either rely on the Company's existing 15% placement capacity under Listing Rule 7.1 (from time to time), or (in the event that the Company's 15% placement capacity is exhausted) the Company will be required to obtain prior shareholder approval under Listing Rules 7.1 before being able to issue such Equity Securities (which may result in the Company incurring further time and expense).

At the date of the Notice, the Company has not approached any particular existing Shareholder or security holder or an identifiable class of existing security holder to participate in the issue of the Equity Securities.

The Directors of the Company believe Resolution 4 is in the best interest of the Company and its Shareholders and unanimously recommend that the Shareholders vote in favour of this Resolution.

## 8. Resolution 5 – Approval of Employee Securities Incentive Plan

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### 8.1 General

The Company considers that it is desirable to adopt an updated employee incentive scheme to be called the "ECS Employee Securities Incentive Plan" (**Plan**).

The Plan is intended to provide an opportunity to eligible participants to participate in the Company's future. Further, the Plan acts as mechanism to ensure the interests of Shareholders and the management and employees of the Company are aligned.

Resolution 9 seeks Shareholder approval for the adoption of the Plan in accordance with Listing Rule 7.2 exception 13(b).

A Summary of the Plan is set out in Schedule 2.

The Plan incorporates recent amendments to the Corporations Act for employee share schemes (**New Legislation**) since the existing plan was adopted by the Board and established in 2020 (**Existing Plan**). The Directors believe that it is preferable in the circumstances to replace the Existing Plan rather than to amend a multitude of specific provision.

## 8.2 Summary of New Legislation

The *Treasury Laws Amendment (Cost of Living Support and Other Measures) Act 2022* (Cth) introduced a new Division 1A into Part 7.12 of the Corporations Act in relation to employee share schemes (**New Rules**). The legislation comes into effect on 1 October 2022.

The New Rules will eventually replace the existing ASIC Class Order [CO 14/1000] and ASIC Class Order [CO 14/1001] (together, the **Class Orders**).

A summary of the key changes applicable to the Company under the New Rules are set out below.

### (a) **Expanded eligibility**

Class Order relief is only available for issues to directors, full time and part time employees and casual employees or contractors that are 40% or more full time equivalent.

Under the New Rules, an offer may only be made to specified “primary participants” (being directors, employees and service providers, with no minimum requirements of hours of service provided) or certain related persons of a primary participant (including a spouse, parent, child or sibling of the primary participant; controlled bodies corporate of the primary participant or bodies corporate that are trustees of the primary participant’s self-managed superannuation fund).

### (b) **Issue cap**

The Class Orders provide for an issue cap of 5% of a listed entity’s fully paid shares over a rolling period of 3 years (irrespective of whether monetary consideration is required).

Under the New Rules, there is no cap on issues made for no monetary consideration. Caps only apply to issues made for monetary consideration (being the cap set out in the company’s constitution or if there is no such cap in the constitution, then 5% for listed entities unless a higher cap is specified in the relevant regulations (if any)).

Further, offers of eligible interests to participants under an employee securities incentive plan which would not ordinarily require disclosure, such as offers to senior managers or small-scale offerings are not required to comply with the issue cap.

### (c) **Disclosure requirements**

The Class Order does not distinguish between offers for monetary consideration and those without, with the same disclosure requirements for both offers.

Under the New Rules, offers made for no monetary consideration do not have any specific disclosure requirements. In the case of offers made for monetary

consideration, an offer document is required (with specific disclosure requirements) and participants cannot acquire their interests until 14 days after receiving the necessary offer disclosure from the entity.

(d) **Quotation and suspension requirements**

Class Order relief is only available where an entity meets the minimum quotation period of 3 months prior to making an offer of eligible interests. In addition, relief is prohibited if an entity is suspended from quotation for over 5 days in the preceding 12-month period.

Under the New Rules, listed entities can offer eligible interests without first meeting any minimum quotation period, and regardless of any suspensions to the trading of securities.

(e) **On-sale relief**

The Class Order provides relief from the on-sale provisions for securities issued under the Class Order.

Pursuant to the New Rules, listed entities must issue a cleansing notice to ensure that any Shares issued (including following the exercise of any options and performance rights) may be on-sold within 12 months of issue.

(f) **Criminal offences**

A number of new offences created under the New Rules, including misleading and deceptive statement offences and offences relating to holding participants' money. In addition, regulatory relief can be revoked if any of the below are breached:

- (i) compliance with the monetary cap;
- (ii) compliance with the issue cap; and
- (iii) providing disclosure documents at the required time.

### **8.3 Regulatory requirements and Listing Rules 7.1 and 7.2, exception 13(b)**

Shareholder approval is not required under the Corporations Act or the Listing Rules for the operation of the Plan. However, Shareholder approval is being sought to allow the Company to rely on an exception to the calculation of the Listing Rules 7.1 and 7.1A on the number of securities that may be issued without Shareholder Approval. Listing Rule 7.2 exception 13(b) provides that Listing Rules 7.1 and 7.1A do not apply to an issue of securities under an employee incentive scheme that has been approved by Shareholders, where the issue of securities is within 3 years from that date of Shareholder approval of the issue of securities under the employee incentive scheme.

The Plan participation is limited to Directors, employees and service providers of the Company. If an issue is to be made to Directors, then separate Shareholder approval will need to be obtained.

Pursuant to and in accordance with ASX Listing Rule 7.2 Exception 13, the following information is provided in relation to this Resolution:

- (a) a summary of the key terms of the Plan is set out in Schedule 2;

- (b) as this is a new plan being put to Shareholders, no Securities have been issued under it to date;
- (c) as at the date of this Notice, the Company has issued 133,322 fully paid ordinary shares in the capital of the Company to various employees of the Company. Going forward, the Company's intention is to no longer issue Securities under the Existing Plan. Instead, the Company intends to issue Securities under the Plan which is the subject of this Resolution 5 and includes new terms and conditions required by the New Rules which replaced the previous relief provided by the Class Orders;
- (d) the Company is seeking Shareholder approval to adopt the Plan to include the new terms and conditions required by Division 1A of Part 7.12 of the Corporations Act, which replaced the previous relief provided by ASIC Class Order 14/1000 (Employee Incentive Scheme); and
- (e) a maximum of 166,009,600 Securities would be available to be issued under the Plan if approved by Shareholders (being representing approximately 15% of the number of Shares on issue as at the date of this Notice). This maximum number is not intended to be a prediction of the actual number of Securities to be issued under the Plan, but simply a maximum number for the purposes of setting a ceiling on the number of Securities to be issued under the Plan for the purposes of Listing Rule 7.2, exception 13(b). In any event, no Securities will be issued if to do so would contravene any applicable laws, including the issue cap under the New Rules which applies to issues for monetary consideration (refer to Section 6.2(b) above).

## **8.4 Technical information required by Listing Rule 14.1A**

The passing of Resolution 5 will allow the Company to issue securities for the benefit of participants of the Plan whilst preserving the Company's placement limits for issuing securities and provide flexibility in the manner in which the Plan is managed.

If Resolution 5 is not passed, the Company may still issue securities to key personnel other than Directors on the terms as set out in Schedule 2, however those securities will count towards the Company's 15% placement capacity under Listing Rule 7.1.

## **8.5 Voting Exclusion Statement**

A Voting Exclusion applies to this Resolution.

## **8.6 Board recommendation**

The Board recommends that Shareholders vote in favour of Resolution 5. The Chair intends to vote all undirected Proxies in favour of Resolution 5.

## **9. Resolution 6 – Appointment of Auditor at AGM to fill vacancy**

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As announced on 6 July 2023, BDO Australia (WA) Pty Ltd (**BDO Australia**), which was the Company's auditor, has given notice of its resignation as auditor of the Company to ASIC (under section 329(5) of the Corporations Act).

ASIC has provided their consent to BDO Australia's resignation as the Company's auditors.

In accordance with section 328B(1) of the Corporations Act, the Company has sought and obtained a nomination from a Shareholder for William Buck Audit (Vic) Pty Ltd (**William**

**Buck)** to be appointed as the Company's auditor. A copy of this nomination is included at Schedule 3.

William Buck has given its written consent to act as the Company's auditor, subject to Shareholder approval.

If Resolution 6 is passed, the appointment of William Buck as the Company's auditors will take effect from close of the Meeting.

The Directors of the Company believe Resolution 6 is in the best interest of the Company and unanimously recommend that the Shareholders vote in favour of this Resolution.

# SCHEDULE 1 – Definitions

In this Notice and the Explanatory Memorandum:

**\$** means Australian Dollars.

**10% Placement Facility** has the meaning given in Section 7.1.

**10% Placement Period** has the meaning given in Section 7.1.

**AEST** means Australian Eastern Standard Time, being the time in Melbourne, Victoria.

**Annual Report** means the Directors' Report, the Financial Report and the Auditor's Report in respect to the financial year ending 30 June 2023.

**Associate** has the meaning given in sections 12 and 16 of the Corporations Act. Section 12 is to be applied as if paragraph 12(1)(a) included a reference to the Listing Rules and on the basis that the Company is the "designated body" for the purposes of that section. A related party of a director or officer of the Company or of a Child Entity of the Company is to be taken to be an associate of the director or officer unless the contrary is established.

**ASX** means ASX Limited (ACN 008 624 691) and, where the context permits, the Australian Securities Exchange operated by ASX.

**Auditor's Report** means the auditor's report on the Financial Report.

**Board** means the board of Directors.

**Business Day** means:

- (a) for determining when a notice, consent or other communication is given, a day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in the place to which the notice, consent or other communication is sent; and
- (b) for any other purpose, a day (other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday) on which banks are open for general banking business in Perth.

**Chair** means the person appointed to chair the Meeting convened by this Notice.

**Closely Related Party** means:

- (a) a spouse or child of the member; or
- (b) has the meaning given in section 9 of the Corporations Act.

**Company** means ECS Botanics Holdings Ltd (ACN 009 805 298).

**Constitution** means the constitution of the Company as at the commencement of the Meeting.

**Corporations Act** means the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth).

**Director** means a director of the Company.

**Directors' Report** means the annual directors' report prepared under chapter 2M of the Corporations Act for the Company and its controlled entities contained in the Annual Report.

**Equity Securities** has the same meaning as in the Listing Rules.

**Explanatory Memorandum** means the explanatory memorandum attached to the Notice.

**Financial Report** means the annual financial report prepared under Chapter 2M of the Corporations Act of the Company and its controlled entities.

**Key Management Personnel** means persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Company, directly or indirectly, including any Director (whether executive or otherwise) of the Company.

**Listed Options** means listed options of the Company each with an exercise price of \$0.08 and expiry date of 17 December 2023.

**Listing Rules** means the listing rules of ASX.

**Meeting** has the meaning in the introductory paragraph of the Notice.

**Notice** means this notice of meeting.

**Option** means an option which entitles the holder to subscribe for one Share.

**Placement Shares** has the meaning given in Section 7.1.

**Proxy Form** means the proxy form attached to the Notice.

**Remuneration Report** means the remuneration report of the Company contained in the Directors' Report.

**Resolution** means resolution contained in the Notice.

**Schedule** means a schedule to this Notice.

**Section** means a section contained in this Explanatory Memorandum.

**Share** means a fully paid ordinary share in the capital of the Company.

**Share Placement** has the meaning given in Section 7.1.

**Shareholder** means a shareholder of the Company.

**Trading Day** means a day determined by ASX to be a trading day in accordance with the Listing Rules.

**Two Strikes Rule** has the meaning in Section 4.

**VWAP** means volume weight average price.

In this Notice and the Explanatory Memorandum words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa.

# SCHEDULE 2– Terms of Employee Securities Incentive Plan

A summary of the terms of the Plan is set out below:

- (a) **(Eligible Participant):** Eligible Participant means a person that:
- (i) is an 'ESS participant' (as that term is defined in Division 1A of Part 7.12 of the Corporations Act) in relation to the Company for an invitation made on or after 1 October 2022; and
  - (ii) has been determined by the Board to be eligible to participate in the Plan from time to time.
- (b) **(Purpose):** The purpose of the Plan is to:
- (i) assist in the reward, retention and motivation of Eligible Participants;
  - (ii) link the reward of Eligible Participants to Shareholder value creation; and
  - (iii) align the interests of Eligible Participants with shareholders of the Group (being the Company and each of its Associated Bodies Corporate), by providing an opportunity to Eligible Participants to receive an equity interest in the Company in the form of Securities.
- (c) **(Plan administration):** The Plan will be administered by the Board. The Board may exercise any power or discretion conferred on it by the Plan rules in its sole and absolute discretion except to the extent that it prevents the Company relying on the deferred tax concessions under Subdivision B3A-C of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* (Cth). The Board may delegate its powers and discretion.
- (d) **(Eligibility, invitation and application):** The Board may from time to time determine that an Eligible Participant may participate in the Plan and make an invitation to that Eligible Participant to apply for Securities on such terms and conditions as the Board decides.

On receipt of an invitation, an Eligible Participant may apply for the Securities the subject of the invitation by sending a completed application form to the Company. The Board may accept an application from an Eligible Participant in whole or in part. If an Eligible Participant is permitted in the invitation, the Eligible Participant may, by notice in writing to the Board, nominate a party in whose favour the Eligible Participant wishes to renounce the invitation.

- (e) **(Grant of Securities):** The Company will, to the extent that it has accepted a duly completed application, grant the Participant the relevant number of Securities, subject to the terms and conditions set out in the invitation, the Plan rules and any ancillary documentation required.
- (f) **(Terms of Convertible Securities):** Each 'Convertible Security' represents a right to acquire one or more Shares (for example, under an option or performance right), subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan.

Prior to a Convertible Security being exercised a Participant does not have any interest (legal, equitable or otherwise) in any Share the subject of the Convertible Security by virtue of holding the Convertible Security. Unless in 'Special Circumstances' (as defined in the Plan) with the consent of the Board, a Participant may not sell, assign, transfer, grant a security interest over, collateralise a margin loan against, utilise for the purposes of short selling, enter into a Derivative with reference to, or otherwise deal with a Convertible Security that has been granted to them. A Participant must not enter into any arrangement for the purpose of hedging their economic exposure to a Convertible Security that has been granted to them.

- (g) **(Vesting of Convertible Securities):** Any vesting conditions applicable to the grant of Convertible Securities will be described in the invitation. If all the vesting conditions are satisfied and/or otherwise waived by the Board, a vesting notice will be sent to the Participant by the Company informing them that the relevant Convertible Securities have vested. Unless and until the vesting notice is issued by the Company, the Convertible Securities will not be considered to have vested. For the avoidance of doubt, if the vesting conditions relevant to a Convertible Security are not satisfied and/or otherwise waived by the Board, that Convertible Security will lapse.
- (h) **(Exercise of Convertible Securities and cashless exercise):** To exercise an Convertible Security, the Participant must deliver a signed notice of exercise and, subject to a cashless exercise of Convertible Securities (see below), pay the exercise price (if any) to or as directed by the Company, at any time prior to the earlier of any date specified in the vesting notice and the expiry date as set out in the invitation.

A Convertible Security may not be exercised unless and until that Convertible Security has vested in accordance with the Plan rules, or such earlier date as set out in the Plan rules.

- (i) **(Cashless exercise of Convertible Securities):** At the time of exercise of the Convertible Securities, subject to Board approval at that time, the Participant may elect not to be required to provide payment of the exercise price for the number of Convertible Securities specified in a notice of exercise, but that on exercise of those Convertible Securities the Company will transfer or issue to the Participant that number of Shares equal in value to the positive difference between the Market Value of the Shares at the time of exercise and the exercise price that would otherwise be payable to exercise those Convertible Securities.

**Market Value** means, at any given date, the volume weighted average price per Share traded on the ASX over the 5 trading days immediately preceding that given date, unless otherwise specified in an invitation.

If the difference between the total exercise price otherwise payable for the Convertible Securities being exercised and the then market Value of the Share at the time of exercise and the exercise price is zero or negative, then the Eligible Participant will not be entitled to use the cashless exercise facility.

- (j) **(Delivery of Shares on exercise of Convertible Securities):** As soon as practicable after the valid exercise of a Convertible Security by a Participant, the Company will issue or cause to be transferred to that Participant the number of Shares to which the Participant is entitled under the Plan rules and issue a substitute certificate for any remaining unexercised Convertible Securities held by that Participant.
- (k) **(Forfeiture of Convertible Securities):** Where a Participant who holds Convertible Securities ceases to be an Eligible Participant or becomes insolvent, all unvested Convertible Securities will automatically be forfeited by the Participant, unless the Board otherwise determines in its discretion to permit some or all of the Convertible Securities to vest.

Where the Board determines that a Participant has acted fraudulently or dishonestly, acted negligently, acted in contravention of a Group policy or wilfully breached his or her duties to the Group, the Board will deem all unvested Convertible Securities held by that Participant to have been forfeited.

Unless the Board otherwise determines, or as otherwise set out in the Plan rules:

- (i) any Convertible Securities which have not yet vested will be forfeited immediately on the date that the Board determines (acting reasonably and in good faith) that any applicable vesting conditions have not been met or cannot be met by the relevant date; and
- (ii) any Convertible Securities which have not yet vested will be automatically forfeited on the expiry date specified in the invitation.

- (l) **(Change of control)**: If a change of control event occurs in relation to the Company, or the Board determines that such an event is likely to occur, the Board may in its discretion determine the manner in which any or all of the Participant's Convertible Securities will be dealt with, including, without limitation, in a manner that allows the Participant to participate in and/or benefit from any transaction arising from or in connection with the change of control event.
- (m) **(Rights attaching to Plan Shares)**: All Shares issued under the Plan, or issued or transferred to a Participant upon the valid exercise of a Convertible Security, **(Plan Shares)** will rank pari passu in all respects with the Shares of the same class. A Participant will be entitled to any dividends declared and distributed by the Company on the Plan Shares and may participate in any dividend reinvestment plan operated by the Company in respect of Plan Shares. A Participant may exercise any voting rights attaching to Plan Shares.
- (n) **(Disposal restrictions on Plan Shares)**: If the invitation provides that any Plan Shares are subject to any restrictions as to the disposal or other dealing by a Participant for a period, the Board may implement any procedure it deems appropriate to ensure the compliance by the Participant with this restriction.

For so long as a Plan Share is subject to any disposal restrictions under the Plan, the Participant will not:

- (i) transfer, encumber or otherwise dispose of, or have a security interest granted over that Plan Share; or
  - (ii) take any action or permit another person to take any action to remove or circumvent the disposal restrictions without the express written consent of the Company.
- (o) **(Adjustment of Convertible Securities)**: If there is a reorganisation of the issued share capital of the Company (including any subdivision, consolidation, reduction, return or cancellation of such issued capital of the Company), the rights of each Participant holding Convertible Securities will be changed to the extent necessary to comply with the Listing Rules applicable to a reorganisation of capital at the time of the reorganisation.

If Shares are issued by the Company by way of bonus issue (other than an issue in lieu of dividends or by way of dividend reinvestment), the holder of Convertible Securities is entitled, upon exercise of the Convertible Securities, to receive an allotment of as many additional Shares as would have been issued to the holder if the holder held Shares equal in number to the Shares in respect of which the Convertible Securities are exercised.

Unless otherwise determined by the Board, a holder of Convertible Securities does not have the right to participate in a pro rata issue of Shares made by the Company or sell renounceable rights.

- (p) **(Participation in new issues)**: There are no participation rights or entitlements inherent in the Convertible Securities and holders are not entitled to participate in any new issue of Shares of the Company during the currency of the Convertible Securities without exercising the Convertible Securities.
- (q) **(Compliance with Applicable Laws)**: Notwithstanding the Plan rules or any terms of a Security, no Security may be offered, granted, vested or exercised, and no Share may be issued or transferred, if to do so would contravene any applicable laws.

Where monetary consideration is payable by the Eligible Participant, and in respect to Convertible Securities where the Exercise Price on exercise of those Convertible Securities is greater than zero, the Company must reasonably believe when making an invitation:

- (i) the total number of Plan Shares that are, or are covered by the Securities that may be issued under an invitation; and

- (ii) the total number of Plan Shares that are, or are covered by the Securities that have been issued, or could have been issued in connection with the Plan in reliance on Division 1A of Part 7.12 of the Corporations Act at any time during the previous 3 year period prior to the date the invitation is made,

does not exceed:

- (iii) if the Constitution specifies an issue cap percentage, that percentage; or
- (iv) if the Constitution does not specify an issue cap percentage, 5% (or such other maximum permitted under any Applicable Law),

of the total number of Shares on issue at the date of the invitation.

- (r) **(Amendment of Plan):** Subject to the following paragraph, the Board may at any time amend any provisions of the Plan rules, including (without limitation) the terms and conditions upon which any Securities have been granted under the Plan and determine that any amendments to the Plan rules be given retrospective effect, immediate effect or future effect.

No amendment to any provision of the Plan rules may be made if the amendment materially reduces the rights of any Participant as they existed before the date of the amendment, other than an amendment introduced primarily for the purpose of complying with legislation or to correct manifest error or mistake, amongst other things, or is agreed to in writing by all Participants.

- (s) **(Plan duration):** The Plan continues in operation until the Board decides to end it. The Board may from time to time suspend the operation of the Plan for a fixed period or indefinitely, and may end any suspension. If the Plan is terminated or suspended for any reason, that termination or suspension must not prejudice the accrued rights of the Participants.

If a Participant and the Company (acting by the Board) agree in writing that some or all of the Securities granted to that Participant are to be cancelled on a specified date or on the occurrence of a particular event, then those Securities may be cancelled in the manner agreed between the Company and the Participant.

# SCHEDULE 3 – Nomination of Auditor Letter

25 August 2023

The Directors  
ECS Botanics Holdings Ltd  
899 River Road  
Murrabit West, VIC 3579

Dear Sirs,

## **NOMINATION OF AUDITOR**

For the purposes of section 328B(1) of the *Corporations Act 2001*, and being a member of ECS Botanics Holdings Ltd (**Company**), I, Nan Maree Schoerie, hereby nominate William Buck Audit (Vic) Pty Ltd for appointment as auditor of the Company at the Company's 2023 annual general meeting.

Please distribute copies of this notice of this nomination as required by section 328B(3) of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Signed and dated 25 August 2023:



Nan-Maree Schoerie



ECS Botanic Holdings Ltd | ACN 009 805 298

# Proxy Voting Form

If you are attending the meeting in person, please bring this with you for Securityholder registration.

Holder Number:

Your proxy voting instruction must be received by **11:30am (AEST) on Tuesday, 24 October 2023**, being **not later than 48 hours** before the commencement of the Meeting. Any Proxy Voting instructions received after that time will not be valid for the scheduled Meeting.

## SUBMIT YOUR PROXY

Complete the form overleaf in accordance with the instructions set out below.

### YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS

The name and address shown above is as it appears on the Company's share register. If this information is incorrect, and you have an Issuer Sponsored holding, you can update your address through the investor portal: <https://investor.automic.com.au/#/home> Shareholders sponsored by a broker should advise their broker of any changes.

### STEP 1 – APPOINT A PROXY

If you wish to appoint someone other than the Chair of the Meeting as your proxy, please write the name of that Individual or body corporate. A proxy need not be a Shareholder of the Company. Otherwise if you leave this box blank, the Chair of the Meeting will be appointed as your proxy by default.

### DEFAULT TO THE CHAIR OF THE MEETING

Any directed proxies that are not voted on a poll at the Meeting will default to the Chair of the Meeting, who is required to vote these proxies as directed. Any undirected proxies that default to the Chair of the Meeting will be voted according to the instructions set out in this Proxy Voting Form, including where the Resolutions are connected directly or indirectly with the remuneration of KMP.

### STEP 2 - VOTES ON ITEMS OF BUSINESS

You may direct your proxy how to vote by marking one of the boxes opposite each item of business. All your shares will be voted in accordance with such a direction unless you indicate only a portion of voting rights are to be voted on any item by inserting the percentage or number of shares you wish to vote in the appropriate box or boxes. If you do not mark any of the boxes on the items of business, your proxy may vote as he or she chooses. If you mark more than one box on an item your vote on that item will be invalid.

### APPOINTMENT OF SECOND PROXY

You may appoint up to two proxies. If you appoint two proxies, you should complete two separate Proxy Voting Forms and specify the percentage or number each proxy may exercise. If you do not specify a percentage or number, each proxy may exercise half the votes. You must return both Proxy Voting Forms together. If you require an additional Proxy Voting Form, contact Automic Registry Services.

### SIGNING INSTRUCTIONS

**Individual:** Where the holding is in one name, the Shareholder must sign.

**Joint holding:** Where the holding is in more than one name, all Shareholders should sign.

**Power of attorney:** If you have not already lodged the power of attorney with the registry, please attach a certified photocopy of the power of attorney to this Proxy Voting Form when you return it.

**Companies:** To be signed in accordance with your Constitution. Please sign in the appropriate box which indicates the office held by you.

**Email Address:** Please provide your email address in the space provided.

**By providing your email address, you elect to receive all communications despatched by the Company electronically (where legally permissible) such as a Notice of Meeting, Proxy Voting Form and Annual Report via email.**

### CORPORATE REPRESENTATIVES

If a representative of the corporation is to attend the Meeting the appropriate 'Appointment of Corporate Representative' should be produced prior to admission. A form may be obtained from the Company's share registry online at <https://automic.com.au>.

### Lodging your Proxy Voting Form:

#### Online:

Use your computer or smartphone to appoint a proxy at <https://investor.automic.com.au/#/login>

or scan the QR code below using your smartphone

**Login & Click on 'Meetings'. Use the Holder Number as shown at the top of this Proxy Voting Form.**



#### BY MAIL:

Automic  
GPO Box 5193  
Sydney NSW 2001

#### IN PERSON:

Automic  
Level 5, 126 Phillip Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

#### BY EMAIL:

[meetings@automicgroup.com.au](mailto:meetings@automicgroup.com.au)

#### BY FACSIMILE:

+61 2 8583 3040

All enquiries to Automic:

**WEBSITE:** <https://automicgroup.com.au/>

**PHONE:** 1300 288 664 (Within Australia)  
+61 2 9698 5414 (Overseas)

