



Nestlé

Good food, Good life

Articles of Association of Nestlé S.A.

Established 1866

Translation



April 2023

I. General

Article 1

Corporate name; Registered offices; Duration

- 1 Nestlé S.A. (Nestlé AG) (Nestlé Ltd.) (hereinafter “Nestlé”) is a company limited by shares incorporated and organised in accordance with the Swiss Code of Obligations.
- 2 The registered offices of Nestlé are in Cham and Vevey, Switzerland.
- 3 The duration of Nestlé is unlimited.

Article 2

Purpose

- 1 The purpose of Nestlé is to participate in industrial, service, commercial and financial enterprises in Switzerland and abroad, in particular in the food, nutrition, health, wellness and related industries.
- 2 Nestlé may itself establish such undertakings or participate in, finance and promote the development of undertakings already in existence.
- 3 Nestlé may enter into any transaction which the business purpose may entail. Nestlé shall, in pursuing its business purpose, aim for long-term, sustainable value creation.

* This is an unofficial translation. In case of doubt or differences of interpretation, the official French and German versions of the Articles of Association shall prevail over the English text.

** All references to functions and individuals shall refer to all genders throughout this document.

II. Share Capital

Article 3

Share capital

The share capital of Nestlé is CHF 267 000 000 (two hundred and sixty-seven million Swiss francs) divided into 267 000 000 fully paid up registered shares with a nominal value of CHF 0.10 each.

Article 3^{bis}

Conditional share capital

- 1 The share capital of Nestlé may be increased in an amount not to exceed CHF 10 000 000 (ten million Swiss francs) by issuing up to 100 000 000 registered shares with a nominal value of CHF 0.10 each, which shall be fully paid up, through the exercise of conversion rights and/or option rights granted in connection with the issuance by Nestlé or one of its subsidiaries of newly or already issued convertible debentures, debentures with option rights or other financial market instruments.
- 2 The shareholders have no preferential rights to subscribe for these new shares. The current owners of conversion rights and/or option rights shall be entitled to subscribe for the new shares.
- 3 The new shares shall be subject, as soon as they are issued following the exercise of conversion and/or option rights, to the restrictions set forth in art. 5.
- 4 The Board of Directors may limit or withdraw the right of the shareholders to subscribe in priority to convertible debentures, debentures with option rights or similar financial market instruments when they are issued, if:
 - a) an issue by firm underwriting by a consortium with subsequent offering to the public without preferential subscription rights seems to be the most appropriate form of issue at the time, particularly in terms of the conditions for issue; or
 - b) the financial market instruments with conversion or option rights are issued in connection with the financing or refinancing of the acquisition of an enterprise or parts of an enterprise or participations or new investments.

- 5 Any financial market instruments with conversion or option rights which the Board of Directors decides not to offer directly or indirectly for prior subscription to the shareholders shall be subject to the following conditions:
 - a) Conversion rights may be exercised only for up to 15 years, and option rights only during 7 years from the date of issue of the relevant financial market instruments.
 - b) The new shares shall be issued according to the applicable conversion or option conditions. The respective financial instruments must be issued at the relevant market conditions.
 - c) The issue of new shares upon exercise of option or conversion rights shall be made at conditions taking into account the market price of the shares and/or comparable instruments with a market price at the time of issuance of the relevant convertible debenture, debenture with option rights or similar financial market instrument.

Article 4**Share certificates; Intermediated securities**

- 1 Nestlé may issue its registered shares in the form of single certificates, global certificates as uncertificated securities or as intermediated securities. Under the conditions set forth by statutory law, Nestlé may convert its registered shares from one form into another form at any time and without the approval of the shareholders. Nestlé shall bear the cost of any such conversion.
- 2 If registered shares are issued in the form of single certificates or global certificates, they shall be signed by two members of the Board of Directors. Both signatures may be affixed in facsimile.
- 3 The shareholder has no right to demand a conversion of the form of the registered shares. In particular, the shareholder has no claim to the certification of the membership in a security. Each shareholder may, however, at any time request a written confirmation from Nestlé of the registered shares held by such shareholder, as reflected in the share register.
- 4 Intermediated securities based on registered shares of Nestlé cannot be transferred by way of assignment. A security interest in any such intermediated securities cannot be granted by way of assignment.

- 1 Nestlé shall maintain a share register showing the name and contact information of the holders or usufructuaries. Any change of contact information must be reported to Nestlé. Communications from Nestlé shall be deemed to have been validly made if sent to the contact information last registered in the share register.
- 2 Only persons entered in the share register as shareholders with voting rights may exercise the voting rights or the other rights related thereto.
- 3 After the acquisition of shares, upon request of the shareholder to be recognised as such, any acquiring party shall be considered as a shareholder without voting rights, until it is recognised by Nestlé as a shareholder with voting rights. If Nestlé does not refuse the request to recognise the acquiring party within twenty days, the latter shall be deemed to be a shareholder with voting rights.
- 4 An acquirer of shares shall be recorded in the share register as a shareholder with voting rights provided he expressly declares to have acquired the shares in his own name and for his own account.
- 5 No person or entity shall be registered with voting rights for more than 5% of the share capital as recorded in the commercial register. This limitation on registration also applies to persons who hold some or all of their shares through nominees pursuant to this article. All of the foregoing does not apply in the case of the acquisition of an enterprise, or parts of an enterprise or participations through exchange of shares or in the cases provided in art. 685d par. 3 of the Swiss Code of Obligations.
- 6 The Board of Directors shall promulgate regulations relating to the registration of fiduciaries or nominees to ensure compliance with these Articles of Association.
- 7 Legal entities that are linked to one another through capital, voting rights, management or in any other manner, as well as all natural persons or legal entities achieving an understanding or forming a syndicate or otherwise acting in concert to circumvent the regulations concerning the limitation on registration or the nominees, shall be counted as one person or nominee within the meaning of paragraphs 4 and 5 of this article.

- 8** After hearing the registered shareholder or nominee, the Board of Directors may cancel, with retroactive effect as of the date of registration, the registration of such shareholder or nominee if the registration was effected based on false information. The respective shareholder or nominee shall be informed immediately of the cancellation of the registration.
- 9** The Board of Directors shall specify the details and promulgate the necessary regulations concerning the application of this art. 5. Such regulations shall specify the cases in which the Board or a corporate body designated by the Board may allow exemptions from the limitation on registration or the regulation concerning nominees.
- 10** The limitation on registration provided for in this article shall also apply to shares acquired or subscribed by the exercise of subscription, option or conversion rights.

III. Organisation of Nestlé

A. General Meeting

Article 6

Powers of the General Meeting

- 1 The General Meeting of shareholders is the supreme authority of Nestlé.
- 2 The following non-transferable powers shall be vested in the General Meeting:
 - a) to adopt and amend the Articles of Association;
 - b) to elect and remove the members of the Board of Directors, the Chairman of the Board of Directors and the members of the Compensation Committee;
 - c) to elect and remove the Auditors;
 - d) to elect and remove the Independent Representative;
 - e) to approve the annual review and the consolidated financial statements;
 - f) to approve the annual financial statements as well as to resolve on the use of the balance sheet profit, in particular, the declaration of dividends;
 - g) to resolve on interim dividends and to approve the interim financial statement required for this purpose;
 - h) to resolve on the repayment of the statutory capital reserve;
 - i) to approve the compensation of the Board of Directors and of the Executive Board pursuant to art. 21^{bis};
 - j) to approve the compensation report and the report on non-financial matters;
 - k) to grant discharge to the members of the Board of Directors and the persons entrusted with management;
 - l) to resolve on the delisting of Nestlé's shares; and
 - m) to take all decisions which by law or under these Articles of Association are within the powers of the General Meeting.

Article 7

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting shall be held each year within six months of the close of the financial year of Nestlé. The meeting shall be convened by the Board of Directors.

Extraordinary General Meeting

- 1 Extraordinary General Meetings shall be convened by the Board of Directors or, if necessary, by the Auditors, as well as in the other cases foreseen by law.
- 2 The Board of Directors shall, if so requested by a General Meeting or at the request in writing, specifying the items and proposals to appear on the agenda, of one or more shareholders with voting rights whose combined holdings represent at least 5% of the share capital as recorded in the commercial register or the votes, convene an Extraordinary General Meeting. The Extraordinary General Meeting shall be held as promptly as practicable following such request.

Notice of General Meetings; Agenda; Venue

- 1 Annual or Extraordinary General Meetings shall be convened by way of a single announcement pursuant to art. 25 not less than twenty days before the date fixed for the meeting. Shareholders may in addition be informed by ordinary mail or electronically.
- 2 The notice of a meeting shall state the date, beginning, mode and venue of the General Meeting; the items on the agenda; the proposals of the Board of Directors together with a brief statement of the reasons; the proposals of the shareholders, together with a brief statement of the reasons, if any; and the name and address of the Independent Representative.
- 3 One or more shareholders with voting rights whose combined holdings represent at least 0.15% of the share capital of Nestlé as recorded in the commercial register or the votes may request that an item, or a proposal relating to an item, be included in the agenda of a General Meeting. Such a request must be made in writing to the Board of Directors at the latest 45 days before the meeting and shall specify the agenda items and the proposals made.
- 4 No resolution shall be passed at a General Meeting on matters which do not appear on the agenda except for:
 - a) a resolution convening an Extraordinary General Meeting; or
 - b) the setting up of a special investigation.
- 5 The Board of Directors shall determine the venue of the General Meeting.

- 6 The Board of Directors can determine that the General Meeting be held simultaneously at different locations, provided that the contributions of the participants are transmitted directly in video and audio to all venues, or that shareholders, who are not present at one of the venues of the General Meeting may exercise their rights by electronic means.
- 7 Alternatively, the Board of Directors may provide that the General Meeting will be held by electronic means without a venue.

Article 10**Presiding officer; Minutes**

- 1 The Chairman or any member of the Board of Directors shall preside at General Meetings and carry all procedural powers.
- 2 Minutes of General Meetings shall be kept by the Secretary of the Board of Directors.
- 3 The resolutions and election results shall be made available electronically within 15 days after the General Meeting, stating the exact proportion of votes. Any shareholder may request that the minutes be made available to him within 30 days after the General Meeting.

Article 11**Voting rights; Representation of shareholders**

- 1 Each share recorded in the share register as share with voting rights confers one vote on its holder.
- 2 At General Meetings no person may exercise, directly or indirectly, voting rights, with respect to own shares or shares represented by proxy, in excess of 5% of the share capital as recorded in the commercial register. Legal entities that are linked to one another through capital, voting rights, management or in any other manner, as well as all natural persons or legal entities achieving an understanding or forming a syndicate or otherwise acting in concert to circumvent such a limit, shall be counted as one shareholder.
- 3 The foregoing limit does not apply to shares received and held by a shareholder pursuant to an acquisition of an enterprise, or parts of an enterprise or participations as referred in art. 5 par. 5.
- 4 In order to permit the exercise of voting rights in respect of shares held by nominees, the Board of Directors may by means of regulations or agreements with nominees depart from the

limit foreseen in this article. It may also depart from such a limit within the framework of the regulations referred to in art. 5 par. 6 and par. 9. In addition, this limit shall not apply to the exercise of voting rights by the Independent Representative.

- 5 Each shareholder recorded in the share register with voting rights may be represented at the General Meeting by the Independent Representative or a third party. The Board of Directors shall determine the requirements regarding participation and representation in the General Meeting.
- 6 The Independent Representative shall be elected by the General Meeting for a term of office until completion of the next Annual General Meeting. Re-election is possible. If the office of the Independent Representative is vacant, the Board of Directors shall appoint the Independent Representative for the next General Meeting.

Article 12

Quorum and decisions

- 1 General Meetings shall be duly constituted irrespective of the number of shareholders present or of shares represented.
- 2 Unless provided otherwise by law or the Articles of Association, shareholders' resolutions and elections shall be decided by an absolute majority of the shares represented.
- 3 Votes shall be taken either on a show of hands or by electronic voting unless a vote by written ballot is ordered by the Presiding officer of the meeting. The Presiding officer may at any time order to repeat an election or resolution, if he doubts the results of the vote. In this case, the preceding election or resolution is deemed not having taken place.
- 4 If the first ballot fails to result in an election and more than one candidate is standing for election, the Presiding officer shall order a second ballot in which a relative majority shall be decisive.

Article 13

Special quorum

The approval of at least two thirds of the shares represented and the absolute majority of the nominal value represented at a General Meeting shall be required for resolutions with respect to:

- a) a modification of the purpose of Nestlé;

- b) the creation of shares with increased voting powers;
- c) restrictions on the transfer of registered shares and the change or removal of such restrictions;
- d) the introduction of a conditional share capital or the introduction of a capital range;
- e) an increase in share capital through the conversion of capital surplus, through a contribution in kind or by set-off against a claim, or a grant of special benefits upon a capital increase;
- f) the restriction or withdrawal of the right to subscribe;
- g) a change of the registered offices of Nestlé;
- h) the dissolution of Nestlé;
- i) restrictions on the exercise of voting rights and the change or removal of such restrictions;
- j) the limitation on registration (art. 5 par. 4 to 7) and the limitation on voting rights (art. 11 par. 2, 3 and 4) and the change or removal of such limitations;
- k) the change of the corporate name of Nestlé;
- l) the combination of shares
- m) the delisting of Nestlé's shares; and
- n) other matters as provided by statutory law.

B. Board of Directors

Article 14

Number of Directors

The Board of Directors shall consist of at least seven members.

Article 15

Term of office

- 1 The Chairman of the Board of Directors and the members of the Board of Directors shall be elected individually by the General Meeting for a term of office until completion of the next Annual General Meeting.
- 2 Members of the Board of Directors whose term of office has expired shall be immediately eligible for re-election.
- 3 If the office of the Chairman of the Board of Directors is vacant, the Board of Directors shall appoint a new Chairman from amongst its members for the remaining term of office.

Article 16**Organisation of the Board**

- 1 The Board of Directors shall elect one or two Vice-Chairmen. It shall appoint a Secretary and his substitutes, neither of whom need be members of the Board of Directors.
- 2 The Board of Directors shall, within the limits of the law and the Articles of Association, define its organisation and the assignment of responsibilities in the Board regulations or by Board resolutions pursuant to art. 19 para. 2.

Article 17**Powers of the Board in general**

The Board of Directors shall conduct all the business of Nestlé to the extent that it is not within the powers of the General Meeting or not delegated pursuant to the Board regulations or Board resolutions as set forth in art. 19 para. 2.

Article 18**Specific powers of the Board**

The Board of Directors has the following non-transferable and inalienable duties:

- a) the ultimate direction of the business of Nestlé, in particular the conduct, management and supervision of the business of Nestlé, and the provision of necessary directions;
- b) the determination of the organisation in the Board regulations or by Board resolutions pursuant to art. 19 para. 2;
- c) the determination of accounting and financial control principles;
- d) the appointment and removal of the persons entrusted with the management and the granting of signatory powers to persons representing Nestlé;
- e) the ultimate supervision of the persons entrusted with the management of Nestlé, ensuring in particular their compliance with the law, the Articles of Association, regulations and instructions given;
- f) the preparation of the annual report, the compensation report, the report on non-financial matters and other reports in accordance with the provisions of the law;
- g) the preparation of General Meetings and the carrying out of its resolutions;

- h) the determination of the manner in which the dividend shall be paid;
- i) the opening and closing of branch offices;
- j) the filing of an application for a debt restructuring moratorium and the notification of the court in case of overindebtedness; and
- k) other powers and duties reserved to the Board of Directors by the law or the Articles of Association.

Article 19**Delegation of powers**

- 1 The Board of Directors may, within the limits of the law and the Articles of Association, appoint from amongst its members standing or ad hoc committees entrusted with the preparation and execution of its decisions or the supervision of specific parts of the business. The Board of Directors shall ensure that it is kept properly informed.
- 2 Unless otherwise provided by law, the Board of Directors may in accordance with the Board regulations or by Board resolutions delegate all or part of the management to one or more of its members, to one or more board committees, or to third parties.

C. Compensation Committee

Article 19^{bis}**Number of members; Term of office; Organisation**

- 1 The Compensation Committee consists of at least three independent members of the Board of Directors.
- 2 The members of the Compensation Committee shall be elected individually by the General Meeting for a term of office until completion of the next Annual General Meeting. Members of the Compensation Committee whose term of office has expired shall be immediately eligible for re-election.
- 3 If there are vacancies on the Compensation Committee, the Board of Directors shall appoint substitutes from amongst its members for the remaining term of office.
- 4 The Board of Directors shall elect a Chairman of the Compensation Committee. It shall, within the limits of the law and the Articles of Association, define the organisation of the Compensation Committee in regulations.

Powers of the Compensation Committee

- 1 The Compensation Committee supports the Board of Directors in establishing and periodically reviewing Nestlé's compensation strategy and guidelines and performance criteria as well as in preparing the proposals to the General Meeting regarding the compensation of the members of the Board of Directors and of the Executive Board. It may submit proposals and recommendations to the Board of Directors in other compensation-related issues.
- 2 The Board of Directors promulgates regulations to determine for which positions of the Board of Directors and of the Executive Board the Compensation Committee, together with the Chairman of the Board of Directors or on its own, shall submit proposals for the compensation, and for which positions it shall determine the compensation in accordance with the Articles of Association and the compensation guidelines established by the Board of Directors.
- 3 The Board of Directors may delegate further tasks and powers to the Compensation Committee.

D. Auditors**Number of Auditors; Term of office**

The General Meeting shall appoint, for a term of office of one financial year, one or more Auditors of the annual financial statements of Nestlé and the consolidated financial statements of the Group, which shall be independent from Nestlé and meet the special professional standards required by law. Their term of office ends with the approval of the annual financial statements of the respective financial year by the General Meeting. The Auditors of Nestlé may be re-elected.

Rights and duties of Auditors

The Auditors shall verify the annual financial statements of Nestlé and the consolidated financial statements of the Group and perform such other tasks as defined by law. The Auditors shall submit their reports to the General Meeting. Their rights and duties shall be as set out in the applicable Swiss law.

III^{bis}. Compensation of the Board of Directors and of the Executive Board

Article 21^{bis}

Approval of compensation by General Meeting

- 1 The General Meeting shall approve annually and separately the proposals of the Board of Directors in relation to the maximum aggregate amount of:
 - a) compensation of the Board of Directors for the period until the next Annual General Meeting;
 - b) compensation of the Executive Board for the following financial year.The Board of Directors may submit for approval by the General Meeting deviating or additional proposals relating to the same or different periods.
- 2 In the event the General Meeting has not approved a proposal of the Board of Directors, the Board of Directors shall determine the respective maximum aggregate amount or maximum partial amounts of compensation, provided that:
 - a) the Board of Directors takes into account:
 - (i) the proposed maximum aggregate amount of compensation;
 - (ii) the decision of the General Meeting and, to the extent known to the Board of Directors, the main reasons for the negative vote; and
 - (iii) Nestlé's compensation principles; and
 - b) the Board of Directors submits the amount(s) so determined to approval by the same General Meeting, a subsequent Extraordinary General Meeting or the next Annual General Meeting.
- 3 Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, Nestlé or companies controlled by it may pay out compensation prior to approval by the General Meeting subject to subsequent approval by a General Meeting.
- 4 The Board of Directors shall submit the annual compensation report to an advisory vote of the General Meeting.

**Supplementary amount for changes
on the Executive Board**

If the maximum aggregate amount of compensation already approved by the General Meeting is not sufficient to also cover compensation of one or more members who become members of the Executive Board during a compensation period for which the General Meeting has already approved the compensation of the Executive Board, Nestlé or companies controlled by it shall be authorized to pay to such member(s) a supplementary amount during the compensation period(s) already approved. The total supplementary amount shall not exceed 40% of the aggregate amount of compensation of the Executive Board last approved by the General Meeting per compensation period.

General compensation principles

- 1** Compensation of the non-executive members of the Board of Directors comprises fixed compensation elements only.
- 2** Compensation of the members of the Executive Board comprises fixed and variable compensation elements. Fixed compensation comprises the base salary and may comprise other compensation elements and benefits. Variable compensation may comprise short-term and long-term compensation elements, and shall be subject to caps expressed as predetermined multipliers of the respective target levels.
- 3** Short-term compensation elements are governed by performance metrics that take into account the performance of Nestlé and/or parts thereof, targets in relation to the market, to other companies or to comparable benchmarks and/or individual targets, and achievement of which is generally measured based on a one-year period. The annual target level of the short-term compensation elements is determined as a percentage of the base salary; depending on achieved performance, the compensation may amount up to a predetermined multiplier of target level.

- 4 Long-term compensation elements are governed by performance metrics that take into account strategic objectives of Nestlé, and achievement of which is generally measured based on a multiannual period. The annual target level of the long-term compensation elements is determined as a percentage of the base salary; depending on achieved performance, the compensation may amount up to a predetermined multiplier of target level. Vesting periods, as determined by the Board of Directors or, to the extent delegated to it, the Compensation Committee, shall be at least three years.
- 5 The Board of Directors or, to the extent delegated to it, the Compensation Committee determines performance metrics and target levels, and their achievement.
- 6 Compensation may be paid or granted in the form of cash, shares, other benefits or in kind; compensation to members of the Executive Board may also be paid or granted in the form of financial instruments or similar units. The Board of Directors or, to the extent delegated to it, the Compensation Committee determines grant, vesting, blocking, exercise and forfeiture conditions; they may provide for continuation, acceleration or removal of vesting and exercise conditions, for payment or grant of compensation assuming target achievement or for forfeiture in the event of predetermined events such as a termination of an employment or mandate agreement.
- 7 Compensation may be paid by Nestlé or companies controlled by it.
- 8 The Board of Directors values compensation according to the principles that apply to the compensation report.

III^{ter}. Contracts with members of the Board of Directors and of the Executive Board

Article 21^{quinquies}**Basic principles**

- 1 Nestlé or companies controlled by it may enter into agreements with members of the Board of Directors relating to their compensation for a fixed term or for an indefinite term; term and notice period may not exceed one year.
- 2 Nestlé or companies controlled by it may enter into contracts of employment with members of the Executive Board for a definite period of time not to exceed one year or for an indefinite period of time with a notice period not to exceed 12 months.
- 3 Contracts of employment with members of the Executive Board may contain a prohibition of competition for the time after the end of employment for a duration of up to 2 years. The total consideration for such prohibition shall not exceed the average of the compensation of the last three financial years.

III^{quater}. Mandates outside Nestlé; Loans

Article 21^{sexies}

Mandates outside Nestlé

- 1 No member of the Board of Directors may hold more than 4 additional mandates in listed companies and 5 additional mandates in non-listed companies.
- 2 No member of the Executive Board may hold more than 2 additional mandates in listed companies and 4 additional mandates in non-listed companies. Each of these mandates shall be subject to approval by the Board of Directors.
- 3 The following mandates are not subject to these limitations:
 - a) mandates in companies which are controlled by Nestlé;
 - b) mandates which a member of the Board of Directors or of the Executive Board holds at the request of Nestlé or companies controlled by it. No Member of the Board of Directors or of the Executive Board shall hold more than 10 such mandates; and
 - c) mandates in associations, charitable organizations, foundations, trusts and employee welfare foundations. No Member of the Board of Directors or of the Executive Board shall hold more than 10 such mandates.
- 4 Mandates shall mean mandates in comparable functions at other enterprises with an economic purpose. Mandates in different legal entities which are under joint control are deemed one mandate.
- 5 The Board of Directors shall promulgate regulations that, taking into account the position of the respective member, determine additional restrictions.

Article 21^{septies}

Loans

Loans to a member of the Board of Directors or the Executive Board may only be granted at market conditions and may, at the time of grant, not exceed the respective member's most recent total annual compensation.

IV. Business report and appropriation of profit resulting from the balance sheet

Article 22

Financial year

The financial year shall commence on 1 January and shall end on 31 December.

Article 23

Annual report

For every financial year the Board of Directors shall prepare an annual report consisting of the annual financial statements of Nestlé, of the annual review and the consolidated financial statements.

Article 24

Appropriation of profit resulting from the balance sheet

The profit shall be allocated by the General Meeting within the limits set by applicable law. The Board of Directors shall submit its proposals to the General Meeting.

V. Announcements, Communications

Article 25

Communications

All notices and communications to be made by Nestlé shall be considered duly made if, at the election of the Board of Directors, published in the "Swiss Official Gazette of Commerce" or communicated in a form that allows proof by text.