**Poste**italiane

## REPORT ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND OWNERSHIP STRUCTURE

(approved by the Board of Directors of Poste Italiane S.p.A. on 5 March 2020)

- YEAR 2019 -

www.posteitaliane.it

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# Structure and Composition of Bodies Shareholders' Meeting

#### **Board of Directors**

CHAIR

Maria Bianca Farina

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
GENERAL MANAGER

Matteo Del Fante

DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER-EXECUTIVE

Giuseppe Lasco

#### **DIRECTORS**

_	J. 1010	Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee	Remuneration Committee	Appointment and Corporate Governance Committe	Related Parties Committee
	Giovanni Azzone				
	Carlo Cerami				
	Antonella Guglielmetti				
	Francesca Isgrò				
	Mimi Kung				
	Roberto Rao				0
	Roberto Rossi				





Chair





Member

#### SECRETARY

Michele Scarpelli

#### **Board of Statutory Auditors**

CHAIR Mauro Lonardo **STANDING AUDITORS** Anna Rosa Adiutori, Luigi Borrè ALTERNATE AUDITORS
Alberto De Nigro
Antonio Santi

Maria Francesca Talamonti

EXTERNAL AUDITORS

PricewaterhouseCoopers S.p.A.\*

<sup>\*</sup> With reference to the statutory audit of the accounts relating to the financial statements closed on 31 December 2019. The statutory audit of the accounts for the years 2020-2028 was entrusted to Deloitte&Touche S.p.A.

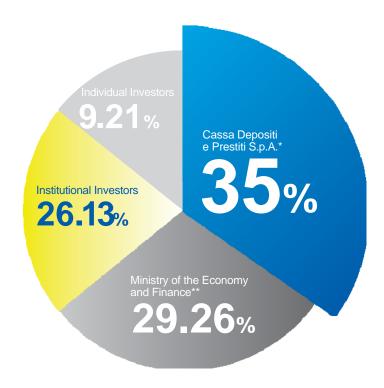
## **Poste Italiane Shareholders**

As at 31 December 2019, Poste Italiane's share capital amounted to 1,306,110.000 euro fully paid-up, divided into 1,306,110,000 ordinary shares without any par value. With reference to the share capital and according to entries in Poste Italiane's shareholders' register, notices

received pursuant to Issuers'
Regulations and available
information, shareholders
who own shares above the
threshold indicated by CONSOB as
at 31 December 2019 are
represented in the chart
below. As at the date of this Report,

the situation is unchanged. The main shareholders are Cassa Depositi e Prestiti SpA (which owns 35% of the share capital), and the Ministry of the Economy and Finance (29.26% of share capital).

#### SHAREHOLDERS AS AT THE DATE OF THE REPORT



At the date of this Report the Company owns no. 5,257,965 shares, representing 0.4% of Poste Italiane's share capital.

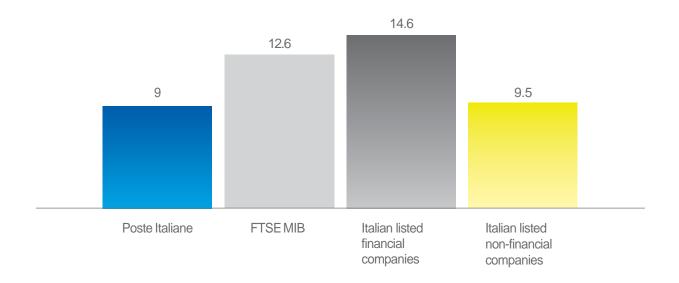
<sup>\* 82.77%</sup> of Company shares belong to the Ministry of the Economy and Finance of the Italian Republic, which owns 457,138,500 shares equal to 35% of share capital.

<sup>\*\*</sup> It owns 382,127,890 shares, equal to 29.26% of share capital.

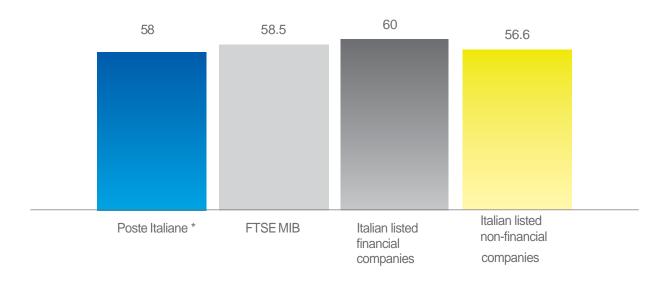
## **Poste Italiane Board of Directors**

## Key indicators<sup>1</sup>

SIZE OF THE BOARD



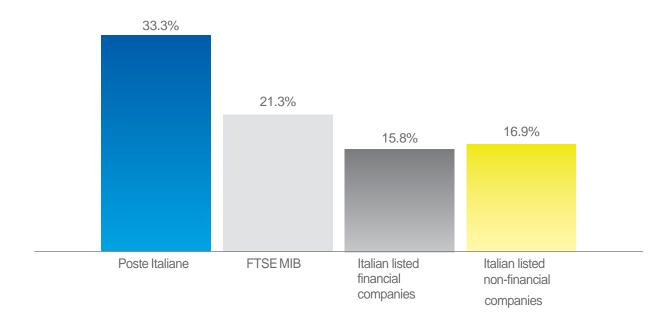
#### **AVERAGE AGE OF BOARD DIRECTORS**



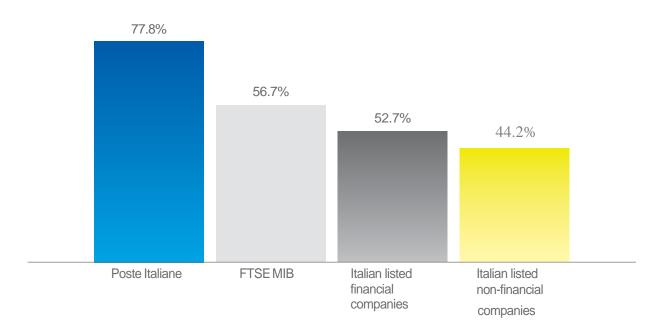
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In the charts below, data for Companies belonging to FTSE MIB, "Italian listed financial companies" and "Italian listed non-financial companies" are taken from report issued by Assonime-Emittenti Titoli, Note e Studi 2/2020, "La Corporate Governance in Italia: autodisciplina, remunerazioni e comply-or-explain" (2019).

\* The information is up to date as at the date of this Report.

#### REPRESENTATION OF MINORITY SHARES ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



#### PRESENCE OF INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS 2



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Independent pursuant to the Corporate Governance Code.

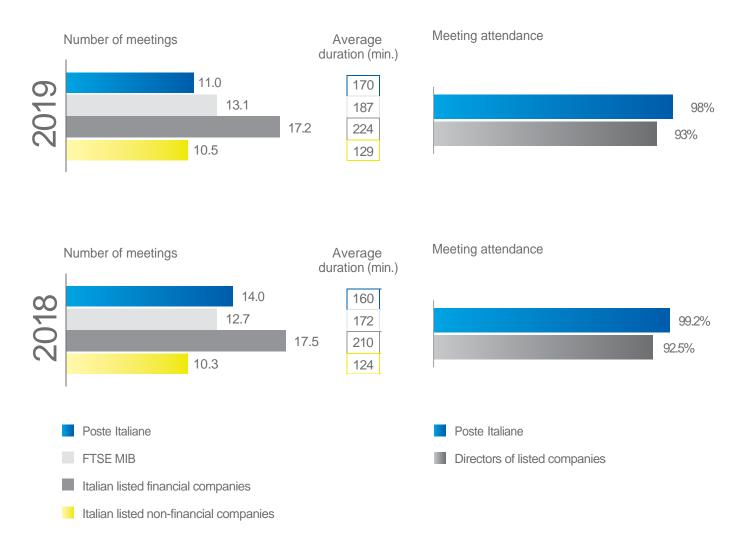
#### DETAILS OF HOW THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS COMPOSED (NUMBER AND QUALIFICATION)



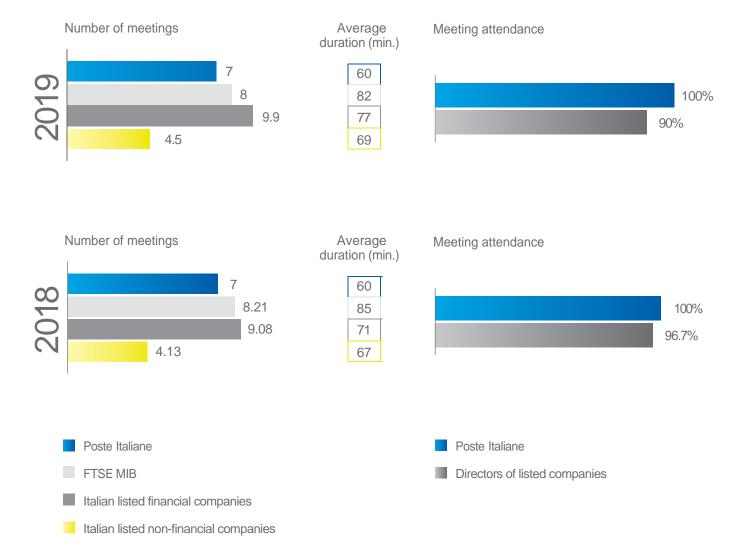
<sup>\*</sup> Average

## **Board of Directors' Operations**

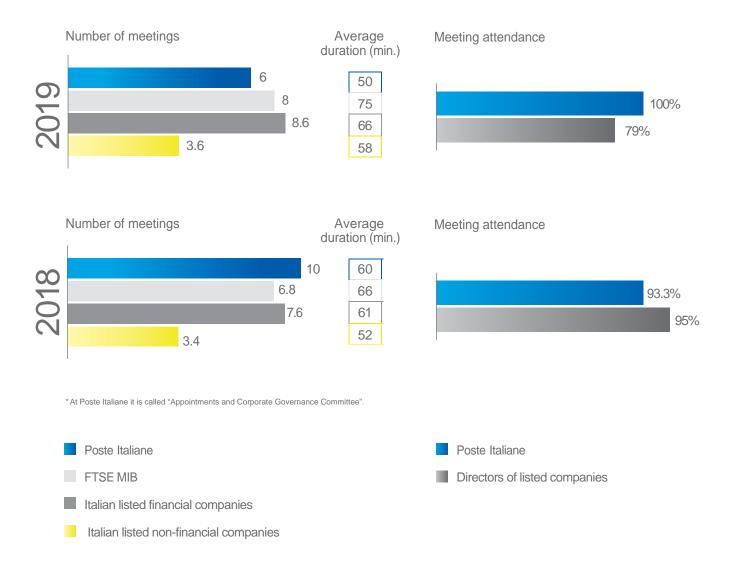
#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS - NUMBER OF MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE**



#### REMUNERATION COMMITTEE - NUMBER OF MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE



#### APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE \* - NUMBER OF MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE



#### OTHER CHARACTERISTICS OF HOW THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OPERATES \*\*

	Yes/No	
Board evaluation	Yes	
Independent consultants for assessing the Board	VAC	Evaluator: Management Search
Induction Programme	Yes	
Position regarding the maximum number of offices for Directors and Statutory Auditors	Yes	

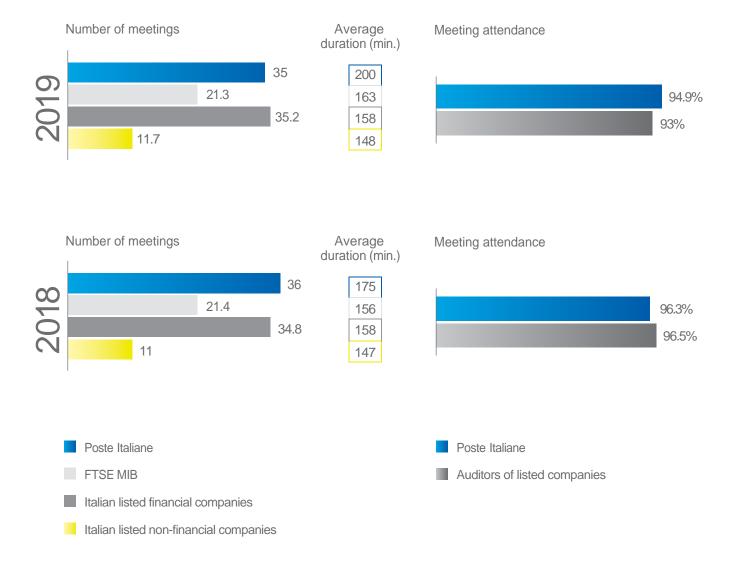
<sup>\*\*</sup>Data on the "Related-Parties Committee" at Poste Italiane is not included in the Executive Summary because information about this committee (and about committees with similar competences) is not included in the report by Assonime-Emittenti Titoli, which is used for reference (see note 1 on page VI).

## **Internal Control and Risk Management System**

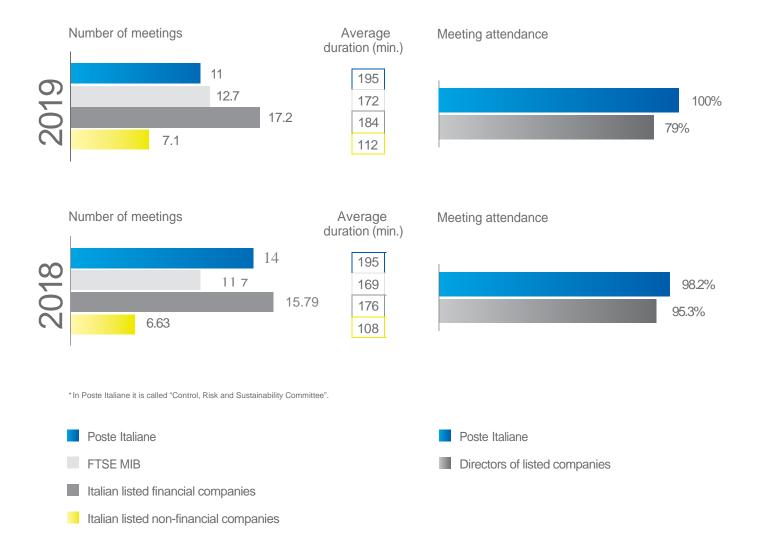
Body/Function		Notes
Executive in charge of the Internal Control and Risk Management System	Chief Executive Officer	
Corporate Affairs Function (within which the Group Risk Governance Function operates)	Giuseppe Lasco	Deputy General Manager- Executive in charge of the Corporate Affairs Function at the Company
Internal Control Function		Internal to the Company
Executive in charge of the Internal Control Function	Paolo Casati	
Executive in charge of preparing the corporate accounting documents	Alessandro Del Gobbo	Executive in charge of the Administration and Financial Statements (within the Administration, Finance and Control Function)
Supervisory Body	Carlo Longari (Chair) Massimo Lauro Paolo Casati	External Director External Director Internal Director
External auditors	PriceWaterhouse- Coopers S.p.A.	Deadline of the Shareholders' Meeting closed on 31 December 2019 *

 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$  The statutory audit of the accounts for the years 2020-2028 was entrusted to Deloitte&Touche S.p.A.

#### BOARD OF STATUTORY AUDITORS - NUMBER OF MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE



#### CONTROL AND RISK COMMITTEE \* - NUMBER OF MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE



#### MAIN ELEMENTS OF THE INTERNAL CONTROL AND RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Elements	Yes/No
Availability of a document containing guidelines for the Internal Control and Risk Management System	Yes
Availability of a Mandate for the Internal Control Function approved by the Board of Directors	Yes
Existence of ad hoc organizational structures for performing risk management activities	Yes
Annual evaluation of the compatibility between company risks and company management consistent with strategic objectives	Yes
Preparation of specific compliance programs (Ethics Code, Model 231, open and transparent contracts, Whistleblowing)	Yes

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND PARTNERSHIP WITH INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS FOR RISK MANAGEMENT

### **Poste**italiane

#### NATIONAL CIVIL PROTECTION

Cooperation on the management of emergencies following catastrophic.

#### **ROAD POLICE**

Cooperation on initiatives aimed at reducing injuries and workrelated accidents caused by road accidents.

## NATIONAL CENTRE AGAINST CYBERCRIME FOR THE PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Preventing and combating cybercrime involving critical national cyberinfrastructure.

#### MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH

School-work alternation.

#### MINISTRY FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Best social and commercial practices in managing customer-contact services (Call Centers).

## IT SYSTEMS FOR NATIONAL SECURITY

Exchange of information on potential cyber threats to critical infrastructure.

#### **ENAC-ITALIAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY**

Provide in-flight security for passengers and prevent unlawful acts against aircraft that carry cargo and mail.

#### **GUARDIA DI FINANZA**

Research, prevention and combating illicit activities and economic and financial crimes.

## CASSA DEPOSITIE PRESTITI SPA-MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH

A Textbook way of Saving.

#### POSTAL AND COMMUNICATIONS POLICE

Preventing and combating illicit activities against the users of the financial, postal, logistics and insurance services offered by the Poste Italiane Group.

#### PREFECTURES OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC

Memorandums of understanding with Prefectures for the prevention of crime in Post Offices.

#### CERT

Task force for the protection of critical national cyberinfrastructure and for sharing information on future scenarios.

#### ITALIAN FINANCIAL CERT

National CERT in the financial sector to strengthen cooperation on cyber threats and sectoral regulation between CERTs in the financial sector through the exchange of information.

#### NATIONAL FIRE BRIGADE

Prevention and rapid response in emergency management.

#### Report on Corporate Governance and the Ownership Structure

SECTION I: GOVERNANCE AND OWNERSHIP STRUCTURE

#### 1. Introduction – Compliance

This report on Poste Italiane's corporate governance and ownership structure (hereinafter also the "Report") has been drafted in order to comply with the provisions of article 123-bis of Legislative Decree no. 58 of February 24, 1998 (hereinafter, also the "Consolidated Law on Finance" or "TUF"), as well as with current legal and regulatory provisions concerning information on compliance with codes of conduct, through the provision of regular detailed reports on corporate governance and the ownership structure at Poste Italiane S.p.A. (hereinafter, "Poste Italiane" or the "Company" and, together with its subsidiaries, also the "Poste Italiane Group" or the "Group").

More specifically, this Report has been drafted in compliance with the content requirements specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the aforesaid article 123-bis of the TUF, and on the basis of the articles of the current Corporate Governance Code (hereinafter, also the "Code") – as approved by Borsa Italiana's Corporate Governance Committee and updated in July 2018 – to which the Company has subscribed.

The text of the Corporate Governance Code referred to in preparing this Report is available on the Corporate Governance

Committee's website,

https://www.borsaitaliana.it/borsaitaliana/regolamenti/corporategovernance/codice2018clean.pdf.

It should be noted that on 31 January 2020 the Corporate Governance Committee published a new version of the Corporate Governance Code, clarifying that companies that adopt the Code are to apply it with effect from the first fiscal year that begins after 31 December 2020, and are to inform the market thereof in the report on corporate governance to be published in 2022.

Relevant public disclosures, as mentioned in this Report, are available from the Company's website (www.posteitaliane.it).

In addition to the foregoing, it should be noted that the Company's corporate governance structure complies with the provisions of the Circular no. 285/2013 on prudential regulations for banks issued by the Bank of Italy (hereinafter, also the "Supervisory Regulations"), applicable to Poste Italiane as a result of business activities conducted through its segregated capital – established by the Company with effect from 2 May 2011, pursuant to article 2, paragraph 17-octies ff. of Legislative Decree no. 225 of 29 December 2010, converted with amendments into Law no. 10 of 26 February 2011, in a resolution by the Shareholder's Meeting in extraordinary session held on 14 April 2011 – earmarked exclusively for the exercise of BancoPosta activities (hereinafter, also referred to as "BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital" or "BancoPosta").

#### 2. Profile of the issuer and its corporate mission

Poste Italiane is an integral part of the Country's social and production fabric and represents a unique case in Italy in terms of size, recognizability, capillarity and customer confidence. Indeed, Poste Italiane — with some 129,000 employees, 12,800 post offices, 536 billion euros of assets under management and more than 35 million customers — owns Italy's largest service distribution network; its activities include the delivery of mail and parcels, financial and insurance services, payment systems and mobile phone operations.

In early 2018, the Company presented its five-year strategic plan called *Deliver 2022* (the "Plan"), which is aimed at maximizing the value of its distribution network and tapping the market opportunities offered by the digital transformation by: reorganizing the mail and parcel sector, expanding its financial services, consolidating its leadership in the insurance sector and promoting mobile payment systems. The Plan envisages investments worth 2.8 billion euros and puts its stakes on innovation in the process to guide citizens, companies and the public administration towards the digital economy, offering increasingly innovative cutting-edge services.

Since 27 October 2015, Poste Italiane shares have been listed on the electronic stock exchange organized and managed by Borsa Italiana S.p.A. (Mercato Telematico Azionario, hereinafter also "MTA").

The following table presents the Poste Italiane Group's key earnings and financial figures posted in 2019 in comparison with those of 2018 (stated in millions of euros):

	2019	2018	Variation
Total revenue	11,038	10,864	+1.6%
Operating income	1,774	1,499	+18.4%
Net income	1,342	1,399	-4.0%
	12.31.2019	12.31.2018	
Assets under management	536,098	513,829	+4.3%
Net industrial financial position (Net financial surplus)	815	(1,131)	n/s <sup>(*)</sup>

<sup>(\*)</sup> not significant

#### 3. Corporate governance model – Company Structure

The corporate governance system adopted by Poste Italiane complies with the principles enshrined in the Corporate Governance Code. This system is inspired by CONSOB guidelines and, more generally, by international best practices. It is essentially focused on the creation of value for shareholders over a medium-to-long term, bearing in mind the social significance of the business activities in which the Group is engaged and the consequent need, in the conduct of its business, to appropriately consider all the stakeholders involved.

In keeping with the provisions of Italian legislation on listed companies, the Company is organized as a traditional management and control system with the following salient features:

A Board of Directors tasked with managing the Company;

- A Board of Statutory Auditors responsible for: (i) Monitoring the Company's compliance with the law and corporate bylaws, as well as the principles of proper management in the conduct of its business activities; (ii) Monitoring the adequacy of the Company's organizational structure and its administration and accounting system, as well as the reliability of the latter to correctly report relevant financial information; (iii) Monitoring the financial disclosure process, the annual external audit of the stand-alone and consolidated financial statements, as well as the independence of the audit firm; (iv) Monitoring the overall effectiveness of the risk management and control system; (v) Checking how the corporate governance rules provided for in the Corporate Governance Code are actually implemented; and, lastly, (vi) Monitoring the adequacy of instructions that the Company issues to its subsidiaries, its extraordinary corporate transactions and other significant events, as well as transactions with related and connected parties;
- Shareholders' Meetings, convened in ordinary or extraordinary sessions, empowered, inter alia, to resolve on: (i) The appointment and removal of members of the Board of Directors and the Board of Statutory Auditors, as well as determining their remuneration and responsibilities; (ii) Approval of the financial statements and the allocation of net income; (iii) The purchase and sale of the company's own shares; (iv) Stock-based incentive plans; (v) Amendments to the bylaws (other than those that constitute a mere adjustment to comply with statutory provisions); and (vi) The issue of convertible bonds.

Statutory external auditing of the accounts is the responsibility of a specialist firm from the CONSOB Register – specifically, (i) PriceWaterhouseCoopers S.p.A. for the years 2011-2019, and (ii) Deloitte & Touche S.p.A. for the years 2020-2028, as described in greater detail in part two of this document, (under "External Controls – Statutory external auditors"). The firm was appointed for this purpose by the Shareholders' Meeting, following a reasoned proposal put forward by the Board of Statutory Auditors.

Considering both direct and indirect equity interests, as at 31 December 2019, the Poste Italiane Group encompassed nineteen subsidiaries (of which two are currently being liquidated), all of which are Italian, and four associated companies (one of which is not established in Italy).

#### 4. BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital

In a resolution passed by the extraordinary Shareholders' Meeting held on 14 April 2011, with effect from 2 May 2011, in implementation of article 2, paragraph 17-octies of Legislative Decree no. 225 of 29 December 2010, converted into Law no. 10 of 26 February 2011, the Company constituted BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital to provide services to BancoPosta, as regulated under Presidential Decree no. 144 of 14 March 2001, as amended and supplemented. With a resolution of the Extraordinary Shareholders' Meeting held on 29 May 2018, BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital bylaw was amended, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018, removing the reserve granted to BancoPosta for the supply of electronic money and payment services, as well as all the legal relationships concerning back office and anti-money laundering activities, according to the

authorization no. 0506841/18, issued on 24 April 2018 by the Bank of Italy. The electronic money and payment services business unit was then transferred from Poste Italiane to the subsidiary PostePay S.p.A., which has in turn established a separate ring-fenced entity through which it can operate as an electronic money institution. Contractual rights and authorizations relating to back-office and anti-money laundering activities have, instead, been kept within Poste Italiane but outside BancoPosta.

BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital, is made up of a set of assets and legal relationships dedicated exclusively for the fulfilment of the obligations that arise from the exercise of postal banking activities and constitutes the perimeter for the application of the Bank of Italy's regulations on the prudential supervision of such activities.

The separation of the capital of BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital from Poste Italiane's remaining capital – with Poste Italiane keeping its unitary entity and a corporate status whereby responsibilities are incumbent upon the governing bodies of Poste Italiane itself – has effects at legal and equity level, as well as on its organizational, managerial, and control structure. BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital is consequently able to meet the obligations of keeping an appropriate level of capitalization to cover risk, as well as to operate in keeping with relevant regulations, including Supervisory Regulations. The assets and legal relationships transferred to BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital are allocated to the unit exclusively by Poste Italiane, without any contribution by third parties.

The rules for organizing, managing and controlling how BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital operates are set in the "BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital Regulations", which were approved at the above mentioned Company extraordinary Shareholders' Meeting held on 14 April 2011. These rules were more recently amended by the Shareholders' Meeting in extraordinary session of 31 July 2015 and ultimately on 29 May 2018 and may be consulted on the Company's website (<a href="https://www.posteitaliane.it">www.posteitaliane.it</a>).

## 5. Information on the ownership structure (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 1, TUF) as at the date of this Report

5.1 Share capital structure (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 1, letter a), TUF)

Poste Italiane's share capital consists exclusively of ordinary registered and fully paid-up shares with voting rights at both ordinary and extraordinary Shareholders' Meetings. At the end of 2019 (and as at the date of this Report), Poste Italiane's share capital amounted to 1,306,110,000.00 euros, divided into 1,306,110,000 ordinary shares of no par value, which are listed on the MTA stock exchange.

5.2 Significant shareholdings (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 1, letter c), TUF), shareholder agreements (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 1, letter g), TUF), and management and coordination activities (pursuant to article 2497 ff., as amended, Italian Civil Code)

Based on the entries in Poste Italiane's shareholders' register, the notices sent to CONSOB and received by the Company, and on other available information, as at the date of this Report, the following shareholders own more than 3% of Poste Italiane's share capital:

Significant shareholders	% of share capital
Cassa Depositi e Prestiti S.p.A. (hereinafter, also "CDP")	35.00%
Ministry of the Economy and Finance (hereinafter, also "Ministry")	29.26%

There is no record of any shareholder agreements, as identified in the TUF, concerning the Company's shares. The Company is thus subject to de jure control by the Ministry, which owns a total of 64.26% of its capital, (i) 29.26% directly, and (ii) 35.00% indirectly through CDP, which is also controlled by the Ministry).

The Ministry does not however perform any management or control activity over Poste Italiane, given that the Company adopts its operational decisions in full autonomy and in compliance with the responsibilities vested in its own bodies. This situation is further confirmed by article 19, paragraph 6, Decree Law no. 78/2009 (subsequently converted into Law no. 102/2009), which clarifies that Italian Civil Code rules on the management and coordination of companies do not apply to the Italian government.

5.3 Restrictions on the transfer of securities (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 1, letter b), TUF) and voting rights (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 1, letter f), TUF)

According to the provisions made within the legal framework for privatized companies, – except for the Italian government, public bodies, and entities subject to their respective control – the Company's bylaws provide that no shareholder may own, directly and/or indirectly, Poste Italiane shares amounting to more than 5% of its share capital.

Voting rights attached to shares owned in excess of the aforesaid 5% limit may not be exercised. If this were the case, the voting rights of each of the parties concerned by the share ownership limit will be proportionately reduced, unless prior joint instructions are received from the shareholders concerned. In the event of a failure to comply with this stipulation, resolutions passed by a Shareholders' Meeting may be challenged in court if it is found that the required majority would not have been reached without the votes cast in excess of the aforesaid limit.

According to the regulations on privatizations as subsequently amended, provisions in the corporate bylaws concerning limits on share ownership and restrictions on voting rights lapse if the 5% limit is exceeded following a takeover bid in consequence of which the bidder holds shares amounting to at least 75% of the capital with the right to vote on resolutions regarding the appointment and removal of directors.

5.4 Securities that grant special rights – special rights held by the Italian government (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 1, letter d), TUF)

The Company has not issued any securities that grant special control rights. Poste Italiane's bylaws do not envisage shares with increased voting rights.

Specifically, in accordance with the provisions of Presidential Decrees nos. 85 and 86 of 25 March 2014, the regulations on the special powers of the government in strategic sectors – as part of Decree Law no. 21 of 15 March 2012, converted with amendments by Law no. 56 of 11 May 2012 – do not apply to Poste Italiane, because Poste Italiane and Group companies do not own any of the assets specified as strategic under the aforesaid Presidential Decrees.

5.5 Employee shareholdings, procedures for exercising voting rights (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 1, letter e), TUF)

The TUF recommends that the bylaws of listed companies include provisions aimed at facilitating employee shareholder proxy voting, so as to foster their involvement in decision-making processes at Shareholders' Meetings.

Poste Italiane's bylaws expressly envisage that, in order to facilitate the collection of proxies from the employees of the Company and its subsidiaries who are also shareholders and belong to shareholders' associations that comply with legal requirements, suitable spaces inside Company properties can be made available to the legal representatives of such associations for communication and proxy collection, pursuant to terms and procedures to be agreed from time to time.

5.6 Appointment and replacement of directors (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 1, letter I), TUF) and amendments of the bylaws

Rules regulating the appointment and replacement of directors are discussed in section two of this Report (under "Board of Directors – Current composition and term of office" and "Board of Directors – Appointment and replacement").

As far as the rules for amending the bylaws are concerned, extraordinary Shareholders' Meetings resolve on amendments in accordance with the majorities established by law.

As permitted by law, however, the Company's bylaws vest the Board of Directors with the authority to resolve upon:

- mergers through the incorporation of wholly or at least 90%-owned companies, as well as demergers
  of the same;
- opening and closing of secondary offices;
- reduction of the share capital in case of withdrawal by one or more shareholders;
- updating the bylaws to comply with legal and regulatory provisions;
- transfer of the registered office to another location in Italy.

5.7 Authorizations to increase the share capital and buy back shares (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 1, letter m), TUF)

As at the date of this Report, the Board of Directors does not have a mandate to increase the share capital, nor to issue participatory financial instruments.

The Ordinary Shareholders' Meeting of 29 May 2018 authorized the Board of Directors to purchase and subsequently sell Company's own shares for a maximum of 65.3 million units, representing roughly 5% of the share capital, with a maximum total expenditure of 500 million euros. The purchase of own shares was authorized over a period of eighteen months starting from the date of Meeting's resolution but no time limit was set for the sale of the same shares. Moreover, at the proposal of the Board of Directors, the same Meeting outlined the purpose, terms and conditions of the purchase and sale of its own shares, specifically defining the way of calculating the purchase price and the operating procedures to be used for the purchase transactions. At the date of this report, the Board of Directors has only partially exercised the powers derived from the aforesaid authorization, having purchased — in the period between February 4 and 15, 2019 — 5,257,965 own shares, amounting to 0.40% of the share capital, which result to be the own shares in the Company's portfolio.

#### 5.8 Change-of-control clauses (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 1, letter h), TUF)

#### A) The contract with Cassa Depositi e Prestiti ("CDP") for collecting postal savings

In 2017, on CDP's behalf, Poste Italiane conducted activities associated with the service of collecting postal savings products, using its own organizational means and resources, in particular the entire post office network, pursuant to the terms, conditions and deadlines envisaged under the agreement for collecting postal savings entered into in 2014.

On 14 December 2017, Poste Italiane and CDP entered into a new contract for the postal savings collection service to cover the three-year period 2018-2020, subject to the condition precedent of the agreement between the MEF and CDP for managing Bonds from the series transferred to the Ministry of the Economy and Finance ("MEF").

Both the contract signed in 2014 and the contract signed in 2018 include a clause on the good faith renegotiation of the agreements contained therein should changes occur in the controlling shareholder common to both parties (that is to say, the Ministry of the Economy and Finance), so as to adapt the contents of the contract to cater to the new framework of reference.

#### B) <u>EIB financing arrangements with Poste Italiane</u>

Poste Italiane has the following two financing arrangements in place with EIB:

1) a loan agreement (EIB III) for a maximum amount of 173 million euros, entered into on 22 December 2016 and disbursed on March 12, 2019, in a single tranche of the full amount, set to mature in seven

- years from the date of disbursement, with repayment in a single instalment at maturity, intended to finance investments in IT, logistics and postal services during the period 2017-2019;
- 2) a loan agreement (EIB IV) for a maximum amount of 400 million euros, entered into on 3 October 2019 and disbursed on 18 October 2019, in the full amount, set to mature in seven years from the date of disbursement, with repayment in a single instalment at maturity, intended to finance investments in digitalization and automation during the period 2020-2022.

Both the agreements with the EIB include a change-of-control clause, whereby, if the circumstance that the Ministry of the Economy and Finance ceases to control Poste Italiane, directly or indirectly, pursuant to article 2359, paragraph 1, of the Italian Civil Code, or pursuant to article 93 of the TUF occurs or is about to occur, or EIB reasonably believes that it has occurred or is about to occur, EIB will be entitled to consult Poste Italiane. Following this consultation, EIB will be entitled, as the case may be, to cancel the line of credit granted and/or demand the early repayment of the loan disbursed, together with interest and all other sums accrued or due. Where repayment is demanded, it must take place within 30 days of the request from the EIB.

#### C) Bank and similar lines of credit

Poste Italiane has contracted the following committed revolving credit facilities in the total amount of 2,000 million euros:

- a line of credit of a total of 700 million euros with Banca Nazionale del Lavoro S.p.A. (BNP Paribas Group), in two tranches of 200 million euros and 500 million euros each, with terms of 36 and 60 months, respectively, from the execution date (2 December 2019);
- a line of credit of 700 million euros with Intesa Sanpaolo S.p.A., with a term of 60 months from the execution date (19 November 2019);
- a line of credit of 350 million euros with UniCredit S.p.A., with a term of 36 months from the execution date (2 December 2019);
- a line of credit of 250 million euros with Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, with a term of 18 months, less one day, from the execution date (28 June 2018).

All of these credit lines contained a change-of-control clause, according to which — in the event that the Ministry of the Economy ceased to control Poste Italiane, directly or indirectly, pursuant to and by effect of article 2359 of the Italian Civil Code, paragraph 1, nos. 1 and/or 2, or pursuant to and by effect of article 93 of the TUF — the following would occur: (i) Banca Nazionale del Lavoro and Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, save for a different written agreement between the parties, will be able to cancel the amount available and possibly seek early repayment; (ii) Intesa Sanpaolo and Unicredit will be able to exercise their power of withdrawal.

5.9 Compensation owed to directors in the event of early termination of their employment, including as a consequence of a takeover bid (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 1, letter i), TUF)

Poste Italiane's CEO and General Manager's pay packages envisage compensation in case their employment undergoes early termination.

For more detail on the information required under article 123-bis, paragraph 1, letter i) of the TUF regarding "agreements between the company and its directors... envisaging compensation in the case of resignation or dismissal without just cause or if their employment is terminated following a public takeover bid", please consult the Report on remuneration, publicly available at the Company's headquarters and on its website (www.posteitaliane.it) pursuant to applicable laws and regulations.

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SECTION II: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CODE AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### 6. Board of Directors

6.1 Current composition and term of office (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 2, letter d), TUF)

The Board of Directors in office at the date this Report was drafted, as appointed by the Shareholder's Meeting in ordinary session held on 27 April 2017, consists of the following nine members:

- Maria Bianca Farina, Chairperson;
- Matteo Del Fante, Chief Executive Officer and General Manager;
- Giovanni Azzone;
- Carlo Cerami;
- Antonella Guglielmetti;
- Francesca Isgrò;
- Mimi Kung;
- Roberto Rao;
- Roberto Rossi.

Maria Bianca Farina, Matteo Del Fante, Carlo Cerami, Antonella Guglielmetti, Francesca Isgrò and Roberto Rao were all drawn from the slate presented by the Ministry of the Economy and Finance, which at that time owned a total of 64.26% of the Company's capital: (i) 29.26% held directly, and (ii) 35% held indirectly via CDP (also under the Ministry's control). This list received votes from the majority of the capital represented at the Shareholders' Meeting (around 85.47% of voting capital). Giovanni Azzone, Mimi Kung and Roberto Rossi were drawn from the list presented by a group of fifteen institutional investors (who at the time owned a total of 1.29% of the Company's capital) and received the votes of a minority of capital represented at the Shareholders' Meeting (around 14.45% of voting capital).

The current Board of Directors' term of office expires when the financial statements for 2019 are approved.

Brief professional profiles of the members of the Company's Board of Directors are available in Annex 1 to this Report.

#### 6.2 Appointment and replacement (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 1, letter I), TUF)

According to the provisions of the Company's bylaws, the Board of Directors consists of between five and nine members who are appointed by the Shareholders' Meeting in ordinary session (which determines their

number within these limits) for a period of no longer than three years. Directors may be re-elected after their term of office expires.

Pursuant to current legislation, all directors must possess the requisites of integrity required of the statutory auditors of listed companies and corporate officers at banks. Furthermore, directors must possess additional strict requisites of integrity envisaged under article 14.3 of the Company's bylaws.

Implementing the provisions of law with regard to privatizations and in accordance with provisions subsequently introduced in the Consolidated Law on Finance, the Company's bylaws also envisage that the appointment of the entire Board of Directors take place through a "slate vote" method. This is designed to ensure that minority shareholders designate a total of one-fourth of incoming Directors. In the event that this number is a fraction, it shall be rounded up to the next integer.

Each slate must include at least two candidates who hold the requisites of independence established by law (that is to say, as envisaged for statutory auditors at listed companies). These candidates must be specifically indicated; one of them must appear as the first name on the slate.

Furthermore, slates that present three or more candidates must also include candidates of both genders, as specifically indicated in the Shareholders' Meeting convocation notice. With regard to the Board of Directors election procedure, the Company's bylaws provide for a special "sliding" mechanism on slates: this comes into force in the event that the election does not produce the gender balance required by law.

Slates must list candidates in numerical order. Slates may be presented by shareholders who, individually or together with other shareholders, own at least 1% of the Company's share capital or an amount as established by CONSOB regulations (tangibly, given Poste Italiane's market capitalization as at the date of this Report, the required minimum is at least 1% of the Company's share capital). Slates must be filed at the Company's registered office by those who are presenting them at least twenty-five days prior to the date of the Shareholders' Meeting that is to resolve upon the appointment of members of the Board of Directors. The Company will then publish these slates on its website (<a href="www.posteitaliane.it">www.posteitaliane.it</a>) and make them available to the public at its registered office at least 21 days prior to the date of the aforesaid Shareholders' Meeting, thus ensuring the transparency of the procedure for appointing the Board of Directors.

Disclosures about the candidates' personal and professional qualifications – accompanied by a statement as to whether or not they qualify as independent pursuant to law and/or the Corporate Governance Code – must be filed at the Company's registered office together with the slates, and be promptly published on the Company's website (www.posteitaliane.it).

For the purpose of identifying the directors to be elected, candidates listed on slates that receive a number of votes amounting to less than half the percentage required to present the aforesaid slates shall not be taken into account (i.e. as at the date of this Report, 0.5% of the Company's share capital).

Regarding the appointment of directors who, for whatsoever reason, are not elected through the slate voting system, the Shareholders' Meeting shall make its resolution by the majorities prescribed by law, in such a manner as to ensure in any case:

- The required number of directors who hold the requisites of independence as established under current law and regulations;
- Compliance with the law in terms of gender balance; and
- The principle of proportional representation of minority shareholders on the Board of Directors.

Replacement of directors is regulated by the provisions of law. In addition to the above, the bylaws provide that:

- If one or more of the directors whose office has ended was drawn from a slate that also features candidates who were not elected, the replacement is made by appointing, in numerical order, persons drawn from the slate to which the outgoing director belonged, provided they remain eligible for election and are willing to accept the offer;
- In any event, when replacing directors who are leaving office, the Board of Directors must ensure the presence of the necessary number of directors who comply with the requisites of independence established by law, as well as ensuring compliance with the legal provisions on gender balance;
- If a majority of the directors appointed by a Shareholders' Meeting leave office, the entire Board is deemed to have resigned, and the directors remaining in office must promptly call a Shareholders' Meeting to elect a new Board.

As for the issue of the succession plans for executive directors, in December 2016, following a proposal from the Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee (at that time the "Appointments Committee") pursuant to the recommendations formulated on the basis of the results of the Board review for 2015 (which was conducted at the beginning of 2016), the Board of Directors approved a document entitled "CEO Contingency Succession Plan", which specifies actions to take in case of extraordinary and unforeseeable events that prevent the Chief Executive Officer (Poste Italiane's only executive director, as more specifically outlined in this section of the Report under "6.7 Executive and non-executive directors") from performing his or her duties, in order to assure that the Company is duly managed until a new CEO has been appointed. Subsequently, in March 2018, steps were taken to review the document in question. Now, should the CEO leave his/her post early with respect to the scheduled term of office, the following is envisaged:

- Given the exceptional nature of such an event, and for the time that is strictly necessary, the Chair of the
  Board of Directors shall immediately be empowered to manage the Company with the same powers and
  the same limitations as envisaged previously for the CEO and, within twenty-four hours, call a Board
  meeting to ratify these powers and any consequential requirements;
- Bearing in mind the Company's ownership structure, it is deemed appropriate to seek guidance about replacing the CEO from the shareholders from whose slate the CEO who left his/her post early was drawn.

These guidelines shall be subjected to assessment by the Board of Directors autonomously and in its independent judgement for the purpose of co-opting and appointing a new CEO. To this end, should the need arise, the Board of Directors retains the right to assess the appropriateness of establishing an "ideal" profile of a CEO to submit to the shareholders;

- Should the shareholders from whose slate the CEO who left his/her post early was drawn not provide
  any guidance regarding his/her replacement within thirty days of the position becoming vacant, the
  Board of Directors shall arrange to call a special Shareholders' Meeting in ordinary session with an agenda
  of appointing a new CEO;
- Should the Shareholders' Meeting indicated above not be able to present any candidates, or if none of the candidates presented by the shareholders reach a majority of the capital represented at the Shareholders' Meeting, the Board of Directors shall, in a timely manner, initiate the process of drawing up a list of external and internal candidates, with the support of a consulting firm specialized in this area, from which the Board of Directors itself shall choose the person deemed best-suited to filling the position of CEO, and then proceed to co-opt him/her into the Board, appoint him/her to the office of CEO, and grant him/her the appropriate managerial powers.

In order to assure an appropriately merit-based assessment and a governance process consistent with its corporate values, the Poste Italiane Group has managed its development plans with a view to fostering an approach based on identifying and differentiating the succession profiles of managerial positions.

This process has been designed to ensure adequate organizational oversight by identifying the most strategic positions and, for each such position, drawing up a list of potential successors, alongside the necessary development initiatives to support their managerial advancement, bearing in mind the commitments that the Poste Italiane Group has taken under its strategic plan of reference.

#### 6.3 Role and functions (pursuant to art. 123- bis, paragraph 2, letter d), TUF)

The Company's Board of Directors plays an essential role in corporate governance: it is vested with power over the Company's and Group's strategic and control guidelines. In addition to the powers granted to it by law and the Company bylaws, the Board holds exclusive authority over the most important decisions from an economic and strategic point of view, as well as in terms of their structural influence on management, i.e. functional to monitoring and guiding the Company.

In consideration of its role, the Board of Directors meets regularly, ensuring that it is efficiently organized and works to perform its duties effectively.

In particular, subsequent to resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors on 28 April 2017 and 25 January 2018, as well as pursuant to certain provisions in its bylaws, the Chief Executive Officer is not vested with the powers regarding the kinds of actions listed below, which instead remain the exclusive purview of the Board of Directors in addition to those provided for by the law and the bylaws:

- Orders exceeding 50,000,000 euros for procurement, contracting, and services;
- Agreements (with ministries, local government authorities, etc.) involving commitments exceeding 50,000,000 euros;
- Defining the corporate governance system within the company and the Group, and establishing and defining the functions of Board sub-committees, to which it appoints members and for which it approves organizational rules;
- Defining the Company's organizational structure, upon a proposal by the CEO, who is responsible for providing to the implementation thereof;
- Acquisitions, swaps, and disposals of real estate with a value of more than 5,000,000 euros;
- Approval of the rules governing supplies, sub-contracts, services, and sales;
- Pursuant to a proposal by the Chief Executive Officer, and after a favourable opinion by the Board of Statutory Auditors, appoint and remove the executive in charge of preparing the corporate accounting documents, granting him/her adequate powers and means;
- Pursuant to a proposal by the CEO, designate, replace and dismiss directors and statutory auditors at listed companies in which Poste Italiane has an equity investment but that are not included in the consolidation area;
- Pursuant to a proposal by the CEO, appoint and remove the head of the BancoPosta unit, and make decisions concerning the remuneration of this role;
- Appoint and remove the Head of the internal control function, following a joint proposal by the Chairman
  and the Chief Executive Officer, having consulted the Board of Statutory Auditors, and make decisions
  regarding their remuneration;
- Examine and approve the Company's transactions of strategic, economic, asset-linked or financial relevance ("Transactions of Significant Relevance").
  - It should be noted that, in line with best practice and recommendations in the Corporate Governance Code, the Board of Directors has taken steps to establish the following general criteria for identifying Transactions of Significant Relevance. These are:
  - Operations for amounts in excess of 50,000,000 euros covering: a) The acquisition or disposal of companies or going concerns, assets or other activities; b) The acquisition or disposal of equity interests, including through capital increases; c) Setting up companies and, in any event, entering into partnerships or strategic alliances lasting more than five years, with the exclusion of temporary business associations; d) Granting loans or collateral-backed/personal guarantees; e) Taking out loans and credit facilities, and other expense-generating credit operations; f) Entering into transactions;
  - The issue of financial instruments;

- Merger or demerger operations in which the total assets of the company being absorbed or the assets being demerged are equal to or greater than 50,000,000 euros;
- Operations that require the Company to make public disclosures drafted in compliance with CONSOB provisions.

Operations put in place exclusively with or between companies controlled by Poste Italiane do not qualify as Transactions of Significant Relevance, without prejudice to the Board of Directors' responsibility for transactions that by law and the Company bylaws fall within its responsibility.

Compatibly with the Group's operational practices, and without prejudice to the managerial autonomy each subsidiary company, the Company's Board of Directors shall undertake to make a prior examination of the Transactions of Significant Relevance of subsidiary companies.

As regards Transactions of Significant Relevance, Poste Italiane's executive bodies provide the Board of Directors with adequate information on Poste Italiane's interest in completing the operation, including through subsidiary companies. This shall include feasibility, economic sustainability and compliance with Poste Italiane's strategic plans.

The Company's executive bodies ensure that subsidiaries' directors are aware of the criteria that identify Transactions of Significant Relevance.

Directors perform their duties with full knowledge of the facts and completely independently. They pursue a primary objective of creating value for the Company's shareholders over the medium-to-long term. They are aware of the duties and responsibilities that come with the office they hold and, as is true of Statutory Auditors, the relevant corporate functions keep them abreast of the most important new legislation and regulations affecting the Company and the performance of their duties. Furthermore, they take part in initiatives aimed at increasing their knowledge about the Company and how it works, in order to perform their role even more effectively.

In particular, following the election of the new Board of Directors in April 2017, the Company decided to continue with the practices of the previous Board and held a special induction program aimed at providing directors with appropriate knowledge of the business areas in which the Group operates, the corporate dynamics and their evolution, market trends, and the relevant legal and regulatory framework. Statutory Auditors also attended this programme.

#### 6.4 Board Meetings

The following table shows the calendar of meetings held by the Board of Directors in 2019.

J	F	М	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	<b>*</b>		•	•
Total											11

Average duration	180 min
Meetings scheduled for 2020	12 (of which 3 already held)

Directors duly participated. Meetings were also attended by the Board of Statutory Auditors and a magistrate representing the Italian Court of Auditors.

In 2019, the heads of corporate functions in charge of the various items on the agenda were duly invited to attend Board Meetings and, at the request of the Chief Executive Officer, provided in-depth information on the issues under discussion.

#### 6.5 Chairperson

In April 2017, the Shareholders' Meeting appointed Maria Bianca Farina as Chair of Poste Italiane's Board of Directors.

In performance of her role as coordinator of Board activities and as a proactive guide who ensures that the Board functions properly, the Chairperson calls Board Meetings, establishes the agenda, presides over meetings, and strives to ensure that – except in cases of urgency and necessity – documentation regarding items on the agenda is made available to Directors and to the Statutory Auditors adequately in advance of the date of each meeting, in accordance with the provisions specifically made in the rules of procedure on its functioning adopted by the Board of Directors in 2015.

In this regard, as in preceding years, the practice adopted in 2019 was to generally distribute documentation – in the respect of the confidentiality provisions adopted by the Company, without compromising the completeness, usability and timeliness of the information provided to the directors and statutory auditors – along with the notice that an individual meeting was being called, which was sent out five days in advance. In 2019 this period was duly observed.

The Chairperson also presides over Shareholders' Meetings and is empowered to be the Company's legal representative.

In addition to the powers envisaged by law and under the Company's bylaws regarding how corporate bodies operate (Shareholders' Meetings and the Board of Directors), and as the Company's legal representation, on 28 April 2017 the Board of Directors resolved to vest the Chairperson with the following powers:

#### **Internal Control**:

- Supervise the internal control function, liaising with the Board of Directors, to which the aforesaid function reports hierarchically;
- In agreement with the Chief Executive Officer, supervise the Guidelines on the Company's Internal Control
   Function.

#### Institutional relations:

 In agreement and coordination with the Chief Executive Officer, look after institutional relations with the Parliament, the Government, Ministries, institutional bodies and, more in general, with the authorities responsible for supervision and control.

#### 6.6 Chief Executive Officer

On 28 April 2017, the Board of Directors appointed Matteo Del Fante as the Chief Executive Officer (and General Manager), vesting him with full powers to manage the Company, with the exception of powers otherwise entrusted by law, the Company's bylaws, and resolutions taken by the Board of Directors on 28 April 2017 and 25 January 2018. Please consult "6.3 Role and functions" in this section of the Report for a list of the topics reserved for the Board of Directors pursuant to this latter resolution.

By way of example, the Chief Executive Officer:

- Legally represents the Company;
- Makes decisions regarding litigation involving the Company, whether as claimant or respondent, as well
  as in out-of-court settlements;
- Arranges the preparation of the Company's long-term plan and the annual budget for submittal to the Board of Directors for examination and approval;
- In agreement and coordination with the Chairperson of the Board, looks after institutional relations with the Parliament, the Government, Ministries, institutional bodies and more in general with the authorities responsible for supervision and control;
- Establishes the strategy and content of internal and external communications, as well as the guidelines and key messages to present as the Company's position, including in institutional relations;
- Arranges how the Company is organized and appoints its executive staff;
- Defines general documents on hiring procedures, as well as employees' legal and earnings status;
- Within the scope of his/her authority, determines the powers and roles based on special proxies to assign to executive personnel for the Company's routine management;
- Proposes strategic guidelines and directives for the Group's Companies to the Board of Directors;
- Makes arrangements to set up companies, take on and dispose of equity interests, companies and going concerns with a value of up to 50,000,000 euros;
- Presents proposals to the Board of Directors regarding the exercise of voting rights at extraordinary
   Shareholders' Meetings of subsidiaries and related companies;

- Designates, replaces and dismisses Directors and Statutory Auditors at controlled entities other than those for which the Board of Directors holds responsibility;
- Awards contracts not exceeding 50,000,000 euros for procurement, contracting and services, and complies with related obligations envisaged under in-house and external regulations at every stage of the entire process, from the preliminary to the final stage;
- Enters into agreements for amounts not exceeding 50,000,000 euros (with ministries, local government bodies, etc.);
- Approves real estate sales worth no more than 5,000,000 euros;
- Makes decisions regarding purchases, swaps, and disposals of real estate worth no more than 5,000,000 euros.

The Chief Executive Officer is also empowered as the Executive in charge of the internal control and risk management system in compliance to the Corporate Governance Code. For a detailed description of these duties, please see the "Guidelines on the Internal Control and Risk Management System", which is available on the Company's website.

In a timely manner, the Chief Executive Officer reports to the Board of Directors and the Board of Statutory Auditors on the Company's operations, its general operational performance, its outlook, and transactions carried out by the Company and its subsidiaries that have the greatest impact on their income statements, cash flow, and balance sheets, on at least a quarterly basis, and in any case during Board meetings.

#### 6.7 Executive and non-executive directors

Executive and non-executive directors sit on the Board of Directors.

In accordance with Corporate Governance Code recommendations, the following personnel are considered to be executive directors:

- The Chief Executive Officer of the Company (or of strategically-significant Group companies), as well as the Chair of the same in the event that he or she is vested with individual managerial powers or plays a specific role in drafting corporate strategies;
- Directors who hold executive positions at the Company, in strategically-significant Group companies or in the controlling entity, if this position also regards the Company.

Directors to whom none of the foregoing categories apply are considered to be non-executive.

Based on an analysis performed by the Board of Directors in January 2020, with the exception of the Chief Executive Officer/General Manager, all of the other members of the Board (Maria Bianca Farina, Giovanni Azzone, Carlo Cerami, Antonella Guglielmetti, Francesca Isgrò, Mimi Kung, Roberto Rao, and Roberto Rossi) qualify as non-executive directors.

The number, expertise, authoritativeness and the time availability of non-executive directors are all thus appropriate for ensuring that their judgement may significantly influence the decisions that the Board reaches.

Non-executive directors bring their specific expertise to the Board's discussions, facilitating the examination of issues under debate by offering different perspectives, and consequently fostering the adoption of carefully-considered and well-informed resolutions that meet the Company's interests.

#### 6.8 Independent directors

In the month of August 2018, the Board of Directors – at the proposal of the Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee – outlined guidelines containing the criteria and procedures for non-executive directors to evaluate the possession of the independence requirements set forth in the Corporate Governance Code (specifying that the aforesaid criteria can also be usefully taken as the point of reference in evaluating the possible possession of the independence requirements in compliance with applicable legislation).

In particular, the aforesaid guidelines (i) set, on an ex ante basis, quantitative thresholds for the evaluation of the significance of possible commercial, financial or professional relations that the single director might have with the Company or its subsidiaries or with the entities that control it; and (ii) lay down in great detail some of the interpretation criteria relative to other cases of independence mentioned in the Corporate Governance Code.

In addition to the foregoing, from a procedural perspective, the guidelines set out that the Board of Directors periodically evaluate independence criteria:

- (i) on the basis of a Board review conducted by every one of the non-executive directors on their own personal position (formalized through an ad hoc self-declaration document);
- (ii) considering all the information on the emission of purchase orders in favour of the parties concerned that is accessible by querying the corporate information systems;
- (iii) upon the release of a specific opinion by the Appointments and Corporate Governance, which is called on to investigate the issue to the benefit of the same Board;
- (iv) through a resolution taken collegiately with the abstention, in rotation, of the single members whose position was under scrutiny.

On the basis of the criteria and procedure laid down in the guidelines described above, in January 2020 the Board of Directors thus further ascertained that the seven directors indicated above – i.e., Giovanni Azzone, Carlo Cerami, Antonella Guglielmetti, Francesca Isgrò, Mimi Kung, Roberto Rao, and Roberto Rossi – also qualify under the independence requirements provided for under the Corporate Governance Code as well as

the independence requirements envisaged by law (particularly, the Consolidated Law on Finance) for Statutory Auditors at listed companies. Both the requirements set out in the Corporate Governance Code and those laid down by law are separately outlined in Table 1, as attached to this Report. With respect to the Chair of the Board of Directors, Maria Bianca Farina, it should be noted that she was recognized to be in possession of the independence requirements provided for by law but not of the independence requirement envisaged in the Corporate Governance Code, as this does not make it possible to consider the Chair of the Board to be independent insofar as the Chair is a "high-ranking official" of the Company.

In February 2020, the Board of Statutory Auditors verified that the Board of Directors, in the performance of the above-mentioned evaluations, correctly applied the criteria set out in the Corporate Governance Code and followed a transparent procedure that enabled the Board to come to know of the relationships that could be considered relevant for the same evaluation process.

Independence of judgement characterizes the work of all Directors, executive or non-executive. However, a sufficient presence (both in numbers and in competences) of directors who qualify as independent according to the foregoing definition and who play a significant role on the Board and its sub-committees is deemed to be a good way to ensure the right balance for pursuing the interests of all shareholders.

The independent directors held a meeting without the other directors, as recommended by the Corporate Governance Code, on 19 February 2020, under the coordination of Roberto Rao. On that occasion, the independent directors exchanged views on the Board of Directors' operating procedures, with regard to the organization, preparation and timescales of the circulation of documentation in support of the Board's proceedings, and the role of the Board in the most important strategic and management matters. With regard to the organization of the Board of Directors and Board committees' meetings, the independent directors expressed a wish that - particularly as concerns committee meetings in which a higher amount of documentation has to be examined - such meetings might be scheduled several days in advance of Board meetings. In addition, in the light of the results of the board review process (see, in this section of the document, paragraph 6.10: "Assessment of workings of the Board of Directors and Board Committees"), the independent directors agreed on the importance of integrating sustainability into the Company's business and into the formulation of remuneration strategies and policies that also take account of the importance of factors that may affect value creation over the long term. In this connection, the independent directors examined the division of responsibilities among the internal committees, concluding that it was advisable to assess whether to entrust another internal committee with specific responsibility for sustainability (including with the aim of fostering greater traceability of processes relating to this area of activity), also in consideration of the significant workload currently assigned to the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee (even though the two issues are thoroughly intertwined). Specifically, without prejudice to the fact that it will fall under the duties of the upcoming Board of Directors to decide on the matter, among the scenarios considered, a mention has been made to the possibility of concentrating responsibility for remuneration and

appointments within a single committee, while leaving responsibility for the corporate governance and sustainability to another committee. The independent directors also conducted several assessments of the method of application of the criteria established in the guidelines (adopted in August 2018) on the procedure for periodic evaluation of independence requirements by non-executive directors, with particular regard to the qualitative and quantitative criteria set out therein, observing that they essentially corresponded with the recommendations on the matter laid down in the new Corporate Governance Code issued by Borsa Italiana on 31 January 2020. Lastly, the independent directors commented on the role of lead independent director, a role that they continued to consider not to be necessary to fill at that time, given: (i) A lack of the pre-conditions that, pursuant to the Corporate Governance Code, require the appointment of such a figure, bearing in mind that at Poste Italiane the Chairperson of the Board of Directors does not hold the role of lead manager in charge of company operations (Chief Executive Officer), nor does he/she hold a controlling equity stake in the Company; (ii) the high number of independent directors sitting on the Board; (iii) the frank and constructive dialogue characteristic of Board Meetings; and (iv) the excellent relations among the independent directors, also with regards to the circulation of information and the management of activities in preparation for Board activities. The independent Directors reserved the right to hold further independentdirector only meetings.

#### 6.9 Limits on the number of offices held by directors

Directors accept and maintain their office if they believe that they can dedicate the time necessary to diligently perform their duties, taking into account both the number and the nature of the offices they hold on the Boards of Directors and the Boards of Statutory Auditors at other companies of significant size, as well as efforts required by other professional activities and offices that they hold at associations.

In this regard, it should be noted that in September 2015 the Board of Directors approved a policy—formalized in an ad hoc document — concerning the maximum number of offices that members may hold on Boards of Directors and Boards of Statutory Auditors at other companies of significant size, in order to ensure that the individuals concerned have sufficient time to effectively perform their role within the Poste Italiane Board of Directors.

In accordance with Corporate Governance Code recommendations, the aforesaid policy considers as significant solely offices held on the management and supervisory boards of the following kinds of companies:

- (i) Companies whose shares are listed on regulated markets in Italy and abroad;
- (ii) Other companies, Italian or international, whose shares are not listed on regulated markets but that have assets exceeding 1,000 million euros and/or revenues in excess of 1,700 million euros, based on their latest approved accounts.

In accordance with Corporate Governance Code recommendations, the policy adopted by the Board of Directors establishes the following:

- 1) For the Poste Italiane CEO: (i) In principle, unless a reasoned assessment to the contrary is provided by the Board of Directors, it is not permissible for the company's Chief Executive Officer to hold any position as CEO at the companies indicated under item (a) above; (ii) At most, a maximum of two directorships and/or positions of standing auditor at the companies indicated under item (a) above is permissible, or 5 directorships and/or auditorships at the companies indicated under item (b) above;
- 2) For Poste Italiane directorships other than the CEO, the number of positions held at corporate or auditing bodies belonging to other companies pursuant to items (a) and b) may not exceed 5.

Calculation of the number of positions held pursuant to items (1) and (2) above does not take into account any position directly and/or indirectly held at subsidiary companies or at companies associated with Poste Italiane, notwithstanding any assessment to the contrary by the Board of Directors, either as a result of the business, size or complexity of the position, or for any other reason, given that fulfilling the role of director requires significant efforts, including but not limitedly to time.

According to the information provided by the Company's directors, in implementation of the aforesaid policy, as well as checks carried out by the Board of Directors in January 2020, the number of offices currently held by each of Poste Italiane's directors on the Boards of Directors or Boards of Statutory Auditors at other companies of significant size is compatible with the limit prescribed under the aforesaid policy.

# 6.10 Assessment of workings of the Board of Directors and Board Committees

In early 2020, the Board of Directors carried out a Board Review: an assessment of the size, composition, and functioning of the Board and its committees, in accordance with the most advanced international corporate governance practices and as recommended in the Corporate Governance Code, with the assistance of Management Search (a company specialized in the sector which, in FY 2019, was not entrusted other assignments by the Company). The review was also conducted in accordance with Supervisory Regulatory provisions. This board review follows a similar initiative carried out by the Board of Directors in the first half of 2015 – at that time on a voluntary basis, given that the Company was not yet listed – and subsequently in 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019.

The self-assessment process commenced in January and ended in February 2020. The consulting company interviewed each individual director and went on to analyse how the Board of Directors had operated during FY 2019.

The self-assessment process commenced in January and ended in February 2020. The abovementioned consulting company interviewed each individual director and went on to analyse how the Board of Directors had operated during FY 2019.

The interviews, which were also extended to the members of the Board of Statutory Auditors, in the capacity of observers, concerned: (i) the structure and composition of the Board of Directors; (ii) the organization and conduct of Board meetings, with particular regard to the completeness and promptness of the related information streams and decision-making processes; (iii) the frequency, content and utility of induction activities; (iv) the role played by the chairperson and relations between the Company's Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer and top management; (v) the Board of Directors' participation in the process of formulating the Group's strategic objectives; (vi) the efficiency and efficacy of the internal control and risk management system; and (vii) the composition and functioning of internal committees and the efficacy of their activity in support of the Board of Directors.

Within the framework of the board review process, the consulting firm also performed benchmarking with other major Italian listed companies with regard to the methods of performance of the board review, the level of transparency in disclosing the results of this process to the market and the composition of the Board of Directors.

The results of the board review for fiscal year 2019 continue to provide a positive picture of the functioning of the Board of Directors and its internal committees, indicating that these bodies are operating effectively and in accordance with the Company's internal rules and procedures and best practices in the area of corporate governance.

The results of the board review also reflect the efficacy of the work done by the Board of Directors as a body over the course of their three-year term of office with regard to contributing to achieving the Group's overall results and presenting the following strengths in particular: (i) an appropriate balance within the Board of Directors in terms of professional expertise, seniority of service and diversity of its members by age and gender; (ii) the quality and completeness of the pre-meeting documentation, which permitted informed, educated decisions; (iii) the role played by the chairperson in managing meetings and coordinating the activities of the Board of Directors, which ensured that it functioned properly and facilitated dialogue; (iv) the constructive relationship between the Chief Executive Officer and the Board of Directors; in particular, the Chief Executive Officer - whom the directors acknowledged had shown an excellent ability to manage and develop the business - exercised his delegated powers decisively, ensuring, beyond his own aptitudes, clarity in the presentation to the Board of Directors of his decisions and information on the performance of the Company and Group; (v) the adequacy of the time devoted by the Board of Directors to discussing all the issues relevant to the Company and Group, including aspects of long-term strategy; (vi) the favourable climate within the Board of Directors and high level of participation in meetings by the directors, including the contribution of their various professional competencies to the debate; (vii) the adequacy of the level of interaction of the Board of Directors with the Company's top management, shown by the constant participation in Board meetings of key management personnel; (viii) the efficacy of the top management's presentations in offering the Board of Directors a valid contribution for the further exploration of the most

important issues; (ix) the quality of the preliminary activity performed by internal committees and the support provided by them for the Board of Directors' work; and (x) the support provided to the Board of Directors' activity by the company department tasked with corporate secretarial services and the quality of the minutes taken by this department during both board and internal committee sessions.

The directors' remarks also provide food for thought for the upcoming Board of Directors that will be useful in helping it discharge its duties effectively:

- continuing the induction programme, focusing it on matters of common interest and calibrating it in relation to the future professional characteristics present within the Board of Directors;
- increasing the level of both information streams to the Board of Directors and its involvement in all events and circumstances of interest to the Group;
- arranging for more time to be devoted to discussion with the Board of the most important of strategic and business management issues;
- assessing whether to entrust another internal committee with responsibility for sustainability, in view of
  the commitment of the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee, even though the two issues are
  closely intertwined.

In conclusion, on the basis of the evidence collected and the benchmarking activity carried out by Management Search, it may be stated that the Board of Directors of Poste Italiane is acting in accordance with international governance best practices and that the Company is among the top companies in the sample group of reference due to the attention devoted to the board review process and disclosure of the results of this process.

Moreover, considering that the term of office of the Board of Directors is set to expire when the 2019 financial statements are approved, in application of the Corporate Governance Code, and further considering the results of the self-assessment process summarized above, the Board of Directors has decided to present the shareholders with its views on the size and composition of the new Board. On this subject, the Board of Directors concluded that the quantitative composition of the outgoing Board is to be regarded as suitable to ensuring an appropriate balance of competencies and experiences, and that its mix of competencies is in line with the Group's needs and may potentially be reinforced to include managerial personnel with experience in insurance, banking and finance, including at an international level, and with specific competencies in risk management and digital innovation.

# 6.11 Diversity policies (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 2, letter d)-bis, TUF)

In February 2018, the Board of Directors adopted a policy regarding diversity on Poste Italiane's administrative and control bodies (hereinafter, also the "Policy"). This policy provides non-binding indications on topics such as, by way of example, Board members' age, gender, ethnic belonging, geographical provenance, education and career path.

The Policy's purpose is to define criteria that ensure the Board of Directors has a qualitative and quantitative mix that is functional to effectively fulfilling the tasks and responsibilities allocated to the management body, in part through the inclusion of members who provide sufficient diversity in terms of the competencies required to effectively understand current business, risks and long-term opportunities associated with company activities.

The Policy was drafted to take into account the nature and complexity of the company's business, the social and environmental context within which the Company operates, the experience the Board has gained from its activities thus far, how the Board and its sub-committees function, and the outcomes of self-assessment reviews conducted over recent years.

The Policy is addressed in particular to individuals involved in the process of selecting and appointing members to the Company's Board of Directors. Specifically:

- Shareholders who, pursuant to law and the Company's bylaws, wish to present slates of candidates for appointment to the Board of Directors;
- The Shareholders' Meeting called upon to appoint the Board of Directors;
- The Company's Board of Directors and shareholders, should it become necessary, during the Board's term of office, to arrange for the replacement of a member of the Board, pursuant to article 2386 of the Italian Civil Code.

The Policy highlights the following issues:

- With regard to the size of the Board of Directors, it is believed that the current number of directors set at nine (in other words, the maximum number permissible under current company bylaws) allows for an adequate balance of the competences and experience required by the Company and reflects the Group's complex nature; the same applies to the Board's sub-committees;
- In respect of Board members' professionalism and competencies, it was considered that the current Board of Directors features individuals who have skills in the following sectors: (i) Postal services and logistics services; (ii) Banking and finance; (iii) Insurance; (iv) Legal; and (v) Sustainability. The presence of diversified and complementary competencies and experience fosters dialogue and ensures that the Board functions efficiently.
  - It was further hoped that all directors possess sufficiently adequate knowledge of the English language to ensure that they correctly understand written material and, consequently, are able to make resolutions directly regarding documents written in the English language;
- In relation to age, seniority and gender diversity, it was considered that the Board of Directors: (i) Should be made up of individuals of different ages, generations and seniority in their role, to ensure that the right balance is struck between experience, continuity, innovation and appetite for risk; and (ii) Adequate representation of both genders must be ensured in accordance with what is currently envisaged in applicable law and the company's bylaws;

With regard to directors' geographical provenance and international experience, notwithstanding Poste
Italiane's strong domestic presence, it is recommended that the Board feature individuals who have
educational and professional experience from an international framework, functional to further raising
the quality of Board debate.

The Policy also refers to members of the control body, specifying that all members of the Board of Statutory Auditors (standing and alternative auditors) must be registered statutory auditors; with respect to gender, in accordance with the current provisions of applicable law and the company's bylaws, one third of the members who sit on the Board of Statutory Auditors must come from the "less represented" gender which, based on past experience, generally corresponds to women.

Members of the Board of Statutory Auditors must also qualify as holding the requisites of integrity and independence envisaged under applicable law, Supervisory Provisions and the Company's bylaws.

#### 6.12 Remuneration

Remuneration of members of the Board of Directors is established by Shareholders' Meetings. Having heard a proposal from the Remuneration Committee, the Board itself is responsible for establishing additional remuneration for members of Board sub-committees that are set up to advise and make proposals to the Board. The overall remuneration of the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer/General Manager is also decided by the Board of Directors, having heard a proposal from the Remuneration Committee, and after consulting the Board of Statutory Auditors.

For a full description of the structure and amount of said remuneration for 2019, please consult the Report on Remuneration, made available to the public at the Company's registered office and on its website (www.posteitaliane.it) by the deadline prescribed by law.

# 7. Committees (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 2, letter d), TUF)

# 7.1 Organizational and operational rules

In April 2017, after the Board of Directors was appointed by the Shareholders' Meeting at its April 27, 2017 session, it established the following four committees staffed by Board members (the allocation of responsibilities was, at that time, the same as during the Board's previous term of office):

- The Control and Risk Committee;
- The Remuneration Committee;
- The Appointments Committee; and
- The Related Parties and Connected Parties Committee.

Subsequently, in February 2018, the Board of Directors took steps to augment the responsibilities of these committees as follows:

- The Control and Risk Committee was allocated tasks regarding sustainability. At that time, it was also renamed Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee (for greater detail on the functions allocated to this committee, please see the more detailed description in this section of the document, under "7.2 Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee");
- The Appointments Committee was allocated tasks regarding corporate governance. At that time, it was also renamed Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee (for greater detail on the functions allocated to this committee, please see the more detailed description in this section of the document, under "7.4 Appointments and Corporate Governance");

At the time of writing this Report, the Board of Directors has the following four sub-committees:

- The Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee;
- The Remuneration Committee;
- The Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee; and
- The Related Parties and Connected Parties Committee.

Ad hoc organizational regulations approved by the Board of Directors govern the composition, tasks, and functioning of these committees.

In particular, the organizational rules provide that:

- The Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee, the Remuneration Committee and the Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee be composed of non-executive directors, the majority of whom (including the Chair of each committee) independent;
- The Related Parties and Connected Parties Committee solely feature independent directors as members. Within the limits of the duties assigned to each of them, the aforesaid committees are authorized to access information and corporate functions necessary for carrying out their respective tasks. They may also draw upon external consultants at the Company's expense, within the limits of the overall budget approved for all committees by the Board of Directors. In this regard, it should be noted that, in the event that the Remuneration Committee intends to draw upon the services of a consultant in order to obtain information on market practices regarding remuneration, it must beforehand check that the consultant is not in a situation that could actually compromise their independence of judgement. Similarly, in the event that the Related Parties and Connected Parties Committee wishes to consult with experts of its choosing who have acknowledged professional qualifications and expertise on topics regarding transactions with related parties submitted to the Committee for examination the Committee must check that they are independent and are not subject to conflicts of interest.

Each Committee is responsible for appointing a Secretary, chosen from the corporate function responsible for handling corporate affairs, who is assigned the task of helping the Chair of each Committee to organize and hold meetings and draft the minutes of such meetings. The Chairs of each Committee shall report to the Board of Directors on the meetings of their respective Committees on an annual basis, and in any event each time that it is deemed necessary. Additionally, at least once every six months, when the Board approves the annual and half-year financial reports, the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee shall report to the Board of Directors on the activities carried out by the internal control and risk management system, and its adequacy for the task.

The Board of Statutory Auditors shall attend these meetings.

Upon invitation by the respective Committee Chairs, Committee meetings may also be attended by other members of the Board of Directors, the magistrate representing the Court of Auditors with the mandate to control, representatives of corporate functions, or third parties whose presence may upgrade the Committee's performance of its duties. The Chair of the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer may also attend Committee meetings.

Moreover, meetings by the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee are normally attended by the head of Poste Italiane's "Audit" function, as well as – for issues regarding BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital's activities – the heads of BancoPosta's control functions. Similarly, for matters regarding BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital, Remuneration Committee meetings are normally attended by the head of BancoPosta's "Risk Management" function. No director may attend Meetings of the Remuneration Committee when proposals for the Board of Directors are discussed regarding their own remuneration, unless such proposals regard the members of Board sub-committees in general.

# 7.2 Audit, Risk and Sustainability Committee

# Composition

In 2019 (and the date of this Report), the Risk, Control and Sustainability Committee was composed by: Antonella Guglielmetti (acting as Chair), Giovanni Azzone, Francesca Isgrò and Roberto Rossi.

All of the members are non-executive directors and possess the requisites of independence. As currently composed, the Committee has the required number of members with the specific requisites of professional competence required by both the Supervisory Regulations and the Corporate Governance Code.

### **Duties**

The Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee is a body that, through an appropriate preparatory process, is tasked with assisting the Board of Directors in making evaluations and decisions regarding the Company's internal control and risk management system, including approving periodical financial reports.

In particular, the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee expresses prior opinions on:

- a) Drawing up guidelines for the internal control and risk management system, ensuring that the main risks faced by Poste Italiane and its subsidiaries are correctly identified and adequately measured, managed, and monitored;
- b) Determining the degree to which the risks referred to under a) above are consistent with the management of Poste Italiane in accordance with the strategic objectives it has identified;
- c) On an at least annual basis, assessing the adequacy of the internal control and risk management system with respect to Poste Italiane's characteristics and the risk profile it has assumed, as well as the effectiveness of the aforesaid system;
- d) On an at least annual basis, after consulting the Board of Statutory Auditors and the Chief Executive Officer, approving the audit plan prepared by the head of Poste Italiane's "Internal Control" function;
- e) The way in which the Corporate Governance Report describes the key features of the internal control and risk management system, including assessment of the system's adequacy;
- f) Assessing the results presented by the external audit firm in any letter of suggestions it may write, as well as in its report on the key issues revealed by the external audit;
- g) Making a proposal for submittal to the Board of Directors regarding the appointment and removal of the Head of Poste Italiane's "Internal Control" function and, for this purpose, drawing on the assistance of the Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee (for a description of the duties of this committee, please see "7.4 Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee Duties" in this section of the Report), a Board of Directors' sub-committee, as well as on the remuneration assigned to them in accordance with the Remuneration Committee (for a description of the duties of this committee, please see "7.3 Remuneration Committee Duties"), and on the adequacy of resources assigned to them for performing their duties.

In addition to the foregoing, the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee is tasked with the following advisory and proactive duties to assist the Board of Directors:

- a) Together with the Executive in charge of preparing the corporate accounting documents, and after consulting the external auditing firm and the Board of Statutory Auditors, evaluating that accounting principles have been correctly adopted and are consistent with the purposes of preparing the various periodical financial reports;
- b) Expressing opinions on specific issues pertaining to identifying the main corporate risks;
- c) Examining periodic assessment reports of the internal control and risk management system, as well as reports of particular significance prepared by Poste Italiane's "Internal Control" function;
- d) Monitoring the autonomy, adequacy, effectiveness, and efficiency of Poste Italiane's "Internal Control" function;
- e) Performing additional tasks as assigned to it by the Board of Directors.

From February 2018 onwards, the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee was also given the task of assisting the Board of Directors by providing proactive and advisory preliminary functions in making evaluations and decisions regarding sustainability, in particular:

- (i) Supervising sustainability-related issues associated with the exercise of business activities, and the way that they interact with all stakeholders;
- (ii) Undertaking a prior examination of the general structure of the Sustainability Report and its content layout, as well as the exhaustiveness and transparency of disclosures made through this report, offering a prior opinion to the Board of Directors at the meeting called to approve this document;
- (iii) Formulating proposals regarding the Group's environmental and social strategy, annual objectives and targets to reach, monitoring their implementation over time;
- (iv) Overseeing the development of sustainability, including in the light of international orientations and principles, and monitoring the Group's position.

The Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee may also request that Poste Italiane's "Internal Control" function to perform checks on specific operating areas, giving notice at such time to the Chair of the Board of Statutory Auditors, the Board of Directors, and the Chief Executive Officer, with the exception of cases where the request specifically regards the actions thereof.

Furthermore, with regard to the business conducted by the Company through BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital, the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee performs tasks to assist the Board of Directors vis-à-vis internal risks and controls, with particular regard to all activities instrumental and necessary to enabling the Board to reach a correct and effective determination of the risk appetite framework (hereinafter, "RAF") and policies for governing risks.

Within this framework, the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee:

- a) Expresses an advance opinion, drawing upon input from the Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee, on proposals to appoint the heads of BancoPosta's "Internal Audit", "Risk Management", and "Compliance" functions;
- b) Expresses an advance opinion on proposals regarding the removal of the heads of BancoPosta's "Internal Audit", "Risk Management", and "Compliance" functions, as well as on the adequacy of the resources assigned to these functions for performing their duties;
- c) Reviews in advance activity plans (including the audit plan), annual reports, and periodical reporting by BancoPosta's control functions addressed to the Board of Directors;
- d) Reviews in advance the annual ICAAP report and the associated report by the internal audit function addressed to the Board of Directors;
- e) Assesses and expresses opinions to the Board of Directors on compliance with the principles that apply to the internal control system and corporate organization, as well as the requirements with which BancoPosta's control functions must comply, bringing to the Board of Directors' attention any weak

points and consequent corrective actions to be promoted. To this end, it assesses the proposals presented by the head of the "BancoPosta" function and the Chief Executive Officer;

- f) Contributes assessments and opinions to setting any corporate policy to outsource BancoPosta's control functions, in particular decisions regarding the allocation of control-related activities concerning BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital to functions at Poste Italiane;
- g) Checks that BancoPosta's control functions properly comply with the instructions and guidelines established by the Board of Directors and, to this end, assists the latter in preparing the documents referred to in Bank of Italy Circular no. 263 of December 27, 2006, Title V, Chapter 7 that specify the tasks and responsibilities of the various control bodies and functions, information flows among the various functions, between the latter and corporate bodies, and procedures for coordination and cooperation in the event the areas of control overlap or synergies develop;
- h) Identifies all additional risk-related information flows that it should receive (subject, format, frequency, etc.);
- Assesses the correct usage of accounting principles in preparing the separate report for BancoPosta Ringfenced Capital, and to this end cooperates with the Executive in charge of preparing Poste Italiane's corporate accounting documents and with the Board of Statutory Auditors;
- j) Performs additional tasks as assigned to it by the Board of Directors.

In the event that BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital has entirely or partially outsourced important operating tasks or control activities to Poste Italiane, the Committee shall in advance examine the annual report – which must be approved by the Board of Directors and submitted to the Bank of Italy – in terms of what checks have been carried out on the activities BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital has allocated to Poste Italiane functions, the results thereof, any shortcomings to emerge, and what measures should be adopted to eliminate the identified shortcomings.

Furthermore, with regard to its duties concerning risk control and management activities conducted by the Company through BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital, the Committee shall assist the Board of Directors:

- a) In defining and approving strategic orientations and risk management policies. Within the RAF framework, the Committee provides assessments and proposals necessary for the Board of Directors to establish and approve the corporate risk appetite and risk tolerance;
- b) In verifying the correct implementation of strategies, and management policies for risks and the RAF;
- c) In establishing policies and the processes for assessing corporate activities, including checking that the price and conditions of Poste Italiane's transactions with its BancoPosta customers are consistent with its business model and risks strategies.

The Committee may request that BancoPosta's control functions perform checks on specific operating areas, concomitantly informing the Chairman of the Board of Statutory Auditors, the Board of Directors, and the

Chief Executive Officer, except in cases where the subject of the requested check specifically regards the activity thereof.

Lastly, without prejudice to the powers of the Remuneration Committee, the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee ascertains that the incentives underlying the BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital's remuneration and incentive system are consistent with the RAF.

### Activities conducted by the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee in 2019

The following chart lists the meetings held by the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee in 2019.

J	F	M	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
•	<b>*</b>	* *	<b>*</b>	•	•	•		<b>*</b>		•	•
Total										11	
Average duration										195 min	

At these meetings, which were normally attended by all members (as well as members of the Board of Statutory Auditors, who were kept abreast of the fact that all these meetings were held jointly with the control body), among other things, the Committee:

- Examined and reviewed the 2019 Budget, first analysing the macroeconomic scenario of reference;
- Examined the initial elements of the preliminary 2018 results;
- Examined the Company's draft financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2018 and the consolidated financial statements for year ended 31 December 2018;
- Examined the Report of the Executive in charge of drafting the company's accounting documents as at
   31 December 2018 and 30 June 2019;
- Received a prospectus on spread scenarios;
- Conducted assessments of the presentation of Poste Italiane's tax risk assessment to be appended to the application for enrolment in the collaborative compliance regime;
- Examined the Performance Share LTIP Incentive Plan (first cycle 2019 2021 and second cycle 2020 2022), without formulating any observations with regard to the consistency of the incentives underlying the BancoPosta RFC remuneration and incentive system with the RAF;
- Conducted further inquiries into the content of the 2018 annual report and 2019 plan of activity of the Group's Anti-money Laundering Function, as well as into the state of progress as at September 30, 2019 of the "Plan of Activity of the Group Anti-money Laundering Function 2019";
- Conducted assessments with regard to the distribution of a dividend on account for fiscal year 2019
  pursuant to article 2433-bis of the Italian Civil Code; Received information regarding the performance of
  the subsidiary SDA Express Courier S.p.A.;
- Expressed a favourable opinion on the sustainability strategy of the Poste Group;

- Conducted inquiries regarding the Sustainability Budget;
- Evaluated and reviewed the proposed update to the Organizational Model pursuant to Legislative Decree
   no. 231/01;
- Made an in-depth analysis of the contents of the Reports by the 231 Oversight Body on the activities carried out as at December 31, 2018 and 30 June 2019;
- Evaluated and made an in-depth analysis of the annual Whistleblowing Report 2018;
- Formulated a favourable opinion of the update to the Whistleblowing Guidelines;
- Evaluated and expressed a favourable opinion on the Audit Plan 2019 drafted by the head of the Company's "Internal Control" Function, and examined the periodic report on the state of progress in the implementation of the Plan;
- Made an in-depth analysis of the results of particularly relevant audit activities carried out by the Company's "Internal Control" Function, as well as of the progress made in monitoring the improvement actions put in place following the audit;
- Examined, for the aspects within its purview, the summary report on the achievement of the
  performance objectives in respect of the short-term variable remuneration (MBO 2018) assigned to the
  head of the Company's "Internal Control" Function, in addition to evaluating and making an in-depth
  analysis of the performance objectives to assign to the MBO programme for 2019;
- Examined and made an in-depth analysis of the annual Risk Report 2018, the Group Strategic Risk
   Assessment 2019 and the Group RAF 2019, expressing a favourable opinion on the 2019 RAF;
- Made an in-depth analysis of the evaluation report on the adequacy of the Internal Control and Risk Management System ("ICRMS", for the description of which reference should be made to section 9 below: "Internal Control and Risk Management System"), at the close of activities in 2018, predisposed by the Company's "Internal Control" Function, and expressed a favourable opinion on the overall adequacy of the Internal Control and Risk Management System;
- Examined the documents on the periodic monitoring of the Group's risk performance;
- Received a briefing and carried out an in-depth analysis and evaluation of the risk profiles of specific activities/operations submitted to its scrutiny;
- Examined the description, contained in the Corporate Governance Report 2017, of the principal features
  of the Internal Control and Risk Management System, including the evaluation of the adequacy thereof;
- Expressed a favourable opinion on the renegotiation of committed revolving credit facilities.

For the IT environment, assisted by the relevant corporate functions, in 2019 the Committee: (i) examined the BancoPosta IT Risk Review Report 2018; (ii) examined the ICT strategic guidance document; (iii) examined the structure chart of the ICT function and the review report on BancoPosta's ICT adequacy and costs for the year 2018.

In addition to the foregoing, working with the Executive in charge of preparing the corporate accounting documents, and after consulting the Board of Statutory Auditors and the external audit firm, the Committee also examined and evaluated:

- The accounting standards adopted for preparing the operating and consolidated financial statements for 2018;
- The checks on administrative-accounting procedures pursuant to the provisions of Law no. 262/05;
- The regular accounting statements (annual, semi-annual, quarterly) and associated financial and operational performance;
- The Internal Financial Disclosure Control System (IFDCS) Report by the Executive in charge.

In addition, the committee acknowledged the information received from the Board of Statutory Auditors on the results of the statutory audit and formulated a favourable opinion of the results presented by the independent auditors in the "Additional Report for the Internal Control and Audit Committee" pursuant to Article 11 of Regulation (EU) no. 537/2014.

The Committee also expressed a favourable opinion on the following:

- the updating of the Group's Anti-money-laundering Guidelines;
- the Poste Italiane Group's Environmental Sustainability Policy;
- the Poste Italiane Group's community initiatives;
- the updating of the Conflicts of Interest Guidelines;

all of which were subsequently submitted to the approval of the Board of Directors in 2019.

As for the issues within the purview of the Committee following the activities performed by the Company through BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital, the Committee also:

- Expressed a favourable opinion of the new "Regulations for BancoPosta's Organization and Operations";
- Examined the criteria for identifying BancoPosta Ring-Fenced Capital's Material Risk Takers;
- Examined BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital's "Risk Appetite Framework" for 2019;
- Expressed a favourable opinion of the update to the "Guidelines for the Formulation of the Risk Appetite
   Framework and Assessment of Transactions of Greater Significance";
- Expressed a favourable opinion of the Update to the ICAAP/ILAAP Guidelines and the related update to the Operational Risk Guidelines;
- Expressed a favourable opinion of the Poste Italiane SpA BancoPosta Ring-Fenced Capital Guidelines for Complaints Management;
- Expressed a favourable opinion of the Update to the "BancoPosta Anti-money Laundering Guidelines";
- Expressed a favourable opinion of the Update to the Guidelines for the "Analysis and Validation of the BancoPosta Ring-Fenced Capital Risk Management System" and of the Update to the Guidelines for the "Governance and Management of Counterparty Risk and Risk Concentration";

- Examined the Reports from the Executive in charge of the BancoPosta Function on the overall management performance of BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital as at December 31, 2018 and June 30, 2019, in accordance with point 4.6.4 of the Regulation for Ring-fenced Capital;
- Received information and made an in-depth analysis of some of the possible risk scenarios and of the financial management performance;
- Conducted assessments and reviews of the structuring of committed repo lines for Poste-BancoPosta Ring-Fenced Capital;
- Examined and reviewed the financial transactions of Poste Italiane-BancoPosta Ring-Fenced Capital with the various market counterparties;
- Received information on inspections by and information requests from the Supervisory Authority;
- Received information and made an in-depth analysis and evaluation and issued opinions on the activities
  relative to draft proposals to protect the customers subscribing shares in the fund Europa Immobiliare 1
  and the fund Immobiliare Obelisco;
- Reviewed the part of the Remuneration Report of Poste Italiane regarding the "Guidelines for BancoPosta RFC's remuneration and incentive policies 2019" without identifying any observations regarding the consistency of the Guidelines for BancoPosta RFC's remuneration and incentive policies 2019 with the Risk Appetite Framework approved by Poste Italiane;
- Examined and assessed, with regard to the topic of BCM, the update of the Business Continuity Plan,
   Volume 1, and information on the new target Business Continuity Management model at the Group level;
- Examined the Dashboards and the periodic reports prepared by BancoPosta's "Risk Management",
   "Compliance", and "Internal Audit" functions;
- Made an in-depth analysis of the contents of the annual reports of FY 2017 as well as of the activity plans for 2019 of BancoPosta's "Risk Management", "Anti-money laundering" and "Compliance" functions;
- Made an in-depth analysis of the contents of the annual report for FY 2018 by BancoPosta's "Internal Audit" function which includes: a) the Internal Audit Annual Report 2018 for Consob; b) the Internal Audit Annual Report 2018 on the activities assigned to Poste Italiane ('Disciplinary Measures'); and c) the Internal Audit Annual Report 2018 on the outsourcing of important operating or control functions;
- Made an in-depth analysis of the Public Disclosure/ICAAP/ILAAP 2018 Report and BancoPosta's relative
   "Internal Audit" function report;
- Evaluated and expressed a favourable opinion on the Audit Plan 2019 as well as on the three-year Plan
   2019/2021 of BancoPosta's "Internal Audit" function;
- acknowledged, without any observations, the proposal to appoint the heads of insurance brokerage.

#### 7.3 The Remuneration Committee

# Composition

In 2019 (and up to the date of this Report), the Remuneration Committee was composed of Carlo Cerami (acting as Chair), Giovanni Azzone, and Roberto Rossi.

All of the members are non-executive directors and possess the requisites of independence. As currently composed, the Committee has the required number of members with the specific requisites of professional competence required by both the Supervisory Regulations and the Corporate Governance Code.

### **Duties**

The Remuneration Committee has the task of providing proactive and advisory preliminary functions to assist the Board of Directors in undertaking assessments and making decisions on remuneration. Specifically, the Remuneration Committee:

- a) Presents the Board of Directors with proposals on policy for the remuneration of Directors and Executives with strategic responsibilities, in accordance with current regulations, periodically assessing the adequacy, overall consistency, and tangible application of the policy adopted, drawing upon information provided by the Chief Executive Officer with regard to policy implementation;
- b) Presents proposals or expresses opinions to the Board of Directors on the remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer/General Manager, as well as on setting the performance goals linked to the variable component of this remuneration, monitoring the application of the Board's decisions and checking whether the aforesaid goals have been achieved;
- c) Makes remuneration-related proposals including the variable component for the head of Poste Italiane's "Internal Control" function, in agreement with the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee (for a description of this Committee's responsibilities, please see the section of this Report, "7.2 Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee Duties");
- d) Makes proposals on the remuneration of the Executive in charge of preparing Poste Italiane's corporate accounting documents;
- e) Undertakes the prior examination of the annual report on remuneration drafted for public disclosure in the run-up to the Shareholders' Meeting called to approve the financial statements.

In addition to the aforesaid duties, with regard to the business conducted by the Company via BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital, and without prejudice to the powers of Shareholders' Meetings as established under Supervisory Regulations, the Remuneration Committee:

- a) Is tasked with making proposals to the Board of Directors on the remuneration and incentive systems for senior management as identified by the Company, in accordance with Supervisory Regulation provisions, as well as remuneration for the Head of the "BancoPosta" function;
- b) Is tasked with advising the Board of Directors on establishing criteria for the remuneration of all "most significant" personnel, identified in accordance with Supervisory Regulation provisions;

- c) Directly oversees the correct application of rules on remuneration for the Heads of BancoPosta's control functions, working closely with the Board of Statutory Auditors;
- d) Ensures the preparation of documentation for submittal to the Board of Directors for its decisions;
- e) Works with the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee and the Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee, on which Board of Directors' members sit;
- f) Ensures the involvement of the relevant corporate functions in the process of establishing and checking remuneration policies and practices;
- g) Pronounces, availing itself of information received from the relevant corporate functions, on the achievement of the performance targets to which the incentive plans are linked, as well as on the materialization of the other conditions for payment of the compensation;
- h) Provides appropriate accounts of its activities to the corporate governing bodies, including the Shareholders' Meeting;
- i) Performs additional tasks as assigned to it by the Board of Directors.

Tasks performed by the Remuneration Committee during 2019

The following table shows the calendar of meetings held by the Remuneration Committee during 2019.

J	F	M	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
•	•	<b>*</b>	•		•			•			•
Total										7	
Average duration											60 min

At these meetings, which were normally attended by all of its members – as well as, normally, by the members of the Board of Statutory Auditors – supported by independent external consultants (at the Company's expense), the Remuneration Committee:

- Checked that the targets assigned for 2018 to the BancoPosta Function's Chief Executive Officer/General
  Manager and the Head of BancoPosta's Internal Control Function in order to trigger payment of their
  short-term variable remuneration (MBO) had been achieved, as envisaged under their compensation
  packages, subsequently submitting these proposals to the Board of Directors;
- Outlined for FY 2019, (i) the scheme and objectives for determining the variable portion of remuneration (MBO) of the Chief Executive Officer/General Manager, of the Executive in charge of the BancaPosta function and the Executive in charge of the Internal Control function, (ii) the overall structure of the objectives for determining the variable portion of remuneration (MBO) for Executives with strategic responsibilities and (iii) the deferral schemes for the Material Risk Takers of the BancoPosta function;

- With reference to long-term incentive schemes and especially the Long Term Incentive Plan (LTI) Phantom Stock Plan for the management of the Poste Italiane Group, it verified the achievement of the performance objectives set for the first cycle 2016-2018;
- With further reference to long-term incentive systems, assessed whether to introduce a new, entirely share-based "Performance Shares" Long Term Incentive Plan (LTIP), which was then submitted to the ordinary Shareholders' Meeting;
- held an induction programme on the main new features of the 25th update to Bank of Italy Circular no. 285/2013 on "Remuneration and incentive policies and practices", resolving to submit the following to the Board of Directors on the basis of the results of the reviews and examination into the matter conducted: (i) the guidelines for BancoPosta RFC's remuneration and incentive policies, which were then submitted to an ordinary general meeting of the shareholders; (ii) the terms of the new severance policy for the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager and the resulting proposal for the adjustment of the contractual provision regarding the economic treatment of the person concerned; (iii) the new claw-back procedure for short-term incentive systems (MBO) and long-term incentive plans (LTIP); and (iv) the update to the Guidelines for the identification of Material Risk Takers relating to BancoPosta Ring-Fenced Capital to formulate the process and method for identifying Material Risk Takers relating to BancoPosta Ring-Fenced Capital;
- Prepared the 2019 policy proposal for the remuneration of Directors and Executives with strategic responsibilities, which was subsequently submitted to the Shareholders' Meeting in ordinary session;
- Defined the proposals regarding the adjustment of the remuneration (i) for the Executive in charge of drafting the corporate accounting documents of Poste Italiane S.p.A. and (ii) the Head of the BancoPosta function;
- Also drawing on ad hoc benchmarking conducted by a consultancy firm specialized in this area, examined
   the benchmarking remuneration for executives with strategic responsibilities;
- Reviewed the results of the vote by the General Meeting of Shareholders regarding the approval of the
   Remuneration Report 2019 and the Information Circular on equity-based incentive plans;
- Examined the disclosure on the preliminary results of engagement activity with institutional investors and proxy advisors in view of the 2020 General Meeting of Shareholders.

# 7.4 Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee

## Composition

In 2019 (and as at the date of this Report), the Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee was composed of Roberto Rao (acting as Chair), Antonella Guglielmetti and Mimi Kung. All of the members are non-executive directors and possess the requisites of independence.

# **Duties**

The Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee is tasked with assisting the Board of Directors with preliminary work, both proactive and advisory, regarding evaluations and decisions on the size and composition of the Board of Directors.

Within this framework, the Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee is specifically assigned the following tasks:

- a) Expressing opinions to the Board of Directors regarding the size and composition of the Board of Directors, and making recommendations concerning the kind of professionals whose presence on the Board is considered advisable. Specifically, the Appointments Committee acts in an advisory role to the Board of Directors with regard to the self-assessment process as governed under Supervisory Regulations and, in particular, with regard to the Board's advance identification of its own optimal quantitative and qualitative make-up, as well as subsequent assessments of the extent to which the quantitative and qualitative composition considered optimal is reflected in the actual Board after the appointment process. To this end, the Appointments Committee prepares the Board Review on how the Board of Directors and its sub-committees are working, as well as their size and composition by suggesting to the Board which firm specialized in this field should be appointed for this task, specifying what issues the review should cover and establishing the Review's procedures and time frame;
- b) In the event of cooptation, specifying to the Board of Directors the requisites for candidates for the office of Director;
- c) Expressing its opinion with regard to the Chief Executive Officer's proposal for appointing the Head of the "BancoPosta" function;
- d) Assisting the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee with its opinion on appointing the Heads of BancoPosta's "Internal Audit", "Risk Management" and "Compliance" functions;
- e) When slates are presented for the Shareholders' Meeting to elect a new Board of Directors, expressing its opinion based on an analysis performed in advance on the professional requisites that the candidates must have. The Company must inform shareholders of the results of this analysis, including the opinion expressed by the Committee, in good time to take into account the required professional characteristics in the selection of candidates;
- f) Making recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding the maximum number of offices permissible to be held on Boards of Directors or Boards of Statutory Auditors at other companies listed on regulated markets, including foreign ones, or unlisted companies in Italy or abroad, without prejudice to complying with the limits on such numbers provided for by law and under regulations;
- g) Making recommendations to the Board of Directors on any issues that may arise from applying noncompete clauses on Directors pursuant to article 2390 of the Italian Civil Code, in the event that, owing to organizational requirements, a Shareholders' Meeting authorizes general and preliminary exceptions to such prohibitions;

- h) For the Board of Directors, undertaking actions to check the requisites and fitness for office criteria envisaged pursuant to article 26 of Legislative Decree no. 385, 1 September 1993;
- For the Board of Directors, undertaking actions regarding the preparation of succession plans for senior company positions;
- j) Performing additional tasks as assigned to it by the Board of Directors.

The Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee is further tasked with assisting the Board of Directors with preliminary work, both proactive and advisory, regarding evaluations and decisions on the Company and Group's corporate governance. Within this framework, the Committee is specifically assigned the following tasks:

- a) Drawing upon a report prepared on a quarterly basis by the corporate function responsible for handling corporate affairs, monitoring developments in corporate governance-related regulations and domestic and international best practices, and taking steps to inform the Board of Directors should significant amendments be introduced;
- b) Conducting preliminary examination of the Annual Report on Corporate Governance, for publication at the same time as financial statements-related documentation.

### Activities carried out by the Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee in 2019

The following chart lists the meetings held by the Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee in 2019:

J	F	M	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
•	<b>*</b>	•			•					•	•
Total										6	
Average duration											60 min

At these meetings, which were normally attended by all Committee members (as well as, upon invitation, by the Chair of the Committee, the Chair of the Board of Statutory Auditors and/or standing members of that Board delegated by the latter), with the support of external consultants at Company expense, among other things, the Committee did the following:

- On behalf of the Board of Directors, prepared the overall Board Review process for FY 2018;
- On behalf of the Board of Directors, prepared annual controls relating to FY 2018 that the Directors complied with the requirements of professionalism, integrity and independence;
- Verified, on an annual basis, with regard to FY 2018, compliance with policy on the maximum number of
  offices held by directors, and that no interlocking regulation-related breaches applied;
- Verified, on a preliminary basis, the requirements of professionalism and integrity established for the
  position of Head of the BancoPosta function pursuant to the Supervisory Provisions and BancoPosta
  RFC Regulation and the inapplicability of the restriction on interlocking, issuing a favourable opinion of

the proposal for the appointment of the said Head of the BancoPosta function by the Chief Executive Officer for the Board of Directors;

- Verified the satisfaction of the requirements of professionalism, integrity and independence, and the
  inapplicability of the restriction on interlocking, by the members of the Board of Statutory Auditors
  appointed on 28 May 2019 by the Company's ordinary Shareholders' Meeting, issuing a positive opinion
  on the matter to the Board of Directors;
- Examined the new developments in the area of corporate governance, with regard to both the content of the recently issued provisions and consolidated best practices, both in Italy and internationally, informing the Board of Directors of the most important new developments;
- Initiated a selection procedure for identifying an external consultant to assist in the 2019 Board Review process, formulating upon the conclusion of the procedure in question, carried out by the competent departments of the Company a proposal for the Board of Directors for awarding the assignment to Management Search S.r.l.

### 7.5 The Related Parties and Connected Parties Committee

# Composition

In 2019, and at the date this Report was drafted, the Related Party and Connected Parties Committee was composed of Francesca Isgrò (acting as Chair), Carlo Cerami, Mimi Kung, and Roberto Rao. All of the members are non-executive directors and possess the requisites of independence.

# Duties

The Related Parties and Connected Parties Committee is tasked with the duties envisaged under applicable rules and regulations issued by CONSOB and the Bank of Italy regarding transactions with Related Parties and Connected Parties, as well as the "Guidelines for the Management of Transactions with Related Parties and Connected Parties" adopted by the Company (hereinafter, for the sake of brevity, the "RPT Guidelines", a description of which is provided in this section of the Report under "14.1 Transactions with related parties"), including in particular expressing required opinions on operations with related parties and connected parties of lesser or greater importance.

# Specifically, the Committee:

- a) Expresses a preliminary, reasoned opinion, to help the Board of Directors resolve on the overall adequacy of the RPT Guidelines, as well as of subsequent updates thereto, in achieving the regulatory objectives. To this end, the Committee may propose changes or additions to the Guidelines;
- b) Where envisaged, formulates preliminarily reasoned opinions on Transactions of Lesser of Greater Importance that do not qualify as exemptions, examining the interests of Poste Italiane as well as companies directly and/or indirectly controlled by it in carrying out such transactions directly through

Poste Italiane, as well as through BancoPosta, and the advantageousness and essential fairness of the relevant conditions;

- c) Is involved from the negotiation and due diligence stage of Transactions of Greater Importance onwards, receiving a complete and timely flow of information, with the power to request additional information and make remarks to the delegated bodies and to the persons appointed to conduct negotiations and due diligence;
- d) Among other things, monitors the transactions carried out, including transactions exempted from the application of decision-making procedures pursuant to article 7.4.5 of the RPT Guidelines and subject to periodical reporting pursuant to article 7.6.1 of the RPT Guidelines, in order to report on any corrective changes to the Guidelines and internal procedures.

# Tasks performed by the Related Parties Committee in 2019

The following table shows the calendar of meetings held by the Related Parties Committee during 2019.

J	F	M	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
•	<b>*</b>		•	•	•	•		•		•	
Total											8
Average duration											50 min

At these meetings, which were normally attended by all of its members, as well as, customarily, members of the Board of Statutory Auditors and, among others, the Related Parties Committee did the following:

- Examined the operations with related parties submitted to its preliminary opinion consistently with the applicable regulatory framework, expressing the relative opinions on the Company's interests in finalizing the operation and on the substantial convenience and correctness of the relative terms. The opinions rendered by the Committee in 2019 were all favourable and without any comments of sorts;
- Analysed periodical disclosures pursuant to para. 7.6.1 of the RPT Guidelines regarding ordinary transactions, transactions undertaken with subsidiaries in the absence of significant interests by other Related Parties and Connected Parties, and transactions of minimal amounts.

In addition to the foregoing, in the meeting held in November 2018, the Committee also expressed a favourable opinion on the proposal to revise the "Guideline", which was subsequently definitively approved by the Board of Directors (for more details reference should be made to the section "14.1 Operations with related parties" below).

# 8. Board of Statutory Auditors (pursuant to article 123- bis, paragraph 2, letter d), TUF)

### 8.1 Current composition and term of office

The Board of Statutory Auditors in office as at the date of this Report – appointed by the Annual General Meeting on 28 May 2019 – comprises the following standing members:

- Mauro Lonardo, Chairman;
- Anna Rosa Adiutori;
- Luigi Borrè.

Mauro Lonardo was drawn from the list of candidates presented by a group of 13 asset management companies and other institutional investors (which at the time held an approximately 1.19% interest in the Company) and received the votes of a minority of shareholders represented at the Shareholders' Meeting (approximately 18.39% of voting capital), whereas Anna Rosa Adiutori and Luigi Borrè were drawn from the list presented by the Ministry of Economy and Finance (at the time, and still at the date of this Report, direct holder of an approximately 29.26% interest in the Company, on the understanding that the Ministry also holds an additional 35% interest in the Company's capital through its subsidiary Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, for a total interest of 64.26% in the Company) and received the votes of the majority of the shareholders represented at the Shareholders' Meeting (approximately 81.50% of voting capital).

The term of the current Board of Statutory Auditors will conclude upon approval of the financial statements for FY 2021.

Annex 2 to this Report features brief professional profiles of the aforesaid members of the Company's Board of Statutory Auditors.

# 8.2 Appointment and replacement

In accordance with the provisions of law and the Company's bylaws, the Board of Statutory Auditors consists of three standing auditors and three alternates, who are appointed by an ordinary Shareholders' Meeting for a three-year period and may be re-appointed when their term expires.

As envisaged in the Company bylaws for the Board of Directors and in accordance with the Consolidated Law on Finance, bylaws prescribe that the entire Board of Statutory Auditors has to be elected via the slate voting method, with the aim of ensuring the presence on the Board of a standing statutory auditor (who takes the office of Chair) and an alternate statutory auditor (who replaces the Chair in the event that s/he leaves office before the end of the term), designated by minority shareholders.

This electoral system envisages that the slates, which must list candidates in numerical order, may be presented by shareholders who, individually or in concert with other shareholders, own at least 1% of the Company's share capital or an amount as established by CONSOB regulations (tangibly, given Poste Italiane's market capitalization as at the date of this Report, the required minimum is at least 1% of the Company's share capital).

Furthermore, in the first three elections of Boards of Statutory Auditors since 12 August 2012 – in accordance with the provisions of law on gender balance – the slates have had to include candidates of both genders in

the first two slots in the section for standing auditors, and the first two slots in the section for alternate auditors.

As with the slates of candidates for the office of Director, slates of candidates for the office of Statutory Auditor must be filed at the Company's registered office by those presenting such slates at least 25 days prior to the date of the Shareholders' Meeting called upon to resolve on the appointment of members to the Board of Statutory Auditors. The Company will then publish these slates on its website (<a href="www.posteitaliane.it">www.posteitaliane.it</a>) and make them available to the public at its registered office at least 21 days prior to the date of the Shareholders' Meeting, accompanied by thorough information on the personal and professional characteristics of the candidates, in order to ensure a transparent procedure for the election of members to the Board of Statutory Auditors.

As regards the appointment of auditors who for any reason are not elected on the basis of slates, the ordinary shareholders' meeting will resolve by way of the majorities in accordance with law and without following the procedure outlined above but in any case in a manner that ensures a composition of the Board of Statutory Auditors in accordance with the relevant legal, regulatory and administrative provisions and is also able to ensure compliance with the principle of representation of minorities and the laws in force concerning gender balance.

Pursuant to applicable law, members of the Board of Statutory Auditors must possess the requisites of integrity, professional competence and independence required of the Statutory Auditors of listed companies, supplemented (with regard to the requisites of professional competence) by special provisions in the bylaws, as well as additional requisites specified in Supervisory Regulations. They must also comply with limitations on the number of offices held on Boards of Directors and Boards of Statutory Auditors at Italian companies, as established by CONSOB in a special regulation.

In February 2020, the Board of Statutory Auditors also checked that all of the Standing Auditors in office possess the requisites of independence envisaged by the Corporate Governance Code for directors. In any case, the Statutory Auditors shall act autonomously and independently from the shareholders who elected them.

In February 2020, the Board of Statutory Auditors, with support from Management Search (a specialized firm that was commissioned, as indicated, in this section of the document, in "6.10 Assessment of workings of the Board of Directors and Board Committees", to assist the Board of Directors with the board review process) also conducted a self-assessment process, the results of which were formalized in a specific self-assessment report subsequently forwarded to the Board of Directors.

# 8.3 Duties and powers

As part of the duties assigned by law – as specified under "3. Corporate Governance Model – Company structure" in the first section of this report – and in accordance with guidelines in the Corporate Governance Code, the Board of Statutory Auditors is vested with:

- The power which may also be exercised individually by the auditors to request the Company's "Internal Control" function to perform audits on specific corporate operating areas or transactions;
- The power to promptly exchange information with the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee significant to perform their respective duties.

# 8.4 Meetings

The following table shows the calendar of meetings held by the Board of Statutory Auditors in 2019.

J	F	M	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
* * *	***	* * *	****	***	* * *	* * *	•	* * * *	* *	* *	* *
Total											35
Average	duration	l								200	) min

These meetings – some of which were held jointly with the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee – were duly attended by the standing auditors; the magistrate representing the Court of Auditors attended nineteen of the twenty-eight meetings to which he was invited.

During 2019 and in February 2020, in compliance with Corporate Governance Code guidelines aimed at ensuring that listed Companies' administrators qualify as independent, the Board of statutory auditors verified, *inter alia*, that the criteria and procedures for the Board of Directors to carry out controls to evaluate the independence of directors were correctly applied.

## 8.5 Remuneration

Shareholders' Meetings set the remuneration for standing members of the Board of Statutory Auditors, taking into account the commitment required by the office, the importance of the position they hold, and Poste Italiane's size and multi-sector nature. Specifically, in May 2019, an ordinary session of the Annual General Meeting established 80,000 euros as the gross annual remuneration for the Chairperson of the Board of Statutory Auditors, and 70,000 euros as the gross annual remuneration of each of the other standing auditors.

# 9. Internal Control and Risk Management System

Poste Italiane's Internal Control and Risk Management System ("ICRMS") consists of a set of corporate instruments, organizational entities and rules aimed at ensuring that the Company is managed soundly, with propriety and consistently with its corporate objectives. To be effective, the system of controls must be integrated, which presupposes that its components are coordinated and interdependent, and that the entire

system be an integral part of the general organizational, administrative, and accounting structure of the Company, taking into account (among other things) the separation of BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital in terms of its accounting, capital, organization, and control system.

The ICRMS constitutes a significant component of Poste Italiane's corporate governance, because it enables the Company's Board of Directors to pursue its primary objective of ensuring the creation of value over the medium-long term, while also establishing the level of risk compatible with its strategic goals.

Specifically, the ICRMS consists of the following three levels of control:

- A "first level of control", consisting of a set of control actions that individual operating units perform on their processes to ensure that they are carried out properly. These control actions are primarily assigned to operational management and are considered to be an integral part of every corporate process.
   Operational units therefore have primary responsibility for the internal control and risk management process;
- 2) A "second level of control", which is assigned to autonomous, independent functions distinct from the operating units, which contribute to establishing policies for governing risks and the process of risk management, in particular by monitoring corporate risks, proposing guidelines on related control systems, and checking the adequacy of these systems in order to ensure efficient and effective operations, appropriate risk control, the prudent conducting of business, reliable information, and compliance with laws, regulations, and internal procedures;
- 3) A "third level of control", which is assigned to Poste Italiane's "Internal Control" function or to BancoPosta's "Internal Audit" function for business conducted through BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital with the objective of: (i) Providing independent assurance on the adequacy and tangible functionality of first- and second-level controls and, in general, on the ICRMS; as well as (ii) Assessing the completeness, adequacy, functionality, and reliability (in terms of efficiency and effectiveness) of the internal controls system, and identifying breaches of procedures and rules applicable to Poste Italiane.

As a result of this three-level division, second-level control oversight plays a key role for ICRMS integration and overall functioning.

As enabling factors for the integration and rationalization of its ICRMS, Poste Italiane has decided to:

- 1) Define a model that combines the various components of the Internal Control and Risk Management System, creating opportunities to enhance the overall hedging of risks, foster simplification and enhance operational efficiency, as well as the quality of risk-related information;
- Converge control functions, through the centralization of control structures at Corporate functions (central structures for guidance, coordination, control and service) in order to ensure unitary Group-level governance;
- 3) A process-based approach, via the implementation of a reference framework to regulate conduct and activities. This approach includes policies, guidelines and procedures defined as part of a pyramidal

architecture, involving the Board of Directors, the Chief Executive Officer, management and all Poste Italiane Group employees, among other things by integrating the ICRMS into corporate processes.

Within the ICRMS, the Chief Executive Officer has the role of "Executive in charge of the Internal Control and Risk Management System", inter alia to make Corporate Governance Code recommendations, which lay down that this task be normally assigned to the CEO.

The Internal Control and Risk Management System functions effectively if there is productive interaction among the company's control functions as they exercise their duties.

An integrated system aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Eliminate methodological/organizational overlaps between the various control functions;
- Share the methodologies with which the various control functions make their evaluations;
- Enhance communication between control functions and corporate bodies;
- Reduce the risk of "partial" or "misaligned" information;
- Capitalize on information and evaluate the various control functions.

Defining forms of coordination and collaboration among corporate control functions enhances the overall effectiveness of the ICRMS and ensures unified, cohesive representation at senior level and among corporate organs regarding the risks to which the Company and its subsidiaries are exposed.

Two main moments of coordination and collaboration between control functions are envisaged:

- a) When planning their annual activities, Poste Italiane and BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital's corporate control functions present the corporate bodies with an annual programme of the control-related activities that they intend to undertake. Corporate control functions hold preliminary coordination meetings when planning their activities to ensure adequate oversight of the main corporate risks and, where possible, work in synergy to identify and effectively manage areas of overlap, avoid redundancy and prevent inefficiency;
- b) On a regular (usually quarterly) basis, Poste Italiane and BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital's corporate functions envisage areas of coordination in the exchange of information on the outcomes of their activities and evaluations, focused on shortcomings in the Internal Control and Risk Management System. Sharing information about suggested remedial actions makes it possible to avoid redundancies and inefficiencies while creating synergies and caters to emerging needs by better calibrating control-related efforts.

As a whole, interrelations between governance bodies, control functions and management at Poste Italiane and its subsidiaries are among the key operational mechanisms to ensure that the internal control system functions well. Failure to ensure implementation of this may result in incoherent, incomplete or redundant supervision of the risk. The Company has specifically structured a system of information flows:

- Vertical flows up to corporate bodies, ensuring timely and adequate awareness of the results of activities undertaken by corporate control functions and of any dysfunctions encountered, in order to be able to rapidly implement the necessary corrective measures;
- Horizontal flows among corporate control functions, assuring ICRMS efficiency and effectiveness by fostering the broadest possible spirit of collaboration and information exchange, while at the same time maximizing existing synergies.

For a detailed description of the duties and responsibilities assigned to the main parties involved in the ICRMS, and of procedures coordinating them, please consult the "Guidelines for the Internal Control and Risk Management System", which the Board of Directors approved on February 19, 2018 and is available on the Company's website (<a href="www.posteitaliane.it">www.posteitaliane.it</a>). For further information on the activities that the Control and Risk and Sustainability Committee conducted in 2019 as part of the ICRMS, please see "7. Committees - 7.2 The Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee" in this section of the document.

### 9.1 Code of Ethics

The Group's Code of Ethics was inspired by the awareness of the social and environmental impact of the Group's activities, and of the importance of adopting a cooperative approach to stakeholders in addition to the Group's good reputation, both through internal and external relations. The Company's Board of Directors first approved the Code in November 2003; its most recent update was in April 2018.

In the Code of Ethics recently updated, Poste Italiane has incorporated the Codes of Behaviour adopted over time with the aim of updating and broadening the principles and rules of conduct that are to be used in interactions with all the stakeholders with whom Poste Italiane is related, and especially with suppliers, partners, the marketplace and its shareholders.

The Company is keen to raise its emphasis on the definition of key principles that inspire the culture and conduct pursued by its directors, control bodies, management, employees and indeed everyone who, permanently or temporarily, works to pursue and achieve the Poste Italiane Group's objectives.

General criteria for conduct that the Company recognizes and endorses in performing its own activities and in relations with stakeholders have been identified. These include specific provisions on conflict of interest, combating corruption, anti-money-laundering and fighting terrorism, as well as protecting health, safety, privacy and the environment.

The principles and rules of conduct enshrined in the Code of Ethics – such as legality, impartiality and equity, respect and valuing people, transparency and completeness, confidentiality and quality, diligence and professionalism – all help foster the Poste Italiane Group's credibility within the civil and economic sphere, translating this acknowledgement of the values that characterize the Company's way of doing business into a competitive advantage. The Company also intends to promote the dissemination of ethical principles and social responsibility among parties located within the Group's value chain.

9.2 Organization, management and the control model pursuant to Legislative Decree no. 231/2001 In March 2003, the Company adopted an organization, management, and control model pursuant to Legislative Decree no. 231/2001 (the "Organizational Model").

Since it was first adopted, the goals of the Company's Organizational Model have been to:

- Prohibit behaviour involving the kinds of crimes specified in Legislative Decree no. 231/2001;
- Foster awareness that breaches of Legislative Decree no. 231/2001, of the prescriptions contained in the
  Organizational Model, and/or of the principles in the Group's Code of Ethics may lead to punitive
  measures (monetary and/or disqualification), including to the detriment of the Company;
- Foster a corporate culture characterized by legality and the awareness of the Company's express
  disapproval of any behaviour contrary to the law, regulations, internal rules and in particular the
  provisions contained in the Organizational Model and the Group's Code of Ethics;
- Highlight the existence of an effective organizational structure, consistent with the operating model
  adopted, regarding the clear attribution of powers, how decisions are reached, their transparency and
  justification, and controls prior and subsequent to actions and activities, as well as the propriety and
  truthfulness of internal and external information;
- Through a system of controls and the ongoing monitoring of effective system implementation, the Company can prevent and/or promptly counter the committing of significant offences pursuant to Legislative Decree no. 231/2001.

The key points of the Company's Organizational Model may be summarized as follows:

- Identify corporate activities within which crimes may be committed, underlining the entity's responsibility pursuant to Legislative Decree no. 231/2001 ("sensitive activities");
- Draft and update regulatory tools associated with processes deemed to be potentially at risk of crimes being committed, geared specifically to regulating Company decision-making and implementation;
- Adopt ethical principles and rules of conduct aimed at preventing behaviour that could constitute any of the crimes envisaged;
- Appointment of a Supervisory Body ("OdV" in the Italian acronym) with specific supervisory-related duties regarding the effective implementation and the tangible application the Model;
- Implement a system of punishments capable of ensuring the Model's effectiveness;
- Carry out activities to disseminate the contents of the Model by providing information, raising awareness and offering training.

The Organizational Model has been updated several times in order to ensure that it remains topical and effective with respect to the various changes made to the Company's organizational structure and external circumstances, among other things by taking into account the gradual broadening of the category of so-called

"predicate offences" pursuant to Legislative Decree 231/2001, as well as the evolution of court decisions in this regard.

The Issuer's Organizational Model consists of:

- One general section focused on corporate governance and business, as well as on managing the system for preventing "231-related crimes" that the Company has implemented, including a system of sanctions;
- Fifteen special sections, one for each class of crimes envisaged under Legislative Decree no. 231/2001, stating the various activities potentially exposed to the different risks of committing a crime and the rules of conduct pertaining to each area of concern, plus the specific control-based principles incorporated into the Company's regulatory instruments.

The Company conducts in-depth, wide-ranging risk assessment in order to identify areas of activity in which it is possible to detect an abstract risk of crimes being committed pursuant to Legislative Decree no. 231/2001 at the functions concerned, taking into account the organizational model adopted and various operational processes. When conducting this assessment, activities are given extra importance if the risk of committing such crimes may abstractly materialize, along with areas of the external framework within which such activities are undertaken and that may become instrumental to committing such crimes.

The results of this risk assessment are used to build a Matrix for Identifying At-Risk Activities (MIAR). This is updated on a regular basis, working in partnership with the relevant specialist function.

The Board of Directors last updated the Company's Organizational Model in November 2019 to reflect developments in the company's organization and new developments in the regulatory framework of reference. Earlier in 2019, the Board of Directors also updated the specific Guideline on application of "Decree no. 231" within Poste Italiane Group (originally adopted in January 2018), identifying general reference requirements to inspire Group Companies to adopt and update their own 231 Models, appropriately amended to take into account their specific operations and organization.

Consistently with the evolution of the Organizational Model, new "Guidelines on Information flows to the Supervisory Board of Poste Italiane" were drafted in July 2018 relatively to the sensitive activities singled out by the Matrix for Identifying At-Risk Activities (MIAR) of competence and addressed to all the organizational functions.

The Poste Italiane Organizational Model envisages a Company Supervisory Board of a collegiate nature consisting of two members from outside the Company – one of whom acts as Chair of the Supervisory Board – and one in-house member, with a view to ensuring continuity of the Body's activities (1).

The Body is tasked with supervising the effectiveness of compliance with the Organizational Model, and ensuring that it its updated to match alterations to the organizational structure or the regulatory framework

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>(1)</sup> Poste Italiane's currently-applicable Organizational Model nevertheless retains the option of allocating the functions held by the Supervisory Body to the Company's Board of Statutory Auditors, leveraging the powers acknowledged under article 14, Law no. 183, November 12, 2011.

by making justified proposals to the Chief Executive Officer, who then passes them on to the Board of Directors.

Vested with autonomous powers of initiative and control, the Body also performs its duties on behalf of BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital.

In order to operate effectively, the Board – which, among other things, relies on the support of the Company's competent key functions in performing the in-depth analyses and verifications deemed necessary – examines auditing reports drafted by the Internal Control function and by other corporate units with control duties relevant to the issues covered under Legislative Decree no. 231/2001.

# 9.3 The internal infringement reporting system (Whistleblowing)

As part of its Internal Control and risk management system, in April 2018 the Company issued a new version of the guidelines (available from the Company's website at <a href="www.posteitaliane.it">www.posteitaliane.it</a>) geared towards regulating the company's system for the personnel or third parties to report illicit phenomena or suspicious behaviours, acts or facts that could constitute a violation of the rules of behaviour, both in-house and external, contained in the Code of Ethics of the Poste Italiane Group, as well as the provisions contained in the Organizational Model of Poste Italiane.

The aforementioned guidelines were updated in 2019 following the changes in the composition of the Whistleblowing Committee (the "Committee"). The whistleblowing management process is governed by the Committee, which is composed of a chairperson from outside Poste Italiane, chosen from among those with a proven track record and competence, and of representatives of company departments. The chairperson of the Committee plays an internal coordination role. In these activities, the chairperson is supported by the Internal Control function, which acts as a technical secretariat to the Committee. In 2019, the Committee handled all reports received through this channel, ensuring that they were dealt with, investigated and assessed, all the way through to reporting, pursuant to these guidelines.

Furthermore, the Committee ensured the established information flows towards the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee, the Board of Directors, the Board of Statutory Auditors and the Supervisory Board of Poste Italiane.

In addition, the "Whistleblowing Portal" was implemented to this end and it consists of a web portal accessible through the Poste Italiane official website, which receives the reports and guarantees the necessary confidentiality in respect to the identity of both the whistle-blower and of the person reported and enables the whistle-blower to follow the state of progress in the processing of his/her report.

Poste Italiane's whistleblowing system ensures that all appropriate investigations are carried out into reports through an audit, through fraud management checks in the case of suspected criminal offences, and requests to the relevant function to launch a management investigation.

## 9.4 Upholding legality and certifications

Poste Italiane is the first company among financial and communications companies operating in Italy to have obtained the IMQ-CSQ ISO 37001:2016 in 2018, which represents the international standard for the prevention of corruption. In 2019 this certification, in addition to be renewed for the Company, was also awarded for the first time to the subsidiaries Poste Vita S.p.A. and PostePay S.p.A.

In fact, although Poste Italiane is not directly affected by regulations on the prevention of corruption and the transparency envisaged for companies incorporated under private law that are state-owned (²), in order to strengthen its culture of legality and transparency, the Company voluntarily applied for an international certification and, in accordance with its ICRMS, established an organic system of regulatory rules and instruments to prevent and combat all possible forms of corruption in the public and private domain.

The year of certification comprehensively concerned the planning, orientation, control and coordination of postal and financial services and, in an integrated perspective, the Company also obtained the ISO 9001: 2015 quality certification.

The certification of the integrated management system according to quality and anti-corruption standards, although it represents a relevant result, is a step along the road progressively leading to broaden the number of certifications pursued, extended to all of the company's fields of activity throughout the national territory. Moreover, in November 2018, the Company decided to adopt an integrated policy that documents the different aspects for which Poste Italiane makes its commitment to all its stakeholders. The policy document explicitly outlines the values that the Company believes to be key for the development of its activities, such as the quality of processes and correlated services, the health and safety of employees, the security of information and the prevention of corruption. These, among others, are the main objectives that Poste Italiane commits to pursue in order to assure maximum effectiveness and efficiency to its processes, activities and resources.

As part of the legality and transparency measures, the Company has also implemented other relevant initiatives over time. The milestones of this process include:

- The signing in 2017 of a memorandum of understanding with the Guardia di Finanza (Financial Police), whereby the Company provides the Guardia di Finanza access to its IT system for research, prevention, and combating illicit acts and economic and financial crimes, perpetrated among other things by exploiting technological and IT tools, in sectors of institutional interest.

Within this framework, Poste Italiane offers this Authority:

- ✓ Web access to an "Identity Check" for reporting information and relevant news in order to prevent and repress fraud and any other unlawful acts of an economic or financial nature;
- ✓ Access to its own contract monitoring IT platform.

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- The launch, again in 2017, of the new "Open and Transparent Contracts" portal makes public and accessible all the information on the management of contracts and subcontracts outsourced by the company, in the pursuit of ever-greater clarity towards citizens. Navigating on this portal provides access to information on the number and detail of contracts that Poste Italiane has entered into with its suppliers: their cost, duration, market sector, tender procedure, name, and the geographical position of the successful tenderer and sub-contractors (3);
- The establishment of a Group purchasing unit along with a supplier qualification committee to verify the possession of the requirements declared by the supplier during the qualification process, aimed at fostering maximum transparency in the selection of commercial partners.

These initiatives, compounded to the upgrades made to the Code of Ethics, and to the Whistleblowing and Organizational Model, are all part of a process whose primary aim is to strengthen the internal control and risk management system as the factor enabling the consolidation of the system of rules and processes underpinned by principles of legality, transparency and value creation.

# 9.5 Sustainability

During 2018, Poste Italiane developed and defined a specific strategy on the issue of sustainability, thus consolidating the systemic and structured the attention that the Company consistently addresses to all organizational and functional levels of Environmental Social and Governance (ESG).

In the month of August 2018, following the activation of internal and external stakeholder engagement processes, the Board of Directors, after a positive evaluation by the Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee, adopted the ESG Guidelines that put into operation the corporate model in charge of sustainability policies, also with a view to preventing and managing reputational risks, through the establishment of an ad hoc internal inter-functional group and also by formalizing the role and tasks of the so-called multi-stakeholder forum in terms of the engagement and involvement of external actors in the different phases established.

In March 2019 Poste Italiane drafted its first "Integrated Report" – a part of its Annual Report – describing its ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) strategy in terms of the policies, initiatives and indicators for the six pillars on which its sustainability policy stands: from integrity to transparency and support for communities and the country as a whole, from ethical finance to the decarbonization of real estate and logistics and optimal human resource development.

# 10. The system for risk management and the internal control of financial information

<sup>(3)</sup> Poste Italiane voluntarily took this initiative, given that, as a "listed company under public control", the Company is excluded from the scope of application of Legislative Decree no. 33/2013, "Review of regulations regarding the right to civic access and obligations concerning disclosure, transparency and the dissemination of information by government bodies", as redefined under Legislative Decree no. 97 of May 25, 2016.

The Poste Italiane Group's system for risk management and the internal control of financial information ("SRMICFI"), which forms an integral part of the broader corporate internal control and risk management system ("ICRMS"), has been designed to achieve the objectives of trustworthiness, accuracy, reliability, and promptness in its financial statements and all other financial information.

The SRMICFI is structured in accordance with the "Internal Controls – Integrated Framework" model, issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the so-called COSO Report), and provides for the following components: control environment, risk assessment and control activities, information and communication, and monitoring activities. For the aspects connected to the IT system, the COSO Report is supplemented by a "Control Objectives for Information and related Technology" model (known as "COBIT").

The Executive in charge of preparing Poste Italiane's corporate accounting documents (hereinafter, for the sake of brevity, also "Executive in charge" or "DP" in the Italian acronym) is responsible for implementing and maintaining an appropriate SRMICFI. This position has been part of the Company's bylaws since 2007; it became compulsory under article 154-bis of the TUF in 2008, when Poste Italiane was classified as a "listed issuer having Italy as its member State of origin" pursuant to article 1, paragraph 1, letter w)-quater of the TUF, after issuing bonds listed on the Luxembourg stock exchange as part of its Euro Medium-Term Notes (EMTN) Program. After listing its shares on the MTA on 27 October 2015, Poste Italiane has been subject a fortiori to the regulations set out in article 154-bis of the TUF.

The principles and methodologies adopted by the Executive in charge to perform his/her duties, as well as the responsibilities of the company function involved in various capacities who ensure SRMICFI maintenance and monitoring activities, are laid down in the "Guidelines for the System of Internal Control of Financial Information", as approved by the Board of Directors in May 2016.

The Executive in charge role is also envisaged at Poste Vita SpA, as well as at some of the Group's subsidiaries <sup>(4)</sup>. Executives in charge at such companies report every six months to their Board of Directors and to Poste Italiane's Executive in charge on the state of implementation of the SRMICFI; together with the Chief Executive Officer of the individual company concerned, and issue certification in a form similar to that adopted by Poste Italiane.

Set-up, maintenance, and evaluation of the SRMICFI are ensured through a structured process that consists of the following phases: scoping, risk and control assessment, control monitoring and reporting. This process is entirely managed and supported by the Mega Hopex online platform (henceforth also "online platform"), which enables the automated tracking of the performance of the different phases through the specific "workflow".

Specifically, the process consists of:

a) Establishing which companies are included and what the significant processes are;

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<sup>(4)</sup> SDA Express Courier S.p.A., Postel S.p.A..

- b) Analysing and assessing controls at Group entity level (aka Company Level Control–CLC and Information Technology General Control–ITGC for each "Entity");
- c) Mapping/updating processes, risk assessment, establishing controls, and identifying primary key controls;
- d) Assigning the independent monitoring and line monitoring system to Poste Italiane's "Internal Control" function (to the "Internal Audit" at the BancoPosta function or, where applicable, to the Internal Audit functions at subsidiaries);
- e) Assessing shortcomings, approving and monitoring corrective actions;
- f) Updating and publishing administrative and accounting procedures;
- g) Having the Chief Executive Officer and the Executive in charge of preparing the corporate accounting documents issue a statement attesting the Financial Statements and Annual Report.

A brief description of each of these phases is provided below:

Poste Italiane's Executive in charge identifies the relevant companies within the internal control system on financial information. The scope of application is determined as part of a top-down, risk-based approach aimed at ensuring appropriate protection of areas most exposed to the risk of significant error or fraud in financial statements.

Specifically, the companies that are deemed significant from a quantitative point of view are those that contribute amounts to the consolidated financial statements at a level equal to or greater than any one of three pre-established materiality thresholds, calculated respectively with regard to the following values: Total Assets, Total Net Revenue, and Net Income before Taxes. Companies that do not exceed such values, but that nonetheless present a potential risk for financial reporting, may be deemed significant from a qualitative standpoint.

Within the scope of the companies included, significant processes are specified by identifying the items on the company's balance sheet and income statement, starting with the significant accounts in the consolidated financial statements. Processes are deemed to be significant when they contribute large amounts to items in the financial statements, i.e. they exceed the threshold pre-established for selecting the processes themselves, or as a result of qualitative aspects (for example, sensitive processes not associated with significant accounts).

b) The structure of entity-level controls envisages Company-Level Controls (CLCs), which are defined as a structured set of processes and controls that operate across an organization, allowing the design and functionality of the overall internal control system to be guided, established, and monitored, albeit at a high level. Poste Italiane's CLCs are structured to take into account updates of the reference framework (the COSO Report) and best practices at listed companies.

The IT General Controls, which concern aspects of the Company's infrastructure and transversal processes, are an integral part of the internal control system.

- c) Qualifying processes in support of financial information are mapped and updated on an ongoing basis. The structure of the Process Level Controls provides specific controls for monitoring, namely a set of manual or automated activities (application controls) geared towards preventing, identifying, and correcting errors or irregularities that may occur when carrying out operations. The Primary Key Controls (PKCs) which have the greatest impact on correct representation in the Financial Statements on processes within this scope are selected via a risk-assessment activity.
  - The segregation of duties (SOD), designed to ensure the separation of incompatible corporate roles and resolve critical issues and conflicts within IT profiles, processes and systems relevant to financial information, plays a significant role among the structural elements that support the correct execution of operating activities and associated oversight.
- d) In performing his or her assessment duties, the Executive in charge has access to independent monitoring of all Primary Key Controls by Poste Italiane's "Internal Control" function (by "Internal Audit" at BancoPosta or, where applicable, internal audit functions at subsidiaries) and relies on the results of the analyses by the other players involved in managing corporate risk through pre-established periodical reporting. The process of verifying the proper functioning of the controls is carried out according to criteria agreed upon with the Executive in charge.

Line monitoring will also be provided through the following:

- the self-assessment process carried out once every six months by every control owner, to certify the design and functioning of the controls within his/her scope of competence;
- the issuance of certification at least once every three months by the Heads of Poste Italiane's corporate functions and the Chief Executive Officers and Executives in charge (where the role exists) at fully-consolidated companies.
- e) The results of these checks are reported to Poste Italiane's Executive in charge by the "Internal Control" function in a summary report that also features an assessment of the main shortcomings detected, followed by specific audit reports on the individual processes subject to monitoring. In the event that shortcomings emerge in the assessment, these information flows shall include any corrective actions already undertaken or planned to foster the achievement of the objectives of financial information being trustworthy, accurate, reliable, and timely.
- f) Following the results of audit activities or any possible change, which may also be included by control owners in the Self-Assessment and in reporting the changes made, the Executive in charge shall update administrative and accounting procedures and publish them on the corporate intranet ("Compendium of Procedures"), after consulting with the aforesaid control owners.
- g) Issue of certification by the Chief Executive Officer and the Executive in charge of corporate accounting documents presupposes that results and overall assessments of the System are consolidated, which are represented in the Report by the Executive in Charge. Certification regards the stand-alone financial

statements, the annual consolidated financial statements, and the half-year financial statements; it also includes the associated Directors' Reports. It is supported by the Self-Assessment process in addition to a flow of internal letters of certification issued by top executives at the Company, and by the Chief Executive Officers at subsidiaries. On the basis of these foregoing activities, the Executive in charge and the Chief Executive Officer prepare certification that the administrative and accounting procedures are effective and functioning properly, and that the financial information being prepared for disclosure is truthful and fair.

## 10.1 Executive in charge of preparing the corporate accounting documents

During the past fiscal year and up to August 5, 2019, the duties of the Executive in charge were performed by the Head of the Company's "Group Administration, Planning & Control Function" (within the Administration, Finance and Control Function), namely Tiziano Ceccarani.

On August 6, 2019, the Board of Directors, heard the opinion of the Board of Statutory Auditors, deliberated on the appointment of Alessandro Del Gobbo as the Executive in charge of drawing up the Company's accounting documents, who is still in charge of the task.

The executive in question – who is responsible for the "Administration and Accounts" function that is part of the Company's "Administration, Finance and Control" function – possesses the requisites of professional competence envisaged under the corporate bylaws. For a description of the duties of the Executive in charge, please see the "Guidelines for the Internal Control and Risk Management System".

### 11. External Controls

### 11.1 Statutory external auditors

PriceWaterhouseCoopers S.p.A. is appointed to undertake the external audit of Poste Italiane's financial statements and of the Group's consolidated financial statements (hereinafter also referred to as the "Principal External Auditor").

This Principal External Auditor was appointed by the Shareholders' Meeting in ordinary session on 14 April 2011, following a proposal by the Board of Statutory Auditors, for FYs 2011 to 2019, in exchange for an annual consideration of approximately 1 million euros. Subsequent to the appointment, the Shareholders' Meeting held in ordinary session, once again having heard a proposal from the Board of Statutory Auditors, resolved:

In the Meeting of 24 May 2016, to update the economic terms of the statutory external auditors' appointment, in particular by establishing a payment to the Principal Auditor in acknowledgement of an increase in the operations required of the company as a result, among other things, of the company's shares being listed on the MTA screen-based stock market on 27 October 2015 – with an additional annual fee of approximately 0.1 million euros for each financial year over the period 2015-2019;

- In the meeting of 29 May 2018, to update the economic conditions of the legal auditor, especially by resolving to recognise to the Principal Auditor an additional annual fee of approximately 0.1 million euros for every fiscal year in the 2017-2019, in consideration for the increase in the activities assigned thereto for supplemental auditing activities, which are partially due to the reform of the legal audit (5);
- At the meeting of 28 May 2019, to update the economic conditions of the statutory auditor, in particular
  by resolving to grant the Principal Auditor an additional annual fee of approximately 0.1 million euros for
  fiscal year 2018 to reflect the increase in the Auditor's activities in view of additional supplementary
  auditing services.

Lastly, at the aforementioned meeting of 28 May 2019, the ordinary Shareholders' Meeting, having acknowledged the reasoned proposal presented by the Board of Statutory Auditors, engaged Deloitte & Touche S.p.A. to perform the statutory external auditing of the accounts and provide the related services for the financial statements of Poste Italiane and its subsidiaries for the years 2020-2028, in return for a total annual fee of approximately 3.6 million euros (of which approximately 2.5 million euros for auditing of the accounts and approximately 1.1 million euros for closely related services).

Since 2009, Poste Italiane has followed ad hoc procedures to regulate the allocation of assignments to external auditing firms that do business with the Group.

It should further be noted that in order to align the content of amendments to the reference regulatory framework for statutory external auditing performed during the course of 2016, the above-mentioned procedure was updated by the company's Board of Directors in March 2017, with the objective of: (i) Ensuring the independence requirement of the entity appointed as statutory external auditor; and (ii) Providing guidelines for the assessment process when Poste Italiane and its subsidiaries appoint an auditor or external auditing firm, its network and affiliated parties. Specifically, in accordance with this new procedure, the Principal External Auditor is established as the entity to whom, unless prohibited by specific statutory obligations, the Group's subsidiaries are required to turn when making their own appointments of their respective statutory external auditors.

Further to the above, in compliance with applicable regulations, among other things the procedure at hand envisages: (i) Extending the requirement for Poste Italiane's Board of Statutory Auditors to authorize all statutory external auditor appointments other than legal auditing, including those assigned by subsidiary companies; (ii) From 2020, a requirement to assess the quantitative statutory limitations envisaged for assignments other than statutory auditing; and (iii) Monitoring checks and an ad hoc regular quarterly report to Poste Italiane's Board of Statutory Auditors.

## 11.2 Oversight by the Italian Court of Auditors

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<sup>(5)</sup> In accordance with the provisions of EU Regulation n. 527/2014 of 16 April 2014 and with Legislative Decree no. 135 of 17 July 2016, which supplements and amends the provisions made in Legislative Decree no. 39/2010.

The financial management of Poste Italiane is under the supervision of the Italian Court of Auditors, which conducts this oversight through a magistrate that it appoints. It should be noted that (i) in 2019 this control activity was performed by the delegated magistrate Francesco Petronio, whereas (ii) since 1 January 2020 this control activity has been performed by the delegated magistrate Piergiorgio Della Ventura.

The magistrate delegated by the Court of Auditors attends the meetings of the Board of Directors and, normally, of the Board of Statutory Auditors. In 1998, the Board of Directors resolved to pay the magistrate appointed by the Court of Auditors an attendance allowance, currently amounting to 150 euros per meeting for every meeting of a corporate body attended.

The Court of Auditors presents an annual report on the results of such oversight to the office of the President of the Italian Senate and to the President of the Italian Chamber of Deputies.

## 12. Relations with institutional investors and shareholders in general

The Company considers it to be in its specific interest, as well as a duty towards the market, to establish an ongoing dialogue based on a mutual understanding of its respective roles with individual shareholders in general, and with institutional investors; this dialogue is in any event required to proceed in compliance with regulations and procedures that regulate the disclosure of insider information.

The above described activities are carried out by (i) an "Investor Relations and Business Insight" function, which is currently part of the "Administration, Finance, and Control" function, tasked with communicating with institutional investors; and (ii) a unit within the "Corporate Affairs" function, in charge of communicating with retail shareholders in general.

In addition, the Company decided to further foster dialogue with investors by creating an appropriate space on its website (<a href="www.posteitaliane.it">www.posteitaliane.it</a>, the Investor Section), which offers access to financial information (financial statements, half-year and quarterly reports, presentations to the financial community, analysts' estimates, and trends in the trading of financial instruments issued by the Company), alongside other sections (Company, Governance, and Media) containing additional data and documents of interest to shareholders in general (press releases, the members of Poste Italiane's Board of Directors and Board of Statutory Auditors, the corporate bylaws and the Shareholders' Meeting regulations, documents on corporate governance, the Code of Ethics, and the organizational and management model pursuant to Legislative Decree no. 231/2001, as well as a Group organizational chart).

## 13. Shareholders' Meetings (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 2, letter c), TUF)

The Corporate Governance Code recommendation to consider Shareholders' Meetings as important opportunities for debate between shareholders and the Board of Directors – even though there are a number of ways in which listed companies can communicate with their shareholders, institutional investors, and the market – was carefully considered and fully accepted by the Company, which deemed it advisable to adopt

specific measures geared to appropriately enhancing such meetings. Particular mention should be made of a provision in the corporate bylaws geared to facilitating the collection of proxies from shareholders who are employees of the Company and its subsidiaries, and thus to foster their involvement in decision-making processes at Shareholders' Meetings. This provision is described in greater detail in the first section of this document, under item "5. Information on the ownership structure at the date of this Report (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 1, TUF) - 5.5 Employee shareholdings, procedures for exercising voting rights (pursuant to article 123-bis, paragraph 1, letter e), TUF)".

Regulations on how the Shareholders' Meetings of listed companies should operate, found in the Italian Civil Code, the Consolidated Law on Finance, and in the implementation rules issued by CONSOB, have undergone significant changes in recent years, essentially aimed at facilitating the exercise of a number of rights to which the shareholders of listed companies are entitled.

It should be noted that in either ordinary or extraordinary session, Shareholders' Meetings are empowered among other things to resolve on: (i) The appointment and removal of members of the Board of Directors and the Board of Statutory Auditors, as well as determining their remuneration and responsibilities; (ii) Approval of the financial statements and the allocation of net income; (iii) The purchase and sale of the company's own shares; (iv) Stock-based incentive plans; (v) Amendments to the bylaws (other than those constituting a mere adjustment to statutory provisions); and (vi) The issue of convertible bonds.

In accordance with the provisions of Poste Italiane's bylaws, ordinary and extraordinary Shareholders' Meetings are normally held on a single call (it being understood that the Board of Directors may, if it deems it advisable and states so specifically in the meeting notice, establish that the Shareholders' Meeting be held after more than one call). A quorum is reached and resolutions taken with statutorily-required majorities; meetings are held in the municipality where the Company's registered office is located (unless otherwise decided by the Board of Directors, on condition that the venue is nevertheless in Italy).

Ordinary Shareholders' Meetings must be called at least once a year, within 180 days of the end of the accounting period, to approve the financial statements.

The Consolidated Law on Finance envisages that an entitlement to attend and vote at a Shareholders' Meeting must be certified by a notice sent to the issuer by the intermediary on behalf of the person entitled to vote and issued on the basis of the accounting records at the end of the seventh trading day prior to the date set for the Shareholders' Meeting (known as the record date).

Those entitled to vote may:

- Ask questions regarding the items on the agenda, including prior to the Shareholders' Meeting, by the
  deadline stated in the notice of the meeting. Such questions must be answered no later than during the
  meeting proceedings;
- Electronically or otherwise, notify the Company of their proxies by notifying them to the special section of the Company's website as specified in the meeting notice;

- Give proxies, even to a proxy-holder who is in a position of conflict of interest, provided that the latter
  has informed the shareholder in writing of the circumstances giving rise to the conflict of interest, and
  specific voting instructions have been given for each resolution with regard to which the proxy-holder is
  to vote on the shareholder's behalf;
- Give a representative designated by the Company a proxy with voting instructions on all or some of the items on the agenda, which must be sent to the person concerned by the end of the second trading day prior to the date set for the Shareholders' Meeting. This proxy which does not entail any expense for the shareholder and is granted by filling out a form drafted by CONSOB is valid only for proposals for which voting instructions have been given.

In accordance with the provisions of the Consolidated Law on Finance and relative implementing regulations issued by CONSOB, with regard to individual Shareholders' Meetings, Poste Italiane's bylaws empower the Board of Directors to envisage the possibility of participating electronically, having specified the procedures concerned in the meeting notice.

In addition to the law and the bylaws, Shareholders' Meetings are regulated by special rules approved by the Shareholders' Meeting held in ordinary session on 31 July 2015, which reflect the most advanced models established by a number of industry associations (such as Assonime and ABI) for listed companies.

Shareholders' Meetings are chaired by the Chairperson of the Board of Directors or, in the event that he or she is absent or impeded, by the Deputy Chairman if there is one, or, if both are absent, by another person designated by the Board of Directors; failing this, the Meeting shall elect its own Chair. The Chair of a Shareholders' Meeting is assisted by a Secretary designated by the Chair, unless a Notary Public is appointed to draft the minutes. The Chair may also appoint one or more scrutineers.

Among other things, the Chair of a Shareholders' Meeting checks the existence of a quorum, verifies the identity of attendees and their entitlement to vote, runs the meeting, and verifies the voting results.

With regard to the right of each shareholder to speak on the items on the agenda, Shareholders' Meeting regulations provide that, having taken into account the subject and importance of the individual items to be discussed, as well as the number of persons requesting to take the floor and any questions asked by shareholders prior to the Shareholders' Meeting that the Company has not already answered, the Chair previously sets a time limit for speaking from the floor and for replies (normally no more than ten minutes for the former and five minutes for the latter), so as to ensure that the Meeting completes its proceedings within a single session. All attendees entitled to vote may request to speak on each of the items on the agenda only once to offer comments, request information, and make proposals. Requests to speak may be presented from the time that the declaration is made that a quorum has been reached and – unless the Chair sets a different deadline – until the Chair calls the end to the discussion of a given item. The Chair – and at his or her request, those who assist him – shall reply to attendees who take the floor after all attendees have

spoken, or after each individual speech. Those who have requested the floor shall be entitled to a brief rejoinder.

Resolutions taken by the Shareholders' Meeting are recorded in minutes signed by the Chair and by the Secretary or Notary Public. The minutes of Shareholders' Meetings in extraordinary session must be drafted by a Notary Public.

#### 14. Other corporate governance procedures (pursuant to art. 123- bis, paragraph 2, letter a), TUF)

#### 14.1 Related party transactions

In July 2015, after consulting with its independent directors and the Board of Statutory Auditors, the Board of Directors approved the "Guidelines for managing transactions with related parties and connected parties" (hereinafter, for the sake of brevity, also the "RPT Guidelines"). These were subsequently amended by the Board in October 2015 and October 2016, in accordance with:

- The principles established by CONSOB in its Regulation adopted through Resolution no. 17221, dated 12
   March 2010, as subsequently amended and supplemented (the "RPT Regulation") and in its Directive no.
   DEM/10078683, dated 24 September 2010;
- Regulations pursuant to Bank of Italy Circular 263/2006, "New regulations for the prudential supervision of banks", Title V, Chapter 5, "Risk activities and conflicts of interest with regard to related parties", and Bank of Italy Circular no. 285/2013 ("Supervisory Regulations for Banks"), applicable to Poste Italiane with regard to operations carried out by BancoPosta with entities affiliated with Poste Italiane.

Consistently with the aforesaid provisions, the RPT Guidelines will be revised every three years and they will be updated should any significant change occur in legislative provisions, or revisions in the organizational and governance model or the business model or in corporate strategies.

In November 2018, the Board of Directors conducted a three-year review of the RPT Guidelines, among other things, in relation to Bancoposta RFC's operations, the recommendations made by the Bank of Italy as part of the process of authorising the electronic money institution, carried out in the first few months of 2018. In September 2019, the Board of Directors then updated the RPT Guidelines to take account of the Bank of Italy's additional instructions formulated within the context of the authorization procedure for the outsourcing of financial management by BancoPosta to BancoPosta Fondi SGR.

More generally speaking, the RPT Guidelines – which are available from the Company's website (www.posteitaliane.it) – aim (i) to establish the governance and process for the management of transactions with related parties and affiliated entities carried out directly by Poste Italiane, including in the conduct of BancoPosta activities, or through Group companies; and (ii) to ensure transparency and both substantive and procedural propriety in undertaking transactions in which a potential conflict of interests may arise. It is available on the Company's website (<a href="www.posteitaliane.it">www.posteitaliane.it</a>).

In accordance with the aforementioned RPT Guidelines, transactions with related parties and connected parties are divided into three categories:

- Transactions of "greater importance", defined as those exceeding a specific quantitative threshold (established at 5%) as applied to: (i) Three significance indices, based on the data reported in the Group's consolidated financial statements, which take into account the equivalent-value of the transaction, the assets of the transaction's target entity, and the liabilities of the entity acquired in the event of transactions that fall within the scope of application of RPT Regulation; and (ii) Two significance indices, based on data regarding BancoPosta's regulatory capital, which take into account the equivalent-value of the transaction and the assets of the entity that is the target of the transaction, in the event of transactions that fall within the scope of application of Supervisory Provisions for Banks. If such transactions do not by law or under the Company's bylaws fall under the powers attributed to the Shareholders' Meetings, they must necessarily be examined and approved by the Board of Directors;
- Transactions of "lesser importance", defined negatively as transactions other than those of "greater importance" and those of "a minimal amount". If such transactions do not by law or under the Company's bylaws fall under the powers of Shareholders' Meetings, they shall be examined and approved according to the current corporate structure of how powers are organized;
- Transactions involving a "minimal amount", i.e., involving an equivalent-value that falls below specific thresholds, differentiated according to the specific kind of related parties with which such transactions are carried out. Transactions involving a "minimal amount" are excluded from the scope of the procedure's application, with no prejudice to the obligation to periodically inform the Related Party and Connected Party Committee thereon.

In order to enable the Related Parties Committee to express an advance reasoned opinion on Poste Italiane's interest in carrying out transactions with related parties and connected parties, as well as on the advantageousness and substantive propriety of the associated conditions, the RPT Guidelines set out differentiated procedures depending on the relevance of the operations considered on a case-by-case basis. Specifically:

- For transactions of "lesser importance", it envisages that appropriate information on the different parties involved in the transaction be provided to the Related Parties Committee suitably in advance of the date scheduled for the committee to issue its opinion;
- For transactions of "greater importance", it envisages that the Related Parties Committee further be involved at the negotiation and due diligence stages, receiving prompt and complete reports, and are empowered to request information from and make comments to the Chief Executive Officer and the persons in charge of conducting negotiations or due diligence.

Non-exempt transactions, with an economic value whose quantification cannot be determined or estimated in advance, prudentially adhere to the greater importance procedure.

With regard to transactions undertaken by or on behalf of BancoPosta Ring-Fenced Capital: (i) the opinion of the Committee comes before the approval of the Board of Directors in all cases in which the opinion, despite not regarding a transaction of greater importance with the related party, relates to transactions that are approved by the same Board; (ii) in any case, the decision-making process envisaged for transactions of greater importance is applied to transactions of strategic importance (e.g. corporate transactions).

As far as the effectiveness of the opinion expressed by the Related Parties Committee is concerned, the RPT Guidelines provide that:

- In the event of transactions of "lesser importance", the Related Parties Committee provides an advanced, reasoned opinion on the Company's interest in carrying out the aforesaid transaction to the body empowered to resolve on the transaction, as well as on the advantageousness and the substantive propriety of the conditions thereof. In the event of a resolution to carry out a transaction following a negative opinion or one conditional on the remarks made by the Related Parties Committee, the resolution in question shall provide a detailed explanation of the reasons for which the decision was made anyway and a point by point illustration of the remarks made by the aforementioned committee;
- in the event of transactions of "greater importance", the Related Parties Committee formulates an opinion for the body empowered to resolve on the transaction in the manner indicated in the foregoing point and, where the opinion is negative, the Company's Board of Directors, in the presence of a specific clause of the Bylaws, may submit the transactions in question for authorization by the ordinary Shareholders' Meeting. Without prejudice to the majorities required by law and the Bylaws and the applicable rules on conflicts of interest, the Shareholders' Meeting resolves with the vote in favour of at least one-half of the unrelated voting shareholders ("whitewashing"). In any event, the carrying out transactions of "greater importance" is prevented only when unrelated shareholders attending the meeting represent at least 10% of the share capital with voting rights;
- For transactions of "greater importance" to which the Supervisory Provisions for Banks apply, in addition to what was stated in the preceding bullet point:
  - (i) In the event of a negative opinion or one that is conditional upon remarks from the Related Parties Committee, an advance opinion is also required from the Board of Statutory Auditors, which must be provided with appropriate information about the transaction in terms of both content and promptness. Like the Committee, the Board of Statutory Auditors expresses an advance reasoned opinion on BancoPosta's interest in carrying out the transaction, as well as on the advantageousness and the substantive propriety of the associated conditions to the body empowered by law or the bylaws to resolve upon it;
  - (ii) In the event of a negative opinion (or one conditional upon remarks by the Board of Statutory Auditors), the resolution must provide a detailed justification of the reasons for which it has been made, and a point-by-point reply to the remarks made by the statutory auditors;

(iii) Transactions carried out on which the Committee or the Board of Statutory Auditors has expressed a negative opinion or made remarks shall be reported on at least an annual basis to a Shareholders' Meeting.

When the above-mentioned opinions are issued, and if required, the members of the Related Parties itself should from time to time be supplemented in order to ensure: (i) In the case of a transaction of greater importance, the presence of three independent Directors not connected with the transaction; or (ii) In the case of transactions of lesser importance, the presence of at least two independent Directors not associated with the transaction. In cases where there is not a sufficient number of Directors who hold the necessary requirements, the duties shall be undertaken individually by the sole independent Director not associated with the transaction or, jointly, in the case that there are two.

The RPT Guidelines also set forth an exemption from deliberating processes for certain kinds of transactions with related parties, with no prejudice to the obligation to also periodically inform the Related Parties and Connected Parties Committee and the Board of Directors thereon, consistently with the legal and regulatory provisions applicable to this matter. In particular, the exemption from the deliberating process concerns:

- Operations involving a minimal amount;
- Ordinary operations as specified by CONSOB (<sup>6</sup>), of which the most important are ordinary transactions carried out on conditions equivalent to market or standard terms;
- Transactions with or between companies controlled including jointly by Poste Italiane, as well as transactions with companies subject to considerable influence by Poste Italiane, provided that in the companies controlled or subject to considerable influence that are the counterparties of the transaction no significant interests (as identified in the RPT Guidelines) are held by other parties related with Poste Italiane, as outlined in the RPT Guidelines. Agreements and contracts between BancoPosta Ring-Fenced Capital and the Group's "product companies" (meaning subsidiaries in the financial and insurance sector whose products are distributed by BancoPosta) are not considered exempt for the purposes of the rules established by the Bank of Italy.

Finally, a simplified procedure is envisaged in cases where approval is urgent and execution of a transaction with related parties is not under the purview of a Shareholders' Meeting.

#### 14.2 The handling of corporate information and internal dealing

In July 2015, the Board of Directors approved an ad hoc procedure for the internal management and public disclosure of insider information, geared towards preserving the secrecy of confidential information while ensuring that corporate data and information disclosures to the market are correct, full, appropriate, timely and non-selective.

<sup>(6)</sup> The operations of greater importance carried out by BancoPosta Ring-fenced Capital are never ordinary according to the regulations dictated by the Bank of Italy.

Again, in July 2015, the Board of Directors approved an ad hoc procedure for keeping and updating the register of persons who have access to insider information: a Group register of natural and legal persons with access to insider information as a result of their job or professional activity, or tasks that they perform on behalf of the Company or of a Group company. The purpose of this register is to raise awareness among the persons on the register about the value of insider information at their disposal, at the same time facilitating CONSOB's supervisory activities regarding compliance with regulations for protecting the integrity of the market.

In addition to this, from the date that the company's shares began being traded (27 October 2015), internal dealing rules applied to transactions for the purchase, sale, subscription and exchange of Poste Italiane shares by the company's main shareholders, company officers (directors and standing auditors, as well as other managerial positions with regular access to insider information, with the powers to adopt managerial decisions likely to impact Poste Italiane and the Group's evolution and future prospects) and people closely associated with them. In enacting the measures to implement the regulations concerned, the Board of Directors had considered it advisable to provide for the obligation for "significant persons" other than shareholders possessing at least 10% of the Company's share capital to abstain from carrying out transactions subject to the regulations on internal dealing during four blocking periods preceding Board approval of the draft annual financial statements, the half-year report, and the intermediate financial reports on the first and third quarters.

Subsequently, in June 2017, the Board of Directors revised the procedures mentioned in the paragraph above. Specifically, the Board approved two new procedures ("Guidelines for the Management and Public Disclosure of Insider Information and the establishment and keeping of a register of persons who have access to insider information" and "Guidelines on Internal Dealing"), subsequently amended in October 2018. These went to replace the previous documents, aligning the contents of these documents with the provisions of (i) European legislation on market abuse; and (ii) Regulatory provisions issued by CONSOB incorporating such European legislation.

Specifically, the "Guidelines for the Management and Public Disclosure of Insider Information and the establishment and keeping of a register of persons who have access to insider information" among other things took steps to define the flow of activities and responsibilities regarding the classification of information generated within the Group framework as inside information, as well as ways of managing insider information, with particular reference to: (i) Disclosure of such information to the public and/or the financial community; and (ii) Formalities and practices to observe in the case of delays in triggering market dissemination. These Guidelines regulate how the register of persons with access to insider information is kept, and include a provision that the register contain a "section on permanent access holders", listing solely the names of people who, as a result of their functional position, always have access to all insider information,

along with a "Project/Event Section", structured differently, to which new sections shall be added each time a new item of insider information is identified.

Moving on to the "Guidelines on Internal Dealing", these are designed to regulate the obligations held by a small group of company offices (specifically: directors, standing auditors and individuals who are registered in the "section on permanent access holders" in the above-mentioned register), and people closely associated with them, in the case of undertaking transactions concerning the purchase, sale, subscription or exchange of financial instruments issued by the Company. Among other things, these Guidelines establish:

- Terms, conditions and deadlines for the market disclosure of the details of such transactions;
- A prohibition on the individuals listed above from undertaking transactions during the following periods of the year ("black-out periods"): (i) During the thirty days leading up to the date scheduled for the approval of the draft financial statements; (ii) During the thirty days leading up to the date scheduled for approving the half-year statements; and (iii) During the thirty days leading up to the date scheduled for approving the interim statements as at 31 March and 30 September.

The "Guidelines for the Management and Public Disclosure of Insider Information and the establishment and keeping of a register of persons who have access to insider information" and the "Guidelines on Internal Dealing" may be consulted by the public on the Company's website (<a href="www.posteitaliane.it">www.posteitaliane.it</a>).

Finally, it should be noted that both documents in question are currently being revised to adapt the procedures they contain to the legal and regulatory changes and consolidated best practices at companies comparable to Poste Italiane in terms of their size and organizational complexity.

# 15. Remarks on the letter dated 19 December 2019 of the Chairman of the Corporate Governance Committee

With regard to the recommendations made by the Chairman of the Corporate Governance Committee in a letter dated 19 December 2019, it is the Company's belief that the way its corporate governance is structured and the overall approach that it follows, as set forth in detail in this Report, assure substantive compliance with the recommendations in question.

The following was noted:

- (i) about the sustainability issue, Poste Italiane has adopted a sustainable vision of its business, not merely for compliance purposes, but by integrating sustainability into the various business areas and rendering it a structural, strategic part of the Company's growth process. In particular, sustainability has been included in financial reporting, by preparing an integrated report that describes how the organization's strategy, governance, business model, outlook and performance contribute to the creation of value. Sustainability is also included in remuneration policies as a performance objective in incentive plans;
- (ii) about pre-Board meeting information documentation is, as standard practice, sent with the convocation notice for that particular meeting or, more in general, with a lead time of five days. In 2019 this lead time

was observed, since the documentation was distributed – in accordance with the confidentiality provisions adopted by the Company, without compromising the completeness, usability and timeliness of the information provided to the directors and statutory auditors – along with the notice that an individual meeting was being called (see "6. Board of Directors – 6.5 Chairperson");

- (iii) about the independence of the directors, as already emphasized in the report on the recommendations formulated by the Corporate Governance Committee for 2018, Poste Italiane adopts a strict definition of independence requirements, which, as is common knowledge, are subject to periodic review by the Board of Directors. It bears recalling that in August 2018 the Company adopted "Guidelines for assessing the independence of members of Poste Italiane SpA's Board of Directors" that (i) set ex ante quantitative thresholds for the evaluation of the significance of possible commercial, financial or professional relations that the single director might have with the Company or its subsidiaries or with the entities that control it; and (ii) lay down in great detail some of the interpretation criteria relative to other cases of independence mentioned in the Corporate Governance Code. The adoption of these Guidelines – which contain criteria for assessing the independence requirements inspired by principles of rigour and transparency - represent a governance safeguard in line with best practice according to an innovative approach, considering that not many listed companies have adopted procedures of this sort. More specifically, all non-executive directors qualify as independent as envisaged under applicable law and the Corporate Governance Code, and under the company bylaws, with the exception of the Chair of the Board of Directors, inasmuch as he/she is considered to be a prominent Company officer pursuant to the criteria envisaged under the Corporate Governance Code. For further details on this subject, see the subparagraph "6. Board of Directors – 6.8 Independent directors");
- (iv) Finally, with regard to the fairness of the remuneration paid to non-executive directors and standing members of the Board of Statutory Auditors, please consult the Report on Remuneration, which will be made available to the public at the Company's registered office and on its website (www.posteitaliane.it) by the deadline prescribed by law.

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The professional profiles of the Directors and statutory auditors in office as at the date of this report are attached below, together with two charts summarizing highlights from the second section of this document.

## **ANNEX 1: Biographies of members of the Board of Directors**

• Maria Bianca Farina, Chair.

Born in Rome, she graduated in Economics and Business from the "La Sapienza" University of Rome.

Order of Merit for Labour. In June 2017, she became Chair of Poste Vita, of which she was Chief Executive Officer from 2007 to 2017. Since December 2017, she has held the office of Chair of the Fondazione Poste Insieme ONLUS. She became Chair of ANIA in 2015 and Chair of the Foundation ANIA in 2016.

Deputy Chair of the FEBAF (Federation of banks, insurance and finance) Board of Governors. She joined the Board of Directors of the Ospedale Bambin Gesù in 2017 and is also a Board member of "Save the Children". Since 2014, she has served on the Board of Governors of the AIF, the Holy See's Financial Information Authority, after being appointed by Pope Francis. In 2019 CONSOB appointed her member of the Investors' Market Traders Committee. A Chartered Accountant, she has served on many Boards of Directors and Boards of Statutory Auditors as Chairperson or member. She speaks regularly at conferences held by major trade associations, companies and industry media on economic, financial, industrial and welfare-related insurance topics. She has written many articles for leading Italian international financial media. She became Chair of the Board of Directors of Poste Italiane in April 2017.

• Matteo Del Fante, 52 years old, Chief Executive Officer and General Manager.

Born in Florence in 1967. He is married and has two children. A "Political Economics" graduate from the Luigi Bocconi University of Milan. He did a Masters in international financial markets at the Stern Business School, New York University. He began his career at the JP Morgan Research Department in 1991. After rising through the ranks in Milan and London, he became a Managing Director in 1999. He stayed at JP Morgan until 2003, where he was responsible for public sector clients in the EMEA (Europe-Middle East-Africa) area. In 2004, he joined Cassa Depositi e Prestiti S.p.A. (CDP) soon after it was privatized as the Head of Finance and M&A. At CDP, he began working in the real estate sector. In 2009, he became Chief Executive of the Group's asset management company (CDP Investimenti SGR S.p.A.), and subsequently became its Chairman until August 2014. From June 2010 until May 2014, he served as General Manager at CDP. He has sat in the Board of Directors at a number of CDP Group investee companies, including STMicroelectronics (both STMicroelectronics N.V. - from 2005 to 2008 - and STMicroelectronics Holding - from 2008 to 2011) and on the European Energy Efficiency Fund (EEEF), from 2011 to 2013. From May 2014 to April 2017, he served as Chief Executive Officer and General Manager at Terna S.p.A., a company at which he sat on the Board of Directors and the Control and Risk Committee from April 2008. Between June 2015 and April 2017, he was Deputy Chairman of ENTSO-E, the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity. He became Chief Executive Officer and General Manager at Poste Italiane in April 2017, and Chief Executive Officer at Poste Vita in July 2017.

## • Giovanni Azzone, 57 years old, Director.

Born in Milan in 1962. Graduated cum laude in Engineering and Industrial Technology with a specialization in economic and organizational affairs from the Polytechnic University of Milan. In 1994 he became a full professor in Economic and Managerial Engineering at the Polytechnic University of Milan, where he also served as Dean from December 2010 to December 2016. He was a Director and Chairman of Arexpo SpA from February 2016 and joined the Board of Directors at Ferrovie dello Stato Italiane SpA from December 2017 to August 2018. He has been President of Fondazione di Comunità di Milano since 2019 and and Director and Chairman of Spezia & Carrara Cruise Terminal since 2020. He is a member of the Ethics Committee of AssoConsult-Confindustria. Over the years, he has held a number of positions at top Italian and international universities. He has carried out and continues to carry out research on organizational analysis and management control at industrial companies and in government. He has written 13 books and research monographs and published more than 75 articles in international reviews and books. She became a Member of the Board of Directors of Poste Italiane in May 2016.

## • Carlo Cerami, 55 years old, Director.

Born in Verona in 1965. Graduated in Law from the University of Milan. He became a member of the Bar Association at the Court of Milan in 1993, and practices as barrister at the Supreme Court of Cassation since 2006. He is the principal of the Cerami Legal Practice, which operates in Milan. He is a Board member at the Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele. He has sat on the Boards of the following companies: Terna Spa; Investire Sgr (where he held the positions of Deputy Chairman and Chairman); Polaris Real Estate Sgr (as Chairman); Polaris Investment Sgr (also as Chairman); Fondazione Cariplo; Galileo Avionica Spa (now Selex Electronic Systems – Selex ES Spa, Finmeccanica Group, now Leonardo Group). He has been a keynote speaker at many conferences, seminars and Masters courses. He became a Board Director at Poste Italiane in April 2017.

## • Antonella Guglielmetti, 49 years old, Director.

Born in Premosello-Chiovenda (VB) in 1970. Graduated in Business and Economics from the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart in Milan. Certified Public Accountant, Chartered Accountant and Auditor of Local Authorities. She currently holds the following positions: Head of Regulatory Activities at Acqua Novara VCO S.p.A; Sole auditor at Ateco S.r.I.; and Municipal auditor at San Gillio (Turin) and Gravere (Turin). She became a Board Director at Poste Italiane in April 2017.

## • Francesca Isgrò, 45 years old, Director.

Born in Milazzo (Messina) in 1974. Graduated in Law from the University of Messina. She has practised as a lawyer since 2003, specializing in administrative and public contract law. She was admitted as counsel to the

higher courts in 2015. She is a Member of the Italian Society of Administrative Lawyers. She is currently a local partner at the Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe Legal Practice (Europe) LLP. She served as a Director on the Board of Istituto Poligrafico e Zecca dello Stato (State Mint) from 2016 to April 2017. She has been keynote speaker at many conferences, seminars and master's degree courses. She became a Board Director at Poste Italiane in April 2017.

## • Mimi Kung, 55 years old, Director.

Born in Taipei (Taiwan-China) in 1965. She attended Boston University School of Management (1998) and Oxford University (2003). From 1988 to 1990, she worked as Assistant Controller at The Grand Hyatt (Taipei Taiwan Formosa). After this, between 1991 and 1995 she worked for GE Capital (Stamford Connecticut) as a Collateral and Investment Analyst in the Corporate Finance Group. In 1995, she joined American Express (New York), working her way up to the top of the company between 1995 and 2015, holding executive financial positions. In particular, in 2004 (in London), she became Chief Financial Officer at American Express Europe Card Services. She moved to Italy (Rome) in 2010 to fill the position of Country Manager for Italy and, most recently, Senior Vice President, Head of "Card Services Central Europe & International Currency Cards". She currently holds the office of Member of the Board of Directors of Prysmian S.p.A. and of Bank of Ireland UK. She became a Member of the Board of Directors of Poste Italiane in May 2016.

## • Roberto Rao, 52 years old, Director.

Born in Rome in 1968. Robert Rao graduated in Law from "La Sapienza" University of Rome. He joined the Italian Association of Journalists in 1991. From 1992 to 1993, he was Head of Communication at A.C.E.A and coordinated the house organ, "Talete". From 1998 to 2001, he was Head of the press office and in charge of communications for parliamentary groups of the Christian Democrat Centre. Between 2001 and 2006, he was Spokesperson for the President of the Chamber of Deputies. He served as the Head of Communications for the UIP – Unione Interparlamentare (2006-2008), and as advisor on communication to the Supervisory Authority on Public Contracts for Works, Services and Procurement, now ANAC (2007-2008). From March 2008 to February 2013, he was a member of the Chamber of Deputies for the Unione di Centro Party (Party Group Leader at the Justice Committee and at the Bicameral Committee for the supervision and general guidelines of radio and television services). From June 2013 to February 2014, he served as advisor to the Minister of Justice, Annamaria Cancellieri. From then until January 2017, he worked as economic and financial advisor to the Minister of Justice, Andrea Orlando. From 2013 to 2015, he collaborated with the National Notary Council on legislative matters, with H3G mobile telephony companies on regulatory matters and with the Ugo Bordoni Foundation as advisor on communication. From January 2017 to June 2018, he was advisor to the Ministry of the Environment and the Protection of Territory and the Sea, and from March 2017 to February 2019, to CONI Servizi S.p.A. in the area of public affairs, legislative services and political and

institutional relations. Formerly the Chairman of the "Appointments Committee" and a member of the "Control and Risk Committee" and the "Related Parties and Connected Parties Committee" under Poste Italiane's former Board of Directors. He became a Member of the Board of Directors of Poste Italiane in May 2014.

## • Roberto Rossi, 76 years old, Director.

Born in Piozzo (Cuneo) in 1943. Graduated in Electrical Engineering from the Polytechnic University of Turin with top marks. He is currently Chair of the Comité Stratégique and Senior Advisor at Industrie 6-24 Holding. Previous positions include: Group Managing Director at TNT Logistics and member of the Board of Directors at TPG NV, subsequently TNT (1999-2003); CEO of the South Europe Division for transport and logistics (1996-1999); Chief Executive Officer of TNT Traco Italia & TNT France and Spain (1992-1996); Chief Executive Officer of TNT Traco Italia (1991-1992); Managing Partner of Operations and Manufacturing Practice Southern Europe, Booz-Allen & Hamilton Italia S.p.A. (1974-1991). He became a Board Director at Poste Italiane in April 2017.

## **ANNEX 2: Biographies of the Members of the Board of Statutory Auditors**

• Mauro Lonardo, 50 years old, Chair.

Born in Rome on April 16, 1969, he graduated in Economics and Business from the "La Sapienza" University of Rome. He has been a member of the Association of Chartered Accountants and enrolled in the Auditors Register since 1999. He is a freelance business consultant and partner at the RSM - Palea Lauri Gerla legal and CPA practice, where he prevalently deals with issues relative to corporate governance and international taxation. He is a member of different corporate governance associations. He was assigned the task of performing investigative activities on behalf of the Judicial Authority on taxing procedures. He holds a number of positions on Boards of Statutory Auditors and Supervisory Bodies pursuant to Legislative Decree no. 231/2001, also at listed companies and large State-owned companies. He is chair of the Board of Statutory Auditors at Poste Italiane since May 2016.

Anna Rosa Adiutori, 61 years of age, effective auditor.

Born in Rome in 1958, with a degree in Economics and Business from "La Sapienza" University of Rome, she is a member of the Association of Chartered Accountants and is enrolled in the Auditors Register.

She has been practising as a chartered accountant since 1982, specialising in particular in corporate and tax law. She founded Studio Commercialista Associato Adiutori in 1983. She is a full professor of Commercial Law at the Department of Law and Economics of Productive Enterprise, Faculty of Economics at the "La Sapienza" University of Rome, with interests and research in the field of the administration and control of companies. She has been responsible for the internal control of listed and unlisted Italian joint-stock companies for over 30 years. She is currently a member of the Board of Statutory Auditors of a number of companies and standing auditor of a listed company. She has served as standing auditor at Poste Italiane since May 2019.

Luigi Borrè, 55 years old, standing auditor.

Born in Novara in 1965, he is a full professor of Economics and a lecturer at Luigi Bocconi University in Milan and at the Department of Economics and Business Studies of the University of Eastern Piedmont. He is a member of the Association of Chartered Accountants of Milan and is enrolled in the Register of Auditors; he is also an expert witness to the Court of Milan in both civil and criminal matters.

After collaborating for around a decade with a major firm in Milan, in 2000 he became a founding partner of PRO&CO STUDIO Associato, which provides advise in economic, financial and corporate matters and offers counsel to Italian and international groups and companies.

He is an author of numerous publications on economics and business and a member of the Scientific Committee of the Chartered Accountants Review published by Editore Giuffrè; he has been a member of the Accounting Standards Commission of the Italian Accounting Standard-Setter (OIC) with regard to the

updating of various Italian GAAP standards. He is a director, statutory auditor or independent auditor of nationally renowned companies and organizations. She has served as standing auditor at Poste Italiane since May 2019.

TABLE 1: Structure of Poste Italiane's Board of Directors and its Committees

Board of Directors											Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee			uneration nmittee	Appointments and Corporate Governance Committee		Related Party and Connected Party Committee			
Office	Members	Year of birth	Date of first appoint ment <sup>(A)</sup>	In office since	In office until	Slate (B)	Exec.	Non Exec.	Ind. under CGC	Ind. under T.U.F.	Number of other positions	(*)	(**)	(*)	(**)	(*)	(**)	(*)	(**)	(*)
Chairman	Maria Bianca Farina	1941	2017	1/2019	12/2019	М		Χ		Х	-	11/11								
CEO/GM ◊	Matteo Del Fante	1967	2017	1/2019	12/2019	M	Х				-	11/11								
Director	Giovanni Azzone	1962	2016	1/2019	12/2019	m		Х	Х	Х	-	11/11	М	11/11	М	7/7				
Director	Carlo Cerami	1965	2017	1/2019	12/2019	М		Х	Х	Х	-	11/11			Р	7/7			М	8/8
Director	Antonella Guglielmetti	1970	2017	1/2019	12/2019	М		Х	Х	Х		11/11	Р	11/11			М	6/6		
Director	Francesca Isgrò	1974	2017	1/2019	12/2019	М		Х	Х	Х	-	10/11	М	11/11					Р	8/8
Director	Kung Mimi	1965	2016	1/2019	12/2019	m		Х	Х	Х	2	10/11					М	6/6	М	7/8
Director	Roberto Rao	1968	2014	1/2019	12/2019	М		Х	Х	Х	-	11/11					Р	6/6	М	8/8
Director	Roberto Rossi	1943	2017	1/2019	12/2019	m		Х	Х	Х	-	11/11	М	11/11	М	7/7				
	Threshol	d required	to present sl	ates of can	didates for t	he Board	of Direc	tors (pur	suant to ar	ticle 147-t	er of the Cons	solidated	Law on Fina	<b>nce):</b> 1% of s	hare ca	oital		·		1
Number of meetings held during FY 2018							BoD: 11 Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee: 11				Corporat		Appointme Corporate Committee	e Governance		Related Party and Connected Party Committee: 8				

## **NOTES**

- This symbol indicates the Director in charge of the internal control and risk management system.
- ♦ This symbol indicates the person primarily responsible for the management of the issuer (Chief Executive Officer or CEO).
- (A) The date of first appointment of each Director refers to the initial date on which the Director was appointed to the Board of Directors.
- (B) M/m in this column indicates whether the auditor comes from a list voted for by the majority (M) or minority (m) of the share capital represented at the Shareholders' Meeting.

- (C) An "X" in this column indicates possessing the independence requisites specified in article 3 of the Corporate Governance Code of listed companies. Specifically, according to the application criterion 3(C)(1) of the Corporate Governance Code, a Director should normally be considered not to qualify as having these independence requirements in the following cases:
  - a) If directly or indirectly, including through controlled companies, trusts, or third-parties he or she controls the issuer or is able to exercise a considerable influence on it or enters into a shareholders' agreement whereby one or more parties may exercise control over the issuer or influence it considerably;
  - b) If, in the three preceding years, he or she is or has been a significant representative of the issuer<sup>(7)</sup>, of a key subsidiary or of a company subject to joint control with the issuer, or of a company or an entity including with others through a shareholders' agreement that controls the issuer or is able to exercise a considerable influence over it;
  - c) If, directly or indirectly (for example, through a controlled company or companies in which he or she is a significant representative, or as a partner in a professional or consulting firm) he or she has or has had in the preceding year a significant commercial, financial or professional relationship:
    - With the issuer, with a subsidiary, or with any of its relevant representatives;
    - With a person who, including together with others through a shareholders' agreement, controls the issuer, or in the case of a company or entity or with its relevant representatives; or is, or has been in the three preceding years, an employee of one of the aforesaid persons;
  - d) If he/she, in the three preceding years, receives or has received from the issuer or subsidiary or parent company a significant remuneration in addition to his/her regular remuneration as a non-executive director of the issuer and to his/her compensation for serving on advisory and proposal-making committees established within the Board of Directors, also through participation in incentive schemes linked to corporate performance, including stock-option plans;
  - e) If he/she has been a Director of the issuer for more than nine out of the last twelve years;
  - f) If he/she holds the office of Executive Director in another company at which an executive director of the issuer holds a directorship;
  - g) If he/she is a shareholder or Director of a company or of an entity belonging to the network of the firm appointed as external audit to the issuer;
  - h) If he/she is closely related<sup>8</sup> to a person in one of the situations referred to above.
- (D) An "X" in this column indicates the possession of the independence requirements laid down for Statutory Auditors at listed companies pursuant to article 148, paragraph 3, of the Consolidated Law on Finance, and for Directors under article 147-ter, paragraph 4 of the aforementioned Consolidated Law on Finance. According to the provisions of article 148, paragraph 3 of the Consolidated Law on Finance, the following do not qualify as independent:
  - a) Persons to whom the circumstances described under article 2382 of the Italian Civil Code apply (i.e., in a state of debarment, disqualification, or bankruptcy, or who have been sentenced to a punishment that entails the disqualification, even temporary, from holding public office or the legal incapacity to hold a directorship);
  - b) The spouse and relatives of the company's Directors up to the fourth degree of kinship, as well as the Directors (and their spouses and their relatives up to the fourth degree of kinship) of its subsidiaries, of the companies that control it, and of those subject to its joint control;
  - c) Persons connected with the company or its subsidiaries or companies that control it, or companies subject to its joint control, or with the Directors of the company or the persons referred to under b) above through employment relationships, either as employees or self-employed persons, or through other relationships based on an asset-related or professional basis that would compromise their independence.
- (E) This column shows the number of offices the person holds on the Boards of Directors or the Boards of Statutory Auditors of other companies of significant size according to the policy established in this regard by the Board of Directors. In this respect, it should be noted that as at the date this report was written, the current Directors of Poste Italiane hold the following offices considered relevant to this end:

<sup>(7)</sup> It should be noted that, in accordance with application criterion 3(C)(2) of the Corporate Governance Code, the following are to be considered "relevant representatives" of a company or an entity (also pursuant to application criterion 3(C)(1)): the Chairperson of the organization, the Chairperson of the Board of Directors, Executive Directors, and key managers of the company or entity concerned who have strategic responsibilities.

<sup>(8)</sup> The comment on article 3 of the Corporate Governance Code states in this regard that "in principle, the following should be considered as not independent: parents, children, not-legally-separated spouses, common-law spouses, and family members living with a person who may not be considered an independent director".

- 1) Mimi Kung: Board Member at Prysmian S.p.A., Board Member at Bank of Ireland UK
- (\*) This column shows the Directors' respective attendance at meetings held by the Board of Directors and at its committees. Specifically, it shows the number of meetings attended by the Director concerned out of the total number of meetings held. All absences were appropriately justified. The Directors are expected to attend at least 90% of the Board of Directors meetings.
- (\*\*) This column shows the Director's position on the committee: "C" = Chair, "M" = Member.

TABLE 2: Poste Italiane's Board of Statutory Auditors

Office	Members	Year of birth	Date of first appointme nt*	In office since	In office until	List(*)	Attendance at Board meetings(**)	Independence pursuant to the Corporate Governance Code	Number of offices (***)				
Chairman	Mauro Lonardo	1969	2016	1/2019	12/2019	m	34/35	X	11				
Standing Auditor	Anna Rosa Adiutori	1958	2019	5/2019	12/2019	М	15/17	Х	11				
Standing Auditor	Luigi Borrè	1965	2019	5/2019	12/2019	М	17/17	Х	11				
Alternate Auditor	Antonio Santi	1977	2017	1/2019	12/2019	m	-	-	-				
Alternate Auditor	Alberto De Nigro	1958	2019	5/2019	12/2019	М	-	-	-				
Alternate Auditor	Maria Francesca Talamonti	1978	2019	5/2019	12/2019	М	-	-	-				
	<u> </u>		Statutory	y auditors who co	eased to hold office	ce in 2019							
Standing Auditor	Alessia Bastiani	1968	2016	1/2019	5/2019	М	16/18	Х	-				
Standing Auditor	Maurizio Bastoni	1966	2015	1/2019	5/2019	М	18/18	Х	-				
Alternate Auditor	Marina Colletta	1970	2016	1/2019	5/2019	М	-	-	-				
Alternate Auditor	Ermanno Sgaravato	1957	2016	1/2019	5/2019	М	-	-	-				
	Threshold required to present slates of candidates for the Board of Statutory Auditors (pursuant to article 148 of the Consolidated Law on Finance): 1% of share capital  Number of meetings held during FY 2019: 35												

## **NOTES**

<sup>\*</sup> Date of first appointment means the date on which each auditor was initially appointed to the Board of Statutory Auditors.

<sup>(\*)</sup> M/m in this column indicates whether the auditor comes from a list voted for by the majority (M) or minority (m) of the share capital represented at the Shareholders' Meeting.

- (\*\*) This column shows the attendance of the auditors at meetings of the Board of Statutory Auditors, specifically the number of meetings attended by the auditor concerned out of the total number of meetings that he or she could have attended. All absences were appropriately justified.
- (\*\*\*) This column shows the number of offices the auditor concerned has declared that he or she holds on the Boards of Directors or the Boards of Statutory Auditors of Italian corporations. The complete list of offices is published by CONSOB on its website, pursuant to article 144-quinquiesdecies of the CONSOB Issuer Regulations.