Bayerische Motoren Werke Aktiengesellschaft

Articles of Incorporation

as of 29 June 2021
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First Section  General Provisions

§ 1  Corporate Name, Registered Office

The name of the Corporation is Bayerische Motoren Werke Aktiengesellschaft. The Corporation was established in 1916. The registered office of the Corporation is in Munich/Germany.

§ 2  Purpose of the Corporation

1. The general purpose of the Corporation is to engage in the production and sale of engines, engine-equipped vehicles, related accessories and products of the machinery and metalworking industry as well as the rendering of services related to the aforementioned items.

2. The Corporation shall be entitled to take all actions and measures, which appear necessary or beneficial in order to accomplish the foregoing purposes. In particular, the Corporation shall be entitled to acquire or sell land, set up domestic and foreign branches, establish, acquire and participate in other companies and enter into affiliation and similar agreements.

§ 3  Announcements, Place of Jurisdiction

1. Announcements by the Corporation shall, where permitted under German law, be published in the electronic version of the Federal Gazette (Bundesanzeiger).

2. By subscribing or acquiring shares or interim certificates, the shareholder shall submit to the ordinary place of jurisdiction of the Corporation regarding all disputes with the Corporation or its corporate bodies.
§ 4  Capital Stock

1. The capital stock of the Corporation is € 659,684,500.

   It is divided into:

   a) 601,995,196 ordinary shares with a par value of € 1

   and

   b) 57,689,304 non-voting preferred shares with a par value of € 1

   The shares shall be issued to bearer.

2. Upon distribution of the balance sheet profit, non-voting preferred shares shall be entitled to the rights as determined in § 24 of the Articles of Incorporation. The issuance of new preferred shares having priority over or being on a par with existing non-voting preferred shares in the event of the distribution of profit or corporate assets shall be reserved pursuant to § 141 (2) sentence 2 of the German Stock Corporation Act (Aktiengesetz).

3. In the event of an increase of capital stock, the new shares shall be issued to bearer; preferred shares may be recorded in the name of the shareholder.

4. The right of the shareholders to have their shares individually certificated is excluded.

5. The Board of Management is authorised, with the approval of the Supervisory Board, to increase the Company's capital stock in the period up to 15 May 2024 by up to € 3,437,600 in total by the issuance of new shares of non-voting preferred stock, carrying the same rights as existing non-voting preferred stock, in return for cash contributions. The authorisation may also be exercised in parts on several occasions.

   Shareholders' subscription rights are excluded. The new shares may only be used for issuing employee shares to persons who are in an employment relationship with the Company or an affiliated company. The Board of Management is authorised, with the approval of the Supervisory Board, to stipulate further details of the rights attached to the shares and the conditions of their issue (Authorised Capital 2019).

§ 5  Share Certificates

The form of share certificates and dividend coupons shall be determined by the Board of Management upon approval of the Supervisory Board. The same shall apply to debentures and interest coupons.
Third Section  Constitution and Administration of the Corporation

§ 6  Corporate Bodies

Bodies of the Corporation are:

A. The Board of Management
B. The Supervisory Board
C. The General Meeting of Shareholders

A. The Board of Management

§ 7  Composition

1. The Board of Management shall consist of two or more members.

2. The Supervisory Board shall determine the number of the members of the Board of Management, appoint them, conclude their employment contracts, revoke their appointment and designate the Chairman of the Board of Management.

3. The Supervisory Board may assign the conclusion, modification and termination of the employment contracts of the members of the Board of Management to a Committee of the Supervisory Board.

§ 8  Management, Adoption of Resolutions and Rules of Procedure of the Board of Management

1. The members of the Board of Management shall only jointly be entitled to manage the affairs of the corporation. The rules of procedure of the Board of Management may determine otherwise.

2. Resolutions by the Board of Management shall be passed by a majority of votes. If a Chairman of the Board of Management has been designated, he shall have the casting vote in the event of a tied vote.

3. The Board of Management shall unanimously adopt its rules of procedure and regulate the allocation of its duties thereby taking into consideration the content of the respective employment contracts of the members of the Board of Management.
§ 9 Legal Representation of the Corporation

The Corporation shall be legally represented by two members of the Board of Management or by one member of the Board of Management jointly with one holder of general commercial power of attorney (Prokurist).

B. The Supervisory Board

§ 10 Composition of the Supervisory Board

1. The Supervisory Board shall consist of twenty members, of whom ten are to be elected by the General Meeting of Shareholders and ten to be elected by the employees in accordance with the German Co-determination Act (Mitbestimmungsgesetz).

2. If the General Meeting of Shareholders does not specify a shorter term of office for individual Supervisory Board members elected by it or for the entire Supervisory Board, the members of the Supervisory Board shall be appointed until the close of the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders, which ratifies the Supervisory Board members’ actions for the fourth financial year following the commencement of the term of office. The financial year in which the term of office starts shall not be included in the calculation in determining the term of office.

3. Members of the Supervisory Board may resign from the Supervisory Board at any time, even without good cause.

§ 11 The Chairman of the Supervisory Board

1. The Supervisory Board shall elect a Chairman and at least one Deputy Chairman from its members for the duration of the term of office of the respective Supervisory Board member. If the Chairman or a Deputy Chairman resigns during his term of office, a successor of the resigning Chairman or Deputy Chairman shall be elected without delay.

2. If the Chairman and any Deputy Chairman are prevented from performing their duties, such duties shall be assumed by the Supervisory Board member being oldest in age for the duration of the prevention.

3. The Chairman, or in its absence, a Deputy Chairman shall be the permanent representative of the Supervisory Board with respect to third parties, in particular, courts and authorities as well as the Board of Management.
§ 12 Rules of Procedure, Committees, Advisory Boards

1. The Supervisory Board shall determine its rules of procedure.

2. The Supervisory Board shall form a committee pursuant to § 27 (3) of the German Co-determination Act. The Supervisory Board may form further committees from its members and determine their duties and powers. Powers of the Supervisory Board to render decisions may also be delegated to and exercised by such committees.

   In the event that the Chairman of the Supervisory Board happens to be a member of a committee consisting of an equal number of Supervisory Board members representing shareholders and employees and if a voting in the committee results in a tie, then the Chairman of the Supervisory Board shall have two votes in case of a new voting on the same subject-matter, if such voting also results in a tie.

   § 108 (3) of the German Stock Corporation Act shall also apply to the casting of the second vote.

   The Supervisory Board and the committees may make use of experts that may support them in the performance of their duties. They may call in experts and informants for their meetings.

3. § 11 no. 3 shall apply mutatis mutandis to committees.

4. The Supervisory Board may appoint advisory boards for special purposes, whose members need not be members of the Supervisory Board. The Supervisory Board may lay down rules of procedure for such advisory boards and determine the remuneration for their members.

§ 13 Meetings of the Supervisory Board, Passing of Resolutions

1. Meetings of the Supervisory Board shall be convened by the Chairman or, if he is prevented, by his Deputy; the meetings shall be called in writing, by telephone, facsimile or electronic means. The invitation shall be issued with a notice of two weeks and shall specify the individual items of the agenda. In urgent cases, the period of notice may be shortened. The chairman may adjourn a convened meeting before its opening.

2. The Chairman of the Supervisory Board, or if the Chairman is prevented, the Chairman’s Deputy, shall preside the meeting.

3. The Supervisory Board shall constitute a quorum if all members have been invited at their last known address and if at least half of the members, of which the Supervisory Board has to consist, participate in passing the resolution. The passing of the resolution on an item of the agenda which was not included in the invitation shall only be admissible if no member of the Supervisory Board present objects to the passing of the resolution and if at least two-thirds of the members are present.
4. Resolutions shall be passed by a simple majority of votes cast, unless required otherwise by law. The same shall apply to elections. The Chairman shall determine the manner of voting. However, if a member of the Supervisory Board requests a secret ballot, a secret ballot shall be held.

5. If a vote results in a tie, another consultation of the Supervisory Board shall only take place if the majority of the members of the Supervisory Board so resolves. If the second vote also results in a tie, the Chairman of the Supervisory Board shall have two votes.

6. An absent member of the Supervisory Board can arrange for his vote cast in writing to be handed over by another member of the Supervisory Board. This shall also apply to the casting of the second vote of the Chairman of the Supervisory Board. A vote cast by facsimile or by electronic means shall also be deemed to be a vote cast in writing. A vote may be cast subsequently if the Chairman, or if the Chairman is prevented, the Chairman's Deputy, has permitted said vote to be cast subsequently within a period to be stipulated by him and did so prior to the vote in the meeting and for all absent members of the Supervisory Board.

7. If not the same number of shareholders’ representatives and employees’ representatives take part in the adoption of a resolution, the vote on an agenda item can be postponed by a maximum of four weeks upon the request of two members of the Supervisory Board if the Chairman of the Supervisory Board, or if the Chairman is prevented, the Chairman's Deputy, does not allow all of the members of the Supervisory Board, who are absent, to cast their votes subsequently in accordance with no. 6. A further postponement of the same agenda item is not permitted.

8. The Chairman of the Supervisory Board, or if the Chairman is prevented, the Chairman’s Deputy may arrange for the passing of a resolution to be in writing, by telephone, facsimile or electronic means for special reasons. A written record shall subsequently confirm such resolutions. In all other respects, the aforementioned provisions shall apply mutatis mutandis.

9. The invalidity of a resolution of the Supervisory Board may only be asserted by filing a lawsuit not later than one month after taking notice of the resolution.

§ 14 Records, Statements of Intent of the Supervisory Board, Amendments to the wording of the Articles of Incorporation

1. Minutes of the resolutions and consultations of the Supervisory Board and its committees shall be issued and signed by the member of the Supervisory Board presiding the respective meeting or in the event of § 13 no. 8 by the Chairman of the Supervisory Board.
2. Statements of intent of the Supervisory Board or its committees shall be issued on behalf of the Supervisory Board by the Chairman, or if the Chairman is prevented, by the Chairman's Deputy.

3. The Supervisory Board shall be authorised to resolve amendments to the wording of the Articles of Incorporation which only affect the wording.

§ 15 Remuneration of the Supervisory Board

1. Each member of the Supervisory Board shall receive a fixed remuneration of € 200,000 for the financial year (remuneration year), payable after the end of the financial year.

2. The Chairman of the Supervisory Board shall receive three times and each Deputy Chairman twice the amount resulting from no. 1. Provided the relevant committee convened for meetings on at least three days during the financial year, each chairman of the Supervisory Board’s committees shall receive twice the amount resulting from no. 1, the Chairman of the Audit Committee two and a quarter times, and the members of those committees shall receive one and a half times the amount resulting from no. 1, and each member of the Audit Committee shall receive twice the amount resulting from no. 1. If a member of the Supervisory Board exercises more than one function that is subject to remuneration pursuant to sentence 1 or 2, the remuneration shall be measured only on the basis of the function which is remunerated with the highest amount.

3. In the event that a member of the Supervisory Board has only belonged to the Supervisory Board for a part of the financial year or has exercised more than one function that is subject to remuneration pursuant to no. 2 sentence 1 or 2, the amount of remuneration payable to that member pursuant to nos. 1 and 2 shall be reduced pro rata temporis.

4. In addition, each member of the Supervisory Board shall receive an attendance fee of € 2,000 for each full meeting of the Supervisory Board which the member has attended. These fees are payable at the end of the financial year. Attendance at more than one meeting on the same day shall not be remunerated separately.

5. The Corporation shall reimburse each member of the Supervisory Board for reasonable expenses. The Corporation may include the members of the Supervisory Board in the insurance coverage provided by an insurance against economic loss and errors and omissions maintained at the Corporation's cost.

6. This regulation shall apply for the first time for the financial year commencing on 1 January 2020 (remuneration year).
C. The General Meeting of Shareholders

§ 16 Place and Convocation of the General Meeting of Shareholders

1. The General Meeting of Shareholders shall be held at the registered office of the Corporation, the seat of a branch or subsidiary of the Corporation or at the seat of a stock exchange within the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany. If the convening of the General Meeting of Shareholders at these places should create difficulties, the General Meeting of Shareholders may be held at any other location. The location of the General Meeting of Shareholders shall be indicated in the notice. The General Meeting of Shareholders may, at the order of the person chairing the Meeting, be transmitted in sound and vision either in part or in full, and also in such a way that the general public has unrestricted access. The Person chairing the General Meeting of Shareholders may exceptionally permit members of the Supervisory Board to participate in the General Meeting by means of audio and video transmission if attendance at the location of the General Meeting of Shareholders would entail an unreasonably long travel time, other travel difficulties or health risks for the Supervisory Board member concerned.

2. The General Meeting of Shareholders shall be convoked by the Board of Management or, if so required by law, by the Supervisory Board.

3. Notice of the General Meeting of Shareholders shall be given in the German Federal Gazette no later than the last permissible date for notification, taking into account the minimum statutory period of notice.

§ 17 Requirements for Attendance and for Exercising Voting Rights

1. Shareholders shall only be entitled to attend the General Meeting of Shareholders and exercise their voting rights if, prior to the meeting, they have registered in text form (§ 126b of the German Civil Code), either in German or English. Shareholders shall also be required to provide evidence of their entitlement to attend the Annual General Meeting and exercise their voting rights. For this purpose, documentary proof of the shareholding issued by the ultimate intermediary shall be required in text form (§ 126b German Civil Code) in either German or English. Proof of shareholding pursuant to § 67c (3) German Stock Corporation Act shall be sufficient.

2. The Board of Management is authorised to provide that shareholders may participate in the General Meeting of Shareholders without being present at its venue and without a proxy and may exercise all or some of their rights in whole or in part by means of electronic communication. The Board of Management is also empowered to determine in detail the extent and procedure of such participation and exercise of rights.
3. The Board of Management is authorised to make provisions for shareholders to cast their votes in writing or by means of electronic communication without attending the General Meeting of Shareholders (postal voting). The Board of Management is also authorised to determine the procedure for this in detail.

4. Voting rights may also be exercised via an authorised person (proxy). The Board of Management is authorised to provide for simplifications of form in the notice of convocation for the granting, revocation and proof of authorisation vis-à-vis the Corporation as well as details of the content and procedure, including the use of forms. § 135 of the German Stock Corporation Act shall remain unaffected.

§ 18 Voting Rights

1. Each share’s voting right shall correspond to its par value. One vote shall be granted per each par value of € 1 of the capital stock represented at the voting.

2. In the event that shares are not fully paid up, the voting right shall commence upon the payment of the statutory minimum contribution.

§ 19 Chairmanship in the General Meeting of Shareholders

1. The Chairman of the Supervisory Board shall preside over the General Meeting of Shareholders. If he is prevented, the General Meeting of Shareholders shall be chaired by another member of the Supervisory Board appointed by the Chairman of the Supervisory Board. If the Chairman of the Supervisory Board is prevented and has failed to make such an appointment the General Meeting of Shareholders shall be chaired by the member of the Supervisory Board elected by the shareholders’ representatives on the Supervisory Board.

2. The Chairman shall preside over the proceedings and determine the order of the items on the agenda as well as manner and form of voting. The Chairman may determine a reasonable time limit with respect to the right of shareholders to raise questions and speak.

§ 20 Majorities for the Adoption of Resolutions

1. Resolutions of the General Meeting of Shareholders shall be passed by a simple majority of votes cast, unless mandatory provisions of law provide otherwise. In the event of a tied vote, the proposal shall be deemed rejected. If the law requires a majority of the capital stock represented at the passing of the resolution, a simple majority of the capital stock represented shall suffice in the cases permitted by law.
2. The result of the vote shall be determined by counting the yes and the no votes. It may also be determined by deducting the yes or no votes and the number of abstentions from the total number of votes represented at the General Meeting of Shareholders. The Chairman of the General Meeting of Shareholders may arrange for a different procedure and determine further details of the vote.

§ 21 Adoption of Resolutions in Case of Elections

If no majority is achieved on the first ballot in an election, a tie-breaking vote shall take place between the two candidates who have received the most votes.
Fourth Section  Accounting and Appropriation of the Net Profit

§ 22  Financial Year

The financial year of the corporation shall be the calendar year.

§ 23  Accounting, Annual General Meeting of Shareholders

1. Within the first three months of each financial year, the Board of Management shall prepare the balance sheet, the profit and loss account and the appendix to the annual financial statement of accounts (annual accounts) for the previous financial year as well as the management report and submit them to the auditors. Upon receipt of the audit report, the Board of Management shall immediately present it and the aforementioned documents to the Supervisory Board along with the proposal for the resolution of the General Meeting of Shareholders on the appropriation of the net profit.

2. Within one month after having received the annual accounts, the management report and the proposal for the appropriation of the net profit, the Supervisory Board shall submit to the Board of Management its own report. If this is not done in due time, the Board of Management shall immediately determine a new period of time of up to one month in which the Supervisory Board has to submit its report. In the event that the Supervisory Board again fails to timely submit its report to the Board of Management, the annual accounts shall be deemed not approved by the Supervisory Board.

3. Within the first eight months of the new financial year, the annual accounts, the management report, the Supervisory Board’s report and the proposal for the appropriation of the net profit shall be submitted to the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders. The Annual General Meeting of Shareholders shall ratify the approval of the actions of the Board of Management and of the Supervisory Board, the appropriation of the net profit (§ 24), the appointment of the auditor and the adoption of the annual accounts as provided by law.

4. The annual accounts are adopted if approved by the Supervisory Board, unless the Board of Management and the Supervisory Board decide to assign the responsibility to approve the annual accounts to the General Meeting of Shareholders. If the Board of Management and the Supervisory Board approve the annual accounts, they shall be authorised to allocate more than half of the annual surplus to other retained earnings.
§ 24 Appropriation of the Net Profit

1. The General Meeting of Shareholders shall decide on the appropriation of the net profit based upon the adopted annual accounts.

2. Following the financial year-end, the Board of Management, with the approval of the Supervisory Board, may pay an interim dividend with respect to the expected net profit to the shareholders pursuant to § 59 of the German Stock Corporation Act.

3. The net profit shall be appropriated in the following order:
   
a) Subsequent payment of any arrears on dividends upon non-voting preferred shares in the sequence of their accrual
   
b) Payment of advance dividends in the amount of € 0,02 per € 1 par value upon non-voting preferred shares
   
c) Uniform payment of any other dividends, upon common and preferred shares, unless the General Meeting of Shareholders resolves on a different appropriation

§ 25 Calculation of the Distribution of Profits

1. Dividends paid to shareholders shall be proportional to the shareholders’ contributions to the stock capital of the Corporation based on the nominal value of their shares as well as to the time elapsed since the date of the payment of the contribution.

2. If new shares are being issued, the commencement of the entitlement to profits may be specified in deviation from § 60 of the German Stock Corporation Act.