# HORNBACH <br> Holding 

## Declaration of Compliance with the German Corporate Governance Code pursuant to § 161 of the German Stock Corporation Act (AktG)


#### Abstract

The General Partner (HORNBACH Management AG, acting via its Board of Management) and the Supervisory Board of HORNBACH Holding AG \& Co. KGaA hereby declare pursuant to § $\mathbf{1 6 1}$ of the German Stock Corporation Act (AktG):


## I. Preliminary remarks

The German Corporate Governance Code ("the DCGK" or "the Code") is tailored to companies with the legal form of a stock corporation ("AG") or a European Company ("SE") and does not account for the special circumstances of partnerships limited by shares ("KGaA"). Many of the recommendations made in the Code can only be applied in modified form to HORNBACH Holding AG \& Co. KGaA. The following factors in particular require consideration:

## 1. Management

Numerous Code recommendations refer to the Board of Management. Unlike an AG, however, the KGaA does not have a Board of Management. At a KGaA, the tasks incumbent on the Board of Management are performed by the General Partner. At HORNBACH Holding AG \& Co. KGaA, that is HORNBACH Management AG.

## 2. Supervisory Board

The Code recommendations concerning the Supervisory Board also do not account for the legal form of a KGaA. Specifically, the Supervisory Board of a KGaA does not have any personnel competence in respect of the Board of Management at the General Partner (here: HORNBACH Management AG) and also cannot obligate the latter in terms of the company's management by laying down transactions subject to approval requirements.

## 3. Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of a KGaA basically has the same rights as that at an AG; it additionally passes resolution on the adoption of the company's annual financial statements. Unlike at an AG, some of the resolutions adopted by the Annual General Meeting require the approval of the General Partner (here: HORNBACH Management AG). These include the adoption of the company's annual financial statements.

## II. Declaration in respect of the DCGK in the version dated December 16, 2019

## 1. Future-related section

The company will in future basically comply with the recommendations of the Code in the version dated December 16, 2019 and published in the Federal Official Gazette on March 20, 2020 with the exception of the deviations listed below.

No application is made of the following recommendations: A.1, A.2, B. 1 to B.5, D.6, E.2, E.3, G. 1 to G.13, G.15, and G. 16 .

These deviations from the recommendations are due to the fact that the KGaA does not have a Board of Management and that the Supervisory Board of the KGaA does not have any responsibility in respect of the General Partner of the KGaA, HORNBACH Management AG. Responsibility in this respect is incumbent on the Supervisory Board of HORNBACH Management AG. Specifically:
a) Recommendation A.1:

When making appointments to executive positions at the company, the Board of Management should consider diversity. The KGaA does not have a Board of Management.
b) Recommendation A.2:

According to Recommendation A.2, the Board of Management should institute an appropriate compliance management system reflecting the company's risk situation and disclose the main features of this system. Employees should be given the opportunity to report, in a protected manner, suspected breaches of the law within the company. The KGaA does not have a Board of Management. Irrespective of this, the company has a compliance management system whose main features are disclosed and which also gives employees the opportunity to report, in a protected manner, suspected breaches of the law within the company.
c) Recommendations B. 1 to B.5:

In B. 1 to B.5, the Code makes several recommendations concerning the composition of the Board of Management, including succession planning. The KGaA does not have a Board of Management. The Supervisory Board does not have the powers to appoint members of the Board of Management at the General Partner.
d) Recommendation D.6:

The KGaA does not have a Board of Management. The Supervisory Board Chairman is nevertheless in regular contact with the General Partner and discusses with that company's Board of Management issues of strategy, business development, the risk situation, risk management, and compliance at the company.
e) Recommendations E. 2 and E.3:
E. 2 and E. 3 include recommendations concerning the handling of conflicts of interests on the part of members of the Board of Management. The KGaA does not have a Board of Management. Conflicts of interest on the part of members of the Board of Management of the General Partner and any sideline activities are dealt with by the General Partner.
f) Recommendations G. 1 to G.13, G.15, and G.16:

In G. 1 to G.13, G.15, and G.16, the DCGK sets out several recommendations concerning the remuneration of the Board of Management. The KGaA does not have a Board of Management and the Supervisory Board does not have the powers to determine the remuneration of members of the Board of Management at the General Partner.

## 2. Past-related section

Since the submission of its previous Declaration of Compliance in December 2020, the company basically complied with the recommendations of the Code in the version dated December 16, 2019 and published in the Federal Official Gazette on March 20, 2020 with the exception of the deviations already stated and substantiated for the future in Section II. 1 above.

Bornheim bei Landau, December 2021

HORNBACH Holding AG \& Co. KGaA
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { The Supervisory Board of } & \text { The Board of Management of } \\ \text { HORNBACH Holding AG \& Co. KGaA } & \text { HORNBACH Management AG }\end{array}$

