

## **D-Link Corporation**

# **Ethical Corporate Management Best Practice Principles**

### **Article 1 Purpose and Scope**

The Ethical Corporate Management Best Practice Principles herein (the “Principles”) are adopted by D-Link Corporation (the “Company”) based on the Ethical Corporate Management Best Practice Principles for TWSE/GTSM Listed Companies to foster a corporate culture of ethical management and sound development, and offer a reference framework for establishing good commercial practices. The Principles are applicable to the Company, its subsidiaries, and group companies and organizations.

### **Article 2 Prohibition of Unethical Conduct**

When engaging in commercial activities with other parties, directors (including independent directors, the same below), remuneration committee members, managers, employees, and mandataries of the Company or persons having substantial control over the Companies ("substantial controllers") shall not directly or indirectly offer, promise to offer, request or accept any improper benefits, nor commit unethical acts including breach of ethics, illegal acts, or breach of fiduciary duty ("unethical conduct") for purposes of acquiring or maintaining benefits.

Other parties referred to in the preceding paragraph include civil servants, political candidates, political parties or members of political parties, state-run or privately-owned businesses or institutions, and their directors, supervisors, members of committees under the board of directors (such as remuneration committee members), managers, employees, mandataries or substantial controllers or other stakeholders.

### **Article 3 Definition of Benefits**

"Benefits" in the Principles shall mean any valuable things, including money, endowments, commissions, positions, services, preferential treatment or rebates of any type or in any name. Benefits received or given occasionally in accordance with accepted social customs and that do not adversely affect specific rights and obligations shall however be excluded.

### **Article 4 Compliance**

The Company shall comply with the Company Act, Securities and Exchange Act, Business Entity Accounting Act, Political Donations Act, Anti-Corruption Statute, Government Procurement Act, Act on Recusal of Public Servants Due to Conflicts of

Interest, TWSE/GTSM listing rules, or other laws or regulations regarding commercial activities, as the underlying basic premise to facilitate ethical management.

## **Article 5 Policy**

The Company shall abide by the operational philosophies of honesty, transparency and responsibility, base policies on the principle of good faith and obtain approval from the board of directors, and establish good corporate governance and risk control and management mechanism so as to create an operational environment for sustainable development.

## **Article 6 Prevention Programs**

For the purpose of implementing the aforementioned philosophies and policies, the Company has established the “Code of Conduct” to serve as the basis of prevention programs.

The prevention programs formulated in the preceding paragraph shall comply with the relevant laws and regulations of the territory where the Company, its subsidiaries, and group companies and organizations are operating.

## **Article 7 Scope of Prevention Programs**

The Company shall establish a risk assessment mechanism against unethical conduct, analyze and assess on a regular basis business activities within their business scope which are at a higher risk of being involved in unethical conduct, and establish prevention programs accordingly and review their adequacy and effectiveness on a regular basis.

It is advisable for the Company to refer to prevailing domestic and foreign standards or guidelines in establishing the prevention programs, which shall at least include preventive measures against the following:

1. Offering and acceptance of bribes.
2. Illegal political donations.
3. Improper charitable donations or sponsorship.
4. Offering or acceptance of unreasonable presents or hospitality, or other improper benefits.
5. Misappropriation of trade secrets and infringement of trademark rights, patent rights, copyrights, and other intellectual property rights.
6. Engaging in unfair competitive practices.
7. Damage directly or indirectly caused to the rights or interests, health, or safety of consumers or other stakeholders in the course of research and development, procurement, manufacture, provision, or sale of products and services.

## **Article 8 Commitment and Fulfillment**

The Company shall request its directors and senior management to issue a statement of compliance with the ethical management policy and require in the terms of employment that employees comply with such policy.

The Company, its subsidiaries and group companies and organizations shall clearly specify in their rules and external documents and on the company website the ethical management policies and the commitment by the board of directors and senior management on rigorous and thorough implementation of such policies, and shall carry out the policies in internal management and in commercial activities.

The Company shall compile documented information on the ethical management policy, statement, commitment and implementation mentioned in the first and second paragraphs and retain said information properly.

#### **Article 9 Ethical Commercial Activities**

The Company shall engage in commercial activities in a fair and transparent manner based on the principle of ethical management.

Prior to any commercial transactions, the Company shall take into consideration the legality of its agents, suppliers, clients, or other trading counterparties and whether any of them are involved in unethical conduct, and shall avoid any dealings with persons so involved.

When entering into contracts with its agents, suppliers, clients, or other trading counterparties, the Company shall include in such contracts terms requiring compliance with ethical management policy and that in the event the trading counterparties are involved in unethical conduct, the Company may at any time terminate or rescind the contracts.

#### **Article 10 Prohibition of Offering and Acceptance of Bribes**

When conducting business, the Company and its directors, remuneration committee members, managers, employees, mandataries, and substantial controllers, may not directly or indirectly offer, promise to offer, request, or accept any improper benefits in whatever form to or from clients, agents, contractors, suppliers, public servants, or other stakeholders.

#### **Article 11 Prohibition of Illegal Political Donations**

When directly or indirectly offering a donation to political parties or organizations or individuals participating in political activities, the Company and its directors, remuneration committee members, managers, employees, mandataries, and substantial controllers, shall comply with the Political Donations Act and their own relevant internal operational procedures, and shall not make such donations in exchange for commercial gains or business advantages.

#### **Article 12 Prohibition of Improper Charitable Donations or Sponsorships**

When making or offering donations and sponsorship, the Company and its directors, remuneration committee members, managers, employees, mandataries, and substantial controllers shall comply with relevant laws and regulations and internal operational procedures, and shall not surreptitiously engage in bribery.

#### **Article 13 Prohibition of Unreasonable Gifts, Hospitality, or Other Improper Benefits**

The Company and its directors, remuneration committee members, managers, employees, mandataries, and substantial controllers shall not directly or indirectly offer or accept any unreasonable presents, hospitality or other improper benefits to establish business relationship or influence commercial transactions.

#### **Article 14 Compliance with Intellectual Property Laws**

The Company and its directors, remuneration committee members, managers, employees, mandataries, and substantial controllers shall observe applicable laws and regulations, the company's internal operational procedures, and contractual provisions concerning intellectual property, and may not use, disclose, dispose, or damage intellectual property or otherwise infringe intellectual property rights without the prior consent of the intellectual property rights holder.

#### **Article 15 Prohibition of unfair competition**

The Company shall engage in business activities in accordance with applicable competition laws and regulations, and may not fix prices, make rigged bids, establish output restrictions or quotas, or share or divide markets by allocating customers, suppliers, territories, or lines of commerce.

#### **Article 16 Product and Service Quality Commitment**

In the course of research and development, procurement, manufacture, provision, or sale of products and services, the Company and its directors, remuneration committee members, managers, employees, mandataries, and substantial controllers shall observe applicable laws and regulations and international standards to ensure the transparency of information about, and safety of, their products and services. They shall also adopt and publish a policy on the protection of the rights and interests of consumers or other stakeholders, and carry out the policy in their operations, with a view to preventing their products and services from directly or indirectly damaging the rights and interests, health, and safety of consumers or other stakeholders. Where there are sufficient facts to determine that the company's products or services are likely to pose any hazard to the safety and health of consumers or other stakeholders, the company shall, in principle, recall those products or suspend the services immediately.

#### **Article 17 Organization and Responsibilities**

The directors, remuneration committee members, managers, employees, mandataries, and substantial controllers of the Company shall exercise the due care of good

administrators to urge the company to prevent unethical conduct, always review the results of the preventive measures and continually make adjustments so as to ensure thorough implementation of its ethical management policies.

To achieve sound ethical management, the Company shall establish a dedicated unit that is under the board of directors and avail itself of adequate resources and staff itself with competent personnel, responsible for establishing and supervising the implementation of the ethical management policies and prevention programs. The dedicated unit shall be in charge of the following matters, and shall report to the board of directors on a regular basis (at least once a year):

1. Assisting in incorporating ethics and moral values into the company's business strategy and adopting appropriate prevention measures against corruption and malfeasance to ensure ethical management in compliance with the requirements of laws and regulations.
2. Analyzing and assessing on a regular basis the risk of involvement in unethical conduct within the business scope, adopting accordingly programs to prevent unethical conduct, and setting out in each program the standard operating procedures and conduct guidelines with respect to the company's operations and business.
3. Planning the internal organization, structure, and allocation of responsibilities and setting up check-and-balance mechanisms for mutual supervision of the business activities within the business scope which are possibly at a higher risk for unethical conduct.
4. Promoting and coordinating awareness and educational activities with respect to ethics policy.
5. Developing a whistleblowing system and ensuring its operating effectiveness.
6. Assisting the board of directors and management in auditing and assessing whether the prevention measures taken for the purpose of implementing ethical management are effectively operating, and preparing reports on the regular assessment of compliance with ethical management in operating procedures.

## **Article 18 Compliance in Business Performance**

The Company and its directors, remuneration committee members, managers, employees, mandataries, and substantial controllers shall comply with laws and regulations and the prevention programs when conducting business.

## **Article 19 Avoidance of Conflicts of Interest for Directors, Managers and Stakeholders**

The Company shall adopt policies for preventing conflicts of interest to identify, monitor, and manage risks possibly resulting from unethical conduct, and shall also offer appropriate means for directors, managers, and other stakeholders attending or present at board meetings to voluntarily explain whether their interests would potentially conflict with those of the company.

When a proposal at a given board of directors meeting concerns the personal interest of, or the interest of the juristic person represented by, any of the directors, remuneration

committee members, managers, and other stakeholders attending or present at board meetings of the Company, the concerned person shall state the important aspects of the relationship of interest at the given board meeting. If his or her participation is likely to prejudice the interest of the company, the concerned person may not participate in discussion of or voting on the proposal and shall recuse himself or herself from the discussion or the voting, and may not exercise voting rights as proxy for another director. The directors shall practice self-discipline and must not support one another in improper dealings.

The Company directors, remuneration committee members, managers, employees, mandataries, and substantial controllers shall not take advantage of their positions or influence in the companies to obtain improper benefits for themselves, their spouses, parents, children or any other person.

## **Article 20 Accounting and Internal Control**

The Company shall establish effective accounting systems and internal control systems for business activities possibly at a higher risk of being involved in an unethical conduct, not have under-the-table accounts or keep secret accounts, and conduct reviews regularly so as to ensure that the design and enforcement of the systems are showing results.

The internal audit unit of the Company shall, based on the results of assessment of the risk of involvement in unethical conduct, devise relevant audit plans including auditees, audit scope, audit items, audit frequency, etc., and examine accordingly the compliance with the prevention programs. The internal audit unit may engage a certified public accountant to carry out the audit, and may engage professionals to assist if necessary.

The results of examination in the preceding paragraph shall be reported to senior management and the ethical management dedicated unit and put down in writing in the form of an audit report to be submitted to the board of directors.

## **Article 21 Operating procedures and behavior guidelines**

The Company shall establish operational procedures and guidelines in accordance with Article 6 hereof to guide directors, managers, employees, mandataries, and substantial controllers on how to conduct business. The procedures and guidelines should at least contain the following matters:

1. Standards for determining whether improper benefits have been offered or accepted.
2. Procedures for offering legitimate political donations.
3. Procedures and the standard rates for offering charitable donations or sponsorship.
4. Rules for avoiding work-related conflicts of interests and how they should be reported and handled.
5. Rules for keeping confidential trade secrets and sensitive business information obtained in the ordinary course of business.

6. Regulations and procedures for dealing with suppliers, clients and business transaction counterparties suspected of unethical conduct.
7. Handling procedures for violations of the Principles.
8. Disciplinary measures on offenders.

## **Article 22 Training and Assessment**

The chairperson, chief executive officer, general manager, or senior management of the Company shall communicate the importance of corporate ethics to its directors, employees, and mandataries on an aperiodic basis.

The Company shall aperiodically organize training and awareness programs for directors, remuneration committee members, managers, employees, mandataries, and substantial controllers and invite the companies' commercial transaction counterparties so they understand the Companies' resolve to implement ethical management, the related policies, prevention programs and the consequences of committing unethical conduct. The Company shall apply the policies of ethical management when creating its employee performance appraisal system and human resource policies to establish a clear and effective reward and discipline system.

## **Article 23 Whistle-blowing System**

The Company shall adopt a concrete whistleblowing system and scrupulously operate the system. The whistleblowing system shall include at least the following:

1. An independent mailbox or hotline, either internally established and publicly announced or provided by an independent external institution, to allow internal and external personnel of the company to submit reports.
2. Dedicated personnel or unit appointed to handle the whistleblowing system. Any tip involving a director or senior management shall be reported to the independent directors. Categories of reported misconduct shall be delineated and standard operating procedures for the investigation of each shall be adopted.
3. Follow-up measures to be adopted depending on the severity of the circumstances after investigations of cases reported are completed. Where necessary, a case shall be reported to the competent authority or referred to the judicial authority.
4. Documentation of case acceptance, investigation processes, investigation results, and relevant documents.
5. Confidentiality of the identity of whistleblowers and the content of reported cases, and an undertaking regarding anonymous reporting.
6. Measures for protecting whistleblowers from inappropriate disciplinary actions due to their whistleblowing.
7. Whistleblowing incentive measures.

When material misconduct or likelihood of material impairment to the Company comes to their awareness upon investigation, the dedicated personnel or unit handling the whistleblowing system shall immediately prepare a report and notify the independent directors in written form.

## **Article 24 Information Disclosure**

The Company shall disclose the measures taken for implementing the Practices on its company websites, annual reports, and prospectuses, and shall disclose the Principles of the Company on the Market Observation Post System.

## **Article 25 Review and Revision of the Principles**

The Company shall at all times monitor the development of relevant local and international regulations concerning ethical management and encourage their directors, managers, and employees to make suggestions, based on which the adopted ethical management policies and measures taken will be reviewed and improved with a view to achieving better implementation of ethical management.

## **Article 26 Implementation**

The Principles of the Company shall be implemented after the board of directors grants the approval, and shall be sent to the audit committee and reported at a shareholders' meeting. The same procedure shall be followed when the principles have been amended.

When the Company submits the Principles to the board of directors for discussion pursuant to the preceding paragraph, the board of directors shall take into full consideration each independent director's opinions. Any objections or reservations of any independent director shall be recorded in the minutes of the board of directors meeting. An independent director that cannot attend the board meeting in person to express objections or reservations shall provide a written opinion before the board meeting, unless there is some legitimate reason to do otherwise, and the opinion shall be specified in the minutes of the board of directors meeting.

## **Article 27 Revision**

The Principles were established on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

The Principles were revised for the first time on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021.