

Groww Asset Management Limited

Roles & Responsibilities of CXO's

Background

The below disclosures of the roles and responsibilities assigned to the CXOs is provided in accordance with SEBI Circular no SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-1 DOF2/P/CIR/2021/630 dated September 27, 2021 (“the SEBI RMF Circular”). The roles and responsibilities of the CXOs are aligned to meet the guidelines issued under the SEBI RMF Circular from time to time.

Scope

This document defines the illustrative roles and responsibilities for the following key positions:

- ☐ Chief Executive officer
- ☐ Chief Risk Officer
- ☐ Chief Investment Officer/Head of Equity
- ☐ Fund Manager
- ☐ Compliance Officer
- ☐ Head – Operations/Investor Service
- ☐ Chief Financial Officer/Head of Finance
- ☐ Head- Sales & Distribution
- ☐ Role of other CXOs

Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

- ☐ Monitor and manage risk at both AMC and Scheme level
- ☐ Review the outcomes of risk management function on a monthly basis.
- ☐ Approve roles and responsibility including KRA of Chief Investment Officer (“CIO”) and other CXO regarding risk management.
- ☐ Define Delegation of Power (DoP) framework for daily risk management, reporting and corrective actions and place it with Board of AMC for approval.
- ☐ Define risk appetite at AMC and scheme level and place these at the risk committees for approvals.
- ☐ Define risk metric for respective CXO , CIO , fund manager etc
- ☐ Review risks events across different functions and approve corrective / recommended actions highlighted by the CIO and other CXOs.
- ☐ Review identified fraud incidents, loss and near miss incidents along with corrective action plans and report to the risk committee.
- ☐ Report and escalate corrective actions on major findings to the Board of AMC and Trustee.
- ☐ Ensure adherence to the risk management framework of SEBI

Chief Risk Officer

- ☐ Ensure all risk related policies are defined, reviewed, and updated periodically and placed at the relevant risk management committee for approval.
- ☐ Responsible for implementation and governance of Risk Management Framework (“RMF”) across Asset Management Company (“AMC”) and Mutual Fund Schemes
- ☐ Responsible for overall risk management related activities of the AMC and Mutual Fund Schemes
- ☐ Establishing an organization wide risk conscious culture-
- ☐ Formulate and implement structured reporting process for risk monitoring and reporting to CEO, Risk Committees and Board of AMC and Trustee
- ☐ Monitor and ensure adherence and compliance to RMF across AMC and Mutual Fund Operations.
- ☐ Perform periodic review and update the RMF defined by the AMC and place the same to the Risk Management Committee (“RMC”) for approval.
- ☐ Formulate and recommend changes to roles and responsibilities including KRAs relating to risk management activities and place these at the RMCs for approval.
- ☐ Periodically review the DoP covering the following:
 - ☐ Daily risk management
 - ☐ Daily risk reporting
 - ☐ Corrective actions at the level of Fund manager, CIO and CEO
- ☐ Review and suggest changes to the risk appetite and risk metrics for AMC and scheme as defined by the CEO
- ☐ Ensure formulation and implementation of adequate mechanism for –
 - ☐ Generating early warning signals;
 - ☐ Conducting stress testing for investment, credit and liquidity risks basis approved parameters;
- ☐ Define the tolerance limits for each of the risk parameters.
- ☐ Measurement and review of AMC and scheme specific risks including RCSA and the person responsible to monitor the risks.

- ☐ Assessment and review of credit risk policies
- ☐ Assess liquidity risk at a scheme level
- ☐ Alerts pertaining to asset liability mismatch
- ☐ Formulation of Fraud Risk Registers and Frauds response plan / strategies
- ☐ Escalation matrix for reporting and resolution of incidents (loss, near miss, fraud etc.) ☐ Ensure review of operations for material outsourced activities at least on an annual basis.
- ☐ Adequate framework to detect and prevent security market violation, frauds and malpractices by the AMC and reporting framework on the same to the ERM and board Trustee on half yearly basis.
- ☐ Review and report the following to the ERM and Board Risk Committee of AMC and Trustee
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 - ☐ Risk reports and dashboards capturing deviations to risk thresholds, risk appetite across AMC and Scheme
 - ☐ Results of monitoring of early warning signals by respective functions
 - ☐ Result of stress testing based on defined parameters for investment, credit and liquidity risks, etc.
 - ☐ Internal and external fraud incidents reported / identified by CXOs including evaluation of fraud risk scenarios
 - ☐ Near miss and loss incidents identified and reported by the respective departments
 - ☐ Monitor liquidity risk including asset liability mismatch at a scheme and portfolio level vis-à-vis internally approved and defined liquidity model on a monthly basis
 - ☐ Major findings and corrective actions prepared by the CXOs
 - ☐ Monitor delays in implementation of corrective actions by CXOs
 - ☐ Monitor control breaches as a result of periodic RCSA review and mitigating actions put in place by the management and risk function.
- ☐ Independently assess reporting of risks to various committees and CEO.
- ☐ Ensure insurance cover is maintained based on AMC and Trustee approval for the MF operations and third party losses
- ☐ Report outcomes of the risk management function to the management at least once a month.
- ☐ Approve investment limit setup such as minimum number of stocks/securities, cash (net of derivatives), stocks/securities vis-a-vis benchmark and Beta range, regulatory limits
- ☐ Define process to assess the control against each of the identified risk capturing following elements:
 - ☐ Measurement tool for each risk (RCSA, Stress Testing etc)
 - ☐ Monitoring and reporting frequency
 - ☐ Reporting of breaches
- ☐ Identify, assess and estimate emerging risks and their possible impact on AMC and mutual fund schemes
- ☐ Report existing and emerging risks associated with the MF and AMC activities in a structured manner to the Board Risk Management Committee of the AMC and Trustee

Head of Equity

- ☐ To ensure daily management of risk and necessary reporting relating to Investment risk of all scheme(s) such as market Risk, liquidity Risk, credit risk etc. and other scheme specific risks (Compliance Risk, Fraud Risk, etc.) lies on the CIO
- ☐ To ensure in respect of all Schemes:
 - a) Adherence to guidelines pertaining to SEBI circular on RMF and relevant principles thereunder including risk identification, risk management, risk reporting (both periodic and escalation of material incident) and corrective actions taken, if any
 - b) Defining specific responsibility of Fund Managers
 - c) Adherence to risk appetite framework for schemes
- ☐ To escalate corrective actions taken if any to the CEO and the CRO

Fund Manager

- ☐ Manage investment risk of managed scheme(s). i.e., market risk, liquidity risk, credit risk and other scheme specific risks within approved limits
- ☐ Ensure adherence to Risk Management framework, SID, internal & Regulatory limits.
- ☐ Ensure adherence of applicable provisions of Mutual Funds Regulations including Code of Conduct as per Schedule V B.
- ☐ Adhere to the risk appetite framework of the scheme managed by the Fund Manager.
- ☐ Suggest / provide inputs on changes required to risk appetite to the CIO
- ☐ Recommend reduction/ change in the risk level of the schemes within the Potential Risk Class (PRC) to the CIO.
- ☐ Report identified risk, risk related events and corrective actions plans to the CIO
- ☐ Measure risks in accordance with the approved internal policy and risk metric.
- ☐ Periodic analysis of bulk trades and block deals of large values.
- ☐ Analysis and evaluation of ratings received from multiple credit rating agencies for securities across portfolios and take necessary actions
- ☐ Ensure disclosures made to clients are consistent with investments and holdings
- ☐ Manage and monitor investments in schemes by conducting –
 - ☐ Quantitative risk analysis using metrics such as VaR, Sharpe Ratio, Treynor Ratio, Information Ratio, etc.
 - ☐ analysis of concentration limits (counterparty wise, group wise, industry or sector wise, geography wise)
- ☐ Perform due diligence at the time of buying securities through inter-scheme transfers.
- ☐ Ensure maintenance of all relevant documents and disclosures with regard to debt and money market instruments before finalizing the deal
- ☐ Take corrective action for deviations, if required, as per the approved Delegation of Power (DoP).

Compliance Officer

- ☐ Responsible for the governance of compliance risks.
- ☐ Formulate and implement compliance and other policies such as prevention of front running, outside business activity, commercial bribes and kickbacks, whistle blowing policy, record retention policy, outsourcing arrangements etc. in accordance with SEBI risk management framework and approved by the Board of AMC and Trustee
- ☐ Review and suggest changes in the policies and obtain approval from Board of AMC and Trustee
- ☐ Ensure identification and communication of regulatory updates to the respective functions and CXOs and monitor implementation.
- ☐ Provide inputs to CRO to define risk threshold and risk appetite of Compliance
- ☐ Define and delegate roles to the key personnel within the compliance function for identifying and reporting risks
- ☐ Provide relevant information to CRO regarding monthly / quarterly risk reporting to the Committees
- ☐ For the relevant functional risks, identify, analyze and report the following to the CRO and CEO along with recommended action plan for:
 - ☐ Early warning signals
 - ☐ Emerging risks
 - ☐ Major findings
 - ☐ Near miss and loss events
 - ☐ Fraud incidents

Ensure escalation of such incidents as per the escalation matrix approved by CRO.

- ☐ Ensure timely and accurate filing of the regulatory returns / filings
- ☐ Review the risk level for the functional risk is in accordance with the approved risk threshold and risk metric
- ☐ Ensure adherence with the DoP framework
- ☐ Formulate, review and update the RCSA for key Compliance risks and controls
- ☐ Perform and report outcomes of periodic testing of the RCSA to CRO
- ☐ Identify and implement corrective actions / recommend action plans for deviations in the controls and present to CRO/ CEO
- ☐ Ensure adherence to the SEBI risk management framework
- ☐ Ensure timely submission of regulatory reports to the Regulator and Board of AMC and Trustee as prescribed by the SEBI Mutual Funds Regulations.
- ☐ Monitor the following scheme related disclosures -
 - ☐ Disclosure of credit (quality of investments made mainly debt based on the credit rating), counterparty, investment and other risks associated with the scheme to the investors
 - ☐ Scheme's risk profile is stated in all communications with investors including in the SID and marketing materials
 - ☐ Incorporate any other elements of risk appetite as may be stipulated by AMCs and Trustees in SID.
- ☐ Implement process for prevention or detection of possible insider trading at the personnel or portfolio levels
- ☐ Implement process for performing compliance check of AMC's marketing materials (collateral, brochures etc.), website uploads, digital advertising, and performance advertising etc. before its usage.
- ☐ Ensure that roles and responsibilities as per the RMF is disclosed on the AMC website

Head – Operations /Investor Service

- ☐ Responsible for the governance of operational risks.
- ☐ Provide inputs to CRO to define risk threshold and risk appetite
- ☐ Define and delegate roles to the key personnel within the operations function for identifying and reporting risks
- ☐ Provide relevant information to CRO regarding the risk reports
- ☐ For the relevant functional risks, identify, analyse and report the following to the CRO and CEO along with recommended action plan for:
 - ☐ Early warning signals
 - ☐ Emerging risks
 - ☐ Major findings
 - ☐ Near miss and loss events
 - ☐ Fraud incidents

Ensure escalation of such incidents as per the escalation matrix approved by CRO.

- ☐ Perform adequate due diligence of outsourced vendors prior to onboarding
- ☐ Ensure periodic assessment of outsourced vendors considering following elements:
 - ☐ Review of vendors' people, systems and processes
 - ☐ Documentation and communication of error tolerance and code of conduct and monitoring breaches
 - ☐ Monitor fraud vulnerabilities in the outsourced process
- ☐ Monitor outliers findings identified during periodic assessment of outsourced vendors and recommend and monitor implementation
- ☐ Ensure implementation of an integrated investment management system across front office, mid office and back office.
- ☐ Ensure risk level are in accordance to the approved risk threshold and risk metric.
- ☐ Ensure adherence with the DoP framework
- ☐ Formulate, review and periodically provide inputs to update the RCSA for key risks and controls
- ☐ Perform and report outcomes of periodic testing of the RCSA to CRO
- ☐ Identify and implement corrective actions / recommend action plans for deviations in the controls and present to CRO/ CEO
- ☐ Ensure adherence to the SEBI risk management framework

Head – Sales & Distribution

- ☐ Responsible for the governance of business risks including distribution risks.
- ☐ Provide inputs to CRO to define risk threshold and risk appetite
- ☐ Define and delegate roles to the key personnel within the distribution / sales function for identifying and reporting risks
- ☐ Provide relevant information to CRO regarding the risk reports
- ☐ For the relevant functional risks, identify, analyze and report the following to the CRO and CEO along with recommended action plan for:
 - ☐ Early warning signals
 - ☐ Emerging risks
 - ☐ Major findings
 - ☐ Near miss and loss events
 - ☐ Fraud incidents

Ensure escalation of such incidents as per the escalation matrix approved by CRO.

- ☐ Review the risk level for the functional risk is in accordance to the approved risk threshold and risk metric.
- ☐ Ensure adherence with the DoP framework
- ☐ Formulate, review and periodically provide inputs to update the RCSA for key risks and controls
- ☐ Perform and report outcomes of periodic testing of the RCSA to CRO
- ☐ Identify and implement corrective actions / recommend action plans for deviations in the controls and present to CRO/ CEO
- ☐ Ensure adherence to the SEBI risk management framework
- ☐ Monitor the distribution channels and miss-selling incidents reported such as –
 - ☐ Number of mis-selling incidents
 - ☐ Negative comments in the inspection report relating to distribution
 - ☐ Analysis of the portfolio of investors e.g. nature of investments vis-à-vis risk appetite of investor
 - ☐ Exceptions reported by Sales & Marketing basis reviews done for distributors.

Chief Financial officer / Head of Finance

- ☐ Responsible for the governance of financial accounting and reporting risks.
- ☐ Formulate and implement policy for mutual fund accounting and obtain approval from the Board of AMC
- ☐ Perform periodic review and suggest changes in the policies and obtain approval from Board of AMC
- ☐ Provide inputs to CRO to define risk threshold and risk appetite
- ☐ Define and delegate roles to the key personnel within the finance / accounting function for identifying and reporting risks
- ☐ Provide relevant information to CRO regarding the risk reports
- ☐ For the relevant functional risks, identify, analyze and report the following to the CRO and CEO along with recommended action plan for:
 - ☐ Early warning signals
 - ☐ Emerging risks
 - ☐ Major findings
 - ☐ Near miss and loss events
 - ☐ Fraud incidents
 Ensure escalation of such incidents as per the escalation matrix approved by CRO.
- ☐ Ensure adequate segregation of duties within the finance function for accounting related activities for scheme and AMC
- ☐ Review the risk level are in accordance with the approved risk threshold and risk metric.
- ☐ Ensure adherence with the DoP framework
- ☐ Formulate, review and periodically provide inputs to update the RCSA for key risks and controls
- ☐ Perform and report outcomes of periodic testing of the RCSA to CRO
- ☐ Identify and implement corrective actions / recommend action plans for deviations in the controls and present to CRO/ CEO
- ☐ Ensure adherence to the SEBI risk management framework
- ☐ Formulate procedure documents and implement process to perform periodic testing of internal controls over financial reporting of Mutual Fund schemes

Chief Information security Officer / Chief Technology Officer

- ☐ Develop, implement and monitor comprehensive information security and IT risk management program for the AMC and Mutual Fund Applications
- ☐ Ensuring compliance to Technology aspects specified under Cyber Risk and Information Security Policy
- ☐ Formulate and implement Information Security Framework and policies and obtain approval from the Technology Committee and Board of AMC
- ☐ Operational Risk related to activities of Technology function
- ☐ Conducting the Technology Committee meeting as per regulations
- ☐ Responsibility for all risks from IT services including the activities outsourced to vendors .
- ☐ Liaise with the business units to facilitate risk assessment and risk management processes governing the applications and systems being used
- ☐ Assess and Actively manage new and emerging cyber security risks
- ☐ Ensure Company's digital assets and client information and privacy controls are safeguarded from cyber attacks
- ☐ Conduct VAPT risk assessments for identifying vulnerabilities ☐ Ensure adherence to the SEBI risk management framework.
- ☐ Formulate, review and periodically provide inputs to update the RCSA for key risks and controls.
- ☐ Perform and report outcomes of periodic testing of the RCSA to CRO.
- ☐ Identify and implement corrective actions / recommend action plans for deviations in the controls and present to CRO/ CEO

Role of other CXOs

- The CXOs shall be responsible for the governance of the respective risk types.
- In respect of respective risk type, CXO should ensure:
 - a. Adherence to the guidelines pertinent to SEBI in respect of RMF and relevant principles thereunder including risk identification, risk management, risk reporting (both periodic and escalation of material incident) and corrective actions taken.
 - b. Defining specific responsibility regarding risk management of key personnel reporting to them.
 - c. Maintaining risk level as per the risk metric.
- The CXOs shall take immediate corrective action for non-compliance or major finding post approval from CEO as per DoP and shall report to CRO regarding the risk reports.
- The CXO shall escalate to CEO and the CRO any major findings reported by respective risk management function.