

4Q 2020

Nomura Asset Management U.K. Limited  
Nomura Asset Management Singapore Limited  
Nomura Asset Management Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.  
Nomura Islamic Asset Management Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.

# Responsible Investing Report

# Introduction

Nomura Asset Management is committed to Responsible Investment, being a signatory to the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (“UNPRI”) since 2011, and has a strong track record of acting in a manner that maximises both the experiences of our clients and the other stakeholders impacted by our investments.

Nomura Asset Management U.K. Limited (“NAM UK”) has been integrating Environmental, Social and Governance (“ESG”) research (both proprietary internal research and external data providers) into all individual global equity investment committee reviews since 2013. Our engagement activity and ESG research has been published publicly online since 2Q16 in an effort to promote transparency and increase the impact of our activity. Nomura Asset Management Malaysia SDN BHD (“NAMM”) and Nomura Islamic Asset Management SDN BHD (“NIAM”), as member entities within the NAM group in Malaysia, are also committed to standards encouraged by the UNPRI through its commitment to observe the Malaysian Code of Institutional Investors (“MCII”). Both NAMM and NIAM became signatories of the MCII on 25 April 2017.

The engagement efforts of the NAM UK Fixed Income team have been included within this report since 3Q18, and from 2Q19 we’ve also incorporated the research and engagement processes of Nomura Asset Management Singapore Limited (“NAM SG”) and Nomura Asset Management Malaysia SDN BHD. (“NAMM”). Since 1Q20 the Responsible Investment team of Nomura Asset Management Co., Ltd (“NAM Tokyo”) have also been contributing a selection of engagements with Japanese companies to the report. Through the collaboration of research efforts across offices and asset classes we believe we can maximise the impact of engagement activity and achieve the best outcomes for all stakeholders.

It is our view that Responsible Investment is best undertaken by taking into consideration the impact of a corporation’s existence and the associated investment decisions on all stakeholders, not just ourselves as shareholders and/or bond investors. As responsible investors we must take into account the broader impact of our investment decisions and it is our duty to engage with the businesses we own and/or lend to, and even those we don’t, to push for better practices where necessary. Targets for engagement are identified through our ongoing ESG research programme, which takes into consideration the ESG risks within our client portfolios and ongoing evaluation of the impact that our investee companies have on all stakeholders. An assessment is made as to the severity of the engagement topic and the engagement itself is carried out at the appropriate level. Where we feel our engagement activity is not having the desired effect we will escalate our concerns to more senior management or directly to the board. We are proactive with regards to proxy voting as a means to express our views and we actively seek to collaborate with other investors to maximise the impact of our activity.

"NAM Group" "NAM"	These references relate to the whole Nomura Asset Management organisation and will generally be used when referring to matters such as investment philosophy, style, company structure and other policies which are consistent across the Group.
"NAM UK"	This refers to Nomura Asset Management UK Limited, the UK based subsidiary of NAM Tokyo. NAM UK will typically be appointed as investment manager and will retain responsibility for the management, control and servicing of the client portfolio and relationship.
"NAM Singapore" "NAM SG"	This refers to Nomura Asset Management Singapore Limited.
"NAM Malaysia" "NAMM"	This refers to Nomura Asset Management Malaysia Sdn.Bhd.
"NIAM"	This refers to Nomura Islamic Asset Management Malaysia Sdn.Bhd.
"Our" "We"	This refers to the efforts and practices undertaken within the NAM UK, NAM Singapore and NAM Malaysia offices.

# Summary

Over the period 40 companies were reviewed and assigned ESG ratings. Of these, 11 were awarded a rating of ‘N’ (No Issues), 19 a rating of ‘I’ (Issues but Improving), 10 a rating of ‘I’ (Issues, Not Improving). No companies were deemed Uninvestable. In addition, 28 further companies were engaged with, supplementary to full company reviews, to discuss ESG related queries that arose over the period. In total we engaged with 59 companies to discuss ESG concerns. Of these engagements 9% were focused on Business Strategy, 17% on Social Impact, 25% on Environment, 22% on Governance, 4% on Financial Strategy and 23% on Dialogue/Disclosure. Of the companies we engaged with, 4 were based in North America, 11 in Europe, 27 in Asia ex Japan, 16 in Japan and 1 within Africa. Responses were received from 57 companies (97% response ratio).

Companies reviewed	
No Issues	11
Issues (improving)	19
Issues (Not improving)	10
Uninvestable	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>

Engagements	
Number of contacts	59
Engaged & responded	57
Engaged with no response	2
<b>Response Ratio</b>	<b>97%</b>

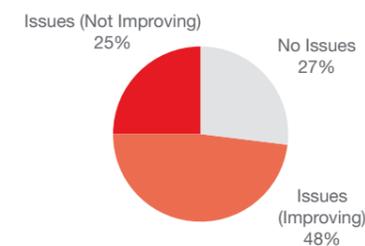
Engagements by Region	
Europe	11
North America	4
APAC ex Japan	27
Africa	1
Japan	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>

Engagements by Subject	
Business Strategy	17
Financial Strategy	7
Governance	41
Environment	47
Social	32
Dialogue/Disclosure	44

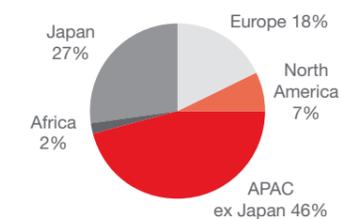
Engagements by Country	
Australia	0
Britain	2
Canada	0
China	2
Denmark	1
France	4
Germany	2
Hong Kong	4
India	2
Indonesia	3
Japan	16
Kenya	1
Macau	0
Malaysia	7
Netherlands	0
New Zealand	1
Philippines	1
Singapore	0
South Korea	4
Spain	0
Sweden	1
Switzerland	1
Taiwan	1
Thailand	2
United States	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>

Please note ‘Engagement by Subject’ does not add up to total number of engagements as company engagements can typically include the covering of multiple topics.

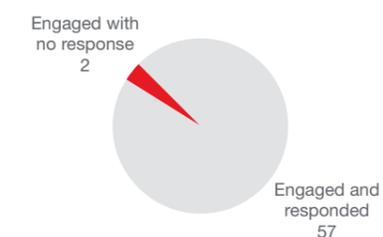
Ratings Assigned Over the Period



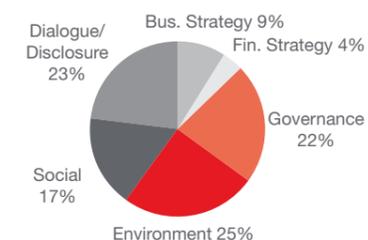
Engagement by Region



Engagement Over the Period



Engagement by Type



# Notes from our Responsible Investing Research

## Inter-company Collaboration Project

In 3Q 2020 we embarked on an inter-company collaboration project seeking to connect companies on a non-competitive basis to work together towards achieving better ESG outcomes. Given our unique insight from investing in and analysing a wide range of companies on ESG grounds, we started identifying sustainability leaders with a view to connect them to companies, in different regions and sectors, that might benefit from hearing about their ESG experiences and success stories. We have found the responses in the first stages highly promising with a number of companies willing to connect to either share positive experiences to support better outcomes at other companies, or eager to learn from more advanced peers on the sustainability front.

In 4Q 2020, we saw the first concrete results from a beneficial pairing, which resulted from our efforts. A French electrical power equipment manufacturer, and clear industry sustainability leader agreed to talk to a US building products company and share their positive experience and provide guidance. Topics covered in the communication between the two parties were management compensation links to sustainability outcomes, the importance of establishing emission targets, use of external consultants and more. Although, a member of our team was not present in the meeting, we received very positive feedback from both parties on the outcome of the meeting and are confident their collaboration and inter-company assistance will continue in the foreseeable future.

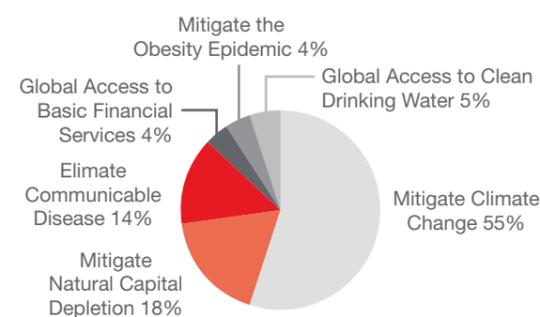
## Nomura Asset Management's 6 Impact Goals

In 4Q20 we continued to support NAM's 6 Impact Goals focused around the most pressing issues facing our world and where we as investors believe we can have the greatest positive impact. The impact goals are closely aligned with the UN's SDGs, and NAM's Global ESG Statement.

As part of our commitment to deeply integrate our 6 Impact Goals into our processes we strive to further increase our engagements with companies on the selected goals and work together towards achieving progress. In 4Q20, 22 of our total engagements were directly aligned to one of the identified impact goals. Of these 12 were related to Mitigating Climate Change, 4 to Mitigating Natural Capital Depletion, 3 to Eliminating Communicable Disease, 1 to Mitigating the Obesity Epidemic, 1 to Global Access to Basic Financial Services and 1 to Global Access to Clean Drinking Water.

### Engagements by NAM Impact Goals

Mitigate Climate Change	12
Mitigate Natural Capital Depletion	4
Eliminate Communicable Disease	3
Mitigate the Obesity Epidemic	1
Global Access to Basic Financial Services	1
Global Access to Clean Drinking Water	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>



# Responsible Investing Case Study

## Satellite-based engagement towards No-Deforestation

In October 2020, Nomura Asset Management joined an investor initiative using satellite-based imaging to work towards no-deforestation. Organised and coordinated by ACTIAM, a sustainable investment specialist, this initiative represents a coalition of nine financial institutions with a total of €1.8 trillion in AUM. The project will use satellite imagery and Artificial Intelligence (provided by Satelligence) to assess companies' supply chain traceability and deforestation risks. The loss of biodiversity due to increasing cases of deforestation is one of the greatest societal and economic risks we face today. Scrutiny of the financial and material risks, as well as recent governmental and regulatory discussions, has brought analysis and risk management of deforestation to the forefront of investors' minds. Hence, traceability and transparency of companies' supply chains are crucial to investors in order to identify and mitigate natural capital depletion risks in their portfolios holdings.

For the purpose of this engagement, 10 companies have been identified and split into two distinct groups. The first group consists of five companies that are currently showing lack of traceability efforts and/or do not disclose their supplier lists. The second group of five companies provide disclosures of their existing supply chain, however have been connected to cases of deforestation in the recent year based on satellite information. The target companies are expected to meet the investors' expectations in two to three years' time. By means of innovative tools, such as satellite imagery and artificial intelligence, investors would be able to assess independently the progress made by the subject companies and determine whether their efforts are indeed leading to a reduction of deforestation in the monitored regions and suppliers.

This satellite-based engagement towards no-deforestation aligns well with our investment philosophy and our six Impact Goals. Mitigate Natural Capital Depletion, with one of our main KPIs being global annual tree cover loss, is one of the goals that we as investors believe we can have the greatest impact on through investments and direct engagements. The initial collaborative engagement reviews the palm oil sector in Malaysia, however the current approach used for monitoring could potentially be expanded and applied to other soft commodities in the future.

More information regarding this collaborative engagement can be found [here](#).

# ISS Climate Impact Assessment – Aggregate Global Equities Holdings

Nomura Asset Management has contracted Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS) to provide Climate related analysis of our portfolios, based on the stock holdings. This section provides key elements of the analysis done on the aggregated holdings of the portfolios managed by the Global Equity team. It is based on a 98.15% coverage of the underlying holdings by ISS.

## Portfolio Overview

Comparison of Global Equity holdings Climate performance relative to the MSCI All Country World Index benchmark as defined by the ISS Climate Impact Assessment.

	Disclosure Number/Weight		Emission Exposure tCO <sub>2</sub> e		Relative Emission Exposure tCO <sub>2</sub> e/Mio USD Revenue		Climate Performance Weighted Avg
	Share of Disclosing Holdings	Scope 1&2	Incl. Scope 3	Relative Carbon Footprint	Carbon Intensity	Weighted Avg Carbon Intensity	Carbon Risk Rating <sup>1</sup>
<b>Portfolio</b>	80.9%/90.8%	239,396	1,158,281	59.09	104.31	96.35	41
<b>Benchmark</b>	58.5%/80.6%	406,312	1,672,601	100.29	200.53	159.94	36
<b>Net Performance</b>	22.4 p.p./10.1 p.p.	41.1%	30.7%	41.1%	48%	39.8%	-

Source: ISS ESG. Note: 1. Carbon Risk Rating data is current as of the date of report generation.

## Climate Scenario Analysis

The climate transition will require companies to align themselves with international climate goals and progress on those in the future. The International Energy Agency's (IEA) Sustainable Development Scenario (SDS) is Paris Agreement-aligned and uses 1.8 °C with a 66% probability, 1.65 °C with a 50% probability and no reliance on global net-negative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Currently our aggregate portfolio's holdings are aligned with a SDS budget until 2027. To improve the climate profile of our holdings is a key objective for our engagement programme, hence why we included "Mitigate Climate Change" as one of our six Impact Goals and a focus area for ongoing engagement.

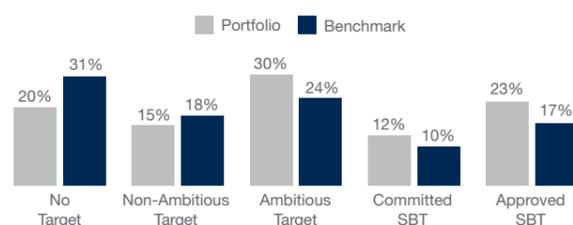
## Portfolio and Benchmark Comparison to SDS Budget (Red= Overshoot)

	2020	2030	2040	2050
<b>Portfolio</b>	-18.47%	+17.27%	+115.39%	+217.72%
<b>Benchmark</b>	+0.1%	+39.76%	+146.5%	+251.87%

**2027** The portfolio exceeds its SDS budget in 2027.  
**2.6°C** The portfolio is associated with a potential temperature increase of 2.6°C by 2050.

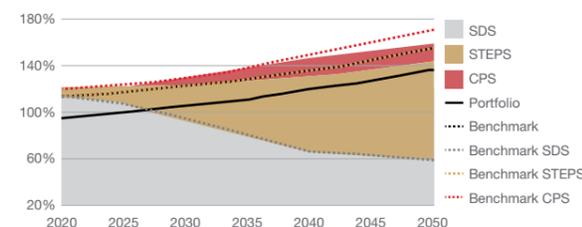
Currently 80% of our aggregate holdings is committed to align with international climate goals versus 69% for MSCI All Country World Index. Out of our holdings 23% have Approved Science Based Targets (SBT), 12% have Committed SBTs, 30% have set ambitious targets, while the remaining 35% have either non-ambitious or no targets at all.

## Climate Targets Assessment (% Portfolio Weight)



Source: ISS ESG

## Portfolio Emission Pathway vs. Climate Scenarios Budgets



Source: ISS ESG

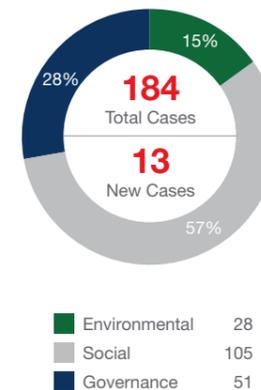
# Sustainalytics Engagement (formerly GES International)

In addition to the extensive ESG research and engagement activity carried out at Nomura Asset Management, the services of Sustainalytics' engagement arm (formerly GES International) are used to maximise our engagement voice and ability to push for better practices and fairer outcomes for all stakeholders. The Sustainalytics engagement team have over 40 employees globally dedicated to corporate engagement and represent €1.5 trillion of investments worldwide. We include herein a summary of the engagement activity carried out on behalf of Nomura Asset Management as at December 2020.

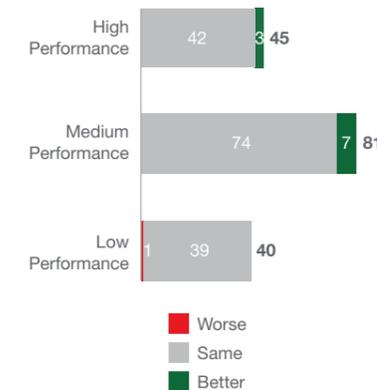
## Quarterly Statistics

September– November 2020

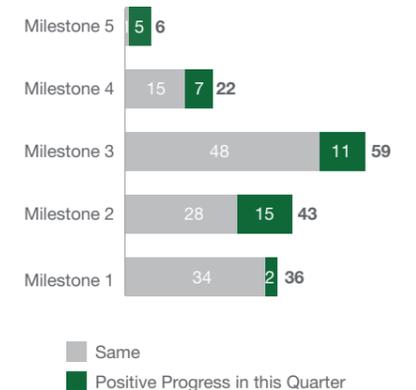
### Cases by Theme



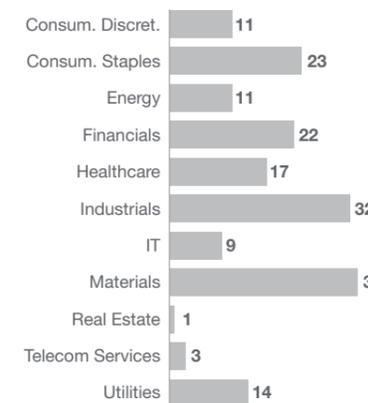
### Engagement Performance Overview



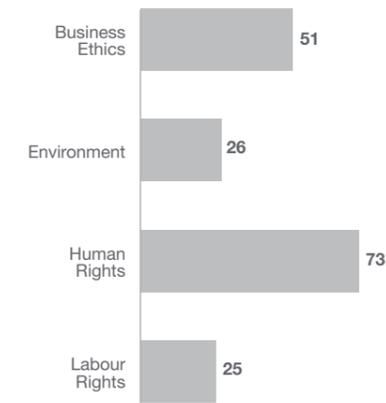
### Milestone Overview



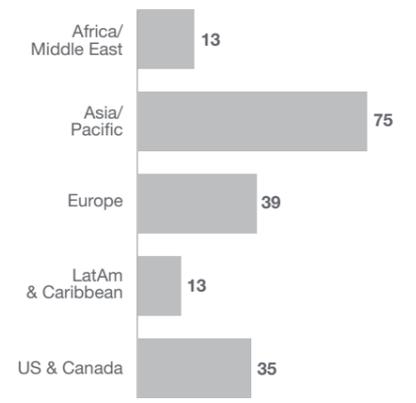
### Cases by Sector



### Cases by Norm



### Cases by Headquarters



## Proxy Voting Record 4Q20

NAM seeks to act in a manner most likely to enhance the economic value of the underlying companies owned on our clients' behalf. We engage with companies based on our "Ideal Form of Business Management of Investee Companies" in order to enhance our mutual understanding and to seek changes in their company practices. NAM employs the services of Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS) to efficiently apply our proxy voting policy to individual proposals. ISS are provided with comprehensive and proprietary guidelines set out in our proxy voting policy. NAM will closely consider the voting agenda of a company that meets certain conditions (including, but not limited to, the violation of any applicable laws, inadequate board composition, and financial strategies that are not deemed to be in the best interests of shareholders and other stakeholders). Where we believe that a specific agenda item is not in the best interests of shareholders, NAM will decide either to vote against or to abstain from voting on the item. Please see the Nomura Asset Management Proxy Voting Policy for full details.

## Voting Data

Over the quarter NAM UK, NAMM and NAM SG voted on 981 proposals across 35 shareholder meetings and 121 ballots. In total 61.2% of proposals were director related, with a further 12.9% in relation to 'Routine Business' and 18.5% 'Capitalisation'. In total NAM UK, NAMM and NAM SG voted 'With' management on 936 (95.4%) proposals and 'Against' management (or 'Withheld' our vote) on 45 (4.6%) proposals. Examples of where we voted 'Against' management, or elected to 'Withhold' our vote included:

- Voted 'For' the approval of a proposed climate action plan at a Spanish Transportation Infrastructure company, as it addresses shareholders' concerns over the company's disclosure and policies on climate-related issues. Management had recommended a vote 'against' this proposal
- Voted 'Against' the approval of allocation of income at a US Software business as it falls into TSR watch list and medium and high concern is identified in Pay for Performance Evaluation

### Proposals Voted on in 4Q20

Proposal subject	Count	Proportion of Total Votes
Antitakeover	1	0.1%
Capitalisation	181	18.5%
Directorships	600	61.2%
Compensation	22	2.2%
Reorg/M&A	48	4.9%
Routine Business	127	12.9%
Health/Environment/Social	0	0.0%
Other	2	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>981</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Proposals Voted 'Against' Management in 4Q20

Proposal subject	Count	Proportion of Total Votes
Antitakeover	0	0.0%
Capitalisation	0	0.0%
Directorships	36	80.0%
Compensation	3	6.7%
Reorg/M&A	0	0.0%
Routine Business	5	11.1%
Health/Environment/Social	0	0.0%
Other	1	2.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Voting Record vs. Management in 4Q20

	With	Against
<b>Votes</b>	936	45
<b>Proportion</b>	95.4%	4.6%

### Voting Record vs. ISS in 4Q20

	With	Against
<b>Votes</b>	959	22
<b>Proportion</b>	97.8%	2.2%

# ESG Analysis

Anonymous Name	Contact Type	ESG Rating	Primary ESG Issues Identified	ESG Opinion for Investment Consideration	Engaged/ Response
<b>Air Freight &amp; Logistics, Germany</b>	IR	Issues (Improving)	Have achieved 35% reduction in CO2 since 2007, target is 50%. Zero emissions by 2050, and have taken efforts, such as manufacturing electric vans, but still operate 300 planes.	Leader in the industry with regards to efforts to decarbonise, which adds modestly to the investment case. Operates a fleet of nearly 300 highly emitting airplanes means not suitable for Global Sustainable Equity Strategy (GSE).	Engaged and response received
<b>Air Freight &amp; Logistics, United States</b>	IR	Issues (Improving)	Class A shares have 10x the voting power of Class B, and represent 18% of outstanding shares – they are held by employees and retirees.	Dual share class not ideal, does increase risk value shift to class A holders but generally limited 'ESG' consideration impact to the investment case, not suitable for GSE.	Engaged and response received
<b>Air Freight &amp; Logistics, United States</b>	–	Issues (Improving)	Far lower levels of unionisation means lower risk of shift in value from shareholder. Flagged for negative practices and exceptionally high employee turnover in the 40-50% range due franchise model.	Limited 'ESG' consideration impact to the investment case, not suitable for GSE. Executive compensation is mostly linked to financial metrics for growth, not return.	Not Engaged
<b>Containers &amp; Packaging, United States</b>	–	Issues (Not Improving)	Clear sustainability goals, however not particularly challenging. The company needs to improve areas, such as use of certified paper, landfill and recycling. Gender diversity is improving.	Potential candidate for addition in GSE.	Not Engaged
<b>Health Care Providers &amp; Services, United States</b>	–	Issues (Improving)	Management compensation appears high. There has been some improvement to performance metrics alignment. However, ROIC was not implemented as a quantitative target despite shareholder feedback.	Market leader for kidney dialysis services in the US. End-stage renal disease is typically caused by severe diabetes, obesity, ageing and hepatitis. Stock is potentially suitable candidate for GSE.	Not Engaged
<b>Capital Markets, United States</b>	–	No Issues	Excessively large board with 23 members.	Limited 'ESG' consideration impact to the investment case, not suitable for GSE.	Not Engaged
<b>Capital Markets, United States</b>	–	Issues (Not Improving)	Swedish regulator is currently investigating risk processes post a trader default in the Nordic power markets.	Limited 'ESG' consideration impact to the investment case, not suitable for GSE. Executive compensation is mostly linked to financial metrics for growth, not return.	Not Engaged
<b>Capital Markets, United States</b>	–	No Issues	Possible excessive severance payments (\$10m-\$60m for non-executive officers to CEO) could lead to potential conflict of interest with shareholders.	Limited 'ESG' consideration impact to the investment case, not suitable for GSE.	Not Engaged
<b>Capital Markets, United States</b>	–	Issues (Not Improving)	Related party control via large shareholder, various share classes and large portion of revenue from related parties is an issue.	Potential dilution from various share classes, higher than pro rata voting rights of a single large shareholder and the lack of the independent board.	Not Engaged

Anonymous Name	Contact Type	ESG Rating	Primary ESG Issues Identified	ESG Opinion for Investment Consideration	Engaged/ Response
<b>Capital Markets, United States</b>	–	No Issues	The company was not implicated of wrongdoing in the LIBOR manipulation case.	Limited 'ESG' consideration impact to the investment case, not suitable for GSE.	Not Engaged
<b>Capital Markets, United States</b>	–	Issues (Not Improving)	Currently facing an ongoing investigation (as of Nov 2020) into VIX manipulation in Feb 2018.	Limited 'ESG' consideration impact to the investment case, not suitable for GSE.	Not Engaged
<b>Real Estate Management &amp; Development, Hong Kong</b>	IR	No Issues	Basically, no serious issues. Board member: independent non-executive ratio. Related party transaction.	ESG quality is not an issue to invest. Its disclosure as well as actual implementation are good.	Engaged and response received
<b>Banks, Indonesia</b>	IR - Group	No Issues	Company has a fairly large loan exposure to CPO sector (6-7%). Board of commissioner: 2 independent commissioners are entrenched and no female members.	Only lend to large CPO firms, which have greater focus on sustainability. No plans to replace entrenched independent members as they have contributed. High female representation at senior management level.	Engaged and response received
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels, China</b>	IR	Issues (Not Improving)	Lack of quantitative target for emission reduction, governance practice (board and ownership structure and related party transactions).	Quantitative target has been set which is a good sign, but governance issue remains, i.e. board structure as well as related party transactions.	Engaged and response received
<b>IT Services, India</b>	IR	Issues (Improving)	Founder and management team engagement; acquisition integration progress, attrition, sustainability.	Governance issues - founder and management interaction is better than in past. Strategic acquisitions and shows board involvement; attrition to improve with growth returning.	Engaged and response received
<b>Diversified Telecommunication, Malaysia</b>	IR	Issues (Improving)	Company has contributed positively to society during Covid-19 pandemic by providing access, stable and reliable fixed broadband, data centres and other telco services.	Overall, environmental and governance practices are acceptable and can continue to improve such as using more renewable energy and disclose details of top management salaries.	Engaged and response received
<b>Life Sciences Tools &amp; Services, South Korea</b>	IR - Group	Issues (Not Improving)	Corporate governance, which we commonly see in Chaebol. This might lead to distortion in stakeholders' value, similar to what we observed in the charge by FSC regarding accounting of its subsidiary.	Accounting issues are less likely to be penalised given no clear proof of misconduct. The company will publish first CSR report in 2021.	Engaged and response received
<b>Insurance, Hong Kong</b>	Company ESG team	No Issues	Overall, do not see serious issues. Set up appropriate KPI for better disclosure / gender diversity and nomination process for board members.	Overall, the company's ESG policy does not have material issues as an investment candidate. However, there is still room to improve. Further disclosure on progress is expected.	Engaged and response received
<b>Media, Thailand</b>	IR	Issues (Not Improving)	Sustainability report publication, board composition, and anti-corruption measures.	Company is not very active in disclosing and sharing ESG related information with investors. Company is planning to release its first sustainability report this year.	Engaged and response received

## ESG Analysis (cont'd)

Anonymous Name	Contact Type	ESG Rating	Primary ESG Issues Identified	ESG Opinion for Investment Consideration	Engaged/ Response
<b>Electronic Equipment, Instruments, Malaysia</b>	Corporate Action	Issues (Improving)	Female directors on the board are below the 30% target but the company plans to achieve this in 3 years. Discloses the detail remuneration of individual directors but not the top management.	Overall, the company strives to improve on ESG initiatives and activities.	Engaged and response received
<b>Insurance, South Korea</b>	IR	Issues (Improving)	Anti-corruption policies, related party transaction, diversity of board members, shareholder return policies, labour management.	The company tries to respond to ESG related issue through established internal system. They have also published annual sustainability report to communicate with stakeholders.	Engaged and response received
<b>Capital Markets, South Korea</b>	IR	No Issues	Disclosure: in process of improving IR activity.	The point was recognised by the company and now in the process of improving.	Engaged and response received
<b>IT Services, India</b>	IR	Issues (Improving)	Management compensation, acquisition integration, data and privacy.	Issues on salaries, acquisitions, data and privacy are well addressed. Environmental and social commitments are solid. Overall, ESG concerns on investment decision is minimal.	Engaged and response received
<b>Real Estate Management &amp; Development, Philippines</b>	IR	Issues (Improving)	Composition of board members. Sustainability report publication and environmental development.	Overall, the company has some intention to improve their ESG related development and communicate with all stakeholders to penetrate their commitment in spite of limitation as family owned company.	Engaged and response received
<b>Media, Indonesia</b>	IR - Group	No Issues	President commissioner is a family member. Two independent commissioners have served for 8 years; considered entrenched. Management has no policies to address concerns. Sustainability report in 2021.	While the chairman is not independent and independent commissioners are entrenched, the company's governance practices have historically been fair to minority shareholders.	Engaged and response received
<b>IT Services, South Korea</b>	IR	Issues (Improving)	Anti-corruption policies, related party transaction, diversity of board members, shareholder return policies, labour management.	Outside directors are the majority of the board of directors. Internal transactions should be approved at the related party transaction committee. It maintains 25-30% pay-out ratio until 2021.	Engaged and response received
<b>Beverages, Hong Kong</b>	Company ESG team	No Issues	Overall, do not see serious issues. Environmental disclosure has some room for improvement but expected to step up with group benchmarking.	Despite 1st year of listing, overall the company's ESG policy does not have material issues as an investment candidate while they have some room to improve on environmental.	Engaged and response received
<b>Technology Hardware, Storage &amp;, China</b>	IR	Issues (Improving)	Lack of gender diversity on board.	Company is attempting to set up framework for ESG, which is challenging due to its many suppliers and investee companies.	Engaged and response received

Anonymous Name	Contact Type	ESG Rating	Primary ESG Issues Identified	ESG Opinion for Investment Consideration	Engaged/ Response
<b>Metals &amp; Mining, Indonesia</b>	IR - Group	No Issues	President commissioner is a major shareholder. Independent commissioners are minority on the board (2/5 members). No female commissioners - lack of gender diversity.	While the chairman is not independent and independent commissioners are minority, there hasn't been any concerns with the company's governance practices. 2019 sustainability report is comprehensive.	Engaged and response received
<b>Health Care Providers &amp; Services, New Zealand</b>	IR	No Issues	Need clarity on emission targets and thoughts around the review into retirement village model and potential mandatory capital gain sharing.	Strong focus on residents' care and quality control procedures at facilities. Has preliminary targets on reducing scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions. Current revenue model provides residents with certainty.	Engaged and response received
<b>Real Estate Management &amp; Development, Thailand</b>	Company ESG team	Issues (Improving)	Composition of board members, social and environmental development initiatives.	Overall, the company has strong intention to upgrade their ESG related development. Company has proceeded on many ESG initiatives, which seems to be a much better stance than domestic peers.	Engaged and response received
<b>Construction Materials, Taiwan</b>	Senior Management	Issues (Improving)	Set up appropriate KPI for (1) better disclosure (2) CO2 and other toxic material emissions (3) diversity and efficiency of the board members.	The company is very proactive for disclosure and achieving targets of ESG issues. One of the best efforts made by company in the industry for solving/ improving ESG issues.	Engaged and response received
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor, Malaysia</b>	Senior Management - Group	Issues (Improving)	Non-disclosure on detailed remuneration of the top management and can improve on reporting of sustainability initiatives (targets and milestone progress).	Do not see considerable investment risks from ESG assessment. Limited environmental impact given business model.	Engaged and response received
<b>Machinery, Malaysia</b>	Senior Management	Issues (Improving)	Lack of female board representatives, non-disclosure on detailed remuneration of the top management and can improve on reporting of sustainability initiatives (targets and milestone progress).	Do not see considerable investment risks from ESG assessment. Limited environmental impact given business model.	Engaged and response received
<b>Electronic Equipment, Instruments, Malaysia</b>	Senior Management - Group	Issues (Improving)	Lack of female board representatives, non-disclosure on detailed remuneration of the top management and can improve on reporting of sustainability initiatives (targets and milestone progress).	Do not see considerable investment risks from ESG assessment. Limited environmental impact given business model.	Engaged and response received
<b>Containers &amp; Packaging, Malaysia</b>	Senior Management - Group	Issues (Improving)	Governance is generally acceptable but can improve on reporting of sustainability initiatives (targets and milestone progress).	Do not see considerable investment risks from ESG assessment. Limited environmental impact given business model.	Engaged and response received
<b>Machinery, Japan</b>	Company ESG team	Issues (Not Improving)	There are few descriptions of risks, and the involvement of top management is particularly difficult to understand. There is no information on human rights, only on training.	The company is not taking ESG concerns from investors seriously and portfolio managers should be aware of that.	Engaged and response received

## ESG Analysis (cont'd)

Anonymous Name	Contact Type	ESG Rating	Primary ESG Issues Identified	ESG Opinion for Investment Consideration	Engaged/ Response
<b>Food Products, Japan</b>	Company ESG team	Issues (Improving)	While many ESG issues, including climate change, have been pointed out for the livestock industry, alternatives such as cultured meat and plant meat have emerged and are attracting attention.	Although company is working to improve their ESG issues, there remains risks related to ESG.	Engaged and response received
<b>Metals &amp; Mining, Japan</b>	Senior Management	Issues (Not Improving)	The company is working with the bank to restructure its operations. Concerns about the interests of minority shareholders since the outside directors are from the bank and major shareholders.	The company is not taking ESG concerns from investors seriously and portfolio managers should be aware of that.	Engaged and response received
<b>Diversified Telecommunication, Japan</b>	Company ESG team	Issues (Not Improving)	Still determined to expand its overseas business, despite its notable failures. Cross-shareholdings can also be seen. No outside directors who are familiar with the IT industry in overseas business.	The company is not taking ESG concerns from investors seriously and portfolio managers should be aware of that.	Engaged and response received

## Engagements

Anonymous Name	Any investment consideration	NAM's comment on the engagement	Comments/response from company	Main sub-category of issues raised
<b>Automobile Manufacturers, Germany</b>	Movement in right direction but still find company somewhat shareholder unfriendly.	Have invested considerably in compliance but still don't seem to get it in terms of being open with shareholders and accepting the poor outcomes achieved.	–	Remuneration
<b>Industrial Gases, France</b>	No direct investment consideration at this time but positive to hear they are seeking to develop solutions that will support greater access to medical oxygen in emerging economies.	Follow up call on Access to Medical Oxygen to discuss the role the company could play.	–	Healthcare Access
<b>Multi-Utilities, Britain</b>	Positive steps forward with regards to ESG data reporting and alignment with climate transition support investment case.	Ongoing engagement on the reporting of Impact Data (MWs of renewables connected and planned to connect).	Company are now reporting these metrics.	Climate Change Related
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defence, United States</b>	No impact on investment consideration.	Engaged to better understand company exposure to nuclear weapons.	Clarified 5% of sales exposure to nuclear weapons.	Ethical (Non Health)
<b>Building Products, United States</b>	Willingness to engage with other companies to support better outcomes is very positive.	Engaged for feedback on intercompany collaboration meeting outcome.	Provided detail on their inter-company collaboration engagement, which found very helpful for their progress.	Climate Change Related
<b>Electrical Components &amp; Equipment, France</b>	Willingness to engage with other companies to support better outcomes is very positive.	Engaged for feedback on intercompany collaboration meeting outcome.	Provided detail on their inter-company collaboration engagement.	Climate Change Related
<b>Packaged Foods &amp; Meats, France</b>	Engaging with the company to better understand relationships with suppliers, gain insight on traceability and accountability on potential issues with deforestation, and trends in plastic packaging.	Concerns over treatment of dairy farmers. The company explained that their milk buying is roughly split 50/50 between cost-plus contracts and spot rate contracts.	100% traceability of direct commodities from suppliers. Unsure about indirect effects - e.g. soy used to feed the cows. 2025 Plastic objectives - collect and recycle, glass, can, paper alternatives.	Natural Capital Efficiency Related
<b>Electrical Components &amp; Equipment, France</b>	World-class approach to sustainability strongly supports investment case.	Engaging to provide feedback as requested from company on its ESG day.	Continue to have strong dialogue with company regarding ESG.	Climate Change Related
<b>Pharmaceuticals, Denmark</b>	Strong ESG credentials and approach to sustainability supports the investment case.	Engaged through the company's ESG day and provided feedback directly - would have liked more focus on company's core impact (obesity epidemic mitigation).	Provided feedback through online survey for the event.	Natural Capital Efficiency Related
<b>Air Freight &amp; Logistics, Germany</b>	Leader in the industry with regards to efforts to decarbonise which adds modestly to the investment case.	Engaging with the company to better understand efforts to mitigate environmental impact.	Company provided robust response and explanation of efforts taken.	Climate Change Related

## Engagements (cont'd)

Anonymous Name	Any investment consideration	NAM's comment on the engagement	Comments/response from company	Main sub-category of issues raised
<b>Air Freight &amp; Logistics, United States</b>	Dual share class not ideal, does increase risk value shift to class A holders but generally limited 'ESG' consideration impact to the investment case, not suitable for GSE.	Engage to give our view on dual share class structure and also on management remuneration alignment.	Company were somewhat unresponsive to the feedback.	Remuneration
<b>Agricultural Products, Malaysia</b>	At this stage there is no investment consideration - it is the initial contact in our ongoing engagement project.	Part of collaborative satellite-based engagement towards No-Deforestation.	The company has achieved 100% traceability to the mills but not to plantations. Once 100% of the growers are MSPO certified (currently at 88%) full traceability to plantations could be achieved.	Natural Capital Efficiency Related
<b>Agricultural Products, United States</b>	At this stage there is no investment consideration - it is the initial contact in our ongoing engagement project.	Part of collaborative satellite-based engagement towards No-Deforestation.	Frustrated response from the company. Explained that they are doing their bit but competitors and customers should also take part. 100% traceability to plantation target by 2025.	Natural Capital Efficiency Related
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services, Kenya</b>	Approach to considering SDGs within remuneration is commendable and adds to investment case, but should be higher.	Part of our broader efforts to support more appropriate, sustainability linked remuneration.	Company initially very willing to discuss views and opinions and provide as much.	Access to Financial Services Related
<b>Life Sciences Tools &amp; Services, United States</b>	Neutral, disappointing still not achieved but promising that are willing. Impact on access to clean water and drug development is high but must be reported.	Engaging to provide better impact data - 2020 CSR report did not include what we requested.	IR explained capacity and employee turnover meant did not reach final report but there is a desire to include impact data.	Global Access to Clean Drinking Water
<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure, Britain</b>	Positive response from company. Either they are already engaging with competitors/other companies (see "comments/ response from company"), or are willing to learn from leader companies in nutrition.	We are looking for the company to agree to share information with other companies on ESG matters.	It participates in information sharing with other companies as part of the Global Coalition for animal welfare or WBCSD (World Business Council for Sustainable Development).	Inter-company Assistance
<b>Food Products, Switzerland</b>	The response from the company is a negative, as they do not seem open to share their insights in sustainability.	We are looking for the company to agree to share information with other companies on ESG matters.	They have a protective approach when thinking about sharing information, even if this is for sustainability and consider many companies as competitors. Not open to give investors a role here.	Inter-company Assistance
<b>Packaged Foods &amp; Meats, Switzerland</b>	The company is working with other companies in this initiative, having the top score from Sustainalytics (November 2020).	Cocoa Plan to tackle Child Labour. Part of the engagement with Sustainalytics.	Company applies Child Labour monitoring and remediation systems (CLMRS). They also have a strategy in place for monitoring their progress with living income.	Human Rights

Anonymous Name	Any investment consideration	NAM's comment on the engagement	Comments/response from company	Main sub-category of issues raised
<b>Apparel Retail, Spain</b>	At this stage there is no investment consideration - it is the initial contact in our ongoing engagement project.	We are looking for the company to agree to share information with other companies on ESG matters.	There is no response from the company about information sharing, despite having tried a few times.	Inter-company assistance
<b>Diversified Banks, Sweden</b>	The company is involved in green financing (cars, mortgages etc.), which offer 10bps lower interest rates to customers with more energy efficient assets.	We are looking for the company to agree to share information with other companies on green financing matters.	The company already communicates with Swedish peers in this regard. They are happy to speak with other interested parties we can connect them with.	Inter-company assistance
<b>Gas Utilities, Hong Kong</b>	Issues are not serious. When it comes to governance, the board structure seems to have room to improve while this kind of characteristics are not unusual in family-owned type companies.	Engaging.	The company responded in a good manner while it took some time. Board issues were not necessarily well answered but showed their thoughts and policy.	Director Related
<b>Real Estate Operating Companies, Hong Kong</b>	ESG quality is not an issue to invest. Its disclosure as well as actual implementation are good.	Engaging.	The company responded in a good manner. Not many issues while some issues pointed out were well dialogued by the company.	Director Related
<b>Diversified Banks, Indonesia</b>	Fairly large loan exposure to CPO sector (6-7%) but only lend to large firms that have greater focus on sustainability. High female representation at senior management level although none at BOC level.	Management is looking to raise the exposure on green finance and now has 20% loan exposure. Bank has virtually no loan exposure to the coal sector.	Receptive to investor input and understand investors' concerns.	Increased Environmental Oversight (board, reporting, policies)
<b>Oil &amp; Gas Exploration &amp; Products, China</b>	Quantitative target has been set which is a good sign, but governance issue remains, i.e. board structure as well as related party transactions.	Engaging.	Encouraging that company responded and will have a meeting with Sustainalytics in November hopefully.	Environmental data reporting
<b>IT Consulting &amp; Other Services, India</b>	Governance aspects are definitely improving under the new management. Acquisitions seem more strategic in nature and issues with founders have not cropped up. Attrition issue too partly handled.	Company was willing to engage and had examples to every conclusion.	Receptive to investor input.	Collaborative Engagement
<b>Alternative Carriers, Malaysia</b>	Company contributes positively to society during this covid-19 pandemic by providing access, stable and reliable fixed broadband, data centres and other telco services. The business is also thriving.	Company is willing to engage and listens to feedback.	In the process to do better and reduce gaps in sustainability practices.	Other

## Engagements (cont'd)

Anonymous Name	Any investment consideration	NAM's comment on the engagement	Comments/response from company	Main sub-category of issues raised
<b>Life Sciences Tools &amp; Services, South Korea</b>	Accounting issues are less likely to be penalised given no clear proof of misconduct. Hold in some accounts given the attractiveness in the CMO industry in Asia including Korea.	We will meet with dedicated CSR team after the company publishes their first CSR report in 2021.	Happy to talk. The ESG initiatives still a bit slow.	Accounting Issues
<b>Life &amp; Health Insurance, Hong Kong</b>	Overall, the company's ESG policy does not have material issues as an investment candidate while they have some room to improve. Further disclosure or progress are expected.	Gender diversity is low at board level.	Gender is one of the priorities to fill the gap.	Director Related
<b>Life &amp; Health Insurance, Hong Kong</b>	Overall, the company's ESG policy does not have material issues as an investment candidate while they have some room to improve. Further disclosure or progress are expected.	Disclosure on measurements of KPIs on ESG risks.	Expecting to have developed something within the next 6 months.	General Strategy
<b>Advertising, Thailand</b>	Not very active in disclosing and sharing ESG related information with investors as they do not have an integrated responsible division to manage these kind of matters and have less experience.	The company is still in the early stage of developing ESG initiatives including sustainability report publication.	Actually, the company's response is not good. The company has some intention to improve ESG initiatives in the future.	Increased Social Oversight (board, reporting, policies)
<b>Electronic Manufacturing Services, Malaysia</b>	Overall, the company is improving on ESG activities.	Complies with the majority of the Malaysian Code of Corporate Governance requirements. It shares information, data and targets on energy usage, greenhouse gas emission and water consumption.	Happy to receive the ESG enquiries and an honour to the company to express its strong commitments towards ESG matters.	Increased Environmental Oversight (board, reporting, policies)
<b>Property &amp; Casualty Insurance, South Korea</b>	The company tries to respond to ESG related issue through established internal system. They have also published an annual sustainability report to communicate with stakeholders. We own the stock.	Has established internal system to improve ESG related issues.	Detailed comments based on annual sustainability report.	Increased Social Oversight (board, reporting, policies)
<b>Investment Banking &amp; Brokerage, South Korea</b>	Good board structure, with majority being independent. Potential improvement in IR activity can enhance shareholder value.	We did some engagement towards better disclosure.	Receptive to investor input and understand investors' opinions.	Collaborative Engagement

Anonymous Name	Any investment consideration	NAM's comment on the engagement	Comments/response from company	Main sub-category of issues raised
<b>IT Consulting &amp; Other Services, India</b>	Overall, rating as "Issues Improving". No negatives/red flags that warrant relook of investment decision based on ESG concerns.	The company is focused on governance and privacy framework. Acquisition related benchmarks are in place.	Delay in response partly due to silent period, however quite comprehensive responses.	Remuneration
<b>Diversified Real Estate Activities, Philippines</b>	Overall, the company has some intention to improve their ESG related development and communicate with all stakeholders to penetrate their commitment in spite of limitation as family owned company.	The company is willing to improve ESG related development gradually. The company tries to communicate with MSCI, which alerted its board structure and has intention to improve in the long term.	Happy to talk and recognise investors' interest in ESG matters. Company recognised that MSCI warned their board structure and members with long tenancy etc.	Increased Social Oversight (board, reporting, policies)
<b>Broadcasting, Indonesia</b>	President commissioner is a family member. Two independent commissioners have served for 8 years; considered entrenched. Management has no policies to address concerns. Sustainability report in 2021.	Management understands investors' concerns on board and chairman independence. Putting effort in ensuring operations are sustainable.	IR will feedback comments and concerns to senior management. Sustainability report will be released in 2021.	Increased Social Oversight (board, reporting, policies)
<b>IT Consulting &amp; Other Services, South Korea</b>	They respond to ESG issue through internal system. They publish an annual sustainability report. Investment could be considered based on earnings. It also depends on sustainable ESG improvement.	Company has established internal system to improve ESG related issues.	Detailed comments based on annual sustainability report.	Increased Social Oversight (board, reporting, policies)
<b>Brewers, Hong Kong</b>	Despite first year of listing, overall the company's ESG policy does not have material issues as an investment candidate, while they have some room to improve on the environmental side.	The company is willing to take advice while considering cost-benefit for further disclosure.	Good to discuss various topics.	Environmental data reporting
<b>Technology Hardware, Storage &amp;, China</b>	Company is attempting to set up framework for ESG, which is challenging due to its many suppliers and investee companies.	ESG work is at preliminary stage but the company is seeking to improve.	Responsible and open to answering questions.	Director Related
<b>Diversified Metals &amp; Mining, Indonesia</b>	President commissioner is a major shareholder. Independent commissioners are minority on the board (2/5 members). No female commissioners - lack of gender diversity.	As a mining company, management is acutely aware of the impact to environment and community. Have taken many measures to mitigate impact. 2019 sustainability report is comprehensive.	IR will feedback comments and concerns to senior management on (1) non-independence of chairman and (2) independent commissioners are minority of the board.	Increased Social Oversight (board, reporting, policies)

## Engagements (cont'd)

Anonymous Name	Any investment consideration	NAM's comment on the engagement	Comments/response from company	Main sub-category of issues raised
<b>Health Care Facilities, New Zealand</b>	Strong focus on residents' care and quality control procedures at facilities. Has preliminary targets on reducing scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions. Current revenue model provides residents with certainty.	Open to engagement and prompt in addressing the specific issues highlighted.	Currently in the process of updating emissions target. Current model is attractive to residents as it provides them with certainty.	Routine Business, Formalities & Articles/Bylaws
<b>Real Estate Operating Companies, Thailand</b>	Overall, the company has strong intention to upgrade their ESG related development. Company recognised the gap between the company and its global peers. We do not own stock because of non-ESG reasons.	Company is communicating well with its stakeholders including third party research institution about ESG related matters to improve and share their development.	The company appreciates any feedback or suggestion from investors and stakeholders. Company recognised investors' concern about board structure but limited talent pool in the country is a challenge.	Increased Environmental Oversight (board, reporting, policies)
<b>Construction Materials, Taiwan</b>	The company is very proactive in disclosure and achieving targets on ESG issues. One of the best efforts made by the company in the industry for solving ESG issues.	The company is willing to take advice from external stakeholders as well as ESG consultants.	Good to discuss various topics in detail.	Climate Change Related
<b>Construction Materials, Taiwan</b>	The company is very proactive in disclosure and achieving targets on ESG issues. One of the best efforts made by the company in the industry for solving ESG issues.	The company is willing to take advice from external stakeholders as well as ESG consultants.	Good to discuss various topics in detail.	Director Related
<b>Semiconductor Equipment, Malaysia</b>	Do not see considerable investment risks from ESG assessment. Limited environmental impact given business model.	The company is receptive to the ESG engagement. It has done a wonderful job in human resource development and taking care of the employees' wellbeing.	The company has been systematically embedding sustainability principles throughout its operation.	Increased Social Oversight (board, reporting, policies)
<b>Industrial Machinery, Malaysia</b>	Do not see considerable investment risks from ESG assessment. Limited environmental impact given business model.	The company is receptive to the ESG engagement.	The company strongly support the 17 UN Sustainability Development Goal and such goals will be progressively integrated into its sustainability practices.	Increased Environmental Oversight (board, reporting, policies)
<b>Electronic Manufacturing Services, Malaysia</b>	Do not see considerable investment risks from ESG assessment. Limited environmental impact given business model.	The company is receptive to the ESG engagement. ESG framework, policy and processes seems to be well integrated in the company.	The company thinks it is higher than the global corporate peer comparison average based on the Bursa FTSE4 Good ESG rating,	Increased Environmental Oversight (board, reporting, policies)

Anonymous Name	Any investment consideration	NAM's comment on the engagement	Comments/response from company	Main sub-category of issues raised
<b>Metal &amp; Glass Containers, Malaysia</b>	Do not see considerable investment risks from ESG assessment. Limited environmental impact given business model.	The company responded to our ESG enquiries albeit delayed.	Is subjected to quarterly international Corporate Social Responsibility/ ESG audits by customers and their retailers in the US and Europe. Consistently scored above its peers in the industry.	Increased Environmental Oversight (board, reporting, policies)
<b>Pharmaceuticals, Japan</b>	The advisory committee on nomination and compensation was started with a majority of outside directors. Effectiveness is unknown.	The compensation system has changed dramatically. We want to know how effective the advisory committee is.	Outside directors are also active in speaking out. We understand the point that the committee chair is an internal director.	Director Related
<b>Packaged Foods &amp; Meats, Japan</b>	Capital efficiency is an issue, but KPIs for executive compensation are sales and operating profit.	Capital efficiency is an issue, but KPIs for executive compensation are sales and operating income, and not aligned with the issue.	KPIs for executive compensation have so far focused on PL items, but in anticipation of next year's mid-term plan, we are considering introducing ROIC and sustainability indicators as KPIs.	Remuneration
<b>Leisure Products, Japan</b>	Accumulation of financial assets, resulting in reduced capital efficiency. Inconsistent explanations of financial strategies.	Would like explanation of the balance between investment and capital efficiency and the use of CF.	We are discussing the use of funds. In addition to dividend increase and share buyback, M&A, etc.	Capital Allocation
<b>Semiconductor Equipment, Japan</b>	Disclosure of non-financial information is substantial, but the medium to long-term target is limited to CO2 emissions (but no disclosure of total amount).	In addition to climate change, it would be good if medium-term targets were set for ESG factors such as diversity and water resources.	The rate of return to work after childbirth is high and no M-shaped curve in female employment. Working with outside directors to address both organisational design and talent management.	Reporting and policies related to diversity
<b>Industrial Machinery, Japan</b>	There are few descriptions of risks, and the involvement of top management is particularly difficult to understand. There is no information on human rights, only on training.	Difficult to understand the involvement of top management with little mention of risks in the Integrated Report. Identification of risks related to human rights is important as well.	Business risk management covers investment and financing and project negotiations, while bribery is a culture issue and the domain of middle management.	Human Rights
<b>Computer &amp; Electronics Retail, Japan</b>	Corporate governance efforts are minimal. Outside directors are not selected to oversee, nor is there a system in place.	We want you to work on strengthening governance. We would like to have an opportunity to meet with outside directors.	Five old internal directors were removed in conjunction with the transition to HD. We would like to use this as an opportunity. We will consider holding meetings with outside directors.	Director Related
<b>Packaged Foods &amp; Meats, Japan</b>	While many ESG issues, including climate change, have been pointed out for the livestock industry, alternatives such as cultured meat and plant meat have emerged and are attracting attention.	Some investors think the meat business is highly sensitive to climate change issues, and therefore, they consider it to be on the same level as the automobile business, making it a discount factor.	The basic idea is the same, but there are issues other than climate change in the meat industry, and it is necessary to show the top management's ways of thinking based on FAIRR's suggestion.	General Strategy

## Engagements (cont'd)

Anonymous Name	Any investment consideration	NAM's comment on the engagement	Comments/response from company	Main sub-category of issues raised
<b>Specialty Chemicals, Japan</b>	Independent outside directors nominated by major shareholders account for half of the board of directors. Challenges in protecting the rights of minority shareholders.	Independent outside directors nominated by major shareholders account for half of the board of directors. Challenges in protecting the rights of minority shareholders.	Major shareholders are investment companies, so there is no conflict of interest with minority shareholders.	Director Related
<b>Automobile Manufacturers, Japan</b>	Need to establish a committee dedicated to the nomination and compensation committee.	A voluntary nomination and compensation committee has not been established, but we would like company to consider establishing one.	The current system is functioning well with the board of directors' deliberation. However, internal discussions are ongoing since increasing number of listed companies are establishing such a system.	Director Related
<b>Industrial Machinery, Japan</b>	Few auditors have careers suitable for auditing.	Of the people with financial expertise in the skills matrix, the two outside auditors and the CFO are from banks, so it looks like the banks are holding their wallets.	Appointed based on good judgment of the person.	Auditor Related
<b>Electrical Components &amp; Equipment, Japan</b>	As the company has become cash-rich, there is a need to clarify the use of funds held and return surplus funds to shareholders.	Company has good risk management, did not have experience of a loss of funds despite the earthquake, Lehman shock, covid-19, etc. We asked the company to explain quantitatively about the funds held.	The company has accumulated funds for risk and growth, and now has cash reserves. Quantitative information such as breakdown is not disclosed.	Capital Allocation
<b>Diversified Metals &amp; Mining, Japan</b>	The company is working with the bank to restructure its operations. Concerns about the interests of minority shareholders since the outside directors are from the bank and major shareholders.	There is a problem with the independence of the outside directors. It is necessary to appoint outside directors who are highly independent and have management experience.	We are aware that the tenure of outside director is getting longer.	Director Related
<b>Commodity Chemicals, Japan</b>	Focusing on biodegradable plastics. Lack of disclosure regarding the procurement of palm oil, which is used as a raw material for biodegradable plastics and food -related business (like margarine).	We would like the company to disclose their efforts to procure palm oil for use in the manufacturing process of biodegradable plastics.	We are developing a technology to manufacture with alternative oil instead of palm oil. We would like to disclose our efforts.	Human Rights
<b>Marine Ports &amp; Services, Japan</b>	Low ROE company, but signs of change, such as mention in corporate governance report on cost of capital. Current governance is at the lowest level, so we urge them to take the first step.	We asked the company to continue their efforts to improve governance.	Although the nomination and compensation committee is supposed to meet twice a year according to the regulations, it has already met several times due to the active opinions expressed.	Director Related

Anonymous Name	Any investment consideration	NAM's comment on the engagement	Comments/response from company	Main sub-category of issues raised
<b>Brewers, Japan</b>	Boasts of CSV management, but lacks integration with business strategy. Need to create a report that integrates both.	The content of the integrated report has improved.	We reaffirmed health science as the centre of our company and developed our story.	Environmental data reporting
<b>Oil &amp; Gas Exploration &amp; Products, Japan</b>	The president and outside directors are business partners or former bureaucrats. There are no outside directors who genuinely represent the interests of minority shareholders.	We would like to see a highly independent person with management experience appointed as an outside director.	Consider creating a skill map. Currently, auditors are actively participating in discussions as well as directors.	Director Related
<b>Tires &amp; Rubber, Japan</b>	Stock-based compensation should be considered to raise awareness of the stock market.	Stock compensation should be considered. Management efforts to rebuild the company during periods of poor performance should also be reflected.	We understand the request from shareholders. It is difficult to introduce additional remuneration due to the poor performance.	Remuneration
<b>Commodity Chemicals, Japan</b>	Efficient use of funds is an issue, however, out of the three outside directors, only one has management experience, the rest are academics and bureaucrats.	An outside director with experience in business portfolio management should be able to make the transition quickly.	What is the timeline and relationship to business characteristics for the transition to a monitoring board?	Director Related
<b>Integrated Telecommunication S, Japan</b>	Still determined to expand its overseas business, despite its notable failures. Cross-shareholdings can also be seen. No outside directors who are familiar with the IT industry in overseas business.	We want company to invite people with management experience and people from the capital markets.	Will consider.	Director Related
<b>Homefurnishing Retail, Japan</b>	Lack of content in the integrated report makes it difficult to grasp the status of ESG risks.	ESG requires a top-down management approach rather than a bottom-up approach, and in this context, internal discussions on setting materiality are necessary.	Noted, will consider.	General Strategy

# Glossary

<b>AML</b>	Anti Money Laundering
<b>BOC</b>	Board of Commissioners
<b>BOD</b>	Board of Directors
<b>CB</b>	Convertible bonds
<b>COGS</b>	Cost of Goods Sold
<b>COI</b>	Conflict of Interests
<b>CSR</b>	Corporate Social Responsibility
<b>DTA</b>	Deferred Tax Asset
<b>EBIT</b>	Earnings Before Interest and Tax
<b>EBITDA</b>	Earnings Before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortization
<b>EM</b>	Emerging Markets
<b>EPS</b>	Earnings Per Share
<b>ESG</b>	Environmental, Social, Governance
<b>FCF</b>	Free Cash Flow
<b>GSE</b>	Global Sustainable Equity Fund
<b>KPI</b>	Key Performance Indicator
<b>LTIP</b>	Long Term Incentive Plan
<b>ND</b>	Net Debt
<b>Opex</b>	Operating Expense
<b>PSP</b>	Performance Share Plan
<b>PSU</b>	Performance Share Unit
<b>R&amp;D</b>	Research and Development
<b>RoA</b>	Return on Assets
<b>ROCE</b>	Return on Capital Employed
<b>ROIC</b>	Return on Invested Capital
<b>RSU</b>	Restricted Share Unit
<b>SAR</b>	Stock Appreciation Rights
<b>SH</b>	Shareholder
<b>SOE</b>	State owned Enterprise
<b>STIP</b>	Short Term Incentive Plan
<b>TSR</b>	Total Shareholder Return
<b>UNSDG</b>	UN Sustainable Development Goals
<b>WC</b>	Working capital

## About Nomura Asset Management

The Nomura Asset Management Group is a leading global investment manager with over US\$440 billion of assets under management. Headquartered in Tokyo, Nomura has additional investment offices throughout the world including London, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Taipei, Frankfurt and New York. With a global workforce of over 1,300 employees it has been operating in Europe for over 30 years.

Today Nomura Asset Management provides its clients with a wide range of innovative investment strategies including global, regional and single country equities, high yield bonds, alternative investments and global fixed income strategies.

US\$ **573** bn

assets under  
management globally

**1,312**

staff employed  
across **14** offices

**225**

portfolio managers located  
strategically around the world

**112**

dedicated professionals committed to  
fundamental and quantitative research

**1959**

Our investment management capability was  
established in Japan over 50 years ago

**30** years

Operating in Europe  
for over 30 years

Source: Nomura Asset Management as at 31st December 2020

## DISCLOSURES

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For more information with regards to NAMM and NIAM's Responsible Investment policies and its responsible investment activities carried in Malaysia, please visit:

1. **NAMM:** <https://www.nomura-asset.com.my/nomura-asset-management-malaysia/hamm-s-investment-solutions/responsible-investment>
2. **NIAM:** <https://www.nomura-asset.com.my/nomura-islamic-asset-management/niam-s-investment-solutions/responsible-investment>

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Director of Kanto Local Finance Bureau (Financial Instruments Firms) No.373

Membership: The Investment Trusts Association, Japan/ Japan Investment Advisers Association/ Type II Financial Instruments Firms Association

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