

# STANWELL CORPORATION LIMITED

## INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER

### 1.0 The Charter of Internal Audit

1.1 This Charter establishes the Internal Audit Mandate and formalises and communicates the purpose, role, authority, responsibilities, scope and operational framework of the Internal Audit function (Internal Audit) within Stanwell Corporation Limited (Stanwell) and its subsidiaries.

### 2.0 Role of Internal Audit

2.1 Stanwell has an established Internal Audit function to provide independent, objective assurance and consulting services designed to add value and improve Stanwell’s operations and business. The Internal Audit function supports Stanwell management in accomplishing its objectives by bringing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and continuously improve the effectiveness of its risk management, control and governance processes.

### 3.0 Purpose

3.1 The Internal Audit function is established by the Stanwell Board and its responsibilities are defined by the Board’s Audit and Risk Management Committee (ARMC) as part of their oversight function. The overall objective of Stanwell’s Internal Audit function is to assist the Stanwell Board and all levels of management to discharge their responsibilities in maintaining Stanwell as a well-controlled, economic, efficient and effective corporation that complies with statutory obligations.

### 4.0 Objectives and Scope

4.1 The Internal Audit function’s objective is to provide Stanwell’s stakeholders with assurance and value-added services by:

- 4.1.1 Assessing the risks associated with Stanwell’s strategic goals, business plans and related risks through developing and executing an Internal Audit plan which addresses identified significant risks and associated internal controls;
- 4.1.2 Examining and monitoring Stanwell’s compliance with statutory, legislative and/or regulatory obligations;
- 4.1.3 Reviewing the reliability and integrity of financial and operating information and processes used to identify, measure, classify and report such information;
- 4.1.4 Examining the systems established to ensure compliance with policies, plans, procedures, contracts, laws and regulations that could have a significant impact upon operations and reports, and determining whether the organisation is in compliance with those policies, plans, procedures, contracts, laws and regulations;
- 4.1.5 Assessing the processes for protecting assets and, as appropriate, verifying the existence of such assets;
- 4.1.6 Reviewing established systems of internal control (including Information Technology) to ascertain whether they are functioning as designed and operating effectively;
- 4.1.7 Evaluating the design, implementation, and effectiveness of Stanwell’s ethics-related objectives, programs, and activities;
- 4.1.8 Reviewing outsourced control systems (including Information Technology) to ascertain whether they are functioning as agreed;

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- 4.1.9 Examining the economy and efficiency with which resources are employed;
  - 4.1.10 Reviewing specific programs or initiatives to ascertain whether results are consistent with established objectives and goals and whether the programs or initiatives are being carried out as planned;
  - 4.1.11 Promoting risk and control awareness (including fraud) within the organisation;
  - 4.1.12 Assisting, when requested, with the investigation of significant, suspected fraud or 'reportable conduct' within the organisation;
  - 4.1.13 Establishing and continuously reviewing the quality assurance and improvement program for the Internal Audit activity; and
  - 4.1.14 Assisting with special engagements as directed by the Stanwell Board and Executive General Managers.
- 4.2 Internal Audit will promote its image as an internal service function carrying out its responsibilities through constructive co-operation with Stanwell employees across all levels of the organisation.

## **5.0 Reporting Responsibilities**

- 5.1 To provide for the independence of the Internal Audit function, its employees report to the Group Manager Internal Audit who reports functionally to the ARMC and administratively to the Company Secretary. The Group Manager Internal Audit is accountable to the Company Secretary for the efficient and effective operation of the Internal Audit function.
- 5.2 The Group Manager Internal Audit will maintain regular communication with the ARMC to support its oversight responsibilities, including reporting on Internal Audit activities and, where appropriate, escalating significant risks, control matters or unresolved issues with management.

## **6.0 Independence**

- 6.1 All Internal Audit activities shall remain free of influence by any element in the organisation, including matters of audit selection, scope, procedures, frequency, timing, or report content to permit maintenance of an independent and objective mental attitude necessary in rendering reports. In respect to reports, Internal Audit shall not be subject to management direction and shall maintain independence in its reporting.
- 6.2 Internal Audit shall have no direct operational responsibility or authority over any of the activities they review. Accordingly, they shall not develop or install systems or procedures, prepare records, or engage in any other activity which would normally be audited.
- 6.3 Internal Audit personnel have no managerial powers, authorities or duties other than those relating to the management of the Internal Audit function and do not relieve other personnel from their assigned accountabilities or responsibilities.
- 6.4 Where actual, potential or perceived impairments to independence or objectivity arise, Internal Audit personnel must disclose these to the Group Manager Internal Audit. The Group Manager will assess the impact and, where necessary, escalate the matter to the ARMC and/or the Board. In such cases, appropriate safeguards will be considered and implemented, including the reassignment of audit responsibilities or enhanced oversight.
- 6.5 External service providers engaged to support the Internal Audit function are required to disclose any actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest or impairments to independence or objectivity. Such matters will be assessed and managed by the Group Manager Internal Audit as appropriate.

## 7.0 Authority

7.1 To fulfil its responsibilities, Internal Audit is authorised to have full, free and unrestricted access to all Stanwell's records, physical properties, and personnel relevant to any function under review. To support the effectiveness of the Internal Audit function, management is expected to provide full cooperation including access to all employees and provide documents and information as required to assist Internal Audit in fulfilling their responsibilities. Documents and information given to Internal Audit to fulfil their responsibilities will be handled in the same prudent and confidential manner as by those employees normally accountable for them.

7.2 Internal Audit shall also have free and unrestricted access to the Chair of the ARMC and its members, including meetings without management present where appropriate.

## 8.0 Professional Standards

### 8.1 Core Principles

Internal auditors will possess and demonstrate the following core principles for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing:

- demonstrates integrity;
- demonstrates competence and due professional care;
- is objective and free from undue influence (independent);
- aligns with the strategies, objectives, and risks of the corporation;
- is appropriately positioned and adequately resourced;
- demonstrates quality and continuous improvement;
- communicates effectively;
- provides risk-based assurance;
- is insightful, proactive, and future-focused; and
- promotes organisational improvement.

### 8.2 Standards of audit practice

The internal audit function will be subject to the requirements of The Institute of Internal Auditors' 2024 Global Internal Audit Standards. The Standards shall constitute the operating procedures for the function. The Internal Audit function will meet or exceed these Standards.

### 8.3 Code of ethics

Internal Audit personnel shall govern themselves by adherence to the Institute of Internal Auditors 'Ethics and Professionalism domain'. Internal Auditors will apply and uphold the principles of integrity, objectivity, confidentiality and competence.

### 8.4 Quality Assurance

The internal audit function will implement internal and external assessments to support ongoing quality, consistency and effectiveness of internal audit activities. External Quality Assessments will be conducted at least once every five years, with periodic internal quality assessments performed between External Quality Assessments. These assessments will evaluate conformance with the 2024 Global Internal Audit Standards and identify opportunities for continuous improvement.

## **9.0 Audit Planning**

9.1 Each year, a Strategic Plan and Annual Internal Audit Plan are prepared for the approval by the ARMC. The Strategic Plan has a risk-based rolling five-year scope and forms the basis of the detailed Annual Internal Audit Plan. The Internal Audit function will develop the Annual Internal Audit Plan under consideration of the corporation's risk profile and appetite, control criticality, previous year's engagements and results and Board requests. The Annual Internal Audit Plan is to be provided to the ARMC for approval.

## **10.0 Audit Reporting**

10.1 A written report will be prepared and issued by the Internal Audit function following the conclusion of each engagement. Findings will be discussed with the personnel in charge of the area and subsequently with the relevant Executive General Manager. Formal internal audit reports will be forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer after the completion of the engagement. A summary of the reports will be provided to the next ARMC meeting.

10.2 Internal Audit's reporting will be compliant with the requirements set out by the Institute of Internal Audit's Standards.

10.3 The engagement report will be prepared on a timely basis and include:

- Audit objective;
- Engagement scope;
- Internal Audit findings and associated risks, root causes, recommended actions and a formal risk rating; and
- Management comments from the respective managers responsible for implementing the corrective action and the implementation dates.

## **11.0 Monitoring of Audit Actions**

11.1 Management is responsible for the timely implementation of agreed audit findings and recommendations. Internal Audit will undertake appropriate follow-up activities and report to the ARMC on the status of agreed actions.

## **12.0 External Audit**

12.1 A professional relationship will be maintained with Stanwell's External Auditors. Close and regular liaison will occur with the aim to use audit resources in a cost effective way ensuring the audits provide the best value for the Corporation.

## **13.0 Periodic Assessment**

13.1 The ARMC will assess annually whether the purpose, authority, and responsibility, as defined in this charter, continue to be adequate to enable the Internal Auditing activity to accomplish its objectives.