

**THIS CIRCULAR/STATEMENT IS IMPORTANT AND REQUIRES YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION.**

Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad (“Bursa Securities”) has not perused this Circular/Statement prior to its issuance.

Bursa Securities takes no responsibility for the contents of this Circular/Statement, makes no representation as to its accuracy or completeness and expressly disclaims any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from or in reliance upon the whole or any part of the contents of this Circular/ Statement.

If you have any doubt as to the course of action to be taken, you should consult your stockbroker, banker, solicitor, accountant or other professional adviser immediately.



**ASTINO BERHAD (Company No.: 200002020478)(523085-X)  
(Incorporated in Malaysia)**

**PART A**

***CIRCULAR TO SHAREHOLDERS IN RELATION TO:-  
PROPOSED RENEWAL OF SHAREHOLDERS’ MANDATE FOR RECURRENT RELATED  
PARTY TRANSACTIONS OF A REVENUE OR TRADING NATURE***

**PART B**

***SHARE BUY-BACK STATEMENT IN RELATION TO PROPOSED RENEWAL OF THE  
AUTHORITY FOR THE COMPANY TO PURCHASE ITS OWN SHARES IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH SECTION 127 OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2016***

Notice of the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of Astino Berhad (“the Company”) which will be held at Iconic 4, Level 7, Iconic Hotel, 71, Jalan Icon City, Icon City, 14000 Bukit Mertajam, Penang on Friday, 22 January 2021 at 10.30 a.m. together with the Form of Proxy are enclosed with the Annual Report of the Company.

The Form of Proxy must be lodged at the Registered Office of the Company at Suite 12-A, Level 12, Menara Northam, No. 55, Jalan Sultan Ahmad Shah, 10050 Georgetown, Penang not less than forty-eight (48) hours before the time stipulated for the meeting. The lodging of the Form of Proxy will not preclude you from attending and voting in person at the meeting should you subsequently wish to do so.

## **DEFINITIONS**

---

Except where the context otherwise requires, the following definitions shall apply throughout this Circular/Statement: -

Act	: The Companies Act 2016
AGM	: Annual General Meeting
ACSS	: Astino (Malaysia) Colour Steel Sheet Sdn. Bhd. (199401041558)(327245-W), a wholly owned subsidiary of Astino
AF	: Astino Scaffolding Sdn. Bhd. (199101018802)(229113-D), a wholly owned subsidiary of Astino
AAH	: Astino Agro-House Multi System Sdn. Bhd. (200801003933)(805217-D), a wholly owned subsidiary of Astino
AMI	: Astino Metal Industries Sdn. Bhd (200501020247)(702367-H), a wholly owned subsidiary of Astino
AN	: Astino Netting Sdn. Bhd. (199501025491)(354696-M), a wholly owned subsidiary of Astino
AS	: Astino Southern Sdn. Bhd. (200001021768)(524375-P), a wholly owned subsidiary of Astino
Annual Report 2020	: Annual Report of Astino for the financial year ended 31 July 2020
Astino or the Company	: Astino Berhad
Astino Group	: Astino and its subsidiary companies, collectively
Board	: The Board of Directors of Astino Berhad
Bursa Securities	: Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad
Code	: Malaysian Code on Take-Over and Mergers, 2010 as amended from time to time and any re-enactment thereof
Listing Requirements	: Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad Main Market's Listing Requirements and any amendment thereto that may be made from time to time
Major Shareholder	: A person who has an interest or interests in one or more voting shares in a company and the nominal amount of that share, or the aggregate of the nominal amounts of those shares, is not less than 10% of the aggregate of the nominal amounts of all the voting shares in that Company; or equal to or more than 5% of the aggregate of the nominal amounts of all the voting shares in the Company where such person is the largest shareholder of the Company For the purpose of this definition, "interest of shares" shall have the same meaning given in Section 8 of the Act. A Major Shareholder includes any person who is or was within the preceding six (6) months of the date on which the terms of the transaction were agreed upon, a major shareholder of Astino or any other company which is its subsidiary or holding company
OJK	: Ooi Joo Kee & Brothers Sdn. Bhd. (198701002188)(160858-D), a wholly owned subsidiary of Astino.

## **DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)**

---

Persons Connected	: Persons connected with a Director or Major Shareholders as defined in the Bursa Securities Listing Requirements.
Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate	: Proposed renewal of existing shareholders' mandate for RRPTs to be entered into from date of the forthcoming AGM up to the date of the next AGM and new RRPTs
Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-Back	: Proposed renewal of authority to purchase and/or hold of Astino Shares of up to 10% of the issued and paid-up ordinary share capital of the Company inclusive of 4,138,537 Shares in the Company already purchased and retained as Treasury Shares
Related Party(ies)	: A Director, major shareholder or person connected to such Director or major shareholder. For the purpose of this definition, Director and major shareholder shall have the same meanings given in Paragraph 10.02 of the Listing Requirements
Related Party Transaction	: A transaction entered into by the Astino Group which involves the interest, direct or indirect, of a Related Party
Recurrent Related Party Transactions or RRPT(s)	: Recurrent related party transaction(s) as defined in Paragraph 10.09 of the Listing Requirements and as explained in Practice Note 12/2001 of the Listing Requirements
RM	: Ringgit Malaysia
Shares	: Ordinary shares of Astino Berhad

Words importing the singular shall, where applicable, include the plural and vice versa, and words importing the masculine gender shall, where applicable, include the feminine and neuter genders. Words importing persons include corporations.

Any reference in this Circular/Statement to any enactment is a reference to that enactment as for the time being amended or re-enacted.

Any reference to a time of day in this Circular/Statement shall be a reference to Malaysian time, unless otherwise stated.

*PART A*

---

**CIRCULAR TO SHAREHOLDERS IN RELATION TO: -  
PROPOSED RENEWAL OF SHAREHOLDERS' MANDATE FOR RECURRENT RELATED  
PARTY TRANSACTIONS OF A REVENUE OR TRADING NATURE**

---



**ASTINO BERHAD**  
(Company No.: 200001020478)(523085-X)  
(Incorporated in Malaysia)

Registered office:  
Suite 12-A, Level 12, Menara Northam  
No. 55, Jalan Sultan Ahmad Shah,  
10050 Georgetown Penang

30 November 2020

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS: -**

Ng Back Teng (Executive Chairman)  
Ng Hung Seh (Chief Executive Officer)  
Ng Hung Weng (Executive Director)  
Dr. Cheah Soo Jin (Senior Independent Non-Executive Director)  
Dato' Hj Mohtar Bin Nong (Independent Non-Executive Director)  
Lim Bee Lee (Independent Non-Executive Director)

To: The Shareholders of ASTINO BERHAD

Dear Sir/Madam,

---

**PROPOSED RENEWAL OF SHAREHOLDERS' MANDATE**

---

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

On 29 September 2020, our Board announced its intention to seek shareholders' approval for the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate pursuant to Paragraph 10.09 of the Listing Requirements at the forthcoming AGM.

The purpose of this Circular is to provide you with information on the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate, and to seek shareholders' approval on the resolution relating to the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate to be tabled at the forthcoming AGM of the Company to be convened at Iconic 4, Level 7, Iconic Hotel, 71, Jalan Icon City, Icon City, 14000 Bukit Mertajam, Penang on Friday, 22 January 2021 at 10.30 a.m. or any adjournment thereof. The Notice of AGM and the Form of Proxy are enclosed with our Annual Report 2020 despatched together with this Circular.

***SHAREHOLDERS ARE ADVISED TO READ THIS CIRCULAR TOGETHER WITH THE APPENDIX CAREFULLY BEFORE VOTING ON THE ORDINARY RESOLUTION TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE PROPOSED RENEWAL OF SHAREHOLDERS' MANDATE.***

## **2.0 PROPOSED RENEWAL OF SHAREHOLDERS' MANDATE**

### **2.1 Introduction**

At the 19<sup>th</sup> AGM held on 17 January 2020, we have obtained a shareholders' mandate to allow the Group to enter into RRPTs of a revenue or trading nature which are necessary for the Group's day-to-day operations and are in the ordinary course of business and on terms that are not more favourable to the Related Parties than those generally available to the public. The approval shall in accordance with the Listing Requirements lapse at the conclusion of our forthcoming AGM scheduled on 22 January 2021 unless approval for its renewal is obtained from the shareholders of the Company at the said AGM.

Pursuant to Part E, Paragraph 10.09 of Chapter 10 of the Listing Requirements, Astino may seek a shareholders' mandate in respect of RRPTs involving recurrent transactions of a revenue or trading nature which are necessary for its day-to-day operations, subject to the following:

- (a) the transactions are in the ordinary course of business and are on terms not more favourable to the related party than those generally available to the public;
- (b) the shareholders' mandate is subject to annual renewal and disclosure is made in the annual report of the aggregate value of transactions conducted pursuant to the shareholders' mandate during the financial year where:
  - (i) the consideration, value of the assets, capital outlay or costs of the aggregated transactions is equal to or exceeds RM1 million; or
  - (ii) any percentage ratios of such RRPTs is 1% or more;

whichever is the higher,

- (c) the circular to shareholders for the shareholders' mandate shall include the information as may be prescribed by Bursa Securities. The draft circular must be submitted to Bursa Securities together with a checklist showing compliance with such information;
- (d) in a meeting to obtain shareholders' mandate, the interested Directors, interested Major Shareholder or Person Connected with the interested Director or interested Major Shareholder; and where it involves the interest of the Person Connected with the interested Director or interested Major Shareholder, such interested Director or interested Major Shareholder must not vote on the resolution approving the transactions. An interested Director or interested Major Shareholder must ensure that Persons Connected with him abstain from voting on the resolution approving the transaction; and
- (e) Astino immediately announces to Bursa Securities when the actual value of a RRPTs entered into by Astino, exceeds the estimated value of the RRPTs disclosed in this Circular by 10% or more and must include the information may be prescribed by Bursa Securities in its announcement.

Transactions entered into between Astino (or any of its wholly owned subsidiaries) and its wholly owned subsidiaries are excluded from the requirements of Part E of Chapter 10 of the Listing Requirements.

### **2.2 Principal activities of Astino Group**

Astino is primarily an investment holding company whilst its subsidiary companies are principally involved in manufacturing and sale of metal roof sheets, insect screens and other building related products, trading of PVC panels, doors, frames and other building related products.

The principal activities of Astino's subsidiaries as at 3 November 2020 are set out as follows: -

<b>Name of Company</b>	<b>Date /Place of Incorporation</b>	<b>Equity Interest (%)</b>	<b>Principal Activities</b>
OJK	15.04.1987/ Malaysia	100.00	Manufacturing and sale of metal roof sheets and other building related products
ACSS	15.12.1994/ Malaysia	100.00	Manufacturing and sale of metal roof sheets and other building related products
AS	23.08.2000/ Malaysia	100.00	Manufacturing and sale of metal roofing sheets and other building related products
AN	10.08.1995/ Malaysia	100.00	Manufacturing and sale of insect screen and trading of PVC panels, doors, frames and other building related products
AMI	11.07.2005/ Malaysia	100.00	Manufacturing and sale of metal roofing and other building related products
AF	18.11.1991/ Malaysia	100.00	Manufacture and sale of scaffolding
AAH	01.02.2008/ Malaysia	100.00	Design, construction, manufacture and sale of poultry house and equipment system
Astino Agro Equipment Sdn. Bhd. <sup>(a)</sup>	16.12.2009/ Malaysia	100.00	Dormant
Astino Plantations & Properties Sdn. Bhd. <sup>(a)</sup>	28.08.2006/ Malaysia	100.00	Dormant
Astino Marketing Sdn. Bhd. <sup>(a)</sup>	10.08.1995/ Malaysia	100.00	Dormant

<sup>(a)</sup> *In the process of members' voluntary winding-up.*

### **2.3 Validity Period of the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate**

The Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate, if approved by our shareholders at our forthcoming AGM, will take effect from the date of passing of the relevant resolutions proposed at our forthcoming AGM and shall only continue to be in force until:

- (a) the conclusion of our next AGM following our forthcoming AGM, at which such ordinary resolution for the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate will be passed, at which time it will lapse, unless by a resolution passed at the general meeting, the authority is renewed;
- (b) the expiration of the period within which our next AGM after that date is required to be held pursuant to Section 340(1) of the Act (but shall not extend to such extension as may be allowed pursuant to Section 340(4) of the Act); or
- (c) revoked or varied by resolution passed by the shareholders in general meeting, whichever is the earlier (hereinafter referred to as "the Proposed Mandate Period").

## 2.4 Details of the RRPTs Contemplated Under the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate

It is anticipated that the Group would, in the normal course of business, continue to enter into the categories of RRPTs during the Proposed Mandate Period.

The details of the RRPTs, the Estimated Value, Actual Value and variance, if any, are set out below: -

<b>Astino Group</b>	<b>Related Party</b>	<b>Nature of RRPTs</b>	<b>Last Year Mandate (N1) (RM'000)</b>	<b>Actual value Transacted (N2) (RM'000)</b>	<b>Proposed Mandate (N3) (RM'000)</b>
OJK,AMI	Aatomo Malaysia Sdn Bhd ("AA")	Sales of coil by OJK&AMI to AA	1,200	1,365	3,000
OJK, ACSS, AMI,AN	Cooldec Industries Sdn Bhd ("CI")	Sales of metal roof sheets and PVC door by OJK, ACSS, AMI & AN to CI	500	165	1,000
OJK, ACSS, AS,AMI	Cooldec Metal Industries Sdn Bhd ("CM")	Sales of metal roof sheets, c-purlin and roof truss by OJK,AMI,ACSS & AS to CM	500	106	1,000
OJK, ACSS, AF, AMI, AN	Axtrada (M) Sdn. Bhd. ("AX")	Sales of coil, metal roof sheets, roof truss and scaffolding by OJK, ACSS, AF, AMI & AN to AX	2,000	755	3,000
OJK,AMI	Hitec Ceiling T Manufacturing (M) Sdn Bhd ("HC")	Sales of coil, metal roof sheets and roof truss by OJK,AMI to HC	500	79	1,000

Notes: -

- N1 Estimate value of transactions as per the Circular to Shareholders for the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate dated 29 November 2019*
- N2 Actual value of transactions from 1 November 2019 to 3 November 2020 the latest practicable date before the printing of the Circular. The actual value of the transactions did not exceed 10% or more of the Estimated Value obtained under the Shareholders' Mandate during the 2020's AGM*
- N3 Estimated value of transactions from the date of the forthcoming AGM scheduled on 22 January 2021 to the date of the next AGM are based on historical records and budget of the respective RRPTs. The actual value of these transactions may be subject to changes.*

The interests of the Related Parties in the RRPTs are as follows: -

<b>Astino Group</b>	<b>Related Party</b>	<b>Interested Parties</b>
OJK, AMI	AA	<u>Interested Directors</u> @ Ng Back Teng * Ng Hung Seh** Ng Hung Weng <u>Interested Major Shareholders</u> # Ng Back Teng Ng Hung Seh Ng Bak Seng
OJK, ACSS, AMI, AN	CI	<u>Interested Directors</u> @@ Ng Back Teng* Ng Hung Seh** Ng Hung Weng <u>Interested Major Shareholders</u> # Ng Back Teng Ng Hung Seh Ng Bak Seng
OJK,AMI	HC	<u>Interested Director</u> Ng Back Teng**** <u>Interested Major Shareholder</u> Ng Back Teng****
OJK, ACSS, AF, AMI,AN	AX	<u>Interested Directors</u> @@@ Ng Back Teng* Ng Hung Seh** Ng Hung Weng <u>Interested Major Shareholders</u> # Ng Back Teng Ng Hung Seh Ng Bak Seng
OJK, ACSS, AS,AMI	CM	<u>Interested Director</u> Dr. Cheah Soo Jin ***

Notes: -

@ *Mr. Ng Back Teng and Mr. Ng Hung Seh are brothers of Mr. Ng Hung Weng who is the director and major shareholder of AA. Mr. Ng Hung Weng is the Executive Director of Astino.*

@ @ *Mr. Ng Back Teng, Mr. Ng Hung Seh and Mr. Ng Hung Weng are brothers of Mr. Ng Hun Chew, who is the director and major shareholder of CI.*

@ @ @ *Mr. Ng Back Teng, Mr. Ng Hung Seh and Mr. Ng Hung Weng are brothers of Madam Ng Siew Khoon, who is the major shareholder of AX.*

\* *Mr. Ng Back Teng is a common director of Astino, OJK, ACSS, AF, AMI, AN and AS.*

\*\* *Mr. Ng Hung Seh is a common director of Astino, OJK, ACSS, AF, AMI and AN.*

\*\*\* *Dr. Cheah Soo Jin's son, Mr. Cheah Swi Chun, is a director and major shareholder of CM.*

\*\*\*\* *Mr. Ng Back Teng's son, Mr. Ng Kok Teong Eris, is a director and major shareholder of HC*  
# *Mr. Ng Back Teng, Mr. Ng Hung Seh and Mr. Ng Bak Seng are brothers of Mr. Ng Hung Weng of AA, Madam Ng Siew Khoon of AX and Mr. Ng Hun Chew of CI.*

## **2.5 Amounts due and owing by Related Parties**

As at the end of the financial year ended 31 July 2020, none of the sums due and owing by Related Parties, have exceeded the credit terms.

## **2.6 Review Procedures and Guidelines of the RRPTs**

The Group has established the various review procedures and guidelines to ensure that the RRPTs contemplated under the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate is undertaken on terms not more favourable to the Related Party than those generally available to the public and are not to the detriment of the minority shareholders and that they are conducted at arm's length and on normal commercial terms consistent with the Group's usual business practices and policies and will not be prejudicial to shareholders.

The review and disclosure policies have been implemented and will continue to be in force for the period under which the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate is sought for: -

- (a) The transactions with a Related Party will only be entered into after taking into account the pricing, quality, delivery schedules, level of service and other related factors. The pricing for products to be supplied and/or purchased is determined in accordance to the Group business practices and policies, consistent with the usual margin of the Group with unrelated third parties. At least 2 other contemporaneous transactions with unrelated third parties for similar products/services and/or quantities will be used as comparison, wherever possible, to determine whether the price and terms offered to/by the related parties are fair and reasonable and comparable to those offered to/by other unrelated parties for the same or substantially similar type of products/services and/or quantities. In the event that quotation or comparative pricing from unrelated third parties cannot be obtained (for instance, if there are no unrelated third party vendors/customers of similar products or services, or if the product/service is a proprietary item), the Group will ensure that the RRPTs with Related Party will only be entered into after taking into account the pricing, level of services, quality of products and other related factors;
- (b) The Group shall maintain records to capture all RRPTs, to ensure the relevant approvals have been obtained, for review by the Audit & Risk Management Committee;
- (c) The Audit & Risk Management Committee will review all RRPTs from time to time. Any member of the Audit & Risk Management Committee may, as he deems fit, request for additional information pertaining to the transaction from independent sources or advisers;
- (d) The Audit & Risk Management Committee will carry out an annual review to ascertain that the established guidelines and procedures for RRPTs have been complied with and will consider from time to time whether the established guidelines and procedures for RRPTs have become inappropriate, and/or are unable to ensure that the transactions will be on normal commercial terms, and/or will prejudice the interests of shareholders generally; and
- (e) The interested Directors who are members of the Board and Audit & Risk Management Committee will abstain from deliberating and voting on all matters pertaining to the RRPTs at the relevant meetings of the Board or Audit & Risk Management Committee.

## **2.7 Threshold of Authority**

The threshold for the approval of RRPTs within the Group is set at RM1.0 million and each RRPTs will be analysed, reviewed and approved by the management and or directors as determined by the Board and such transaction shall be highlighted to the Audit & Risk Management Committee on a quarterly basis. Where the RRPT is one with a value in excess of RM1.0 million per transaction, it will be reviewed and approved by the Board and the Audit & Risk Management Committee. Where any Director has an interest (direct or indirect) in the RRPTs, such Director shall abstain from deliberation and voting on the matter.

If it is determined that the guidelines and/or procedures stated in Section 2.6 above are inadequate to ensure that RRPTs will be conducted at arms' length and on normal commercial terms which are not more favourable to the Related Parties than those generally available to the public and/or such transactions are detrimental to the minority shareholders of the Company or prejudicial to the interests of the shareholders, the Company will obtain a fresh mandate from shareholders based on the new guidelines and procedures.

## **2.8 Statement by Audit & Risk Management Committee**

The Audit & Risk Management Committee of the Company has seen and reviewed the procedures for RRPTs as set out in the Section 2.6 above and is of the view that the said procedures and guidelines are sufficient to ensure that such RRPTs will be carried out on normal commercial terms which are not prejudicial to the interests of shareholders and on terms not more favourable to the Related Party than those generally available to the public and are not to the detriment of the minority shareholders of the Company.

The Audit & Risk Management Committee is also satisfied that Astino has in place adequate procedures and processes to monitor, track and identify RRPTs in a timely and orderly manner. The Audit & Risk Management Committee shall quarterly review the RRPTs and also review the established guidelines and procedures annually to ascertain its compliance.

## **2.9 Rationale for, and Benefit to, the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate**

The RRPTs entered or to be entered into by the Astino Group are all in the ordinary course of business. The RRPTs are recurring transactions of a revenue or trading nature which are likely to occur with some degree of frequency and arise at any time and from time to time. These transactions may be constrained by the time-sensitive nature and confidentiality of such transactions, and it may be impractical to seek shareholders' approval on a case-by-case basis before entering into such RRPTs.

By obtaining the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate and the renewal of the same on an annual basis, the necessity to convene separate general meetings from time to time to seek shareholders' approval as and when RRPTs occur would not arise. This would substantially reduce administrative time, inconvenience and expenses associated with the convening of such meetings, without compromising the corporate objectives of Astino Group or adversely affecting the business opportunities available to Astino Group.

Additionally, the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate would allow the transactions between the Related Parties and Astino Group for more efficient utilization of existing resources, prompt delivery and better bargaining power from reliable suppliers.

Hence, the Board of Directors of Astino is seeking the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate pursuant to Paragraph 10.09 of the Listing Requirements for the RRPTs made on an arm's length basis and on normal commercial terms and which are not prejudicial to the interests of the minority shareholders.

## 2.10 Effects on the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate

The Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate will not have any effect on the issued and paid-up share capital and substantial shareholders structure of Astino, and is not expected to have any material effect on net assets per share and earnings per share of the Group.

## 3.0 APPROVAL REQUIRED

The Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate is conditional upon the approval from the shareholders of Astino being obtained at the forthcoming AGM.

## 4.0 DIRECTORS' AND MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS' INTERESTS

The direct and indirect interests of the interested Directors and the Major Shareholders of the Company as at 3 November 2020 are as follows: -

	Existing Shareholdings			
	Direct		Indirect	
	No. of shares	%	No. of shares	%
<u>Directors</u>				
Ng Back Teng	21,195,236	7.85	30,000 <sup>(i)</sup>	0.01
Ng Hung Seh	14,245,806	5.28	2,626,532 <sup>(i)</sup>	0.97
Ng Hung Weng	2,085,000	0.77	-	-
Dr. Cheah Soo Jin	-	-	1,422,658 <sup>(ii)</sup>	0.53
<u>Major Shareholders</u>				
Seavision Sdn Bhd	83,545,000	30.94	-	-
Ng Back Teng	21,195,236	7.85	30,000 <sup>(i)</sup>	0.01
Ng Hung Seh	14,245,806	5.28	2,626,532 <sup>(i)</sup>	0.97
Ng Bak Seng	643,300	0.24	83,709,600 <sup>(iii)</sup>	31.01

(i) Deemed interested by virtue of the shareholdings held by spouses

(ii) Deemed interested by virtue of the shareholdings held by his son

(iii) Deemed interested by virtue of the shareholdings held by his spouse and Section 8(4) of the Act

The interested Directors namely, Mr. Ng Back Teng, Mr. Ng Hung Seh, Mr. Ng Hung Weng and Dr. Cheah Soo Jin, have accordingly abstained and/or will continue to abstain from all Board deliberations and voting in respect of the relevant RRPTs and also will abstain from voting pertaining to the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate to be tabled at the forthcoming AGM.

The interested Directors namely, Mr. Ng Back Teng, Mr. Ng Hung Seh, Mr. Ng Hung Weng and Dr. Cheah Soo Jin, have undertaken to ensure that the Persons Connected with them will abstain from voting pertaining to the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate to be tabled at the forthcoming AGM.

The Major Shareholders namely, Seavision Sdn Bhd, Mr. Ng Back Teng, Mr. Ng Hung Seh and Mr. Ng Bak Seng will abstain from voting pertaining to the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate to be tabled at the forthcoming AGM and have undertaken to ensure that the Person Connected with them will abstain from voting pertaining to the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate to be tabled at the forthcoming AGM.

Save as disclosed above, none of the Directors, Major Shareholders or Person Connected to Directors or Major Shareholders of the Company has any interest, direct or indirect, in the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate.

## **5.0 DIRECTORS' RECOMMENDATION**

The Board of Directors with the exception of Mr. Ng Back Teng, Mr. Ng Hung Seh, Mr. Ng Hung Weng and Dr. Cheah Soo Jin, who are interested Directors and have abstained from all Board deliberations and voting in respect of the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate, having taken into consideration all aspects of the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate, are of the opinion that the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate are fair and reasonable and are in the best interest of the Company and its shareholders and therefore recommend that you vote in favour of the ordinary resolution to be tabled at the forthcoming AGM.

## **6.0 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

For the purpose of considering and if thought fit, passing the ordinary resolution pertaining to the Proposed Renewal of Shareholders' Mandate, the AGM, the notice of which is enclosed with the Annual Report 2020, is to be held at Iconic 4, Level 7, Iconic Hotel, 71, Jalan Icon City, Icon City, 14000 Bukit Mertajam, Penang on Friday, 22 January 2021 at 10.30 a.m.

If you are unable to attend and vote in person at the AGM, you are requested to complete, sign and return the enclosed Form of Proxy in accordance with the instructions printed thereon as soon as possible and in any event, to arrive at the Registered Office of the Company at Suite 12-A, Level 12, Menara Northam, No. 55, Jalan Sultan Ahmad Shah, 10050 Georgetown, Penang not later than forty-eight (48) hours before the time stipulated for holding the AGM. The lodgment of the Form of Proxy will not preclude you from attending and voting in person at the AGM should you subsequently wish to do so.

## **7.0 FURTHER INFORMATION**

Shareholders are requested to refer to Appendix I for further information.

Yours faithfully,  
On behalf of the Board of  
**ASTINO BERHAD**

**DR. CHEAH SOO JIN**  
**Senior Independent Non-Executive Director**

*PART B*

---

**SHARE BUY-BACK STATEMENT IN RELATION TO**

**PROPOSED RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORITY FOR THE COMPANY TO PURCHASE ITS OWN**

**SHARES IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 127 OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2016**

---



**ASTINO BERHAD**  
(Company No.: 200001020478)(523085-X)  
(Incorporated in Malaysia)

Registered office:  
Suite 12-A, Level 12, Menara Northam  
No. 55, Jalan Sultan Ahmad Shah,  
10050 Georgetown Penang

30 November 2020

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS: -**

Ng Back Teng (Executive Chairman)  
Ng Hung Seh (Chief Executive Officer)  
Ng Hung Weng (Executive Director)  
Dr. Cheah Soo Jin (Senior Independent Non-Executive Director)  
Dato' Hj Mohtar Bin Nong (Independent Non-Executive Director)  
Lim Bee Lee (Independent Non-Executive Director)

To: The Shareholders of ASTINO BERHAD

**PROPOSED RENEWAL OF AUTHORITY TO PURCHASE ITS OWN SHARES BY THE COMPANY**

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Astino had on 29 September 2020, announced that the Company proposes to seek its shareholders' approval to renew the authority for the Company to purchase its own shares of up to ten per cent (10%) of the total issued and paid-up share capital of the Company in accordance with Section 127 of the Act, Chapter 12 of Bursa Securities' Listing Requirements and any prevailing rules, regulations, orders, guidelines and other requirements issued by the relevant authorities at the 20<sup>th</sup> AGM to be convened.
- 1.2 The purpose of this Statement is to provide you with the relevant information in relation to the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back to be tabled at the 20<sup>th</sup> AGM to be held at Iconic 4, Level 7, Iconic Hotel, 71, Jalan Icon City, Icon City, 14000 Bukit Mertajam, Penang on Friday, 22 January 2021 at 10.30 a.m.

**2.0 DETAILS OF THE PROPOSED RENEWAL OF SHARE BUY-BACK**

- 2.1 The Company had, at the 19<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company, held on 17 January 2020, obtained its shareholders' approval for the Company to purchase its own shares and the said approval is valid until the conclusion of the forthcoming 20<sup>th</sup> AGM which will be held on 22 January 2021.
- 2.2 The Company proposes to seek the authorisation from its shareholders for the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back. This authorisation, if given, shall be effective immediately upon the passing of the ordinary resolution relating thereto at the 20<sup>th</sup> AGM and will continue to be in force until: -

- (a) the conclusion of the next AGM of the Company following the forthcoming 20<sup>th</sup> AGM, at which such resolution was passed, at which time the said authority will lapse, unless by an ordinary resolution passed at that meeting, the authority is renewed, either unconditionally or subject to condition; or
- (b) the expiration of the period within which the next AGM of the Company after that date is required by law to be held; or
- (c) revoked or varied by ordinary resolution passed by the shareholders of the Company in a general meeting;

whichever occurs first.

2.3 Based on the issued and paid-up share capital of the Company of 274,117,963 Astino Shares on 3 November 2020, being the latest practicable date, the number of shares that can be purchased is up to 27,411,796 Astino Shares representing 10% of the issued and paid-up share capital of the Company inclusive of the 4,138,537 Astino Shares already purchased and retained as treasury shares. As such, the balance that can be purchased as at todate is 23,273,259 Astino Shares.

2.3 The following table sets out the monthly highest and lowest transacted prices of the ordinary shares in the Company on Bursa Securities for the past twelve (12) months from November 2019 to 30 October 2020: -

Period	High (RM)	Low (RM)
2019		
November	0.710	0.675
December	0.715	0.675
2020		
January	0.705	0.660
February	0.760	0.610
March	0.685	0.370
April	0.540	0.430
May	0.580	0.495
June	0.560	0.475
July	0.555	0.490
August	0.600	0.510
September	0.630	0.555
October	0.980	0.585

*Source: Local Daily*

The last transacted market price on 3 November 2020 (being the last practicable date prior to the printing of this Statement) was RM0.685.

### **3.0 RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSED RENEWAL OF SHARE BUY-BACK**

The Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back, if exercised, will provide the Company with another option to utilise its surplus financial resources more efficiently and is expected to benefit the Company and its shareholders in the following manner: -

- (i) the Company may be able to stabilise the supply and demand of the ordinary shares in Astino (“Astino Shares”) traded on the Bursa Securities and thereby support its fundamental value;
- (ii) in the event the Astino Shares so purchased by the Company are cancelled, either immediately or subsequently after being held as treasury shares, it may enhance the earnings per share (“EPS”) of Astino and have a positive impact on the price of Astino Shares;

- (iii) if the Astino Shares so purchased by the Company are held as treasury shares, it may be realised with potential gain without affecting the total issued and paid-up share capital of the Company. The Company may also utilise the treasury shares as future share dividends to the shareholders of the Company and/or issued under an employees' share scheme and/or resell the treasury shares in the open market to profit from any future price appreciation of the Astino Shares.

#### **4.0 SOURCE OF FUNDS**

The Company shall not purchase its own ordinary shares unless the Company is solvent at the date of the purchase and will not become insolvent should it incur external borrowings to finance the purchase of Astino Shares. The amount of funds allocated for the purchase of Astino Shares pursuant to the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back will be financed through internally generated funds and/or bank borrowings, the proportion of which will depend on the quantum of the purchase consideration as well as the availability of internally generated funds and bank borrowings at the time of the purchase(s). In the event the purchase of Astino Shares pursuant to Proposed Renewal of Shares Buy-back is to be partly financed by bank borrowings, the Company expects that it will be capable of repaying the bank borrowings and that the bank borrowings will not have any material impact on the cash flow of the Company.

The maximum amount of funds to be allocated for the purchase of Astino Shares pursuant to the Proposed Shares Buy-back will be subject to the retained profits of the Company. The Board proposed to allocate up to the amount available under the retained profits of the Company for the purchase of Astino Shares subject to compliance with Section 127 of the Act, Chapter 12 of Bursa Securities' Listing Requirements and any prevailing laws, rules, regulations, orders, guidelines and other requirements issued by the relevant authorities at the time of purchase(s). Based on the latest audited financial statements as at 31 July 2020, the retained profits of the Company was RM33,189,328.

#### **5.0 POTENTIAL ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES**

- 5.1 The Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back is expected to enhance value for shareholders due to a resultant reduction in the number of Astino Shares in the market, thereby improving its scarcity value. The other advantages of the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back are outlined in paragraph 3.0 above.
- 5.2 However, the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back, if implemented, would reduce the financial resources of the Company and may result in the Company having to forego future investment opportunities and/or any income that may emerge in the future.
- 5.3 The Board will be mindful of the interests of the Company and its shareholders in implementing the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back. The actual number of Astino Shares that will be purchased, total funds allocated for the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back and the timing of the purchase(s) will depend on the market conditions and sentiments of the stock market as well as the financial resources available to the Company.

#### **6.0 EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED RENEWAL OF SHARE BUY-BACK**

On the assumption that the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back is carried out in full by Astino, the effects of the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back on the share capital, earnings, net assets, working capital and the shareholdings of the Directors and substantial shareholders of Astino Group are set out below: -

### 6.1 **Share Capital**

Assuming the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back is carried out in full by Astino and the Astino Shares purchased are cancelled the proforma effect on the issued and paid-up share capital of Astino is summarised below: -

	No. of Astino Shares
As at 3 November 2020	* 274,117,963
Astino Shares to be cancelled	27,411,796
Upon completion of the purchase and cancellation	246,706,167

*Note:*

\* The number of Astino Shares stated above inclusive of 4,138,537 treasury shares currently held by the Company.

There will be no effect on the issued and paid-up capital of Astino if the Astino Shares purchased are retained as treasury shares.

### 6.2 **Earnings**

The effect of the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back on the EPS of Astino Group is dependent on the actual number of Astino Shares purchased, the purchase price(s) of the Astino Shares and the effective cost of funding of Astino Group. The effective reduction in the total issued and paid-up share capital of Astino pursuant to the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back would generally, all else being equal, have a positive impact on the EPS of the Astino Group for the financial year ending on such date when the Astino Shares are purchased.

### 6.3 **Net Assets**

The effect of the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back on the Net Assets per share of Astino Group is dependent on the actual number of Astino Shares purchased, the purchase price(s) of the Astino Shares, the effective cost of funding of Astino Group and the treatment of the Astino Shares so purchased. If the Astino Shares purchased are cancelled, the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back would reduce the Net Assets per share if the purchase price exceeds the audited Net Assets per share at the time of purchase and conversely would increase the Net Assets per share if the purchase price is less than the audited Net Assets per share of Astino Group at the time of the purchase.

The audited Net Assets per share of Astino Group as at 31 July 2020 was approximately RM1.47.

### 6.4 **Working Capital**

The Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back would reduce the working capital of Astino Group, the quantum of which will depend on the purchase price(s) and the number of the Astino Shares bought-back.

### 6.5 **Directors' and Substantial Shareholders' Shareholdings**

In the event that the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back is being carried out in full and the Astino Shares so purchased are cancelled, based on the issued and paid-up share capital of Astino as at 3 November 2020, the potential increase in the shareholdings of the Directors and substantial shareholders of Astino are as set below: -

	Existing Shareholdings				After maximum purchase pursuant to the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back			
	Direct		Indirect		Direct		Indirect	
	No. of shares	%	No. of shares	%	No. of shares	%	No. of shares	%
<b><u>Directors</u></b>								
Ng Back Teng	21,195,236	7.85	30,000 <sup>(i)</sup>	0.01	21,195,236	8.59	30,000 <sup>(i)</sup>	0.01
Ng Hung Seh	14,245,806	5.28	2,626,532 <sup>(i)</sup>	0.97	14,245,806	5.77	2,626,532 <sup>(i)</sup>	1.06
Ng Hung Weng	2,085,000	0.77	-	-	2,085,000	0.85	-	-
Dr. Cheah Soo Jin	-	-	1,422,658 <sup>(ii)</sup>	0.53	-	-	1,422,658 <sup>(ii)</sup>	0.58
Dato' Hj Mohtar Bin Nong	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lim Bee Lee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b><u>Major Shareholders</u></b>								
Seavision Sdn Bhd	83,545,000	30.94	-	-	83,545,000	33.86	-	-
Ng Back Teng	21,195,236	7.85	30,000 <sup>(i)</sup>	0.01	21,195,236	8.59	30,000 <sup>(i)</sup>	0.01
Ng Hung Seh	14,245,806	5.28	2,626,532 <sup>(i)</sup>	0.97	14,245,806	5.77	2,626,532 <sup>(i)</sup>	1.06
Ng Bak Seng	643,300	0.24	83,709,600 <sup>(iii)</sup>	31.01	643,300	0.26	83,709,600 <sup>(iii)</sup>	33.93

Note: -

(i) Deemed interested by virtue of the shareholdings held by spouses

(ii) Deemed interested by virtue of the shareholdings held by his son

(iii) Deemed interested by virtue of the shareholdings held by his wife, Madam Thum Yoke Moy and pursuant to Section 8(4) of the Act in Seavision Sdn Bhd.

## 7.0 PUBLIC SHAREHOLDING SPREAD

The Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back will be in accordance with the Prevailing Laws at the time of the purchase including with the 25% shareholding spread as required by Bursa Securities Listing Requirements. The public shareholding spread of the Company as at 3 November 2020 was approximately 50.42%. Assuming the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back is carried out in full, the Astino Shares so purchased are cancelled and the shareholdings of Directors and substantial shareholders remain unchanged, the proforma public shareholding spread of the Company is expected to reduce to approximately 46.59%.

## 8.0 PURCHASES, RESALE AND CANCELLATION OF ASTINO SHARES MADE IN THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS

During the previous 12 months up to 3 November 2020, being the latest practicable date prior to the printing of this Statement, the Company had purchased 2,226,000 of its issued shares from the open market and retained as treasury shares. These shares have no rights to voting, dividends, bonus issue and participation in other distribution. Details of the share buy-back were as follows:-

	Average repurchased price RM/share	Highest repurchased price RM/share	Lowest repurchased price RM/share	Number of treasury shares repurchased	Total consideration paid * RM
<b>2020</b>					
February	0.693	0.700	0.690	268,500	188,062.54
March	0.588	0.650	0.450	280,000	164,651.74
June	0.502	0.500	0.480	348,000	174,720.81
July	0.511	0.510	0.495	243,000	124,191.83
Sept	0.584	0.600	0.565	1,086,500	634,302.28

*\*Including transaction cost*

As at 3 November 2020 (being the latest practicable), a total of 4,138,537 Astino Shares were purchased and held as treasury shares. The Company has not resold or cancelled any treasury shares on Bursa Securities during the financial year ended 31 July 2020.

During the previous 12 months up to 3 November 2020, being the latest practicable date prior to the printing of this Statement, there were no treasury shares resold.

## **9.0 IMPLICATION RELATING TO THE CODE**

9.1 In the event that the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back is carried out in full, the shareholdings of the existing substantial shareholders, namely, Seavision Sdn Bhd, Ng Hung Seh, Ng Back Teng and Ng Bak Seng (collectively known as the “Substantial Party”) will be increased from 45.36% to 49.63%. If the increase is more than 2% over a six (6) months period, the Substantial Party would be obliged under Part II of the Code to make a Mandatory General Offer for the remaining ordinary shares of Astino not already held by them. The Substantial Party is allowed to make an application to the Securities Commission for a waiver from implementing a Mandatory General Offer under paragraph 24.1 of the Practice Note 9 under Part II of the Code.

9.2 Other than the Substantial Party, none of the existing major shareholders, individually and/or collectively, are expected to increase their respective shareholdings in Astino to beyond 33% as a result of the Proposed Renewal of Authority for Share Buy-back.

As such, there will not be any implication relating to the Code arising from the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back.

9.3 The Board is mindful on the requirement of the Code and will continue to be mindful of the requirement when making any purchase of the Astino Shares pursuant to the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back.

## **10.0 APPROVALS REQUIRED FOR THE PROPOSED RENEWAL OF SHARE BUY-BACK**

The Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-Back is subject to the approval of the shareholders of the Company at the 20<sup>th</sup> AGM.

## **11.0 DIRECTORS’ AND SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS’ INTERESTS**

None of the Directors, substantial shareholders or person connected to Directors or substantial shareholders of Astino has any interest, direct or indirect, in the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back or resale of treasury shares, if any.

## **12.0 DIRECTORS' RECOMMENDATION**

Your Board, having considered all aspects of the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back, is of the opinion that the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back is in the best interest of the Company and its shareholders. Accordingly, your Board recommends that you vote in favour of the resolution for the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back to be tabled at the forthcoming 20<sup>th</sup> AGM.

## **13.0 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

For the purpose of considering and if thought fit, passing the ordinary resolution pertaining to the Proposed Renewal of Share Buy-back, the 20<sup>th</sup> AGM, the notice of which is enclosed with the Annual Report 2020, is to be held at Iconic 4, Level 7, Iconic Hotel, 71, Jalan Icon City, Icon City, 14000 Bukit Mertajam, Penang on Friday, 22 January 2021 at 10.30 a.m.

If you are unable to attend and vote in person at the AGM, you are requested to complete, sign and return the enclosed Form of Proxy in accordance with the instructions printed thereon as soon as possible and in any event, to arrive at the Registered Office of the Company at Suite 12-A, Level 12, Menara Northam, No. 55, Jalan Sultan Ahmad Shah, 10050 Georgetown, Penang not later than forty-eight (48) hours before the time stipulated for holding the AGM. The lodgment of the Form of Proxy will not preclude you from attending and voting in person at the AGM should you subsequently wish to do so. Kindly refer to the Administrative Details which is available for download from our Company's website at <http://www.astino.com.my>.

## **14.0 FURTHER INFORMATION**

Shareholders are requested to refer to Appendix I for further information.

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

**1.0 DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITY**

This Circular/Statement has been seen and approved by the Board and they individually and collectively accept full responsibility for the accuracy of the information given in this Circular/Statement. The Board confirms that after making all reasonable enquiries and to the best of their knowledge and belief, there are no other facts, the omission of which would make any statement of this Circular/Statement false or misleading.

**2.0 MATERIAL CONTRACTS**

As at the date of this Circular/Statement, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiary companies have entered into any contracts which are or may be material (not being contracts entered into in the ordinary course of business of the Group) during the two (2) years immediately preceding the date of this Circular/Statement.

**3.0 MATERIAL LITIGATION**

As at the date of this Circular/Statement, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiary companies are engaged in any material litigation, claims or arbitration either as plaintiff or defendant and the Directors of Astino are not aware of any proceedings pending or threatened against the Company and its subsidiary companies or of any facts likely to give rise to any proceedings which might materially or adversely affect the financial position or business of the Astino Group.

**4.0 DOCUMENTS FOR INSPECTION**

Copies of the following documents will be made available for inspection during normal office hours (except public holidays) at the registered office of Astino from the date of this Statement up to and including the date of the AGM: -

- (i) the Constitution of Astino; and
- (ii) the audited accounts for the financial year ended 31 July 2019 and 31 July 2020.