Statement re Possible Offer

RNS Number : 5186U Sampo PLC 29 July 2020

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> THIS IS AN ANNOUNCEMENT FALLING UNDER RULE 2.4 OF THE CITY COD ON TAKEOVERS AND MERGERS (THE "CODE")AND DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF A FIRMINTENTION TO MAKE AN OFFER UNDER RULE 2.7 OF THE CODE. THERE CAN BE NO CERTAINTY THAT ANY FIRM OFFER WILL BE MADE NOR AS TO THE TERMS OF ANY OFFER

THIS ANNOUNCEMENT CONTAINS INSIDE INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

29th July 2020

Sampo PLC

The Boards of Sampo plc ("Sampo") and RMI Holdings Limited ("RMI") note the recent announcement released today by Hastings Group Holdings plc ("Hastings").

Sampo and RMI confirm that they are in discussions with Hastings regarding a possible cash offer to acquire the issued and to be issued share capital of Hastings not already owned or controlled by Sampo and RMI.

Sampo continuously considers various strategic options to accelerate its growth and diversify its earnings profile and has a strategic ambition to further expand into non-life insurance, a segment where it has extensive experience and expertise.

RMI is a 29.7% shareholder of Hastings having invested in 2017. RMI has a long-term investment horizon and focuses on building enduring value over many and differing market cycles.

There can be no certainty that any firm offer will be made for Hastings, nor as to the terms on which any offer might be made.

In accordance with Rule 2.6(a) of the Code, Sampo and RMI have until 5.00pm on 26th August 2020, being 28 days after 29th July 2020, to either announce a firm intention to make an offer for Hastings in accordance with Rule 2.7 of the Code or announce that they do not intend to make such an offer, in which case the announcement will be treated as a statement to which Rule 2.8 of the Code applies. This deadline may be extended with the consent of the Takeover Panel in accordance with Rule 2.6(c) of the Code.

A copy of this announcement will be made available, subject to certain restrictions relating to persons resident in restricted jurisdictions, on Sampo's website at <u>www.Sampo.com</u> promptly and in any event by no later than 12 noon (London time) on 30th July 2020. The content of the website referred to in this announcement is not incorporated into and does not form part of this announcement.

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Disclosure requirements of the Code

Under Rule 8.3(a) of the Code, any person who is interested in 1% or more of any class of relevant securities of an offeree company or of any securities exchange offeror (being any offeror other than an offeror in respect of which it has been announced that its offer is, or is likely to be, solely in cash) must make an Opening Position Disclosure following the commencement of the offer period and, if later, following the announcement in which any securities exchange offeror is first identified. An Opening Position Disclosure must contain details of the person's interests and short positions in, and rights to subscribe for, any relevant securities of each of (i) the offeree company and (ii) any securities exchange offeror(s). An Opening Position Disclosure by a person to whom Rule 8.3(a) applies must be made by no later than 3.30 pm (London time) on the 10th business day following the commencement of the offer period and, if appropriate, by no later than 3.30 pm (London time) on the 10th business day following the announcement in which any securities exchange offeror is first identified. Relevant persons who deal in the relevant securities of the offeree company or of a securities exchange offeror prior to the deadline for making an Opening Position Disclosure must instead make a Dealing Disclosure.

Under Rule 8.3(b) of the Code, any person who is, or becomes, interested in 1% or more of any class of relevant securities of the offeree company or of any securities exchange offeror must make a Dealing Disclosure if the person deals in any relevant securities of the offeree company or of any securities exchange offeror. A Dealing Disclosure must contain details of the dealing concerned and of the person's interests and short positions in, and rights to subscribe for, any relevant securities of each of (i) the offeree company and (ii) any securities exchange offeror(s), save to the extent that these details have previously been disclosed under Rule 8. A Dealing Disclosure by a person to whom Rule 8.3(b) applies must be made by no later than 3.30 pm (London time) on the business day following the date of the relevant dealing.

If two or more persons act together pursuant to an agreement or understanding, whether formal or informal, to acquire or control an interest in relevant securities of an offeree company or a securities exchange offeror, they will be deemed to be a single person for the purpose of Rule 8.3.

Opening Position Disclosures must also be made by the offeree company and by any offeror and Dealing Disclosures must also be made by the offeree company, by any offeror and by any persons acting in concert with any of them (see Rules 8.1, 8.2 and 8.4).

Details of the offeree and offeror companies in respect of whose relevant securities Opening Position Disclosures and Dealing Disclosures must be made can be found in the Disclosure Table on the Takeover Panel's website at <u>www.thetakeoverpanel.org.uk</u>, including details of the number of relevant securities in issue, when the offer period commenced and when any offeror was first identified. You should contact the Panel's Market Surveillance Unit on

+44 (0)20 7638 0129 if you a re in any doubt as to whether you are required to make an Opening Position Disclosure or a Dealing Disclosure.