



POLICY/ PROCEDURE

Subject:	Policy for managing conflicts of interest	
Last reviewed by:	Compliance	Date: 08/2024
Approved by:	Board of Directors	Date: 05/11/2024

I. INTRODUCTION

Alma Capital Investment Management S.A. (hereafter “ACIM”) is a Luxembourg-based management company, authorised and regulated by the CSSF, subject to Chapter 15 of the UCI Law of 17 December 2010, and to chapter 2 of the AIFM Law of 12 July 2013 as amended. ACIM is the management company for UCITS and alternative investment funds or sub-funds.

Under the freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services in another Member State of the European Union, ACIM has established a branch in France, Alma Capital Investment Management, French branch (the “French Branch”), authorised by the Autorité des Marchés Financiers (“AMF”).

Following the Brexit, ACIM has established a subsidiary in the United Kingdom, Alma Capital London (hereafter “ACL” or the “Subsidiary”), authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority (“FCA”) to manage UCITS funds. This Subsidiary is held in full by ACIM and mostly performs activities that are linked to the funds managed by ACIM (mostly portfolio management and distribution).

This Policy applies to ACIM, including its French Branch, and to its Subsidiary. Reference in this Policy to “Alma” or the “Company” includes its French Branch and its Subsidiary.

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure that the Company identifies, avoids or prevents and mitigates, and monitors fairly and effectively, to the best of its ability, any actual, potential or apparent conflict of interest and ensure appropriate disclosure, in accordance with the applicable law and regulations, notably CSSF Regulation 10-04.

The Policy applies to all Board members, Conducting Officers and staff of ACIM, ACL and of the French Branch (hereafter the “Relevant Persons”) as well as to delegates and external service providers of the Company.

By this Policy, ACIM details how it:

- is structured and organised in such a way as to minimise the risk that conflicts of interest between the Company and its clients, between two of its clients, between one of its clients and a UCITS or between two UCITS harm the interests of the UCITS or its clients;
- avoids conflicts of interest and, when they cannot be avoided, ensures that the Funds

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it manages are fairly treated.

ACIM will maintain and operate an effective organisational structure to address the identification and management of actual, potential or apparent conflicts of interests.

In particular, the Company will ensure – through due diligence and ongoing monitoring – that delegates and external service providers have appropriate procedures and processes in place relating to the identification, avoidance or prevention and mitigation, management and escalation of any actual, potential or apparent conflict of interest.

The Compliance Officer of the Company is responsible for the development and implementation of this Policy and for the supervision of compliance with this Policy. Though, the ultimate responsibility in identifying, avoiding or preventing and mitigating, and managing actual, potential or apparent conflicts of interest lies with the Board of Directors of the Company.

II. IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

To identify potential or actual conflicts of interests that arise in the management of funds, ACIM takes into account by way of minimum criteria the following relationships between:

- the Company, including its directors, employees or any person directly or indirectly related to the Company by a controlling relationship (“the Related Parties”), and the fund managed by the Company or investors of the fund;
- the fund or its investors and another fund or investors of this other fund;
- the fund or its investors and another customer of the Company;
- the fund or its investors and a fund managed by the Company or the investors of this fund; or
- two clients of the Company.

A conflict of interest is defined as a situation where the Company, or one of its representatives, may benefit from a situation that leads to a disadvantage to a client, or where a client to whom ACIM owes a duty makes a gain or avoids a loss leading to a possible loss to another investor.

In certain instances, ACIM may face a situation that involves a conflict of interest. Such conflicts may arise in a number of different ways, at the level of the Board of the Company and the individual Directors and in the day to day business of the Funds and/ or Management Company, including the possibility that ACIM might be in the possession of information or be in the process of making decision that may be detrimental to the Funds and/or its investors.

It is not possible to describe all situations involving potential conflicts of interest. However, the situations below can specifically lead to a conflict of interest, where:

- Any Relevant Person has significant ownership or other economic interest in any of ACIM’s clients, counterparties, suppliers, delegates, competitors, etc...;
- ACIM or any Relevant Person obtains a financial gain or avoids a financial loss at the expense of the Funds or of its investors;
- ACIM is likely to be negatively impacted by decisions made by some investors, as well as any conflicts arising through the Company’s incentive to invest in assets the features of which change the respective profiles or characteristics of the Funds;

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- ACIM or any Relevant Person and the Funds or its investors have different interests in the outcome of a service provided to them, or a transaction carried out on behalf of them;
- ACIM or any Relevant Person has a financial or other incentives to prioritize the interests of an investor or group of investors over those of the Funds or other investors in the Funds;
- ACIM has a remuneration and other incentive structure that promotes its Directors, Conducting Officers or employees to act in conflict with the investor's interests;
- ACIM or any Relevant Person receives or will receive from a third party an inducement in relation to collective portfolio management activities provided to the Funds, in the form of monies, goods or services other than the standard commission or fee for that service;
- ACIM shares and disseminates information or investment research to an investor or group of investors prioritizing them over other investors in the Funds.

The above-mentioned principles apply to the Company, each Relevant Person, and any persons having a significant link, even remote, with ACIM.

ACIM must avoid acting in relation to any transaction where its own interests – or those of its linked individuals, including their respective families – may conflict with the interest of the Funds, and/or its investors for whom the transaction is being executed.

While identifying potential or actual conflicts of interests, ACIM includes those types of conflicts of interest that may arise as a result of the integration of sustainability risks in its processes, systems and internal controls.

Also, when identifying conflicts of interest, ACIM takes into account the interest of ACIM, including that deriving from its belonging to a group or from the performance of services and activities, the interest of the investors and the duty of the Management Company towards the Funds.

III. PREVENTING, AVOIDING AND MITIGATING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Company must take all appropriate steps to prevent conflicts of interest and from constituting or giving rise to a material risk of damage to the interests of the Funds and/or its investors.

ACIM has developed adequate policies and procedures to guarantee that the Relevant Persons engaged in activities where a risk of conflicts of interest exists, exercise their duties with an appropriate level of independence, taking into account the size and the activities of the Company, and ensure that the investors' best interest remains safe at all times. Among these policies and procedures: a compliance charter, a compliance manual, a voting rights policy, an organisation chart, a personal transactions policy, a remuneration policy and an inducement fee policy.

By the means of the above policies and procedures, ACIM has implemented the following organizational and administrative arrangements:

- information barriers, where relevant: confidentiality of information is achieved through an authorisation process that limits access to persons engaged for the exercise of their professional duty;

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- supervision: personal transactions of the Relevant Persons are covered by a policy which aims to minimize the risk that they use their positions improperly for their own benefit;
- remuneration: a fair remuneration scheme, compliant with applicable laws, regulations and endorsing best market practices, accounts for and contributes to preventing conflicts of interest;
- inducements: any fee, commission or non-monetary benefit – in relation to the activities of delegated investment management and administration to the Funds – is evaluated. If ACIM offers or accepts inducements, it also discloses the essential terms of the arrangements;
- undue influence: it is each Relevant Person's individual responsibility to ensure a required level of independence when dealing with investors or counterparties, and avoid any inappropriate influence in the course of their duties;
- independence: Relevant Persons engaged in different business activities – simultaneously or sequentially – involving potential conflicts of interest ensure to carry those activities independently of one another.

IV. MONITORING OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Review of conflicts of interest is a standing point at the agenda of each official meeting of the Company, monthly meetings of Conducting Officers, and quarterly meetings of the Board of Directors. At the beginning of each meeting, Conducting Officers and Directors of the Company, respectively, acknowledge if they have identified any new actual, potential or apparent conflict of interest identified or brought to their knowledge, or to be reported during the period under review, in respect of the Company as well as of the ACIM Branch. Any potential conflict of interest brought to the attention of the Conducting Officers or Board Members are discussed to confirm whether this should be considered as an actual conflict of interest, and if not, detail the reasons why they consider it is not a conflict of interest. According to the provisions of Article 18 of the Company's Articles of Incorporation, in the event that any of the Company's Director(s) or Conducting Officer(s) had an interest opposite to the interests of the Company or to the investors of the Funds, such Director(s) or Conducting Officer(s) should not engage in the discussions and voting on the items due to be discussed, and this abstention should be noted in the Minutes.

The Compliance Officer regularly raises awareness of the employees on conflicts of interest identification and mitigation, in particular through regular trainings or regulatory presentations and through more informal discussions (which is realistic given the size of the Company).

The Compliance Officer asks at least once a year to all Relevant Persons to confirm that they are not aware of any conflict of interest or to report them as appropriate.

In addition to these regular acknowledgements by its Conducting Officers and Board members, ACIM should take special care in the day-to-day activities carried out, to monitor effectively the risk of conflicts of interest.

The Compliance Officer of the Company ensures as part of his review that Relevant Persons – who are involved in activities which may impair the proper management of conflicts of interest – are monitored at all times, and maintain a required level of independence.

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On their side, Relevant Persons have to notify the Compliance Officer, of any irregularity they observe or that they suspect with regards to this Policy.

In any potential conflict of interest, the Compliance Officer will evaluate independently the situation, and act appropriately while keeping a record of such potential incident.

To fulfil his duty, the Compliance Officer has access to a separate and restricted space on the server of the Company, where all compliance documentation and files are stored, only accessible to the Conducting Officers, the Directors and the members of the Compliance Team of the Company.

V. MANAGING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

ACIM, via its Compliance Officer monitors and keeps a record of situations where conflicts of interest arise or may arise and it is the duty of the Compliance Officer of the Company to maintain such records and document:

- a description of the nature of the conflict of interest (whether potential or actual);
- the identification of the person or unit concerned by the conflict of interest;
- the date on which the conflict of interest occurred or was discovered/reported;
- the potential and proven impacts of the conflict of interest;
- a description of the solutions envisaged and the measures adopted;
- where applicable, the investor information procedures.

If the Company, via its Compliance Officer, at any point, does not feel confident that the above-mentioned arrangements for dealing with conflicts are capable of preventing the risk of damage to any of the persons and entities involved, it shall take steps to disclose the sources of conflicts before making any decision.

In these circumstances, they report these situations to the Board of Directors of the Company, who will decide on how to manage the situation.

VI. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND INVESTORS' NOTIFICATION

In situations where conflicts of interest cannot be avoided, the Board of Directors of ACIM is promptly informed in order for them to make any necessary decision to ensure that in any case the Company acts in the best interests of the investors of the Funds.

In such cases, ACIM reports these situations to investors by the most relevant mean and provides grounds and explanations for its decision. It is the Company's priority to give a clear and detailed disclosure of the conflicts of interest, to ensure that investors make an informed decision regarding the services or products offered.

VII. RECORD KEEPING

ACIM keeps – under the responsibility of its Compliance Officer – a register of all identified situations of potential conflicts of interest including the types of situations where an actual, potential or apparent conflict of interest has arisen, within the Company, its Subsidiary or its Branch, with a brief description of the situation indicating the nature and the cause of the conflict of interest, the business area involved and the decision made.

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In accordance with all applicable regulatory requirements, records of those identified conflicts of interest are kept for at least five (5) years.

The Compliance Officer is responsible for managing the Company's records and register of identified conflicts of interest, and for reviewing or amending this Policy.

This Policy is reviewed at least annually, to ensure its appropriateness and effectiveness, and shall be amended whenever required: at any change in the structure of the Company, or following a change in the applicable Luxembourg legal and regulatory framework.

VIII. AVAILABILITY OF THE PROCEDURE

This procedure is disclosed on the Company's website and is freely available at its registered office, upon investor's request.

The procedure is also made available to all relevant staff.