

**The VICOM Group’s Risk Management Framework provides a systematic process for the Group and its Business Units (BUs) to identify and review the nature and complexity of the risks involved in their business operations and to prioritise resources to manage them. The Group is committed to enhance shareholder value through growth that is sustainable and profitable, while taking measured and well-considered risks.**

The Group’s approach to risk management is underpinned by several key principles:

- The risk management process is a continuous and iterative one, as the Group’s businesses and operating environments are dynamic. Risk identification, assessment and risk management practices are reviewed and updated regularly to manage risks proactively.
- We promote and inculcate risk awareness among all our employees by embedding risk management processes into day-to-day business operations and setting an appropriate tone at the top. Regular briefings, continuous education and training, as well as communications through various forums on risk management are carried out to sustain a risk-informed and risk-aware culture in the Group.
- Ownership of and accountability for the risk management process is clearly defined and assigned to the BUs, departments and individuals. Managers at each level have intimate knowledge of their businesses and take ownership of risk management, with stewardship retained at Senior Management.

In line with the current dynamics in the global and local economies, the Group has reviewed its risk management policies and processes, and refreshed the risk registers. These refreshed risk registers reflect the current risk portfolios of the Group in mitigating business and operational risks while exploring opportunities in an increasingly technology-driven economy.

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT MODEL**

The Group has adopted the “Four Lines of Defence” as our assurance framework in risk management. The Board has the ultimate responsibility for the governance of risk, and sets the tone and direction for the Group. It delegates the oversight of risk management and internal control to the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC). The ARC helps the Board in ensuring that the Management establishes and enforces a sound system of risk management and internal controls to safeguard the Group’s assets and shareholders’ interests, and that a robust system and processes is in place to identify and manage risks enterprise-wide.

# RISK MANAGEMENT

## HIGHEST OVERSIGHT

The Board is responsible for the oversight of VICOM Group risk management, internal control, policies and systems.

The Board consists of the Chairman, Executive Directors and Non-Executive Directors who hold their Board meetings on a quarterly basis.



## 3RD LINE

The internal and external audit is responsible for testing the effectiveness of the risk management, the internal control and compliance set up by Management as an independent assurance. The whistleblowing and results of investigated issues will be reported directly to the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC).

Internal Auditors report independently to the ARC. They adopt a risk-based approach when conducting their review.



## 2ND LINE

The VICOM Risk Steering Committee (RSC) is responsible for the risk management framework and strategy. They set up the risk management strategy, implement control self-assessment and monitor regulatory compliance.

The VICOM RSC consists of Chief Executive Officer and Senior Management staff who will be responsible for the risk in their functional area.

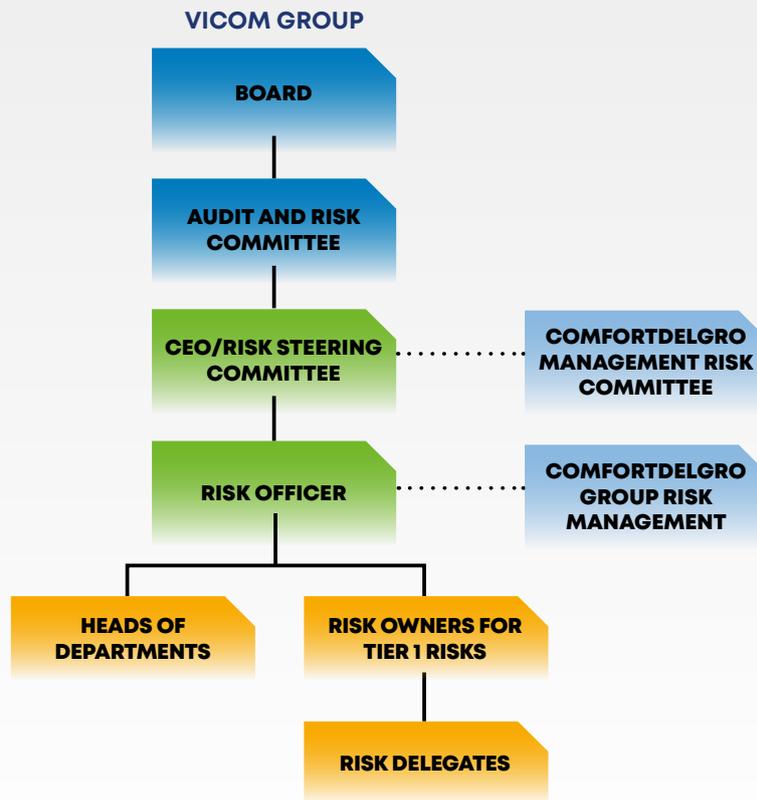


## 1ST LINE

Business Units (BUs) are responsible for setting up the policy management, identify risk, build a robust internal control environment and construct a strong financial and operational governance.

The BUs' Department Heads, Managers and employees embed risk-mitigating factor when designing their operational process and procedures.

## VICOM GROUP RISK MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE



The Group Chief Executive Officer chairs the Risk Steering Committee (RSC), and members are drawn from BUs' Senior Management staff. He is also a member of the ComfortDelGro's Management Risk Committee and has appointed a Risk Officer to work closely with ComfortDelGro's Group Risk Management to ensure alignment and that the Risk Management Framework is diligently implemented. Key risks for the Group are identified and presented to the ARC and the Board annually.

The Group RSC meetings serve as the platform where Group and BU-level risks are shared and discussed, including the progress of the respective risk treatment action plans and the key risk indicators. Different BUs will have different risk profiles but the risk assessment methodology, approach and processes are aligned with that of the Group, including the risk taxonomy. BUs are expected to continually refine and review their risk profiles and to detect and report any emerging risks promptly. This is to prevent unexpected risks and disruptions to our business operations and growth.

### GROUP RISK PROFILE

The key risks faced by the Group, the relevant mitigating factors and how they are managed are set out in the paragraphs below. The risks are categorised along Operational, Financial, Compliance and Information Technology risks.

### OPERATIONAL RISKS

#### SAFETY RISK

The safety of our customers and employees have always been our top priority. To achieve assurance, we regularly update and revisit our safety policies and procedures. We apply zero tolerance to non-compliance on these policies. We also carry out risk assessment and safety inspection on our premises and conduct fire drills as part of our preventive measures.

The Group constantly strives to comply with the latest requirements imposed by the Ministry of Manpower and the Workplace Safety and Health (WSH) Council. With the

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gazette of the Approved Code of Practice in October 2022, the Group has undertaken steps to ensure its compliance. This includes the appointment of a Responsible Director for all WSH matters and the revision of the ARC's Terms of Reference to include its oversight on such matters.

## TECHNOLOGY EXPLOITATION RISK

The Group's ability to exploit advances in technology for new business opportunities and leveraging on technology to increase productivity and efficiency through automation, digitalisation and innovation, are crucial. Recognising the significant impact that technology can have in growing revenue and reducing cost, the Group has formed a Technology Committee at Board level to drive and oversee technology exploitation opportunities.

## COMPETITION RISK

Competition remains keen in the Testing, Inspection and Certification industry, as evident by the 452 accredited laboratories, 125 accredited Inspection Bodies and 143 accredited Certification Bodies. To remain relevant, the Group and its BUs will have to improve its offerings and services, and also enhance efficiency and productivity through digitalisation and automation. We must also leverage on partnerships and collaborations to enhance our value propositions.

## ECONOMIC CYCLE

Changes in economic conditions may impact the businesses in terms of customer demand and the cost of providing the services. We manage these risks by continuously scanning and monitoring the economic climate and its impact across industries. We also monitor demand trends, cost structures, and operating margins closely. Expenses are managed in the light of revenue patterns and changing market conditions. Where possible, revenue risks are mitigated by diversifying revenue streams and reduce dependency on a specific industrial sector.

## OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE RISK

The Group and its BUs have established the requisite frameworks, standard operating procedures and Business Continuity Plans (BCPs) to ensure operational effectiveness and enable compliance and control of our various business operations and services. The BCPs are to mitigate the risks of disruption and catastrophic loss to our operations, people, information databases and other assets. Such risks can arise from adverse natural events like flooding, fires, or from pandemic outbreaks. The BCPs include identification and planning of alternate operation centres, operational procedures to maintain communication, measures to ensure continuity of critical business functions, protection of our employees and customers, and recovery of information databases. We update and test the BCPs regularly. Drills and emergency response exercises are conducted to familiarise employees with the various incident management plans. The BCPs enhance the Group's operational readiness and resilience to potential business disruptions.

The Group also seeks to adopt the best practices in industry, harmonise and streamline our processes, and attain third-party accreditation from the Singapore Accreditation Council as an attestation to our technical competency and professionalism. Besides this, the Group works closely with the various regulatory bodies to keep abreast of the latest regulatory requirements and ensure compliance. Ensuring high standards and operational excellence will enable us to deliver the desired outcomes and mitigate the risk of operating licences, certifications and accreditations being revoked.

## MANPOWER RISK

The Group's ability to develop and grow the business depends on the quality of its people, and it is committed to invest in developing its talent pool. We believe in developing a strong workforce by putting in place various programmes and processes. These include talent management, building management bench strength, succession planning, performance management, compensation and benefits, training and development, and employee conduct and supervision. We ensure that our employees are selected and promoted based on merit, and that they understand their responsibilities and are given access to the necessary training. At all times, a positive, constructive and productive working climate based on strong tripartite relations is fostered. We work with the Authorities and the Unions to ensure that our people are fairly recognised, remunerated and taken care of.

## PROPERTY AND LIABILITY

The Group's exposure to property damage, business interruption and other liability risks is constantly monitored and reviewed with ComfortDelGro's wholly-owned insurance broking subsidiary. We ensure sufficiency of insurance coverage and maintain an optimal balance between risks that are internal and risks that are placed out with underwriters.

## FINANCIAL RISKS

### BUDGETARY CONTROL

A robust and comprehensive Annual Budget is prepared and approved by the Board prior to the commencement of each financial year. Material variations between actual and budgeted performance are reviewed on a monthly basis. The capital expenditure budget is approved in-principle by the Board as part of the Annual Budget. Each capital expenditure is subjected to rigorous justification and review before it is incurred in accordance with the Group's financial authority limits. Specific approvals must be sought for unbudgeted expenditures. Tight control on manpower is exercised through the headcount budget.

### FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT RISK

The Group upholds the highest integrity in financial statement disclosure. Financial Authority Limits are put in place for capital expenditure, operating expenses, treasury matters, direct investments, revenue tender participation,

and disposal and write-off of assets. These authority limits are delegated based on the organisational hierarchy with the Board retaining the ultimate authority.

### **FRAUD RISK**

The Group recognises that fraud risk not only negatively impact our financial results, but also our reputation. As such, a robust internal control environment, with both prevention and detection control are embedded into our finance and business processes, including checks and balance with no single approval for all transactions. We also frequently conduct external and internal audit reviews to identify potential gaps within our organisation. Beyond controls, the Group also promotes an ethical culture and educates our staff to identify and report possible fraudulent act committed both internally and externally.

### **COMPLIANCE RISKS**

#### **COMPLIANCE & REGULATORY RISK**

The Group is committed to ensure that all BUs comply with the laws and regulations in the country they operate in. These laws and regulations include, but are not limited to, labour, taxation and environmental laws. As part of the risk management process, we maintain a compliance framework to monitor closely for any changes in the laws and regulations. Any changes are disseminated and updated in the respective compliance registers. We proactively engaged the regulatory authorities for any updated policies. As and where necessary, our BUs will also provide feedback on proposed regulatory changes during industry or public consultation exercises.

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RISKS**

#### **CYBERSECURITY RISK**

Cybersecurity remains a key risk for the Group, given the trend of increasing cyber-attacks globally, and that our digital footprint has grown with increased digitalisation. The COVID-19 pandemic added a new dimension to cybersecurity as more employees are now working from home. Coupled with the ever-evolving digital terrain, it is pertinent that the Group put in place a comprehensive and robust security framework, with regular reviews to ensure continuing relevance in face of changing threats.

The Group's information technology security management framework complies with the latest industry standards. We have put in place various controls and data recovery measures to mitigate the risks, including the use of intrusion prevention systems, multi-level firewalls, server protection, software code hardening and data loss prevention controls to manage Internet security and cyber threats. Penetration tests are carried out regularly to test the systems, identify potential vulnerabilities and to strengthen the security hardening of our websites. Information security policies and procedures, including education and training for all staff, are reviewed and enhanced regularly.

### **DATA CONFIDENTIALITY RISK**

As a data custodian for our employees' and customers' personal data, the Group has implemented various policies, practices and controls to protect the confidentiality of these data. We regularly review our means of collecting, managing, safekeeping, sharing and disposal of such data to ensure compliance with the personal data protection regulations. The Group and its BUs also evaluate and update our data inventory map bi-annually. Data Protection Officers and other organisational representatives involved in the management of personal data are also sent for training to ensure that they are equipped with the required competencies.

The Group has attained the Data Protection Trust Mark (DPTM) from the Info-Comm and Media Development Authority (IMDA) since 2020 as a testament on the adequacy and effectiveness of its policies, internal processes and procedures in preventing personal data breach.

### **AUDIT PROCESS**

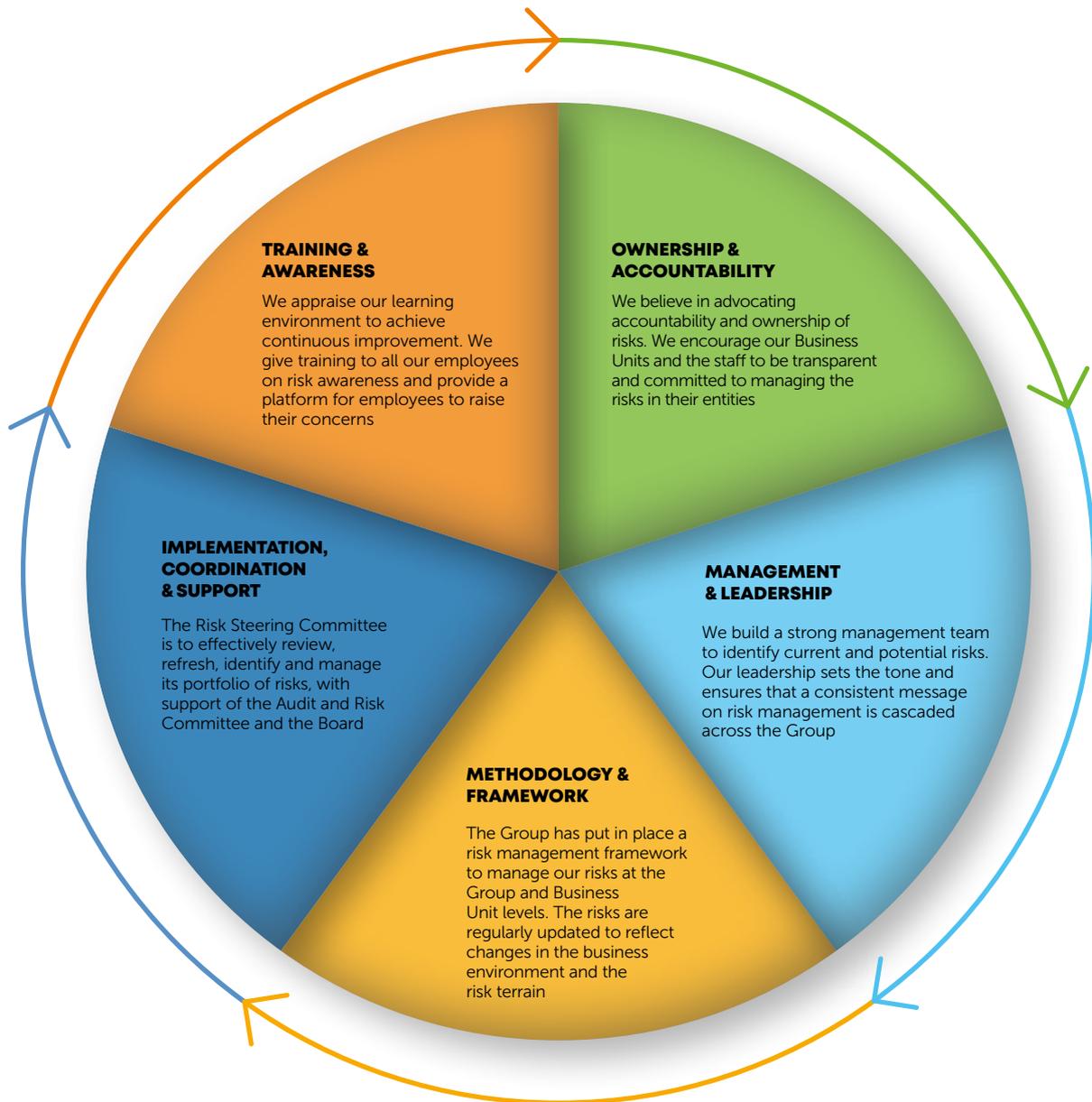
The internal audit function of the Group is performed by ComfortDelGro's Group Internal Audit Division. The Internal and External Auditors conduct reviews in accordance with their audit plans to assess the adequacy of the internal controls that are in place. A risk-based approach has been adopted in developing the annual audit plan, and in identifying the auditable areas of each entity. In the course of their audits, the Internal and External Auditors will highlight to Management and the ARC the areas where there are material deficiencies, non-compliance, weaknesses or where there are occurrences or potential occurrence of significant risk events. The auditors will also propose mitigating measures and treatment plans. The recommendations are followed up as part of the Group's continuous review of its system of internal controls, and the implementation status is reported to the ARC.

The Group Internal Audit Division adopted the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing laid down in the International Professional Practices Framework issued by the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA Standards). The Group Internal Audit Division successfully completed its external Quality Assurance Review in 2018 by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP and continues to meet or exceed the IIA Standards in all key aspects. The next Quality Assurance Review is scheduled for 2023.

### **RISK CULTURE**

The Group believes in setting a robust risk management culture by ensuring good awareness, attitudes and behaviour towards risk management. We aim for continuous improvements by aligning ourselves with best practices and lessons learnt. The diagram on the next page best describes the processes that the Group advocates in order to sustain continuous improvement in our risk management.

# RISK MANAGEMENT



## CODE OF BUSINESS CONDUCT

The Group has adopted a Code of Business Conduct that sets out the principles and policies upon which businesses are conducted. The Code of Business Conduct includes the anti-corruption and anti-bribery policies that stress on zero tolerance on fraud, improper use of monetary favors, gifts or entertainment. In addition, employees should not put themselves in a position of conflict of interest with the Group. If there is a potential conflict of interest, employees should declare to their immediate supervisors and recuse themselves from the decision process.

## WHISTLE BLOWING POLICY

The Whistle Blowing Policy is to provide a mechanism for employees to raise concerns, through well-defined and accessible confidential disclosure channels about possible improprieties in financial reporting or other improper business conduct. The policy is communicated to all employees twice yearly through electronic Distribution Mails with their acknowledgement. Incidents can also be reported via a direct Intranet link to the Chairperson of the ARC and/or the ComfortDelGro's Group Chief Internal Audit Officer. All cases are investigated and dealt with promptly and thoroughly.