## ARENDT UCITS Webinar SERIES 2024



Governance best practices for UCITS, with a focus on co-sec activities

**18 November 2024** 



### The speakers



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The objectives of a good fund governance and main challenges



#### Governance Starts At The Board Level



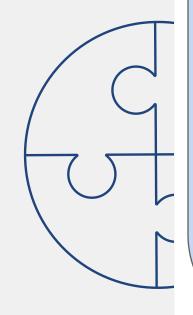
#### Explaining the role of the Board in good fund governance

• Ensure transparent, effective operations in the best interest of the investors





#### Governance Starts At The Board Level



#### A regulatory perspective – what about UCITS funds?

Non-Compliance Penalties Board Accountability & Liability

Restrictions

Risks

Reputation & Investor Confidence



#### Governance Starts At The Board Level



#### Challenges and weaknesses of board meetings





# Best practices in terms of composition and roles played by the boards



#### Best Practices: Composition of the Board







- 1. Balanced expertise
- 2. Regular Self-Assessments & Skills gap analysis
- 3. Delegated functions oversight

#### Necessary skills and expertise of the members of the board

- 1. Ongoing education
- 2. Mock inspections and compliance checklists
- 3. Standardized agendas & benchmarking



#### Balancing Governance and Efficiency: Fund Boards and UCITS ManCo



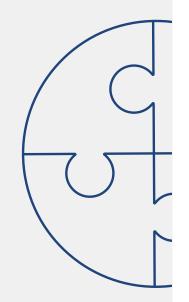


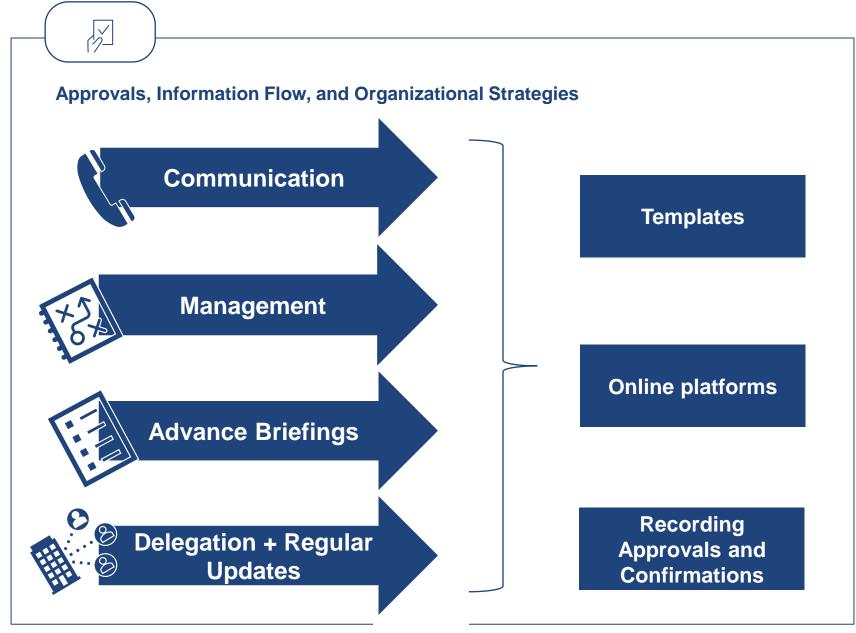
#### **Board interactions with UCITS ManCo and insights on delegation**

- 1. Clear roles
- 2. Structured, strategic board agendas
- 3. Robust documentation of decisions
- 4. Regular communication with stakeholders



#### Board Involvement Between Periodic Meetings



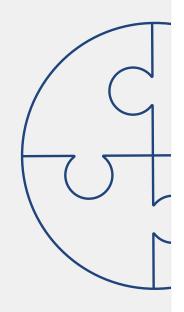




# Achieving board efficiencies at organizational and operational levels



#### Best Practices for Setting the Agenda of Board meetings



#### The Board's Agenda

- Prioritize Key Areas
- Time Management



### Allocate Time for Emerging Issues

**Strategic Planning** 

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**Topic prioritisation** 



#### **Recurrent matters**

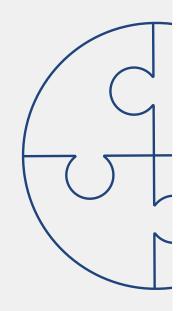
- Balance Administrative and Strategic
- Integrate Compliance Efficiently
- Efficient Reporting

#### **Must have topics**

- Strategic and Performance
   Discussions
- Regulatory and Compliance Updates
- Emerging Issues



# The role of technology in a Board meeting



#### The role of technology



Centralizing documents, agendas, and updates on board portal etc.



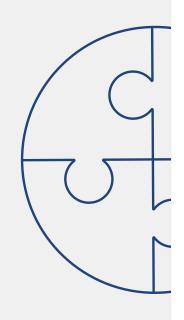
**Dashboards and real-time data analytics** 



Digital tools facilitate minute-taking, task tracking, and follow-up actions, etc.



# The content of minutes and the details required



#### Focus on the importance of minutes



- Notes on: core decisions, actions taken etc.
- Include all views
- Balance between conciseness and comprehensiveness.



A case study: the outsourcing of cosec activities by BNP Paribas (for UCITS funds)



## Drivers of the decision





- The decision of outsourcing
- The main steps of implementation of the outsourcing
- Feedback on the experience



## **Upcoming UCITS webinars**



#### **Upcoming UCITS Webinars**



2 December 2024

online

#### UCITS State of Play

January 2025 (date tbc)

hybrid seminar



Q&A



#### Your contacts



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