

THE CHARTER OF THE CORPORATION OF THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND

[15 June 1998]

ELIZABETH THE SECOND by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith:

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING!

WHEREAS by a Charter granted by Their Majesties King William and Queen Mary in pursuance of the Bank of England Act 1694 and dated the twenty-seventh day of July in the sixth year of their reign the Governor and Company of the Bank of England (hereinafter called “the Bank of England”) were duly incorporated with perpetual succession and a common seal and such rights, powers and privileges as are therein described:

AND WHEREAS by a Supplemental Charter granted by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in pursuance of the Bank Act 1892 and dated the nineteenth day of August in the sixtieth year of Her reign the internal affairs of the Bank of England were further regulated:

AND WHEREAS the Bank of England Act 1946 by section 1 enacted that on a day to be appointed for the purposes of that Act (hereinafter called “the appointed day”, and subsequently appointed by the Treasury as the first day of March One thousand nine hundred and forty-six) the whole of the existing capital stock of the Bank of England should be transferred to such person as the Treasury might by order nominate: and by section 2 enacted that on and after the appointed day there should be a Governor, a Deputy Governor and sixteen directors of the Bank of England who should be the court of directors and that the provisions of the Second Schedule to that Act should have effect as respects the tenure of office, qualifications and employment of members of the court of directors: and by section 3 enacted that as from the appointed day the members of the said body corporate should be the members for the time being of the court of directors together with the person who for the time being should hold the capital stock of the Bank of England on behalf of the Treasury:

AND WHEREAS the Bank of England Act 1946 by section 3 further enacted that as from the appointed day all or any of the provisions of the Charters of the Bank of England might be revoked except in so far as they incorporate the Bank of England and that thereafter, subject to the provisions of that Act, the Bank of England should be constituted and regulated in accordance with so much of the said Charters as remained unrevoked and such other Charters as might from time to time be granted and accepted on behalf of the Bank of England by the court of directors:

AND WHEREAS by a Charter granted by His Majesty King George the Sixth in pursuance of section 3 of the Bank of England Act 1946 and dated the first day of March One thousand nine hundred and forty-six the existing Charters of the Bank of England were revoked except

in so far as they incorporate the Bank of England, constitute its capital stock, authorise it to have a common seal, to hold land and other property as therein mentioned and to sue and be sued:

AND WHEREAS the Bank of England Act 1998 by section 43 and Schedule 9 enacted that section 2 and subsection (2) of section 4 of, and Schedule 2 to, the Bank of England Act 1946 governing the composition, functions and proceedings of the court of directors and the tenure of office, qualifications and employment of its members should be repealed: and by section 1 enacted that there should continue to be a court of directors which should consist of a Governor, two Deputy Governors and sixteen directors of the Bank of England and that the provisions of Schedule 1 to that Act should have effect with respect thereto: and by sections 2 and 16 enacted that the functions of the court of directors should be to manage the Bank of England's affairs other than the formulation of monetary policy and to keep the procedures followed by the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England under review: and by section 5 enacted that the court of directors should have custody of the Bank of England's seal which should only be used in accordance with the provisions of that section:

AND WHEREAS by the Bank of England Act 1998 (Commencement) Order 1998 the Treasury have appointed the first day of June One thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight as the day on which the Bank of England Act 1998 should come into force:

AND WHEREAS it is Our pleasure in pursuance of section 3 of the Bank of England Act 1946 to revoke the Charter of the Bank of England dated the first day of March One thousand nine hundred and forty-six, without prejudice to the preservation of the provisions of the Charter of the Bank of England dated the twenty-seventh day of July One thousand six hundred and ninety-four which incorporate the Bank of England, constitute its capital stock, authorise it to have a common seal, to hold land and other property as therein mentioned and to sue and be sued, and in place thereof to grant such new Charter as is herein set forth:

NOW THEREFORE know ye that We, taking the premises into Our consideration and of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion do, in pursuance of the Bank of England Act 1946 and of all other powers enabling Us in that behalf, by these Presents for Us, Our Heirs and Successors give, grant, ordain and declare as follows, that is to say:

1 As from the fifteenth day of June One thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight, and without prejudice to the preservation of the provisions of the Charter of the Bank of England dated the twenty-seventh day of July One thousand six hundred and ninety-four which incorporate the Bank of England, constitute its capital stock, authorise it to have a common seal, to hold land and other property as therein mentioned and to sue and be sued, the Charter of the Bank of England dated the first day of March One thousand nine hundred and forty-six shall be and the same is hereby revoked.

2 If at any time the Treasury direct that the capital stock of the Bank of England or any part thereof shall be transferred from the person nominated by them under section 1 of the Bank of England Act 1946 to any other person nominated by them the said stock or such

part thereof shall without any instrument of transfer vest in the person so nominated by them to be held by him on behalf of the Treasury accordingly.

3 Each person appointed on or after the fifteenth day of June One thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight as Governor, Deputy Governor or director of the Bank of England shall, as soon after his appointment to such office as may be convenient and without prejudice to his ability to execute or act in such office from the date of his appointment, make the declaration set out in that behalf in the Schedule to these presents. Which declaration may and shall be made before any one of Our Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain or Our Chancellor of the Exchequer or Our Lord Chief Justice of England or the Governor or a Deputy Governor of the Bank of England or before any preceding Governor or any preceding Deputy Governor.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent

WITNESS Ourselves at Westminster the 15 day of June in the forty-seventh year of Our Reign

PHILLIPS

BY WARRANT UNDER THE QUEEN'S SIGN MANUAL

SCHEDULE

FORMS OF DECLARATION

Form of declaration by the Governor or a Deputy Governor

I, A B, having been appointed to the office of [Governor] [Deputy Governor] of the Corporation of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England do solemnly and sincerely declare that I will to the utmost of my power, by all lawful ways and means, endeavour to support and maintain the said Corporation and the liberties and privileges thereof: and in the execution of the said Office I will faithfully and honestly demean myself according to the best of my skill and understanding.

Form of declaration by a director

I, A B, having been appointed to the office of a director of the Corporation of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England do solemnly and sincerely declare that in the said office I will be indifferent and equal to all manner of persons: and I will give my best advice and assistance for the support and good Government of the said Corporation: and in the execution of the said office I will faithfully and honestly demean myself according to the best of my skill and understanding.