



# KEU Underwriting Managers Conflict of Interest Policy

## 1. Purpose

- 1.1 The General Code of Conduct for Authorised Financial Service Providers and Representatives (“the Code”) issued under the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act, 2000 (Act No. 37 of 2002) (“FAIS”), requires financial service providers to have a Conflict of Interest Management Policy in place to ensure that conflict of interest is managed appropriately in the business.
- 1.2 The purpose of this policy is to assist KEU and its employees to identify potential and actual conflict of interest and to manage it appropriately.

## 2. Policy Statement

KEU is committed to avoiding, and where this is not possible, mitigating any conflict of interest that may arise between KEU, as a product supplier, and its clients (Corporate business, Affinity business; Underwriting Management Agencies, and Intermediaries) or their representatives, when rendering financial services to policyholders.

KEU is committed to not act in any way that would cause conflict of interest for their clients (as defined in paragraph 2 above). This includes:

- Not supplying remuneration over and above the allowed commission percentages;
- Never supplying training to an exclusive group of intermediaries;
- Not having exclusive events for those intermediaries who met their sales targets/volumes.
- Not offering financial interests to intermediaries in excess of regulatory limitations.

## 3. Who is Subject to the Policy?

KEU, KEU employees and KEU clients (as defined in paragraph 2 above) are bound by this policy.

## 4. What is a Conflict of Interest?

- 4.1 “Conflict of interest” is any situation, including financial interest, ownership interest, or any relationship with a third party, in which a provider or FAIS representative has actual or potential interest that may:
- a. influence the objective fulfilment of obligations to a client;
  - b. influence the offering of unbiased and fair advice or service to a client; or
  - c. prevent the provider or FAIS representative from acting in the best interests of a client.
- 4.2 This may include:
- a. real or perceived financial gain resulting from recommendations to clients that prejudice the client;
  - b. an outcome of service delivery or transaction that may not best serve the interests of the client;
  - c. non-cash incentives that may be received by the business as a result of affecting any predetermined transaction and/ or product; and
  - d. effecting a transaction and/ or product that may benefit a party other than the client.
- 4.3 The table below lists financial interest that is allowed; financial interest that is allowed, but subject to prior approval and the total expenditure not exceeding R1 000.00 per FAIS representative during any one year; financial interest that is disallowed; and financial interest that is not subject to the Code and therefore does not require any prior approval in terms of this Policy.



	<b>Financial interest allowed</b>	<b>Financial interest disallowed</b>	<b>Financial interest allowed, but subject to prior approval and total expenditure not exceeding R1 000 per FAIS representative in any one year</b>	<b>Financial interest not subject to the Code and therefore not requiring prior approval</b>
<b>1</b>	Commission, in accordance with the Short-term Insurance Act, 1998 (Act No. 53 of 1998) ("the STIA") and Long-term Insurance Act, 1998 (Act No 52 of 1998) Disclosure required: Quotation and/or Initial Disclosure Documentation and/or Service Level Agreement with clients.	Commission, in accordance with the Short-term Insurance Act, 1998 (Act No. 53 of 1998) ("the STIA") and Long-term Insurance Act, 1998 (Act No 52 of 1998) Disclosure required: Quotation and/or Initial Disclosure Documentation and/or Service Level Agreement with clients.	Sporting events, e.g. golf days Hospitality e.g. meals, events etc Disclosure required: Internal Gift Register	"Pay your own way" entertainment or functions
<b>2</b>	Fees as provided for in the Short-term Insurance Act, 1998 (Act No. 53 of 1998) ("the STIA") and Long-term Insurance Act, 1998 (Act No 52 of 1998) Disclosure required: Quotation and/or Initial Disclosure Documentation and/or Service Level Agreement with clients.			
<b>3</b>	Fees for rendering a financial service in respect of which neither commission nor the fees provided for in the STIA are payable provided the client has specifically agreed to the fees in writing and has discretion to stop them at any time. Disclosure required: Quotation and/or Initial Disclosure Documentation and/or Service Level Agreement with clients. the "Allowed Column"	Training that is restricted to a select group of providers or FAIS representatives and that does not meet the conditions in item 8 under the "Allowed Column"	Promotional items Disclosure required: Internal Gift Register	Personal/ private expenditure with FAIS representatives
<b>4</b>	Fees for services rendered to a "third party", provided the fees are reasonably commensurate with the service rendered. Disclosure required: Quotation and/or Initial Disclosure Documentation and/or Service Level Agreement with clients		Meals, except meals provided during training that is allowed Disclosure required: Internal Gift Register.	





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<b>5</b>	Any financial interest with a determinable monetary value not exceeding R1 000 per FAIS representative in any given year. Disclosure required: Internal Gift Register.			Provision of electronic tools and services without which an FSP cannot service KEU, e.g. underwriting services, call centre services, etc.
<b>6</b>	Financial interest for which the provider or FAIS representative has paid fair value or remuneration reasonably commensurate to the financial interest. Disclosure required: Conflict of Interest Register.		Marketing and advertising, provided a fair value for the service, as would have been charged elsewhere, is charged. Disclosure required: Conflict of Interest Register.	
<b>7</b>	Ownership interest. Disclosure required: Conflict of Interest register and Ownership Interest Register.			
<b>8</b>	Training that is not restricted to a selected group of providers and FAIS representatives on products and legalities thereof; general financial and industry information; specialised technological systems (of a third party) necessary rendering a financial service. Disclosure required: Training register.			



## 5. Mechanisms for Identifying Conflicts of Interest

- 5.1 The “trust test” must be applied to identify and establish conflict of interest. The “trust test” entails enquiring whether one’s clients or the public would trust one’s judgement if they knew that one was involved in a particular situation or activity. If the answer to this inquiry is “yes”, then the situation or activity does not give rise to a conflict of interest. However, if the answer is “no” or “maybe”, then that particular situation or activity is likely to give rise to an actual or potential conflict of interest.
- 5.2 Irrespective of the “trust test”, a conflict of interest will be deemed to have arisen if KEU provides “disallowed financial interest” as listed above or incurs expenditure in excess of R 1 000.00 per FAIS representative per annum.

## 6. Measures for Avoidance or Mitigation of Conflicts of Interest

- 6.1 All expenditure incurred that forms part of “immaterial financial interest” will require the written consent of the Manager of the relevant Business Unit and must be recorded in the relevant conflict of interest register. “Immaterial financial interest” is a financial interest with an aggregate annual value of R1 000 or less, given by a third party to the same FAIS representative or FSP.
- 6.2 Examples of expenditure that form part of “immaterial financial interest” and that will be subject to specific approval and recording in the conflict of interest register include items listed in the “allowed, but subject to approval” column in the table above.
- 6.3 In exercising his discretion, the Manager must have regard to:
- 6.3.1 the relevant conflict of interest register;
  - 6.3.2 any commission regulations or other laws which may be breached by the receipt of such gift or entertainment; and
  - 6.3.3 a written statement from the giver explaining the reason for and purpose of the entertainment or gift that must accompany any request for authorisation.
- 6.4 If it has been established that a particular situation or activity gives rise to a conflict of interest, one must avoid that situation or refrain from that activity. However, if it is not possible to avoid the situation or refrain from the activity that gives rise to a conflict of interest, as confirmed by the Head of the affected KEU Business Unit, the Managing Director shall, prior to approving the relevant situation or activity:
- 6.4.1 establish the extent to which a specific intermediary is conflicted, i.e. the extent to which the intermediary acts on behalf of KEU whilst also acting on behalf of a KEU policyholder/client;
  - 6.4.2 establish the extent to which KEU’s reputation would be damaged, if the situation or activity giving rise to a conflict of interest were to be brought to the public’s attention;
  - 6.4.3 establish the estimated direct financial impact that a particular situation or activity would have on KEU;
  - 6.4.4 consider how the financial interest is likely to affect the policyholder; and
  - 6.4.5 consider whether KEU has an appetite to assume the risk, in light of the answers to the above considerations.





- 6.5 Decisions pertaining to particular potential conflict of interest situations that fall within the definition of a “material conflict” of interest must be taken in consultation with the Executive Head of the affected Business Unit. “Material conflict” is a conflict of interest whose monetary value exceeds R1 000.00 or that will directly impact KEU’s reputation.
- 6.6 Once it is decided that a conflict of interest is inevitable, the Head of the affected Business Unit must ensure that the effect of such conflict is mitigated by putting mitigation measures in place, including:
- 6.6.1 cost-sharing; or
  - 6.6.2 delivering a written communication to the relevant client, bringing the conflict of interest to the client’s attention; and/ or
  - 6.6.3 requesting that the client puts mitigating measures in place, including proactively disclosing the inevitable conflict to affected policyholders, in line with its conflict of interest management policy or in accordance with the Code if the policy is not yet in place.
- 6.7 Each FAIS representative and client (as defined in paragraph 2 above) of KEU has a duty to track any immaterial financial interest given to him or her by KEU, and to advise his or her Key Individual accordingly, as soon as KEU’s expenditure towards that representative or FSP reaches R1 000 in that particular year.
- 6.8 Where a conflict is identified and a decision is made in respect of the management thereof, the nature of the decision must be communicated to the client (as defined in paragraph 2 above,) in writing as soon as possible. The clients (as defined in paragraph 2 above) must in turn disclose the conflict to the policyholder. This applies regardless of whether the decision was made to cease with the relevant activity or continue therewith despite the existence of the conflict or potential conflict. It is important for the preservation of the corporate integrity of KEU Limited that these disclosures are made at all times. The decision must also be recorded in KEU’S Conflict of Interest Register together with the way it was resolved/mitigated.

## **7. Conflict of Interest Internal Controls**

- 7.1 To manage conflicts of interest, KEU must maintain a conflict of interest register and Internal Gift Register.
- 7.2 KEU must designate one of its employees to maintain the register, and will from time to time, through the Legal Compliance Function, advise all staff of the name and contact details of the designated employee.
- 7.3 KEU employees must disclose, to the person designated in accordance with paragraph 7.2 above, any immaterial financial interest or financial interest, as defined above, received from or given to a FAIS representative and/or FSP. This disclosure must be made within one week after the relevant activity has taken place. Details regarding supporting documentation, such as receipts, must also be disclosed and recorded in the conflict of interest register.
- 7.4 A person responsible for the maintenance of a conflict of interest register must record disclosures made in accordance with paragraph 7.3 above in the register, without delay and, must advise the Managing Director and Compliance immediately upon establishing that activities disclosed in respect of a particular FAIS representative have reached the annual monetary limit.



7.5 Compliance Function must communicate the above fact to all staff without delay.

7.6 The conflict of interest registers will be audited by KEU's Legal Compliance Function annually for the purpose of determining whether any financial interest given or received exceeded the aggregate value of R1 000.00 per FAIS representative and to determine whether any expenditure is duplicated across the respective conflict of interest registers.

7.7 Key Individuals must sign the Key Individual Declaration on an annual basis. See Annexure "B".

## **8. Reporting of Conflicts of Interest**

8.1 The outcome of the conflict of interest register audit shall be reported to the Managing Director, the FAIS compliance officer and the FAIS-appointed key individuals of KEU.

8.2 Managers of Business Units who have engaged in activities that have given rise to conflict of interest situations are obliged to disclose to the KEU Management the detail pertaining to such activities, including the mitigation measures taken. The monitoring of the conflict of interest register will be done on a quarterly basis, by the Legal and Compliance Manager and must include recommendations regarding steps that will be taken to avoid a recurrence of such conflict of interest situations.

8.3 Discussions regarding conflicts of interest by the Management during their meetings must be recorded in the minutes of such meetings. The relevant extracts of the minutes must be made available to the FAIS compliance officer upon request, for the purpose of enabling the FAIS compliance officer to report on compliance with this Policy, as required by the Code.

## **9. Consequences of Not Adhering to the Policy**

Violation of this Policy by a KEU employee may result in disciplinary action being taken against the employee, in accordance with KEU's Disciplinary Code as amended from time to time. Violation by a client (as defined in paragraph 2 above) may result in termination of the business relationship with the particular client.

## **10. Consequences of Withholding Information or Inaccurate Information**

Provision of false or misleading information or concealment of material facts relating to activities logged or that must be logged in a conflict of interest register is, in addition to being a disciplinary action, a punishable offence. Such conduct can, on conviction, lead to a fine of up to R1 million or imprisonment for up to 10 years.

## **11. KEU's Associates and Third Parties**

Conducting business with or via an "associate" or a "third party", as defined in the Code, may inherently give rise to a conflict of interest, thus KEU is required by the Code to make a list of its associates available to interested parties, together with this policy.





## 12. Staff Training and General Awareness

12.1 All the company's staff must be trained on this policy.

12.2 A copy of the policy will be published on the KEU website. A hard copy of the policy will also be made available for inspection at the Legal and Compliance department.

12.3 Moreover, all the company's clients (as defined in paragraph 2 above) – existing and future, must be made aware of the existence of this policy. The policy must be made available by KEU for easy access.

## 13. Review of the Policy

This policy shall be reviewed by the Legal and Compliance department annually and any changes to this policy shall be communicated to all staff and clients.