



uexo \ Wealthlink (PTY) Ltd. \ FSCA

## **Conflict of Interest Policy**

v1.0

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# 1. Company Introduction

The uexo brand is authorised and regulated in various jurisdictions, with the South African entity being owned and operated by Wealthlink (PTY) Limited. Wealthlink (PTY) Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as "uexo," or "Company" from this point on) has its address at 5th Street, Atrium On 5th, 9th Floor, Sandhurst, Johannesburg, 2196, South Africa. The company is authorised and regulated by the Financial Sector Conduct Authority in South Africa (FSCA) under the licence FSP number 50582 and has the CIPC company number 2019 / 514704 / 07.

## 2. Policy Introduction

The BN 80 of 2003 (i.e., General Code of Conduct for Authorised Financial Services Providers and Representatives (as amended by GN 706 of 2020) requires that when a provider renders a financial service, the provider and any representative must avoid, and where this is not possible, mitigate any conflicts of interest between the provider and a client or the representative and a client.

Wealthlink (Pty) Ltd (“uexo” or the “FSP”), acting in its capacity as a Financial Service Provider and in accordance with the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act, 2002 (Act No. 37 of 2002, i.e., “FAIS”) is responsible for taking all appropriate steps to identify and manage any conflicts of interest in its business that might arise. This document identifies the potential conflicts of interest that might arise and summarises the controls implemented by us to manage any such conflicts of interest. uexo is committed to maintaining the highest ethical standards and fully complying with its regulatory and legal obligations. Compliance with this policy is a requirement of the employment contract of every employee and any breach may lead to disciplinary proceedings, up to, and including, dismissal.

### 3. Purpose

This policy's purpose is to set out uexo's approach in identifying the circumstances which may give rise to a conflict of interest, the FSP's measures for preventing the rise of such conflicts of interest as well as managing conflicts of interest which may arise during the course of its normal business activities.

## 4. Identification of Potential or Actual Conflicts of Interest

"Conflict of Interest" means any situation in which a provider or a representative has an actual or potential interest that may, in rendering a financial service to a client;

- ★ Influence the objective performance of his, her or its obligations to that client; or
  
- ★ prevent a provider or representative from rendering an unbiased and fair financial service to that client, or from acting in the interests of that client, including, but not limited to:
  - a financial interest;
  - an ownership interest;
  - any relationship with a third party.

For example, a conflict of interest may arise where uexo, or one of its employees, is providing a financial service to the clients or engaging in activities on their own account which may entail a material risk of damage to the clients' interests, for example where uexo:

- ★ could make a financial gain, or avoid a financial loss, at the expense of the client;
  
- ★ has an interest in the outcome of a service provided to the client or of a transaction carried out on behalf of the client which is distinct from clients' interest in that outcome;
  
- ★ has a financial incentive to favour the interest of another client, or group of clients, over the interest of the client;
  
- ★ receives, will receive, or will pay a person other than the client, an inducement in relation to a service provided to the client, in the form of monies or commission, other than the standard fee for that service.

## 5. Managing Conflicts of Interest

### 5.1 Need-to-know Policy

It is the policy of the FSP that all non-public information obtained from a client or potential client or other source which has been provided in the expectation that it will be kept confidential shall be treated as confidential and shall not be unlawfully shared with any other company or individual. The FSP's employees may not disclose any such confidential information to any person who is not an employee unless required by the terms of a transaction or relevant law or regulation. The dissemination of confidential information within the FSP is at all-time subject to established information barriers. The FSP also operates a "need to know" policy. Under the terms of this policy, confidential information may only be disclosed to those persons who need it to serve the legitimate interests of the FSP and the clients and who can be expected to keep it in confidence in accordance with the policy regarding information barriers.

### 5.2 Independence

It is the policy of uexo that where it and/or its employees are carrying on investment business the FSP will disregard any material interest which it or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates may have when providing intermediary services. This policy ensures that in providing intermediary services, the employees of uexo act independently of any interest that may conflict with the duties owed to different clients or between uexo and potential clients. This means that all employees must disregard any of the following interests and must not allow the existence of such interests to influence them when dealing with clients or potential clients:

- ★ any personal interests which they or members of their family may have
- ★ any existing, proposed, or prospective business relationships between uexo and any third party
- ★ any agreement or transaction which has been, will or maybe entered into by the FSP; or
- ★ the holding by, interest or position of uexo in any investments issued by the client or any third party.

### 5.3 Inducements

The FSP only receives remuneration from the product supplier in connection with the provision of intermediary services (i.e., online, and offline marketing and client referrals). The FSP has mechanisms and processes in place to ensure that in all cases, the clients are treated fairly and professionally, in accordance with their best interests and ensures that the said remuneration does not impair the FSP's duty to act in the best interest of the client.

### 5.4 Disclosure

uexo shall use all appropriate efforts to manage or otherwise prevent any conflict of interest, but if those efforts are not appropriate to ensure, with appropriate confidence, that the risk of damage to the interest of a client will be prevented. uexo shall, where appropriate, disclose the general nature and/or source of the conflict of interest in writing to the client at the earliest reasonable opportunity. When considering whether it is appropriate to disclose a conflict of interest to a client, uexo shall take into account the status of a particular client and whether they are likely to understand the risks involved if they continue to deal with uexo. Any disclosure shall contain appropriate information to allow the client to make an informed decision.

## 5.5 Other Measures

uexo's internal procedures and measures for the management of potential and/or actual Conflicts of Interest include, but are not limited to, the following:

- ★ The FSP has a dedicated Compliance Officer, who is responsible, among other, to monitor any possible deviation from uexo's internal policies and procedures as well as identifying and managing any possible Conflicts of Interest and report these to the FSP's Board of Directors;
- ★ prohibition on officers and employees of the Company having external business interests conflicting with the interests of the Company without the prior approval of the Company's Board of Directors;
- ★ segregation of employees' duties;
- ★ The FSP ensures that marketing communication is reviewed and approved by the Compliance Officer prior to distribution to potential clients. The Compliance Officer also ensures that such communication meets the relevant definition of marketing communication as well as having the appropriate disclosure statement.
- ★ uexo ensures the regular review of the terms and conditions of the relationship between the business and the product supplier in order to identify potential, apparent or actual Conflicts of Interest and the regular review of the procedures adopted to prevent such conflicts in compliance with this Policy.
- ★ uexo ensures that all employees of the business are adequately exposed to this policy and concept of Conflicts of Interest and shall provide appropriate training to employees and ensure adherence of employees to the policy.
- ★ uexo continuously monitors compliance with this Conflicts of Interest policy and shall, on an annual basis, conduct a review of this policy.



## 6. Record Keeping

Under the FAIS Act, uexo is required to keep and regularly update a written record of any conflict of interest that has arisen or may arise during the course of conducting its business which entails material risk of damage to the interests of one or more clients.

## 7. Further Information

For further information regarding the FSP's Conflicts of Interest policy, you may contact [info@uexo.com](mailto:info@uexo.com).

## Do you have any questions?

If you are unsure of the things stated within this policy, or have any questions, please contact us either via our live chat features, which can be found on our website, or by emailing us at [info@uexo.com](mailto:info@uexo.com).