

# DISCLOSURES REQUIRED UNDER ARTICLE 116.BIS OF THE SPANISH SECURITIES MARKET LAW

Disclosures required under Article 116.bis of the Spanish Securities Market Law:

### a.- Capital structure.

At December 31, 2009, the share capital of Telefónica was 4,563,996,485 euros, represented by 4,563,996,485 fully paid ordinary shares of a single series, par value of 1 euro each, all recorded under the book-entry system.

At that date they were admitted to trading on the Spanish electronic trading system (the "Continuous Markets") where they form part of the Ibex 35 index, on the four Spanish stock exchanges (Madrid, Barcelona, Valencia and Bilbao) and on the New York, London, Tokyo, Buenos Aires, Sao Paulo and Lima stock exchanges.

All shares are ordinary, of a single series and confer the same rights and obligations on their shareholders.

At the time of writing, there were no securities in issue that are convertible into Telefónica shares.

## b.- Restrictions on the transfer of securities.

Nothing in the Company Bylaws imposes any restriction or limitation on the free transfer of Telefónica shares.

### c.- Significant shareholdings.

The table below lists shareholders who, at December 31, 2009, to the best of the Company's knowledge, had significant direct or indirect shareholdings in the Company as defined in Royal Decree 1362/2007 implementing the Spanish Securities Markets Law 24/1998 as it relates to the need for transparent information on issuers whose securities are listed for trading in an official secondary market or other regulated market of the European Union:

	Total		Direct shareholding		Indirect holding	
	%	Shares	%	Shares	%	Shares
BBVA <sup>(1)</sup>	5.54	252,999,646	5.54	252,999,646	0.00	0
la Caixa <sup>(2)</sup>	5.17	235,973,505	0.01	253,024	5.16	235,720,481
Capital Research and Management Company (3)	3.16	144,578,826	0	0	3.16	144,578,826
Blackrock, Inc. (4)	3. 88	17,257,649	0	0	3.88	177,257,649





- (1) Based on the information contained in Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria, S.A.'s 2009 Annual Report on Corporate Governance at December 31, 2009.
- (2) Based on information provided by Caja de Ahorros y Pensiones de Barcelona, "la Caixa" as at December 31, 2009 for the 2009 Annual Report on Corporate Governance. The 5.16% indirect shareholding in Telefónica is owned by Criteria CaixaCorp, S.A.
- (3) According to notification sent to the Spanish national securities commission, the CNMV, dated May 20, 2009.
- (4) According to notification sent to the Spanish national securities commission, the CNMV, dated February 4, 2010.

## **d.-** Restrictions on voting rights.

According to Article 21 of the Company's Bylaws, no shareholder can exercise votes in respect of more than 10 per cent of the total shares with voting rights outstanding at any time, irrespective of the number of shares they may own. This restriction on the maximum number of votes that each shareholder can cast refers solely to shares owned by the shareholder concerned and cast on their own behalf. It does not include additional votes cast on behalf of other shareholders who may have appointed them as proxy, who are themselves likewise restricted by the 10 per cent voting ceiling.

The 10 per cent limit described above also applies to the number of votes that can be cast either jointly or separately by two or more legal entity shareholders belonging to the same corporate group and to the number of votes that may be cast altogether by an individual or legal entity shareholder and any entity or entities that they directly or indirectly control and which are also shareholders.

# **e.-** Agreements between shareholders.

In accordance with the provisions of article 112, section 2 of the Securities Market Law 24/1988, of July 28, on October 22, 2009, the Company notified the CNMV in writing that on September 6, 2009 it had entered into a mutual share exchange agreement between Telefónica and China Unicom (Hong Kong) Limited, whose clauses 8.3 and 9.2 are considered a shareholder agreement as per this article. By virtue of these clauses, Telefónica may not, while the strategic alliance agreement is effective, offer, issue or sell a significant number of its shares or any convertible security or security that confers the right to subscribe or acquire a significant number of shares of Telefónica, S.A. to any of the main competitors of China Unicom (Hong Kong) Limited. In addition, China Unicom (Hong Kong) Limited undertakes not to sell, use or transfer, directly or indirectly, for a period of one year its share in Telefónica's voting share capital (excluding intragroup transfers). At the same time, both parties have assumed similar obligations with respect to the share capital of China Unicom (Hong Kong) Limited.

This mutual share exchange agreement, which includes the shareholder agreement, was filed with the Madrid Mercantile Registry on November 24, 2009.



# **f.-** Rules governing the appointment and replacement of Directors and the amendment of the Company's Bylaws.

Appointment, reappointment and ratification.

Telefónica's Bylaws state that the Board of Directors shall have between five and twenty Directors who are appointed by shareholders at the Shareholders' Meeting. The Board of Directors may, in accordance with Spanish Corporation Law and the Company Bylaws, provisionally co-opt Directors to fill any vacant seats.

The appointment of Directors to Telefónica is as a general rule submitted for approval to the Shareholders' Meeting. Only in certain circumstances, when seats fall vacant after the conclusion of the General Meeting is it therefore necessary to co-opt Directors onto the board in accordance with the Spanish Corporation Law. Any such co-opted appointment is then ratified at the next Shareholders' Meeting.

Also, in all cases, proposals to appoint Directors must follow the procedures set out in the Company's Board of Directors' Regulations and be preceded by the appropriate favorable report by the Appointments, Compensation and Good Governance Committee and in the case of independent Directors, by the corresponding proposal by the committee.

Therefore, in exercise of the powers delegated to it, the Appointments, Compensation and Good Governance Committee must report, based on criteria of objectivity and the best interests of the Company, on proposals to appoint, re-appoint or remove Company Directors, taking into account the skills, knowledge and experience required of candidates to fill the vacancies.

As a result, in accordance with its Regulations, the Board of Directors, exercising the rights to co-opt and propose appointments to the Shareholders' Meeting, shall ensure that external or non-executive Directors are in an ample majority over the executive Directors. Similarly, it shall ensure that independent Directors make up at least one third of the total Board members.

In all circumstances, where a Director is proposed to the Shareholders' Meeting for reappointment or ratification, the report of the Appointments, Compensation and Good Governance Committee, or in the case of independent Directors the proposal of this committee, shall include an assessment of the Director's past work and diligence in the discharge of their duties during their period in office.

Also, both the Board of Directors and the Appointments, Compensation and Good Governance Committee shall ensure, in fulfilling their respective duties, that all those proposed for appointment as Directors should be persons of acknowledged solvency, competence and experience who are willing to devote the time and effort necessary to the discharge of their functions, with particular attention paid to the selection of independent Directors.

Directors are appointed for a period of five years, renewable for one or more subsequent five-year periods.

As with appointments, proposals for the reappointment of Directors must be preceded by the corresponding report by the Appointments, Compensation and Good Governance Committee, and in the case of independent Directors, by the corresponding proposal by the committee.

Termination of appointment or removal

Directors' appointments shall end at the expirations of the period for which they were appointed or when shareholders at the General Shareholders' Meeting so decide in exercise of their powers under the law.



Also, in accordance with Article 12 of the Board Regulations, Directors must submit their resignation to the Board of Directors and formalize their resignation in the following circumstances:

- a) If they leave the executive post by virtue of which they sat on the Board or when the reasons for which they were appointed cease to apply.
- b) If their circumstances become incompatible with their continued service on the Board or prohibit them from serving on the Board for one of the reasons specified under Spanish law
- c) If they are severely reprimanded by the Appointments, Compensation and Good Governance Committee for failure to fulfill any of their duties as Director.
- d) If their continued presence on the Board could affect the credibility or reputation of the Company in the markets or otherwise threaten the Company's interests.

The Board of Directors shall not propose the termination of the appointment of any independent Director before the expirations of their statutory term, except in the event of just cause, recognized by the Board on the basis of a prior report submitted by the Appointments, Compensation and Good Governance Committee. Just cause shall be specifically understood to include cases where the Director has failed to fulfill their duties as Board member.

The Board may also propose the termination of the appointment of independent Directors in the case of Takeover Bids, mergers or other similar corporate transactions that represent a change in the structure of the Company's capital.

Amendments to the Company Bylaws.

The procedure for amending the Bylaws is governed by Article 144 of the Spanish Corporation Law and requires any change to be approved by shareholders at the Shareholders' Meeting with the majorities stated in Article 103 of the same law. Article 14 of Telefónica's Bylaws upholds this principle.

## **g.-** Powers of Directors and, specifically, powers to issue or buy back shares.

# Powers of Directors.

The Chairman of the Company, as Executive Chairman, is delegated all powers by the Board of Directors except where such delegation is prohibited by Law, by the Company Bylaws or by the Regulations of the Board of Directors, whose Article 5.4 establishes the powers reserved to the Board of Directors. Specifically, the Board of Directors reserves the powers, inter alia, to: (i) approve the general policies and strategies of the Company; (ii) evaluate the performance of the Board of Directors, its Committees and the Chairman; (iii) appoint Senior Executives, as well as the remuneration of Directors and Senior Executives; and (iv) decide strategic investments.

Meanwhile, the Chief Operating Officer has been delegated all the Board's powers to conduct the business and act as the senior executive for all areas of the Company's business, except where such delegation is prohibited by law, by the Company Bylaws, or by the Regulations of the Board of Directors.

In addition, the other Executive Directors are delegated the usual powers of representation and administration appropriate to the nature and needs of their roles.



#### Powers to issue shares.

At the Ordinary Shareholders' Meeting of Telefónica on June 21, 2006, the Board of Directors was authorized under Article 153.1.b) of the Spanish Corporation Law, to increase the Company's capital by up to 2,460 million euros, equivalent to half the Company's subscribed and paid share capital at that date, one or several times within a maximum of five years of that date. The Board of Directors has not exercised these delegated powers to date.

Also, at the General Shareholders' Meeting of May 10, 2007, the Board of Directors was authorized under Articles 153.1.b) and 159.2 of the Spanish Corporation Law to issue bonds exchangeable for or convertible into shares in the Company, this power being exercisable one or several times within a maximum of five years of that date. The Board of Directors has not exercised this power to date.

#### Powers to buy back shares.

At the General Shareholders' Meeting of Telefónica of June 23, 2009, the Board of Directors was authorized, in accordance with articles 75 and following of the Spanish Corporation Law, to buy back its own shares either directly or via companies belonging to the Group. This authorization was granted for 18 months from that date and includes the specific limitation that at no point may the nominal value of treasury shares acquired, added to those already held by Telefónica and those held by any of the subsidiaries that it controls, exceed the maximum legal percentage at any time (currently 10% of Telefónica's share capital).

**h.-** Significant agreements outstanding that would come into force, be amended or expire in the event of a change of control following a Takeover Bid.

The Company has no significant agreements outstanding that would come into force, be amended or expire in the event of a change of control following a Takeover Bid.

**i.-** Agreements between the Company and its directors, managers or employees that provide for compensation in the event of resignation or unfair dismissal or if the employment relationship should be terminated because of a Takeover Bid.

In general, the contracts of Executive Directors and some managers of the steering committee include a clause giving them the right to receive the economic compensation indicated below in the event that their employment relationship is ended for reasons attributable to the Company and/or due to objective reasons such as a change of ownership. However, if the employment relationship is terminated for a breach attributable to the executive director or director, the director will not be entitled to any compensation whatsoever. That notwithstanding, in certain cases the severance benefit to be received by the Executive Director or Director, according to their contract, does not meet these general criteria, but rather are based on other circumstances of a personal or professional nature or on when the contract was signed. The agreed economic compensation for the termination of the employment relationship, where applicable, consists of three years of salary plus another year based on length of service at the Company. The annual salary on which the indemnity is based is the Director's last fixed salary and the average amount of the last two variable payments received by contract.

Meanwhile, contracts that tie employees to the Company under a common employment relationship do not include indemnity clauses for the termination of their employment. In these cases, the employee is entitled to any indemnity set forth in prevailing labor legislation. This notwithstanding, contracts of some Company employees, depending on their level and seniority, as well as their personal or professional circumstances or when they signed their contracts,



## Telefónica, S.A.

establish their right to receive compensation in the same cases as in the preceding paragraph, generally consisting of a year and a half of salary. The annual salary on which the indemnity is based is the last fixed salary and the average amount of the last two variable payments received by contract.

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