

I. Preamble

Purpose

The revised *Credit for Reinsurance Model Law* (#785) and *Credit for Reinsurance Model Regulation* (#786) (collectively, the Credit for Reinsurance Models) require an assuming insurer to be licensed and domiciled in a "Qualified Jurisdiction" in order to be eligible for certification by a state as a certified reinsurer for reinsurance collateral reduction purposes. In 2012, the NAIC Reinsurance (E) Task Force was charged to develop an NAIC process to evaluate the reinsurance supervisory systems of non-U.S. jurisdictions, for the purposes of developing

II. Principles for the Evaluation of Non-U.S. Jurisdictions

1. The NAIC model revisions applicable to certified reinsurers are intended to facilitate cross-border reinsurance transactions and enhance competition within the U.S. market, while ensuring that U.S. insurers and policyholders are adequately protected against the risk of insolvency. To be eligible for certification, a reinsurer must be domiciled and licensed in a Qualified Jurisdiction as determined by the domestic regulator of the ceding insurer. A Qualified Jurisdiction not subject to an in-force Covered Agreement under the Dodd-Frank Act may also be determined to be a Reciprocal Jurisdiction, and reinsurers that have their head office or are domiciled in any such Reciprocal Jurisdiction will not be required to post reinsurance collateral, provided they meet the minimum capital and financial strength requirements and comply with the other requirements of the Credit for Reinsurance Models.
2. The evaluation of non-U.S. jurisdictions as Qualified Jurisdictions and Reciprocal Jurisdictions will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Credit for Reinsurance Models and any other relevant guidance developed by the NAIC.
3. The evaluation of non-U.S. jurisdictions as Qualified Jurisdictions is intended as an outcomes-based comparison to financial solvency regulation under the NAIC Financial Regulation Standards and Accreditation Program (Accreditation Program), adherence to international supervisory standards, and relevant international guidance for recognition of reinsurance supervision. It is not intended as a prescriptive comparison to the NAIC Accreditation Program. In order for a Qualified Jurisdiction that is not subject to an in-force Covered Agreement to be evaluated as a Reciprocal Jurisdiction, that Qualified Jurisdiction must agree to recognize the states' approach to group supervision, including group capital, and other such requirements

Under the Credit for Reinsurance Model Law (as adopted by a state) the state must recognize the Reciprocal Jurisdiction status of jurisdictions subject to an in-force Covered Agreement.

7. In order to facilitate multi-state recognition of assuming insurers and to encourage uniformity among the states, the NAIC has initiated a process called "passporting," as discussed more fully below in paragraph 15 of Section III.
8. Both Qualified Jurisdictions and Reciprocal Jurisdictions have agreed to share information and cooperate with the state with respect to all applicable reinsurers domiciled within that jurisdiction, in accordance with the Credit for Reinsurance Models, as adopted by the state. Critical factors in the evaluation process include but are not limited to the history of performance by assuming insurers in the applicant jurisdiction and any documented evidence of substantial problems with the enforcement of final U.S. judgments in the applicant jurisdiction. A jurisdiction will not be a Qualified Jurisdiction if the commissioner has determined that it does not adequately and promptly enforce final U.S. judgments or arbitration awards.
9. The determination of Qualified Jurisdiction status can only be made with respect to the reinsurance supervisory system in existence and applied by a non-U.S. jurisdiction at the time of the evaluation.
10. The NAIC and the states will communicate and coordinate with the FIO, USTR and other relevant federal authorities as appropriate with respect to the evaluation of the reinsurance supervisory systems of non-U.S. jurisdictions.

III. Procedure for Evaluation of Non-U.S. Jurisdictions

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considering relying on the NAIC List of Qualified Jurisdictions and has entered into a preliminary confidentiality and information-sharing agreement

- d. The NAIC and the states will communicate and coordinate with the FIO, USTR and other relevant federal authorities as appropriate with respect to this process.

12. Process for Evaluation after Initial Approval

- a. The process for determining whether a non-U.S. jurisdiction is a Qualified Jurisdiction is ongoing and subject to periodic review. The Mutual Recognition of Jurisdictions (E) Working Group will perform a yearly review of Qualified Jurisdictions to determine whether there have been any significant changes over the prior year that might affect their status as Qualified Jurisdictions. This yearly review shall follow such abbreviated process as may be determined by the Mutual Recognition of Jurisdictions (E) Working Group to be appropriate.

- b. A Qualified Jurisdiction may not be reviewed for inclusion on the NAIC List of Reciprocal Jurisdictions unless it has undergone the *Evaluation Methodology* outlined in Section IV, and remains in good standing with the NAIC as a Qualified Jurisdiction. The Mutual Recognition of Jurisdictions (E) Working Group may, if it determines an extended review period to be appropriate after its initial approval of a new Qualified Jurisdiction, defer consideration of that jurisdiction as a possible Reciprocal Jurisdiction until there has been sufficient United States experience with that jurisdiction and its Certified Reinsurers that the Working Group believes it is appropriate to progress from collateral reduction to collateral elimination.

but not limited to the IAIS MMoU or other multilateral memoranda of understanding coordinated by the NAIC. This requirement may be satisfied by an MOU with a Lead State, which shall provide for appropriate confidentiality safeguards with respect to the information

covered agreement, the Mutual Recognition of Jurisdictions (E) Working Group would report any concerns to the Reinsurance (E) Task Force for further discussion and communication with appropriate federal and/or international authorities. It is intended that compliance with the covered agreement will be addressed through the Joint Committee process established under the covered agreement, or through termination of the covered agreement by the parties to the covered agreement. The NAIC, individual state regulators and interested parties may raise these issues directly with FIO, USTR or other relevant federal authorities.

- c. Both Qualified Jurisdictions and Reciprocal Jurisdictions that are not subject to a covered agreement are obligated to provide notice to the Mutual Recognition of Jurisdictions (E) Working Group of any applicable changes to their reinsurance supervisory system or changes to the assurances provided in the letter set forth in paragraph 13. States and U.S. ceding insurers may also provide notice of such changes to the Working Group. Upon notice of any such material changes, the Working Group will meet in regulator-only session to determine if these changes are in fact material to continuing recognition by the NAIC as either a Qualified or Reciprocal Jurisdiction. The Working Group will work directly with the jurisdictional authorities.

which generally obligates them to post one hundred percent (100%) collateral on all their liabilities assumed from ceding insurers domiciled in that state. The state has the option to suspend a reinsurer's certification indefinitely, in lieu of revocation, in which case the obligation to post collateral applies prospectively to all new, renewed and amended reinsurance agreements. If the reinsurer's eligibility is revoked, it must be granted at least three months after the effective date of the revocation to cure any deficiency in collateral, unless exceptional circumstances make a shorter period is necessary for policyholder and other consumer protection.

- h. The factors used in the evaluation of Reciprocal Jurisdictions are not the same as are utilized in the evaluation of Qualified Jurisdictions. A Qualified Jurisdiction that has been approved by the NAIC as a Reciprocal Jurisdiction may have its status as a Reciprocal Jurisdiction either suspended or revoked but still meet the requirements to be a Qualified Jurisdiction. However, if a Reciprocal Jurisdiction that is not subject to a covered agre

either the Lead State or the NAIC, which will share this documentation with the other states through the ReFAWG Review Process in satisfaction of their respective filing requirements.

IV. Evaluation Methodology

The Evaluation Methodology was developed to be consistent with the provisions of the NAIC Credit for Reinsurance Models. It is intended to provide an

submit supplemental information as necessary in order to make this determination. An applicant jurisdiction is strongly encouraged to provide thorough, detailed and current information in its initial submission in order to minimize the number and extent of supplemental information requests from the NAIC with respect to Section A of this Evaluation Methodology. The NAIC will provide a complete description in the Final Evaluation Report of the information provided in the Evaluation Materials, and any updates or other information that have been provided by the applicant jurisdiction.

Section B: Regulatory Practices and Procedures

Section B is intended to facilitate an evaluation of whether the jurisdiction effectively employs baseline regulatory practices and procedures to supplement and support enforcement of the jurisdiction's financial solvency laws and regulations described in Section A. This evaluation methodology recognizes that variation may exist in practices and procedures across jurisdictions due to the unique situations each jurisdiction faces. The methodology also recognizes that jurisdictions may have different regulatory approaches to address the same issue. The methodology is designed to be flexible and adaptable to the unique circumstances of each jurisdiction.

Section E: History of Performance of Domestic Reinsurers

The jurisdiction is requested to provide a general description with respect to the historical performance of reinsurers domiciled in the jurisdiction. The NAIC does not intend to review confidential company-specific information under this section. Rather, it is intended that any information provided would be publicly available, unless specifically addressed with the jurisdiction under review. This discussion should address, at a minimum, the following information:

- a. Number of reinsurers domiciled in the jurisdiction, and a list of any reinsurers domiciled in the jurisdiction that have and maintain, on an ongoing basis, minimum capital and surplus, or its equivalent, of no less than \$250,000,000.
- b. Up to a 10-year history of any regulatory actions taken against specific reinsurers.
- c. Up to a 10-year history listing any reinsurers that have gone through insolvency proceedings, including the size of each insolvency and a description of the related outcomes (e.g., reinsurer rehabilitated or liquidated, payout percentage of claims to priority classes, payout percentage of claims to domestic and foreign claimants).
- d. Up to a 10-year history of any significant industry-wide fluctuations in capital or profitability with respect to domestic reinsurers.

Drafting Note: The NAIC will determine the appropriate time period for review on a case-by-case basis with respect to this information.

Section F: Enforcement of Final U.S. Judgments

The NAIC has previously collected information from a number of jurisdictions with respect to enforcement of final U.S. judgments. The jurisdiction is also requested to provide a current description or explanation of any restrictions with respect to the enforcement of final foreign judgments in the jurisdiction. Based on the foregoing information, the NAIC will make an assessment of the effectiveness of the ability to enforce final U.S. judgments in the jurisdiction. This will include a review of the status, interpretations, application and enforcement of various treaties, conventions and international agreements with respect to final judgments, arbitration and choice of law. The Mutual Recognition of Jurisdictions (E) Working Group will monitor the enforcement of final U.S. judgments and the Qualified Jurisdiction is requested to notify the NAIC of any developments in this area.

Section G: Solvent Schemes of Arrangement

The jurisdiction is requested to provide a description of any legal framework that allows re(h)-9.5 (t)-3.8 (6)-3.91 Td[(a9 (c)

V. **Appendices: Specific Guidance with**

Appendix A: Laws and Regulations

1. Examination Authority

Does the jurisdiction have the authority to examine its domestic reinsurers? This description should address the following:

- a. Frequency and timing of examinations and reports.
- b. Guidelines for examination.
- c. Whether the jurisdiction has the authority to examine reinsurers whenever it is deemed necessary.
- d. Whether the jurisdiction has the authority to have complete access to the reinsurer's books and records and, if necessary, the records of any affiliated company.
- e. Whether the jurisdiction has the authority to examine officers, employees and agents of the reinsurer when necessary with respect to transactions directly or indirectly related to the reinsurer under examination.
- f. Whether the jurisdiction has the authority to share confidential information with U.S. state insurance regulatory authorities, provided that the recipients are required, under their law, to maintain its confidentiality.

2. Capital and Surplus Requirement

Does the jurisdiction have the authority to require domestic reinsurers to

5. Regulation and Valuation of Investments

reinsurance obligations to domestic and non-domestic ceding insurers in the context of an insolvency proceeding of a reinsurer.

12. Filings with Supervisory Authority

Appendix B: Regulatory Practices and Procedures

1. Financial Analysis

What are the jurisdiction's practices and procedures with respect to the financial analysis of its domestic reinsurers? Such description should address the following:

a. Qualified Staff and Resources

The resources employed to effectively review the financial condition of all domestic reinsurers, including .3 (d)2.2ET9

2. Financial Examinations

What are the jurisdiction's practices and procedures with respect to the financial examinations of its domestic reinsurers? Such description should address the following:

a. Qualified Staff and Resources

The resources employed to effectively examine all domestic reinsurers. This should include whether the jurisdiction prioritizes examination scheduling and resource allocation commensurate with the financial strength and position of each reinsurer, and a description of the educational and experience requirements for staff responsible for financial examinations.

b. Communication of Relevant Information to/from Examination Staff

The process under which relevant information and data received by the supervisory authority are provided to the examination staff and the process under which the findings of the examination staff are communicated to the appropriate person(s).

c. Use of Specialists

Whether the supervisory authority's examination staff includes specialists with appropriate training and/or experience or whether the supervisory authority otherwise has available qualified specialists that will permit the supervisory authority to effectively examine any reinsurer.

d. Supervisory Review

Whether the supervisory authority's procedures for examinations provide for supervisory review.

e. Examination Guidelines and Procedures

Description of the policies and procedures the supervisory authority employs for the conduct of examinations, including whether variations in methods and scope are commensurate with the financial strength and position of the reinsurer.

f. Risk-Focused Examinations

Does the supervisory authority perform and document risk-focused examinations and, if so, what guidance is utilized in conducting the examinations? Are variations in method and scope commensurate with the financial strength and position of the reinsurer?

g. Scheduling of Examinations

Whether the supervisory authority's procedures provide for the periodic ex t ex ts ts 0 -6o0 n espTd[(g)-11.3 (u

3. Information Sharing

Does the jurisdiction have a process for the sharing of otherwise confidential documents, materials, information, administrative or judicial orders, or other actions with U.S. state regulatory officials, provided that the recipients are required, under their law, to maintain its confidentiality?

4. Procedures for Troubled Reinsurers

What procedures does the jurisdiction follow with respect to troubled reinsurers?

5. Organization, Licensing and Change of Control of Reinsurers

What processes does the supervisory authority use to identify unlicensed or fraudulent activities? The description should address the following:

a. Licensing Procedure

Whether the supervisory authority has documented licensing procedures that include a review and/or analysis of key pieces of information included in a primary licensure application.

b. Staff and Resources

The educational and experience requirements for staff responsible for evaluating company licensing.

c. Change in Control of a Domestic Reinsurer

Procedures for the review of key pieces of information included in filings with respect to a change in control of a domestic reinsurer.