



## 2016 Annual Report on Voting Rights

*Proxy Voting is key component of our business, TOBAM uses its ownership position in companies to further its commitment to socially responsible investing on behalf of clients, and to improve corporate governance by exercising proxy voting rights. Proxy voting is conducted in the sole interest of clients.*

**March 2017**

# About TOBAM – General Voting Rules

## Voting Scope

TOBAM votes for all open-ended funds managed by TOBAM, and for mandates and closed-ended funds, on specific request from the client.

TOBAM hasn't set up any minimum shareholding nor geographical restriction to exercise its voting rights.

## Exercising Voting rights

TOBAM has outsourced the exercise of its voting rights to ISS since January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012, under the supervision of the Risk management of TOBAM. TOBAM has outsourced the voting guidelines to ISS, using ISS "[SRI International Proxy Voting guidelines](#)" voting policy. For each meeting and resolution, ISS suggests a voting decision and automatically vote on behalf of TOBAM. ISS proxy voting policy is reviewed and validated once a year by an audit committee.

## Voting Perimeter

### Share Blocking Requirements

Some issuers require that shareholders who wish to vote must deposit their shares beforehand. The shares remain inaccessible for lengths of time that vary widely depending on the country, issuer, custodian and sub-custodian. TOBAM has expressed that it will not vote at meetings implying share blocking requirements.

### Securities Lending Programme

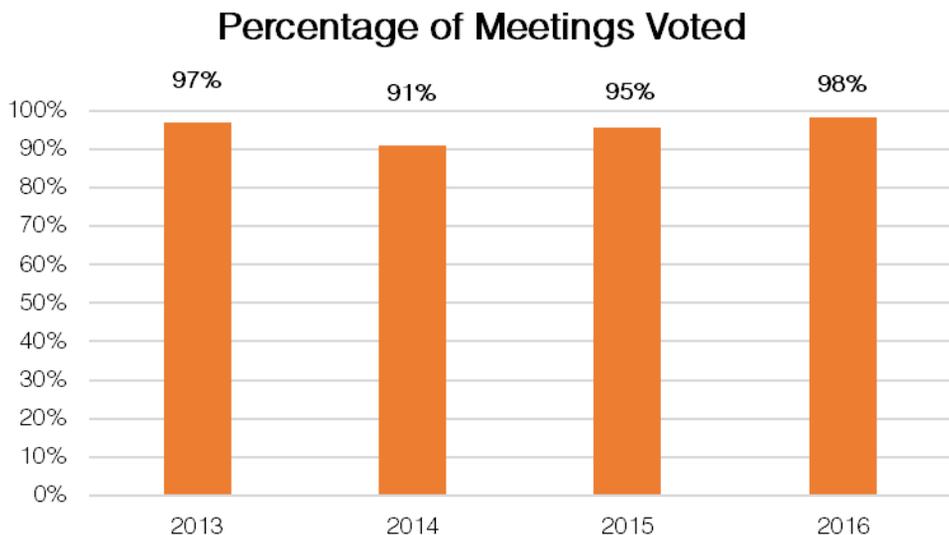
TOBAM do not recall lent shares for voting purposes.

## 2015 Analysis of Meetings

### 1. Participation Rate – Overall

Number of votable meetings	725
Number of meetings voted	711

**Participation Rate 2016:  
98.07%**

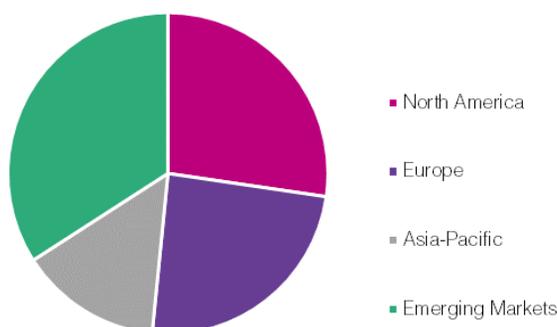


## 2. Participation Rate – By Region

	Number of meetings voted	Participation Rate
North America	197	99%
Europe*	176	94%
Asia-Pacific	104	100%
Emerging Markets	247	99%
Total	725	98%

\*: Participation rate in Europe excluding Switzerland averages **99% in 2016**. Switzerland: participation rate is at 44% due to share blocking requirements.

Breakdown of voting by region



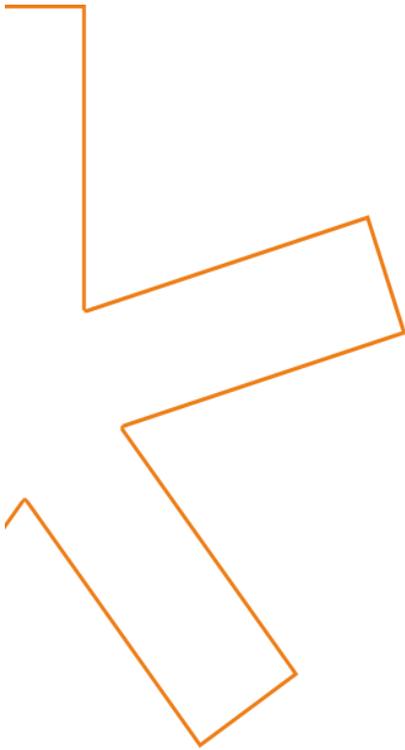
## 2016 Analysis of Votes

### 1. Overall Analysis:

The total of votes Against stands at 20% in 2016, slightly up compared to previous years, due to the changes made to some criteria of the voting policy\*.

Number of votable items	8234	
Number of items voted	7932	
Number of Votes FOR	6228	78.52%
Number of Votes AGAINST	1586	19.99%
Number of Votes ABSTAIN	23	0.29%
Number of Votes WITHHOLD	91	1.15%

\*: TOBAM has decided in 2016 to implement, on top of ISS voting policy, some voting guidelines on specific topics that might differ from ISS SRI Guidelines and impacts the number of votes against. Please refer to [TOBAM's voting policy](#) for further details.



## For more information

TOBAM is an asset management company offering innovative investment capabilities whose aim is to maximize diversification. TOBAM's Maximum Diversification® approach, supported by original, patented research and a mathematical definition of diversification, provides clients with diversified core exposure, in both the equity and fixed income markets. The company manages \$8 billion in Equities and Fixed Income. Its team includes 48 investment professionals. Figures as of December 2016.

## Contacts

### Paris

49-53, Avenue des Champs-Élysées  
75008 Paris  
France

### Cape Town

Dublin

Hong Kong

New York

Toronto

Zürich

### Client Service

clientservice@tobam.fr

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