

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT



Governance at Softlogic Life is shaped by the continuous commitment and the drive for attaining the highest standards in Corporate Governance. The developments in the regulatory, industry and the internal environment are continuously monitored to stay up-to-date while maintaining a prudent governance approach, positioning the Board, Management and the employees of the Company to operate with accountability, ensuring long-term sustainability of the Company. Our framework on Corporate Governance is not limited to mere compliance, but is more reflective of a comprehensive and dynamic approach.

### A TESTAMENT TO EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE & TRANSPARENCY

The accolades we received in 2023 further cement the trust the Company gained by maintaining high Corporate Governance standards as well as reaching new heights in Corporate Governance reporting.

At the esteemed 58th Annual Report Awards (TAGS Awards) organised by CA Sri Lanka, Softlogic Life received four awards, including the Silver Award for overall excellence in Corporate Reporting for the third consecutive year, the Gold Award for the Insurance sector, as well as the Bronze Award for Corporate Governance Disclosure.

Softlogic Life was also crowned at the CMA Integrated Reporting awards with 4 awards including the gold award for overall excellence in Integrated Reporting and Best

Integrated Report award for the Insurance sector.

The Company also obtained external assurance on Integrated Reporting and sustainability indicators which covers reflecting our commitment to enhancing transparency. This assurance report is provided on pages 89-90 and 268-270 respectively.

### OUR PHILOSOPHY

Good governance is the guiding principle that promotes and maintains transparency, accountability, responsibility, reliability and impartiality, creating an effective and sustainable governance culture within the organisation.

### TONE FROM THE TOP

The Board maintained an independent and diverse composition during the year which is critical for impartial and efficient decision-making process.

The Board sets the overall objectives of the Company and fully supports the management, to whom they have delegated the responsibility of the day-to-day operations, while monitoring their performance to ensure that the Company is in line with the set strategy.

### LEADING AMID ECONOMIC CRISIS

The impact of the economic crisis in Sri Lanka has affected all businesses as well as individuals. This situation has created a very volatile and uncertain business environment that adversely affected many sectors including Financial Services. However, the Company and the leadership was able to navigate the Company through this challenging time and maintained growth and quality of service throughout the year enriching the lives of all policyholders.

### GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE, ETHICS AND INTEGRITY

Our 2023 governance report, spanning pages 152-241, outlines how the Company is creating value from its governance framework. It covers aspects such as the Governance outlook, leadership provisions for

a robust governance structure, the Company's ethics and integrity practices, Board reports, and compliance with both compulsory and voluntary governance codes.

### WAY FORWARD

The Company continuously analyses the developments in the macro environment and takes a pro-active stance on maintaining good governance to facilitate the Company's sustainable journey.

Furthermore, the Board has been keeping up with changes in accounting standards for Insurance Contracts - SLFRS 17, IFRS S1 and S2 standards, as well as the new governance rules in listing rules by CSE. The current progression and expected future plans of the governance framework are provided on page 156-157.

### OUR PROMISE

We promise our stakeholders that we will continuously develop and maintain our focus on improving the effectiveness of our governance practices, complying with latest regulatory and statutory developments.

### DECLARATION

The Company has complied with all the Statutory and Regulatory requirements. The details of the compliance environment at Softlogic Life is provided on page 158, under Statement of Compliance. The Company has gone a step ahead to comply with the Code of Best Practice on Corporate Governance issued by CA Sri Lanka, which is a voluntary governance benchmark.

In addition, I wish to state that to the best of my knowledge and available information, I am not aware of any material violations of any of the provisions of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics by the Directors on the Board.

Sgd.  
**Ashok Pathirage**  
Chairman

04th March 2024