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Securities Code:9539 March 9, 2023 (Electronic provision starting date: March 7, 2023)

To Shareholders with Voting Rights:

Hiroshi Habu Representative Director and President Keiyo Gas Co., Ltd. 2-8-8, Ichikawa-minami, Ichikawa City, Chiba Prefecture, Japan

# NOTICE OF THE 138th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

Dear Shareholders:

We hereby would like to inform you of the 138th Annual General Meeting of Shareholders of Keiyo Gas Co., Ltd. (the "Company"), which will be held for the purposes as described below.

In convening this General Meeting of Shareholders, the Company has taken measures for the electronic provision of information contained in the Reference Documents for the General Meeting of Shareholders, etc. (matters for electronic provision), which are posted as "Notice Of The 138th Annual General Meeting Of Shareholders" on the Company's website below.

The Company's website: (https://www.keiyogas.co.jp/company/ir/library.html)

In addition to the above, the same information is also posted on the website of the Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE) at the Internet link below. Please access the TSE website, enter the Company's name or the Securities Code and search, then select "Basic information" and "Documents for public inspection/PR information" to view the information.

TSE website: (https://www2.jpx.co.jp/tseHpFront/JJK020010Action.do?Show=Show)

If you cannot attend on the day, you may exercise your voting rights in writing or via the Internet. Please review the Reference Documents for the General Meeting of Shareholders included in the matters for electronic provision, and exercise your voting rights no later than 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 28, 2023, Japan time.

1.	Date and Time:	Wednesday, March 29, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Japan time
2.	Place:	Head Office of the Company located at 2-8-8, Ichikawa-minami, Ichikawa City, Chiba Prefecture, Japan
3.	Meeting Agenda:	
	Matters to be reported:	<ol> <li>The Business Report, Consolidated Financial Statements for the Company's 138th Fiscal Year (January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022) and results of audits by the Accounting Auditor and the Board of Corporate Auditors of the Consolidated Financial Statements</li> <li>Non-consolidated Financial Statements for the Company's 138th Fiscal Year (January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022)</li> </ol>
	Proposals to be resolved	:
	Proposal 1:	Appropriation of Surplus
	Proposal 2:	Election of Seven (7) Directors
	Proposal 3:	Election of One (1) Corporate Auditor

- Shareholders attending the Meeting are kindly requested to submit the enclosed Exercise of Voting Rights form to the reception at the venue.
- We are sending the documents containing matters for electronic provision, which are to be sent to those shareholders who have requested the delivery of a paper copy, to all shareholders. The documents do not include the following in accordance with laws, regulations and provisions of the Company's Articles of Incorporation. The documents enclosed thus are part of the documents audited by the Corporate Auditors and the Accounting Auditor in preparing their Audit Reports.

 "System to Ensure the Appropriateness of Business Activities" and "Summary of the Status of Implementation of the System to Ensure the Appropriateness of Business Activities" in the Business Report
 "Non-consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity" and "Notes to the Non-consolidated Financial Statements" in the Non-consolidated Financial Statements

3) "Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity" and "Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements" in the Consolidated Financial Statements

The items 1) to 3) are included in the documents audited by the Corporate Auditors, and the items 2) and 3) are included in the documents audited by the Accounting Auditor.

- Should any revisions be made to the materials provided electronically, the revisions will be posted on the websites where they are posted.
- Video of the General Meeting of Shareholders
  - A highlight video of the proceedings of the general meeting of shareholders will be available later on the Internet. We will post the video on the Company's website (https://www.keiyogas.co.jp/company/ir/library.html) as soon as it is prepared after the closing of the meeting.
  - For the protection of the privacy of shareholders, we will avoid filming shareholders attending the meeting as much as possible, but please be kindly aware you still may be filmed under some unavoidable circumstances.

# **Reference Documents for the General Meeting of Shareholders**

#### **Proposals and References**

#### Proposal 1: Appropriation of Surplus

The Company operates businesses of a highly public nature with a primary focus on the gas business. Given this, the Company's basic policy regarding distribution of corporate earnings is to secure a solid management base and continue to pay stable dividends.

In the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, net sales increased as a result of upward adjustments of unit selling prices in the gas business under the raw materials cost adjustment system, as well as an increase in the volume of sales and upward adjustments of unit selling prices due to fuel cost adjustments in the electricity retail business. Meanwhile, the cost of raw materials for gas increased due to rising prices of LNG and other materials, and in the electricity retail business, the cost of electricity purchase increased due to soaring prices in the wholesale electricity market. As a result, the Company posted a loss.

However, based on the above basic policy, the Company proposes to pay a year-end dividend in the same amount as the interim dividend.

- 1. Year-end dividend
  - (1) Allocation of dividend property to shareholders and the total amount thereof ¥30 per common share of the Company Total amount of dividends: ¥326,796,930
  - (2) Effective date of distribution of dividends of surplus March 30, 2023

### Proposal 2: Election of Seven (7) Directors

The terms of office of all eight (8) incumbent Directors will expire at the conclusion of this Annual General Meeting of Shareholders. Accordingly, the Company proposes the election of seven (7) Directors.

This proposal has been deliberated by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee, the majority of which consist of Independent Outside Directors, in order to secure the fairness and transparency of its procedures.

Current positions and responsibilities Attributes of the No. Name at the Company candidate 1 Misao Kikuchi Representative Director and Chairperson [Reappointment] Director and Managing Executive Officer In charge of General Affairs Department, 2 Takashi Eguchi [Reappointment] Personnel Department, Finance & Accounting Department, and Area Development Department Director and Managing Executive Officer 3 Takashi Funaki [Reappointment] Chief Executive of Gas Supply Division and in charge of Information System Department Director and Managing Executive Officer 4 Seiichi Furuichi [Reappointment] Chief Executive of Sales Division, and General Manager of Sales Planning Department Director and Managing Executive Officer In charge of Corporate Planning Department, Koichi Kuno 5 Purchase Department, and Business Development [Reappointment] Department, and General Manager of Corporate **Planning Department** [Reappointment] **Outside Director** 6 Wataru Maekawa [Outside] [Independent] [Reappointment] **Outside Director** 7 Takao Mori [Outside] [Independent]

The candidates for Director are as follows:

[Reappointment] Re-elected candidate for Director

[Outside] Candidate for Outside Director

[Independent] Independent Officer based on the provisions of the Tokyo Stock Exchange

No.	Name (Date of birth)	Past exp	Number of shares of the Company held				
		November 1976 January 1977 January 1997 January 2003	Corporate Auditor, Nanyu Shosha Co., Ltd. Corporate Auditor, Takahagi Tanko Co., Ltd. Vice President and Director Representative Director and Vice President, Nanyu Shosha Co., Ltd.				
	Misao Kikuchi (April 9, 1950)	March 2003 June 2014 June 2016 August 2016 September 2016	Director, the Company Vice Chairman, Representative Director, Powdertech Co., Ltd. Chairman, Representative Director (to present) Representative Director and Vice President, the Company Representative Director and President, Nanyu Shosha Co., Ltd.	124,442			
1	[Reappointment]	October 2016	(to present) Representative Director and Chairperson, the Company (to present)				
		• Chairman, R	ve Director and President, Nanyu Shosha Co., Ltd. epresentative Director, Powdertech Co., Ltd.				
	Chairperson, Kikuchi Foundation [Reason for nomination as candidate for Director]						
	Ms. Kikuchi has extensive experience in corporate management, having assumed positions such as representative director						
	at other companies. She has been in charge of management of the Company as Director since March 2003, and as						
1	at other companies		charge of management of the Company as Director since Marg				
	-	She has been in		ch 2003, and as			
	Representative Dire	She has been in a sector and Chairpers	son since October 2016. We propose her re-election as Director	ch 2003, and as			
	Representative Dire	She has been in ector and Chairpers nt experience and i	son since October 2016. We propose her re-election as Director insight in the Company's management.	ch 2003, and as			
	Representative Dire	She has been in a actor and Chairpers ant experience and i April 1983	son since October 2016. We propose her re-election as Director insight in the Company's management. Joined the Company	ch 2003, and as			
	Representative Dire	She has been in externation of the sector and Chairpers ont experience and in April 1983 April 2010	son since October 2016. We propose her re-election as Director insight in the Company's management. Joined the Company General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department	ch 2003, and as			
	Representative Dire	She has been in a actor and Chairpers ant experience and i April 1983	son since October 2016. We propose her re-election as Director insight in the Company's management. Joined the Company General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Director and General Manager of Finance & Accounting	ch 2003, and as			
	Representative Dire leverage her abunda	She has been in external chairpers int experience and i April 1983 April 2010 March 2013	son since October 2016. We propose her re-election as Director insight in the Company's management. Joined the Company General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Director and General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department	ch 2003, and as			
	Representative Dire leverage her abunda Takashi Eguchi	She has been in external chairpers int experience and i April 1983 April 2010 March 2013 March 2015	son since October 2016. We propose her re-election as Director insight in the Company's management. Joined the Company General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Director and General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Managing Director	ch 2003, and as			
	Representative Dire leverage her abunda	She has been in external chairpers int experience and i April 1983 April 2010 March 2013	son since October 2016. We propose her re-election as Director insight in the Company's management. Joined the Company General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Director and General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Managing Director Director and Managing Executive Officer	ch 2003, and as			
	Representative Dire leverage her abunda Takashi Eguchi (March 6, 1961)	She has been in external chairpers int experience and i April 1983 April 2010 March 2013 March 2015	son since October 2016. We propose her re-election as Director insight in the Company's management. Joined the Company General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Director and General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Managing Director Director and Managing Executive Officer In charge of Information System Department, Finance &	ch 2003, and as so that she can			
2	Representative Dire leverage her abunda Takashi Eguchi	She has been in operator and Chairpers ont experience and in April 1983 April 2010 March 2013 March 2015 March 2019	son since October 2016. We propose her re-election as Director insight in the Company's management. Joined the Company General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Director and General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Managing Director Director and Managing Executive Officer In charge of Information System Department, Finance & Accounting Department, and Purchase Department	ch 2003, and as so that she can			
2	Representative Dire leverage her abunda Takashi Eguchi (March 6, 1961)	She has been in external chairpers int experience and i April 1983 April 2010 March 2013 March 2015	son since October 2016. We propose her re-election as Director insight in the Company's management. Joined the Company General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Director and General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Managing Director Director and Managing Executive Officer In charge of Information System Department, Finance & Accounting Department, and Purchase Department Director and Managing Executive Officer	ch 2003, and as so that she can			
2	Representative Dire leverage her abunda Takashi Eguchi (March 6, 1961)	She has been in operator and Chairpers ont experience and in April 1983 April 2010 March 2013 March 2015 March 2019	son since October 2016. We propose her re-election as Director insight in the Company's management. Joined the Company General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Director and General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Managing Director Director and Managing Executive Officer In charge of Information System Department, Finance & Accounting Department, and Purchase Department Director and Managing Executive Officer In charge of General Affairs Department, Personnel	ch 2003, and as so that she can			
2	Representative Dire leverage her abunda Takashi Eguchi (March 6, 1961)	She has been in operator and Chairpers ont experience and in April 1983 April 2010 March 2013 March 2015 March 2019	son since October 2016. We propose her re-election as Director insight in the Company's management. Joined the Company General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Director and General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Managing Director Director and Managing Executive Officer In charge of Information System Department, Finance & Accounting Department, and Purchase Department Director and Managing Executive Officer In charge of General Affairs Department, Personnel Department, Finance & Accounting Department, and Area	ch 2003, and as so that she can			
2	Representative Dire leverage her abunda Takashi Eguchi (March 6, 1961) [Reappointment]	She has been in operator and Chairpers and experience and in April 1983 April 2010 March 2013 March 2015 March 2019 March 2022	son since October 2016. We propose her re-election as Director insight in the Company's management. Joined the Company General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Director and General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Managing Director Director and Managing Executive Officer In charge of Information System Department, Finance & Accounting Department, and Purchase Department Director and Managing Executive Officer In charge of General Affairs Department, Personnel Department, Finance & Accounting Department, and Area Development Department (to present)	ch 2003, and as so that she can			
2	Representative Dire leverage her abunda Takashi Eguchi (March 6, 1961) [Reappointment] [Reason for nomina	She has been in operator and Chairpers int experience and in April 1983 April 2010 March 2013 March 2015 March 2019 March 2022	son since October 2016. We propose her re-election as Director insight in the Company's management. Joined the Company General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Director and General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Managing Director Director and Managing Executive Officer In charge of Information System Department, Finance & Accounting Department, and Purchase Department Director and Managing Executive Officer In charge of General Affairs Department, Personnel Department, Finance & Accounting Department, and Area Development Department (to present) or Director]	2003, and as so that she can 9,549			
2	Representative Dire leverage her abunda Takashi Eguchi (March 6, 1961) [Reappointment] [Reason for nomina Mr. Eguchi has exte	She has been in order for and Chairpers and experience and it April 1983 April 2010 March 2013 March 2015 March 2019 March 2022	son since October 2016. We propose her re-election as Director insight in the Company's management. Joined the Company General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Director and General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department Managing Director Director and Managing Executive Officer In charge of Information System Department, Finance & Accounting Department, and Purchase Department Director and Managing Executive Officer In charge of General Affairs Department, Personnel Department, Finance & Accounting Department, and Area Development Department (to present)	ch 2003, and as so that she can 9,549 of management			

No.	Name (Date of birth)	Past e	Past experience, positions and responsibilities at the Company, and significant concurrent positions			
		April 1986 April 2011 April 2013 March 2017	Joined the Company General Manager of Technical Training Department General Manager of Corporate Planning Department Director and General Manager of Corporate Planning			
	Takashi Funaki (May 21, 1963) [Reappointment]	March 2019	Department Director and Managing Executive Officer Chief Executive of Gas Supply Division and in charge of Technical Training Department	3,900		
3		July 2020	Director and Managing Executive Officer Chief Executive of Gas Supply Division			
		March 2022	Director and Managing Executive Officer Chief Executive of Gas Supply Division and in charge of Information System Department (to present)			
	[Reason for nomination as candidate for Director] Mr. Funaki has extensive work experience mainly in the corporate planning and supply sections, and he has been in charge of management of the Company as Director since March 2017. We propose his re-election as Director so that he					
4	Seiichi Furuichi (September 10, 1964) [Reappointment]	April 1987 April 2015 July 2015 August 2016 March 2017 March 2019 March 2020	<ul> <li>and insight in the Company's management.</li> <li>Joined the Company</li> <li>General Manager of Public Relations Department</li> <li>Senior Managing Director, Access Co., Ltd. (seconded)</li> <li>Representative Director and President (seconded)</li> <li>Director Assistant to Chief Executive of Sales Division, and</li> <li>General Manager of Sales Planning Department, the Company</li> <li>Director and Executive Officer</li> <li>Assistant to Chief Executive of Sales Division, and General</li> <li>Manager of Sales Planning Department</li> <li>Director and Executive Officer</li> <li>Chief Executive of Sales Division, and General Manager of</li> <li>Sales Planning Department</li> <li>Director and Managing Executive Officer</li> <li>Chief Executive of Sales Division, and General Manager of</li> <li>Sales Planning Department</li> <li>Director and Managing Executive Officer</li> <li>Chief Executive of Sales Division, and General Manager of</li> <li>Sales Planning Department</li> <li>Director and Managing Executive Officer</li> <li>Chief Executive of Sales Division, and General Manager of</li> <li>Sales Planning Department (to present)</li> </ul>	3,200		
	one of the Company	tensive work exp y's group compan opose his re-elec	for Director] berience mainly in the sales section and was involved in corporate nies, and he has been in charge of management of the Company a tion as Director so that he can leverage his abundant experience as	s Director since		

No.	Name (Date of birth)	NamePast experience, positions and responsibilities at the Company, and significant concurrent positions						
	(2000 01 01101)			Company held				
		April 1989	Joined the Company					
		March 2017	General Manager of Customer Service Department					
		March 2020	Executive Officer and General Manager of Customer Service					
			Department					
		March 2021	Executive Officer, General Manager of Corporate Planning					
			Department and General Manager of Customer Service					
			Department					
	Koichi Kuno	April 2021	Executive Officer and General Manager of Corporate Planning					
	(March 10, 1967)		Department	900				
		March 2022	Director and Managing Executive Officer	200				
	[Reappointment]		In charge of Corporate Planning Department, Purchase					
5			Department, and Business Development Department, and					
			General Manager of Corporate Planning Department (to					
			present)					
		July 2022	Representative Director and Vice President, Nanohana Pipeline					
			K.K. (to present)					
		[Significant cor	current positions]					
	Representative Director and Vice President, Nanohana Pipeline K.K.							
	[Reason for nomination as candidate for Director]							
	Mr. Kuno has extensive work experience mainly in the sales and corporate planning sections and experience in corporate							
	management at another company, and he has been in charge of management of the Company as Director since March							
	2022. We propose his re-election as Director so that he can leverage his abundant experience and insight in the							
	Company's manager	ment.						
		May 1980	Registered as attorney-at-law (Dai-Ichi Tokyo Bar					
	Wataru Maekawa (February 10, 1950)		Association)					
		January 1998	Founded and took office as Head of Maekawa Law Firm					
		April 2004	Vice-President, Dai-Ichi Tokyo Bar Association					
		March 2015	Director, the Company (to present)					
		April 2020	Founded and took office as Head of Maekawa Ito Law Firm (to	2,300				
	[Reappointment]		present)	,				
	[Outside]	May 2022	Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Member, Adastria Co.,					
-	[Independent]		Ltd. (to present)					
6		[Significant cor						
		• Head, Mael						
			dit & Supervisory Board Member, Adastria Co., Ltd.					
	[Reason for nomination as candidate for Outside Director and expected role]							
	As an attorney-in-law, Mr. Maekawa has abundant experience and a high level of insight mainly in the legal field. We							
1	propose his re-election as Outside Director so that we may receive his advice and suggestions on all aspects of Company							
	management from a highly independent position.							
	Although he has never been directly involved in corporate management other than as an outside officer, we believe that							
		he can adequately perform his duties as Outside Director based on the reasons stated above.						
	ne can adequatery perform his duties as Outside Director based on the reasons stated above.							

No.	Name (Date of birth)	Past exp	Number of shares of the Company held					
		March 1991	Registered as certified public accountant					
		July 2001	Founded and took office as Head of Takao Mori Certified					
			Public Accountant Office (to present)					
	Takao Mori	May 2003	Registered as tax accountant					
	(September 25,	September 2013	Partner, Seinan Audit Corporation					
	1958)	June 2015	Outside Director, Aisei Pharmacy Co., Ltd.					
		March 2016	Director, the Company (to present)	1,900				
	[Reappointment]	January 2018	Managing Partner, Seinan Audit Corporation (to present)					
	[Outside]	June 2021	Outside Director, Powdertech Co., Ltd. (to present)					
7	[Independent]	[Significant concurrent positions]						
		Head, Takao Mori Certified Public Accountant Office						
		Managing Pa	Managing Partner, Seinan Audit Corporation					
		Outside Dire	Outside Director, Powdertech Co., Ltd.					
	[Reason for nomination as candidate for Outside Director and expected role]							
As a certified public accountant and a tax accountant, Mr. Mori has abundant experience and a high level								
	mainly in the accou	nting field. We pro	opose his re-election as Outside Director so that we may receive	e his advice and				
	suggestions on all aspects of Company management from a highly independent position.							
	Although he has never been directly involved in corporate management other than as an outside officer, we believe that							
1								

he can adequately perform his duties as Outside Director based on the reasons stated above.

- (Notes) 1. The Company has business relationships with all the companies represented by Ms. Misao Kikuchi and Mr. Koichi Kuno.
  - 2. Although there are no special interests between each of the candidates and the Company, the Company has a consignment relationship with the law firm to which Mr. Wataru Maekawa belongs, for legal consultation services based on a legal advisory contract.
  - 3. Mr. Wataru Maekawa and Mr. Takao Mori are candidates for Outside Director. The Company has registered them as Independent Officers with the Tokyo Stock Exchange.
  - 4. Mr. Wataru Maekawa and Mr. Takao Mori will have served as Outside Directors for eight (8) years and seven (7) years, respectively, at the conclusion of this Annual General Meeting of Shareholders.
  - 5. The Company has concluded with an insurance company a directors and officers liability insurance agreement, pursuant to Article 430-3, Paragraph (1) of the Companies Act. The outline of the contents of the insurance agreement is as described in the Japanese version of the business report (4. (3) Outline of the contents of the directors/auditors and officers liability insurance agreement). If the appointment of the candidates for Director is approved, they will be included as insured persons in the insurance agreement. In addition, we plan to have the same content in the next update.
  - 6. The Company has entered into a liability limitation agreement with Mr. Wataru Maekawa and Mr. Takao Mori, respectively, pursuant to Article 423, Paragraph (1) of the Companies Act, which limits the liability for damages to the amount prescribed by laws and regulations. The Company plans to continue the said agreement with them if their re-election is approved.

	1 2		11	11		
Corporate management and organization management	Finance and accounting	Legal affairs, internal control and compliance	Sales and marketing	Environment and Sustainability	Energy business	DX* <sup>2</sup> and R&D* <sup>3</sup>
●	●	●			●	
•	●	•				•
•					•	•
•			•	•		
•				•		•
•						
	•					
	management and organization	Corporate management and organization Finance and accounting	Corporate management and organization Finance and accounting Legal affairs, internal control and compliance	Corporate management and organization Finance and accounting Legal affairs, internal control and compliance marketing	Corporate management and organizationFinance and accountingLegal affairs, internal control and complianceSales and marketingEnvironment and Sustainability	Corporate management and organizationFinance and accountingLegal affairs, internal control and complianceSales and marketingEnvironment and Sustainability

7. The skill matrix of the Company's Directors if their appointment is approved is as follows. \*1

- \*1 The above table does not show all the skills that each person possesses.
- \*2 DX (Digital Transformation)

\*3 R&D (Research and Development)

## **Proposal 3:** Election of One (1) Corporate Auditor

The term of office of Corporate Auditor Mr. Kazuaki Koizawa will expire at the conclusion of this Annual General Meeting of Shareholders. Accordingly, the Company proposes the appointment of one (1) Corporate Auditor.

This proposal has been deliberated by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee, the majority of which consist of Independent Outside Directors, in order to secure the fairness and transparency of its procedures.

Furthermore, we have obtained the consent of the Board of Corporate Auditors for this proposal.

The candidate for Corporate Auditor is as follows:

Name (Date of birth)		Number of shares of the Company held			
Yosuke Ueno (July 28, 1965)	April 1988 April 2015	Joined the Company General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department	400		
[New Appointment]	March 2019	Executive Officer and General Manager of Finance & Accounting Department (to present)			
[Reason for nomination as candidate for Corporate Auditor]					

Mr. Ueno has extensive work experience mainly in the accounting section, and he has been in charge of management of the Company as Executive Officer since March 2019. We propose his election as Corporate Auditor so that he can leverage his abundant experience and insight in the audit and supervision of the Company's management.

(Notes) 1. There are no special interests between Mr. Yosuke Ueno and the Company.

- 2. The Company has concluded with an insurance company a directors and officers liability insurance agreement, pursuant to Article 430-3, Paragraph (1) of the Companies Act. The outline of the contents of the insurance agreement is as described in the Japanese version of the business report (4. (3) Outline of the contents of the directors/auditors and officers liability insurance agreement). If the appointment of Mr. Yosuke Ueno is approved, they will be included as insured persons in the insurance agreement. In addition, we plan to have the same content in the next update.
- 3. If the appointment of Mr. Yosuke Ueno is approved, the Company will enter into a liability limitation agreement with him, pursuant to Article 423, Paragraph (1) of the Companies Act, which limits the liability for damages to the amount prescribed by laws and regulations.