# **Special Purpose Vehicle** Incorporation Guide







#### Introduction

Congratulations on choosing ADGM as the home for your Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV), we look forward to welcoming you to the community.

We understand that the incorporation process can at times seem daunting due to the legal requirements and detailed forms to be completed.

We have written this guide, to support you through each stage of the application, and provide you with insight on what is required in simple terms, and hopefully ease the application process for you.

#### Let's Get Started!

Before you start the application, you should be aware of the documents that you are required to submit during the process. Having these documents ready in advance can lead to a smoother application process for you.

- A copy of your business plan (template available)
- Resolution (template available)
- Articles of Association (model articles available)
- signed lease agreement or consent letter from Corporate Service Providers
- Passport copies of Directors, Authorised Signatories, Individual Shareholders etc.
- Copy of valid UAE residence visa of Authorised Signatories. At least one signatory must be GCC national or hold a valid UAE residence visa.
- Certified true copy of certificate of registration/incorporation of body corporate Directors, Shareholders etc.
- Details of your data processor (if appointed) including copy of commercial license

Please be aware that the Registrar can request at any time, further documentation to support your application.

## **Document Templates**

You can locate the relevant document templates such as business plan, resolution, model articles, etc on the SPV page of ADGM.com, under the supporting documents and templates section.

https://www.adgm.com/setting-up/spv/application-process



#### Where to access the application form

Applications are only accepted digitally and can be accessed at www.registration.adgm.com.

- 1) Create a new user
- 2) Once logged into the system, you will find the application form under

Online Services → Companies → Registration of SPV Companies → Incorporate a Private Company Limited by Shares as an SPV

If you wish to register the SPV as Restricted Scope Company:

Online Services → Companies → Registration of SPV Companies → Incorporate a Retricted Scope Company as an SPV

#### **Useful Tips:**

- You are able to save and exit the form at any time. The drafted form will then be available for you to select and continue from your dashboard. The draft will be active for 90 days. If the draft is not submitted during this time, the form will expire and will no longer be available.
- You are able to navigate through each of the pages without the need to complete them in the
  order they appear. To navigate either use the cookie trail at the top of the page, or select next
  on the bottom of each page (note although an error message may appear, you can still
  proceed to the next pages).
- Asterisk (\*) denotes a required field. You will not be able to submit the application if you have left any required fields blank.
- My Clipboard allows you to identify data 'clips' that can be stored and then later pasted into different parts of a form. A 'clip' can be, for example, Authorised Signatory details, which then can be used when adding a Director or a Secretary or a Shareholder or a Data Controller. Clicking on the My Clipboard button, provides the options to add a new clipboard item or to select an existing item. You need to enter all of the data into the form that is to be part of the data 'clip', before selecting to add it as a new clipboard item



## Application form sections

The application form is divided into 10 key sections.

- 1. General Details
- 2. Addresses
- 3. Authorised Signatories
- 4. Director
- 5. Secretary
- 6. Shares & Shareholders
- 7. Data Protection
- 8. Beneficial Owners
- 9. Good standing Information
- 10. Review

In this document we will walk through each of the sections of the application, and outline the information that is required.



## **Section 1: General details**

				Company Name:
☐ Select a Reserved Name				
Company Name *			Validate Name	It is advised that you check that this name is not
Proposed Name in Arabic Script				currently in use by another entity.
Proposed Name in Arabic Script				
Does the proposed name contain sensitive words or expressions that	○ Yes	○ No		The system can validate the company name against the
require you to seek comments of a government department or specified				name validation rules as per the company regulations.
body? *				If you reserve the name in advance, select 'Select a
Is the proposed name very similar to	○ Yes	○ No		Reserve Name'. the name will appear as Proposed
another name or trade name appearing in the register of names or trade names in ADGM or Abu Dhabi or any other				Name.
relevant jurisdictions, and is this application made AS or ON BEHALF of				If multiple name is reserved under your account, select
and with the authority of, the registered owner(s) of the similarly registered business name(s)? *				the Proposed name in the dropdown list.
				Arabic: If you are unable to provide the proposed name
				in Arabic script, the Licensing team will do this on your
				behalf once submitted for review.
				Sensitive words and expressions:
				If you are unsure of this, you can refer to the name
				rules you can access them <u>here</u> .
				Similar Name:
				The system will automatically detect whether there is a
				similar name being used already in ADGM. To check
				Abu Dhabi or other jurisdictions, please refer to the
				relevant public registers of these jurisdictions.
				For the addition of a trade name, please follow the
Trade Name(s)				guidance above.
				The accounting reference date is the Financial Year End
Accounting Reference Date				Date for your entity.
Day *	31		•	
				This is requested by the Registrar as it will determine
Month *	De	cember	▼	the date by which you will need to file your annual
				accounts.



Business Activities Business Activity Type Business Activity Section *	Non-Financial (Category B)  [ K Financial and insurance activities  M Professional, scientific and technical activities	Select – M Professional, scientific and technical activities
Articles of Association  Articles of Association *	Please Select ▼	You will need to prepare the Articles of Association for your entity. The Articles will set out the ownership of your entity and how it will be run.  You have three options with regards to the "type" of Articles that you can upload.  Within the Model Articles Template you will locate additional guidance on how to complete the template.  1) Model Articles – these are the standard articles that are accepted by ADGM.  2) Model Articles with additional / and or amended provisions.  3) Bespoke Articles.
Supporting Documents 🛭	Upload	Supporting Documents is not a required field, however if you feel you have any documents to support your application, you can upload at this location.



## **Section 2: Addresses**

Having a physical address in ADGM is a core principle to being granted a commercial license. As a SPV applicant, you have multiple options available for obtaining the physical office space.

		Input all of the details related to the Registered Office
Addresses		Address on Al Maryah Island
Address of Registered Office	Office Number *	
	Floor *	
	Building Name *	
	Street Name of Cluster / Square / Area on the island *	
	Al Maryah Island Abu Dhabi	
	United Arab Emirates	
Address of Registered Office (Arabic)	Office Number	If unable to complete the office address in Arabic, the licensing team can do this on your behalf, once the
	Floor	application is submitted.
	Building Name	
	Street Name of Cluster / Square / Area on the island	
	جزيرة الماريا	
	أبوظي	
	الإمارات العربية المتحدة	
Evidence of Occupancy in ADGM *	Please Select ▼	In this section you will need to specify the type of evidence that you will be providing related to your registered office address. This will either be:
		1) Consent letter
		2) Copy of lease



You will then be prompted to upload this document.

# **Section 3: Authorised Signatories**

Director or another person that has been authorized to sign documents on behalf of the entity.

In what capacity are authorise	d Stone Salart	<b>Jointly:</b> more than one signatory required to sign.
signatories acting? *	Please Select	*
		Severally: Single signature
Full Name	Title * Forenames * Surname *  Please Select ▼	Please fill in the required information for each
Former Names 🔞	Prease Select 7	Authorised Signatory.
romer values o		
	Forenames in Arabic Surname in Arabic	Please ensure that name, Date of Birth and
Country of Residence *	United Arab Emirates ▼	nationality align to the passport details of the
Nationality *	United Arab Emirates ▼	individual.
,		Service Address:
Date of Birth *	dd-MMM-yyyy	Service Address:
Business Occupation		This can be any address (residential / business)
Service Address	Unit Number / Level Number	that can receive notifications.
Service Address		that can receive notifications.
	Building Name	
	Street / Area	
	Street / Area	
	PO Box Number *	
	State / Province	
	Emirate	
	Abu Dhabi ▼	
	Country *	
	United Arab Emirates ▼	



#### ▼ Fit and Proper

This is required to allow ADGM Registration Authority to assess whether you are fit and proper for the purpose of your firm's registration as a legal entity subject to ADGM Companies and Commercial Licensing Regulations 2015.

Have you ever been convicted of a crime involving dishonesty? \*

O Yes

No

Have you ever served or been sentenced to a term of imprisonment? \*

Yes No

Have you ever been convicted of any offence under any provision of the financial markets legislation or any offence under any provision of any foreign act, financial markets or financial services, corporations, financial reporting, or requirements for preventing money laundering? \*

Ves 

No

Have you ever been banned from acting as a director of a company or other incorporated body, of from being involved in the management of any class of incorporated or unincorporated entity? \*

Have you ever been subject to disciplinary action by any professional body or disciplinary tribunal, where those actions resulted in penalties being imposed or censure?

Have you ever had a court ruling against them in respect of a civil case, or has reached an out of court settlement, relating to their profession? \*

Have you ever been dismissed, or asked to resign, from a position of trust, fiduciary appointment or similar position? \*

Have you ever been placed into statutory management, or has been a director of a company which has been placed into statutory management? \*

Have you ever, in the last 10 years, been a director or senior manager of a company, or other incorporated or unincorporated entity, which has been placed into liquidation administration or receivership, entered into any compromise agreement, moratorium or other restructuring to avoid liquidation, administration or receivership? \*

Are you subject to pending proceedings which, if any adverse finding is reached, will result in one or more of the matters set out in the paragraphs above applying to you? \*

A Fit and Proper confirmation will need to be competed for each Authorised Signatory. It is essential that this is answered accurately, and you will be asked to sign (tick box) declaration that the details provided are true and correct.

Passport Evidence \*

Upload

UAE Residency Visa or Emirates ID \*

Upload

Evidence of Appointment \*

Upload

**Passport:** Please upload a clear copy of the passport of the Authorised Signatory.

**UAE Residency Visa / Emirates ID:** Please ensure that these are valid documents that have not expired. Clear copies should be uploaded.

**Evidence of Appointment:** The evidence of appointment of the authorized signatory should be outlined in the entity's resolution.

If the shareholders are all individuals, you will need to complete the resolution for individuals. If there is more than one shareholder, the wording needs to be amended accordingly. All shareholder details can be put on the one resolution.

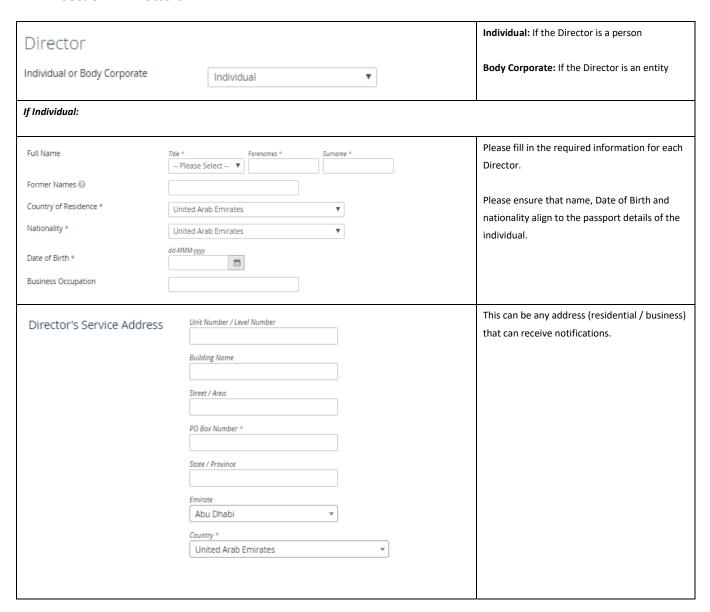
If the shareholder is a corporate shareholder – then the corporate shareholder resolution should be used. Please note further evidence will be required;

- The resolution will need to be signed by the entire board
- Director register will need to be provided



3)	The evidence must not be older than 3
,	months
4)	All evidence must be provided in English.

## **Section 4: Directors**





legal entity subject to ADGM Companies and Have you ever been convicted of a crime involving dishones  9 Yes 9 No  Have you ever served or been sentenced to a term of impri	Commercial Licensing Regulations 2015.  tity? *  somment? *  wision of the financial markets legislation or any offence for preventing money laundering? *  ompany or other incorporated body, of from being involved.		This must be the residential address of the Director. Commercial addresses in this section will <b>not</b> be accepted.  Fit and proper form must be completed for all directors and answered to the best of the knowledge of the applicant.
Have you ever had a court ruling against them in respect of Yes  No	a civil case, or has reached an out of court settlement, re	elating to their profession? *	
Have you ever been dismissed, or asked to resign, from a pool of Yes O No	osition of trust, fiduciary appointment or similar position	₽*	
Have you ever been placed into statutory management, or low Yes    No	has been a director of a company which has been placed	l into statutory management? *	
Have you ever, in the last 10 years, been a director or senior administration or receivership, entered into any compromis  Yes  No			
Are you subject to pending proceedings which, if any advers • Yes • No	se finding is reached, will result in one or more of the ma	atters set out in the paragraphs above applying to you? *	
Passport Evidence *	Upload		Passport: Please upload a clear copy of the passport of the Director
Evidence of Appointment *	Upload		<b>Evidence of Appointment:</b> The evidence of appointment of the Director should be outlined in the entity's Resolution document.
Director Consent *  This is to confirm that the named director has given consent form.  Remove Director Add another Director	t to act as the appointed director. I declare that the inform	ation in this application is true and complete as at the date of this	Provide the director consent, and here you will find the Add another Director button if you need one.
If Corporate			



Company / Firm Name *		Insert the name of the Company that is the Director, as listed on the Resolution.
Registration Number *		
Place of Registration / Incorporation *	United Arab Emirates ▼	Registration number: this is the Commercial License Number of the entity.
Legal Entity Structure *		Disco of Designation / Incorregation. The
Governing Law *		Place of Registration / Incorporation: The country that the entity has been registered or
Director's Service Address	Unit Number / Level Number	incorporated in. Please ensure this aligns to the Certificate Of Incorporation or Registration
	Building Name	which will be requested to be uploaded later on this page.
	Street / Area	Service Address: Enter the address of the corporate director.
	PO Box Number *	
	State / Province	
	Emirate	
	Abu Dhabi ▼  Country *	
	United Arab Emirates	
Certificate Of Incorporation or Registration * ②	Upload	Certificate Of Incorporation or Registration: Please upload a clear copy of the Certificate of Incorporation or Registration or a document of
Evidence of Appointment *	Upload	similar effect, certified by the relevant authority in the jurisdiction in which it is incorporated or registered or by its director or company secretary.
		<b>Evidence of appointment:</b> This is the resolution.

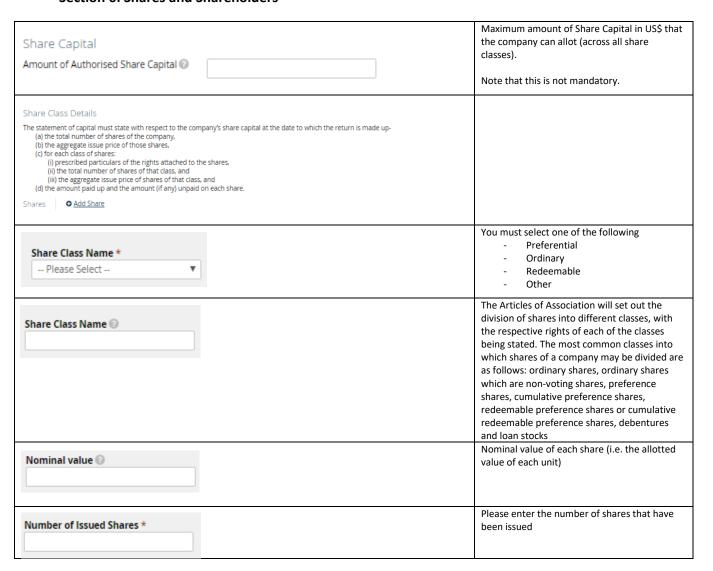


## **Section 5: Secretary**

This section is not compulsory, however you have the ability to add a secretary should you wish.



#### Section 6: Shares and Shareholders





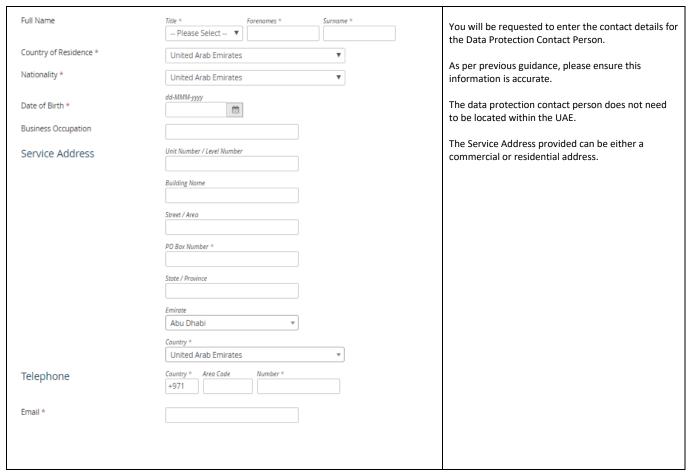
Amount paid (in US\$) *	The amount paid
Amount unpaid (in US\$)	Optional field
Voting rights	Optional field
Rights on dividends distribution	Optional field
Rights on capital distribution ②	Optional field
Redemption permitted? ②	Optional field
Shareholders Shareholder Type	Select the type of Shareholders – Individuals or Body Corporate. You will then be prompted to provide the details related to each of the shareholders.

## **Section 7: Data Protection**

(I) Data Protection

Data Protection Contact Person	The Data Protection Contact person is any person assigned to be the designated point of contact in relation to data protection matters for the entity
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(II) Data Processors

A Data Processor is defined as any corporate Data Processors person (i.e. another company) that processes Personal Data on behalf of a Data Controller (i.e. your company). Data Processors may include but are not limited to external service providers that have been appointed by an ADGM Data Controller (e.g. external payroll service providers, cloud services Data Controllers must notify the ADGM Office of Data Protection of the appointment or cessation of a Data Processor. That is, will another entity process any of your Does this entity appoint a Data YesNo company's personal data? (e.g. external payroll, Processor? \* 🔞 third party support for visa services, cloud provider etc.)



	If so, you must select "yes" here.
If Selected <b>YES</b>	
ii selected 123	
Search a Registered Entity	If your data processor is located in ADGM, you will be able to search the ADGM Public Register for the
	entity details, which will prepopulate in the form.
Search for a Registered Entity you wish to add as a Data Processor *	Please note: if you have engaged a non- ADGM registered entity, you will need to select No.
Place of Registration / Incorporation ★ United Arab Emirates ▼	Legal Entity Structure:
Legal Entity Structure	<b>Governing Law:</b> If the Entity is Registered in ADGM, the Governing Law will be 'ADGM'.
Governing Law *	ŭ
Evidence of Appointment * Upload	<b>Evidence of appointment:</b> This is a copy of the contract between your entity and the appointed Data Processor.
Consent *  On behalf of the appointed Data Processor I hereby confirm that the appointed Data Processor collis on file with the Data Controller and can be demonstrated if required. I declare that the informati  Remove Data Processor  Add another Data Processor	
If Selected <b>No</b>	



Search a Registered Entity  ○ Yes     No		If the appointed Data Processor is not registered in ADGM, you will need to provide details of the entity.
Entity Name *		Registration Number: This is the Commercial License or Registration number of the appointed Data Processor.
Registration Number *		
Service Address	Unit Number / Level Number *	Legal Entity Structure: What entity structure is the Data Processor, e.g. is it a Branch, a Private Company Limited by Shares etc.
	Building Name *	Governing Law: This is the law of the jurisdiction that the entity is registered in, e.g. if the entity is
	Street / Area *	Registered in Abu Dhabi – the law is UAE, London, the law would be UK etc.
	State / Province	Certificate of Incorporation / Registration: Please ensure that the copy of the certificate of incorporation / registration is clear and valid.
	Emirate *	Evidence of appointment: This is a copy of the
	Abu Dhabi ▼	contract between your entity and the appointed
	Country *	Data Processor.
	United Arab Emirates *	
Place of Registration / Incorporation *	United Arab Emirates ▼	
Legal Entity Structure *		
Governing Law *		
Certificate Of Incorporation or Registration * ②	Upload	
Evidence of Appointment *	Upload	

## (III) Data Protection – Personal Data

Personal Data is any information relating to an identified natural person or a natural person who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identification number or to one or more factors specific to his physical, physiological, mental, economic, cultural or social identity. The definition of Personal Data applies to your employees, clients, contractors and contact lists to name some examples.

Will you be processing Personal Data as defined in the ADGM Data Protection
Regulations 2015? \*

Please consider here if you are processing any personal data elements such as:

Name
Address
Date of Birth
Email
Staff ID number



If yes		
		You will be asked to confirm the legal basis your entity
Reasons for Processing of Personal	Data	will use for processing this data. Please select Yes or
Personal Data may only be Processed in accord	dance with section 2 of the ADGM Data Protection Regulations 2015.	No as appropriate for your entity.
-	apply to Processing of the Personal Data. Data Subject is the individual to whom Personal Data relate.	
The Data Subject has given his written  onsent to the Processing of that  Personal Data *	Yes ◎ No	
Processing is necessary for the performance of a contract to which the Data Subject is party or in order to take steps at the request of the Data Subject prior to entering into a contract *	Yes ◎ No	
Processing is necessary for compliance with any regulatory or legal obligation to which the Data Controller is subject *	Yes ◎ No	
Processing is necessary in order to O o protect the vital interests of the Data Subject *	Yes   No	
Processing is necessary for the performance of a sisk carried out in the interests of the Abu Dhabi Global Market or in the exercise of the Boards, the Court's, the Registrar's or the Regulator's functions or powers vested in the Data Controller or in a Third Party to whom the Personal Data are disclosed *	Yes ◎ No	
Processing is necessary for the purposes of the legitimate interests pursued by the Data Controller or by the Third Party to whom the Personal Data are disclosed, except where such interests are overridden by compelling legitimate interests of the Data Subject relating to the Data Subject's particular situation.	Yes	
Type of Data		Please confirm the Personal Data types that you will keep.
Please Choose which of these ki	inds of Personal Data you will keep	You will be asked to specify details of the Others
Name *	◎ Yes ◎ No	should you select this option.
Address *	○ Yes ○ No	
Date Of Birth *	○ Yes ○ No	
Email *	◎ Yes ◎ No	
Staff ID number *	◎ Yes ◎ No	
Others *	◎ Yes ◎ No	



## IV – Sensitive Personal Data

Sensitive Personal Data is a special category of Personal Data that by its nature is more sensitive, such as data revealing or concerning (directly or indirectly) racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade-union membership and health or sex life.

Will you be Processing any Sensi Personal Data as defined in the I Protection Regulations 2015 *		When selecting an option please consider whether you will be collecting and of the following  - Racial origin - Political opinions - Religious beliefs - Other beliefs - Physical or mental health - Criminal convictions
If yes		
	ed in accordance with section 3 of the Data Protection Regulations 2015 asons apply to Processing of the Sensitive Personal Data.	As with the personal data you will be requested to specify Yes or No to a series of statements regarding the legal basis for processing sensitive personal data.
The Data Subject has given his	Yes      No	
additional written consent to the Processing of such Personal Data *		
Processing is necessary for the purposes of carrying out the obligations and specific rights of the Data Controller *	⊚ Yes ⊚ No	
Processing is necessary to protect the vital interests of the Data Subject or of another person where the Data Subject is physically or legally incapable of giving his consent *	⊚ Yes ⊚ No	
Processing is carried out in the course of its legitimate activities with appropriate guarantees by a foundation, association or any other non-profit-seeking body on condition that the Processing relates solely to the members of the body or to persons who have regular contact with it in connection with its purposes and that the Personal Data are not disclosed to a Third Party without the consent of the Data Subjects *	Yes	
The Processing relates to Personal Data which are manifestly made public by the Data Subject, or is necessary for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims *	⊚ Yes ⊚ No	
Processing is necessary for compliance with any regulatory or legal obligation to which the Data Controller is subject *	⊚ Yes ⊚ No	



# (V) Data Transfers

Data Transfers  Will you be transferring data to other   Yes   No jurisdictions *			Please note that transferring data to anywhere outside ADGM includes to mainland Abu Dhabi and other areas in the UAE (except the Dubai International Financial Centre).		
If Yes					
Will you be transferring Personal Data outside the jurisdiction of the ADGM that has an adequate level of protection? *	○ Yes ○ No	No	Please see below for a list of the jurisdictions that are identified as having an adequate level of protection:		
			Argentina	Austria	Belgium
		Bulgaria	Canada (provided the recipient is subject to the Canadian Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act [PIPED Act])	Cyprus	
			Czech Republic	Denmark	DIFC
			Estonia	Finland	France
			Germany	Greece	Guernsey
			Hungary	Jersey	Iceland
			Ireland	Isle of Man	Italy
			Latvia	Liechtenstein	Lithuania
			Luxembourg	Malta	Netherlands
			New Zealand	Norway	Poland
			Portugal	Romania	Slovakia
			Slovenia	Spain	Sweden
			Switzerland	UK	Uruguay
			USA		
If you selected No			related to where the transfer will t	orompted to provide the data will be tran ake place and detai you have in place to	nsferred to, why Is of the



#### (VI) Data Protection – Declaration

	In the final subsection of the Data Protection			
Data Protection - Declaration	pages you will be asked to complete a declaration			
	in relation to the data protection information			
l, in my capacity as the appointed Data Controller, hereby confirm that the processing of Personal Data will be conducted in the following manner:				
* Processed fairly, lawfully and securely;	provided.			
* Processed for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes in accordance with the Data Subject's rights and not further Processed in a way incompatible with those purposes or rights;				
* Adequate, relevant and not excessive in relation to the purposes for which they are collected or further Processed;				
* Accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date; and				
* Kept in a form which permits identification of Data Subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the Personal Data were collected or for which they are further Processed.				
* That every reasonable step shall be taken to ensure that Personal Data which is inaccurate or incomplete, having regard to the purposes for which it was collected or for which it was further Processed, is erased or rectified.				
* That appropriate technical and organizational measures to protect Personal Data against unauthorised or unlawful Processing and against accidental loss or destruction of, or damage to, such Person Data have been put in place. Such measures shall ensure a level of security appropriate to the risks represented by the Processing and the nature of the Personal Data to be protected.				
* That in the event of an unauthorised intrusion (including any loss of devices containing Personal Data or unauthorised disclosures) whether physical, electronic or otherwise, to any Personal Data, the incident will be reported to the Registrar as soon as reasonably practicable.				
Declaration				
" I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, having made due enquiry, the information given in this form is complete and correct. I understand that it is an offence under applicable law to provide any information which is false, misleading or deceptive or to conceal information where the concealment of such information is likely to mislead or deceive. For the purpose of Data Protection Regulations, the Personal Data provided in this form will be processed by the ADGM Registration Authority in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Data Protection Regulations, in particular, in the exercise of its functions or powers under legislation administered by the ADGM or where necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the interest of the ADGM.				

#### **Section 8: Beneficial Owners**

Within the structure of companies, it is the ultimate individual who enjoys benefits of owning the company's shares. In other words, it is an individual who enjoys the benefits of ownership even though title to the ownership is in another name. For example, there is an intermediary company in which name shares are issued. Even though the shares are issued in that company's name, the true beneficial owner of the shares, for safety/convenience or privacy, is the individual. Also, any individual that either directly or indirectly has the power to vote or influence the decisions within the company through beneficial ownership of the shares, is the beneficial owner of that company.

The questions in this section will be determined by the data entered earlier in the shareholder section of the form.



## **Section 8: Good Standing Information**

#### Good Standing Information

Please answer all the following questions. If your answer to any of the below questions is YES', please provide all relevant details in relation to that question.

Has the Applicant or any of its Senior Managers, Directors, Shareholders, Partners or Members:

Applied for a license from ADGM for any other activity? \*  $\odot$  Yes  $\odot$  No

Had an application for membership of any professional or regulatory body refused, or ever been subject to sanction or censure by such a professional or regulatory body? \*

Been convicted of any offence under any provision of the financial markets legislation, such as (i) money laundering; (ii) terrorist financing; (iii) an offence involving fraud, dishonesty or breach of trust? \*

Been banned from acting as a director of a company or other incorporated body, of from being involved in the management of any class of incorporated or unincorporated entity? \*

Had a court ruling against you in respect of a civil case, or has reached an out of court settlement, relating to your profession? \*

**Good Standing** Information must be completed.