

## INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE OPINION STATEMENT

### Statement No: BSIV 772414-3

#### Nexus Select Trust ESG Report 2024-25

The British Standards Institution (BSI) is independent to Nexus Select Trust (NST) and has no financial interest in the operation of NST other than for the assessment and assurance of this report.

This independent assurance opinion statement has been prepared for NST only for the purposes of assuring its statements relating to its ESG report, more particularly described in the scope, below. The British Standards Institution (BSI) will not, in providing this independent assurance opinion statement, accept or assume responsibility (legal or otherwise) or accept liability for or in connection with any other purpose for which it may be used, or to any person by whom the independent assurance opinion statement may be read. This statement is intended to be used by stakeholders & management of NST.

This independent assurance opinion statement is prepared on the basis of review by the British Standards Institution (BSI) of information presented to it by NST. The review does not extend beyond such information and is solely based on it. In performing such review, the British Standards Institution has assumed that all such information is complete and accurate.

Any queries that may arise by virtue of this independent assurance opinion statement or matters relating to it should be addressed to NST only.

#### Scope

The scope of engagement agreed upon with NST includes the following:

1. The assurance covers the ESG Report 2024-25 of the NST, prepared "with reference to" GRI Standards, 2021 and focuses on systems and activities of Nexus Select Trust, covering the 17 Malls (Nexus Shantiniketan at Bengaluru, Nexus Seawoods at Navi Mumbai, Nexus Ahmedabad One at Ahmedabad, Nexus Koramangala at Bengaluru, Nexus Whitefield at Bengaluru, Nexus Westend at Pune, Nexus Centre City at Mysuru, Nexus Celebration at Udaipur, Nexus Elante at Chandigarh, Nexus Hyderabad at Hyderabad, Nexus Vijaya Complex at Chennai, Fiza by Nexus at Mangalore, Nexus Amritsar at Amritsar, Nexus Esplanade at Bhubaneswar, Treasure Island at Indore, Nexus Indore Central at Indore, Select City Walk at Delhi), 2 Hotels (Oakwood Residency at Bengaluru, Hotel Hyatt at Chandigarh) & 3 Offices (Vijaya Office at Chennai, Elante Office at Chandigarh, Westend Icon Office at Pune), India during the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

2. AA1000 Assurance Standard, AA1000AS v3, Type 1 moderate level engagement evaluates the nature and extent of NST's adherence to all four AA1000 AccountAbility Principles: Inclusivity, Materiality, Responsiveness, and Impact. The specified sustainability performance information/data disclosed in the report has been evaluated.

## Opinion Statement

We conclude that the NST's ESG Report 2024-25 review provides a fair view of the NST's sustainability program and performance during FY 2024-25. We also believe that in the ESG Report 2024-25, the Environment, Social, and Governance performance disclosures are fairly represented.

Our work was carried out by a team of sustainability report assurers in accordance with the AA1000 Assurance standard, AA1000AS v3 and "with reference to" GRI Universal Standards 2021. We planned and performed this part of our work to obtain the necessary information and explanations we considered to provide sufficient evidence that NST's description of their self-declaration of compliance with the GRI Standards were fairly stated.

## Methodology

Our work was designed to gather evidence on which to base our conclusion. We undertook the following activities:

- A top-level review of issues raised by external parties that could be relevant to NST's policies to provide a check on the appropriateness of statements made in the report.
- Discussion with senior executives and their external consultant on NST's approach and methodology of collection and evaluation of stakeholder engagement. We had no direct contact with external stakeholders.
- Interview with staff and authorities involved in sustainability management, report preparation and provision of report information were carried out.
- Review of key organizational developments.
- Review of supporting evidence for claims made in the reports.
- An assessment of the company's reporting and management processes concerning this reporting against the principles of Inclusivity, Materiality and Responsiveness as described in the AA1000 AccountAbility Principles Standard v3.
- A sample-based assessment of the reliability and quality of information as company's performance provided in the ESG report.

## Conclusions

A detailed review against the AA1000 AccountAbility Principles of Inclusivity, Materiality, Responsiveness, and Impact and the GRI Standards is set out below:

### 1. Inclusivity

This report has reflected a fact that NST is seeking the engagement of its stakeholders through numerous channels such as Meetings with regulators, business partners, suppliers, investors, and employees along

with feedback processes from customers, and submission of various reports to the relevant stakeholders. The process of stakeholder engagement clearly addresses the various types of stakeholders involved, their modes of engagement together with their frequencies of interaction. Stakeholder interaction exercise has been conducted within this past year (similar to previous years), to identify and understand their concerns among the identified universe of material topics. We have seen a few instances of stakeholder engagement agenda including feedback about the previous ESG Report from different internal and external stakeholders.

This report covers the fair reporting and disclosure for environment and social information. In our professional opinion, the report covers the NST's inclusivity issues that demonstrates participation of stakeholders in developing and achieving an accountable and strategic response to sustainability.

## 2. Materiality

NST publishes sustainability information that enables its stakeholders to make informed judgments about the company's management and performance. In this year FY 2024-25, NST has conducted a fresh materiality assessment with inputs and feedback from various internal and external stakeholders. The 19 material topics identified are -

Energy & Emissions Management, Climate Risks & Opportunities Management, Water Stewardship, Circular Economy & Waste Management, Biodiversity & Land Use;

Employee Health Safety Well-being, Human Rights & Labour Relations, Diversity Inclusion & Non-Discrimination, Human Capital Development, Talent Recruitment & Retention, Tenant Relationships & Customer Satisfaction, Community Relations;

Corporate Governance, Ethical Business Conduct, Sustainable Sourcing & Procurement Practices, Regulatory Compliance, Data Privacy and Security, Green Portfolio, Food Safety.

The 8 material topics identified, for which assurance is sought are: Energy & Emissions management, Water Stewardship, Circular Economy and Waste Management, Employee Health Safety & Wellbeing, Human Rights and Labour Relations, Diversity, inclusion, and non-discrimination, Human Capital Development, Talent Recruitment and Retention

In our professional opinion the report covers the NST's material issues by using NST materiality matrix, internal and external stakeholder consultation and boundary mapping. In our professional opinion nothing has come to our attention to suggest that the responses related to identified material topics are not adequately represented in the Report.

## 3. Responsiveness

NST has implemented the practice to respond to the expectations and perceptions of its stakeholders. Feedback from all the internal stakeholder representatives were collected along with few selected external stakeholders. A few instances of stakeholder engagement agenda & action points from those engagement meetings were shared to us to demonstrate that NST is serious about the relevant content it works upon and shares with its stakeholders. This includes changes in the wide change in the materiality topics. It also includes the changes in this year's report structure and scope readiness and preparedness basis the feedback about the previous ESG Report publishing timeline.

In our professional opinion nothing has come to our attention to suggest that the responses related to identified material topics are not adequately represented in the report.

#### 4. Impact

NST has also demonstrated that adequate systems are in place to monitor, measure and be accountable for their actions that affect the economy, environment, society, stakeholders, and the organization itself. The nature and extent of the errors and mistakes in data agglomeration and reporting has shown a marked reduction as compared to last year. The scope of reporting is being improved to capture as many relevant / material GRI indicators. The processes of data monitoring measurement and reporting is stabilized, standardized and understood by all parts of the organization; thereby allowing them to take the next step towards causing improvements for each of these reported metrics. Quite a few of these metrics have reported the improvement projects undertaken and demonstrated marked improvement.

#### GRI-reporting

Nexus Select Trust provided us with their self-declaration of compliance "with reference to" the GRI Universal Standard 2021.

Based on our verification review, we are able to confirm that the select GRI disclosures in the categories of Environmental & Social are reported "with reference to" the GRI Universal Standard 2021. It is the responsibility of NST corporate to notify GRI post publishing the report.

In our professional opinion the self-declaration covers NST Corporate's social responsibility and sustainability issues. On the basis of the verification undertaken, nothing has come to our attention to suggest that the Report does not properly describe the following sustainability disclosures as stipulated in the GRI Standards.

- GRI 302: Energy 2016 - 302-1, 302-2, 302-3, 302-4
- GRI 303: Water & Effluents 2018 - 303-3, 303-4, 303-5
- GRI 305: Emissions 2016 - 305-1, 305-2, 305-3, 305-4, 305-5
- GRI 306: Waste 2020 – 306-3, 306-4
- GRI 401: Employment 2016 – 401-1, 401-2, 401-3
- GRI 403: Occupational Health and Safety 2018 – 403-1, 403-2, 403-3, 403-4, 403-5, 403-6, 403-7, 403-8, 403-9, 403-10
- GRI 404: Training & Education 2016 – 404-1, 404-2, 404-3
- GRI 405: Diversity and Equal Opportunity 2016 – 405-1, 405-2
- GRI 406: Non-discrimination 2016 – 406-1
- GRI 407: Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining 2016 – 407-1

#### Competency and Independence

The assurance team was composed of Lead auditors experienced in industrial sector, and trained in a range



of sustainability, environmental and social standards including GRI Universal Standard 2021, AA1000, ISO10002, ISO 14001, ISO 45001, ISO 14064, ISO 50001 and ISO 9001, etc. BSI is a leading global standards and assessment body founded in 1901. The assurance is carried out in line with the BSI Fair Trading Code of Practice.

### Assurance Level

The type 1 moderate level of assurance provided is in accordance with AA1000 Assurance standard (AA1000AS v3), in our review as defined by the scope and methodology described in this statement.

### Responsibility

It is the responsibility of NST's senior management to ensure the information presented in the ESG report is accurate. It is also left to the decision of the NST management on the publishing / submission of the report to any of their stakeholders. Our responsibility is to provide an independent assurance opinion statement to stakeholders giving our professional opinion based on the scope and methodology described.

### Quality

The quality of information was checked through cross verification of data. Field level measurement and records were verified with the procurement and supply chain invoices/bills. Interview with the responsible persons detailed the activities, maintenance, and process performance. The fitness of the measuring devices, frequency of measurement and recording, competency of the person concerned, and review & approval of information were checked and found in conformance.

Based on the processes and procedures conducted with a moderate assurance, there is no evidence that the Environment, Social data, and information presented in the Nexus Select Trust ESG Report 2024-25 are not materially correct and are not a fair representation of their Environmental and Social performance.

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For and on behalf of BSI:

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