

Finally, pursuant to Law No. 287 of October 10, 1990, any merger or acquisition of (legal or factual) sole or joint control over a company or any change of control over a company is subject to the prior authorization by the Italian Antitrust Authority<sup>11</sup> if the companies involved exceed given turnover thresholds. If the said merger, acquisition or change of control would create or strengthen a dominant position in the Italian market in a manner that eliminates or significantly reduces competition, the Italian Antitrust Authority can either prohibit the transaction or make it subject to remedies preventing a restriction of competition. Moreover, if the transaction or the companies involved exceed other thresholds set by European or other countries' legislations (e.g. other turnover thresholds or thresholds referred to transaction's value or market shares of the parties), the transaction can also be subject to the prior authorization by competition authorities of other jurisdictions.

#### **Changes in share capital**

Eni's By-laws do not provide for more stringent conditions than are required by law.

Share capital increases are resolved by a shareholders' resolution at an extraordinary Shareholders' Meeting. Under Italian law, shareholders have a pre-emptive right to subscribe newly issued shares and corporate bonds convertible into shares in proportion to their respective shareholdings. If the Company's interest so requires, the pre-emptive right may be waived or limited by the shareholders' resolution authorizing the share capital increase. The shareholders' pre-emptive right is also waived if the shareholders' resolution authorizing the share capital increase provides for the subscription of new issues of shares in the form of contributions in-kind.

#### **Material contracts**

None.

#### **Exchange controls**

Under current Italian exchange control regulations, no limits exist on the amount of payments that Eni may remit to residents of the United States. Laws and regulations concerning foreign exchange controls do require, however, that an accredited intermediary must handle all payments or transfer of funds made by an Italian resident to a non-resident.

#### **Taxation**

*The information set forth below is only a summary; Italian, the United States and other tax laws may change from time to time. Holders of shares and ADRs should consult with their professional advisors as to the tax consequences of their ownership and disposition of the shares and ADRs, including, in particular, the effect of tax laws of any other jurisdiction.*

##### **Italian taxation**

The following is a summary of the material Italian tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of shares or ADRs as at the date hereof and does not purport to be a complete analysis of all potential tax effects relevant to the ownership or disposition of shares or ADRs.

##### **Income tax**

Dividends regarding income of financial year 2019 to be paid in 2020, received by Italian resident individuals, holding the shares or ADRs in connection with entrepreneurial activity, are included in the taxable income subject to personal income tax to the extent of 58.14% of their amount. Personal income tax applies at progressive rates ranging from 23% to 43% plus local surtaxes. Dividends received by Italian resident individuals holding the shares or ADRs otherwise than in connection with entrepreneurial activity, are subject to a substitute tax of 26% withheld at the source by the dividend paying agent. This being the case, the dividend is not to be included in the individual's tax return.

Dividends received by Italian investment funds, foreign open-ended investment funds authorized to market their securities in Italy pursuant to the Law Decree June 6, 1956, No. 476, converted into Law July 25, 1956, No. 786, and società di investimento a capitale variabile ("SICAV") are not subject to

(11) Autorità garante per la concorrenza e il mercato (AGCM-[www.agcm.it](http://www.agcm.it))

substitute tax but are included in the aggregate income of the investment fund or SICAV. The investment fund or SICAV will not be subject to tax on the dividends. A withholding tax of 26% may apply on income of the investment fund or SICAV derived by unitholders or shareholders through distribution and/or upon redemption or disposal of the units and shares.

Dividends received by real estate funds to which the provisions of Law Decree No. 351 of September 25, 2001, as subsequently amended, apply, are not subject to any substitute tax nor to any other income tax in the hands of the fund. The income of the real estate fund is subject to tax, in the hands of the unitholder, depending on status and percentage of participation, or, when earned by the fund, through distribution and/or upon redemption or disposal of the units.

Dividends received by a pension fund (subject to the regime provided for by Article 17 of the Italian Legislative Decree No. 252 of December 5, 2005) and deposited with an authorized intermediary, will not be subject to substitute tax, but must be included in the result of the relevant portfolio accrued at the end of the tax period, to be subject to a 20% substitute tax.

Dividends paid to non-Italian residents are subject to the same substitute tax levied at source by the dividend paying agent at the rate of 26%, provided that the interest is not connected to an Italian permanent establishment.

Dividends are subject to a 1,20% substitute tax introduced by the Financial Bill for 2008 where the conditions in Article 27, paragraph 3-ter, Presidential Decree No. 600 of 1973 are met, i.e. dividends are paid to companies and entities subject to a corporate income tax in a European Union Member State or in the European Economic Area.

The substitute tax may also be reduced under the Tax Treaty in force between Italy and the country of residence of the Beneficial Owner of the dividend. Italy has executed income Tax Treaties with approximately 90 foreign countries, including all EU Member States, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, the United States and some countries in Africa, the Middle East and the Far East. Generally speaking, it should be noted that Tax Treaties are not applicable where the holder is a tax-exempt entity or, with few exceptions, a partnership or a trust.

In order to obtain the Treaty benefit of a reduced substitute tax rate at the same time of payment, the Beneficial Owner must file an application to the dividend paying agent chosen by the Depositary stating the existence of the conditions for the applicability of the Treaty benefit, together with a certification issued by the foreign tax authorities stating that the shareholder is a resident of that country for Treaty purposes.

Under the Tax Treaty between the United States and Italy (the "Italy U.S. Tax Treaty"), dividends derived and beneficially owned by a U.S. resident who holds less than 25% of the Company's shares are subject to an Italian withholding or substitute tax at a reduced rate of 15%, provided that the interest is not effectively connected with a permanent establishment in Italy through which the U.S. resident carries on a business or a fixed establishment in Italy through which such U.S. resident performs independent personal services (for further details please refer to the relevant provisions set forth in the Italy U.S. Tax Treaty). In the absence of such conditions, the dividend paying agent will deduct from the gross amount of the dividend the substitute tax at the statutory rate of 26%. Based on the certification procedure required by the Italian Tax Authorities, to benefit from the direct application of the 15% substitute tax the U.S. shareholder must provide the dividend paying agent with a certificate obtained from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") with respect to each dividend payment. The request for this certificate must include a statement, signed under penalty of perjury, attesting that the shareholder is a U.S. resident individual or corporation, and does not maintain a permanent establishment in Italy, and must set forth other required information. The normal time for processing requests for certification by the IRS is normally about six to eight weeks.

Where the Beneficial Owner has not provided the above mentioned documentation, the dividend paying agent will deduct from the gross amount of the dividend the substitute tax at the statutory rate of 26%. The U.S. recipient will then be entitled to claim from the Italian Tax Authorities the difference (treaty refund) between the domestic rate and the Treaty one by filing specific forms (certificate) with the Italian Tax Authorities.

As reflected in the Deposit Agreement, if any tax or other governmental charge shall become payable by or on behalf of the Custodian or the Depositary with respect to an ADR, any Deposited Securities represented by the American Depositary Shares ("ADSS"), such tax or other governmental charge shall be paid by the Holder hereof to the Depositary. The Depositary may refuse to effect any registration, registration of transfer, split-up or combination hereof or any withdrawal of such Deposited Securities



until such payment is made. The Depositary may also deduct from any distributions on or in respect of Deposited Securities, or may sell by public or private sale for the account of the Holder hereof any part or all of such Deposited Securities (after attempting by reasonable means to notify the Holder hereof prior to such sale), and may apply such deduction or the proceeds of any such sale in payment of such tax or other governmental charge, the Holder hereof remaining liable for any deficiency, and shall reduce the number of ADSs to reflect any such sales of shares. Pursuant to the Deposit Agreement, the Depositary and the Custodian may make and maintain arrangements to enable persons that are considered United States residents for purposes of applicable law to receive any tax rebates (pursuant to an applicable Treaty or otherwise) or other tax related benefits relating to distributions on the ADSs to which such persons are entitled. Notwithstanding any other terms of the Deposit Agreement or the ADR, absent the gross negligence or bad faith of, respectively, the Depositary and the Company, the Depositary and the Company assume no obligation, and shall not be subject to any liability, for the failure of any Holder or Beneficial Owner, or its agent or agents, to receive any tax benefit under applicable law or Tax Treaties. The Depositary shall not be liable for any acts or omissions of any other party in connection with any attempts to obtain any such benefit, and Holders and Beneficial Owners hereby agree that each of them shall be conclusively bound by any deadline established by the Depositary in connection therewith.

#### *Capital gains tax*

This paragraph concerns and applies to capital gains out of the scope of a business activity carried out in Italy.

Profits gained by Italian resident individuals, not in connection with entrepreneurial activity, in financial year 2019, are subject to substitute tax for 26%.

For gains deriving from the sale of non-substantial interest, two different systems may be applied at the option of the shareholder as an alternative to the filing of the tax return:

- the so-called “administered savings” tax regime (risparmio amministrato), based on which intermediaries acting as shares depositaries shall apply a substitute tax (26%) on each gain, on a cash basis. If the sale of shares generated a loss, said loss may be carried forward up to the fourth following year; and
- the so-called “portfolio management” tax regime (risparmio gestito) which is applicable when the shares form part of a portfolio managed by an Italian asset management company. The accrued net profit of the portfolio is subject to a 26% substitute tax to be applied by the portfolio.

Gains realized by non-residents from non-substantial interest in listed companies are deemed not to be realized in Italy and consequently are not subject to the capital gains tax.

On the contrary, gains realized by non-residents from substantial interests even in listed companies are deemed to be realized in Italy and consequently are subject to the capital gains tax.

However, double taxation treaties may eliminate the capital gains tax. Under the income tax convention between the United States and Italy, a U.S. resident will not be subject to the capital gains tax unless the shares or ADRs form part of the business property of a permanent establishment of the holder in Italy or pertain to a fixed establishment available to a shareholder in Italy for the purposes of performing independent personal services. U.S. residents who sell shares may be required to produce appropriate documentation establishing that the above mentioned conditions of non taxability pursuant to the convention have been satisfied.

#### *Financial Transactions Tax*

Italian Law No. 228 of December 24, 2012 has introduced a Financial Transactions Tax which applies to the transfer of shares, ADR and other financial instruments issued by companies resident in Italy. The tax rate applicable is 0.10% for ADR negotiated in regulated markets (like the NYSE).

Non-Italian intermediaries, involved in the transactions of Eni ADR, must withhold and pay the Financial Transactions Tax. For this purpose, non-Italian intermediaries can appoint an Italian Tax Representative, according to the Italian tax law.

#### *Inheritance and gift tax*

Pursuant to Law Decree No. 262 of October 3, 2006, converted with amendments by Law No. 286 of November 24, 2006, effective from November 29, 2006, and Law No. 296 of December 27, 2006, the transfers of any valuable assets (including shares) as a result of death or donation (or other transfers for no consideration) and the creation of liens on such assets for a specific purpose are taxed as follows:

- (a) 4 per cent: if the transfer is made to spouses and direct descendants or ancestors; in this case, the transfer is subject to tax on the value exceeding €1,000,000 (per beneficiary);



- (b) 6 per cent: if the transfer is made to brothers and sisters; in this case, the transfer is subject to the tax on the value exceeding €100,000 (per beneficiary);
- (c) 6 per cent: if the transfer is made to relatives up to the fourth degree, to persons related by direct affinity, as well as to persons related by collateral affinity up to the third degree; and
- (d) 8 per cent: in all other cases.

If the transfer is made in favor of persons with severe disabilities, the tax applies on the value exceeding €1,500,000. Moreover, an anti-avoidance rule is provided for by Law No. 383 of October 18, 2001 for any gift of assets (including shares) which, if sold for consideration, would give rise to capital gains subject to a substitute tax (*imposta sostitutiva*) provided for by Decree No. 461 of November 21, 1997. In particular, if the donee sells the shares for consideration within five years from the receipt thereof as a gift, the donee is required to pay a relevant substitute tax on capital gains as if the gift had never taken place.

#### **United States taxation**

The following is a summary of certain U.S. federal income tax consequences to U.S. Holders (as defined below) of the ownership and disposition of Shares or ADSs. This summary is addressed to U.S. Holders that hold Shares or ADSs as capital assets, and does not discuss all material tax consequences of the ownership of Shares or ADSs, including tax consequences arising under the Medicare contribution tax on net investment income. The summary does not address special classes of investors, such as tax-exempt entities, dealers in securities, traders in securities that elect to mark-to-market, certain insurance companies, broker-dealers, investors liable for alternative minimum tax, investors that actually or constructively own 10% or more of the combined voting power of Eni SpA's voting stock or of the total value of Eni SpA's stock, a person that purchases or sells Shares or ADSs as part of a wash sale for U.S. federal income tax purposes, investors that hold Shares or ADSs as part of a straddle or a hedging or conversion transaction and investors whose "functional currency" is not the U.S. dollar.

This summary is based on the tax laws of the United States (including the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, (the "Code"), its legislative history, existing and proposed regulations thereunder, published rulings and court decisions) as in effect on the date hereof, and which are subject to change (or changes in interpretation), possibly with retroactive effect. The summary is based in part on representations of the Depositary and assumes that each obligation in the Deposit Agreement and any related agreement will be performed in accordance with its terms. U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors to determine the U.S. federal, state and local and foreign tax consequences to them of the ownership and disposition of Shares or ADSs.

If an entity or arrangement that is treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds the Shares or ADSs, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and the tax treatment of the partnership. A partner in a partnership holding the Shares or ADSs should consult its tax advisor with regard to the U.S. federal income tax treatment of an investment in the Shares or ADSs.

As used in this section, the term "U.S. Holder" means a beneficial owner of Shares or ADSs that is: (i) a citizen or resident of the United States; (ii) a domestic corporation; (iii) an estate the income of which is subject to the U.S. federal income tax without regard to its source; or (iv) a trust if a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust.

The discussion does not address any aspects of U.S. taxation other than U.S. federal income taxation. In particular, U.S. Holders are urged to confirm their eligibility for benefits under the Italy U.S. Tax Treaty with their advisors and to discuss with their advisors any possible consequences of their failure to qualify for such benefits. In general, and taking into account the earlier assumptions, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, U.S. Holders who own ADRs evidencing ADSs will be treated as owners of the underlying Shares. Exchanges of Shares for ADRs and ADRs for Shares generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax.

#### **Distributions**

Subject to the passive foreign investment company ("PFIC") rules discussed below, distributions paid on the shares will generally be treated as dividends for U.S. federal income tax purposes to the extent paid out of Eni SpA's current or accumulated earnings and profits as determined for U.S. federal income tax purposes, but will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction generally allowed to U.S. corporations. To the extent that a distribution exceeds Eni SpA's earnings and profits, it will be treated, first, as a non-taxable return of capital to the extent of the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the Shares or ADSs, and thereafter as capital gain. A U.S. Holder will be subject to U.S. federal taxation, on the date of actual

or constructive receipt by the U.S. Holder (in the case of Shares) or by the Depositary (in the case of ADSs) with respect to the gross amount of any dividends, including any Italian tax withheld therefrom, without regard to whether any portion of such tax may be refunded to the U.S. Holder by the Italian Tax Authorities.

For non-corporate U.S. Holders, dividends that constitute qualified dividend income will be taxable at the preferential rates applicable to long-term capital gains provided that such person holds the Shares or ADSs for more than 60 days during the 121 day period beginning 60 days before the ex-dividend date and meet other holding period requirements. Dividends paid by Eni SpA that are received with respect to the ADSs will generally be qualified dividend income if the ADSs are readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States. Eni SpA's ADSs are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and Eni SpA therefore expects that dividends with respect to the ADSs will be qualified dividend income. Dividends paid by Eni SpA with respect to the Shares will generally be qualified dividend income provided that, in the year that you receive the dividend, Eni SpA is eligible for the benefits of the Italy U.S. Tax Treaty. Eni SpA believes that it is currently eligible for the benefits of the Italy U.S. Tax Treaty and Eni SpA therefore expects that dividends on the Shares and ADSs will be qualified dividend income, but there can be no assurance that Eni SpA will continue to be eligible for the benefits of the Italy U.S. Tax Treaty.

The amount of the dividend distribution that must be included in the income of a U.S. Holder will be the U.S. dollar value of the euro payments made, determined at the spot EUR/USD rate on the date the dividend distribution is includible in such person's income, regardless of whether the payment is in fact converted into U.S. dollars. Generally, any gain or loss resulting from currency exchange fluctuations during the period from the date the U.S. Holder includes the dividend payment in income to the date he or she converts the payment into U.S. dollars will be treated as ordinary income or loss and will not be eligible for the special tax rate applicable to qualified dividend income. The gain or loss generally will be income or loss from sources within the United States for foreign tax credit limitation purposes.

Subject to certain conditions and limitations, Italian tax withheld from dividends will be treated as a foreign income tax eligible for credit against the U.S. Holder's U.S. federal income tax liability. Special rules apply in determining the foreign tax credit limitation with respect to dividends that are subject to the preferential rates. To the extent a reduction or refund of the tax withheld is available to a U.S. Holder under Italian law or under the income tax convention between the United States and Italy, the amount of tax withheld that could have been reduced or that is refundable will not be eligible for credit against his or her U.S. federal income tax liability. See "Italian taxation-Income tax" above, for the procedures for obtaining a tax refund. For foreign tax credit purposes, dividends paid on the ADSs or Shares will generally be income from sources outside the United States and will, generally be "passive" income for purposes of computing the foreign tax credit allowable to you. However, if (a) Eni SpA is 50% or more owned, by vote or value, by United States persons and (b) at least 10% of Eni SpA's earnings and profits are attributable to sources within the United States, then for foreign tax credit purposes, a portion of Eni SpA's dividends would be treated as derived from sources within the United States. With respect to any dividend paid for any taxable year, the United States source ratio of Eni SpA's dividends for foreign tax credit purposes would be equal to the portion of Eni SpA's earnings and profits from sources within the United States for such taxable year, divided by the total amount of our earnings and profits for such taxable year. Eni SpA does not expect to be 50% or more owned, by vote or value, by United States persons, and therefore does not expect that any portion of Eni SpA's dividends will be treated as derived from sources within the United States.

#### *Sale or exchange of Shares*

Subject to the PFIC rules discussed below, a U.S. Holder generally will recognize gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes on the sale or exchange of Shares or ADSs equal to the difference between the U.S. Holder's adjusted basis in the Shares or ADSs (determined in U.S. dollars), as the case may be, and the amount realized on the sale or exchange (or if the amount realized is denominated in a foreign currency its U.S. dollar equivalent). The amount realized will generally be reduced by any Italian Financial Transaction Tax paid in respect of such transfer, and a U.S. Holder will not be entitled to claim a foreign tax credit in respect of the payment of the Italian Financial Transaction Tax. Generally, such gain or loss will be treated as capital gain or loss if the Shares or ADSs are held as capital assets and will be a long-term capital gain or loss if the Shares or ADSs have been held for more than one year on the date of such sale or exchange. Long-term capital gain of a non corporate U.S. Holder is generally taxed at preferential rates. In addition, any such gain or loss realized by a U.S. Holder generally will be treated as U.S. source income or loss for U.S. foreign tax credit purposes.





*PFIC rules*

Eni SpA believes that Shares and ADSs should not currently be treated as stock of a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes and Eni SpA does not expect to become a PFIC in the foreseeable future. However, this conclusion is a factual determination that is made annually and thus may be subject to change. If Eni SpA were to be treated as a PFIC, gain realized on the sale or other disposition of your Shares or ADSs would in general not be treated as capital gain. Instead, unless a U.S. Holder elects to be taxed annually on a mark-to-market basis with respect to the Shares or ADSs, the U.S. Holder would be treated as having realized such gains and certain "excess distributions" ratably over the holding period for the Shares or ADSs and would be taxed at the highest tax rate in effect for each such year to which the gain or distribution was allocated, together with an interest charge in respect of the tax attributable to each such year. With certain exceptions, a U.S. Holder's Shares or ADSs will be treated as stock in a PFIC if Eni SpA were a PFIC at any time during the period the Shares or ADSs were held. Dividends received from Eni SpA will not be eligible for the preferential tax rates applicable to qualified dividend income if Eni SpA is treated as a PFIC with respect to the U.S. Holders either in the taxable year of the distribution or the preceding taxable year, but instead will be taxable at rates applicable to ordinary income.

**Documents on display**

Eni's Annual Report and Accounts and any other document concerning the Company are also available online on the Company website at: <https://www.eni.com/en-IT/publications.html>.

The Company is subject to the information requirements of the U.S. Security Exchange Act of 1934 applicable to foreign private issuers.

In accordance with these requirements, Eni files its Annual Report on Form 20-F and other related documents with the U.S. SEC. It's possible to read and copy documents that have been filed with the U.S. via commercial document retrieval services, and from the SEC website ([www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov)).