Vontobel recognizes the right of democratic states to use armed force to defend themselves in order to safeguard national security. There are, however, a number of weapons that cause a large number of civilian casualties and remain a threat years after a conflict is over. These weapons serve neither to secure peace nor to promote the sustainable development of the international community. Their production, use and supply have been banned by international conventions. This document provides guidance on how Vontobel deals with this issue.

1 Weapons classified as controversial
Vontobel classifies cluster bombs and anti-personnel mines as controversial. The precise definitions of the banned weapons are given in international conventions regarding cluster bombs (Convention on Cluster Munitions) and anti-personnel mines (Ottawa Treaty).

2 Prohibition on financing and investment
Companies which produce weapons classified as controversial (see 1) will not be financed by Vontobel nor will it invest in manufacturers of such weapons within the framework of actively managed assets. In addition, Vontobel will not provide any investment advice on the securities of these companies to clients. The prohibition does not apply to investments in these securities carried out at the express request of the client.

Zurich, December 2011