

## BEFORE THE COMPETITION COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN

## FIRST PHASE REVIEW

IN THE MATTER OF JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN M/S. JOHNSON NETHERLANDS COOPERATIEF UA II, M/S. IGI INVESTMENTS (PRIVATE) LIMITED AND M/S. S. C. JOHNSON & SON OF PAKISTAN (PRIVATE) LIMITED

CASE: 1039/Merger-CCP/19

Commission

Ms. Vadiyya S. Khalil *Chairperson* 





## **ORDER**

- 1. On 30th May 2019 the Competition Commission of Pakistan ("Commission") received a pre-merger application ("Application") of a proposed joint venture pursuant to Section 11 of the Competition Act, 2010 ("Act") read with Regulation 6 of the Competition (Merger Control) Regulations, 2016 ("Merger Regulations") where M/s. IGI Investments (Private) Limited ("JV Party 1" or "Applicant"), M/s. Johnson Netherlands Cooperatief UA II ("JV Party 2") and M/s. S. C. Johnson & Son of Pakistan (Private) Limited ("JV Party 3") have entered into a Joint Venture Agreement "JVA". All the requisite information/documentation pertaining to the application was completed by the applicant on 28th June 2019.
- 2. The Commission has examined the Application as well as all the documents attached therewith, the market scenario, and its observations on the basis of independent research/investigation in the relevant market. The Phase I competition assessment of the intended acquisition has resulted in the following findings:
  - i. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
    - a. For JV Party 1: Investing, acquiring, selling and holding of equity/debt securities.
    - b. For JV Party 2: Holding company of JV Party 3.
    - c. For JV Party 3: Import, distribution and manufacture of cleaning, skin-care, insecticide and household products in Pakistan.
  - ii. The proposed transaction is a joint venture between JV Party 1, JV Party 2 and JV Party 3 through which JV Party 1 will subscribe to newly issued ordinary shares of JV Party 3 % of its then paid-up capital. Upon completion of the transaction, JV Party 1 and JV Party 2 will jointly control JV Party 3 according to the terms of the JVA. Currently, only JV Party 3 is engaged in the relevant product markets of "Import, distribution and manufacture of home cleaning / household products and insecticides" having a geographic market identified as of "Pakistan". Presently, no overlaps exist between the merger parties in Pakistan.
  - With regards to the market for "Home cleaning / household products", JV Party 3 has iii. market share while it has % market share in "Insecticides" market. Post-transaction the market position of JV Party 3 in the relevant product markets is unlikely to change.
  - iv. The transaction is not likely to result in the creation or strengthening of a dominant position in the relevant market. The intended merger does not meet the presumption of dominance as determined under Section (2) (1) (e) read with Section 3 of the Competition Act 2010 ("Act").
- 3. The applicant is also hereby instructed to submit an Exemption Application to obtain an exemption under Section 5 of the Competition Act, 2010 read with Regulation 4 of the Competition (Exemption) Regulations, 2014.
- 4. In conclusion, the proposed transaction is not likely to substantially lessen competition through the creation or strengthening of a dominant position in the relevant market. The proposed transaction is hereby authorized under Section 31 (1) (d) (i) of the Act.
- 5. It is so ordered.

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(Ms. Bushra Naz Malik) Member