

## **Proposed phase-II merger between PTCL, Telenor under CCP study**

ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) is currently conducting an in-depth Phase-II Merger analysis in response to the proposed merger between Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) and Telenor Pakistan (Private) Limited (Telenor).

CCP is providing key stakeholders an opportunity to present their concerns of potential impact of the merger on Pakistan's telecom market.

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One of the primary concerns raised is the potential reduction in the number of cellular mobile operators in Pakistan from four to three, which could alter the competition landscape. Moreover, concerns were also voiced regarding the possible 'disproportionate' share of capacity and spectrum that could harm the competitor's business. The Commission, presently, is analysing Retail LDI Fixed-line Telecommunication Market, Retail Mobile Telecommunication Market, Wholesale Domestic Leased Lines, Wholesale IP Bandwidth and Individual Mobile/Fixed Interconnect Market to safeguard competition concerns.

CCP is closely examining these issues, particularly the market share dynamics of Pakistan's mobile network capacity and the risk of creating 'capacity asymmetry' in the relevant market.

PTCL filed pre-merger application on 6th March 2024. CCP had 30 days to review the application and issue a Phase I order, according to its law. Phase 1 order was announced on 3rd May 2024 within the timescale specified in the competition law. Phase-I order analyzed that there may be some potential

impact on competition in telecom sector therefore, pre-merger application will be considered in Phase II review. CCP has 90 working days to complete this detailed review and issue its order.

Read more: <https://www.brecorder.com/news/40318497/proposed-phase-ii-merger-between-ptcl-telenor-under-ccp-study>



## CCP engages all stakeholders in proposed PTCL-Telenor merger

ISLAMABAD - The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) is currently conducting an in-depth Phase II Merger analysis in response to the proposed merger between Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) and Telenor Pakistan (Private) Limited (Telenor). CCP is providing key stakeholders an opportunity to present their concerns of potential impact of the merger on Pakistan's telecom market.

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Read More: <https://www.nation.com.pk/21-Aug-2024/ccp-engages-all-stakeholders-in-proposed-ptcl-telenor-merger>

## **CCP flags concerns over PTCL-Telenor merger**

ISLAMABAD:

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) stated on Monday that telecommunications mergers could diminish consumer options, citing the acquisition of Telenor Pakistan (Private) Limited (TP) by Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL).

The regulator revealed that a preliminary investigation by the CCP has indicated that the proposed acquisition of Telenor Pakistan and Orion Towers Private Limited (OT) by PTCL could result in a significant decrease in competition within the telecommunications sector.

PTCL, a publicly listed company, specialises in various telecommunication services, including cellular mobile telephony, Wireless Local Loop service, Direct-to-Home television service, and financial services across Pakistan.

Telenor Pakistan and OT, both wholly-owned subsidiaries of M/s Telenor Pakistan BV, provide cellular mobile and allied services across Pakistan.

PTCL, founded in 1995, has already been identified as a Significant Market Power Operator in Wholesale Domestic Leased Lines, Wholesale IP Bandwidth, and Retail LDI Fixed-Line Telecommunication market by the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA). Given existing overlaps, the CCP concluded that if the acquisition proceeds, competition could diminish, leading to fewer choices and options, particularly in markets with few competitors, potentially resulting in adverse outcomes for customers.

The acquisition of M/s Warid Telecom (Private) Limited by M/s Pakistan Mobile Telecommunications Limited in 2016 already reduced the number of network operators. With the proposed merger, one of the remaining four players would be eliminated from the industry. The CCP is concerned that this reduction in competition may lead to higher prices or diminished choice or quality for customers, prompting the decision to refer the transaction for an in-depth Phase 2 analysis.

Read more: <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2465464/ccp-flags-concerns-over-ptcl-telenor-merger>

# Profit

By Pakistan Today

## CCP engages all stakeholders and regulators in PTCL-Telenor merger

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) is currently conducting an in-depth phase-II merger analysis in response to the proposed merger between Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) and Telenor Pakistan (Private) Limited (Telenor).

According to a press release issued here, the CCP is providing key stakeholders with an opportunity to present their concerns about the potential impact of the merger on Pakistan's telecom market.

"CCP is evaluating the potential benefits of the merger, including cost efficiencies and economies of scale that could enhance financial stability. The analysis will further consider whether the merger could lead to an expansion of network coverage, an increase in capacity, and an improvement in the quality of service for consumers," read the press statement.

One of the primary concerns raised is the potential reduction in the number of cellular mobile operators in Pakistan from four to three, which could alter the competition landscape, it added further.

Moreover, concerns were also voiced regarding the possible 'disproportionate' share of capacity and spectrum that could harm the competitor's business.

The Commission, presently, is analysing the Retail LDI Fixed-line Telecommunication Market, Retail Mobile Telecommunication Market, Wholesale Domestic Leased Lines, Wholesale IP Bandwidth and Individual Mobile/Fixed Interconnect Market to safeguard competition concerns.

CCP is closely examining these issues, particularly the market share dynamics of Pakistan's mobile network capacity and the risk of creating 'capacity asymmetry' in the relevant market.

PTCL filed a pre-merger application on 6th March 2024. CCP had 30 days to review the application and issue a Phase I order, according to its law. Phase 1 order was announced on May 03, 2024, within the timescale specified in the competition law.

Phase-I order analyzed that there may be some potential impact on competition in the telecom sector therefore, the pre-merger application will be considered in Phase II review. CCP has 90 working days to complete this detailed review and issue its order.

Read more: <https://profit.pakistantoday.com.pk/2024/08/21/ccp-engages-all-stakeholders-and-regulators-in-ptcl-telenor-merger/>



## CCP engages regulators, stakeholders for PTCL-Telenor merger

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Read more: <https://pakobserver.net/ccp-engages-regulators-stakeholders-for-ptcl-telenor-merger/>



## **CCP engages all stakeholders, regulators in PTCL-Telenor merger**

ISLAMABAD, Aug 20 (APP): The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) is currently conducting an in-depth Phase II Merger analysis in response to the proposed merger between Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) and Telenor Pakistan (Private) Limited (Telenor).

CCP is providing key stakeholders an opportunity to present their concerns of potential impact of the merger on Pakistan's telecom market, said a press release issued here on Tuesday.

CCP is evaluating the potential benefits of the merger, including cost efficiencies and economies of scale that could enhance financial stability. The analysis will further consider whether the merger

could lead to an expansion of network coverage, an increase in capacity, and an improvement in the quality of service for consumers.

One of the primary concerns raised is the potential reduction in the number of cellular mobile operators in Pakistan from four to three, which could alter the competition landscape. Moreover, concerns were also voiced regarding the possible 'disproportionate' share of capacity and spectrum that could harm the competitor's business. The Commission, presently, is analysing Retail LDI Fixed-line Telecommunication Market, Retail Mobile Telecommunication Market, Wholesale Domestic Leased Lines, Wholesale IP Bandwidth and Individual Mobile/Fixed Interconnect Market to safeguard competition concerns.

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Read more: <https://www.app.com.pk/business/ccp-engages-all-stakeholders-regulators-in-ptcl-telenor-merger/>



## **CCP Engages All Stakeholders in Proposed PTCL-Telenor Merger as Decision Nears**

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) is currently conducting an in-depth Phase II Merger analysis in response to the proposed merger between Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) and Telenor Pakistan (Private) Limited (Telenor).

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Phase-I order analyzed that there may be some potential impact on competition in telecom sector therefore, pre-merger application will be considered in Phase II review. CCP has 90 working days to complete this detailed review and issue its order.

Read more: <https://propakistani.pk/2024/08/20/ccp-engages-all-stakeholders-in-proposed-ptcl-telenor-merger-as-decision-nears/>



## **CCP engages all stakeholders, regulators in PTCL-Telenor merger**

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) is currently conducting an in-depth Phase II Merger analysis in response to the proposed merger between Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) and Telenor Pakistan (Private) Limited (Telenor), according to the press release issued today.

CCP is providing key stakeholders with an opportunity to present their concerns of the potential impact of the merger on Pakistan's telecom market, it added.



"CCP is evaluating the potential benefits of the merger, including cost efficiencies and economies of scale that could enhance financial stability," the press statement reads.

The analysis will further consider whether the merger could lead to an expansion of network coverage, an increase in capacity, and an improvement in the quality of service for consumers.

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CCP has 90 working days to complete this detailed review and issue its order.

Read more: <https://mettisglobal.news/ccp-engages-all-stakeholders-regulators-in-ptcl-telenor-merger/>

**PK.Revenue**

## **CCP Moves to Phase II Analysis in PTCL-Telenor Merger**

Islamabad, August 20, 2024 – The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has initiated a Phase II Merger analysis in response to the proposed merger between Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) and Telenor Pakistan (Private) Limited.

This in-depth review seeks to evaluate the merger's potential impact on Pakistan's telecom market, ensuring that competition remains fair and consumers' interests are protected.

According to a press release issued on Tuesday, the CCP is offering key stakeholders an opportunity to present their concerns regarding the merger. The Commission's primary focus is on assessing the potential benefits and drawbacks of this merger, particularly its effects on market competition, network coverage, and service quality.

#### Potential Benefits of the Merger

The CCP's analysis is considering the potential advantages of the merger, including the creation of cost efficiencies and economies of scale that could strengthen the financial stability of the merged entity. These efficiencies could lead to an expansion of network coverage, an increase in capacity, and improvements in service quality for consumers. By combining resources, PTCL and Telenor may be able to offer enhanced services, which could be particularly beneficial in underserved areas of Pakistan.

However, while these benefits are significant, the CCP must carefully weigh them against the possible negative consequences of reducing the number of major players in the telecom market.

#### Concerns Over Market Competition

One of the main concerns highlighted by stakeholders is the potential reduction in the number of cellular mobile operators from four to three. This consolidation could significantly alter the competitive landscape, potentially reducing consumer choice and leading to higher prices. Stakeholders have also raised concerns about the possible "disproportionate" share of capacity and spectrum that the merged entity might hold, which could disadvantage smaller competitors.

The CCP is meticulously analyzing various segments of the telecom market, including the Retail Long-Distance and International (LDI) Fixed-line Telecommunication Market, Retail Mobile

Telecommunication Market, Wholesale Domestic Leased Lines, Wholesale IP Bandwidth, and the Individual Mobile/Fixed Interconnect Market. The goal is to ensure that the merger does not create an imbalance in market power or stifle competition.

### Risks of Capacity Asymmetry

A key focus of the CCP's investigation is the potential for "capacity asymmetry" in the relevant market. This refers to the risk that the merged entity could dominate Pakistan's mobile network capacity, leaving competitors with insufficient resources to compete effectively. Such an imbalance could lead to reduced innovation and a decline in service quality, ultimately harming consumers.

### Timeline and Regulatory Review

PTCL filed the pre-merger application on March 6, 2024, and the CCP had 30 days to conduct a preliminary review and issue a Phase I order. On May 3, 2024, the CCP issued the Phase I order, which identified potential competition concerns in the telecom sector, prompting the need for a more detailed Phase II review.

The CCP now has 90 working days to complete this comprehensive analysis and issue a final order. During this period, the Commission will continue to engage with stakeholders and scrutinize every aspect of the merger to ensure that the telecom market remains competitive and that consumers are not adversely affected.

### Conclusion

The CCP's ongoing Phase II Merger analysis of the PTCL-Telenor merger is a critical step in safeguarding competition in Pakistan's telecom market. While the merger could bring significant benefits, the Commission's careful review will ensure that these advantages do not come at the expense of market competition or consumer welfare. As the CCP moves forward with its analysis, the outcome of this merger will likely set a precedent for future consolidations in the telecom sector.

Read more: <https://pkrevenue.com/ccp-moves-to-phase-ii-analysis-in-ptcl-telenor-merger/>



## **CCP Engages Stakeholders as PTCL-Telenor Merger Decision Approaches**

Islamabad, Aug 20: The planned merger of Telenor Pakistan (Private) Limited (Telenor) and Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) is being investigated by the Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) through an extensive Phase II Merger examination.

Important stakeholders have a chance to voice their concerns to CCP on the merger's possible effects on Pakistan's telecom industry. The possible advantages of the merger, including as cost savings and scale economies that can improve financial stability, are being assessed by CCP. The investigation will also look at whether the combination could result in more capacity, a wider network coverage area, and better customer service quality.

The possible drop from four to three cellular mobile operators in Pakistan is one of the main issues brought up, as this could change the competitive environment. Concerns were also raised about a potential "disproportionate" allocation of spectrum and capacity that would hurt the competitor's operations.

To protect competition concerns, the Commission is now examining the following markets: retail LDI fixed-line telecommunication; retail mobile telecommunication; wholesale domestic leased lines; wholesale IP bandwidth; and individual mobile/fixed-interconnect market. CCP is actively monitoring these concerns, especially the possibility of establishing "capacity asymmetry" in the relevant market and the market share patterns of Pakistan's mobile network capacity.

Pre-merger applications were submitted by PTCL on March 6, 2024. By statute, CCP had thirty days to examine the application and issue a Phase I order. Phase 1 order was announced on May 3, 2024, according to the competition law's timeline.

Pre-merger applications will be taken into consideration in Phase II review as a result of Phase-I order analysis suggesting that there may be a possible impact on competition in the telecom sector. CCP has ninety (90) working days to finish this thorough study and issue its directive.

Read more: <https://www.bloompakistan.com/ccp-engages-stakeholders-as-ptcl-telenor-merger-decision-approaches/>



## CCP Engages All Stakeholders & Regulators in PTCL-Telenor Merger

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CCP is providing key stakeholders an opportunity to present their concerns of potential impact of the merger on Pakistan's telecom market. PTCL Secures \$400M Financing to Acquire Telenor Pakistan

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Read more: <https://newztodays.com/ccp-engages-all-stakeholders-regulators-in-ptcl-tel/>

# Independent

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CCP is evaluating the potential benefits of the merger, including cost efficiencies and economies of scale that could enhance financial stability.



## سی سی پی کی پی ٹی سی ایل، ٹیلی نار مرجر پر تمام سٹیک ہولڈرز سے مشاورت

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ خصوصی) کمپنیشن کمیشن آف  
پاکستان (سی سی پی) نے 6 صفحہ پر بقیہ نمبر 32

بقیہ نمبر 32	مشاورت
<p>پاکستان ٹیلی کمیونیکیشن کمپنیشن (پی ٹی سی ایل) اور ٹیلی نار پاکستان (پرائیویٹ) لمیٹڈ کے مجوزہ انضمام (مرجر) کی درخواست کے جائزے کا دوسرا مرحلہ شروع کرتے ہوئے تمام متعلقہ سٹیک ہولڈروں اور دیگر ریگولیٹرز کے ساتھ جامع مشاورت کا آغاز کر دیا ہے۔ اس مشاورت کا مقصد کمپنیوں کے اس مرجر پر پاکستان کی ٹیلی کام مارکیٹ کے اہم اسٹیک ہولڈرز سے انضمام کے ممکنہ اثرات اور خدمات پیش کرنے کا موقع فراہم کرنا ہے۔</p> <p>سی سی پی اس مرجر کے ممکنہ فوائد کا بھی جائزہ لے رہا ہے، جیسے کہ روایتی لاکٹ کی کمی کا صارفین کو متوقع فائدہ یا نئی کے مابقی استحکام سے مجموعی طور پر مارکیٹ میں استحکام۔ مرجر کے چھوٹے میں جائزہ لیا جا رہا ہے کہ آیا یہ انضمام نیٹ ورک کوریج کی توسیع، صلاحیت میں اضافے اور صارفین کے لیے خدمات کے معیار میں بہتری کا باعث بن سکتا ہے۔ شراکت داروں کے ساتھ مشاورت کے دوران انضمام کے بنیادی خدمات میں سے ایک اہم نقطہ یہ ہے کہ اس مرجر سے پاکستان میں سیلولر موبائل آپریٹرز کی تعداد چار سے کم ہو کر تین ہونے کا امکان ہے، جس سے ٹیلی کام سیکٹر میں مقابلے کے فضا متاثر ہوگی۔</p>	

