

# Report of 18th Competition Consultative Group meeting (CCG)

Pearl Continental Lahore

6/28/2013



**COMPETITION COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN**

*Creating Level Playing Field*

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## ***INTRODUCTION:***

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) strives to create a level playing field for all economic undertakings by promoting a healthy competition, enhancing economic efficiency by ensuring the optimal use of resources and protecting consumers from anti-competitive practices. The Commission established an informal think tank, the Competition Consultative Group (CCG) in 2008, to solicit feedback and guidance on competition related matters from representatives of sector specific regulators, relevant professional bodies, business associations and the private sector. The CCG meeting is held quarterly in different cities for wider interaction with the stakeholders and so far eighteen meetings of CCG have been held since its establishment.

## ***THE 18<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF COMPETITION CONSULTATIVE GROUP (CCG):***

The 18<sup>th</sup> Competition Consultative Group (CCG) meeting was held in Pearl Continental Lahore. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Joseph Wilson and joined by the members of the Commission.



## *UNDER THE SPOT LIGHT:*

The distinguished guests were eluded about the recent initiative and actions taken by Competition Commission of Pakistan. The main purpose of the meeting was to highlight the remarkable achievements such as:

- Rating enforcement of Global Competition Review (GCR) 2013.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference, 29-30 May 2013.
- Workshop on Competition Regime for Afghan Officials.
- Recent Enforcement Actions.

## *THE PARTICIPANTS:*

The delegates of the meeting included representatives of various Public and Private Sector Organizations. The level of participation indicates the incessant penetration of CCP into the national economy. The distinguished participants include:

1. Mr. Shaukat Zaman, State Bank of Pakistan,
2. Mr. Tariq Feroz, Intellectual Property Organization,
3. Mr. M Anwar Aziz, Pakistan Engineering Council,
4. Mr. Yasir Qurban, Engineering Development Board,
5. Mr. Haroon Adeel, Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan,



6. Mr. Arif M.Mirza, ACCA Pakistan,
7. Mr. Moin Siddique, Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry,
8. Mr. Aqeel Nasir, United Bank Limited,
9. Mr. Haroon Paracha, Saudi Pak Leasing,
10. Mr. Ashraf Bawany, Linde Pakistan Limited,
11. Mr. Badia Raza, ICAP
12. Mr. Ali Agha, ICI Pakistan Limited,
13. Mr. M. Sajid, JS Private Equity,
14. Mr. Mohammad Junaid, Earnst and Young,
15. Mr. Moez ur Rehman, Daud Hercules Pakistan Limited, and
16. Mr. Mansoor Ahmed, The News.

### ***THE CCP TEAM:***

The meeting was chaired by CCP senior member Dr Joseph Wilson, and also attended by:

- Mueen Batlay, CCP Member,
- Ikram ul Haque Qureshi, CCP Director General/Registrar,
- Asfandyar Khattak, Director Advocacy.



## ***1: RATING ENFORCEMENT OF GLOBAL COMPETITION***

### ***REVIEW (GCR):***

Dr. Joseph Wilson alluded that CCP has recently been awarded fair rating with '***arrow up***' by the ***Global Competition Review (GCR)***, a London-based leading anti trust journal, in its latest annual survey of the world's leading competition authorities. The rating is stated by GCR itself to be a performance indicator recognizing that

'An agency is considered to make excellent use of its resources and has surpassed its previous accomplishments'.

Dr Wilson quoted GCR as stating that CCP keeps moving from strength to strength. He said that GCR in its survey has lauded the dedication of CCP's enforcement staff, termed the orders of CCP as "well reasoned and informed", appreciated the leniency decision of CCP, and accredited CCP's continued success to its Chairperson Rahat Kaunain Hassan, "who has worked hard to-improve the core competencies of the authority and guard its precious independence."

## ***2: THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:***

The main aim of the conference was to share country experience and best practices in addressing common challenges in the implementations of competition law in young competition regimes. It also includes the promotion of networking among the participating competition experts on competition laws and policy. In a nutshell, on one hand, it helps in the rattling of awareness regarding competition principles among the stakeholders, while on the other hand, the fostering of closer cooperation among participating agencies.

Dr. Wilson briefed the participants of the meeting on the '3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference of CCP held on May 29-30, 2013 in Islamabad. The conference was attended by 22 competition laws experts and senior officials of various competition agencies from:

- America,
- Canada,
- Brazil,
- Mexico,
- South Africa,
- Kenya,
- France,
- Turkey
- Sri Lanka and
- Portugal.

*Local participants:* of the conference included:

- Chief executive officers of various multinational and local companies in Pakistan,
- Representatives of the business associations,
- Bar councils,
- Academia,
- Media and
- The government.

### ***TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:***

The meeting was told that the conference discussed various key issues in the areas like:

- Public procurement,
- The linkage between competition and Trade and investment,
- cartels and the significance of leniency and reward programs, and
- Competition advocacy.
- Deceptive Marketing hampering fair trade.
- Sent of a Cartel.
- Distorting Competition: Policy Directives and Executive Orders.

Dr. Wilson informed the meeting that a workshop for CCP's enforcement staff was held on May 30 at CCP headquarters in which the international experts shared their knowledge with CCP team.



### ***3: TRAINING OF AFGHAN OFFICIALS:***

The CCG members were also briefed that CCP recently trained officials of the government of Afghanistan, on competition law in a consultative experience sharing programme organized by the US Department of Commerce, through its Commercial Law Development Programme, in partnership with the US Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and CCP. Besides, the officials of Officer of Fair Trade, UK, and Turkish Competition Authority recently visited CCP to train the enforcement of CCP.

### ***4: THE ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS:***

The participants of the meeting were also introduced to the enforcement orders issued pertinent to the Commission during the last three months. These orders were issued in the matters of

- International Clearing House (ICH),
- Abuse of Dominance by urea manufacturers, and
- Unaccredited engineering courses offered by universities.

Mr. Mueen Batlay and Mr. Ikram ul Haque Qureshi briefed the meeting on the background of the orders passed by the commission.

### *AN OPEN DISCUSSION:*

During the question and answer session, the participants of the meetings took active part in discussing various issues concerning competition. They asked several questions and get clarification about the orders of ICH and Urea Fertilizer. All of them were satisfactorily answered by the CCP Officials. Along with them some fruitful suggestions were also given by the participants. The CCG meeting participants lauded the performance of CCP and solicit the business community and the government to extend full support to CCP. They appreciated the forthcoming approach of CCP and suggested creating a channel of communication between CCP and the business community that will help bring competition issues in the knowledge of CCP. The participants also stressed the need for early disposal of pending cases of CCP in various courts to pass on the benefits to consumers and the business community.



## *MEDIA COVERAGE:*

Various renowned newspapers have covered the event. They include:

- The Nation,
- Daily Times,
- Business Recorder,
- Pakistan Observer,
- Pakistan Today and
- Jahan Pakistan.

## *PRESS*

## *CLIPPINGS:*

## 18th meeting of Competition Consultative Group held

### Staff Report

**ISLAMABAD:** The 18th meeting of Competition Consultative Group (CCG), an informal think tank set up by the Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) to solicit feedback and suggestions on competition related matters from the business community, legal community, academia, media, regulatory bodies and the government, was held in Lahore.

The meeting was chaired by CCP senior member Dr Joseph Wilson, and also attended by CCP Member Mueen Batlay, and CCP Director General/Registrar Ikram ul Haque Qureshi. The participants of the meeting included representatives of State Bank of Pakistan, Intellectual Property Organisation, Pakistan Engineering Council, Engineering Development Board, Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP), ACCA Pakistan, Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry, United Bank Limited, Saudi Pak Leasing, Linde Pakistan Limited, ICI Pakistan Limited, JS Private Equity, Ernst and Young, Daud Hercules Pakistan Limited, and daily The News.

Dr Wilson briefed the participants of the meeting on vari-

ous initiatives, actions, and achievements of CCP. He informed that CCP has recently been awarded fair rating with 'arrow up' by the Global Competition Review (GCR), a London-based leading anti-trust journal, in its latest annual survey of the world's leading competition authorities. The rating is stated by GCR itself to be a performance indicator recognizing that 'an agency is considered to make excellent use of its resources and has surpassed its previous accomplishments.'

Dr Wilson quoted GCR as stating that CCP keeps moving from strength to strength. He said that GCR in its survey has lauded the dedication of CCP's enforcement staff, termed the orders of CCP as "well reasoned and informed", appreciated the leniency decision of CCP, and accredited CCP's continued success to its Chairperson Rahat Kaunain Hassan, "who has worked hard to improve the core competencies of the authority and guard its precious independence."

Dr Wilson briefed the participants of the meeting on the 3rd International Conference of CCP held on May 29-30, 2013 in Islamabad. The conference was attended by 22 competition law experts and senior officials

of various competition agencies from America, Canada, Brazil, Mexico, South Africa, Kenya, France, Turkey, Sri Lanka and Portugal. Local participants of the conference included chief executive officers of various multinational and local companies in Pakistan, representatives of the business associations, bar councils, academia, media and the government.

The meeting was told that the conference discussed various key issues in the areas like public procurement, the linkage between competition and trade and investment, cartels and the significance of leniency and reward programs, and competition advocacy. He informed the meeting that a workshop for CCP's enforcement staff was held on May 30 at CCP headquarters in which the international experts shared their knowledge with CCP team.

The CCG members were also informed that CCP recently trained officials of the government of Afghanistan, on competition law in a consultative experience-sharing programme organised by the US Department of Commerce, through its Commercial Law Development Programme, in partnership with the US Federal Trade

Commission (FTC) and CCP. Besides, the officials of Officer of Fair Trade, UK, and Turkish Competition Authority recently visited CCP to train the enforcement of CCP.

The participants of the meeting were also briefed on the enforcement orders issued by the Commission during the last three months. These orders were issued in the matters of International Clearing House (ICH), Abuse of Dominance by urea manufacturers, and unaccredited engineering courses offered by universities. Batlay and Qureshi briefed the meeting on the background of the orders and replied to various questions of the participants.

The CCG meeting participants lauded the performance of CCP and urged the business community and the government to extend full support to CCP. They appreciated the forthcoming approach of CCP and suggested creating a channel of communication between CCP and the business community that will help bring competition issues in the knowledge of CCP. The participants also stressed the need for early disposal of pending cases of CCP in various courts to pass on the benefits to consumers and the business community.

# PAKISTAN TODAY

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## 18th CCG meeting organised by CCP

ISLAMABAD  
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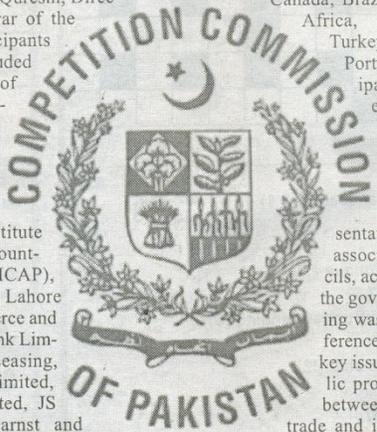
in partnership with the US Federal Trade

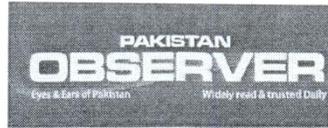
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Turkish Competition Authority recently

visited CCP to train enforcement of CCP.





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## CCP establishes think-tank to interact with businessmen

ISLAMABAD—An informal think tank has been established in the Competitive commission of Pakistan (CCP) to solicit feedback on competition related matters from business community and other social sectors.

Think tank has been established in the 18th meeting of CCP which was chaired by Dr. Joseph Wilson, senior Member CCP, and also attended by Mueen Batlay, CCP Member, and Ikram ul Haque Qureshi, Director General/Registrar of the Commission. This think tank will get feedback and suggestions from legal community, academia, me-

dia, regulatory bodies and the government.

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The Nation

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# Businessmen, govt asked to extend full support to CCP

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ISLAMABAD  
OUR STAFF REPORTER

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The meeting was told that the Conference discussed various key issues in the areas e.g. public procurement, the linkage between competition and trade and investment, cartels and the significance of leniency and reward programs, and competition advocacy. He informed the meeting that a workshop for CCP's enforcement staff was held on 30 May at CCP headquarters in which the international experts shared their knowledge with CCP team.

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## CCP needed traders, govt's support to check cartelization

### RECORDER REPORT

**ISLAMABAD:** The Competition Consultative Group (CCG), an informal think tank set up by the Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP), has strongly urged the business community and the government to extend full support to CCP to check cartelization, anti-competitive behaviour and deceptive marketing practices.

According to an announcement of the CCP here on Saturday, the 18th meeting of Competition Consultative Group has been convened to solicit feedback and suggestions on competition related matters from the business, legal community, academia, media, regulatory bodies and the government.

They appreciated the forthcoming approach of CCP and suggested creating a channel of communication between CCP and the business community that will help bring competition issues in the knowledge of CCP. The participants also stressed the need for early disposal of pending cases of CCP in various courts to pass on the benefits to consumers and the business community.

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**ISLAMABAD:** Senior member Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) Dr Joseph Wilson snapped with the delegates of the Competition Consultative Group (CCG) at a conclusion meeting, here on Saturday.

Chairperson, Rahat Kaunain Hassan, "who has worked hard to improve the core competencies of the authority and guard its precious independence."

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# جہانِ پاکِستان

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مستقبل کی کمیٹی آف پاکستان کے سینئر ممبر ڈاکٹر جوزف وسن کی صدارت میں مشاورتی گروپ کے 18 ویں اجلاس کے بعد شرکاء کا گروپ فوٹو