



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**20 October 2006**

### **Competition Commission Consults On Proposed Merger Regime**

1. The Competition Commission of Singapore (CCS) is seeking feedback on the proposed merger regime to be implemented under the Competition Act (Act)<sup>1</sup>, which will come into effect on 1 July 2007. The proposed merger regime takes into account international best practices from established competition regimes around the world. Some of the proposed changes will require amendment of the Act. Details of the proposed merger regime are provided in the following documents:

- a) The Consultation Document outlines the key features of the proposed merger regime, and explains the policy considerations behind the proposals;
- b) The Draft CCS Guideline on the Substantive Assessment of Mergers outlines the manner in which the CCS will interpret and give effect to the provisions of the Act when assessing mergers. It covers the analytical framework for assessing the competitive effects of mergers, and the principles that the CCS will use in considering commitments and remedies;
- c) The Draft CCS Guideline on the Merger Procedures sets out the proposed procedures for notification and investigation under the merger regime; and
- d) The Draft Amendment Bill sets out the proposed amendments to the Act.

#### Public Feedback

2. These consultation documents can be downloaded from the CCS website at [www.ccs.gov.sg](http://www.ccs.gov.sg) under the section "Public Consultation" (which directs users to

subsection “New Consultations”), or the Government Online Consultation Portal at [www.reach.gov.sg](http://www.reach.gov.sg). The closing date for submission is **noon, 10 November 2006**<sup>2</sup>.

3. As part of the public consultation exercise, the CCS will conduct two briefing cum dialogue sessions on **27 October 2006** and **30 October 2006** for industry stakeholders. Parties interested in attending either session can register or obtain more information on the CCS website at [www.ccs.gov.sg](http://www.ccs.gov.sg).

4. Please refer to Annex A for background information.

### **About the Competition Commission of Singapore**

The CCS is a statutory body established under the Competition Act (Cap 50B) on 1 January 2005 to administer and enforce the Act. Its mission is to promote healthy competitive markets that will benefit the Singapore economy based on sound economic principles applied objectively and consistently. For more information, visit [www.ccs.gov.sg](http://www.ccs.gov.sg).

### **For media clarification, please contact:**

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**Notes to Editor:**

1. The Competition Act was passed in Parliament on 19 October 2004, and subsequently implemented in phases. On 1 January 2005, the Competition Commission of Singapore was set up. A year later, the prohibitions on anti-competitive agreements and abuse of a dominant position came into force.

**2. Mode of Consultation:**

a. Written submissions are to be sent to the CCS via email **and** by post/courier/fax:

Email:            ccs\_consultation@ccs.gov.sg

**AND**

Post/Courier: Competition Commission of Singapore  
5 Maxwell Road  
#13-01, Tower Block  
MND Complex  
Singapore 069110  
Attn: Director, Economics

Fax:                (65) 62246929

b. Parties that submit comments should organise their submissions as follows:

- i. Cover page;
- ii. Table of contents;
- iii. Summary of major points;
- iv. Statement of interest;
- v. Comments; and
- vi. Conclusion.

c. Supporting material may be placed in an annex. All submissions should be clear and concise, and should provide a reasoned explanation for any proposed revision to the draft guidelines or draft Amendment Bill. Where feasible, parties should identify the specific paragraph of the draft guidelines or draft Amendment Bill on which they are commenting. Where parties choose to suggest revisions to the text of the draft guidelines, they should state clearly the specific changes to the text that they are proposing.

d. All submissions should be made on or before **noon, 10 November 2006.** Submissions must be submitted in both hard and soft copies (in Microsoft Word format). Parties submitting comments should include their personal/company particulars as well as their correspondence address, contact numbers and email addresses on the cover page of their submissions.

e. The CCS reserves the right to make public all or parts of any written submission and to disclose the identity of the source. Commenting parties may request confidential treatment for any part of the submission that they believe to be proprietary, confidential or commercially sensitive. Any such information should be clearly marked and placed in a separate annex. If the CCS grants confidential treatment, it will consider, but will not publicly disclose, the information. If the CCS rejects the request for confidential treatment, it will return the information to the party that submitted it and will not consider the information as part of its review. As far as possible, parties should limit any request for confidential treatment of information submitted. The CCS will not accept any submission that requests confidential treatment of all, or a substantial part, of the submission.