



The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited

## Rating Report

### Fauji Fertilizer Company Limited

#### Report Contents

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#### Rating History

Dissemination Date	Long Term Rating	Short Term Rating	Outlook	Action	Rating Watch
27-Jul-2023	AA+	A1+	Stable	Maintain	-
30-Jul-2022	AA+	A1+	Stable	Maintain	-
30-Jul-2021	AA+	A1+	Stable	Maintain	-
30-Jul-2020	AA+	A1+	Stable	Maintain	-
01-Aug-2019	AA+	A1+	Stable	Maintain	-
30-Jan-2019	AA+	A1+	Stable	Maintain	-
30-Jul-2018	AA+	A1+	Stable	Upgrade	-
04-Aug-2017	AA	A1+	Stable	Maintain	-

#### Rating Rationale and Key Rating Drivers

Fertilizer industry of Pakistan fulfills around ~88-90% Country's fertilizer requirement through local production while the remaining is met through imports. The Country's total fertilizer production capacity stands at around ~7.1mln MT of Urea and CAN and ~1.7mln MT of DAP, NP, and NPK. In CY22, Urea's offtake stood at ~6.6mln MT and DAP's offtake stood at 1.1mln MT. Whereas in 3MCY23, Urea offtake stood at ~1.6mln MT posting a stable trend. Similarly, DAP offtake stood at 0.2mln MT. Considering the overall urea demand and supply situation and LNG unavailability for the plants, ~0.49mln MT of urea was imported during CY22. Overall margins of the industry remained healthy and going forward industry's outlook is expected to remain satisfactory. International market prices fell at the start of quarter due to lower demand and sellers sought to offload barges in crowded markets due to force liquidity.

The ratings covers the financial performance for CY22 & 3MCY23 and reflects the robust business and financial position of Fauji Fertilizer Company Limited ('FFC' or 'the Company') while deriving strength from Fauji Foundation (FF). FFC combined with Fauji Fertilizer Bin Qasim Limited (FFBL) has a strong foothold in the production capacity and product offtake of both Urea and DAP. Over the years, a strong business footprint has built 'Sona' into a household name in the farming community, in Pakistan. The Company's production facilities are secured by a dedicated and uninterrupted gas supply line from the Mari fields. In view of declining gas pressures, the Company along with other fertilizer manufacturers and the gas supplier has also undertaken gas pressure enhancement project to ensure sustained fertilizer production, besides continued investment on maintenance of its aging plants. FFC's revenue stream (including FFBL) remains the highest in the industry. Moreover, FFC is the largest player in the fertilizer segment in Urea and DAP with a market share (including FFBL) of ~45% and ~62%, respectively, in CY22. The Company has also maintained a growth trajectory in its gross margins (CY22: ~37% | 3MCY23: ~40%) whereas, improved other income continues to boost the Company's bottom line (CY22: ~18% | 3MCY23: ~21%). FFC financial profile is characterized by a moderately leveraged capital structure supported by very strong coverages. Moreover, significant liquidity depicts a robust financial profile. The ratings further draws comfort from FFC's strong organizational structure designed to control its subsidiaries' strategic direction and strong governance framework, whereas FFC's various corporate awards testify the Company's sound financial and business practices.

The ratings are dependent on the sustainability of operations and maintaining its market share. Sustainability in the performance of subsidiaries, stable dividends, and effective management of financial profile is important.

#### Disclosure

Name of Rated Entity	Fauji Fertilizer Company Limited
Type of Relationship	Solicited
Purpose of the Rating	Entity Rating
Applicable Criteria	Methodology   Corporate Rating(Jun-22),Methodology   Correlation Between Long-term & Short-term Rating Scales(Jun-22),Methodology   Rating Modifiers(Jun-22)
Related Research	Sector Study   Fertilizer(Jan-23)
Rating Analysts	Shujat Ehsanullah Wasim   Shujat.Ehsan@pacra.com   +92-42-35869504

## Profile

**Legal Structure** Fauji Fertilizer Company Limited ('FFC' or 'The Company') is a public listed company, incorporated in 1978.

**Background** FFC was established as a joint venture between Fauji Foundation (FF) – a Charitable Trust incorporated under the Charitable Endowments Act 1890 and Haldor Topsoe A/S of Denmark – a world leader in catalysts. FFC set up its first plant in Goth Machhi with the capacity of 570,000MT p.a in 1982. In 1993, the Company increased its urea production by setting up Plant-II in Goth Machhi and made its initial investment in Fauji Fertilizer Bin Qasim Limited (FFBL). In 2002, FFC acquired Ex-Pak Saudi Fertilizers Limited Urea plant situated in Mirpur Mathelo (Plant-III). Over the years, the Company has invested into various sectors i.e., banking, power, food and cement.

**Operations** FFC is engaged in the manufacturing and marketing of fertilizer products. The Company sells Urea, DAP, SOP, MOP, Boron and Zinc. The Company has three urea production facilities; two are located at Goth Machhi (Plant I and Plant II) and one at Mirpur Mathelo (Plant III). The total designed capacity of FFC's urea plant is (Plant I: 695,000MT, Plant II: 635,000MT, & Plant III: 718,000MT) with total capacity utilization of ~117% (CY22).

## Ownership

**Ownership Structure** FFC is majority owned by Fauji Foundation (~44%). General public holds ~24%. Rest of the ownership lies with foreign companies (~4%), public sector companies & financial institutions (~20%) and others (~8%).

**Stability** The ownership structure is stable as majority of the shareholding vests with the sponsor (FF).

**Business Acumen** Fauji Foundation (FF), founded in 1954, has emerged as one of the leading conglomerates of the country, with established business interests in various diversified sectors i.e., agriculture, power, oil and gas, marine terminals, financial services, and cement sectors.

**Financial Strength** Besides holding formidable equity strength in FFC, the sponsor have extensive investments in agriculture, power, oil and gas, marine terminals, financial services, and cement sectors, which fortifies their sound financial strength. In CY22, FFC has 5 subsidiaries, 4 associated companies and 1 joint venture with a consolidated equity of ~PKR 121bln (CY21: ~PKR 103bln) and an asset base of ~PKR 328bln (CY21: ~PKR 275bln). Through its diverse set of business, it is generating a turnover of ~PKR 126bln (CY21: ~PKR 114bln) and posted a PAT of ~PKR 35bln (CY21: ~PKR 39bln).

## Governance

**Board Structure** The BOD comprises of thirteen members. There are eight Non-Executive Directors, four Independent Directors and one Executive Director.

**Members' Profile** The Company's Board is chaired by Mr. Waqar Ahmed Malik. He has professional experience of over three decades. All members on the BOD have diversified experience and majority of the members have long association with the BOD. Brig. Irfan Khan, (Retd), has replaced Brig. Asrat Mahmood, (Retd), as the Company Secretary during CY23.

**Board Effectiveness** The Board has four committees to assist in governing the affairs of the Company. These comprise: a) Audit Committee, b) HR and Remuneration Committee, c) System and Technology Committee, and d) Strategy and Investment Committee.

**Financial Transparency** FFC's external auditor, A.F Ferguson & Co., Chartered Accountants, has issued an unqualified opinion on CY22's financial statements.

## Management

**Organizational Structure** The Company has a well defined organizational structure that is divided into twelve main departments. All functional Heads reports to the Company's CEO, who then reports to the BOD. However, Head of Internal Audit reports administrative matters to the MD&CEO and functionally to the Audit Committee.

**Management Team** Mr. Sarfaraz Ahmed Rehman replaced Lt Gen Tariq Khan, as the CEO, in October 2021. He was also the CEO of Engro Foods till 2012. Mr. Rehman joined Fauji Group in June 20 as MD & CEO of Fauji Fertilizer Bin Qasim Limited (FFBL) till October 2021. Syed Atif Ali joined as the CFO of FFC in April 2022. He also serves on the Board of Foundation Wind Energy I and II Ltd, Thar Energy Ltd and Food Security and Agriculture Centre of Excellence.

**Effectiveness** The Company has three Management Committees i.e., Executive Committee, Strategy Committee and Corporate Social Responsibility Committee. Meetings of the committee are held on periodic basis to ensure efficiency and strategic planning.

**MIS** FFC has a state of the art IT infrastructure in place, including SAP software. The Company has maintained a profound management system that enables smooth operations of business processes and provides an end to end solution for financial, logistical, distribution, inventory, plant maintenance and human capital management

**Control Environment** FFC has an effective in-house internal audit function which assists the Company to monitor internal controls while reporting to the Audit Committee.

## Business Risk

**Industry Dynamics** Pakistan has an agrarian economy and fulfills around ~ 88% of its fertilizer requirement through local production while the remaining is met through imports. The Country's total fertilizer production capacity stands at around ~ 7.1mln MT of Urea and CAN and ~ 1.7mln MT of DAP, NP, and NPK. In CY22, Urea's offtake stood at ~6.6mln MT and DAP's offtake stood at 1.1mln MT. Whereas in 3MCY23, Urea offtake stood at ~ 1.6mln MT posting a stable trend. Similarly, DAP offtake stood at 0.2mln MT. Considering the overall urea demand and supply situation and LNG unavailability for the plants, ~0.49mln MT of urea was imported during CY22. Overall margins of the industry remained healthy and going forward industry's outlook is expected to remain satisfactory. International market prices fell at the start of quarter due to lower demand and sellers sought to offload barges in crowded markets due to force liquidity.

**Relative Position** FFC is the largest player in the fertilizer segment in Urea and DAP with a market share (including FFBL) of ~45% and ~62%, respectively, in CY22 (CY21: 47% and 53% respectively).

**Revenues** During CY22, FFC's top-line comprises sale of Urea (~86%), DAP (~13%) and Others (~1%). The Company experienced stable revenues; however, the revenues are still strong and stood at ~PKR 109bln (CY21: ~PKR 109bln), owing to decrease in sales volume of DAP. During 3MCY23, the topline showed positive growth of ~38% and stood at PKR 36bln (3MCY22: PKR 26bln).

**Margins** Owing to the increase in both urea and DAP prices during CY22, the Company's gross margin posted a slight increase and stood at ~37% (CY21: ~36%). Operating margins were relatively stable at ~28% (CY21: ~28%). Net margin, on the other hand, declined and stood at ~18% (CY21: ~20%) due to two folds increase in finance costs and higher tax charged. During 3MCY23, gross margin posted an increase and stood at 40% (3MCY22: 36%). Despite high gross margin during the period net margins dipped and stood at 21% (3MCY22: 24%) due to two folds increase in taxation.

**Sustainability** FFC carries a sizable investment book, along with an equity portfolio comprising of entities in the banking, power, food and cement sectors. FFC has entered into an agreement to ensure sustainable supply of gas.

## Financial Risk

**Working Capital** As at CY22, inventory days increased and stood at 34 days (CY21: 2 days) due to stock pile up of DAP. However, the receivable days showcased significant improvement at 2 days (CY21: 5 days) due to credit policies. The trade payable days increased to 19 days (CY21: 11 days). In accumulation, net working capital days witnessed a surge to 17 days (CY21: -3 days). As at 3MCY23, net working capital days surged to 23 days (3MCY22: 2 days) due to high inventory days of 42 days (3MCY22: 11 days).

**Coverages** Overall, the Company witnessed declining coverages for CY22. Interest coverage as at CY22 declined to 4.0x (CY21: 11.1x) due to two folds increase in finance costs and lower FCFO due to high non core income & taxes paid. Core and total coverages also declined to 1.9x (CY21: 3.7x) and 2.4x (CY21: 4.1x) respectively. As at 3MCY23, coverages showed a positive outcome and interest coverage stood at 6.4x (3MCY22: 4.5x) supported by increased FCFO due to high PBT.

**Capitalization** As at CY22, FFC has a high leveraged capital structure at ~61% (CY21: ~56%). Short term borrowings constituted nearly ~73% of total borrowings, which stood at PKR 58bln as compared to PKR 39bln during CY21. As at 3MCY23 the leveraging dropped to 37% (3MCY22: 51%) due to decrease in borrowings.



The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited

Financial Summary  
PKR mln

	Mar-23	Dec-22	Dec-21	Dec-20
	3M	12M	12M	12M
<b>A BALANCE SHEET</b>				
1 Non-Current Assets	36,251	33,772	28,623	26,373
2 Investments	64,215	105,008	97,701	86,876
3 Related Party Exposure	47,019	46,960	43,617	29,756
4 Current Assets	52,638	54,381	31,065	29,945
a Inventories	13,756	19,488	1,048	320
b Trade Receivables	723	372	833	2,287
<b>5 Total Assets</b>	<b>200,123</b>	<b>240,122</b>	<b>201,007</b>	<b>172,949</b>
6 Current Liabilities	100,284	95,665	65,750	49,730
a Trade Payables	8,113	8,125	3,161	3,349
7 Borrowings	31,926	79,768	60,301	40,415
8 Related Party Exposure	2,631	2,641	2,882	2,238
9 Non-Current Liabilities	10,839	11,213	24,559	38,031
<b>10 Net Assets</b>	<b>54,442</b>	<b>50,835</b>	<b>47,514</b>	<b>42,536</b>
<b>11 Shareholders' Equity</b>	<b>54,442</b>	<b>50,835</b>	<b>47,514</b>	<b>42,536</b>
<b>B INCOME STATEMENT</b>				
1 Sales	36,406	109,364	108,651	97,655
a Cost of Good Sold	(21,831)	(69,317)	(69,772)	(66,072)
<b>2 Gross Profit</b>	<b>14,575</b>	<b>40,046</b>	<b>38,879</b>	<b>31,583</b>
a Operating Expenses	(3,056)	(10,108)	(8,409)	(7,848)
<b>3 Operating Profit</b>	<b>11,519</b>	<b>29,939</b>	<b>30,470</b>	<b>23,735</b>
a Non Operating Income or (Expense)	1,889	8,616	2,161	7,730
<b>4 Profit or (Loss) before Interest and Tax</b>	<b>13,407</b>	<b>38,555</b>	<b>32,631</b>	<b>31,465</b>
a Total Finance Cost	(1,464)	(4,868)	(2,292)	(1,874)
b Taxation	(4,213)	(13,637)	(8,443)	(8,772)
<b>6 Net Income Or (Loss)</b>	<b>7,730</b>	<b>20,050</b>	<b>21,896</b>	<b>20,819</b>
<b>C CASH FLOW STATEMENT</b>				
a Free Cash Flows from Operations (FCFO)	9,296	19,392	25,083	20,658
b Net Cash from Operating Activities before Working Capital Changes	7,781	20,704	26,114	20,434
c Changes in Working Capital	542	(13,735)	(1,225)	21,153
<b>1 Net Cash provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>8,323</b>	<b>6,969</b>	<b>24,889</b>	<b>41,587</b>
<b>2 Net Cash (Used in) or Available From Investing Activities</b>	<b>(3,361)</b>	<b>(6,258)</b>	<b>(17,053)</b>	<b>(39,462)</b>
<b>3 Net Cash (Used in) or Available From Financing Activities</b>	<b>(1,572)</b>	<b>(16,871)</b>	<b>(10,602)</b>	<b>(6,739)</b>
<b>4 Net Cash generated or (Used) during the period</b>	<b>3,390</b>	<b>(16,160)</b>	<b>(2,766)</b>	<b>(4,615)</b>
<b>D RATIO ANALYSIS</b>				
<b>1 Performance</b>				
a Sales Growth (for the period)	33.2%	0.7%	11.3%	-7.7%
b Gross Profit Margin	40.0%	36.6%	35.8%	32.3%
c Net Profit Margin	21.2%	18.3%	20.2%	21.3%
d Cash Conversion Efficiency (FCFO adjusted for Working Capital/Sales)	27.0%	5.2%	22.0%	42.8%
e Return on Equity [ Net Profit Margin * Asset Turnover * (Total Assets/Share	58.7%	40.8%	48.6%	53.3%
<b>2 Working Capital Management</b>				
a Gross Working Capital (Average Days)	43	36	8	43
b Net Working Capital (Average Days)	23	17	-3	33
c Current Ratio (Current Assets / Current Liabilities)	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.5
<b>3 Coverages</b>				
a EBITDA / Finance Cost	8.5	6.7	15.3	14.9
b FCFO / Finance Cost+CMLTB+Excess STB	3.2	1.9	3.7	3.3
c Debt Payback (Total Borrowings+Excess STB) / (FCFO-Finance Cost)	0.6	1.5	0.9	0.8
<b>4 Capital Structure</b>				
a Total Borrowings / (Total Borrowings+Shareholders' Equity)	37.0%	61.1%	55.9%	48.7%
b Interest or Markup Payable (Days)	62.5	114.6	117.2	55.5
c Entity Average Borrowing Rate	10.4%	7.9%	4.4%	6.9%

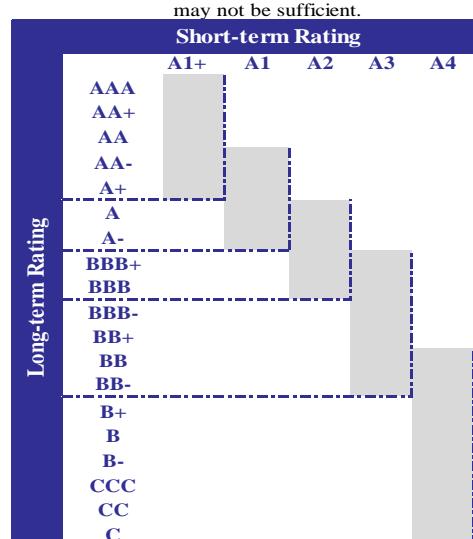
#	Notes
-	The ratios calculated are based on PACRA's model and may differ from the Company's financials.
-	D - 2c - Current ratio calculation doesnot include Short Term Borrowing's as shown in the Company's financials.

## Scale

## Credit Rating

Credit rating reflects forward-looking opinion on credit worthiness of underlying entity or instrument; more specifically it covers relative ability to honor financial obligations. The primary factor being captured on the rating scale is relative likelihood of default.

Long-term Rating		Short-term Rating	
Scale	Definition	Scale	Definition
<b>AAA</b>	<b>Highest credit quality.</b> Lowest expectation of credit risk. Indicate exceptionally strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments	<b>A1+</b>	The highest capacity for timely repayment.
<b>AA+</b>		<b>A1</b>	A strong capacity for timely repayment.
<b>AA</b>	<b>Very high credit quality.</b> Very low expectation of credit risk. Indicate very strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.	<b>A2</b>	A satisfactory capacity for timely repayment. This may be susceptible to adverse changes in business, economic, or financial conditions.
<b>AA-</b>		<b>A3</b>	Such capacity is susceptible to adverse changes in business, economic, or financial conditions.
<b>A+</b>	<b>High credit quality.</b> Low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be vulnerable to changes in circumstances or in economic conditions.	<b>A4</b>	The capacity for timely repayment is more susceptible to adverse changes in business, economic, or financial conditions. Liquidity may not be sufficient.
<b>A-</b>			
<b>BBB+</b>	<b>Good credit quality.</b> Currently a low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered adequate, but adverse changes in circumstances and in economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity.		
<b>BB+</b>			
<b>BB</b>	<b>Moderate risk.</b> Possibility of credit risk developing. There is a possibility of credit risk developing, particularly as a result of adverse economic or business changes over time; however, business or financial alternatives may be available to allow financial commitments to be met.		
<b>BB-</b>			
<b>B+</b>	<b>High credit risk.</b> A limited margin of safety remains against credit risk. Financial commitments are currently being met; however, capacity for continued payment is contingent upon a sustained, favorable business and economic environment.		
<b>B-</b>			
<b>CCC</b>	<b>Very high credit risk.</b> Substantial credit risk "CCC" Default is a real possibility.		
<b>CC</b>	Capacity for meeting financial commitments is solely reliant upon sustained, favorable business or economic developments. "CC" Rating indicates that default of some kind appears probable. "C" Ratings signal imminent default.		
<b>C</b>			
<b>D</b>	Obligations are currently in default.		



\*The correlation shown is indicative and, in certain cases, may not hold.

<b>Outlook (Stable, Positive, Negative, Developing)</b> Indicates the potential and direction of a rating over the intermediate term in response to trends in economic and/or fundamental business/financial conditions. It is not necessarily a precursor to a rating change. 'Stable' outlook means a rating is not likely to change. 'Positive' means it may be raised. 'Negative' means it may be lowered. Where the trends have conflicting elements, the outlook may be described as 'Developing'.	<b>Rating Watch</b> Alerts to the possibility of a rating change subsequent to, or, in anticipation of some material identifiable event with indeterminable rating implications. But it does not mean that a rating change is inevitable. A watch should be resolved within foreseeable future, but may continue if underlying circumstances are not settled. Rating watch may accompany rating outlook of the respective opinion.	<b>Suspension</b> It is not possible to update an opinion due to lack of requisite information. Opinion should be resumed in foreseeable future. However, if this does not happen within six (6) months, the rating should be considered withdrawn.	<b>Withdrawn</b> A rating is withdrawn on a) termination of rating mandate, b) the debt instrument is redeemed, c) the rating remains suspended for six months, d) the entity/issuer defaults., or/and e) PACRA finds it impractical to surveil the opinion due to lack of requisite information.	<b>Harmonization</b> A change in rating due to revision in applicable methodology or underlying scale.
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**Surveillance.** Surveillance on a publicly disseminated rating opinion is carried out on an ongoing basis till it is formally suspended or withdrawn. A comprehensive surveillance of rating opinion is carried out at least once every six months. However, a rating opinion may be reviewed in the intervening period if it is necessitated by any material happening.

- Note.** This scale is applicable to the following methodology(s):
- a) Broker Entity Rating
  - b) Corporate Rating
  - c) Debt Instrument Rating
  - d) Financial Institution Rating
  - e) Holding Company Rating
  - f) Independent Power Producer Rating
  - g) Microfinance Institution Rating
  - h) Non-Banking Finance Companies Rating

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## **Regulatory and Supplementary Disclosure**

(Credit Rating Companies Regulations,2016)

### **Rating Team Statements**

(1) Rating is just an opinion about the creditworthiness of the entity and does not constitute recommendation to buy, hold or sell any security of the entity rated or to buy, hold or sell the security rated, as the case may be | Chapter III; 14-3-(x)

### **2) Conflict of Interest**

- i. The Rating Team or any of their family members have no interest in this rating | Chapter III; 12-2-(j)
- ii. PACRA, the analysts involved in the rating process and members of its rating committee, and their family members, do not have any conflict of interest relating to the rating done by them | Chapter III; 12-2-(e) & (k)
- iii. The analyst is not a substantial shareholder of the customer being rated by PACRA [Annexure F; d-(ii)] Explanation: for the purpose of above clause, the term "family members" shall include only those family members who are dependent on the analyst and members of the rating committee

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- (4) PACRA does not disclose or discuss with outside parties or make improper use of the non-public information which has come to its knowledge during business relationship with the customer | Chapter III; 10-7-(d)
- (5) PACRA does not make proposals or recommendations regarding the activities of rated entities that could impact a credit rating of entity subject to rating | Chapter III; 10-7-(k)

### **Conduct of Business**

- (6) PACRA fulfills its obligations in a fair, efficient, transparent and ethical manner and renders high standards of services in performing its functions and obligations; | Chapter III; 11-A-(a)
- (7) PACRA uses due care in preparation of this Rating Report. Our information has been obtained from sources we consider to be reliable but its accuracy or completeness is not guaranteed. PACRA does not, in every instance, independently verifies or validates information received in the rating process or in preparing this Rating Report | Clause 11-(A)(p).
- (8) PACRA prohibits its employees and analysts from soliciting money, gifts or favors from anyone with whom PACRA conducts business | Chapter III; 11-A-(q)
- (9) PACRA ensures before commencement of the rating process that an analyst or employee has not had a recent employment or other significant business or personal relationship with the rated entity that may cause or may be perceived as causing a conflict of interest; | Chapter III; 11-A-(r)
- (10) PACRA maintains principle of integrity in seeking rating business | Chapter III; 11-A-(u)
- (11) PACRA promptly investigates, in the event of a misconduct or a breach of the policies, procedures and controls, and takes appropriate steps to rectify any weaknesses to prevent any recurrence along with suitable punitive action against the responsible employee(s) | Chapter III; 11-B-(m)

### **Independence & Conflict of interest**

- (12) PACRA receives compensation from the entity being rated or any third party for the rating services it offers. The receipt of this compensation has no influence on PACRA's opinions or other analytical processes. In all instances, PACRA is committed to preserving the objectivity, integrity and independence of its ratings. Our relationship is governed by two distinct mandates i) rating mandate - signed with the entity being rated or issuer of the debt instrument, and fee mandate - signed with the payer, which can be different from the entity
- (13) PACRA does not provide consultancy/advisory services or other services to any of its customers or to any of its customers' associated companies and associated undertakings that is being rated or has been rated by it during the preceding three years unless it has adequate mechanism in place ensuring that provision of such services does not lead to a conflict of interest situation with its rating activities; | Chapter III; 12-2-(d)
- (14) PACRA discloses that no shareholder directly or indirectly holding 10% or more of the share capital of PACRA also holds directly or indirectly 10% or more of the share capital of the entity which is subject to rating or the entity which issued the instrument subject to rating by PACRA; | Reference Chapter III; 12-2-(f)
- (15) PACRA ensures that the rating assigned to an entity or instrument is not be affected by the existence of a business relationship between PACRA and the entity or any other party, or the non-existence of such a relationship | Chapter III; 12-2-(i)
- (16) PACRA ensures that the analysts or any of their family members shall not buy or sell or engage in any transaction in any security which falls in the analyst's area of primary analytical responsibility. This clause shall, however, not be applicable on investment in securities through collective investment schemes. | Chapter III; 12-2-(l)
- (17) PACRA has established policies and procedure governing investments and trading in securities by its employees and for monitoring the same to prevent insider trading, market manipulation or any other market abuse | Chapter III; 11-B-(g)

### **Monitoring and review**

- (18) PACRA monitors all the outstanding ratings continuously and any potential change therein due to any event associated with the issuer, the security arrangement, the industry etc., is disseminated to the market, immediately and in effective manner, after appropriate consultation with the entity/issuer; | Chapter III | 18-(a)
- (19) PACRA reviews all the outstanding ratings on semi-annual basis or as and when required by any creditor or upon the occurrence of such an event which requires to do so; | Chapter III | 18-(b)
- (20) PACRA initiates immediate review of the outstanding rating upon becoming aware of any information that may reasonably be expected to result in downgrading of the rating; | Chapter III | 18-(c)
- (21) PACRA engages with the issuer and the debt securities trustee, to remain updated on all information pertaining to the rating of the entity/instrument; | Chapter III | 18-(d)

### **Probability of Default**

- (22) PACRA's Rating Scale reflects the expectation of credit risk. The highest rating has the lowest relative likelihood of default (i.e. probability). PACRA's transition studies capture the historical performance behavior of a specific rating notch. Transition behavior of the assigned rating can be obtained from PACRA's Transition Study available at our website. ([www.pacra.com](http://www.pacra.com)). However, actual transition of rating may not follow the pattern observed in the past | Chapter III | 14-(f-VII)

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