



The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited

Rating Report

Mega Conglomerate (Pvt.) Limited

Report Contents

1. Rating Analysis
2. Financial Information
3. Rating Scale
4. Regulatory and Supplementary Disclosure

Rating History

Dissemination Date	Long Term Rating	Short Term Rating	Outlook	Action	Rating Watch
14-Dec-2022	AA-	A1	Stable	Maintain	-
14-Dec-2021	AA-	A1	Stable	Maintain	-
14-Dec-2020	AA-	A1	Stable	Maintain	-
14-Dec-2019	AA-	A1	Stable	Maintain	-
14-Jun-2019	AA-	A1	Stable	Initial	-

Rating Rationale and Key Rating Drivers

The ratings reflect Mega Conglomerate (Private) Limited's ('the Company') association with Mega & Forbes Group of Companies, an established group with presence in energy, cement, shipping, logistics, real estate development, and food sectors. The Company operates under a holding company structure with an aim to acquire and consolidate some of the group's investments in energy, real estate, and food sectors. The rating incorporates the Company's sizable holding in The Hub Power Company Limited (HUBCO) and stake in Haleeb Foods (through Mega Foods (Pvt.) Limited.), investment properties (through Imperial Developers and Builders (Pvt.) Limited.) and bill aggregator services (through Paypro (Pvt.) Limited). However, lately, the Company has impaired its investment in Paypro (Pvt.) Limited. The Company primarily drives income from dividend stream of underlying investments. During FY22, the Company's dividend income from HUBCO witnessed significant increase resulting in improved financial performance compared to the prior years. HUBCO has strong presence in the power sector, with investments in Narowal Energy Limited, Laraib Energy Limited, and China Power Hub Generation Company, having a total combined installed power generation capacity of 2,921MW. The profitability was also relieved due to dividend inflow emanating from HUBCO. The Company incurs high financial charges from the debt acquired for financing the investment portfolio. The Company is highly leveraged, however, the debt is fully backed by liquid investments and securities including HUBCO shares. The equity base is strengthened on the back of equity injection and subordinated loan from sponsors/group companies. Going forward, a consistent dividend stream, which has been augmented by investments in energy sector, is expected to support the financial profile of the Company. Moreover, ratings draw comfort from the presence of sufficient liquid investments, in form of TDR's and TFC's, on the Company's balance sheet and expected support from sponsors, if required.

The ratings are dependent on the performance of existing strategic investments and the execution of their envisaged business strategies resulting in a regular dividend stream. Strengthening the governance framework would be important for the ratings.

Disclosure

Name of Rated Entity	Mega Conglomerate (Pvt.) Limited
Type of Relationship	Solicited
Purpose of the Rating	Entity Rating
Applicable Criteria	Methodology Correlation Between Long-term & Short-term Rating Scales(Jun-22),Methodology Rating Modifiers(Jun-22),Methodology Holding Company Rating(Jun-22)
Related Research	Sector Study Holding Company(Aug-22)
Rating Analysts	Ahmad Faraz Arif ahmad.faraz@pacra.com +92-42-35869504



Profile

Background Mega Conglomerate (Pvt.) Limited ('Mega' or 'the Company') was incorporated as a private limited company in 2010 in Pakistan under the repealed Companies Ordinance, 1984 (now the Companies Act, 2017).

Structural Analysis As a holding company Mega has strategic investments of ~ PKR 26bln. These include: two associated companies - The Hub Power Company Limited (HUBCO) ~19% shareholding and Paypro (Pvt.) Ltd ~50% shareholding, and two wholly owned subsidiaries -Mega Foods (Pvt.) Ltd. and G4 Mega Pakistan (Pvt.) Ltd. (G4). Mega Foods has 56% stake in Haleeb Foods. Whereas G4 owns 100% stake in Imperial Developers and Builders (Pvt.) Ltd. (IDBL). IDBL is engaged in real estate development and has sizable investment property in Karachi. Lately, the Company has completely impaired its investment in Paypro (Pvt.) Limited.

Ownership

Ownership Structure The Company is owned by Mr. M. Habibullah Khan (56%) and Mrs. Nusrat Khan (44%). Mr. Habibullah Khan is the founder and Chairman of Mega & Forbes Group.

Stability Ownership of the business is seen as stable as the major ownership vests with the founding sponsors of Mega & Forbes Group.

Business Acumen Mega & Forbes Group has interests in the country's largest container terminal, third largest dairy producer, a cement manufacturer, an integrated shipping company and progressive real estate developer responsible for the only L.E.E.D (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified commercial building's in Pakistan. Additionally, the group has presence in energy sector through HUBCO.

Financial Strength The Company derives its financial strength from Mega and Forbes Group and associated companies. The sponsors have sufficient net worth to support the Company in times of distress.

Governance

Board Structure Mega's Board comprises four members, consisting of the sponsoring family. Despite being a private limited company, small size of the Board and lack of independent oversight indicates room for improvement in the governance framework, especially considering its holding structure.

Members' Profile Board's Chairman, Mr. M. Habibullah Khan, has over three decades of diverse experience mainly in shipping and container terminals. He also chairs the Board of other group companies. Mrs. Nusrat Khan, Director since 1999, is on the Board of Qasim International Container Terminal / DP World Karachi, currently Pakistan's leading terminal. During FY20, Mr. Aly Khan and Ms. Aleeya Khan were inducted as Directors on the Company's Board.

Board Effectiveness The Board is assisted by its sub-committees, Audit, Investment and Compensation Committees. Board Audit Committee, comprising four members, reviews group level information. Board Investment Committee, comprising five members, reviews and assists in evaluating the Company's investment performance and opportunities. Compensation Committee, comprising four members, reviews and recommends employee development policies. These Committees met four times during the year and are Chaired by Mr. M. Habibullah Khan.

Transparency Mega's external auditor, Muniff Ziauddin & Co., is QCR rated by ICAP and also on SBP panel of auditors in Category 'A'. The firm has issued a qualified audit opinion on FY22 financial statements. It relates to the non-disclosure of related party transactions according to IAS 24 and Companies Act 2017.

Management

Organizational Structure The Company's organizational structure draws strength from the Group. All departmental Heads reports to the Group CEO - Mr. Habibullah Khan. The subsidiaries have independent management teams and organizational structure. This structure caters to monitoring performance of its subsidiaries, devising strategy and policies for the Group.

Management Team Mega's CEO, Mr. M. Habibullah Khan, is the key source of guidance for the Group with an experience of over three decades. Mr. Aly Khan, Executive Director, is the Chairman of Pioneer Cement Ltd., Director of Hub Power Company Limited, Director of Haleeb Foods Limited, Director of Qasim International Container Terminal and an SECP certified Director in corporate governance.

Management Effectiveness The management is assisted by Management Committee, comprising CEO, CFO, Head of Investments, Head of HR & Admin and Head of IT. The Committee met as per requirement during the year and is Chaired by Mr. M. Habibullah Khan.

Control Environment The risk management is handled by the CEO and Head of Investments, by setting up investment management procedures and developing risk management policies and procedures.

Investment Strategy

Investment Decision-Making The Company's investment decisions are taken by the Investment Committee of Mega and Forbes at Group level.

Investment Policy Mega has a prudent investment strategy as the Company has exposure in limited sectors: Power Generation, Food Products and Real Estate.

Investment Committee Effectiveness The management has planned new initiatives to strengthen the oversight framework going forward.

Business Risk

Diversification The portfolio comprises total investment value of PKR 26bln, and PKR 24.88bln of total investment value is invested in power generation through HUBCO (96% of total investments). Whereas the remaining is invested in food products PKR 899mln through Mega Foods (Pvt.) Ltd. (3%) and real estate PKR 281mln through G4 Mega Pakistan (Pvt.) Ltd. (1%).

Portfolio Assessment The Company holds two kinds of investments on its books: Core and Strategic investments. Core investments include two wholly owned subsidiaries: Mega Foods (Pvt.) Ltd. and G4 Mega Pakistan (Pvt.) Ltd. Mega Foods has 56% stake in Haleeb Foods. Mega Foods returned profit of PKR 34mln during FY22. G4 Mega has investments in real estate and developmental projects, and wholly owns Imperial Developers and Builders (Pvt.) Ltd. (IDBL). Strategic investment includes 19.48% stake in Hub Power Company Limited (HUBCO) which is the main dividend and income generating investment of the Company.

Income Assessment The Company's total investment income during FY22 witnessed ~62% increase YoY and stood at PKR 3,045mln (FY21: PKR 1,880mln) mainly due to higher dividend income from HUBCO of PKR 2,905mln (FY21: 1,768mln). Moreover, PKR 139mln was received as interest income (FY21: PKR 111mln). Subsequently, the Company's net income witnessed significant improvement and stood at PKR 1,184mln (FY21: PKR 238mln). Going forward, the Company is expected to receive consistent dividend income from HUBCO.

Financial Risk

Coverages In FY22, coverage ratio improved to 1.8x (FY21: 1.2x), due to significant dividend income and increased total investment income. Higher dividend income from HUBCO has provided the much needed support to the Company's coverages. Similarly, the Company's debt coverage ratio also witnessed improvement and stood at 0.9x in FY22 (FY21: 0.5x). Going forward, the Company's coverages are expected to remain improved given the consistent dividend income from HUBCO and reduction in borrowings from financial institutions.

Capital Structure Mega has a highly leveraged capital structure (FY22: 95%, FY21: 103%) due to a small equity base (FY22: PKR 818mln, FY21: PKR -632mln) and high borrowings (FY22: PKR 26.3bln, FY21: PKR 28.1bln). The Company is supported by substantial loan from associated companies (FY22: PKR 13.4bln, FY21: PKR 10.9bln). Meanwhile, sizable liquid assets (TFCs amounting to PKR 1,210mln as at FY22) eases the net leveraging, with HUBCO shares provided as collateral providing additional comfort.

Consolidated Position Mega & Forbes is the Group's main holding company, Mega & Forbes' consolidated revenue stood at PKR 80.9bln with a net profit of PKR 23.5bln during FY22. The consolidated equity base stood at PKR 77.7bln as at FY22.



The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited

Mega Conglomerate (Private) Limited Holding Company	Jun-22	Jun-21	Jun-20
	12M	12M	12M
	Audited	Audited	Audited
A BALANCE SHEET			
1 Investments	1,210	1,210	1,210
2 Related Party Investments	26,162	26,481	26,619
3 Non-Current Assets	-	-	-
4 Current Assets	116	142	182
5 Total Assets	27,487	27,833	28,010
6 Current Liabilities	368	362	1,128
7 Borrowings	12,921	17,192	17,241
8 Related Party Exposure	13,384	10,911	10,511
9 Non-Current Liabilities	-	-	-
10 Net Assets	814	(632)	(870)
11 Shareholders' Equity	814	(632)	(870)
B INCOME STATEMENT			
1 Total Investment Income	3,045	1,880	302
a Cost of Investments	(1,582)	(1,440)	(2,359)
2 Net Investment Income	1,463	440	(2,057)
a Other Income	-	-	-
b Operating Expenses	(3)	(69)	(28)
4 Profit or (Loss) before Interest and Tax	1,460	371	(2,084)
a Taxation	(276)	(133)	-
6 Net Income Or (Loss)	1,184	238	(2,084)
C CASH FLOW STATEMENT			
a Total Cash Flow	2,803	1,727	226
b Net Cash from Operating Activities before Working Capital Changes	1,262	(479)	(1,637)
c Changes in Working Capital	282	72	(432)
1 Net Cash (Used in) or Available From Investing Activities	1,544	(407)	(2,069)
2 Net increase (decrease) in long term borrowings	-	-	2,434
3 Net Cash (Used in) or Available From Financing Activities	(1,535)	351	(2,692)
4 Net Cash generated or (Used) during the period	9	(56)	(2,327)
D RATIO ANALYSIS			
1 Performance			
a Asset Concentration (Market Value of Largest Investment / Market Value of Total Investments)	93.6%	94.3%	93.7%
b Core Investments / Market Value of Equity Investments	6.4%	5.5%	5.8%
c Marketable Investments / Total Investments at Market Value	6.1%	5.3%	5.5%
2 Coverages			
a TCF / Finance Cost	1.8	1.2	0.1
b TCF / Finance Cost + CMLTB	0.9	0.5	0.1
c Loan to Value (Funding / Market Value of Equity Investments)	1.0	1.0	1.1
3 Capital Structure (Total Debt/Total Debt+Equity)			
a Leveraging [Funding / (Funding + Shareholders' Equity)]	95.6%	103.0%	104.1%
b (Funding + Off Balance Sheet Exposure) / Shareholders' Equity	2176.0%	-3479.3%	-2532.7%

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.

Scale	Long-term Rating Definition
AAA	Highest credit quality. Lowest expectation of credit risk. Indicate exceptionally strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments
AA+	
AA	Very high credit quality. 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.
AA-	
A+	
A	High credit quality. 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.
A-	
BBB+	
BBB	Good credit quality. 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.
BBB-	
BB+	Moderate risk. 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.
BB	
BB-	
B+	
B	High credit risk. 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-	
CCC	Very high credit risk. Substantial credit risk “CCC” Default is a real possibility. 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.
CC	
C	
D	Obligations are currently in default.

Scale	Short-term Rating Definition
A1+	The highest capacity for timely repayment.
A1	A strong capacity for timely repayment.
A2	A satisfactory capacity for timely repayment. This may be susceptible to adverse changes in business, economic, or financial conditions.
A3	An adequate capacity for timely repayment. Such capacity is susceptible to adverse changes in business, economic, or financial conditions.
A4	The capacity for timely repayment is more susceptible to adverse changes in business, economic, or financial conditions. Liquidity may not be sufficient.



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

Outlook (Stable, Positive, Negative, Developing) 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’.

Rating Watch 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.

Suspension 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.

Withdrawn 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.

Harmonization A change in rating due to revision in applicable methodology or underlying scale.

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):

<p>Entities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Broker Entity Rating b) Corporate Rating c) Financial Institution Rating d) Holding Company Rating e) Independent Power Producer Rating f) Microfinance Institution Rating g) Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) Rating 	<p>Instruments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Basel III Compliant Debt Instrument Rating b) Debt Instrument Rating c) Sukuk Rating
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(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)

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- (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).
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- (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 principal of integrity in seeking rating business | Chapter III; 11-A-(u)
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- (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). However, actual transition of rating may not follow the pattern observed in the past | Chapter III | 14-(F-VII)

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