



The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited

## Rating Report

### Bulleh Shah Packaging (Pvt.) Limited

#### Report Contents

1. Rating Analysis
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#### Rating History

Dissemination Date	Long Term Rating	Short Term Rating	Outlook	Action	Rating Watch
05-Sep-2024	AA-	A1	Stable	Maintain	-
05-Sep-2023	AA-	A1	Stable	Maintain	-
05-Sep-2022	AA-	A1	Stable	Initial	-

#### Rating Rationale and Key Rating Drivers

Bulleh Shah Packaging (Private) Limited's ('BSP' or 'the Company') ratings reflect its solid sponsor profile, established market position, and satisfactory financial profile. As a wholly-owned subsidiary of Packages Limited, BSP benefits from a robust governance structure, a strong control environment, and well-qualified management team. The Company specializes in the production of corrugated boxes as well as paper and boards. According to management, BSP holds around 12% of the paper and board market. Additionally, it is the only manufacturer of liquid packing boards and controls 14% of the market share in the corrugated board segment. In CY23, BSP's production utilization of the corrugator operated at ~97% capacity, and paper and board production was reported at ~65%. To enhance productivity and increase its market share in imported paperboard, BSP has recently expanded its existing machinery through BMR. The expansion is majorly made in Karachi for corrugators resultantly the production capacity has enhanced to approximately double. On the financial front, CY23 was a challenging year for the Company. The gross margins were affected by decreased demand for certain products, driven by higher inflation and increased fuel and energy costs. As a result, the Company had to lower its product prices to accommodate its customers. During CY23, the top line of the Company has been increased by ~24% and stood at PKR 59bln (CY22: PKR 48bln). On the back of lowered sale price, the GP margins were reported at 16.6%. As a result of a large expansion in the plants and machinery of BSP and a high policy rate, the net profitability was impacted by higher finance cost. The finance cost increased to PKR 6,102mln (CY22: PKR 2,296mln). Hence, the net profitability clocked in at PKR 226mln (CY22: PKR 3,280mln). During 6MCY24, the top line stood at PKR 30bln, the finance cost was reported at PKR 4,321mln and a net loss of PKR 1,006mln was recorded. Leverage remains high due to substantial short-term and long-term borrowings used for working capital and business operations. BSP is also exploring methods to reduce its reliance on imported raw materials to improve supply chain efficiency. Looking ahead, the Company expects that increased finance costs and overheads will be mitigated by better working capital management, stronger profit margins and volumetric growth, driven by its robust customer base. Additionally, BSP manages its energy needs through a combination of biomass, gas, and WAPDA supply.

The ratings are dependent upon the management's capacity to enhance margins while maintaining its market share. Effective management of working capital, along with sustaining adequate cash flows and coverage ratios, is crucial for the ratings. A substantial decline in margins, profitability, or coverage ratios could adversely affect the ratings.

#### Disclosure

<b>Name of Rated Entity</b>	Bulleh Shah Packaging (Pvt.) Limited
<b>Type of Relationship</b>	Solicited
<b>Purpose of the Rating</b>	Entity Rating
<b>Applicable Criteria</b>	Methodology   Rating Modifiers(Apr-24),Methodology   Corporate Rating(Jul-24),Methodology   Correlation Between Long-term & Short-term Rating Scales(Jul-24)
<b>Related Research</b>	Sector Study   Paper and Packaging(Nov-23)
<b>Rating Analysts</b>	Madiha Sohail   madiha.sohail@pacra.com   +92-42-35869504

## Profile

**Legal Structure** Bulleh Shah Packaging (Private) Limited 'BSP' or 'The Company' was incorporated as a private limited company on September 16, 2005 under the Companies Act, 2017. The Company's primary object is to carry on the business of manufacture and sale of paper & board of all kinds and corrugated boxes.

**Background** The Company was established in new green project incorporated as a separate entity under the name of Bulleh Shah Paper Mills (BSPM). In September 2012, joint venture between Stora Enso (35%) and Packages Limited (65%) was established and the name has been changed to Bulleh Shah Packaging (Pvt.) Ltd. Lately, in 2017 Stora Enso took an exit making the Company wholly owned by Packages Limited.

**Operations** Bulleh Shah Packaging (Private) Limited is engaged in the manufacturing and sale of Corrugated boxes, Paper, board and Other products of paper. The installed capacity of paper & board is 360,000 MT per annum, while that of the corrugated box is 130,000 MT per annum.

## Ownership

**Ownership Structure** Bulleh Shah Packaging (pvt.) limited is 100% owned subsidiary of Packages Limited.

**Stability** Packages Limited is the flagship investment holding company of the Ali Group which has a history spanning over a period of more than 65 years. Packages' investment book comprises entities engaged in the manufacturing and sale of inks, flexible packaging material, paper, board, and corrugated boxes, biaxially oriented polypropylene film and cast polypropylene film, production and sale of ground calcium carbonate products, entities engaged in insurance, power generation, real estate segment of the economy and recently diversifying into manufacturing of corn-based starch.

**Business Acumen** The Group is ranked amongst the leading industrial groups of the country with interests in paper and packaging, financial institutions, education. Packages Limited has significant successful joint ventures with international conglomerates and long standing relationship with various multinational companies.

**Financial Strength** Packages has a consolidated asset base of ~ PKR 239.4bln supported by ~ PKR 94.2bln of equity at the end of Mar'24.

## Governance

**Board Structure** The Company has a seven members board comprising one independent directors, five non-executive directors and one executive directors (including the CEO). The board is chaired by Mr. Syed Hyder Ali. Apt Board size and presence of independent oversight supplements good governance framework.

**Members' Profile** The BoD, with a well-diversified background and relative expertise of its members, is a key source of oversight and guidance for the management. The Chairman of the Board Mr. Syed Hyder Ali is a seasoned business professional and carries a track record of successful business ventures with him. All other members are professionally qualified with extensive experience and diversified skill mix.

**Board Effectiveness** The Board met six times during CY23, with the majority attendance to discuss pertinent matters. The minutes of the meetings are documented properly. To ensure effective governance, the Board has formed three committees, namely, (i) Audit Committee (ii) Executive Committee (iii) Human Resource and Remuneration Committee Both committees are chaired by non-executive directors.

**Financial Transparency** M/s A.F. Ferguson & Co, are the external auditors of the Company. They gave an unqualified opinion on the Company's financial statements for the year ended Dec 31, 2023. The board has also established an internal audit department.

## Management

**Organizational Structure** The Company has established a well-defined management structure divided into functional departments with clear lines of responsibilities.

**Management Team** The Company's CEO, Mr. Asghar Abbas has joined Packages Limited in 1998 and developed strategic and functional level expertise in packaging business over the years while serving at various positions in different companies of the Packages Group.

**Effectiveness** The experience of the sponsors along with a professional management team has helped the Company to streamline their operations and cut down on their costs. The production facilities have minimal wastage which is effectively managed through re-cycling and re-using in the process 250 tons of paper per day.

**MIS** To generate MIS and operational reports, ERP software, SAP ECC6 is used.

**Control Environment** To ensure operational efficiency, the Internal Audit Function is in place that identifies and reports risks. The audit committee reviews the internal audit department reports and planned activities.

## Business Risk

**Industry Dynamics** Pakistan's packaging industry consists of four major segments, paper, plastic, tinplate and glass. Paper and plastic segments occupy the major share in total market. Despite, the economic slowdown caused by several issues, demand for the segment remained almost consistent as it falls in the supply chain of various essential products and industries. The segment's direct costs consist largely of imported raw materials. Chemical wood pulp is one of the main raw materials in the production of paper packaging. Therefore, volatility in exchange rates and international price trends has an impact on costs.

**Relative Position** The Company's market share in the overall industry (Paper & Board) is almost ~12%. Liquid packing board (falls under the purview of paper & Board) - the Company is the sole manufacturer in this segment, and Corrugated board - BSP is the major supplier and holds 14% market share.

**Revenues** The Company generates revenue from the sale of Paper & Board and corrugated Board in the local market as well as through exports. During CY23, the top line of the Company has been increased by ~24% and stood at PKR 59bln (CY22: PKR 48bln). On the back of lowered sale price, the GP margins were reported at 16.6%. As a result of a large expansion in the plants and machinery of BSP and a high policy rate, the net profitability was impacted by higher finance cost. The finance cost increased to PKR 6,102mln (CY22: PKR 2,296mln). Hence, the net profitability clocked in at PKR 226mln (CY22: PKR 3,280mln). During 6MCY24, the top line stood at PKR 30bln, the finance cost was reported at PKR 4,321mln and a net loss of PKR 1,006mln was recorded.

**Margins** The increased raw material costs and high inflationary pressure contributed to reduced gross and operating margins. The GP margin decreased from ~ 20.5% in CY22 to ~ 16.6% in CY23 (6MCY24: 10.4%). While the OP margin decreased from ~ 17.7% in CY22 to ~ 13.8% in CY23 (6MCY24: 6.8%). Hence, the net profit margin reflected a massive decrease from ~6.9% in CY22 to ~0.4% in CY23 (6MCY24: -3.3%).

**Sustainability** The Company has a well-established brand name in the market, especially in consumer products. Going forward, in order to strengthen its market position, BSP has recently done BMR to enhance the production capacity of the paper and board division and corrugator division. Going forward the Company is also planning for further expansion plans including new projects which will majorly reduce the dependence of BSP on imported pulp.

## Financial Risk

**Working Capital** BSP's working capital management is supported through a short-term running finance facility obtained from a consortium of banks. Considering the raw material lead time and product demand in CY23, the inventory days of the Company increased to ~136days from ~129days in CY22 (6MCY24: 116days). The trade receivables days stood at ~32days declining from ~36days in CY22 (6MCY24: 34days). Also, trade payable days declined from ~53days in CY22 and stood at ~47days during CY23 (6MCY24: 42days). The average net working capital days during CY23 were increased to ~121days from ~111days in CY22 (6MCY24: 109days).

**Coverages** In CY23, the Company's FCFOs stood at ~PKR 9,509mln increasing from ~PKR 8,734mln in CY22 (6MCY24: PKR 4,307mln). In CY23, FCFO/Finance cost stood at ~ 1.6% decreased from ~ 3.8% of coverage during CY22 (6MCY24: 1.0%) due to a significant increase in the finance cost.

**Capitalization** The Company has a highly leveraged capital structure. Long-term debt is related to expansion activities, whereas short-term debt is related to working capital management. The Company has planned to finance CAPEX partially with a mix of debt and equity. At the end of CY23, the long-term borrowing has increased to ~PKR 16,593mln from ~PKR 10,551mln in CY22 (6MCY24: PKR 15,511mln) and the fixed assets increased to ~PKR 34,375mln from ~PKR 26,144mln in CY22 (6MCY24: PKR 36,693mln). Furthermore, the short-term borrowing increased to ~PKR 24,572mln from ~PKR 19,148mln in CY22 (6MCY24: PKR 22,799mln). Consequently, at the end of CY23, the total borrowing has increased to ~PKR 43,394mln from ~PKR 31,585mln in CY22 (6MCY24: PKR 41,231mln).



The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency Limited

Financial Summary

PKR mln

Bulleh Shah Packaging (Pvt.) Limited Paper and Packaging	Jun-24	Dec-23	Jun-23	Dec-22	Dec-21	Dec-20	Dec-19
	6M	12M	6M	12M	12M	12M	12M

#### A BALANCE SHEET

1 Non-Current Assets	37,009	34,697	30,250	26,349	17,802	14,826	15,244
2 Investments	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
3 Related Party Exposure	139	178	154	206	39	15	19
4 Current Assets	29,099	34,047	30,913	33,257	19,129	12,626	11,149
<i>a Inventories</i>	15,977	22,733	19,616	21,445	12,216	7,229	5,541
<i>b Trade Receivables</i>	6,847	4,590	4,626	5,619	3,644	2,503	2,544
5 Total Assets	66,253	68,927	61,323	59,818	36,975	27,472	26,418
6 Current Liabilities	9,869	8,678	11,511	10,163	5,043	4,557	3,532
<i>a Trade Payables</i>	7,594	6,262	9,997	9,059	4,806	3,289	3,076
7 Borrowings	41,231	43,394	30,805	31,585	16,507	9,797	11,065
8 Related Party Exposure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9 Non-Current Liabilities	2,660	3,140	2,887	2,291	1,273	557	707
10 Net Assets	12,493	13,716	16,120	15,778	14,153	12,561	11,114
11 Shareholders' Equity	12,493	13,716	16,120	15,778	14,153	12,561	11,114

#### B INCOME STATEMENT

1 Sales	30,407	59,074	31,391	47,589	36,938	28,813	26,414
<i>a Cost of Good Sold</i>	(27,252)	(49,257)	(24,989)	(37,814)	(30,185)	(23,618)	(24,241)
2 Gross Profit	3,155	9,817	6,401	9,775	6,754	5,195	2,173
<i>a Operating Expenses</i>	(1,089)	(1,649)	(808)	(1,344)	(979)	(958)	(951)
3 Operating Profit	2,066	8,168	5,593	8,431	5,774	4,237	1,223
<i>a Non Operating Income or (Expense)</i>	864	(614)	(792)	(650)	(559)	(303)	306
4 Profit or (Loss) before Interest and Tax	2,929	7,554	4,801	7,782	5,215	3,934	1,528
<i>a Total Finance Cost</i>	(4,321)	(6,102)	(2,534)	(2,296)	(860)	(1,209)	(1,504)
<i>b Taxation</i>	385	(1,226)	(1,272)	(2,206)	(1,243)	(75)	(453)
6 Net Income Or (Loss)	(1,006)	226	996	3,280	3,112	2,650	(429)

#### C CASH FLOW STATEMENT

<i>a Free Cash Flows from Operations (FCFO)</i>	4,307	9,509	6,587	8,734	6,504	5,101	2,768
<i>b Net Cash from Operating Activities before Working Capital Ch</i>	(284)	3,631	4,127	6,700	5,669	3,631	1,467
<i>c Changes in Working Capital</i>	6,020	(5,138)	1,074	(15,631)	(5,590)	(1,315)	1,003
1 Net Cash provided by Operating Activities	5,736	(1,507)	5,201	(8,931)	79	2,316	2,470
2 Net Cash (Used in) or Available From Investing Activities	(2,540)	(8,531)	(3,186)	(4,847)	(4,348)	(1,014)	(1,534)
3 Net Cash (Used in) or Available From Financing Activities	(727)	4,634	3,148	4,294	(2,127)	(1,236)	1,234
4 Net Cash generated or (Used) during the period	2,468	(5,404)	5,163	(9,483)	(6,396)	66	2,170

#### D RATIO ANALYSIS

1 Performance							
<i>a Sales Growth (for the period)</i>	2.9%	24.1%	31.9%	28.8%	28.2%	9.1%	0.0%
<i>b Gross Profit Margin</i>	10.4%	16.6%	20.4%	20.5%	18.3%	18.0%	8.2%
<i>c Net Profit Margin</i>	-3.3%	0.4%	3.2%	6.9%	8.4%	9.2%	-1.6%
<i>d Cash Conversion Efficiency (FCFO adjusted for Working Capital Changes) / Operating Profit</i>	34.0%	7.4%	24.4%	-14.5%	2.5%	13.1%	14.3%
<i>e Return on Equity [ Net Profit Margin * Asset Turnover * Total Assets / Equity ]</i>	-15.4%	1.5%	12.5%	21.9%	23.3%	22.4%	-3.9%
2 Working Capital Management							
<i>a Gross Working Capital (Average Days)</i>	150	168	149	165	126	113	112
<i>b Net Working Capital (Average Days)</i>	109	121	94	111	86	73	69
<i>c Current Ratio (Current Assets / Current Liabilities)</i>	2.9	3.9	2.7	3.3	3.8	2.8	3.2
3 Coverages							
<i>a EBITDA / Finance Cost</i>	1.1	1.8	2.9	4.3	8.3	4.6	2.0
<i>b FCFO / Finance Cost + CMLTB + Excess STB</i>	0.6	1.1	1.9	2.1	2.2	2.5	0.8
<i>c Debt Payback (Total Borrowings + Excess STB) / (FCFO - Finance Cost)</i>	-3982.1	5.5	2.1	1.9	1.2	1.7	6.1
4 Capital Structure							
<i>a Total Borrowings / (Total Borrowings + Shareholders' Equity)</i>	76.7%	76.0%	65.6%	66.7%	53.8%	43.8%	49.9%
<i>b Interest or Markup Payable (Days)</i>	96.3	126.9	109.6	176.3	101.3	53.6	111.4
<i>c Entity Average Borrowing Rate</i>	22.4%	17.3%	16.2%	10.2%	6.5%	11.5%	13.5%

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	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>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>AA</b>	
<b>AA-</b>	
<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>A</b>	
<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>BBB</b>	
<b>BBB-</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>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>B-</b>	
<b>CCC</b>	<b>Very high credit risk.</b> 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.
<b>CC</b>	
<b>C</b>	
<b>D</b>	Obligations are currently in default.

  

Short-term Rating	
Scale	Definition
<b>A1+</b>	The highest capacity for timely repayment.
<b>A1</b>	A strong capacity for timely repayment.
<b>A2</b>	A satisfactory capacity for timely repayment. This may be susceptible to adverse changes in business, economic, or financial conditions.
<b>A3</b>	An adequate capacity for timely repayment. Such capacity is susceptible to adverse changes in business, economic, or financial 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.

  

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

<p><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'.</p>	<p><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.</p>	<p><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.</p>	<p><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.</p>	<p><b>Harmonization</b> A change in rating due to revision in applicable methodology or underlying scale.</p>
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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	e) Holding Company Rating
b) Corporate Rating	f) Independent Power Producer Rating
c) Debt Instrument Rating	g) Microfinance Institution Rating
d) Financial Institution Rating	h) Non-Banking Finance Companies 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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### **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 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)

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- (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 | 17-(a)
- (19) PACRA reviews all the outstanding ratings periodically, on annual basis; Provided that public dissemination of annual review and, in an instance of change in rating will be made; | Chapter III | 17-(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 | 17-(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 | 17-(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 | 14-3(f)(vii)

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