

Notification No.: PMEX/MKT,BD&CSS/2022/16

May 24, 2022

**Solicitation of Public Comments on Draft Amendment to the Futures Brokers
(Licensing and Operations) Regulations, 2018**

It is hereby informed that the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has published draft amendment to the Futures Brokers (Licensing and Operations) Regulations, 2018 in the official Gazette and placed the same on its website, for eliciting public opinion thereon, within a period of fourteen days.

The draft amendment is enclosed herewith as **Annexure A** or may be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.secp.gov.pk/laws/draft-for-discussion/draft-rules-regulations/>

All concerned are requested to submit their comments/ feedback, if any, on the draft amendment to the undersigned in hard form or through email at compliance@pmex.com.pk latest by **May 31, 2022**.

For further information and assistance, please feel free to contact our Customer Support Services by phone on 021-111-11-7639 (PMEX), or by email at support@pmex.com.pk.

Best regards,



Tariq Sabih
Chief Regulatory Officer

Encl.: As stated above.

Annexure A

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN

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Islamabad, the 11th May, 2022

NOTIFICATION

S.R.O.601(I)/2022.- The following draft amendment to the Futures Brokers (Licensing and Operations) Regulations 2018, proposed to be made by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan, in exercise of powers conferred by section 114 of the Futures Market Act, 2016 (XIV of 2016), is hereby published for information of all persons likely to be affected thereby and notice is hereby given that objections or suggestions, if any, may be sent to the Commission within fourteen days from the date of placement of the said draft on the website of the Commission, namely:-

DRAFT AMENDMENT

In the aforesaid Regulations, -

- (1) in regulation 2, in sub-regulation (1), clauses (e) and (k) shall be omitted;
- (2) in regulation 4, in sub-regulation (1), -
 - (i) in clause (a), for the semi colon a colon shall be substituted and thereafter the following proviso shall be inserted, namely: -

“Provided that a person holding a valid license to act as a Securities/Future Broker under Securities Brokers (Licensing and Operations) Regulations, 2016 may apply for license as a futures broker for commodities and financial instruments without prior permission of the Commission under these regulations.”;
 - (ii) in clause (e), for the full stop a colon shall be substituted and thereafter the following proviso shall be inserted, namely: -

“Provided that no prior approval of the Commission shall be required in case of reduction of number of sponsors through transfer/sale of shares among existing identified sponsors under clause (e) of Regulation 4.”;
 - (iii) in clause (h), for the word “any” the word “such” shall be substituted; and
 - (iv) clause (k) shall be omitted;
- (3) in regulation 7, -

- (i) in sub-regulation (1), the words “paid up capital and” shall be omitted and for the expression “twenty (20)” the expression “ten (10)” shall be substituted; and
 - (ii) in sub-regulation (2), the expressions “paid up capital and/or” shall be omitted;
- (4) in regulation 8, in sub-regulation (4), for the words “fifteen days” the words “three months” shall be substituted;
- (5) in regulation 9, in sub-regulation (1), for the expression “forty-five (45)” the expression “thirty (30)” shall be substituted;
- (6) in regulation 16, -
 - (i) in sub-regulation (1), in clause (q), the words “on an annual basis” shall be omitted;
 - (ii) in sub-regulation (10), in clause (e), for the word “quarterly” the word “bi-annual” shall be substituted;
 - (iii) in sub-regulation (12), clause (a) shall be omitted;
- (7) in regulation 22, in sub-regulation (6), for the expression “regulation 20” the expression “regulation 21” shall be substituted;
- (8) for regulation 23, the following shall be substituted, namely, -

“23. Receipt of customer money. - A future broker shall not receive customer money in its own name or hold customer assets for whatsoever purpose.”;
- (9) regulation 24 shall be omitted;
- (10) in regulation 27, sub-regulation (2) shall be omitted;
- (11) in regulation 29, -
 - (i) in sub-regulation (5), clause (j) shall be omitted; and
 - (ii) sub-regulation (7) shall be omitted;
- (12) in regulation 31, -
 - (i) in sub-regulation (5), the phrase “must state additionally an opinion as to whether the futures broker was in compliance with the requirements of section 62 of the Act and” shall be omitted;
 - (ii) in sub-regulation 6 clause (a) shall be omitted;

- (13) in Annexure A, in clause (8), sub-clause (g) shall be omitted;
- (14) in form A-I, Form of Application for License as a Futures Broker, for the expression “[see Regulation 5(1)]” the expression “[see Regulation 6(1)]” shall be substituted;
- (15) In Annexure B,-
- (i) In Fit and Proper Criteria, in the first para after the words “before submitting” the words “application for approval” shall be inserted and after the words “to the Commission” the following shall be inserted, namely, -
- “with the exception of scrutiny of the CIB report (which shall be obtained by the Commission).”
- (ii) in sub-clause (3(c)) of clause (b) under the head Educational or other Qualification or Experience of Annexure B, Fit and Proper Criteria, the following proviso shall be deleted;
- “Provided that where a person possesses seven years of relevant experience of the financial services sector/capital markets/commodity business, the minimum qualification requirement provided in clause (a) may be relaxed.”
- (iii) In sub-clause (4(b)) of clause (b) under the head Educational or other Qualification or Experience of Annexure B, Fit and Proper Criteria, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely, -
- “Provided that for all of the above persons, where a person possesses seven years of relevant experience of the financial services sector/capital markets/commodity business, the minimum qualification requirement shall be relaxed.”
- (a) Sub-clause (a(iii)) of clause 2 of Annexure C, Corporate Governance Code for Futures Broker, shall be deleted;
- (b) In sub-clause a of clause 3 of Annexure C, Corporate Governance Code for Futures Broker, for the word “shall” the word “may” shall be substituted and after the words “timely information” the words “on a voluntary basis” shall be inserted;
- (16) In Annexure C, -
- (i) clause 7, “Corporate Governance Code for Futures Broker,” after the words “statutory audit conducted from an auditor” the expression “from a list

maintained by ICAP of practicing firms having satisfactory QCR rating.” shall be inserted;

- (ii) In sub-clause (b) of clause 9, Corporate Governance Code for Futures Broker, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely, -

“Provided that a licensed futures broker may comply with the above requirement in respect of quarterly financial statements on a voluntary basis.]”.

[File No. SMD/SE/2(287)/2018]


(Bilal Rasul)
Secretary to the Commission