FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ELECTION COMMISSION – FPCCI

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> FPCCI.Election.2024-25/2023_12:384 23rd November 2023

Through E-mail, Website, Courier

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NOMINEE FROM PAKISTAN CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

----- APPELLANT

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NOMINEES FROM PAK-IRAN JOINT CCI

RESPONDENTS

DECISION #48 (074 - 206)

PASSED BY THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF FPCCI (FPCCI ELECTIONS 2024-2025)

Consequent upon Appellant's written representation / appeal to the Election Commission of FPCCI, received on 18th November 2023 in FPCCI Head Office Karachi from Mr. Zubair F. Tufail, nominee of Pakistan Chemical Manf Association, against the decision of the Secretary General of FPCCI, as follows:

Decision of the Secretary General:

"That the sole objection raised by he learned council for the Complainant is that the status of the Joint Chamber in FPCCI is only restricted to the extent that they are member of FPCCI whereas they do not have the right to vote in the election of FPCCI. In this regard he has submitted few documents. Whereas, the FPCCI has received clarification, Ref. No. 17(31)/2008-TO, dated 20th May 2015, issued by the office of the DGTO Ministry of Commerce, whereby the status of the Joint Chambers is that of Association and also have the right to vote.

The said clarification was also shared with the learned Council for the Complainant and after going through the same he has waived his objection.

In view of the explanation on the status of Joint Chambers by the Secretary General of FPCCI, the nomination is hereby accepted to be found to be valid. Accordingly the objection(s) are declined."

Hearing Proceedings:

In order to provide both the parties an equal right of representation and plead their respective stances, the Election Commission of FPCCI granted both parties with the hearing opportunity on 20th November, 2023 at FPCCI Head Office

Mr. Ghulam Sarwar Malik, Advocate High Court, appeared for the Appellant while Mr. Asad Ullah Jan, Advocate High Court appeared for the Respondents. The main contention(s) of the Appellant are:

As the licenses of the said organizations have been cancelled / expired, they are not eligible to be enrolled/admitted as member of FPCCI or participate in elections of FPCCI for 2023. Moreover, the nominees do not have valid business of the relevant organization.

In response, the advocate for the Respondents referred to the Orders of the Sindh High Court in various Suits which first allowed the said trade bodies to submit their votes for FPCCI elections held in 2021 in sealed envelope, not to be counted, but later allowed their votes to be counted. However, it was observed that these orders were with specific reference to those elections. The learned Counsel did not provide any evidence regarding renewal or re-issuance of the relevant trade bodies' licenses.

Decision of the Election Commission of FPCCI:

The licenses of these trade bodies were cancelled by the Regulator (Director General Trade Organizations), and the cancellation orders were upheld by the Secretary Commerce. Subsequently, the Baluchistan High Court passed Order setting aside the orders, restoring the licenses of the appellants, and remanding the matter to the Regulator for decision as per law. However, the Respondents have failed to provide any proof of submitting application/compliance to the DGTO or renewal/re-issuance of their licenses. These organizations are treated as unlicensed, so they are not entitled to be members of FPCCI and not allowed to participate in FPCCI elections.

This order is passed on Thursday, 23rd November 2023.

ARSHAD KHURSHID Member of the Election Commission

Copy to:

Member of the Election Commissioned Tunio

Election Commission Directorate General of Trade Organizations, Islamabad per Secretary General FPCCI FPCC1 2024-2025

ANJUM RASHEED BAWAheed Bawa Member of the Election Commission Member Commission

Election Commission FPCC1 2024-2025