

Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan Internal & External Communication Unit

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CLARIFICATION TO A NEWS ITEM PUBLISHED IN BUSINESS RECORDER

ISLAMABAD - 2 APRIL 2008: With reference to the news item captioned "SECP barred from altering policy board decisions" of your esteemed paper dated 2nd April, 2008, it is submitted that the caption is misleading and has no relevance with the story. It is to clarify that the procedure and conduct of business of the Securities and Exchange Policy Board has been specifically laid down under the Securities and Exchange Policy Board (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2000. Sub-regulation (8) of regulation 3 of the said Regulations states that a fair and accurate summary of the minutes of all proceedings of the meetings of the Policy Board, along with the names of those participating in such meetings shall be entered in a properly maintained book. Hence there is no question of alteration in the Policy Board's decisions by the SECP. The said Regulations further provide for the draft minutes of each the meeting to be circulated among the members of the Policy Board within seven days of the conclusion of the proceedings. The minutes are finalized after taking into account the observations, if any, of the members of the Policy Board and placed before the next meeting of the Board for confirmation. The proceedings of each meeting are signed and dated by the Chairman after the confirmation of the minutes and the proceedings so signed are conclusive evidence of the proceedings.

As regards the proceedings of the Policy Board meeting held on 4th March, 2008, it is pointed out that for the purpose of having timely input vis-à-vis factual accuracy of the minutes by the members of the Policy Board and enabling the Commission to implement the decision taken in the meeting, the prescribed procedure has been further elaborated. In the said meeting, it was agreed that the recorded minutes should always reflect the factual proceedings of the meeting and all decisions should be recorded as such. However, in case a Member has any reservation, he may communicate to the Commission within 3 days such reservations in writing providing reasons for his objections and also to circulate the same to other

Members of the Board. The Members' objection, if based on valid factual grounds shall be adopted, otherwise, the objections shall be placed before the next meeting for a decision by the members prior to confirmation of minutes....*Ends*

Sd.

Imran Ghaznavi

Head of the Internal & External Communications and Official Spokesman

Phone: 0519214005