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Case File No. CCC/MER/03/08/2019

Decision<sup>1</sup> of the Fifty-Sixth (56<sup>th</sup>) Committee Responsible for Initial Determination Regarding the Proposed Acquisition of Hytech Egypt USA LLC by Seedstone Holding

ECONOMIC SECTOR: Agriculture

3rd May 2019

ne Bell TRD

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In the published version of this decision, some information has been omitted pursuant to Rule 73 of the COMESA Competition Rules concerning non-disclosure of business secrets and other confidential information. Where possible the information omitted has been replaced by ranges of figures or a general description.

## Nature of the Transaction

 The proposed transaction concerns the acquisition by Seedstone of sole control in Hytech and its subsdiary Misr Hytech.

## Competition Analysis

- The CID defined the relevant markets as follows:
  - a) supply of hybrid white corn seeds for human consumption in Egypt;
  - b) supply of hybrid corn seeds for non-human consumption in Egypt;
  - c) supply of hybrid grain sorghum seeds in Egypt;
  - d) supply of hybrid sorghum sudangrass seeds in Egypt; and
  - e) supply of hybrid squash seeds in Egypt
- The CID observed that the merger will not result in any market share accretion, due to the lack of overlapping activities between the merging parties pre-merger.

## Determination

- 11. The CID determined that the merger was not likely to substantially lessen and prevent competition in the Common Market or any substantial part of it. It was also determined that the merger transaction does not affect a substantial part of the Common Market. Consequently, the transaction was not likely to negatively affect trade between Member States. The CID therefore approved the transaction.
- This decision is adopted in accordance with Article 26 of the Regulations.

Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2019

Commissioner Patrick Okilangole (Chairperson)

Commissioner Brian Lingela

(Member)

Commissioner Thembelihle Dube Nee Dlamini

(Member)