

The Company Secretary,
Equitas Holdings Ltd.
410A, 4th Floor, Spencer Plaza,
Phase II, No. 769, Mount Road,
Anna Salai, Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600002.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Observation Letter regarding the Scheme of Amalgamation between Equitas Holdings Limited and Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited and Their Respective Shareholders.

We are in receipt of the draft Scheme of Amalgamation filed by Equitas Holdings Limited as required under SEBI Circular No. CFD/DIL3/CIR/2017/21 dated March 10, 2017; SEBI vide its letter dated June 09, 2022, has inter alia given the following comment(s) on the draft scheme of Amalgamation:

- a) **Company shall ensure that it discloses all details of ongoing adjudication & recovery proceedings, prosecution initiated, and all other enforcement action taken, if any, against the Company, its promoters and directors, before Hon'ble NCLT and Shareholders, while seeking approval of the scheme.”**
- b) **“Company shall ensure that additional information and undertakings, if any, submitted by the Company, after filing the scheme with the Stock Exchange, and from the date of receipt of this letter, is displayed on the websites of the listed Company and the Stock Exchanges.”**
- c) **“Company shall duly comply with various provisions of the Circular from time to time.”**
- d) **“The entities involved in the scheme shall duly comply with various provisions of the Circular.”**
- e) **“Company is advised that the information pertaining to all the Unlisted Companies involved in the Scheme shall be included in the format specified for abridged prospectus as provided in Part E of Schedule VI of the ICDR Regulations, 2018, in the explanatory statement or notice or proposal accompanying resolution to be passed, which is sent to the shareholders for seeking approval.”**
- f) **“Company shall ensure that the financials in the scheme including financials considered for valuation report are not for period more than 6 months old.”**
- g) **“Company is advised that the details of the proposed Scheme under consideration as provided by the Company to the Stock Exchange shall be prominently disclosed in the notice sent to the Shareholders.”**
- h) **Company is advised that the proposed Equity Shares to be issued in terms of the ‘Scheme’ shall mandatorily be in demat form only.”**
- i) **“Company shall ensure that the “Scheme” shall be acted upon subject to the applicant complying with the relevant clauses mentioned in the scheme document.”**
- j) **“Company to ensure that no changes to the draft Scheme except those mandated by the regulators/ authorities / tribunals shall be made without specific written consent of SEBI.”**

- k) “Company is advised that the observations of SEBI/Stock Exchanges shall be incorporated in the petition to be filed before Hon'ble NCLT and the Company obliged to bring the observations to the notice of Hon'ble NCLT.”
- l) “Company is advised to comply with all applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, rules and regulations issued thereunder including obtaining the consent from the creditors for the proposed scheme.”
- m) “It is to be noted that the petitions are filed by the Company before Hon'ble NCLT after processing and communication of comments/observations on draft Scheme by SEBI/Stock Exchange. Hence, the Company is not required to send notice for representation as mandated under section 230(5) of Companies Act, 2013 to SEBI again for its comments/observations/representations.”

Accordingly, based on aforesaid comment offered by SEBI, the company is hereby advised:

- i. To provide additional information, if any, (as stated above) along with various documents to the Exchange for further dissemination on Exchange website.
- ii. To ensure that additional information, if any, (as stated aforesaid) along with various documents are disseminated on their (company) website.
- iii. To duly comply with various provisions of the circulars.

In light of the above, we hereby advise that we have no adverse observations with limited reference to those matters having a bearing on listing/de-listing/continuous listing requirements within the provisions of Listing Agreement, so as to enable the company to file the scheme with Hon'ble NCLT.

Further, where applicable in the explanatory statement of the notice to be sent by the company to the shareholders, while seeking approval of the scheme, it shall disclose information about unlisted company involved in the format prescribed for abridged prospectus as specified in the circular dated March 10, 2017.

Kindly note that as required under Regulation 37(3) of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the validity of this Observation Letter shall be six months from the date of this Letter, within which the scheme shall be submitted to the NCLT.

The Exchange reserves its right to withdraw its 'No adverse observation' at any stage if the information submitted to the Exchange is found to be incomplete / incorrect / misleading / false or for any contravention of Rules, Bye-laws and Regulations of the Exchange, Listing Agreement, Guidelines/Regulations issued by statutory authorities. Please note that the aforesaid observations does not preclude the Company from complying with any other requirements.

Further, it may be noted that with reference to Section 230 (5) of the Companies Act, 2013 (Act), read with Rule 8 of Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations) Rules 2016 (Company Rules) and Section 66 of the Act read with Rule 3 of the Company Rules wherein pursuant to an Order passed by the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, a Notice of the proposed scheme of compromise or arrangement filed under sections 230-232 or Section 66 of the Companies Act 2013 as the case may be **is required to be served upon the Exchange seeking representations or objections if any.**

In this regard, with a view to have a better transparency in processing the aforesaid notices served upon the Exchange, the Exchange has **already introduced an online system of serving such Notice along with the relevant documents of the proposed schemes through the BSE Listing Centre.**

Any service of notice under Section 230 (5) or Section 66 of the Companies Act 2013 seeking Exchange's representations or objections if any, **would be accepted and processed through the Listing Centre only and no physical filings would be accepted.** You may please refer to circular dated February 26, 2019 issued to the company.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

Prasad Bhide
Manager

DCS/AMAL/MJ/IP/2363/2022-23

“E-Letter”

June 10, 2022

The Company Secretary,
Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd.
Phase II, Spencer Plaza,
No. 769, 4th Floor, Mount Road,
Anna Salai, Chennai, Tamil Nadu- 600002.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Observation Letter regarding the Scheme of Amalgamation between Equitas Holdings Limited and Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited and Their Respective Shareholders.

We are in receipt of the draft Scheme of Amalgamation filed by Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd. as required under SEBI Circular No. CFD/DIL3/CIR/2017/21 dated March 10, 2017; SEBI vide its letter dated June 09, 2022, has inter alia given the following comment(s) on the draft scheme of Amalgamation:

- a) **Company shall ensure that it discloses all details of ongoing adjudication & recovery proceedings, prosecution initiated, and all other enforcement action taken, if any, against the Company, its promoters and directors, before Hon'ble NCLT and Shareholders, while seeking approval of the scheme.”**
- b) **“Company shall ensure that additional information and undertakings, if any, submitted by the Company, after filing the scheme with the Stock Exchange, and from the date of receipt of this letter, is displayed on the websites of the listed Company and the Stock Exchanges.”**
- c) **“Company shall duly comply with various provisions of the Circular issued from time to time.”**
- d) **“The entities involved in the scheme shall duly comply with various provisions of the Circular.”**
- e) **“Company is advised that the information pertaining to all the Unlisted Companies involved in the Scheme shall be included in the format specified for abridged prospectus as provided in Part E of Schedule VI of the ICDR Regulations, 2018, in the explanatory statement or notice or proposal accompanying resolution to be passed, which is sent to the shareholders for seeking approval.”**
- f) **“Company shall ensure that the financials in the scheme including financials considered for valuation report are not for period more than 6 months old.”**
- g) **“Company is advised that the details of the proposed Scheme under consideration as provided by the Company to the Stock Exchange shall be prominently disclosed in the notice sent to the Shareholders.”**
- h) **Company is advised that the proposed Equity Shares to be issued in terms of the ‘Scheme’ shall mandatorily be in demat form only.”**
- i) **“Company shall ensure that the “Scheme” shall be acted upon subject to the applicant complying with the relevant clauses mentioned in the scheme document.”**
- j) **“Company to ensure that no changes to the draft Scheme except those mandated by the regulators/ authorities / tribunals shall be made without specific written consent of SEBI.”**

- k) “Company is advised that the observations of SEBI/Stock Exchanges shall be incorporated in the petition to be filed before Hon'ble NCLT and the Company obliged to bring the observations to the notice of Hon'ble NCLT.”
- l) “Company is advised to comply with all applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, rules and regulations issued thereunder including obtaining the consent from the creditors for the proposed scheme.”
- m) “It is to be noted that the petitions are filed by the Company before Hon'ble NCLT after processing and communication of comments/observations on draft Scheme by SEBI/Stock Exchange. Hence, the Company is not required to send notice for representation as mandated under section 230(5) of Companies Act, 2013 to SEBI again for its comments/observations/representations.”

Accordingly, based on aforesaid comment offered by SEBI, the company is hereby advised:

- i. To provide additional information, if any, (as stated above) along with various documents to the Exchange for further dissemination on Exchange website.
- ii. To ensure that additional information, if any, (as stated aforesaid) along with various documents are disseminated on their (company) website.
- iii. To duly comply with various provisions of the circulars.

In light of the above, we hereby advise that we have no adverse observations with limited reference to those matters having a bearing on listing/de-listing/continuous listing requirements within the provisions of Listing Agreement, so as to enable the company to file the scheme with Hon'ble NCLT.

Further, where applicable in the explanatory statement of the notice to be sent by the company to the shareholders, while seeking approval of the scheme, it shall disclose information about unlisted company involved in the format prescribed for abridged prospectus as specified in the circular dated March 10, 2017.

Kindly note that as required under Regulation 37(3) of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the validity of this Observation Letter shall be six months from the date of this Letter, within which the scheme shall be submitted to the NCLT.

The Exchange reserves its right to withdraw its 'No adverse observation' at any stage if the information submitted to the Exchange is found to be incomplete / incorrect / misleading / false or for any contravention of Rules, Bye-laws and Regulations of the Exchange, Listing Agreement, Guidelines/Regulations issued by statutory authorities. Please note that the aforesaid observations does not preclude the Company from complying with any other requirements.

Further, it may be noted that with reference to Section 230 (5) of the Companies Act, 2013 (Act), read with Rule 8 of Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations) Rules 2016 (Company Rules) and Section 66 of the Act read with Rule 3 of the Company Rules wherein pursuant to an Order passed by the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, a Notice of the proposed scheme of compromise or arrangement filed under sections 230-232 or Section 66 of the Companies Act 2013 as the case may be **is required to be served upon the Exchange seeking representations or objections if any.**



In this regard, with a view to have a better transparency in processing the aforesaid notices served upon the Exchange, the Exchange has **already introduced an online system of serving such Notice along with the relevant documents of the proposed schemes through the BSE Listing Centre.**

Any service of notice under Section 230 (5) or Section 66 of the Companies Act 2013 seeking Exchange's representations or objections if any, **would be accepted and processed through the Listing Centre only and no physical filings would be accepted.** You may please refer to circular dated February 26, 2019 issued to the company.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

Prasad Bhide
Manager



BSE Limited (Formerly Bombay Stock Exchange Ltd.)
Floor 15, P J Towers, Dalal Street, Mumbai 400 001, India.
T: +91 22 2272 1235 | E: corp.com@bseindia.com | www.bseindia.com
Corporate Identity Number: U67130MH2005PL155198

National Stock Exchange Of India Limited

Ref: NSE/LIST/30522 _II

June 10, 2022

The Company Secretary
Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited
Phase II, Spencer Plaza, No. 769, 4th Floor,
Mount Road, Anna Salai, Chennai – 600002.

Kind Attn.: Mr. Sampathkumar K. Raghunathan

Dear Sir,

Sub: Observation Letter for Draft Scheme of Amalgamation between Equitas Holdings Limited and Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited and their respective shareholders.

We are in receipt of Draft Scheme of Amalgamation between Equitas Holdings Limited and Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited and their respective shareholders.

Based on our letter reference no. NSE/LIST/30522 dated May 19,2022 submitted to SEBI and pursuant to SEBI Circular No. CFD/DIL3/CIR/2017/21 dated March 10,2017, as amended from time to time, and the SEBI Master Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/DIL1/CIR/P/2020/249 dated December 22,2020 for comments on the Draft Scheme of Arrangement, kindly find following comments on the draft scheme:

- a. *Company shall ensure disclosure of all details of ongoing adjudication & recovery proceedings, prosecution initiated, and all other enforcement action taken, if any, against the Company, its promoters and directors, before Hon'ble NCLT and shareholders, while seeking approval of the scheme.*
- b. *Company shall ensure that additional information, if any, submitted by the Company after filing the Scheme with the Stock Exchanges, from the date of receipt of this letter is displayed on the websites of the listed company and the Stock Exchanges.*
- c. *Company shall ensure that compliance with SEBI Circulars from time to time.*
- d. *Company shall ensure that the scheme shall duly comply with various provisions of the Circular.*
- e. *Company shall ensure that the information pertaining to all the unlisted Companies involved in the scheme shall be included in the format specified for abridged prospectus as provided in Part E of Schedule VI of the ICDR Regulations, 2018, in the explanatory statement or notice or proposal accompanying resolution to be passed, which is sent to the shareholders for seeking approval.*
- f. *Company shall ensure that the financials in the scheme including financials considered for valuation report are not for period more than 6 months old.*

- g. Company shall ensure that the details of the proposed scheme under consideration as provided to the stock exchange shall be prominently disclosed in the notice sent to the shareholders.*
- h. Company shall ensure that the proposed equity shares to be issued in terms of the “scheme” shall mandatorily be in a demat form only.*
- i. Company shall ensure that the “scheme” shall be acted upon subject to the applicant complying with the relevant clauses mentioned in the scheme document.*
- j. Company shall ensure that no changes in the draft scheme except those mandated by the regulators/ tribunals shall be made without specific written consent of SEBI.*
- k. Company is advised that the observations of SEBI/Stock Exchanges shall be incorporated in the petition to be filed before NCLT and the company is obliged to bring the observations to the notice of NCLT.*
- l. Company shall ensure to comply with the applicable provisions of the Companies Act,2013, rules and regulations issued thereunder including obtaining the consent from the creditors for the proposed scheme.*
- m. It is to be noted that the petitions are filed by the Company before NCLT after processing and communication of comments/observations on draft scheme by SEBI/Stock Exchanges. Hence, the company is not required to send notice for representation as mandated under Section 230(5) of Companies Act, 2013 to SEBI again for its comments/ observations/ representations.*

It is to be noted that the petitions are filed by the company before NCLT after processing and communication of comments/observations on draft scheme by SEBI/ stock exchange. Hence, the company is not required to send notice for representation as mandated under section 230(5) of Companies Act, 2013 to National Stock Exchange of India Limited again for its comments/observations/representations.

Based on the draft scheme and other documents submitted by the Company, including undertaking given in terms of Regulation 11 of SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015, we hereby convey our “No objection” in terms of Regulation 94 of SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015, so as to enable the Company to file the draft scheme with NCLT.

However, the Exchange reserves its rights to raise objections at any stage if the information submitted to the Exchange is found to be incomplete/ incorrect/ misleading/ false or for any contravention of Rules, Bye-laws and Regulations of the Exchange, Listing Regulations, Guidelines/ Regulations issued by statutory authorities. The validity of this “Observation Letter” shall be six months from June 10,2022 within which the scheme shall be submitted to NCLT.

The Company shall ensure filing of compliance status report stating the compliance with each point of Observation Letter on draft scheme of arrangement on the following path: NEAPS > Issue > Scheme of arrangement > Reg 37(1) of SEBI LODR, 2015> Seeking Observation letter to Compliance Status.

Yours faithfully,
For National Stock Exchange of India Limited

Dipti Chinchkhede
Manager

P.S. Checklist for all the Further Issues is available on website of the exchange at the following URL:
<https://www.nseindia.com/companies-listing/raising-capital-further-issues-main-sme-checklist>