

The JFTC Reviewed the Proposed Acquisition of Shares of The Eighteenth Bank, Ltd. by Fukuoka Financial Group, Ltd.

(Tentative Translation)

August 24, 2018

Japan Fair Trade Commission

Receiving notifications regarding the proposed acquisition of shares of The Eighteenth Bank, Ltd. (JCN7310001000829) (hereinafter referred to as “The Eighteenth Bank”) by Fukuoka Financial Group, Ltd. (JCN9290001028986) (hereinafter referred to as “FFG”), the Japan Fair Trade Commission (JFTC) reviewed the transaction and reached the conclusion that, given the remedies proposed by the parties, competition in any particular fields of trade is unlikely to be substantially restrained. Accordingly, the JFTC has notified FFG that it will not issue a cease and desist order, resulting in the completion of its review.

(※) JCN : Japan Corporate Number

I. Overview of the Transaction

FFG plans to acquire the shares of The Eighteenth Bank and thereby to obtain more than 50 percent of The Eighteenth Bank’s voting rights.

II. Reviewing Process

- Receipt of the notification regarding the proposed transaction on June 8th, 2016 (the start of the primary review)
- Request for reports, etc. by the JFTC on July 8th, 2016 (the start of the secondary review)
- Receipt of all requested reports, etc. on August 15th, 2018 (the due date for a prior notice was set on November 14th, 2018)
- Clearance notification on August 24th, 2018

III. Conclusion

As a result of its review, based on the premise that the parties will implement their proposed remedies, the JFTC concludes that the proposed transaction would not substantially restrain competition in the particular fields of trade.

(Footnote)

The JFTC has been authorized to conduct reviews on whether plans of business combination may be substantially to restrain competition in particular fields of trade by following procedures prescribed in the Antimonopoly Act (hereinafter referred to as the “AMA”). When a notifying corporation submits a notification form

to the JFTC and the JFTC receives it, the notifying corporation is prohibited from effecting the planned business combination in question by the expiration of the 30 days waiting period from the date of receipt of the said notification. During the waiting period, concerning the business combination in question, the JFTC will either; (1) judge that the said business combination is not problematic in light of the AMA, or; (2) judge that more detailed review is necessary and request submission of the necessary reports, information or materials.

In the case of (1) above, to improve transparency of the review of business combination, the JFTC shall give notification to the effect that it will not issue a cease and desist order.

In the case of (2) above, the period when the JFTC may give notice of hearing of opinions shall be extended until 120 days after the date of receipt of the notification or 90 days after the date of receipt of all reports etc., whichever is later. In case the JFTC judges, within this extended period, that the business combination plan in question is not problematic in light of the AMA, it shall give notification to the effect that it will not issue a cease and desist order, same as the case of (1).