BEFORE THE ADJUDICATING OFFICER SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA, MUMBAI CONSENT ORDER

On the Application submitted by <u>Choice International Ltd.</u> <u>In the matter of Choice International Ltd.</u>

CO/CFD-DCR/1902/2010/AO/BM/60/2010

- 1. Securities and Exchange Board of India (hereinafter referred to as 'SEBI') had initiated adjudication proceedings against Choice International Ltd. (hereinafter referred as 'Noticee'), for the alleged violation of the provisions Regulation 6(2), 6(4), and 8(3) of the SEBI (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) Regulations, 1997. The undersigned was appointed as Adjudicating Officer (AO) under SEBI (Procedure for Holding Inquiry and Imposing Penalties by Adjudicating Officer) Rules, 1995 (hereinafter referred to as the Adjudication Rules) to inquire into and adjudge under Section 15A(b) of the SEBI Act, 1992 (hereinafter referred to as the 'Act') for the aforesaid violations. Consequently a Show Cause Notice bearing No.EAD-6/BM/DJ/193763/2010 dated February 04, 2010 was issued to the Noticee under Rule 4 of the Adjudication Rules.
- 2. While the Adjudication Proceedings were in progress, the Noticee made an application dated March 04, 2010 and an affidavit of "undertakings and waivers" in terms of SEBI Circular No. EFD/ Cir.-1/2007 dated 20th April, 2007 for Consent Order in respect of the aforesaid notice before SEBI. Subsequently, the Noticee vide its letter dated May 05, 2010 proposed revised consent terms Rs.3,85,000/- (Rupees Three Lakh Eighty Five Thousand only) towards settlement charges in the matter of Choice International Ltd. The revised terms as proposed by the Noticee were placed before the High Powered Advisory Committee (hereinafter referred to as 'HPAC') on May 31, 2010. The HPAC considered the facts and circumstances of the case, consent terms offered by the Noticee and the material brought before it by SEBI and recommended that the case may be settled on the consent terms proposed by the Noticee, which has been approved by the panel of Whole Time Members of SEBI on June 21, 2010. Thereafter, SEBI vide

letter dated June 23, 2010 conveyed the recommendations of the HPAC to the applicant and advised the applicant to pay in accordance with consent terms.

3. In terms of the proposal of the Noticee, for the sole purpose of settling the matter on hand, without admitting or denying the guilt on the part of the Noticee to the finding of fact or conclusion of law, the Noticee has remitted a sum of Rs.3,85,000/- (Rupees Three Lakh Eighty Five Thousand only) vide Demand Draft No. 003335 dated June 25, 2010, drawn on The HDFC Bank, Bharth House, Mumbai, towards settlement charges.

4. In view of above, it is hereby ordered that,

 This consent order disposes of the said proceedings pending against the Noticee under Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 and

ii) Passing of this order is without prejudice to the right of SEBI to take enforcement actions including commencing / reopening of the pending proceedings against the Noticee, if SEBI finds that

 a. any representation made by the Noticee in the consent proceedings is subsequently discovered to be untrue.

b. the Noticee has breached any of the clauses / conditions of undertakings / waivers filed during the current consent proceedings.

5. This consent order is passed on June 30, 2010 and shall come into force with immediate effect.

6. In terms of rule 6 of SEBI (Procedure for Holding Inquiry and Imposing Penalties by Adjudicating Officer) Rules, 1995, copies of this order are sent to the Noticee and also to SEBI

Place: Mumbai Barnali Mukherjee Adjudicating Officer