



## MERGER NOTICE NO 6: 2015

### **THE PROPOSED JOINT VENTURE INVOLVING ALL THE ACTIVITIES OF SPRINGER SCIENCE AND BUSINESS MEDIA G.P. ACQUISITION SCA AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES AND MOST OF THE ACTIVITIES OF HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHING GROUP'S BUSINESS UNIT "MACMILLAN SCIENCE AND EDUCATION"**

Pursuant to section 56(1) of the Competition Act (Cap 46:09), the Competition Authority has received a merger notification between Springer Science and Business Media G.P. Acquisition SCA ("SSBM SCA") and Holtzbrinck Publishing Group ("HPG"). The proposed transaction is a global transaction in terms of which all the activities of SSBM SCA and its subsidiaries (collectively "SSBM Group") and most of the activities of HPG's business unit "Macmillan Science and Education" (the "HPG JV Business") will be combined in a Joint Venture, which will be jointly controlled by HPG and SSBM SCA.

HPG is a global publishing company incorporated under the Laws of Germany and it has three core operational divisions: (i) Macmillan Science and Education; (ii) Macmillan publishers and Holtzbrinck Digital; and (iii) Information & Services. The only division which is relevant to the proposed transaction is Macmillan Science and Education. HPG has minor sales in Botswana in respect of academic publishing.

On the other hand, SSBM Group is a global publishing company incorporated under the Laws of England and Wales. Its principal business activities comprise the publishing of academic journals and books, primarily in the science, technology and medical fields, certain operations in the area of online databases and workflow tools and local language professional publishing under various imprints, amongst others, in Germany and the Netherlands. SSBM Group has no operations in Botswana; however it does have very minor sales in Botswana in respect of academic publishing.

According to Section 57(3) of the Competition Act, "any person, including a third party not a party to the proposed merger, may voluntarily submit to the inspector or the Authority any document, affidavit, statement or other relevant information in respect of the proposed merger".

The Competition Authority therefore seeks any stakeholder views for and against the proposed merger, which may be sent within 10 days from date of this publication to the following address:

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