

OUTCOME OF CASES ON TRIBUNAL ROLL FOR WEDNESDAY, 15 MARCH 2017

Type of matter	Parties involved	Competition Commission's recommendation to Tribunal	Decision by Competition Tribunal
Settlement agreement	Competition Commission and Blinkwater Mills (Pty)	Confirm settlement agreement	Confirmed settlement
a.g. comem	Ltd	ag. comon	agreement

Blinkwater Mills Settlement agreement confirmed by Tribunal

The Tribunal has confirmed the settlement agreement between Blinkwater Mills and the Competition Commission.

The Commission and Blinkwater entered into an agreement whereby the company will pay R10 112 504.20 for colluding with other companies to fix the price of milled white products and the dates when the new pricing would be implemented.

The proposed administrative penalty is 5% of Blinkwater's effective turnover for the financial year end February 2007. Blinkwater has undertaken in the future to assist the Commission with its investigation into this cartel. There are still 10 respondents in this matter.

In March 2007 The Commission initiated a complaint against Tiger, Pioneer, Foodcorp, Pride and Progress Milling in the maize milling industry. Initiation was further extended to include Blinkwater, Godrich, TWK, Keystone, Westra, Carolina Mills, Brenner, Paramount, NTK, Kalel, Bothawille and Allem Brothers.

The Commission found that in stages between 1999 and 2007 the respondents were involved in price fixing of white milled maize products and in meetings and discussions agreed to fix the maize price and the companies fixed the dates on which price increments were to be implemented.

Blinkwater had previously brought a dismissal application questioning the validity of the application for leniency for Tiger Brands. The application was dismissed by the Tribunal. The following respondents have also concluded settlement agreements: Keystone (penalty R6 730 349) and Carolina Rollermeule (penalty R4 417 546). Tiger Brands and Premier Foods were leniency applicants.

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