



## UIA 11<sup>th</sup> Winter Seminar Cross-border M&A Transactions

### M&A in Highly Regulated Industries -Asset Deals in the Life Sciences Sector Switzerland

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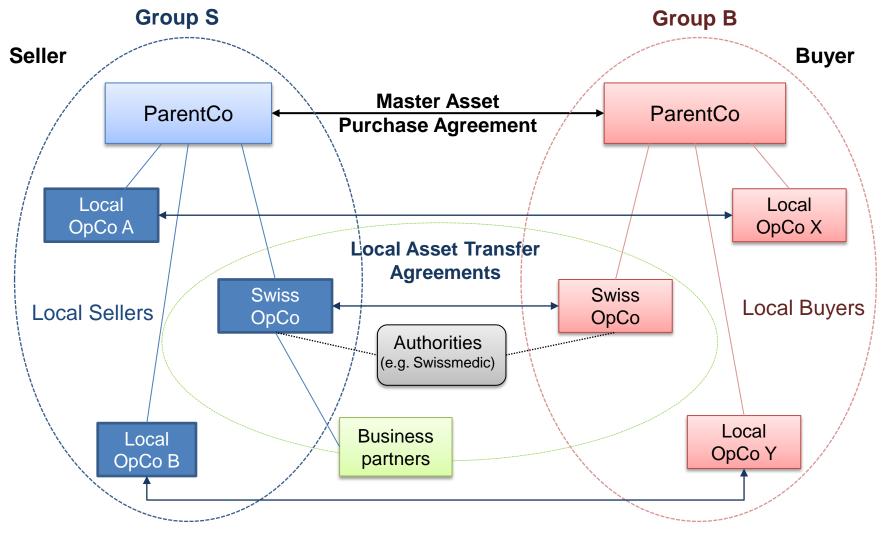
## Introduction

- M&A activity in Life Sciences sector
- The involved parties
- Acquisitions & divestitures
  - Businesses or parts thereof
  - Products and product lines
- Goals / reasons for M&A
- Life Sciences sector: highly regulated industry





### Case Study – Overview





## Case Study – Facts

- The Pharma sector
- The «Business»
- Involved parties
  - Group S(eller) and affiliates
  - Group B(uyer) and affiliates
  - Business partners (e.g. supply, distribution)
- Planned divestiture
  - Divestiture of the Business (with several products).
  - Seller is pharma company, operates Business in various markets / jurisdictions with local OpCos.
  - Buyer is experienced in food industry, the Business is a new field.
  - Divestiture in form of asset deal.



# **Regulatory Framework / Challenges**

- Products: Pharmaceuticals
- Regulated industry
  - Swiss statutes, regulations / ordinances
  - Industry standards (GMP, GDP)
- Regulator: Swissmedic (<u>www.swissmedic.ch</u>)
- Establishment licenses
  - Manufacturing, import, wholesale trading, export
  - Requirements
- Marketing authorizations (MA)
  - Product specific authorization
  - Requirements
- Other regulatory issues (e.g. labeling, marketing)



# Regulatory / Impacts on Transaction

- Seller's perspective
  - Preparation of carve-out / divestiture
  - Divesting entities
  - Identification of assets, liabilities, contracts of Business
  - Regulatory aspects
  - Transitional considerations
- Buyer's perspective
  - Due diligence
  - Ability to take over / operate the Business (e.g. licenses)
  - Acquiring entities
  - Transitional considerations



# Structuring of Transaction

- «Global» divestiture
  - Cross-border, different jurisdictions
  - Master asset purchase agreement (APA)
  - Local asset transfer agreements (ATA)
  - Staggered completion / implementation
- Master APA vs. local ATA
  - Master APA builds basis / framework
  - Local implementation via ATA
  - Ancillary agreements (e.g. manufacturing, services)
  - Choice of law, dispute resolution
- Impact of local laws (e.g. Swiss law)
  - Form of asset deal, transfers and assumptions
  - Employment, tax, regulatory aspects
  - Completion related local law issues



## Master APA vs. Local ATAs

#### Master APA

- Parties: ParentCos
- Sale of assets (description of Business and description / listing of related assets and liabilities)
- Purchase price; adjustment mechanisms
- Closing
  - Conditions
  - Closing sequence
  - Country specific requirements
- Reps & warranties
- Covenants (documentation, cooperation, notifications)
- Remedies; indemnification
- Termination; miscellaneous
- Choice of law; dispute resolution

#### Local ATA (e.g. Swiss ATA)

- Parties: Local OpCos
- Preamble / reference to APA
- Sale of assets (listing and description of assets and liabilities of *local* Business)
- Purchase price for local transfers
- Closing and related actions
  - Conditions (e.g. consents / approvals)
  - Local transfer requirements (e.g. for inventory, fixed assets, IP rights, contracts, real estate)
- Employment matters; social security
- Linkage to APA
- Choice of law; dispute resolution

#### **Other documents**

- Corporate documents / approvals
- Completion documents (e.g. instruments / forms / deeds)

### Local ATA – Particularities



(1/2)

- Corporate approvals by Swiss OpCo
  - Board approval
  - Shareholders' approval?
- Form of asset deal
- Object of purchase
  - Description of Business
  - Identification of assets, liabilities, contracts etc.
- Licenses
- Marketing authorizations (MAs)
- Inventories and fixed assets

## Local ATA – Particularities



(2/2)

- Intellectual Property (IP)
- Contracts with business partners
- Real estate (public deed, registration; permit(s), if any)
- Assumption of liabilities
- Employment matters
- Signing / closing
- Tax (e.g.VAT)



## **Transitional Aspects**

- Impacts of regulatory framework
- Transitional matters
- Type of services
- Challenges
- Arrangements / models

## Discussion



Cross-border divestitures / asset deals

- Structuring considerations
- Planning and timing of transaction
- Common issues in different jurisdictions
- Local law challenges

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Thank you for your attention

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