

THE TAKEOVER PANEL

IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES PLC
(“ICI”)

AKZO NOBEL NV
(“AKZO NOBEL”)

Following recent representations made by the advisers to ICI, the Panel Executive has been considering the application of Rule 2.4(b) of the Code to the approach by Akzo Nobel to ICI. Following discussions with both parties’ advisers, the Panel Executive has ruled that Akzo Nobel must, by 5pm on 9 August 2007, either announce a firm intention to make an offer for ICI under Rule 2.5 of the Code or announce that it does not intend to make an offer for ICI. No extension to this deadline will be granted, except with the consent of the Panel Executive. In the event that Akzo Nobel announces that it does not intend to make an offer for ICI, Akzo Nobel and any person acting in concert with it will, except with the consent of the Panel Executive, be bound by the restrictions contained in Rule 2.8 of the Code for six months from the date of such announcement.

Each of the parties has accepted this ruling.

6 July 2007