



COMESA Competition Commission

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Common Market for Eastern
and Southern Africa

CCC Merger Inquiry Notice No. 02 of 2017

Notice of Inquiry into the Acquisition of Connectivity Architects Limited by CMC Holdings Limited

It is hereby notified in terms of Article 26(6) of the COMESA Competition Regulations (hereinafter referred to as the "Regulations") that the COMESA Competition Commission (the "Commission") after receiving a notification in terms of Article 24 of the Regulations involving CMC Holdings Limited ("CMC Holdings") and Connectivity Architects Limited ("CAL") intends to embark on an inquiry in terms of Article 26 of the Regulations.

The acquirer, CMC Holdings, is a special purpose vehicle which is controlled by funds managed by affiliates of the Carlyle Group L.P. ("Carlyle"), will acquire the target firms through two SPVs, namely: CMC Investments Limited, incorporated in Mauritius; Newshelf 1379 Proprietary Limited incorporated in South Africa. Carlyle, a Delaware limited partnership that is publicly traded and listed on the NASDAQ, is a global alternative asset manager which manages funds that invest globally across four investment disciplines: corporate private equity; real assets; global market strategies; and solutions.

The target undertaking, CAL, is based in Mauritius, and operates in the wider Information and Communications Technology sector, by providing a variety of connectivity solutions to carrier and enterprise customers across the globe. The other target firms in the transaction are: CMC Networks Inc, a subsidiary of CAL, incorporated in the USA, which performs US-oriented sales and business development functions for CAL; and CMC Network Proprietary Limited, which provides key services to CAL in fulfilling its customer contracts.

The merging parties are active in all the COMESA Member States save for Eritrea. The Commission will, in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations, determine among other things whether or not the merger is likely to substantially prevent or lessen competition within the Common Market. In view of this, the Commission hereby gives notice to all interested stakeholders, including competitors, suppliers and customers of the merging parties to submit written representations to the Commission with regard to the subject matter of the proposed inquiry by emailing them to: wmwemba@comesa.int. All written representations should be sent to the Commission not later than **13th February 2017**.

All written representations submitted to the Commission will be treated with the strictest confidentiality and will only be used for the purpose of this inquiry.