



**COMESA Competition Commission**

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**Common Market for Eastern  
and Southern Africa**

**3 June 2022**

## **COMESA Competition Commission Extends Period for Assessment of the Merger involving African Banking Corporation Zambia Limited T/A Atlas Mara Zambia and Access Bank Zambia Limited**

The COMESA Competition Commission (the “**Commission**”) hereby informs the public and relevant stakeholders that pursuant to Article 25(2) of the COMESA Competition Regulations (the “**Regulations**”), it has received an approval from the Committee Responsible for Initial Determinations to extend the statutory period for assessment of the proposed transaction involving African Banking Corporation Zambia Limited T/A Atlas Mara Zambia and Access Bank Zambia Limited.

Article 25(1) of the Regulations provides that the Commission shall examine a merger within 120 days. In the present case, the 120-days period will expire on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

In conducting its competition assessment, the Commission identified potential public interest concerns. In this regard, the Commission has identified remedies to address the identified concerns and is currently engaging affected Member States on the proposed remedies. The foregoing notwithstanding, **the identification of preliminary public interest concerns does not prejudice the outcome of the Commission’s assessment.** Having regard to the above, the Commission noted that it required additional time to conclude its assessment. Therefore, the Committee Responsible for Initial Determinations granted an extension of 60 days starting from 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

**The above extension does not prejudice the outcome of the Commission’s assessment.**

More information is available on the Commission's [Merger Cases](#) webpage, under the case number [MER/12/34/2021](#).

If you wish to seek further details and/or clarifications on any aspect of this transaction, you may get in touch with **Mr. Ali Kamanga, Senior Analyst, Mergers and Acquisitions**, on +265 (0) 1 772 466 or via email at [akamanga@comesa.int](mailto:akamanga@comesa.int).

**Meti Demissie Disasa  
Registrar**