



**COMESA Competition Commission**

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**Common Market for Eastern  
and Southern Africa**

## **COMESA Competition Commission Extends Period for Assessment of the Merger Involving Heineken International B.V., Namibia Breweries Limited and Distell Group Holdings Limited**

The COMESA Competition Commission (the “**Commission**”) hereby informs the public and relevant stakeholders that on 18 October 2022, it received approval from the Committee Responsible for Initial Determination for an extension of the statutory period for assessment of the proposed merger involving Heineken International B.V., Namibia Breweries Limited and Distell Group Holdings Limited, pursuant to Article 25(2) of the COMESA Competition Regulations (the “**Regulations**”).

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 6 November 2022.

In conducting its competition assessment, the Commission identified potential concerns in relation to the ciders markets. In this regard, the Commission has identified remedies to address the identified concerns and is currently in discussion with the merging parties and Member States on the proposed remedies. The foregoing notwithstanding, **the identification of preliminary 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 Determination granted an extension of 30 days starting from 6 November 2022.

More information is available on the Commission's [Merger Cases](#) webpage, under the case number [MER/04/27/2022](#).

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