

10 April 2025

CCC Merger Inquiry Notice No. 17 of 2025

Notice of Inquiry into the Proposed Acquisition of Sole Control of Cimenterie De Lukala SA by WIH Cement Developing Co., Ltd

It is hereby notified in terms of Article 26(6) of the COMESA Competition Regulations (the “**Regulations**”) that the COMESA Competition Commission (the “**Commission**”), after receiving a notification in terms of Article 24 of the Regulations regarding the Proposed Acquisition of Sole Control by WIH Cement Developing Co., Ltd (“**WCD**”) of Cimenterie De Lukala SA (“**CILU**”), intends to embark on an inquiry in terms of Article 26 of the Regulations.

The parties submitted that WCD is a holding company which is incorporated under the laws of Mauritius. WCD is a wholly owned subsidiary of West China Cement Limited (“**WCC**”), a limited liability company incorporated in Jersey, and whose shares are listed on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. The parties further submitted that WCC is active in various Member States, through its various subsidiaries where it produces and supplies grey cement. In the Common Market, the acquiring group operates in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo (“**DRC**”), Eswatini, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda and Zambia. The parties submitted that WCC supplies grey cement to only the Eastern part of DRC.

The parties submitted that CILU is a limited liability company incorporated under the laws of DRC. The parties further submitted that CILU is a producer and supplier of grey cement. CILU has a single cement plant in Lukala in Western DRC near the capital city of Kinshasa. CILU produces and supplies grey cement predominately in Western DRC, in the Common Market it therefore only operates in the DRC.

The parties submitted that the transaction involves the acquisition of sole control of CILU by WCD.

The parties further submitted that in recent years, WCC has been shifting its business focus from China to overseas markets, primarily to Africa. WCC sees CILU and DRC as an attractive investment opportunity.

The Commission will, in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations, determine, among other things, whether the proposed transaction is likely to substantially prevent or lessen competition in the Common Market and whether the proposed transaction is

or would be contrary to the public interest as provided for under Article 26 of the Regulations.

In view of this, the Commission hereby gives notice to all interested stakeholders, including competitors, suppliers and customers of the parties to the proposed transaction to submit written representations to the Commission with regard to the subject matter of the proposed inquiry by emailing them to: sbundhun@comesacompetition.org. All written representations should be sent to the Commission not later than **2 May 2025**.

If you wish to seek further details and/or clarifications on any aspect of this proposed transaction or need assistance you may get in touch with **Ms. Sunjida Bundhun, Principal Analyst, Competition Division** on Tel: +265 (0) 111 772 466 or sbundhun@comesacompetition.org.

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.