



Kang'ombe House, 5th Floor-West Wing
P.O.Box30742
Lilongwe3, Malawi
Tel: +265 (01) 772466
Email- compcom@comesa.int



Common Market for Eastern
and Southern Africa

CCC Merger Inquiry Notice No. 18 of 2019

Notice of Inquiry into the Proposed Merger between Augusta Acquisition B.V. and Careem Inc.

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 merger involving Augusta Acquisition B.V. (“**Augusta**”) and Careem Inc. (“**Careem Inc**”), intends to embark on an inquiry in terms of Article 26 of the Regulations.

The parties have submitted that the proposed transaction is a global transaction which involves an asset sale and purchase whereby, Augusta, will acquire 100% of the assets of Careem Inc. in the British Virgin Islands and 100% of the shares of the three subsidiaries that are directly owned by Careem Inc. namely: (a) Careem PS Inc., incorporated in the British Virgin Islands, (b) Carsupply Holding Inc., incorporated in the British Virgin Islands and (c) Careem Networks FZ LLC incorporated in the United Arab Emirates, as well as indirectly, the entities that are directly or indirectly owned by these three subsidiaries.

The parties have submitted that the acquiring undertaking, Augusta, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Uber International B.V. and indirectly, ultimately controlled by Uber Technologies Inc. (“**UTI**”) which is a holding company of the Uber Group (“**Uber**”). The contact details for Augusta have been submitted as Mr. Treublaan 7, 1097 DP Amsterdam, the Netherlands. The parties have submitted that Uber is a technology company founded in 2009 with its headquarters in San Francisco and operates in more than 700 cities and 60 countries worldwide. Uber matches riders and drivers for a variety of transport options as well as offering food and freight delivery. Uber is active in three COMESA Member States namely: Egypt, Kenya and Uganda. Uber entered Egypt in 2014 and offers the following services: intra-city transportation, specifically ridesharing services such as UberX - affordable cars; UberSelect - more comfortable cars; UberScooter - a moped service; and UberBus - a minibus service. Uber also offers food delivery services through Uber Eats which was launched in Cairo, Egypt in 2018.

The parties have submitted that the target undertaking, Careem Inc, is the ultimate holding company of the Careem Group (“**Careem**”) and its address is at P.O. Box 146, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. The parties have submitted that Careem is a major technology platform for the greater Middle East, established in 2012 and headquartered in Dubai. Careem operates in more than 125 cities across 15 countries. Careem is active in two

COMESA Member States namely: Egypt and Sudan. The parties have submitted that Careem began operations in Egypt in 2014 and provides the following services through its Egyptian subsidiary, Car-eem Egypt for Smart Networks (S.A.E): Intra-city transportation, specifically ridesharing services such as: Careem Go – affordable cars; Careem Go+ - more affordable cars; White Taxi – traditional taxis that can be hailed via Careem’s app; Careem Bike – moped service; Tuk Tuk – an auto-rideshaw service; Careem Bus – a minibus service; Airport – cars to the airport; and City to City – intercity travel at fixed rates. Careem also offers delivery services such as Careem Box – a courier delivery service.

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 and whether the merger 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 merging parties to submit written representations to the Commission with regard to the subject matter of the proposed inquiry by emailing them to: akamanga@comesa.int. All written representations should be sent to the Commission not later than **18th July, 2019**.

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 **Mr. Ali Kamanga, Senior Analyst - Mergers and Acquisitions on Tel: +265 (0) 1 772 466 or E-mail akamanga@comesa.int**.

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.