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## **CCC Merger Inquiry Notice No. 9 of 2016**

## Notice of Inquiry into the Transaction involving EQT Services (UK) Limited and Kuoni Travel Holding 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 hereinafter referred to as ("the Commission") after receiving a notification in terms of Article 24 of the Regulations regarding the merger between EQT Services (UK) Limited hereinafter referred to as ("EQT Services") and Kuoni Travel Holding Limited hereinafter referred to as ("Kuoni") intends to embark on an inquiry in terms of Article 26 of the Regulations.

The acquiring firm, EQT Services, is a limited liability company incorporated in accordance with the laws of the United Kingdom. EQT Services has presence in COMESA through a portfolio company, Sportradar, a jointly controlled company in which EQT Funds own approximately 40% of the issued share capital and which has a subsidiary company in Seychelles registered under the name Global Sports Service Limited. Global Sports Service Limited provides service for collecting, processing, marketing and monitoring of sports related live data, providing betting related services to bookmakers and providing data to media services. The target firm, Kuoni, is a joint-stock holding company incorporated under Swiss Law and listed on the Swiss Stock Exchange. The Kuoni Group is a service provider to the global travel industry and governments with a focus on three core activities namely; Global Travel Distribution, Global Travel Services and VFS Global. Kuoni controls directly or indirectly subsidiaries with operations in Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritius and Uganda.

The proposed transaction concerns the acquisition of sole control of Kuoni, by EQT Services. The proposed transaction will be implemented through EQT VII, an investment fund that EQT Services controls. The proposed transaction is to be implemented through a voluntary public tender offer.

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: <a href="wmwemba@comesa.int">wmwemba@comesa.int</a>. All written representations should be sent to the Commission not later than 27th April, 2016.

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. Willard Mwemba, Manager Mergers and Acquisitions** on Tel: +265 (0) 1 772466 or E-mail wmwemba@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.