



Kang'ombe House, 5th Floor
P.O. Box 30742
Lilongwe 3, Malawi
Tel: +265 (0) 111 772 466/529/530
Email- compcom@comesacompetition.org



Common Market for Eastern
and Southern Africa

22 January 2025

CCC Merger Inquiry Notice No. 4 of 2025

Notice of Inquiry into the Proposed Acquisition of sole control by CLAYTON, DUBILIER & RICE FUND XII, L.P. of Opella Healthcare

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 Clayton, Dubilier & Rice Fund XII, L.P. (“**CD&R Fund XII**”), together with its controlling and controlled affiliates, “**CD&R Group**”) of Opella Healthcare (“**Opella**”), intends to embark on an inquiry in terms of Article 26 of the Regulations.

The parties submitted that CD&R Group is a private investment firm with a strategy based on building stronger, more profitable businesses primarily in the business services, consumer, financial services, healthcare, industrials and technology sectors. Within the Common Market, the CD&R Group generates revenue in, into or from Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo (“**DRC**”), Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, eSwatini, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The parties submitted that Opella is a société par actions simplifiée, incorporated in accordance with the laws of France, active globally in manufacturing, research and innovation related to the supply of over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, minerals and supplements. Within the Common Market, Opella generates revenue from Egypt, Libya and Tunisia.

The parties submitted that the proposed transaction is a financial investment consistent with the CD&R Group’s business strategy of acquiring interests in mature and growing businesses and seeking to maximize their value by assisting management and focusing business activities.

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 within 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: mdebessay@comesacompetition.org. All written representations should be sent to the Commission not later than **12 February 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 **Mr. Mengistu Debessay, Principal Analyst, Competition Division** on Tel: +265 (0) 111 772 466 or mdebessay@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.