



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

26 February 2025

CCC Merger Inquiry Notice No. 13 of 2025

Notice of Inquiry into the Proposed Acquisition by Hartree Partners, LP of the issued share capital of ED&F Man Commodities Limited

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 control by Hartree Partners, LP (“**Hartree**”, or the “**acquiring firm**”) of the share capital of ED&F Man Commodities Limited (“**ED&F Man Commodities**”, or the “**target firm**”), intends to embark on an inquiry in terms of Article 26 of the Regulations.

The parties submitted that Hartree, together with its controlling and/or controlled entities (the “**acquiring group**”), is a global merchant commodities firm specializing in energy, commodities, and financial markets, including energy, metals, renewable energy, and securities. In the Common Market, the acquiring group operates in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles, Tunisia, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

The parties submitted that ED&F Man Commodities is a global commodities company specializing in the provision of soft commodities, including coffee, sugar, and molasses and liquid products. In the Common Market, the target firm operates in Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Sudan, Tunisia, and Uganda.

The parties submitted that the acquisition of the target will enable the acquirer to enter into new industries, including soft/agricultural commodities (coffee, sugar, molasses and liquid products).

The Commission has pursuant to Article 26 of the Regulations, embarked on assessment of the transaction to determine whether the proposed transaction is likely to substantially prevent or lessen competition within the Common Market and whether it would be contrary to the public interest. 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 **19 March 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.