

12 December 2025

CCC Merger Inquiry Notice No. 51 of 2025

**Notice of Inquiry into the Proposed Acquisition of 100% of the total issued share capital of Metal Crowns Limited (Kenya) by Guala Closures S.p.A.**

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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 by Guala Closures S.P.A (“**Guala**” or the “**Acquiring Firm**”) of 100% of the issued share capital of Metal Crowns Limited (Kenya) (“**MC Kenya**” or the “**Target Firm**”), intends to embark on an inquiry in terms of Article 26 of the Regulations.

The parties submitted that the proposed acquisition of shares in MC Kenya will be undertaken by way of an acquisition of shares in Mantiex Investments Limited (“**Mantiex**”) which owns 99.9999% of the shares in MC Kenya. MC Kenya together with Mantiex are referred to as the “**Target Group**”.

The parties submitted that the Acquiring Firm is a joint stock company incorporated under the laws of Italy. The Acquiring Firm is a producer of high value-added closures for the beverage industry focusing on wines, spirits, and glass bottled mineral water. Within the Common Market, the Acquiring Firm is active in the Democratic Republic of Congo (the “**DRC**”), Eswatini, Madagascar, and Zimbabwe.

The parties submitted that the Target Firm is a private limited company registered in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Kenya. The parties submitted that the Target Group is involved in the manufacturing and sale of plastic closures and metal crowns in COMESA. Specifically, the parties submitted that the Target Group is involved in:

- (i) the manufacturing of plastic closures in Kenya;
- (ii) the manufacturing of metal crowns in Kenya;
- (iii) (iii) the sale of metal crowns in Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe; and
- (iv) (iv) the sale of plastic closures in DRC, Kenya, Mauritius, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia.

The parties submitted that the Target Group and the Acquiring Firm have minimal geographic overlaps only in Zambia and Zimbabwe, within the Common Market, specifically with respect to the sale and distribution of metal crowns. The parties further submitted that they do not have a vertical relationship in the Common Market.

The parties submitted from the Target Group perspective that the proposed transaction is expected to bring operational efficiencies and present an opportunity for the sellers to realise their investment in the Target Group.

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: [mdebessay@comesacompetition.org](mailto:mdebessay@comesacompetition.org). All written representations should be sent to the Commission not later than **17 January 2026**.

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](mailto: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.