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7 May 2026

CCCC Merger Inquiry Notice No. 26 of 2026

## **Notice of Inquiry into the Proposed Acquisition by Tractaftric Equipment International GBL of Bartrac Equipment GBL**

It is hereby notified in terms of Regulation 44(11) of the COMESA Competition and Consumer Protection Regulations (the “**CCCPR**”) that the COMESA Competition and Consumer Commission (the “**CCCC**”), after receiving a notification in terms of Regulation 42 of the CCCPR regarding the proposed acquisition by Tractaftric Equipment International GBL (“**Tractaftric**” or the “**Acquirer**”) of Bartrac Equipment GBL (“**Bartrac**” or the “**Target**”), intends to embark on an inquiry in terms of Regulation 47 of the CCCPR.

The parties submitted that Tractaftric is a company registered under the laws of Mauritius. Tractaftric is controlled by Compagnie Optorg (“**Optorg**”), which is in turn wholly owned by AL Mada, a company registered in Morocco. Tractaftric is active in the distribution of construction and mining equipment and the provision of after-sales services for such equipment. Specifically, Tractaftric is engaged in the provision of and after-sales services of industrial, mining, and construction equipment. Tractaftric is a partner of brands such as Caterpillar and offers a wide range of mining, construction, forestry equipment, spare parts, industrial and marine engines, power plants, generators, and handling equipment. Tractaftric, Optorg, and AL Mada are together referred to as the ‘acquiring group’. In the Common Market, the acquiring group operates in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo (“**DRC**”), Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Sudan, Tunisia, and Uganda.

The parties submitted that Bartrac is a company registered under the laws of Mauritius. The target is presently held 50% by Tractaftric and Barloworld Equipment Proprietary Limited. The principal activity of Bartrac and its subsidiary Congo Equipment SARL (together referred to as the ‘target group’) is the distribution of Caterpillar construction and mining equipment, and the provision of after-sales services for construction and mining equipment, which activity is limited to the former Katanga province of the DRC. In the Common Market, the target group operates only in the DRC.

All communication must be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer

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The parties submitted that the proposed transaction entails the proposed acquisition by Tractafriq of an additional 50% of the shares in Bartrac, resulting in Tractafriq acquiring sole control of Bartrac.

The parties have submitted a request for an expedited merger review of the proposed transaction in accordance with Appendix A of the Schedule of Fees for Services Rendered by the Commission.

In accordance with the provisions of the CCCPR, the CCCC will determine, among other things, whether the proposed transaction is likely to substantially lessen competition in the Common Market and whether the proposed transaction is or would be contrary to the public interest as provided for under Regulation 47 of the CCCPR.

In view of this, the CCCC 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 CCCC with regard to the subject matter of the proposed inquiry by emailing them to: [smusau@comesacompetition.org](mailto:smusau@comesacompetition.org). All written representations should be sent to the CCCC not later than **21 May 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 **Ms. Stella Musau, Principal Analyst, Competition Division**, on Tel: +265 (0) 111 772 466 or [smusau@comesacompetition.org](mailto:smusau@comesacompetition.org).

All written representations submitted to the CCCC will be treated with the strictest confidentiality and will only be used for the purpose of this inquiry.