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5 May 2026

CCC Merger Inquiry Notice No. 25 of 2026

## **Notice of Inquiry into the Proposed Creation of a Full Function Joint Venture involving Airbus SE and Société Air France**

It is hereby notified in terms of Article 26(6) of the COMESA Competition Regulations 2004<sup>1</sup> (the “**Regulations**”) that the COMESA Competition Commission (the “**Commission**”), after receiving a notification in terms of Article 24 of the Regulations regarding a proposed full function Joint Venture (“**JV**”) involving Airbus SAS and Société Air France S.A. (“**Air France**”), intends to embark on an inquiry in terms of Article 26 of the Regulations.

The parties submitted that Airbus SAS, is a French subsidiary of Airbus SE (“**Airbus**”), which is a European company incorporated under Dutch law and is publicly listed on the stock exchanges of Frankfurt, Madrid, and Paris. Airbus is active globally in aeronautics, space and defence sectors. In addition to being an aircraft manufacturer, Airbus is also active, among other things, in aircraft maintenance and repair services on Airbus platforms. In the Common Market, Airbus operates in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

The parties submitted that Air France is incorporated under the laws of France and is a subsidiary of Air France-KLM S.A. (“**Air France-KLM**”). Air France is active in the business of passengers and cargo transportation together with aeronautical maintenance for airlines of the Air France-KLM Group or third parties’ fleets, including but not limited to Airbus aircraft types. Air France operates in all Member States in the Common Market, except Comoros.

The parties submitted that the JV will be active in the global provision of component maintenance services for the A350 aircraft family.

The parties submitted that Airbus and Air France will acquire joint control of a newly created joint-venture.

The Commission will, in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations, determine, among other things, whether the proposed transaction is likely to substantially prevent

<sup>1</sup> The Commission was seized of this matter before 4 December 2025. By virtue of paragraph 4 of the Commission’s Practice Note Number 1 of 2026 Regarding the New Merger Control Regime pursuant to Chapter Four of the Comesa Competition and Consumer Protection Regulations, the assessment of the transaction is governed by the COMESA Competition Regulations 2004.

All communication must be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer

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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: [sbundhun@comesacompetition.org](mailto:sbundhun@comesacompetition.org). All written representations should be sent to the Commission not later than **26 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. Sunjida Bundhun, Manager Mergers and Acquisitions, Competition Division** on Tel: +265 (0) 111 772 466 or [sbundhun@comesacompetition.org](mailto:sbundhun@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.