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Our ref: AA1000624 Contact officer: Sophie Magliano Contact phone: (03) 9658 6429

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**Dear Interested Party** 

## Qantas and China Eastern application for revocation of authorisation AA1000526 and substitution of AA1000624 – interim authorisation

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) has granted interim authorisation to enable Qantas Airways Limited and China Eastern Airlines Corporation Limited and their related bodies corporate (together, the **Applicants**) to continue their coordination under their Extended Joint Coordination Agreement while the ACCC assesses their substantive application for re-authorisation.

The ACCC last authorised the coordination between the Applicants in 2021. On 9 November 2022, the Applicants lodged application for revocation of authorisation AA1000526 and substitution of a new authorisation AA1000624 (referred to as **re-authorisation**). The existing authorisation is due to expire on 31 March 2023.

Interim authorisation protects the arrangements for which re-authorisation is sought from legal action under the relevant provisions in the Competition and Consumer Act 2020 (Cth).

A copy of the ACCC's interim authorisation decision is attached and also available on the ACCC's public register.

## **Next steps**

The ACCC is preparing a draft determination which will indicate the ACCC's preliminary views on the merits of the substantive application for re-authorisation. The ACCC will give both the applicant and interested parties the opportunity to provide a further submission on the draft determination before the ACCC issues its final determination.

The ACCC's decision in relation to interim authorisation should not be taken to be indicative of whether or not final authorisation will ultimately be granted.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Sophie Magliano on (03) 9658 6429 or <a href="mailto:exemptions@accc.gov.au">exemptions@accc.gov.au</a>.

Yours sincerely

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