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Our ref: AA1000580 Contact officer: Tom Whitby Contact phone: 02 6243 1012

2/12/2021

By email

Dear Interested Party

Singapore Airlines Limited and Deutsche Lufthansa AG - application for reauthorisation AA1000580—draft determination & interim authorisation

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for re-authorisation lodged by Singapore Airlines Limited and Deutsche Lufthansa AG on 23 September 2021.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant reauthorisation for 5 years.

The ACCC has also decided to grant interim authorisation to Singapore Airlines and Lufthansa to continue to coordinate their operations while the ACCC continues to assess this application.

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

Next steps

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the Applicant or any interested party may make a written submission and/or request that the ACCC convene a 'pre-decision conference'.

Making a submission

If you wish to make a submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination, please lodge your submission by 17 December 2021. Submissions should be emailed to exemptions@accc.gov.au with the subject "AA1000580 – Singapore Airlines and Lufthansa – submission". If you prefer to make an oral submission, please contact Tom Whitby via the details at the end of this letter.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made at a pre-decision conference (should one be called - see below), and will then release a final determination in relation to this application.

Submissions will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion. Please see the ACCC's publication <u>Guidelines for excluding information from the public register</u>.

Optional pre-decision conference

In some cases the applicant or an interested party requests that the ACCC convene a predecision conference in relation to its draft determination. If a conference is called it will be open to the applicant and interested parties to attend and make oral submissions in relation to the draft determination. Conferences are conducted informally and while legal or professional advisers are able to attend they are not entitled to participate in the discussion.

If you wish the ACCC to hold a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination you must notify the ACCC in writing by 17 December 2021 by email to exemptions@accc.gov.au.

Timetable

The ACCC will continue to progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An updated indicative timetable is set out below for your information.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
23 September 2021	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
14 October 2021	Public consultation process begins.
2 December 2021	Draft determination and interim authorisation decision.
December 2021/January 2022	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
February/March 2022	Final determination.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter please do not hesitate to contact Tom Whitby on 02 6243 1012.

Yours sincerely

Gavin Jones Director

Competition Exemptions