



Our ref: AA1000463
Contact officer: Andrew Mahony
Contact phone: 03 9290 1983

Level 17, 2 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne Vic 3000
GPO Box 520
Melbourne Vic 3001
tel: (03) 9290 1800
www.accc.gov.au

26 March 2020

By email

Dear Sir/Madam,

British Airways and Qatar Airways application for authorisation AA1000463 — draft determination and interim authorisation

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (**the ACCC**) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by British Airways and Qatar Airways on 6 January 2020.

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

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination 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'.

If you wish to make a submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination, please lodge your submission by **9 April 2020**.

A pre-decision conference provides the opportunity for interested parties to 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 **9 April 2020**.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made at a pre-decision conference (should one be called), 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 [Guidelines for excluding information from the public register](#).

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
6 January 2020	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
16 January 2020	Public consultation process begins.
30 January 2020	Closing date for submissions on interim authorisation and substantive application for authorisation.
26 March 2020	ACCC decision regarding interim authorisation and draft determination.
March/April 2020	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
April/May 2020	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 Andrew Mahony on 03 9290 1983.

Yours sincerely



Darrell Channing
Director
Adjudication