



AUST. COMPETITION &
CONSUMER COMMISSION

15 MAY 2015

CANBERRA

中 华 人 民 共 和 国 大 使 馆

Mr Rod Sims
Chairman of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
23 Marcus Clarke Street
Canberra ACT 2601 Australia

Mr Chairman,

I write to you to express my concern about the ongoing review of the proposed Joint Coordination Agreement between China Eastern and Qantas.

As you may know, the bilateral trade and investment relationship between Australia and China has become closer than ever especially after Chinese President XI Jinping's state visit last year.

The aviation plays an important role in promoting bilateral relationship, particularly in facilitating people-to-people exchange. The air-market between Australia and China is growing at a rapid speed and the collaboration agreement between China Eastern and Qantas, which was signed in the presence of Chinese President Xi Jinping and Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott, will inject new momentum into our aviation cooperation by meeting the growing demand for international travels.

According to China Eastern and Qantas, their cooperation would deliver better departure and arrival schedules, reduced transit times, and a wider range of onward connections within China and Australia. It will not reduce competition or lead to monopoly, but rather serve the interests of consumers.

I believe the coordination between China Eastern and Qantas is in the long term interests of both Australia and China. I understand that your commission has been in close consultation with China Eastern and Qantas and hope that you could bear in mind the interests of our overall relationship and make a fair and reasonable decision on this matter.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized Chinese characters. The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first character being '马' (Ma) and the second being '兆' (Zhao), followed by '旭' (Xu) and a final flourish.

MA Zhaoxu

Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the Commonwealth of Australia