COMESA Competition Commission
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Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa

Ref: CCC/CP/CA/02/2025 **17 April 2025**

Mrs. Natalie Edmond
Chief Executive Officer
Fair Trading Commission
Orion Mall Room 213/214
P.O.Box 1207
Victoria-Mahe, Seychelles

Dear Madam,

RE: RECALL OF MERCEDES-BENZ MODEL GLE (167) VEHICLE BY MERCEDES-BENZ SOUTH AFRICA

The COMESA Competition Commission (the "Commission") has become aware of a recall of the Mercedes-Benz Model GLE (167) vehicle by Mercedes-Benz South Africa.

In a media statement by the National Consumer Commission of South Africa, (the "NCC") dated 7 April 2025, it was reported that the recall was as a result of a high-voltage starter-alternator processor load. According to the supplier, "the vehicle's processor in the control unit of the high-voltage starter generator may experience sporadic overload. Consequently, the system's monitoring function might incorrectly detect a faulty component in the high-voltage starter alternator." Ultimately, the functions of the high-voltage starter generator could be deactivated, potentially leading to an unexpected loss of propulsion power without warning, which could increase the risk of an accident.

NCC further reported that the production dates of these vehicles range from 2022-2025 and has urged consumers with the affected vehicles to make a booking with any authorised Mercedes-Benz dealer for their vehicles to be checked or repaired at no extra cost.

More information regarding the recall can be accessed in the link below:

https://thencc.org.za/media-statement-product-recall-mercedes-benz-model-gle-167-vehicle/

In view of the above, and in line with Article 30(b) of the COMESA Competition Regulations, the Commission has published a warning notice to the public (attached herewith), indicating the possible risks associated with the recalled Mercedes-Benz Model GLE (167) vehicle. The NCC media statement indicated that the vehicles may have been exported to Eswatini within the Common Market, however, the Commission has established that several Member States import similar vehicles from South Africa. In this regard, the Commission, out of an abundance of caution, has decided to publish the alert in all the Member States.

The Commission therefore requests your assistance in publishing the notice in your jurisdiction. You may also investigate the matter to ensure that the recall is effective and where the recall is not effective, kindly update us so that we can take the necessary action.

Should you require any further clarifications regarding this subject matter, kindly contact Mr. Steven Kamukama, Director, Consumer Welfare and Advocacy Division on skamukama@comesacompetition.org.

We thank you for your continued cooperation towards a common goal of safeguarding the welfare of consumers.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Willard Mwemba
Chief Executive Officer