

ANTICIPATED ACQUISITION BY VIASAT, INC. OF INMARSAT GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED Notice of extension of inquiry period under section 39(3) of the Enterprise Act 2002¹

- On 14 October 2022, the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA), in exercise of its duty under section 33(1) of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the Act), referred the anticipated acquisition by Viasat, Inc (Viasat) of Inmarsat Group Holdings Limited (Inmarsat) for further investigation and report by a Group of CMA panel members (the Inquiry Group). The period within which the report on this reference was to be prepared and published (the reference period) was due to expire on 30 March 2023.
- The Inquiry Group has decided that the reference period should be extended by eight weeks under section 39(3) of the Act as it considers there are special reasons (set out below) why the final report cannot be prepared and published within the reference period. The revised reference period will expire on 25 May 2023.
- 3. In taking this decision, the Inquiry Group had regard to the scope and complexity of the investigation and the need to carefully consider the main parties' and third party submissions received following the Inquiry Group's provisional findings. As noted in the provisional findings, satellite connectivity is a dynamic sector with supply expected to expand rapidly in the next few years. As such, the competitive assessment in the Inquiry's Group's provisional findings has relied on expectations regarding the expansion of existing and emerging players in the relevant markets. The main parties and third parties have made a number of submissions on these expectations, including by bringing to the CMA's attention new developments in the relevant markets. It is now necessary to allow sufficient time to take full and proper account of these submissions (including to assess the relevance of these new developments to the competitive assessment) in order to reach a fully reasoned final decision in the statutory timeframe. The Inquiry Group therefore considers that there are special reasons why the report cannot be prepared and published within the original reference period.

Richard Feasey Inquiry Group Chair 28 March 2023

¹ Published pursuant to section 107(2)(c) of the Enterprise Act 2002