

MICROSOFT / MISTRAL AI PARTNERSHIP MERGER INQUIRY

16 May 2024

NOTICE UNDER PARAGRAPH (B) OF THE DEFINITION OF 'INITIAL PERIOD' IN SECTION 34ZA(3) OF THE ENTERPRISE ACT 2002 PUBLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 107(1)(AB) OF THE ENTERPRISE ACT 2002

The Competition and Markets Authority (**CMA**) hereby gives notice pursuant to paragraph (b) of the definition of 'initial period' in section 34ZA(3) of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the **Act**) that it has sufficient information in relation to the partnership between Microsoft Corporation and Mistral AI (the **Partnership**) to enable it to begin an inquiry for the purposes of deciding whether to make a reference for a phase 2 investigation.

The initial period defined in section 34ZA(3) of the Act in relation to the Partnership will therefore commence on the first working day after the date of this notice, ie on 17 May 2024. The end of the initial period and the deadline for the CMA to announce its decision whether to refer the Partnership for a phase 2 investigation is therefore 12 July 2024. However, as the four-month period under section 24 of the Act currently ends before this date, the deadline for the CMA to announce its decision whether to refer the Partnership for a phase 2 investigation is currently the final day of this four-month period (as extended), ie 4 July 2024.