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## **M.8361 - QATAR AIRWAYS / ALISARDA / MERIDIANA**

### **SECTION 1.2**

#### **Description of the concentration**

This notification relates to the intended acquisition by Alisarda S.p.A. (“Alisarda”) of a 51%-shareholding and by Qatar Airways Q.C.S.C. (“Qatar Airways”) of a 49%-shareholding in a newly formed holding company (“HoldCo”), to which Alisarda will contribute the entire outstanding share capital of Meridiana fly S.p.A. (“Meridiana”) (the “Transaction”). As a result of the Transaction, Qatar Airways and Alisarda will have joint control over HoldCo and thus indirectly over Meridiana.

Meridiana has the following subsidiaries, i.e., Air Italy Holding S.r.l. and Air Italy S.p.A. (together “Air Italy”), Wokita s.r.l. (“Wokita”) (a tour operator), and Meridiana Maintenance S.p.A. (“Meridiana MRO”) (a provider of aircraft maintenance services).

As a result of the Transaction, Qatar Airways and Alisarda will have joint control over HoldCo and thus indirectly over Meridiana and Meridiana’s subsidiaries Air Italy, Meridiana MRO, and Wokita.

The areas of activities of Alisarda, Qatar Airways, Meridiana, and Meridiana’s subsidiaries are as follows:

- **Alisarda.** Alisarda is an Italian holding company and provides scheduled and chartered air passenger transport, tour organization, aircraft maintenance and airport administration services through its subsidiaries including Meridiana.
- **Qatar Airways.** Qatar Airways is a Qatari full-service airline and operates international scheduled passenger air services and cargo services from its hub at Hamad International Airport in Doha, Qatar. QR is a member of the oneworld alliance. QR also provides certain ancillary services, including aircraft maintenance services and ground handling services, mostly at Doha.

- **Meridiana.** Meridiana is an Italian airline and operates scheduled and charter passenger services and cargo services to destinations mostly in Europe and Northern Africa and some destinations in the Americas and Asia.
- **Air Italy.** Air Italy owns and wet leases aircraft to Meridiana. Meridiana is Air Italy's only customer. All aircraft leased from Air Italy fly under Meridiana's livery. Air Italy itself does not operate any flights (scheduled or chartered). All flights operated by Meridiana with Meridiana or Air Italy aircraft are marketed under Meridiana airline code (i.e., IG).
- **Meridiana MRO.** Meridiana MRO provides maintenance, repair, and overhaul services at Olbia airport, Italy, to Meridiana and third parties.
- **Wokita.** Wokita is a tour operator based in Olbia, Italy, and offers holiday packages for Sardinia and other destinations in Italy (but not elsewhere), including accommodation, transfer services, and guided tours. Wokita also operates as a travel agency for the sale of airline tickets (under an IATA authorisation).