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Information and Notices

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EN

I

(Information)

COUNCIL

COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

of 5 June 2001

on a Community strategy to reduce alcohol-related harm

(2001/C 175/01)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

1. EMPHASISES that a high level of human health protection should be ensured in the definition and implementation of all Community policies and activities;
2. RECALLS the Resolution of 29 May 1986 on alcohol abuse ⁽¹⁾;
3. TAKES NOTE of the results of the European Conference on Health Determinants held in Evora on 15 and 16 March, 2000, which placed emphasis on, among other things, alcohol and recommended a series of practical and targeted steps to address the challenges in this area at Community level;
4. RECALLS initiatives taken under the auspices of the WHO framework to reduce the adverse health effects from the consumption of, *inter alia*, alcohol and that in this connection a European Alcohol action plan 2000 to 2005 was endorsed by the WHO Regional Committee for Europe;
5. RECALLS in this connection that the Memorandum of Understanding between the WHO and the Commission commits both bodies to cooperate, exchange information and share experience;
6. TAKES NOTE of the declaration of the WHO Ministerial Conference on Young People and Alcohol held in Stockholm on 19 to 21 February 2001, which stresses, *inter alia*, that alcohol policies directed at young people should be part of a broader societal response;
7. RECALLS that the Commission's communication on a Community health strategy, including a proposal for a future programme of Community action in the field of public health ⁽²⁾, foresees, *inter alia*, the preparation and implementation of strategies and measures of lifestyle-related health determinants, such as alcohol;
8. TAKES NOTE of the findings of the European comparative alcohol study (ECAS), the Alcohol and other drug use among students (ESPAD) report as well as the WHO Global burden of disease 2000 study;
9. EMPHASISES that alcohol is one of the key health determinants in the European Community;
10. STATES that scientific work has clearly shown that high consumption of alcohol in the population substantially increases the risk of all-cause mortality, especially liver cirrhosis, alcoholism, alcohol psychosis, alcohol poisoning, alcoholic gastritis, alcoholic cardiomyopathy and alcoholic polyneuropathy, haemorrhagic stroke, foetal alcohol syndrome (FAS) and the level of other alcohol-related morbidity;
11. IS CONCERNED by the fact that alcohol is a major contributory factor in accidents with a fatal outcome on European roads, and alcohol is also the direct cause of many accidents both in workplaces and at home;
12. UNDERLINES the close link between alcohol abuse and reduced productivity at work, unemployment, social marginalisation and exclusion, domestic violence and disruption of the family unit, criminality, homelessness and mental illness;
13. IS CONCERNED by the reported increasing regular drinking habits as well as increasing binge drinking habits among young people in some Member States, particularly since there are strong links between an early start with regard to heavy alcohol consumption, substance abuse and criminality;
14. RECALLS the European Union Drugs Strategy 2000 to 2004 which emphasises the need for measures addressing addiction in general, including alcohol and tobacco;
15. IS AWARE of the fact that alcohol-related problems are also significant in the candidate countries;

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 184 of 23.7.1986, p. 3.⁽²⁾ OJ C 337 E of 28.11.2000, p. 122.

16. RECOGNISES the fact that, while national differences are narrowing in terms of beverage preferences, alcohol consumption and alcohol policy measures, there are cultural, social and economic differences between Member States;
 - strengthened cooperation and exchange of knowledge between Member States,
 - international cooperation, in particular with and within the World Health Organisation;
17. CONSIDERS that any Community action should focus on measures with a European added value, taking full account of possibilities offered by the future action programme in the field of public health, but also including measures in policy areas other than public health;
18. UNDERLINES therefore the desirability of developing a comprehensive Community strategy aimed at reducing alcohol-related harm comprising in particular the following elements:
 - further development of comparative and comprehensive information together with relevant high-quality research, and an effective monitoring system on alcohol consumption, alcohol-related harm, and policy measures and their effects in the European Community,
 - a co-ordinated range of Community activities in all relevant policy areas; a high level of health protection shall be ensured in the definition and implementation of Community activities, in fields such as research,
19. WELCOMES the adoption by the Council of a recommendation on the drinking of alcohol by children and adolescents as a first step in the development towards a more comprehensive approach across the Community;
20. RECOGNISES the need for cooperation with the candidate countries to include work on an alcohol strategy, notably in the framework of the future action programme in the field of public health, and for the Phare programme to include actions concerning alcohol-related problems;
21. INVITES the Commission to put forward proposals for a comprehensive Community strategy aimed at reducing alcohol-related harm which shall complement national policies and set out a timetable for the different actions.

COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

of 5 June 2001

on the epidemiological situation of variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob (vCJD) and a proactive strategy on zoonoses, in particular transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE)

(2001/C 175/02)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

1. CONSIDERING that a significant increase of reported food-borne diseases of zoonotic origin, including both emerging and re-emerging diseases, has been recorded in most Member States during the last decades;
2. CONSIDERING that vCJD is a disease that is always fatal and also affects younger people;
3. STRESSING that a high level of human health protection is to be ensured in the definition and implementation of all Community policies and activities;
4. RECALLING the communication from the Commission on the health strategy of the European Community, in which the need to properly link actions in the framework of public health with health-related initiatives in other policy areas is emphasised, and in which the Commission declares its intention to establish mechanisms to ensure that policies and activities contribute to health protection, as well as the Commission proposal for a public health programme;
5. RECALLING the conclusions of the European Council in Nice on 7 to 9 December 2000, which take note of the measures already taken in order to combat BSE and emphasise that more intense efforts in the field of human medicine and veterinary research are essential if the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of this disease are to be guaranteed;

6. REAFFIRMING its wish, expressed in the Council conclusions of 14 December 2000 on BSE and the epidemiological situation of variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob, to develop efforts to identify the consequences for human health of the BSE epidemic;
 7. RECALLING Decision No 2119/98/EC of the European Parliament and the Council setting up a network for the epidemiological surveillance and the control of communicable diseases in the Community, including food-borne diseases, such as vCJD, and other diseases transmissible by non-conventional agents;
 8. WELCOMING the comprehensive inventory of European research on TSEs presented by a group of leading experts established by the Commission, which addresses strengths and weaknesses of European research in this field as a basis for identifying major issues for further research efforts;
 9. RECALLING that the Commission's proposal for the sixth framework programme 2000 to 2006 for research, technological development and demonstration activities sets out food safety and health risks as a priority area, including research on methods of analysis and detection of chemical contaminants and pathogenic micro-organisms, impact of animal feed, and the use of subproducts of different origins for that feed, on human health, and the epidemiology of food-related diseases and genetic susceptibilities;
 10. RECALLING Commission Directives 1999/82/EC and 1999/104/EC changing the Annexes to Directives 75/318/EEC and 81/852/EEC with the aim to minimise the risks for transmission of TSE through medicinal products (including natural remedies and homeopathics) for human and veterinary use, Directive 76/768/EEC on cosmetic products, Directive 93/42/EEC on medical devices and Council Recommendation 98/463/EC establishing the acceptance criteria for blood and plasma donors;
 11. RECALLING the Commission's proposal for a directive setting standards of quality and safety for the collection, testing, processing, storage, and distribution of human blood and blood components and amending Council Directive 89/381/EEC;
 12. CONSIDERS that monitoring and prevention of zoonoses, including TSE, require a proactive and coordinated strategy in the field of human health, including epidemiological surveillance of human cases and timely assessment of risks to human health;
 13. EMPHASISES the need for scientific research on emerging and re-emerging diseases of zoonotic origin, including the origin and possible transmission of TSE agents, the development of methods to render TSE agents inactive, clinical and laboratory diagnostic procedures concerning TSE and measures to identify risks of iatrogenic transmission and develop protective measures against the possible risks;
 14. UNDERLINES the importance of the public's awareness of the magnitude of different health risks, thus allowing them to make informed choices with regard to such health risks;
 15. UNDERLINES the need for adequate risk communication to the public and to the medical and social professions in order to avoid patients with vCJD, as well as those with sporadic and familial CJD and related diseases, being stigmatised as well as deprived of appropriate medical and social care;
 16. CONSIDERS that the Member States and the Commission should continue and further develop their efforts in the field of prevention of zoonoses, in particular TSE. It encourages the Member States to:
 - (a) ensure efficient and reliable epidemiological surveillance for human cases of zoonoses, including TSE;
 - (b) promote good practice for risk communication to the public on emerging and re-emerging diseases such as vCJD;
 - (c) exchange information and knowledge on good practice for medical and social care of patients with CJD, including vCJD, and the relatives of the patients;
 - (d) promote and coordinate research in this area;
 - (e) cooperate closely with the Commission and other international forums, such as the WHO, in particular in the aforementioned areas;
- It invites the Commission to:
- (a) develop integrated mechanisms to ensure that relevant Community policies and activities contribute to health protection against risk from zoonoses, including TSE;

- (b) strengthen and further develop, in particular within the network for epidemiological surveillance and control of communicable diseases, efficient and reliable strategies and methods for the prevention and control of zoonoses, including TSE, at Community level, as well as to develop methods to assess the risks to human health accompanying various zoonoses, including TSE, and to consider such assessment in the development of Community policies;
 - methods and products to render TSE agents inactive,
 - clinical and laboratory diagnostic procedures concerning TSE, particularly early diagnostic procedures relating to accessible peripheral tissues,
 - identifying risks of iatrogenic transmission and developing protective measures against the possible risks,
 - investigation of possible therapies;
 - (c) strengthen and further develop the existing surveillance mechanisms on vCJD at the Community level, in order to make full use of the data on human cases within the network for epidemiological surveillance and control of communicable diseases in the Community, in order to improve assessment of risks to human health;
 - (d) support, in particular within the framework of the network for epidemiological surveillance and control of communicable diseases, exchange of information and knowledge on good practice for risk communication to the public on emerging and re-emerging communicable diseases such as vCJD;
 - (e) consider measures on the safety of organs and substances of human origin;
 - (f) promote research in the health context, within the appropriate legal framework, building upon the Inventory on National Research on TSE in Europe, and with particular regard to:
 - the origin and possible transmission of TSE agents,
 - (g) continually review, in the light of existing knowledge, the protective measures undertaken against possible risks of iatrogenic transmission, such as through pharmaceuticals, cosmetic products and medical devices, applying, as appropriate, the precautionary principle;
 - (h) support the exchange between the Member States of information and knowledge on good practice concerning measures to eradicate risk and to better guard against the possible risks of iatrogenic transmission;
 - (i) cooperate closely with other international forums, in particular, the WHO;
 - (j) report to the Council on these matters as soon as possible.
-

COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates ⁽¹⁾

19 June 2001

(2001/C 175/03)

1 euro	=	7,4551	Danish krone
	=	9,0719	Swedish krona
	=	0,6132	Pound sterling
	=	0,8563	United States dollar
	=	1,3124	Canadian dollar
	=	105,43	Japanese yen
	=	1,53	Swiss franc
	=	7,9	Norwegian krone
	=	90,58	Icelandic króna ⁽²⁾
	=	1,638	Australian dollar
	=	2,067	New Zealand dollar
	=	6,8984	South African rand ⁽²⁾

⁽¹⁾ Source: reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

⁽²⁾ Source: Commission.

Information procedure — Technical rules

(2001/C 175/04)

(Text with EEA relevance)

Directive 98/34/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 June 1998 laying down a procedure for the provision of information in the field of technical standards and regulations and rules on Information Society services (OJ L 204, 21.7.1998, p. 37; OJ L 217, 5.8.1998, p. 18).

Notifications of draft national technical rules received by the Commission

Reference	Title	End of three-month standstill period
2001/186/A	General requirements for network access to the system belonging to the distribution system operator	27.7.2001
2001/210/E	Draft Royal Decree adopting the Regulation implementing General Telecommunications Act No 11/1998 of 24 April regarding certain conditions for the protection of the public radio domain, exposure limits and other restrictions on radio emissions and laying down health assessment criteria for sources of radio emissions	17.8.2001
2001/221/A	RVS 9.234 (Guidelines and regulations for highway construction) road tunnels, structural design — Interior construction	30.8.2001
2001/222/NL	Exemption Regulation from Article 41 of the Animal Health and Welfare Act	29.8.2001
2001/223/D	Third order amending the order on fertilisers	24.8.2001
2001/224/B	Draft Decree amending Title VI of the Forestry Code, laid down by Mr Daniel Smeets (Doc. 29 (SE 1999) — No 1). Amendments Nos 1, 2, 3 and 4 (DOC. 29 (SE 1999) — No 2) to the draft decree amending Title VI of the Forestry Code, laid down by Mr Daniel Smeets	24.8.2001
2001/226/B	Bill amending the Act of 3 January 1993 on the manufacture of, the trade in and the carrying of weapons, as well as the trade in ammunition	23.8.2001
2001/227/I	Standards for the type-approval of technical equipment to determine the polluting emissions from mopeds and motor vehicles during periodic roadworthiness tests	23.8.2001
2001/228/FIN	Government proposals to Parliament for approval of the amendments to the international multilateral agreement of 1979 concerning the search and rescue service at sea and government bill for legislation on the implementation of rules and regulations governed by this agreement and for legislation on sea rescue and certain laws attached to it	24.8.2001
2001/229/FIN	The decree of the Ministry of Internal Affairs on air-raid shelters of reinforced concrete of class S1 and K	29.8.2001
2001/230/A	RVS 8S.04.11 top layer asphalt requirements pertaining to asphalt layers	30.8.2001
2001/231/A	RVS 11.321 top layer asphalt testing and billing	30.8.2001
2001/232/A	RVS 8S.01.41 building materials asphalt requirements pertaining to asphalt mixture	10.9.2001
2001/233/S	Administrative provisions of the National Board of Agriculture on compulsory health inspections with regard to the disease bovine virus diarrhoea (BVD) in cattle herds	30.8.2001
2001/234/A	Draft act on animal protection (Styrian Act on animal protection and the keeping of animals 2001)	30.8.2001
2001/235/D	Trade union regulation concerning working in kitchen areas (BGR 111)	10.9.2001
2001/236/I	Update of the Decree by the President of the Council of Ministers of 8 February 1999 laying down technical regulations for the constitution, transmission, preservation, duplication, reproduction and validation, including the temporary validation, of electronic documents pursuant to Article 8(2) of the consolidation laws and regulations on administrative documentation	30.8.2001

Reference	Title	End of three-month standstill period
2001/238/A	Draft order of the Styrian Provincial Government of . . . concerning the protection of animals at the time of slaughter or killing	30.8.2001
2001/239/A	Draft order of the Styrian Provincial Government of . . . concerning the keeping of animals	30.8.2001
2001/240/D	Article 1(13) of the draft State treaty amending the State Treaty on media services (State Media Services Amendment Treaty)	3.9.2001
2001/241/D	Article 1 (1) to (12) and (14) to (17) of the draft State Treaty amending the State Treaty on media services (Media Services State Treaty)	3.9.2001
2001/242/FIN	Ministry of the Interior Decree on air-raid shelter equipment and fittings	3.9.2001
2001/243/S	Administrative provisions amending the National Board of Housing, Building and Planning's administrative provisions and guidelines concerning State subsidies for certain investments made to reduce the use of electricity in homes and certain other premises	(⁴)
2001/244/I	Regulation on volumetric gas metering systems with counters or calibrated diaphragms	10.9.2001

(¹) Year — registration number — Member State of origin.

(²) Period during which the draft may not be adopted.

(³) No standstill period since the Commission accepts the grounds of urgent adoption invoked by the notifying Member State.

(⁴) No standstill period since the measure concerns technical specifications or other requirements linked to fiscal or financial measures, pursuant to the third indent of the second paragraph of Article 1(11) of Directive 98/34/EC.

(⁵) Information procedure closed.

The Commission draws attention to the judgment given on 30 April 1996 in the 'CIA Security' case (C-194/94 — ECR I, p. 2201), in which the Court of Justice ruled that Articles 8 and 9 of Directive 98/34/EC (formerly 83/189/EEC) are to be interpreted as meaning that individuals may rely on them before the national court which must decline to apply a national technical regulation which has not been notified in accordance with the Directive.

This judgment confirms the Commission's Communication of 1 October 1986 (OJ C 245, 1.10.1986, p. 4).

Accordingly, breach of the obligation to notify renders the technical regulations concerned inapplicable, so that they are unenforceable against individuals.

If you require any information on these notifications, please contact the national departments listed below:

LIST OF NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF DIRECTIVE 98/34/EC**BELGIUM**

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THE NETHERLANDS

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Communication from the French Government concerning Directive 94/22/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 1994 on the conditions for granting and using authorisations for the prospecting, exploration and production of hydrocarbons ⁽¹⁾

(2001/C 175/05)

(Text with EEA relevance)

Notice regarding an application for an exclusive licence to prospect for liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons, designated the 'Courtenay Licence'

By request of 19 March 2001, Madison/Chart Energy SCS, a company with registered offices at 13/15 boulevard de la Madeleine, F-75001 Paris, applied for an exclusive four-year licence designated the 'Courtenay Licence', to prospect for liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons in an area of around 946 km² covering part of the departments of Loiret and Yonne.

The perimeter of the area covered by this licence is made up of the meridian and parallel arcs successively joining the vertices defined below by their geographical coordinates, the original meridian being that of Paris:

Vertices	Longitude	Latitude
A	0,60 degrees E	53,50 degrees N
B	1,20 degrees E	53,50 degrees N
C	1,20 degrees E	53,30 degrees N
D	0,90 degrees E	53,30 degrees N
E	0,90 degrees E	53,20 degrees N
F	0,60 degrees E	53,20 degrees N

The following concession perimeters are excluded from this licence:

Saint Firmin-des-Bois concession (16,136 km²):

Vertices	Longitude	Latitude
a	0,64 degrees E	53,35 degrees N
b	0,67 degrees E	53,35 degrees N
c	0,67 degrees E	53,27 degrees N
d	0,64 degrees E	53,27 degrees N

Château-Renard concession (45,69 km²):

Vertices	Longitude	Latitude
e	0,67 degrees E	53,35 degrees N
f	0,68 degrees E	53,35 degrees N
g	0,68 degrees E	53,36 degrees N
h	0,78 degrees E	53,36 degrees N
i	0,78 degrees E	53,32 degrees N
j	0,74 degrees E	53,32 degrees N
k	0,74 degrees E	53,31 degrees N
l	0,73 degrees E	53,31 degrees N
m	0,73 degrees E	53,28 degrees N
n	0,67 degrees E	53,28 degrees N

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 164, 30.6.1994, p. 3.

Interested companies may, within 90 days of the publication of this notice, submit a competing application in accordance with the procedure summarised in the 'Notice regarding the granting of mining rights for hydrocarbons in France' published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* C 374 of 30.12.1994, p. 11, and established by Decree 95-427 of 19 April 1995 regarding mining rights (*Journal officiel de la République française* of 22 April 1995).

Competing applications will be accepted only for areas outside the perimeter requested by Vermilion Rep SA in its application for the 'Saint Valérien Licence', in respect of which the deadline for competing applications expired on 20 March 2001 (See notice published in *Official Journal of the European Communities* C 368, 21.12.2000, p. 2).

Additional information can be obtained from the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Finance and Industry (secrétariat d'État à l'industrie, direction générale de l'énergie et des matières premières, direction des matières premières et des hydrocarbures, service de conservation des gisements d'hydrocarbures), 120 rue du Cherche-Midi, F-75353 Paris 07 SP (tel. (33) 143 19 53 53, fax (33) 143 19 54 54).

UNIFORM APPLICATION OF THE COMBINED NOMENCLATURE (CN)

(Classification of goods)

(2001/C 175/06)

Explanatory notes adopted in accordance with Article 10(1) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87 of 23 July 1987 on the tariff and statistical nomenclature and on the Common Customs Tariff⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2559/2000⁽²⁾

The explanatory notes to the Combined Nomenclature of the European Communities⁽³⁾ are amended as follows:

On page 318 the following text is inserted:

8528 30 05

Besides apparatus operating by means of liquid crystal device (LCD), this subheading also includes apparatus operating by means of digital light processing technology. It works by means of a semiconductor controlled mechanical micro-mirror device.'

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 256, 7.9.1987, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 293, 22.11.2000, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ OJ C 199, 13.7.2000, p. 1.

Non-opposition to a notified concentration**(Case COMP/M.2051 — Nordic Capital/Hiag/Nybron/Bauwerk)**

(2001/C 175/07)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 4 August 2000 the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. The full text of the decision is only available in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- as a paper version through the sales offices of the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (see list on the last page),
- in electronic form in the 'CEN' version of the CELEX database, under document No 300M2051. CELEX is the computerised documentation system of European Community law.

For more information concerning subscriptions please contact:

EUR-OP,
Information, Marketing and Public Relations,
2, rue Mercier,
L-2985 Luxembourg.
Tel. (352) 29 29 427 18, fax (352) 29 29 427 09.

Non-opposition to a notified concentration**(Case COMP/M.2348 — Outokumpu/Norzink)**

(2001/C 175/08)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 27 March 2001 the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. The full text of the decision is only available in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- as a paper version through the sales offices of the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (see list on the last page),
- in electronic form in the 'CEN' version of the CELEX database, under document No 301M2348. CELEX is the computerised documentation system of European Community law.

For more information concerning subscriptions please contact:

EUR-OP,
Information, Marketing and Public Relations,
2, rue Mercier,
L-2985 Luxembourg.
Tel. (352) 29 29 427 18, fax (352) 29 29 427 09.

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.2501 — Eureko/Interamerican)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(2001/C 175/09)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 13 June 2001 the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97 ⁽²⁾, by which the undertaking Eureko BV (The Netherlands) acquires, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, control of the whole of the undertaking Interamerican (Greece) by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— Eureko BV: insurance services,

— Interamerican: insurance services.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified concentration could fall within the scope of Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. However, the final decision on this point is reserved. Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 ⁽³⁾, it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in the notice.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent by fax (No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference COMP/M.2501 — Eureko/Interamerican, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
Rue Joseph II/Jozef II-straat 70,
B-1000 Brussels.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 180, 9.7.1997, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.

⁽³⁾ OJ C 217, 29.7.2000, p. 32.

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.2453 — GKN/Brambles)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(2001/C 175/10)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 11 June 2001 the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97 ⁽²⁾, by which the undertaking Brambles plc (UK) and Brambles Ltd (Australia) acquire, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, joint control of businesses previously solely owned by either party by way of purchase of shares and assets. The operation will result in the creation of a single economic entity having a dual-listed companies' structure.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— Brambles plc: support services,

— Brambles Ltd: support services, transport and logistics.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified concentration could fall within the scope of Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. However, the final decision on this point is reserved. Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 ⁽³⁾, it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in the notice.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent by fax (No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference COMP/M.2453 — GKN/Brambles, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
Rue Joseph II/Jozef II-straat 70,
B-1000 Brussels.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 180, 9.7.1997, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.

⁽³⁾ OJ C 217, 29.7.2000, p. 32.

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.2380 — FöreningsSparbanken/SEB)

(2001/C 175/11)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 11 June 2001, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97 ⁽²⁾, by which the Swedish undertakings FöreningsSparbanken AB (FSB) and Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB (SEB) enter into a full merger within the meaning of Article 3(1)(a) of the Regulation
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - FSB: Swedish-based banking group offering a full range of banking products and mutual funds, primarily to small and medium-sized enterprises and private individuals.
 - SEB: Swedish-based banking group offering a full range of corporate and private banking products and mutual funds.
3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified concentration could fall within the scope of Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.
4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent by fax (No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference COMP/M.2380 — FöreningsSparbanken/SEB, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
Rue Joseph II/Jozef II-straat 70,
B-1000 Brussels.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 180, 9.7.1997, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.