

**Prior notification of a concentration**  
**(Case COMP/M.6072 — Carlyle/Primondo Operations)**  
**Candidate case for simplified procedure**  
**(Text with EEA relevance)**  
**(2010/C 322/09)**

1. On 19 November 2010, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(1)</sup> by which The Carlyle Group ('Carlyle', US), through its subsidiary CEP III Participations Sàrl SICAR ('CEP III', US), acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control over certain retail operations under the trade names 'Walz' (Germany), 'Bon'A Parte' (Denmark), 'Elégance' (Germany), 'Mirabeau' (Germany), 'Planet Sports' (Germany), and 'Vertbaudet' (Germany) ('Primondo Operations'), controlled by the Primondo Specialty Group ('Primondo', Germany), by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for Carlyle: Global alternative asset manager, which sponsors funds that invest globally across four investment disciplines (buyout, credit alternatives, growth capital and real estate) in a range of industries,
- for Primondo Operations: Retail sales via mail order or via internet (e-commerce); retail sales of clothing, footwear, textiles, baby care products, sporting equipment, games and toys in stores; wholesale of clothing and footwear.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the EC Merger Regulation. However, the final decision on this point is reserved. Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under the EC Merger Regulation <sup>(2)</sup> 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 to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent to the Commission by fax (+32 22964301), by email to COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu or by post, under reference number COMP/M.6072 — Carlyle/Primondo Operations, to the following address:

European Commission  
Directorate-General for Competition  
Merger Registry  
J-70  
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel  
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'EC Merger Regulation').

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ C 56, 5.3.2005, p. 32 ('Notice on a simplified procedure').