Prior notification of a concentration

(Case COMP/M.6726 — AAEC/Rabo Investments/Vecelia/HVEG)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2012/C 332/10)

1. On 23 October 2012, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([1]) by which the undertakings ABN Amro Effecten Compagnie BV ('AAEC', The Netherlands) belonging to ABN Amro Bank NV ('ABN Amro', The Netherlands), Rabo Investments BV ('Rabo Investments', The Netherlands), a wholly owned subsidiary of Coöperative Centrale Raiffeisen-Boerenleenbank ('Rabobank', The Netherlands) and Vecelia Investments BV ('Vecelia', The Netherlands) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the undertaking HVEG Investments BV ('HVEG', The Netherlands) by way of acquisition of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for AAEC: specialized in holding equity stakes on behalf of ABN Amro,

— for Rabo Investments: specialized in holding and taking equity stakes on behalf of Rabobank and others,

— for Vecelia: holding company of HVEG,

— for HVEG: active in wholesale of women's, men's and children's clothing and accessories.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope the EC Merger Regulation. 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 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 e-mail to COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu or by post, under reference number COMP/M.6726 — AAEC/Rabo Investments/Vecelia/HVEG, to the following address:

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

([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'EC Merger Regulation').