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Price:
EUR 3⁽¹⁾ Text with EEA relevance

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⁽¹⁾ Text with EEA relevance

II

(Information)

INFORMATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES
AND AGENCIES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Authorisation for State aid pursuant to Articles 107 and 108 of the TFEU

Cases where the Commission raises no objections

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2014/C 6/01)

Date of adoption of the decision	19.12.2013	
Reference number of State Aid	SA.37785 (13/N)	
Member State	Spain	
Region	—	Mixed
Title (and/or name of the beneficiary)	Régimen de financiación para la exportación de buques	
Legal basis	Real Decreto 442/1994, de 11 de marzo, sobre Primas y Financiación a la Construcción Naval y sus modificaciones posteriores	
Type of measure	Scheme	—
Objective	Sectoral development, Promotion of export and internationalisation	
Form of aid	Interest subsidy	
Budget	Overall budget: EUR 45 million Annual budget: EUR 45 million	
Intensity	—	
Duration (period)	1.1.2014-30.6.2014	
Economic sectors	Building of ships and floating structures	
Name and address of the granting authority	Manuel Valle Muñoz — Director General de Industria y PYME Paseo de la Castellana, 160 28071 Madrid ESPAÑA	
Other information	—	

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at:

<http://ec.europa.eu/competition/elojade/isef/index.cfm>

Date of adoption of the decision	19.12.2013	
Reference number of State Aid	SA.37786 (13/N)	
Member State	Spain	
Region	—	Mixed
Title (and/or name of the beneficiary)	Régimen de ayudas horizontales a la construcción naval	
Legal basis	a) Real Decreto 442/1994, de 11 de marzo, de Primas y Financiación a la Construcción Naval, y modificaciones posteriores; en relación con su artículo 10. b) Normas de aplicación de las ayudas horizontales a la construcción naval con cargo al Fondo de Reestructuración	
Type of measure	Scheme	—
Objective	Sectoral development, Innovation, Regional development, Research and development	
Form of aid	Direct grant	
Budget	Overall budget: EUR 10 million Annual budget: EUR 10 million	
Intensity	80 %	
Duration (period)	1.1.2014-30.6.2014	
Economic sectors	Building of ships and floating structures	
Name and address of the granting authority	Ministerio de Industria, Energía y Turismo. Manuel Valle Muñoz — Director General de Industria y PYME Paseo de la Castellana, 160 28071 Madrid ESPAÑA	
Other information	—	

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at:

<http://ec.europa.eu/competition/elojade/isef/index.cfm>

IV

(Notices)

NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates ⁽¹⁾**9 January 2014**

(2014/C 6/02)

1 euro =

Currency			Exchange rate		
Currency			Exchange rate		
USD	US dollar	1,3612	CAD	Canadian dollar	1,4780
JPY	Japanese yen	142,92	HKD	Hong Kong dollar	10,5554
DKK	Danish krone	7,4609	NZD	New Zealand dollar	1,6495
GBP	Pound sterling	0,82575	SGD	Singapore dollar	1,7304
SEK	Swedish krona	8,9260	KRW	South Korean won	1 447,42
CHF	Swiss franc	1,2368	ZAR	South African rand	14,7150
ISK	Iceland króna		CNY	Chinese yuan renminbi	8,2404
NOK	Norwegian krone	8,4075	HRK	Croatian kuna	7,6294
BGN	Bulgarian lev	1,9558	IDR	Indonesian rupiah	16 593,03
CZK	Czech koruna	27,433	MYR	Malaysian ringgit	4,4620
HUF	Hungarian forint	299,41	PHP	Philippine peso	60,805
LTL	Lithuanian litas	3,4528	RUB	Russian rouble	45,1425
PLN	Polish zloty	4,1755	THB	Thai baht	44,944
RON	Romanian leu	4,5340	BRL	Brazilian real	3,2641
TRY	Turkish lira	2,9745	MXN	Mexican peso	17,8639
AUD	Australian dollar	1,5343	INR	Indian rupee	84,5410

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

NOTICES FROM MEMBER STATES

United Kingdom Government notice concerning Directive 94/22/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the conditions for granting and using authorisations for the prospection, exploration and production of hydrocarbons

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2014/C 6/03)

Announcement of United Kingdom 28th Offshore Oil and Gas Licensing Round

Department of Energy and Climate Change

The Petroleum Act 1998

Offshore Licensing Round

1. The Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change invites interested persons to apply for seaward production licences in respect of certain acreage on the United Kingdom Continental Shelf.
2. Full details of the offer, including lists and maps of the acreage on offer and guidance about licences, the terms which those licences will include, and how to apply, are available on the gov.uk website (see below).
3. All applications will be determined in accordance with the terms of the Hydrocarbons Licensing Directive Regulations 1995 (S.I. 1995 No 1434) and against a background of the continuing need for expeditious, thorough, efficient and safe exploration to identify the United Kingdom's oil and gas resources with due regard to environmental considerations.

Traditional and frontier (including west of Scotland) applications

4. Applications for traditional and frontier licences (both for areas west of Scotland and elsewhere) will be determined on the basis of the following criteria:
 - (a) the financial viability of the applicant and its financial capacity to carry out the activities that would be permitted under the licence during the initial term, including the work programme submitted for evaluating the full potential of the area within the block or blocks applied for;
 - (b) the technical capability of the applicant to carry out activities that would be permitted under the licence during the initial term, including the identification of hydrocarbon prospects within the block or blocks applied for. The technical capability will be assessed in part upon the quality of analysis related to the block or blocks applied for; and
 - (c) the way in which the applicant proposes to carry out the activities that would be permitted under the licence, including the quality of the work programme submitted for evaluating the full potential of the area applied for;
 - (d) where the applicant holds or has held a licence granted under or treated as having been granted under the Petroleum Act 1998, any lack of efficiency and responsibility displayed by the applicant in operations under that licence.
5. The proposed operator within each applicant group (including any company that is applying as a sole applicant) must submit a statement of its general environmental policy for the conduct of licensed activities in seaward areas.

6. For traditional and frontier applications the Secretary of State will not award a licence unless he is prepared to approve the applicant's choice of operator at the same time. Before approving an operator, the Secretary of State must be satisfied that the nominee will be competent to plan and manage drilling operations, in terms of the numbers, experience, competence and training of its staff, the proposed procedures and methodologies, the design of its command structure, interfaces with contractors and overall corporate strategy. In considering a proposed operator, the Secretary of State will take into account both new information presented in the application and the nominee's record as an operator, both within the United Kingdom and abroad.

Promote applications

7. Applications will be determined on the basis of the following criteria:

- (a) the financial viability of the applicant;
- (b) the technical capability of the applicant to carry out activities that would be permitted under the licence during the first two years of the licence including the identification of hydrocarbon prospects within the block or blocks applied for. The technical capability will be assessed in part upon the quality of analysis related to the block or blocks applied for;
- (c) the quality of the applicant's approach to securing the additional financial and technical resources that would be needed to complete the substantive work programme contemplated in the second two years of the initial term; and
- (d) where the applicant holds or has held a licence granted under or treated as having been granted under the Petroleum Act 1998, any lack of efficiency and responsibility displayed by the applicant in operations under that licence.

8. Promote licences will expire after two years if the licensee has not satisfied DECC of its technical and financial capacity to complete the initial term work programme which will include a firm commitment at that time to the drilling of at least one well, or to conduct an equivalent agreed substantive activity. The initial term work programme must be carried out within four years.

Guidance

9. Further guidance can be viewed on the gov.uk website:

<https://www.gov.uk/oil-and-gas-licensing-rounds>

Licence offers

10. Unless an environmental assessment in relation to a particular block is required (see paragraph 13 below), any offer by the Secretary of State of a licence pursuant to this invitation will be made within 12 months of the date of this notice.

11. The Secretary of State accepts no liability for any costs incurred by the applicant in considering or making its application.

Environmental assessments

12. The Secretary of State has conducted a strategic environmental assessment (SEA) pursuant to Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment of all of the areas to be offered in this Round. The findings of that SEA can be found at DECC's offshore energy SEA website:

<https://www.gov.uk/offshore-energy-strategic-environmental-assessment-sea-an-overview-of-the-sea-process>

13. Licences pursuant to this invitation will only be offered if, in accordance with the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora):

- (a) the activities to be carried out under the licence are not likely to have a significant effect on the management of a special conservation area (SCA) or special protection area (SPA); or if
- (b) an appropriate assessment has ascertained that the activities will have no adverse effects on such SCAs or SPAs; or
- (c) in a case where the activities are assessed as likely to cause such adverse effects, subject to:
 - (i) there being imperative reasons of overriding public interest for awarding the licence;
 - (ii) the taking of appropriate compensatory measures; and
 - (iii) there being no alternative solutions.

14. Licence Administration: Energy Development Unit (EDU), Department of Energy and Climate Change, 3 Whitehall Place, London SW1A 2AW, United Kingdom (tel. +44 03000686042, fax +44 003000685129).

The gov.uk website: <https://www.gov.uk/oil-and-gas-licensing-rounds>

Commission communication pursuant to Article 16(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on common rules for the operation of air services in the Community

Amendment of public service obligations in respect of scheduled air services

(2014/C 6/04)

Member State	Spain
Route concerned	Almeria–Seville
Date of entry into force of the public service obligations	29.4.2009
Date of entry into force of the changes	15.1.2014
Address where the text and any other information or documentation related to the public service obligations can be obtained for free, and where any programs of services shall be submitted	Ministerio de Fomento Dirección General de Aviación Civil Subdirección General de Transporte Aéreo Paseo de la Castellana, 67 28071 Madrid ESPAÑA Tel. +34 915978454 Fax +34 915978643 E-mail: osp.dgac@fomento.es

The route subject to public service obligations may be operated on the basis of free competition access under the new conditions as from 15 January 2014. If within a period of 15 calendar days following the date of publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union* no air carrier submits a programme of services compliant with the public service obligations imposed, access will be restricted to a single air carrier through the corresponding public tender procedure, in accordance with Article 16(9) of Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008.

V

(Announcements)

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

COUNCIL

OPEN CALL

European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST)

(2014/C 6/05)

Developing stronger links amongst European researchers is crucial to building the European Research Area (ERA). COST brings together researchers and experts in different countries working on any research topic (bottom-up). COST does not fund research itself, but supports networking activities such as meetings, conferences, short-term scientific missions, training schools and dissemination activities. Currently around 300 scientific networks (actions) are supported.

Stimulating new, innovative, interdisciplinary and broad research networks, COST invites action proposals contributing to the scientific, technological, economic, cultural or societal development of Europe. Proposals initiated by early-stage researchers are especially welcome.

COST is organised in nine broad domains (biomedicine and molecular biosciences; chemistry and molecular sciences and technologies; earth system science and environmental management; food and agriculture; forests, their products and services; individuals, societies, cultures and health; information and communication technologies; materials, physics and nanosciences; transport and urban development). The intended coverage of each domain is explained on the COST website (http://www.cost.eu/domains_actions).

Proposers are invited to locate their topic within one domain. However, broad inter-disciplinary proposals not fitting readily into a single domain should be submitted as trans-domain proposals (TDP) and will be evaluated separately.

Proposals should include researchers from a minimum of five COST countries. Financial support for an action of 19 participating countries is in the range of EUR 130 000 p.a., normally for four years, subject to available budget.

Proposals will be evaluated in two stages (except for the TDP — see below). *Preliminary proposals* (maximum 10 000 characters/3-4 pages), submitted using the on-line template (see <http://www.cost.eu/opencall>) should provide a brief overview of the proposal and its intended impact. Eligible proposals will be evaluated by the relevant Domain Committees in accordance with the published criteria. Proposers of selected preliminary proposals will be invited to submit a full proposal. Full proposals will be peer reviewed according to the evaluation criteria. The decision will normally be taken within eight months of the collection date and the actions should expect to start within three months thereafter. All details and criteria are available on <http://www.cost.eu/download/COST-Action-Proposal-SESA-guidelines.pdf>

The collection date for preliminary proposals is **Friday 28 March 2014, 17.00 Brussels time**. Around 20 % will be invited to submit a full proposal for final selection of approximately 40 new actions, subject to available budget. Full proposals will be invited on 2 June 2014 for submission by 25 July 2014.

Proposals submitted under TDP follow a specific pilot evaluation procedure, requiring submission of one single proposal, and must be registered by **7 March 2014, 17.00 Brussels time**. The collection date for TDP is **11 April 2014, 17.00 Brussels time**. This proposal will be remotely evaluated in two steps, followed by TDP hearings and supervised by the TDP Panel. A general description of the evaluation procedure can be found at http://www.cost.eu/domains_actions/TDP, while the details on proposal submission and evaluation are illustrated in the Open Call Guidelines for TDP Pilot (http://www.cost.eu/download/TDP_guidelines).

Decisions on action approval are expected in November 2014.

Proposers may wish to contact their national COST Coordinator (CNC) for information and guidance (see <http://www.cost.eu/cnc>)

Proposals must be submitted on-line to the COST Office website.

COST receives financial support for its coordinating activities from the EU RTD framework programme. The COST Office, set up by the European Science Foundation (ESF), acting as the implementing agent for COST, provides and manages the administrative, scientific and technical secretariat for COST, its Domain Committees and its actions.

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case COMP/M.7111 — Mitsui/ArcelorMittal Gonvarri Brasil Produtos Siderúrgicos/M Steel Indústria e Comércio de Produtos Siderúrgicos)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2014/C 6/06)

1. On 23 December 2013, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾ by which Mitsui & Co. Ltd. ('Mitsui', Japan) and ArcelorMittal Gonvarri Brasil Produtos Siderúrgicos SA ('AMG', Brazil) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the undertaking M Steel Indústria e Comércio de Produtos Siderúrgicos Ltda (the 'Target Company', Brazil) by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for Mitsui: sale, distribution, purchase, marketing and supply of products in business areas such as iron and steel; non-ferrous metals; machinery; electronics; chemicals; energy-related commodities globally,
- for AMG: steel processing and distribution within Brazil,
- for the Target Company: manufacturing, storing and distribution of various processed steel products.

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 ⁽²⁾ 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.7111 — Mitsui/ArcelorMittal Gonvarri Brasil Produtos Siderúrgicos/M Steel Indústria e Comércio de Produtos Siderúrgicos, to the following address:

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

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

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

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.7125 — Advent/UNIT4)
Candidate case for simplified procedure
(Text with EEA relevance)
(2014/C 6/07)

1. On 3 January 2014, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾ by which the undertaking Advent International Corporation ('Advent', United States of America) will acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the undertaking UNIT4 NV ('UNIT4', the Netherlands), by way of public bid announced on 18 November 2013.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for Advent: private equity fund,

— for UNIT4: provision of business software and IT services.

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 ⁽²⁾ 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.7125 — Advent/UNIT4, to the following address:

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

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

⁽²⁾ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5 ('Notice on a simplified procedure').

Prior notification of a concentration**(Case COMP/M.7148 — Borealis European Holdings/First State Investments/Fortum Distribution Finland)****Candidate case for simplified procedure****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2014/C 6/08)

1. On 3 January 2014, 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 Borealis European Holdings BV ('Borealis' of the United Kingdom) ultimately controlled by OMERS Administration Corporation, and First State Investments International Limited ('First State' of the United Kingdom) ultimately controlled by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the electricity distribution assets of the Forum Oyj group (Fortum Sähkösiirto Oy ('FSS'), Fortum Espoo Distribution Oy ('FED') and Fortum Meter Lease SNC ('FML'), together referred to as 'Fortum Distribution Finland' of Finland) by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- Borealis is the exclusive infrastructure manager for OMERS Administration Corporation and is one of the largest infrastructure investors in the world and a world leader in developing infrastructure investing as an asset class for institutional investors,
- First State is a global asset management business which manages investments on behalf of amongst others institutional investors and pension funds,
- Fortum Distribution Finland is Finland's leading electricity distributor. Its distribution networks are located in Northern, Western and Southern Finland as well as in the city of Joensuu. It is also active in electricity meter leasing in Finland.

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 ⁽²⁾ 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.7148 — Borealis European Holdings/First State Investments/Fortum Distribution Finland, to the following address:

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

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

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

EUR-Lex (<http://new.eur-lex.europa.eu>) offers direct access to European Union legislation free of charge. The *Official Journal of the European Union* can be consulted on this website, as can the Treaties, legislation, case-law and preparatory acts.

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