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⁽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

Non-opposition to a notified concentration**(Case M.8598 — BNPP/Starwood/Hotel Portfolio)****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2017/C 303/01)

On 30 August 2017, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the internal market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾. The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- in the merger section of the Competition website of the Commission (<http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/cases/>). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,
- in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html?locale=en>) under document number 32017M8598. EUR-Lex is the online access to European law.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

Non-opposition to a notified concentration**(Case M.8553 — Banco Santander/Banco Popular Group)****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2017/C 303/02)

On 8 August 2017, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the internal market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾. The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- in the merger section of the Competition website of the Commission (<http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/cases/>). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,
- in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html?locale=en>) under document number 32017M8553. EUR-Lex is the online access to European law.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

IV

*(Notices)*NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND
AGENCIES

COUNCIL

COUNCIL DECISION

of 4 September 2017

**adopting the Council's position on the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial
year 2018**

(2017/C 303/03)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 314(3) thereof, in conjunction with the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community and in particular Article 106a thereof,

Whereas:

1. On 29 June 2017, the Commission submitted a proposal containing the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2018 ⁽¹⁾,
2. The Council examined the Commission proposal with a view to defining a position consistent, on the revenue side, with Council Decision 2014/335/EU, Euratom of 26 May 2014 on the system of own resources of the European Union ⁽²⁾, and, on the expenditure side, with Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1311/2013 of 2 December 2013 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2014-2020 ⁽³⁾,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

The Council's position on the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2018 was adopted by the Council on 4 September 2017.

The full text can be accessed for consultation or downloading on the Council's website: <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/>

Done at Brussels, 4 September 2017.

*For the Council**The President*

M. MAASIKAS

⁽¹⁾ COM(2017) 400 final.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 168, 7.6.2014, p. 105.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 884.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates ⁽¹⁾

13 September 2017

(2017/C 303/04)

1 euro =

Currency	Exchange rate	Currency	Exchange rate		
USD	US dollar	1,1979	CAD	Canadian dollar	1,4542
JPY	Japanese yen	131,79	HKD	Hong Kong dollar	9,3586
DKK	Danish krone	7,4404	NZD	New Zealand dollar	1,6451
GBP	Pound sterling	0,90243	SGD	Singapore dollar	1,6118
SEK	Swedish krona	9,5475	KRW	South Korean won	1 349,96
CHF	Swiss franc	1,1496	ZAR	South African rand	15,7095
ISK	Iceland króna		CNY	Chinese yuan renminbi	7,8249
NOK	Norwegian krone	9,3983	HRK	Croatian kuna	7,4680
BGN	Bulgarian lev	1,9558	IDR	Indonesian rupiah	15 815,27
CZK	Czech koruna	26,101	MYR	Malaysian ringgit	5,0198
HUF	Hungarian forint	308,02	PHP	Philippine peso	61,057
PLN	Polish zloty	4,2798	RUB	Russian rouble	69,0768
RON	Romanian leu	4,6013	THB	Thai baht	39,639
TRY	Turkish lira	4,1232	BRL	Brazilian real	3,7521
AUD	Australian dollar	1,4909	MXN	Mexican peso	21,2826
			INR	Indian rupee	76,6655

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

COURT OF AUDITORS

Special Report No 12/2017

'Implementing the Drinking Water Directive: water quality and access to it improved in Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania, but investment needs remain substantial'

(2017/C 303/05)

The European Court of Auditors hereby informs you that Special Report No 12/2017 'Implementing the Drinking Water Directive: water quality and access to it improved in Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania, but investment needs remain substantial' has just been published.

The report can be accessed for consultation or downloading on the European Court of Auditors' website: <http://eca.europa.eu>

NOTICES CONCERNING THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA

EFTA SURVEILLANCE AUTHORITY

State aid — Decision to raise no objections

(2017/C 303/06)

The EFTA Surveillance Authority raises no objections to the following State aid measure:

Date of adoption of the decision:	20 June 2017
Case No:	80745
Decision No:	103/17/COL
EFTA State:	Norway
Title (and/or name of the beneficiary):	Aid scheme for short sea shipping — increased budget
Legal basis:	The Norwegian Parliament decides on the scope of the aid scheme in its annual decisions on the state budget.
Type of measure:	Scheme
Objective:	Environmental protection
Form of aid:	Direct grants
Budget:	NOK 82 million for 2017 and NOK 100 million for 2018 to 2021
Intensity:	Up to 30 % of operational cost
Duration:	First quarter of 2017 to the first quarter of 2022 (5 years)
Economic sectors:	Transport
Name and address of the granting authority:	The Ministry of Transport and Communications/The Norwegian Coastal Administration P.O. Box 1 502 N-6025 Ålesund NORWAY

Other information:

The authentic text of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found on the EFTA Surveillance Authority's website:

<http://www.eftasurv.int/state-aid/state-aid-register/>

V

(Announcements)

COURT PROCEEDINGS

EFTA COURT

ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT**of 24 April 2017****In Case E-20/16****Autonomy Capital (Jersey) LP and Eaton Vance Management v EFTA Surveillance Authority***(2017/C 303/07)*

Application for the annulment of EFTA Surveillance Authority Decision No 207/16/COL of 23 November 2016 closing a complaint against Iceland in the field of free movement of capital (capital controls), the President of the Court made an Order of 24 April 2017, the operative part of which is as follows:

1. Case E-20/16 is removed from the Register.
 2. The applicants are to bear the costs of the proceedings.
-

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION
POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case M.8590 — Sogecap/Cardif/Diversipierre/Horizon)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2017/C 303/08)

1. On 6 September 2017, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾.

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

- Sogecap SA ('Sogecap', France), belonging to the group Société Générale,
- Cardif Assurance Vie SA ('Cardif', France), belonging to the group BNP Paribas,
- Diversipierre Germany GmbH ('Diversipierre', Germany), belonging to the group BNP Paribas,
- Horizon Development GmbH ('Horizon', Germany).

Sogecap, Cardif and Diversipierre acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the whole of Horizon.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for Sogecap: life-insurance company,
- for Cardif: life-insurance company,
- for Diversipierre: real estate holding company,
- for Horizon: owner of an office building located in Düsseldorf, Germany, which is already leased to a third party.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the 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 Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽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. The following reference should always be specified:

M.8590 — Sogecap/Cardif/Diversipierre/Horizon

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

⁽²⁾ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email, by fax, or by post. Please use the contact details below:

Email:

COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

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+32 22964301

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