

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case M.7693 — Apollo/Verallia Group)
Candidate case for simplified procedure
(Text with EEA relevance)
(2015/C 229/11)

1. On 6 July 2015, 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 Horizon Holdings III S.A.S. (United Kingdom), controlled by investment funds managed by Apollo Management, L.P. (United States), acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the whole of the undertakings Saint-Gobain Emballage S.A. (France), Saint-Gobain Vicasa S.A. (Spain), Saint-Gobain Vidros S.A. (Brazil) and Obale S.A.S. (France) which together form the Verallia Group by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- Apollo Management, L.P. invests in companies and debt issued by companies involved in various businesses throughout the world, for example in the chemical, financial services, and media industries,
- Verallia Group manufactures and supplies glass bottles and jars for the food and beverage industries worldwide.

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 this 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 e-mail to COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu or by post, under reference M.7693 — Apollo/Verallia Group, 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 'Merger Regulation').

⁽²⁾ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.