Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.9085 — Dr August Oetker/Coop-Gruppe/F&B — Food and Beverage Services)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2018/C 444/11)

1. On 27 November 2018, 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:

- Dr August Oetker KG ('Oetker-Gruppe', Germany),
- Coop-Gruppe Genossenschaft ('Coop-Gruppe', Switzerland), through its indirect wholly-owned subsidiary Transgourmet Deutschland GmbH & Co. OHG ('Transgourmet', Germany),
- F&B Food and Beverage Services GmbH (F&B', Germany), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Transgourmet.

Oetker-Gruppe, through its wholly-owned subsidiary Dr August Oetker Finanzierungs- und Beteiligungs-GmbH (Germany), acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the whole of F&B.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares in Transgourmet.

- 2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
- Oetker-Gruppe, through its subsidiaries, is active, among other things, in the manufacture and distribution of beer, wine, sparkling wine and non-alcoholic drinks.
- Coop-Gruppe is a retailer and wholesaler.
- F&B, through a shareholding in Team Beverage AG, is active in beverage distribution.
- 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 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 no later than 10 days following the date of this publication. The following reference should always be specified:

M.9085 — Dr August Oetker/Coop-Gruppe/F&B — Food and Beverage Services

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

Fax +32 22964301

Postal 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.