

Prior notification of a concentration**(Case COMP/M.2255 — Telefónica Intercontinental/Sonera 3G Holding/Consortium Ipse 2000)****Candidate case for simplified procedure**

(2000/C 349/05)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 29 November 2000 the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97⁽²⁾, by which the undertakings Telefónica Intercontinental SA, controlled by the Spanish Telefónica SA (Telefónica), and Sonera 3G Holding BV, controlled by the Finnish Sonera Corporation (Sonera), acquire, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, joint control of the Italian undertaking Cosortium Ipse 2000 by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— Telefónica: fixed-line and mobile voice and data communications, value added and Internet access services, media and entertainment,

— Sonera: fixed-line and mobile voice and data communications, Internet and service provision,

— Ipse: vehicle company set up for the purpose of acquiring a UMTS licence in Italy.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified concentration could fall within the scope of Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. However, the final decision on this point is reserved. Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89⁽³⁾, 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.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent by fax (No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference COMP/M.2255 — Telefónica Intercontinental/Sonera 3G Holding/Consortium Ipse 2000, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
Rue Joseph II/Jozef II-straat 70,
B-1000 Brussels.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 180, 9.7.1997, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.

⁽³⁾ OJ C 217, 29.7.2000, p. 32.