

Prior notification of a concentration**(Case COMP/M.3071 — Carnival Corporation/P & O Princess)**

(2003/C 10/04)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 27 February 2002 the Commission received a 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 US-based undertaking Carnival Corporation (Carnival) acquires, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, control of the whole of the British undertaking P & O Princess plc (POPC) by way of public bid announced on 16 December 2001.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— Carnival: organisation and provision of cruises,

— POPC: organisation and provision of cruises.

3. On 24 July 2002, following an in-depth enquiry, the Commission adopted a decision under Article 8(2) of the Regulation, declaring the operation compatible with the common market.

4. On 8 January 2003, the Commission received a notification of an agreement between Carnival and POPC to create a dual-listed company structure combining their activities.

5. 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.3071 — Carnival Corporation/P & O Princess, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
J-70,
B-1049 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.