

**Prior notification of a concentration**  
**(Case COMP/M.4002 — OMV/Aral ČR)**

(2005/C 297/06)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 17 November 2005, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004<sup>(1)</sup> by which the undertaking OMV Aktiengesellschaft ('OMV', Austria) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation control of the whole of the undertaking Aral ČR, a.s. ('Aral ČR', Czech Republic) by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for OMV: exploration, production, refining and distribution of mineral oil products, including retail sale and wholesale of fuel;
- for Aral ČR: retail sale and wholesale of fuel in the Czech Republic.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of Regulation (EC) No 139/2004. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

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 (No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference number COMP/M.4002 — OMV/Aral ČR, to the following address:

European Commission  
Competition DG  
Merger Registry  
J-70  
BE-1049 Brussels

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.