

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.4231 — Arcelor/Mitsui/AMSA JV)
Candidate case for simplified procedure

(2006/C 123/08)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 16 May 2006, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾ by which the undertakings Arcelor Steel Service Centres SAS ('Arcelor Steel Service Centres', France), belonging to the Arcelor group ('Arcelor', Luxembourg) and Mitsui & Co UK plc, ultimately controlled by Mitsui & Co Ltd ('Mitsui', USA) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control of the undertaking AMSA Steel Service Centre (Pty) ('AMSA', Republic of South Africa) by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- Arcelor Steel Service Centres: processing and distribution of steel;
- Mitsui: world-wide trading in a number of commodities, including, without limitation, steel;
- AMSA: steel distribution in South Africa.

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. 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 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.4231 — Arcelor/Mitsui/AMSA JV, to the following address:

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

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ C 56, 5.3.2005, p. 32.