

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.4845 — Santander/ABN AMRO assets)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2007/C 194/08)

1. On 14 August 2007, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾ by which the undertaking Banco Santander Central Hispano, S.A. ('Santander', Spain) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation control of parts of ABN AMRO Holding N.V. ('ABN AMRO assets', The Netherlands) by way of public bid announced on 29 May 2007.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for undertaking Santander: active in corporate and retail banking services, asset management and insurance mainly in continental Europe, UK and Latin America,
- for undertaking ABN AMRO assets: the assets include ABN AMRO Business Unit Latin America (excluding wholesale banking outside Brazil and asset management) and Antonveneta.

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 ((32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference number COMP/M.4845 — Santander/ABN AMRO assets to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
J-70
B-1049 Bruxelles/Brussel

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ C 56, 5.3.2005, p. 32.