

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.5477 — Votorantim/Aracruz)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2009/C 64/14)

1. On 12 March 2009, 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 Votorantim Group ('Votorantim', Brazil) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation sole control of the whole of the undertaking Aracruz Celulose S.A. ('Aracruz', Brazil) currently jointly controlled by the Votorantim Group, Arapar and Arainvest, by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for the Votorantim Group: cement and concrete, mining and metallurgy (aluminum, steel, nickel and zinc), pulp and paper, concentrated orange juice, chemical specialty markets, generation of electric power and the financial sector activities,

— for Aracruz: production of pulp and paper.

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 (+32 22964301 or 2967244) or by post, under reference number COMP/M.5477 — Votorantim/Aracruz, to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
J-70
1049 Brussels
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

⁽¹⁾ OJL 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.