

**Other information:** The United Kingdom authorities have to submit an annual report on the implementation of the scheme

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/secretariat\\_general/sgb/state\\_aids](http://europa.eu.int/comm/secretariat_general/sgb/state_aids)

**Date of adoption of the decision:** 26.11.2003

**Member State:** Italy (Basilicata)

**Aid No:** N 82/03

**Title:** Grants to risk funds of cooperatives and collective guarantee association for commerce and tourism

**Objective:** Promote SME investments, facilitating SME access to guarantees

**Legal basis:** Delibera della Giunta Regionale della Regione Basilicata n. 1451, 2 agosto 2002 — Approvazione preliminare del bando

**Budget:** EUR 600 000

**Aid intensity or amount:** Within the ceilings of Commission Regulation (EC) No 70/2001

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### Prior notification of a concentration

(Case COMP/M.3333 — Sony/BMG)

(2004/C 13/06)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 9 January 2004 the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 <sup>(1)</sup>, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97 <sup>(2)</sup>, by which the undertakings Bertelsmann AG ('Bertelsmann', Germany) and Sony Corporation of America belonging to the Sony group ('Sony', Japan), acquire, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, joint control of the undertaking 'Sony BMG' by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
  - Bertelsmann: Music recording and publishing, television, radio, publishing of books and magazines, book and music clubs,
  - Sony: Music recording and publishing, industrial and consumer electronics, entertainment services,
  - Sony BMG: Combination of the worldwide recorded music businesses of Sony and Bertelsmann (excluding Sony's activities in Japan).
3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified concentration could fall within the scope of Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. 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.

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.3333 — Sony/BMG, to:

European Commission,  
Directorate-General for Competition,  
Merger Registry,  
J-70,  
B-1049 Brussels.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 180, 9.7.1997, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.