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Information and Notices

(1) Text with EEA relevance

(Continued overleaf)

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EN

I

(Information)

COMMISSION

Interest rate applied by the European Central Bank to its main refinancing operations [1]**:**

4,54 % on 1 July 2001

Euro exchange rates [2]

3 July 2001

(2001/C 188/01)

1 euro	=	7,4457	Danish krone
	=	9,2416	Swedish krona
	=	0,6019	Pound sterling
	=	0,8497	United States dollar
	=	1,284	Canadian dollar
	=	105,43	Japanese yen
	=	1,5236	Swiss franc
	=	7,9505	Norwegian krone
	=	88,02	Icelandic króna [3]
	=	1,6423	Australian dollar
	=	2,078	New Zealand dollar
	=	6,8211	South African rand [3]

[1] Rate applied to the most recent operation carried out before the indicated day. In the case of a variable rate tender, the interest rate is the marginal rate.

[2] *Source:* reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

[3] *Source:* Commission.

Information procedure — Technical rules

(2001/C 188/02)

(Text with EEA relevance)

Directive 98/34/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 June 1998 laying down a procedure for the provision of information in the field of technical standards and regulations and rules on Information Society services (OJ L 204, 21.7.1998, p. 37; OJ L 217, 5.8.1998, p. 18).

Notifications of draft national technical rules received by the Commission

Reference	Title	End of three-month standstill period
2001/257/UK	UK Radio Interface Requirement 2022 for broadcast transmitters operating in frequencies administered by the Radiocommunications Agency	12.9.2001
2001/259/NL	Draft Regulation amending the Regulation on the conditions and approval of voting machines 1997 (approval of voting machines for more than one vote simultaneously)	14.9.2001
2001/260/B	Draft Royal Decree on the technical equipping of security firms	10.9.2001
2001/261/S	The provisions of the National Inspectorate of Explosives and Flammables on flammable gases and liquids in caravans, campervans, team vehicles etc.	12.9.2001
2001/262/NL	Decree containing new rules regarding consumer and professional fireworks (Fireworks Decree)	17.9.2001
2001/263/A	Quality regulations for prefabricated houses	14.9.2001
2001/264/D	Order on electronic signatures [German designation: SigV]	14.9.2001

([1]) Year — registration number — Member State of origin.

([2]) Period during which the draft may not be adopted.

([3]) No standstill period since the Commission accepts the grounds of urgent adoption invoked by the notifying Member State.

([4]) No standstill period since the measure concerns technical specifications or other requirements linked to fiscal or financial measures, pursuant to the third indent of the second paragraph of Article 1(11) of Directive 98/34/EC.

([5]) Information procedure closed.

The Commission draws attention to the judgment given on 30 April 1996 in the 'CIA Security' case (C-194/94 — ECR I, p. 2201), in which the Court of Justice ruled that Articles 8 and 9 of Directive 98/34/EC (formerly 83/189/EEC) are to be interpreted as meaning that individuals may rely on them before the national court which must decline to apply a national technical regulation which has not been notified in accordance with the Directive.

This judgment confirms the Commission's Communication of 1 October 1986 (OJ C 245, 1.10.1986, p. 4).

Accordingly, breach of the obligation to notify renders the technical regulations concerned inapplicable, so that they are unenforceable against individuals.

If you require any information on these notifications, please contact the national departments listed below:

LIST OF NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF DIRECTIVE 98/34/EC

BELGIUM

Institut belge de normalisation/Belgisch Instituut voor Normalisatie
Avenue de la Brabançonne/Brabançonnelaan 29
B-1040 Brussels

Mrs Hombert
Tel.: (32 2) 738 01 10
Fax: (32 2) 733 42 64
X400:O=GW;P=CEC;A=RTT;C=BE;DDA:RFC-822=CIBELNOR(A)IBN.BE
Internet: cibelnor@ibn.be

Mrs Descamps
Tel.: (32 2) 206 46 89
Fax: (32 2) 206 57 45
Internet: normtech@pophost.eunet.be

DENMARK

Danish Agency for Trade and Industry
Dahlerups Pakhus
Lagelinie Allé 17
DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø

Mr K. Dybkjaer
Tel.: (45) 35 46 62 85
Fax: (45) 35 46 62 03
X400:C=DK;A=DK400;P=EFS;S=DYBKJAER;G=KELD
Internet: kd@efs.dk

GERMANY

Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Technologie
Referat V D 2
Villenomblerstraße 76
D-53123 Bonn

Mr Shirmer
Tel.: (49-228) 615 43 98
Fax: (49-228) 615 20 56
X400:C=DE;A=BUND400;P=BMWI;O=BONN1;S=SHIRMER
Internet: Shirmer@BMWI.Bund400.de

GREECE

Ministry of Development
General Secretariat of Industry
Michalacopoulou 80
GR-115 28 Athens
Tel.: (30-1) 778 17 31
Fax: (30-1) 779 88 90

ELOT
Acharnon 313
GR-11145 Athens

Mr E. Melagrakis
Tel.: (30-1) 212 03 00
Fax: (30-1) 228 62 19
Internet: 83189@elot.gr

SPAIN

Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores
Secretaría de Estado de política exterior y para la Unión Europea
Dirección General de Coordinación del Mercado Interior y otras Políticas Comunitarias
Subdirección general de asuntos industriales, energeticos, transportes, comunicaciones y medio ambiente
c/Padilla 46, Planta 2ª, Despacho 6276
E-28006 Madrid

Mrs Nieves García Pérez
Tel.: (34-91) 379 83 32

Mrs María Ángeles Martínez Álvarez
Tel.: (34-91) 379 84 64
Fax: (34-91) 575 56 29/575 86 01/431 55 51
X400:C=ES;A=400NET;P=MAE;O=SEPEUE;S=D83-189

FRANCE

Délégation interministérielle aux normes
SQUALPI
64-70 allée de Bercy — télédoc 811
F-75574 Paris Cedex 12
Mrs S. Piau
Tel.: (33-1) 53 44 97 04
Fax: (33-1) 53 44 98 88
Internet: suzanne.piau@industrie.gouv.fr

IRELAND

NSAI
Glasnevin
Dublin 9
Ireland
Mr Owen Byrne
Tel.: (353-1) 807 38 66
Fax: (353-1) 807 38 38
X400:C=IE;A=EIRMAIL400;P=NRN;0=NSAI;S=BYRNEO
Internet: byrneo@nsai.ie

ITALY

Ministero dell'Industria, del commercio e dell'artigianato
via Molise 2
I-00100 Roma

Mr P. Cavanna
Tel.: (39-06) 47 88 78 60
X400:C=IT;A=MASTER400;P=GDS;OU1=M.I.C.A-ISPIND;
DDA:CLASSE=IPM;DDA:ID-NODO=BF9RM001;S=PAOLO CAVANNA

Mr E. Castiglioni
Tel.: (39-06) 47 05 30 69/47 05 26 69
Fax: (39-06) 47 88 77 48
Internet: Castiglioni@minindustria.it

LUXEMBOURG

SEE — Service de l'Énergie de l'État
34 avenue de la Porte-Neuve BP 10
L-2010 Luxembourg

Mr J.P. Hoffmann
Tel.: (352) 46 97 46 1
Fax: (352) 22 25 24
Internet: jean-paul.hoffmann@eg.etat.lu

THE NETHERLANDS

Ministerie van Financiën — Belastingsdienst — Douane
Centrale Dienst voor In- en uitvoer (CDIU)
Engelse Kamp 2
Postbus 30003
9700 RD Groningen
Nederland

Mr IJ. G. van der Heide
Tel.: (31-50) 5 23 91 78
Fax: (31-50) 5 23 92 19

Mrs H. Boekema
Tel.: (31-50) 5 23 92 75
E-mail X400:C=NL;A=400NET;P=CDIU;OU1=CDIU;S=NOTIF

AUSTRIA

Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Angelegenheiten
Abt. II/1
Stubenring 1
A-1011 Wien

Mrs Haslinger-Fenzl
Tel.: (43-1) 711 00 55 22/711 00 54 53
Fax: (43-1) 715 96 51
X400:S=HASLINGER;G=MARIA;O=BMWA;P=BMWA;A=GV;C=AT
Internet: maria.haslinger@bmwa.gv.at
X400:C=AT;A=GV;P=BMWA;O=BMWA;OU=TBT;S=POST

PORTUGAL

Instituto português da Qualidade
Rua C à Avenida dos Três vales
P-2825 Monte da Caparica

Mrs Cândida Pires
Tel.: (351-1) 294 81 00
Fax: (351-1) 294 81 32
X400:C=PT;A=MAILPAC;P=GTW-MS;O=IPQ;OU1=IPQM;S=DIR83189

FINLAND

Kauppa- ja teollisuusministeriö
Ministry of Trade and Industry
Aleksanterinkatu 4
PL 230 (PO Box 230)
FIN-00171 Helsinki

Mr Petri Kuurma
Tel.: +358-9-160 3627
Fax: +358-9-160 4022
Internet: petri.kuurma@ktm.vn.fi
Website: http://www.vn.fi/ktm/index.html
X400:C=FI;A=MAILNET;P=VN;O=KTM;S=TEKNISET;G=MAARAYKSET

SWEDEN

Kommerskollegium
(National Board of Trade)
Box 6803
S-11386 Stockholm

Mrs Kerstin Carlsson
Tel.: 46 86 90 48 00
Fax: 46 86 90 48 40
E-mail: kerstin.carlsson@kommers.se
X400:C=SE;A=400NET;O=KOMKOLL;S=NAT NOT POINT
Website: http://www.kommers.se

UNITED KINGDOM

Department of Trade and Industry
Standards and Technical Regulations Directorate 2
Bay 327
151 Buckingham Palace Road
London SW 1 W 9SS
United Kingdom

Mrs Brenda O'Grady
Tel.: (44) 171 215 14 88
Fax: (44) 171 215 15 29
X400:S=TI, G=83189, O=DTI, OU1=TIDV, P=HMG DTI, A=Gold 400, C=GB
Internet: uk98-34@gtnet.gov.uk
Website: http://www.dti.gov.uk/strd

EFTA — ESA

EFTA Surveillance Authority (DRAFTTECHREGESA)
X400:O=gw;P=iihe;A=rtt;C=be;DDA:RFC-822=Solveig.Georgsdottir@surv.efta.be
C=BE;A=BT;P=EFTA;O=SURV;S=DRAFTTECHREGESA
Internet: Solveig.Georgsdottir@surv.efta.be

COMMISSION NOTICE

on restrictions directly related and necessary to concentrations

(2001/C 188/03)

(Text with EEA relevance)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 of 21 December 1989 on the control of concentrations between undertakings [1] (hereinafter: 'the Merger Regulation') provides in Article 6(1)(b), second subparagraph, and in Article 8(2), second subparagraph, second sentence, that a decision declaring a concentration compatible with the Common Market shall also cover 'restrictions which are directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration'. This concept is also referred to in the 25th recital of the Merger Regulation. The decision declaring the concentration compatible with the Common Market shall also cover this type of restrictions. According to Article 22(1) of the Merger Regulation, that Regulation alone applies, to the exclusion of Council Regulation No 17 [2] as well as Council Regulations (EEC) No 1017/68 of 19 July 1968 applying rules of competition to transport by rail, road and inland waterway [3], (EEC) No 4056/86 of 22 December 1986 laying down detailed rules for the application of Articles 81 and 82 of the Treaty to maritime transport [4] and (EEC) No 3975/87 of 14 December 1987 laying down the procedure for the application of the rules on competition to undertakings in the air transport sector [5].

2. This legal framework does not impose an obligation on the Commission to assess and formally address such restrictions. Any such assessment is only of a declaratory nature, as all restrictions meeting the criteria set by the Merger Regulation are already covered by Article 6(1)(b), second subparagraph, and Article 8(2), second subparagraph, second sentence, and are therefore cleared by operation of law, whether or not explicitly addressed in the Commission's decision. The Commission does not intend to make such an assessment in its merger decisions any more. This approach is consistent with the Commission's administrative practice introduced for cases qualifying for simplified treatment since 1 September 2000 [6].

3. Disputes between the parties to a concentration as to whether restrictions are directly related and necessary to its implementation and thus automatically covered by the Commission's clearance decision fall under the jurisdiction of national courts.

4. This Notice outlines the Commission's interpretation of the notion of 'restrictions directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration'. The guidance given in the following sections reflects past Commission experience and practice in this field.

This Notice replaces the Commission Notice regarding restrictions ancillary to concentrations [7].

5. The Commission's interpretation of Article 6(1)(b), second subparagraph, and Article 8(2), second subparagraph, second sentence, of the Merger Regulation is without prejudice to the interpretation which may be given by the Court of Justice or the Court of First Instance of the European Communities.

II. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

6. A concentration may consist of contractual arrangements and agreements establishing control within the meaning of Article 3(3) of the Merger Regulation. All agreements related to assets necessary to carry out the main object of the concentration are also integral parts of the concentration. In addition to these arrangements and agreements, the parties to the concentration may enter into other agreements which do not form an integral part of the concentration and limit the parties' freedom of action in

[1] OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 1; Corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13. Regulation as amended by Council Regulation (EC) No 1310/97 (OJ L 180, 9.7.1997, p. 1, Corrigendum: OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17, and OJ L 199, 26.7.1997, p. 69).

[2] First Regulation implementing Articles 81 and 82 of the Treaty (OJ 13, 21.2.1962, p. 204/62; Regulation as last amended by Council Regulation (EC) No 1216/1999 (OJ L 148, 15.6.1999, p. 5).

[3] OJ L 175, 23.7.1968, p. 1; Regulation as last amended by the Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden.

[4] OJ L 378, 31.12.1986, p. 4; Regulation as last amended by the Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden.

[5] OJ L 374, 31.12.1987, p. 1; Regulation as last amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No 2410/92 (OJ L 240, 24.8.1992, p. 18).

[6] See paragraph 14 of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 (OJ C 217, 29.7.2000, p. 32).

[7] OJ C 203, 14.8.1990, p. 5.

the market. If such agreements contain restrictions directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration itself, these are covered by the decision declaring the concentration compatible with the common market; if not, their restrictive effects may need to be assessed under Articles 81 and 82 of the EC Treaty.

7. For restrictions to be considered 'directly related to the implementation of the concentration', it is not sufficient that an agreement has been entered into at the same time or in the same context as the concentration.

8. Agreements must be 'necessary to the implementation of the concentration', which means that in the absence of those agreements, the concentration could not be implemented or could only be implemented under more uncertain conditions, at substantially higher cost, over an appreciably longer period or with considerably higher difficulty ([8]) agreements aimed at protecting the value transferred ([9]), maintaining the continuity of supply after the break-up of a former economic entity ([10]), or enabling the start-up of a new entity ([11]) usually meet these criteria.

9. In determining whether a restriction is necessary, it is appropriate not only to take account of its nature, but also to ensure that its duration, subject matter and geographical field of application do not exceed what the implementation of the concentration reasonably requires. If equally effective alternatives are available for attaining the legitimate aim pursued, the undertakings must choose the one which is objectively the least restrictive of competition.

10. For concentrations which are carried out in stages, the contractual arrangements relating to the stages before the establishment of control within the meaning of Article 3(1) and (3) of the Merger Regulation cannot be considered directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration. For these agreements, Articles 81 and 82 of the EC Treaty remain applicable. However, agreements which serve to facilitate the acquisition of control can be considered directly related and necessary.

11. The criteria of direct relation and necessity are objective in nature. Restrictions are not directly related and necessary to the implementation of a concentration simply because the parties regard them as such.

III. PRINCIPLES APPLICABLE TO COMMON CLAUSES IN CASES OF ACQUISITION OF AN UNDERTAKING

12. Restrictions agreed between the parties in the context of a transfer of an undertaking may be to the benefit of the acquirer or of the vendor. In general terms, the need for the acquirer to benefit from certain protection is more compelling than the corresponding need for the vendor. It is the acquirer who needs to be assured that she/he will be able to acquire the full value of the acquired business. Thus, as a general rule, restrictions which benefit the vendor are either not directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration at all, or their scope and/or duration need to be more limited than that of clauses which benefit the acquirer.

A. *Non-competition clauses*

13. Non-competition obligations which are imposed on the vendor in the context of the transfer of an undertaking or of part of it can be directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration. In order to obtain the full value of the assets transferred, the acquirer must be able to benefit from some protection against competition from the vendor in order to gain the loyalty of customers and to assimilate and exploit the know-how. Such non-competition clauses guarantee the transfer to the acquirer of the full value of the assets transferred, which in general include both physical assets and intangible assets, such as the goodwill accumulated by the vendor or the know-how ([12]) she/he has developed ([13]). These are not only directly related to the concentration, but are also necessary to its implementation because, without them, there would be reasonable grounds to expect that the sale of the undertaking or of part of it could not be accomplished.

([8]) Commission Decision of 18 December 2000 (COMP/M.1863 — Vodafone/BT/Airtel JV, recital 20).

([9]) Commission Decision of 30 July 1998 (IV/M.1245 — Valeo/ITT Industries, recital 59); Commission Decision of 3 March 1999 (IV/M.1442 — MMP/AFP, recital 17); Commission Decision of 9 March 2001 (COMP/M.2330 — Cargill/Banks, recital 30); Commission Decision of 20 March 2001 (COMP/M.2227 — Goldman Sachs/Messer Griesheim, recital 11).

([10]) Commission Decision of 25 February 2000 (COMP/M.1841 — Celestica/IBM).

([11]) Commission Decision of 30 March 1999 (IV/JV.15 — BT/AT & T, recitals 207 to 214); Commission Decision of 22 December 2000 (COMP/M.2243 — Stora Enso/AssiDomän/JV, recitals 49, 56 and 57).

([12]) As defined in Article 10 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 240/96 of 31 January 1996 on the application of Article 81(3) of the Treaty to certain categories of technology transfer agreements (OJ L 31, 9.2.1996, p. 2.

([13]) Commission Decision of 2 March 2001 (COMP/M.2305 — Vodafone Group plc/Eircell, recital 22).

14. However, such non-competition clauses are only justified by the legitimate objective of implementing the concentration when their duration, their geographical field of application, their subject matter and the persons subject to them do not exceed what is reasonably necessary to achieve that end. Such protection cannot generally be considered necessary when the transfer is in fact limited to physical assets (such as land, buildings or machinery) or to exclusive industrial and commercial property rights (the holders of which could immediately take action against infringements by the transferor of such rights).

15. Past Commission experience and practice have shown that when the transfer of the undertaking includes both elements of goodwill and know-how, non-competition clauses are generally justified for periods of up to three years ([14]); when only goodwill is included, they are generally justified for periods of up to two years ([15]). Longer durations can only be justified in a limited range of circumstances, for example where it can be shown that customer loyalty to the seller will persist for more than two years, or for more than three years where the scope or nature of the know-how transferred justifies an additional period of protection ([16]).

16. The geographical scope of a non-competition clause should normally be limited to the area in which the vendor offered the relevant products or services before the transfer ([17]). The presumption is that the acquirer does not need to be protected against competition from the vendor in territories not previously penetrated by the vendor, unless it can be shown that such protection is required by particular circumstances of the case, e.g. for territories the vendor was planning to enter at the time of the transaction, provided that she/he had already invested in preparing this move.

17. Similarly, non-competition clauses must remain limited to products (including improved versions or updates of products as well as successor models) and services forming the economic activity of the undertaking transferred. This can include products and services at an advanced stage of development at the time of the transaction, or products which are fully developed but not yet marketed. The acquirer does not need to be protected against competition from the vendor in product or service markets in which the transferred undertaking was not active before the transfer ([18]).

18. The vendor may bind herself/himself, her/his subsidiaries and commercial agents. However, an obligation to impose similar restrictions on others would not be regarded as directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration. This applies, in particular, to clauses which would restrict the freedom of resellers or users to import or export.

19. Clauses which limit the vendor's right to purchase or hold shares in a company competing with the business transferred shall be considered directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration under the same conditions as outlined above for non-competition clauses, unless they prevent the vendor from purchasing or holding shares for investment purposes, without granting him/her, directly or indirectly, management functions or a material influence in the competing company ([19]).

([14]) Commission Decision of 2 April 1998 (IV/M.1127 — Nestlé/Dalgety, recital 33); Commission Decision of 1 September 2000 (COMP/M. 2077 — Clayton Dubilier & Rice/Iteltel, recital 15); Commission Decision of 2 March 2001 (COMP/M.2305 — Vodafone Group plc/Eircell, recitals 21 and 22).

([15]) Commission Decision of 12 April 1999 (IV/M.1482 — Kingfisher/Großlabor, recital 26); Commission Decision of 14 December 1997 (IV/M.884 — KNP BT/Bunzl/Wilhelm Seiler, recital 17).

([16]) Commission Decision of 1 September 2000 (COMP/M.1980 — Volvo/Renault VI, recital 56).

([17]) Commission Decision of 14 December 1997 (IV/M.884 — KNP BT/Bunzl/Wilhelm Seiler, recital 17); Commission Decision of 12 April 1999 (IV/M.1482 — Kingfisher/Großlabor, recital 27); Commission Decision of 6 April 2001 (COMP/M.2355 — Dow/Enichem Polyurethane, recital 28); Commission Decision of 4 August 2000 (COMP/M.1979 — CDC/Banco Urquijo/JV, recital 18).

([18]) Commission Decision of 14 December 1997 (IV/M.884 — KNP BT/Bunzl/Wilhelm Seiler, recital 17); Commission Decision of 2 March 2001 (COMP/M.2305 — Vodafone Group plc/Eircell, recital 22); Commission Decision of 6 April 2001 (COMP/M.2355 — Dow/Enichem Polyurethane, recital 28); Commission Decision of 4 August 2000 (COMP/M.1979 — CDC/Banco Urquijo/JV, recital 18).

([19]) Commission Decision of 4 February 1993 (IV/M.304 — Tesco/Catteau, recital 14); Commission Decision of 14 December 1997 (IV/M.884 — KNP BT/Bunzl/Wilhelm Seiler, recital 19); Commission Decision of 12 April 1999 (IV/M.1482 — Kingfisher/Großlabor, recital 27); Commission Decision of 6 April 2000 (COMP/M.1832 — Ahold/ICA Förbundet/Canica, recital 26); Commission Decision of 22 June 2000 (COMP/JV.40 — Canal+/Lagardère/Canalsatellite, recital 61).

20. Non-solicitation and confidentiality clauses should be evaluated the same way as non-competition clauses, to the extent that their restrictive effect does not exceed that of a non-competition clause. However, since the scope of these clauses may be narrower than that of non-competition clauses, they are more likely to be found to be directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration. Confidentiality clauses can, if justified by particular circumstances of the case, be accepted for periods of longer than three years, taking into account companies' interests in protecting valuable business secrets ([20]).

B. *Licence agreements*

21. The transfer of an undertaking or of part of it generally includes the transfer to the acquirer, with a view to the full exploitation of the assets transferred, of intellectual property rights or know-how. However, the vendor may remain the owner of the rights in order to exploit them for activities other than those transferred. In these cases, the usual means for ensuring that the acquirer will have the full use of the assets transferred is to conclude licensing agreements in his/her favour. Likewise, where the vendor has transferred intellectual property rights with the business, she/he may still want to continue using some or all of these rights for activities other than those transferred; in such a case the acquirer will grant a licence to the vendor.

22. Licences of patents ([21]), of similar rights, or of know-how ([22]), can be considered necessary to the implementation of the concentration. They may equally be considered an integral part of the concentration and, in any event, need not be limited in time. These licences can be simple or exclusive and may be limited to certain fields of use, to the extent that they correspond to the activities of the undertaking transferred. However, territorial limitations on manufacture reflecting the territory of the transferred activity are normally not necessary to the implementation of the operation. Restrictions in licence agreements going beyond the above provisions, such as those which protect the licensor rather than the licensee, are not usually necessary to the implementation of the concentration. Instead, they may be assessed in accordance with Article 81 of the EC Treaty. Agreements which contain restrictions on competition may nevertheless fall under Commission Regulation (EC) No 240/96. In the case of a licence granted by the seller of a business to the buyer, the seller can be made subject to a territorial restriction in the licence agreement under the same conditions as are laid down for non-competition clauses in the context of the sale of a business.

23. Similarly, in the case of licences of trademarks, business names, design rights, copyrights or similar rights, there may be situations in which the vendor wishes to remain the owner of such rights in relation to activities retained, but the acquirer needs those rights in order to market the goods or services produced by the undertaking or part of the undertaking transferred. Here, the same considerations as above apply ([23]).

24. Agreements relating to the use of business names or trademarks should normally be analysed in the context of the corresponding licence of the relevant intellectual property right.

C. *Purchase and supply obligations*

25. In many cases, the transfer of an undertaking or of part of it can entail the disruption of traditional lines of purchase and supply which existed as a result of the previous integration of activities within the economic unity of the vendor. In order to enable the break-up of the economic unity of the vendor and the partial transfer of the assets to the acquirer under reasonable conditions, it is often necessary to maintain, at least for a transitional period, the existing or similar links between the vendor and the acquirer. This objective is normally attained by purchase and supply obligations for the vendor and/or the acquirer of the undertaking or of part of it. Taking into account the particular situation resulting from the break-up of the economic unity of the vendor, such obligations, which may lead to restrictions of competition, can be recognised as directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration. They may be in favour of the vendor as well as the acquirer, depending on the particular circumstances of the case.

([20]) Commission Decision of 12 April 1999 (IV/M.1482 — Kingfisher/Großlabor, recital 28); Commission Decision of 1 September 2000 (COMP/M.1980 — Volvo/Renault VI, recital 56); Commission Decision of 6 April 2001 (COMP/M.2355 — Dow/Enichem Polyurethane, recital 28).

([21]) Including patent applications, utility models, topographies of semiconductor products, *certificats d'utilité* and *certificats d'addition* under French law and applications for these, supplementary protection certificates for medicinal products or other products for which supplementary protection certificates may be obtained, and plant breeder's certificates (as referred to in Article 8 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 240/96).

([22]) As defined in Article 10 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 240/96.

([23]) Commission Decision of 1 September 2000 (COMP/M.1980 — Volvo/Renault VI, recital 54).

26. The aim of such obligations may be to ensure the continuity of supply to either of the parties of products necessary for carrying out the activities retained by the vendor or taken over by the acquirer ([24]). Thus, there are grounds for recognising, for a transitional period ([25]), the need for supply obligations aimed at guaranteeing the quantities previously supplied within the vendor's integrated business, including, where appropriate, the possibility for their adjustment to foreseeable demand forecasts.

27. Likewise, the aim may also be to provide continuity of sales, as they were previously assured within the single economic entity. Purchase obligations which benefit the supplier of a product will require particularly careful justification, depending on the circumstances of the case.

28. Both supply and purchase obligations providing for fixed quantities, possibly with a variation clause, may be recognised as directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration. However, obligations providing for unlimited quantities, or conferring preferred supplier or purchaser status, are presumed not to be necessary to the implementation of the concentration. Any such obligations would need to be justified by particular circumstances of the case.

29. Likewise, there is no general justification for exclusive purchase or supply obligations ([26]). Save under exceptional circumstances, for example resulting from the absence of a market or the specificity of the products in question, such exclusivity is not necessary to the implementation of a concentration.

30. Past Commission experience and practice have shown that the duration of purchase and supply obligations must be limited to a period necessary for the replacement of the relationship of dependency by autonomy in the market ([27]). The duration of purchase and supply contracts for complex industrial products is normally justified for a transitional period of three years and must, in any event, be justified by particular circumstances of the case, taking into account the goods or services in question ([28]).

31. Service agreements can be equivalent in their effect to supply arrangements; in this case, the same considerations as above shall apply. As for distribution arrangements, they may also be regarded as restrictions directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration ([29]). If this is not the case, agreements containing restrictions on competition may fall within the scope of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2790/1999 of 22 December 1999 on the application of Article 81(3) of the Treaty to categories of vertical agreements and concerted practices ([30]).

IV. PRINCIPLES APPLICABLE TO COMMON CLAUSES IN CASES OF JOINT ACQUISITION

32. The Merger Regulation is applicable when two or more undertakings agree to acquire jointly the control of one or more other undertakings, in particular by means of a public tender offer, where the object or effect is the division among themselves of the undertakings or their assets. This is a concentration implemented in two successive stages. The common strategy is limited to the acquisition of control. For this purpose, in the context of a joint bid, an agreement by the joint acquirers of an undertaking to abstain from making separate competing offers for the same undertaking, or otherwise acquiring control, may be considered directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration.

33. Furthermore, restrictions aimed at implementing the division of assets are to be considered directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration. This will apply to arrangements made between the parties for the joint acquisition of control in order to divide among themselves the production facilities or distribution networks, together with the existing trademarks of the undertaking acquired jointly.

([24]) Commission Decision of 6 April 2001 (COMP/M.2355 — Dow/Enichem Polyurethane, recital 31).

([25]) Commission Decision of 30 July 1998 (IV/M.1245 — Valeo/ITT Industries, recitals 63 and 64); Commission Decision of 30 March 1999 (IV/JV.15 — BT/AT & T, recitals 209, 210 and 212); Commission Decision of 1 September 2000 (COMP/M.1980 — Volvo/Renault VI, recital 55); Commission Decision of 6 April 2001 (COMP/M.2355 — Dow/Enichem Polyurethane, recital 28).

([26]) Commission Decision of 30 July 1998 (IV/M.1245 — Valeo/ITT Industries, recital 64).

([27]) Commission Decision of 30 March 1999 (IV/JV.15 — BT/AT & T, recital 209).

([28]) Commission Decision of 2 February 1997 (IV/M. 984 — Dupont/ICI, recital 55); Commission Decision of 30 July 1998 (IV/M.1245 — Valeo/ITT Industries, recital 64); Commission Decision of 6 April 2001 (COMP/M.2355 — Dow/Enichem Polyurethane, recital 31).

([29]) Commission Decision of 30 March 1999 (IV/JV.15 — BT/AT & T, recitals 207 and 211).

([30]) OJ L 336, 29.12.1999, p. 21.

34. To the extent that such a division involves the break-up of a pre-existing economic entity, arrangements that make the break-up possible under reasonable conditions can be considered directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration. In this regard, the principles explained above in relation to purchase and supply arrangements for a transitional period in cases of transfer of undertakings should be applied by analogy.

V. PRINCIPLES APPLICABLE TO COMMON CLAUSES IN CASES OF JOINT VENTURES WITHIN THE MEANING OF ARTICLE 3(2) OF THE MERGER REGULATION

A. *Non-competition obligations*

35. A non-competition obligation between the parent undertakings and a joint venture may be considered directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration. Non-competition clauses may reflect, *inter alia*, the need to ensure good faith during negotiations; they may also reflect the need to fully utilise the joint venture's assets or to enable the joint venture to assimilate know-how and goodwill provided by its parents; or the need to protect the parents' interests in the joint venture against competitive acts facilitated, *inter alia*, by the parents' privileged access to the know-how and goodwill transferred to or developed by the joint venture.

36. As a general rule, such clauses can, in case of joint-ventures, be justified for periods of up to five years. However, the Commission considers that non-competition clauses whose duration exceeds three years need to be duly justified by particular circumstances of the case ([31]). Moreover, non-competition obligations between the parent undertakings and a joint venture extending beyond the lifetime of the joint venture may never be regarded as directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration ([32]).

37. The geographical scope of a non-competition clause must be limited to the area in which the parents offered the relevant products or services before establishing the joint venture ([33]). That geographical scope can be extended to territories which the parent companies were planning to enter at the time of the transaction, provided that they had already invested in preparing this move.

38. Similarly, non-competition clauses must be limited to products and services constituting the economic activity of the joint venture. This may include products and services at an advanced stage of development at the time of the transaction, as well as products and services which are fully developed but not yet marketed.

39. If the joint venture is set up to enter a new market, reference will be made to the products, services and territories in which it is to operate under the joint venture agreement or by-laws. The presumption is that one parent's interest in the joint venture does not need to be protected against competition from the other parent in markets other than those in which the joint venture will be active at its outset.

40. Additionally, it will be presumed as a general rule that non-competition obligations between non-controlling parents and a joint venture are not directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration.

41. The same principles apply to non-solicitation and confidentiality clauses, to the extent that their restrictive effect does not exceed that of a non-competition clause. However, since the scope of these clauses may be narrower than that of non-competition clauses, they may be considered directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration in a larger number of circumstances. Moreover, the duration of confidentiality clauses may exceed five years, depending on the particular circumstances of the case, taking into account companies' interests in protecting valuable business secrets.

([31]) Commission Decision of 16 October 2000 (COMP/M.2137 — SLDE/NTL/MSCP/Noos, recital 41); Commission Decision of 4 August 2000 (COMP/M.1979 — CDC/Banco Urquijo/JV, recitals 18 and 19); Commission Decision of 22 December 2000 (COMP/M.2243 — Stora Enso/AssiDomän/JV, recital 49).

([32]) Commission Decision of 10 July 2000 (COMP/M.1964 — Planet Internet/Fortis Bank/Mine JV, recital 16); Commission Decision of 29 August 2000 (COMP/M.1913 — Lufthansa Menzies/LGS/JV; recital 18).

([33]) Commission Decision of 29 August 2000 (COMP/M.1913 — Lufthansa Menzies/LGS/JV; recital 18); Commission Decision of 22 December 2000 (COMP/M.2243 — Stora Enso/AssiDomän/JV, recital 49).

B. *Licence agreements*

42. A licence granted by the parents to the joint venture may be considered directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration. This applies regardless of whether or not the licence is an exclusive one and whether or not it is limited in time. The licence may be restricted to a particular field of use which corresponds to the activities of the joint venture.

43. Licences granted by the joint venture to one of its parents, or cross-licence agreements, can be regarded as directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration under the same conditions as in the case of the sale of a business. Licence agreements between the parents, however, are not considered directly related and necessary to the implementation of a joint venture.

44. Licence agreements which contain a restriction on competition but are not considered directly related and necessary to the implementation of the concentration may nevertheless fall under Commission Regulation (EC) No 240/96.

C. *Purchase and supply obligations*

45. If the parent undertakings remain present in a market upstream or downstream of that of the joint venture, any purchase and supply agreements, including distribution agreements, are subject to the principles applicable in the case of the transfer of an undertaking.

Notice of initiation of an interim review of the anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures applicable to imports of farmed Atlantic salmon originating in Norway

(2001/C 188/04)

The Commission has received a request for a partial interim review pursuant to Article 11(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 384/96 ([1]), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2238/2000 ([2]), (the 'Basic Anti-dumping Regulation') and Article 19(1) of Council Regulation (EC) No 2026/97 ([3]) (the 'Basic Anti-subsidy Regulation') of the measures imposed on imports of farmed Atlantic salmon originating in Norway.

1. **Request for review**

The request was made by the Norwegian company Gje-Vi AS ('the Applicant') and is limited in scope to an examination of the form of the anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures, in so far as they relate to that company.

2. **Product**

The product concerned is farmed Atlantic salmon originating in Norway currently classifiable within CN codes ex 0302 12 00 (Taric-codes 0302 12 00 21, 0302 12 00 22, 0302 12 00 23 and 0302 12 00 29), ex 0303 22 00 (Taric codes 0303 22 00 21, 0303 22 00 22, 0303 22 00 23 and 0303 22 00 29), ex 0304 10 13 (Taric codes 0304 10 13 21 en 0304 10 13 29), ex 0304 20 13 (Taric codes 0304 20 13 21 and 0304 20 13 29).

3. **Existing measures**

Definitive anti-dumping and countervailing duties were imposed on the product concerned by Council Regulations (EC) No 1890/97 ([4]) and (EC) No 1891/97 ([5]). The form of the duties set out in these two Regulations was, however, later reviewed, with both Regulations being replaced by Council Regulation (EC) No 772/1999 ([6]).

At the same time as definitive duties were imposed, price undertakings were also accepted from 19 Norwegian exporters (of which the Applicant was one), by Commission Decision 97/634/EC ([7]). By offering undertakings, the companies agreed to respect certain minimum import prices for the product concerned and to provide the Commission, within due deadlines, periodic reports of their sales to the Community.

([1]) OJ L 56, 6.3.1996, p. 1.

([2]) OJ L 257, 11.10.2000, p. 2.

([3]) OJ L 288, 21.10.1997, p. 1.

([4]) OJ L 267, 30.9.1997, p. 1.

([5]) OJ L 267, 30.9.1997, p. 19.

([6]) OJ L 101, 16.4.1999, p. 1, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2606/2000 (OJ L 301, 30.11.2000, p. 61).

([7]) OJ L 267, 30.9.1997, p. 81. Decision as last amended by Decision 2000/744/EC (OJ L 301, 30.11.2000, p. 82).

Due to the late receipt of a sales report, a breach of the terms of the Applicant's undertaking was deemed to have occurred. Acceptance thereof was withdrawn by Commission Regulation (EC) No 651/98 ([8]), with definitive anti-dumping and countervailing duties imposed in its place by Council Regulation (EC) No 772/98 ([9]).

4. **Grounds for the review**

The applicant has provided sufficient evidence of a significant change in circumstances since the imposition of duties against its exports to the Community, particularly with regard to its internal reorganisation. The applicant now wishes to offer again a price undertaking and submits that, in view of these changes, such an undertaking would be effective and practicable. On this basis, the current form of the measure would appear to be no longer necessary to effectively remove the injurious effects of dumping and subsidisation, an undertaking being adequate.

5. **Procedure**

Having determined that sufficient evidence exists for the initiation of a partial interim review for Gje-Vi AS, and having consulted the Advisory Committee, the Commission hereby initiates a review pursuant to Article 11(3) of the Basic Anti-dumping Regulation and Article 19(1) of the Basic Anti-subsidy Regulation.

This review is limited in scope to an examination of whether a new undertaking can be accepted from this company.

(a) *Questionnaire*

In order to obtain the information it deems necessary, the Commission will send a questionnaire to the Applicant.

The time limit for the receipt of the completed reply to this questionnaire is given in point 6.

(b) *Collection of information and holding of hearings*

All interested parties, provided they can show that they are likely to be affected by the results of such an examination, are hereby invited to make their views known and provide supporting evidence.

Furthermore, the Commission may hear interested parties, provided they make a request in writing and show why there are particular reasons why they should be heard.

Any submission or request for a hearing must be made in writing to the address mentioned below and should indicate the name, address, fax and/or telephone numbers of the interested parties.

6. **Time limit**

All interested parties, if their representations are to be taken into account in the review, must make themselves known, present their views in writing and submit information within 40 days from the date of publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*. Interested parties may also apply to be heard within the same time limit.

It is therefore in the interest of these parties to contact the Commission without delay at the following address:

European Commission
Directorate General for Trade
Directorate C
TERV 0/24
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200
B-1049 Brussels
Fax (32-2) 295 65 05.

7. **Non-cooperation**

In cases in which an interested party refuses access to or does not provide the necessary information within the time limits, or significantly impedes the investigation, provisional or final findings, affirmative or negative, may be made in accordance with Article 18 of the Basic Anti-dumping Regulation, and Article 28 of the basic Anti-subsidy Regulation, on the basis of the facts available.

Where it is found that any party has supplied false or misleading information, the information shall be disregarded and use may be made of facts available.

([8]) OJ L 88, 24.3.1998, p. 31.

([9]) OJ L 111, 9.4.1998, p. 10.

Notice of implementation of the TEN Infrastructure Risk Capital Scheme under Article 4.1.(e) of Regulation (EC) No 2236/95 as amended by Regulation (EC) No 1655/1999

(2001/C 188/05)

Following the adoption of Regulation (EC) No 1655/1999 [1] amended Regulation (EC) No 2236/95 [2] laying down general rules for the granting of Community financial aid in the field of trans-European networks, on 26 June 2001 the Commission entered into a cooperation agreement with the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Investment Fund (EIF) concerning the implementation of Article 4(1)(e) of this Regulation. This Article provides for the possibility of extending Community support in the form of risk capital participations in investment funds with a priority focus on providing risk capital for trans-European network projects.

The EIB manages the scheme on behalf of the Community and will make the selection of the Community investments into appropriate investment funds or comparable financial undertakings. The investment may be made directly into the fund or into an appropriate co-investment vehicle.

In order to ensure maximum transparency on how investments are selected, the investment policy, which EIB will follow, is hereby published in full:

THE TEN INFRASTRUCTURE RISK CAPITAL SCHEME — INVESTMENT POLICY	
Purpose	The TEN infrastructure risk capital scheme is a facility funded by the European Community under Regulation (EC) No 2236/95 as last amended and designed to stimulate the access of trans-European network projects to risk-capital. By extending funds for risk-capital investments into investment funds or comparable financial undertakings with a priority focus on providing risk capital for trans-European network projects and involving substantial private sector investments the scheme should facilitate the implementation of the TEN projects concerned. Under the scheme investments may be made directly into the fund or comparable financial undertaking or into an appropriate co-investment vehicle managed by the same fund managers.
Maximum investment	The amount allocated at present is limited to 1 % (EUR 46,0 million) of the total budgetary resources made available for TENs for the period 2000 to 2006. In accordance with the procedure specified in Article 17 of Regulation (EC) No 2236/1995, this limit may be increased up to 2 % as from 2003 in the light of a review of the functioning of this instrument.
Nature of investments	The TEN infrastructure risk capital scheme will invest in, or as appropriate co-invest with, specialised investment funds or comparable financial undertakings with a priority focus on providing risk capital for trans-European network projects. It will not invest in funds exclusively investing in shares of existing project companies. The Community stake in an investments fund shall in no case exceed a 20 % of the total capital of the investment fund or comparable financial undertaking. The amount committed to a single investment fund or comparable financial undertaking will as a general rule not exceed EUR 25 million. In any event recipient investment funds or other comparable financial vehicles shall undertake to invest not less than a sum equivalent to two and a half times the Community participation into trans-European network projects.

[1] OJ L 197, 29.7.1999, p. 1.

[2] OJ L 228, 23.9.1995, p. 1.

Target funds	The TENs infrastructure risk capital scheme will target commercially oriented intermediary investment funds operating in the EU managed by independent professional teams with sufficient business experience to demonstrate the necessary capability and credibility to manage an infrastructure investment fund according to sound financial principles. Fund managers will be required to demonstrate a clear strategy, a sufficient number of anchor investments, a sufficient deal flow and appropriate exit policies. They will be expected to apply best market practice in terms of legal structure, investment principles and reporting. The TENs risk capital scheme will target funds with a sufficient size to achieve a critical mass in the segment of the infrastructure market that they address and to make a sufficient number of infrastructure investments. Fund managers shall be required to demonstrate substantial private sector investment. Funds will be structured through suitable vehicles. Fund vehicles shall have a finite life at the time of the investment.
TEN projects	The target intermediary investment funds, comparable financial undertakings or co-investment vehicles shall demonstrate their ability to ensure the utilisation of Community funds for trans-European network projects (TENs), as defined in: — Decision No 1692/96/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 1996 on Community guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network ([1]), in — Decision No 1254/96/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 1996 laying down a series of guidelines for trans-European energy networks ([2]), and in — Decision No 1336/97/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 June 1997 on a series of guidelines for trans-European telecommunications networks ([3]).
Reporting requirements	Semi-annual information for each investment made by a target investment fund will be required, including data on the precise use of the risk-capital investment by the fund. Funds must make provisions to allow the European Commission and the European Court of Auditors and all other Community institution or organisms entitled to control the scheme according to the applicable legislation to have access to adequate information to enable them to discharge their duties with respect to control of the application of European Community funds.
Realisation of investments	As infrastructure investment funds in which TEN infrastructure risk capital investments are made will typically be unquoted and illiquid, the realisation of investments will be achieved principally through the distribution of the proceeds from the sale of investments made by the investment funds. Fund managers will be expected to manage their portfolios with the clear objective of realising all investments within the life of their funds.
Financial performance	Fund managers will be required to demonstrate their objective of managing the infrastructure investment fund or comparable financial vehicle so as to achieve financial viability. The Community contribution into an investment fund or comparable financial undertaking shall rank *pari passu* in terms of risk with the other investors in the fund.

Selection	Investment proposals will be examined as and when received on a continuing basis, taking into account the availability of budgetary funds, as well as the following factors: — **Investment strategy** Consistency with the purposes of the facility; adequate safeguards to ensure the required leverage of investments into TENs projects; identification of suitable and achievable exit routes for investments. — **Management team** Relevant experience; size of team and balance of skills; incentives for management. — **Deal flow** Credibility of plans to originate deal flow consistent with the purposes of the facility. — **Size of the fund** Balance between fund size and expected deal flow. — **Expected returns** Evidence that the fund is to be run on commercial basis and that it can be expected to be financially viable. — **Other investors** The extent of support from private sector investors; Avoidance of conflict of interest between investors and sponsors of targeted projects. — **Proposed terms** Consistency with market norms; Compatibility with terms and conditions provided for in the TENs Financial Regulation.
Applications	Applications for TEN infrastructure risk capital participations shall include the following information: — an information memorandum containing the main provisions of the statutory documentation of the fund including its legal and management structure, — its detailed investment guidelines including information on target projects, — information on the involvement of private investors, — information on geographical coverage, — information on the financial viability of the fund, — information on the rights of the investors in relation to investment decisions taken by the fund, — information on the exit policies of the fund and arrangements for the termination of the fund, — information on environmental policies applied by the fund, — rights of representation in the committees of investors.

(1) OJ L 228, 9.9.1996, p. 1.
(2) OJ L 161, 29.6.1996, p. 147.
(3) OJ L 183, 11.7.1997, p. 12.

Procedure for the submission of applications

Investments will be considered for approval in chronological order following satisfactory conclusion of this examination within the available budget allocations made from year to year by the European Commission and the degree the investment contributes to the objectives set out in Article 155(1) first subparagraph, first indent of the Treaty and to the other objectives and priorities defined in the guidelines referred to in Article 155(i) of the Treaty.

Investment funds interested in benefiting from the scheme should contact:

The Programme Manager — The TEN Infrastructure Risk Capital Scheme
Structured Finance Department
European Investment Bank
100, Boulevard Konrad Adenauer
L-2950 Luxembourg
Tel. (352) 43 79 31 22, fax (352) 43 79 31 89
email: info@eib.org

Non-opposition to a notified concentration

(Case COMP/M.2459 — CDC/Charterhouse/Alstom Contracting)

(2001/C 188/06)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 19 June 2001 the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. The full text of the decision is only available in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

— as a paper version through the sales offices of the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (see list on the last page),

— in electronic form in the 'CEN' version of the CELEX database, under document No 301M2459. CELEX is the computerised documentation system of European Community law.

For more information concerning subscriptions please contact:

EUR-OP,
Information, Marketing and Public Relations,
2, rue Mercier,
L-2985 Luxembourg.
Tel. (352) 29 29 427 18, fax (352) 29 29 427 09.

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case COMP/M.2471 — Accenture/Lagardère/JV)

(2001/C 188/07)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 25 June 2001 the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 [1], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97 [2], by which the undertaking Accenture SAS, France (Accenture), and Lagardère SCA, France (Lagardère), acquire, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, joint control of an undertaking by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture. Lagardère jointly controls Canal Satellite, a company active in the distribution of paid TV.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— Accenture: consulting, especially in management and strategy,

— Lagardère: communication and media, car industry and high technologies,

— Joint venture: consulting and development services in interactive television for content editors.

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.2471 — Accenture/Lagardère/JV, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
Rue Joseph II/Jozef II-straat 70,
B-1000 Brussels.

[1] OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.
[2] OJ L 180, 9.7.1997, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case COMP/M.2425 — COOP Norden)

(2001/C 188/08)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 25 June 2001 the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 [1], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97 [2], by which the undertakings Kooperative Förbundet (KF), Sweden, Fællesforeningen for Danmarks Brugsforeninger (FDB), Denmark, and Norges Kooperative Landsforening (NKL), Norway, acquire, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, joint control by purchase of shares in a newly created company, COOP Norden, constituting a joint venture. The parents will transfer their respective daily consumer goods businesses to the joint venture.

[1] OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.
[2] OJ L 180, 9.7.1997, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— KF: active in wholesaling and retailing of daily consumer and speciality goods mainly in Sweden,

— FDB: active in wholesaling and retailing of daily consumer and speciality goods in Denmark,

— NKL: active in wholesaling and retailing of daily consumer and speciality goods in Norway.

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.2425 — COOP Norden, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
Rue Joseph II/Jozef II-straat 70,
B-1000 Brussels.

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case COMP/M.2491 — Sampo/Storebrand)

(2001/C 188/09)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 26 June 2001 the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 ([1]), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97 ([2]), by which the Finnish undertaking Sampo Oyj (Sampo) acquires, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, control of the whole of the Norwegian undertaking Storebrand ASA (Storebrand) by way of a public bid announced on 11 June 2001.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— Sampo: financial group providing financial, investment and insurances services,

— Storebrand: financial services in the areas of life insurance, banking and non-life insurance.

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.2491 — Sampo/Storebrand, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
Rue Joseph II/Jozef II-straat 70,
B-1000 Brussels.

([1]) OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.
([2]) OJ L 180, 9.7.1997, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.

III

(Notices)

COMMISSION

Life 2002 — Call for proposals for Life-Environment and Life-Third countries

(2001/C 188/10)

The Commission invites 'natural or legal persons' established in the European Union or in the countries listed below to present proposals for the Life selection round 2002.

Candidate countries can apply for Life-Environment funding according to the provisions laid down in the decisions established by the Association Councils concerning their participation in Life. To date Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Romania and Slovenia have decided to participate.

The following countries/territories are eligible for Life-Third countries funding: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, West Bank and Gaza, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey and the Baltic coast of Russia.

Projects eligible for Life funding:

Environment: demonstration projects which contribute to the development of innovative and integrated techniques and methods, and to the further development of Community environment policy, and which:

— integrate environmental and sustainable development considerations into land-use development and planning, particularly in urban and coastal areas, or

— promote the sustainable management of ground and surface water, or

— minimise the environmental impact of economic activities, notably through the development of clean technologies and by placing the emphasis on prevention, including the reduction of emission of greenhouse gases, or

— promote the prevention, reuse, recovery and recycling of waste of all kinds and ensure the sound management of waste flows, or

— reduce the environmental impact of products through an integrated approach to production, distribution and consumption, and handling at the end of their lifetime, including the development of environmentally-friendly products.

Third countries: projects of technical assistance which contribute to the establishment of the means and administrative structures needed in the environmental sector and in the development of environmental policy and action programmes in eligible third countries bordering on the Mediterranean and Baltic Seas.

Applications

Proposals must be written on special application forms. These are included in an information package, together with detailed explanations of eligibility rules and procedures, at the following address:

Life-Environment:
http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/life/envir/infopk/index-en.htm
Available in all official languages of the Community.

Life-Third countries
http://europa.eu.int/comm/life/3countr/infopack.htm
Available languages: English and French.

The same documents may also be obtained from

— Life-Environment: national authorities (see annex), or Euro Info Centres or from the Commission at fax (32-2) 296 95 56.

— Life-Third countries: EC delegations in the relevant third country, or from the European Commission, fax (32-2) 296 95 56.

In the case of candidate countries associated with Life-Environment, applicants can use the EU Life-Environment information package. Relevant information can be obtained from the national authorities (see annex) or from the unit D1 of DG Environment, tel. (32-2) 295 61 33, fax (32-2) 296 95 56).

Deadlines for 2002

For Life-Environment, Member States and candidate countries have their own deadlines for submission of applications to the relevant national authority. Applicants should find out the date for their own country from their national contact point.

National administrations must forward proposals to the Commission before 30 November 2001.

For Life — Third countries, project applications must be received by the European Commission by 31 November 2001.

ANNEX

National authorities of the Member States or candidate countries

Belgique/België (B)	Ministère des affaires sociales, de la santé publique et de l'environnement Service des affaires environnementales Service d'études et de coordination Cité administrative de l'État Quartier Vésale 728 Boulevard Pachéco 19 BP 5 B-1010 Bruxelles Ministerie van Sociale Zaken, Volksgezondheid en Leefmilieu Diensten voor het Leefmilieu Dienst Studie en Coördinatie Rijksadministratie Centrum Vesaliusgebouw 728 Pachecolaan 19 POB 5 B-1010 Brussel À l'attention de M./Ter attentie van de heer Robert Martens Tel. (32-2) 210 46 90 Fax (32-2) 210 48 52 E-mail: robert.martens@health.fgov.be
Deutschland (D)	Ministerium für Umwelt und Verkehr Baden-Württemberg Frau Garn — Referat 14 — Postfach 10 34 39 D-70029 Stuttgart Tel. (0711) 126 27 19 Fax (0711) 126 28 81 E-mail: kerstin.garn@uvm.bwl.de Bayerisches Staatsministerium für Landesentwicklung und Umweltfragen Herr Heise; Herr Franz Rosenkavalierplatz 2 D-81295 München Tel. (089) 92 14 24 03; -25 64 Fax (089) 92 14 32 28 E-mail: siegfried.heise@stmlu.bayern.de E-mail: herbert.franz@stmlu.bayern.de Senatsverwaltung für Stadtentwicklung, Umweltschutz und Technologie Herr Stock; Frau Schultz Brückenstraße 6 D-10179 Berlin Tel. (030) 90 25 24 92; -24 00 Fax (030) 90 25 25 10 E-mail: lothar.stock@senstadt.verwalt-berlin.de E-mail: Sybille.Schultz@senstadt.verwalt-berlin.de Ministerium für Landwirtschaft, Umweltschutz und Raumordnung des Landes Brandenburg — Referat UH 2 — Frau Dr. Rabold Heinrich-Mann-Allee 103 D-14473 Potsdam Tel. (0331) 866 73 17 Fax (0331) 866 71 81; -70 13 E-mail: silvia.rabold@mlur.brandenburg.de Der Senator für Bau und Umwelt der Freien Hansestadt Bremen — Referat 02 — Frau Whalley; Ansgaritorstraße 2 D-28195 Bremen Tel. (0421) 36 15 95 04 Fax (0421) 361 92 53 E-mail: whalley.r@umwelt.bremen.de Umweltbehörde der Freien und Hansestadt Hamburg Präsidialabteilung Herr de Buhr Billstraße 84 D-20539 Hamburg Tel. (040) 428 45 30 05 Fax (040) 428 45 39 84 E-mail: klaus.debuhr@ub.hamburg.de

Hessisches Ministerium für Umwelt, Landwirtschaft und Forsten
Herr Labonté; Herr Lanz
Mainzer Straße 80
D-65189 Wiesbaden
Tel (0611) 815 11 53; -11 70
Fax (0611) 815 19 41
E-mail: r.labonte@mue.hessen.de
E-mail: g.lanz@mue.hessen.de

Umweltministerium Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
Frau Dr. Schütze
Schlossstraße 6—8
D-19053 Schwerin
Tel. (0385) 588 89 11
Fax (0385) 588 80 42
E-mail: heidrun.schuetze@um.mv-regierung.de

Niedersächsisches Umweltministerium
Herr Goldbach; Herr Dreiser
Archivstraße 2
D-30169 Hannover
Tel. (0511) 120 34 75, -34 72
Fax (0511) 120 36 96
E-mail: wolfgang.goldbach@mu.niedersachsen.de
E-mail: hans-peter.dreiser@mu.niedersachsen.de

Ministerium für Umwelt und Naturschutz,
Landwirtschaft und Verbraucherschutz des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen
Herr Dr. Becker, Frau Tyrann-Weyers
Schwannstraße 3
D-40476 Düsseldorf
Tel. (0211) 456 66 26; -38
Fax (0211) 456 63 88
E-mail: joerg.becker@munlv.nrw.de
E-mail: tanja.tyrann-weyers@munlv.nrw.de

Ministerium für Umwelt und Forsten des Landes Rheinland-Pfalz
Herr Schrenk
Kaiser-Friedrich-Straße 1
D-55116 Mainz
Tel. (06131) 16 23 12
Fax (06131) 16 46 46
E-mail: gundolf.schrenk@muf.rlp.de

Ministerium für Umwelt des Saarlandes
Herr Warken
Keplerstraße 18
D-66121 Saarbrücken
Tel. (0681) 501 47 25
Fax (0681) 501 46 60
E-mail: f.warken@umwelt.saarland.de

Sächsisches Staatsministerium für Umwelt und Landwirtschaft
Frau Mager
Archivstraße 1
D-01097 Dresden
Tel. (0351) 564 23 37
Fax (0351) 564 21 41
E-mail: constanze.mager@smul.sachsen.de

Ministerium für Raumordnung und Umwelt des Landes Sachsen-Anhalt
Frau Schwabe-Hagedorn
Olvenstedter Straße 4
D-39108 Magdeburg
Tel. (0391) 567 34 32
Fax (0391) 567 34 02
E-mail: schwabe-hagedorn@mrlu.lsa-net.de

Ministerium für Umwelt, Natur und Forsten des Landes Schleswig-Holstein
Frau Schwind, Herr Boller
Mercatorstraße 3
D-24106 Kiel
Tel. (0431) 988 73 94
Fax (0431) 988 72 39
E-mail: jutta.schwind@umin.landsh.de
E-mail: frank.boller@umin.landsh.de

Thüringer Ministerium für Landwirtschaft, Naturschutz und Umwelt
Referat 124 (Europa Öffentlichkeitsarbeit)
Frau Höhn, Frau Greb
Beethovenplatz 3
D-99096 Erfurt
Tel. (0361) 379 91 56
Fax (0361) 379 91 31
E-mail: h.hoehn@tmlnu.thueringen.de
E-mail: B.Greb@tmlnu.thueringen.de

Danmark **(DK)**	Miljøstyrelsen (Life) Gert Sønderskov Hansen Strandgade 29 DK-1401 København K Fax 32 66 04 79 E-mail: gha@mst.dk
España **(E)**	Secretaría General de Medio Ambiente Ministerio de Medio Ambiente Dña. Rosa Solanas Lafuente Pza San Juan de la Cruz, s/n E-28071 Madrid Fax 915 97 58 16 E-mail: rosa.solanas@sgiapr.mma.es
Finland **(FIN)**	Ministry of the Environment Att. Mr Pekka Harju-Autti PO Box 380 FIN-00131 Helsinki Fax 919 91 96 80 E-mail: pekka.harju-autti@vyh.fi http://www.vyh.fi/palvelut/eu/life/life10.htm
France **(F)**	Ministère de l'environnement (Life) DG AD — SAI M[me] Stéphanie Popot 20, avenue de Ségur F-75302 Paris 07 SP Fax (33-1) 142 19 17 72 E-mail: stephanie.popot@environnement.gouv.fr
Pour les actions en faveur de l'industrie, les propositions doivent être adressées auprès des DRIRE (directions régionales de l'industrie, de la recherche et de l'environnement). Pour les actions en faveur des collectivités locales, les propositions doivent être adressées auprès des DRE (directions régionales de l'environnement)	
Ellas/Greece **(GR)**	Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works (Life) M. Constantin Papamitropoulos Patission 147 GR-11251 Athens Fax 18 64 28 84 E-mail: epper1@nfp-gr.dairpol.minenv.gr
Ireland **(IRL)**	Environment Awareness Section (Life) Department of the Environment Mr John Kiernan Custom House Dublin 1 Ireland Fax 18 88 20 14 E-mail: john_kiernan@environ.irlgov.ie
Italia **(IT)**	Ministero dell'Ambiente (Life) Dott. Francesco La Camera Via Cristoforo Colombo 44 I-00147 Roma Fax 06 57 22 59 90 E-mail: francesco.lacamera@via.minambiente.it
Luxembourg **(L)**	Ministère de l'environnement (Life) À l'attention de M. Jean-Paul Feltgen 18, Montée de la Petrusse L-2918 Luxembourg Fax 478 68 35 E-mail: jean-paul.feltgen@mev.etat.lu
Nederland **(NL)**	Ministerie van Volkshuisvesting, Ruimtelijke Ordening en Milieubeheer Directie Economische en Fiscale Instrumenten De heer Just van Lidth de Jeude Postbus 20951 2500 EZ Den Haag Nederland Fax 703 39 13 04 E-mail: just.vanlidthdejeude@db.dgm.minvrom.nl

Österreich **(A)**	Bundesministerium für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft Abt. II/4 U z. Hd. Herrn Gottfried Lamers Stubenbastei 5 A-1010 Wien Fax (0222) 515 22 76 05 E-mail: gottfried.lamers@bmu.gv.at
Portugal **(P)**	Ministério do Ambiente Direcção Geral do Ambiente (Life) Ex^{ma} Sra. Isabel Lico Apartado 7585 — Alfragide P-2721-865 Amadora Fax 14 71 90 76 E-mail: isabel.lico@dga.min-amb.pt
Sweden **(S)**	Naturvårdsverket Internationella Sekretariatet (Life) Anita Moberg S-106 48 Stockholm Fax 08-698 15 04 E-post: anita.moberg@environ.se
United Kingdom (*) **(UK)**	European Protection International Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs Mrs Heidi Jones Great Minster House 76 Marsham Street London SW1P 4DR United Kingdom Fax (0) 207 944 23 56 E-mail: Heidi.Jones@defra.gsi.gov.uk (*) Please note that due to a re-organisation of the department, these contact details be subject to change
Romania **(RO)**	Ministry of Waters, Forests & Environmental Protection Mrs Liliana Bara, Director Blvd. Libertatii 12 RO-Bucharest 5, Romania Tel./Fax (40-1) 336 69 54
Slovenia **(SLO)**	Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning Mrs Tea Glazar Dunajska c.48 SL-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia Tel. (386-1) 478 73 33 Fax (386-1) 478 74 19
Eesti **(EE)**	Ministry of the Environment Mrs Liina Eek Toompuiestee 24 EE-15172 Tallin, Estonia Tel. (372-62) 62 877 Fax (372-62) 62 901
Latvia **(LV)**	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional development Mr Valdis Bisters Peldu St. 25 LV-1494 Riga, Latvia Tel. (371) 70 26 417 Fax (371) 70 26 553
Hungary **(H)**	Ministry for Environment Mrs Zsuzsa Czégér PO Box 351 H-1394 Budapest Tel. (36-1) 457 35 79 Fax (36-1) 201 40 53