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I

(Information)

COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates ⁽¹⁾

22 February 2005

(2005/C 47/01)

1 euro =

Currency	Exchange rate	Currency	Exchange rate
USD US dollar	1,3193	LVL Latvian lats	0,6960
JPY Japanese yen	137,42	MTL Maltese lira	0,4315
DKK Danish krone	7,4432	PLN Polish zloty	3,9674
GBP Pound sterling	0,69130	ROL Romanian leu	36 649
SEK Swedish krona	9,0993	SIT Slovenian tolar	239,74
CHF Swiss franc	1,5380	SKK Slovak koruna	38,045
ISK Iceland króna	80,43	TRY Turkish lira	1,7120
NOK Norwegian krone	8,2700	AUD Australian dollar	1,6639
BGN Bulgarian lev	1,9559	CAD Canadian dollar	1,6205
CYP Cyprus pound	0,5830	HKD Hong Kong dollar	10,2894
CZK Czech koruna	29,845	NZD New Zealand dollar	1,8066
EEK Estonian kroon	15,6466	SGD Singapore dollar	2,1474
HUF Hungarian forint	242,97	KRW South Korean won	1 327,08
LTL Lithuanian litas	3,4528	ZAR South African rand	7,7113

⁽¹⁾ Source: reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

Publication of an application for registration pursuant to Article 6(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 2081/92 on the protection of geographical indications and designations of origin

(2005/C 47/02)

This publication confers the right to object to the application pursuant to Articles 7 and 12d of the above-mentioned Regulation. Any objection to this application must be submitted via the competent authority in a Member State, in a WTO member country or in a third country recognized in accordance with Article 12(3) within a time limit of six months from the date of this publication. The arguments for publication are set out below, in particular under 4.6, and are considered to justify the application within the meaning of Regulation (EEC) No 2081/92.

SUMMARY

COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 2081/92

‘ASPERGE DES SABLES DES LANDES’

EC No: FR/00272/07.11.2002

AOP () IGP(X)

This summary has been drawn up for information purposes only. For full details, in particular the producers of the PDO or PGI concerned, please consult the complete version of the product specification obtainable at national level or from the European Commission ⁽¹⁾.

1. *Responsible department in the Member State:*

Name: Institut National des Appellations d'Origine
Address: 138, Champs Elysées — 75008 PARIS — FRANCE
Tel. (1) 53 89 80 00
Fax (1) 42 25 57 97

2. *Group:*

2.1. Name: Syndicat des Producteurs d'Asperges des Landes
2.2. Address: Chambre d'Agriculture, Cité Galliane,
BP 279 — 40005 MONT DE MARSAN CEDEX
Tel. (5) 58 85 45 05
Fax (5) 58 85 45 21
E-mail qualite@landes.chambagri.fr
2.3. Composition: producers/processors (X) other ()

3. *Type of product:*

Class: Fruit, vegetables, cereals, whether or not processed

4. *Specification:*

(Summary of requirements under Article 4(2))

4.1. Name: ‘Asperge des Sables des Landes’

⁽¹⁾ European Commission — Directorate-General for Agriculture — Agricultural product quality policy — B-1049 Bruxelles

- 4.2. Description: Fresh asparagus, either white or purple (the latter being white asparagus with a pale purple tint on only a part of the spear. This colouring is the result of exposure to light for a few hours and in no way impairs the quality of taste of the asparagus). It is classified under EC standards EXTRA and I.

The asparagus is packaged in the geographical area of production and sold in bundles, individual packages or loose, after having been graded according to EC standards (12-16 mm and 16 mm+ for category 'EXTRA', 10-16 mm and 16 mm+ for category I). Non-fresh *Asperge des Sables des Landes* (frozen or tinned) may not be sold using the 'Sables des Landes' or 'Landes' Protected Designation of Origin (PDO).

- 4.3. Geographical area: The asparagus must be harvested and packaged in the geographical area comprising the Landes department, extended to cover the area defined as '*Landes de Gascogne*' under the Ministry of Agriculture order of 5 November 1945, which comprises the following administrative districts:

— All of the **Landes district**;

— Parts of the **Gironde district** (Bordeaux, Arcachon, Audenge, Belin, Blanquefort, Castelnau-de-Medoc, La-Brede, Pessac, Podensac, La Teste; part of the Langon area: Langon, Bommès, Fargues-de-Langon, Léognan, Mazière, Roaillan, Sauterne, Toulence; part of the Auros area: Auros, Berthez, Brannens, Brouqueyran, Coimère, Lados, Sigalens; Bazas, Captieux, Grignols, Saint Symphorien, Villandraut, Lesparre-Medoc, Pauillac, Saint-Laurent et Benon and Saint-Vivien-de-Medoc;

— Parts of the **Lot-et-Garonne district** (part of the area of Bouglon: Antagnac, Labastide-Castel-Amouroux, Poussignac; Casteljaloux; part of Damazan; Damazan, Ambrus, Caubeyres, Fargues-sur-Ourbise, Saint-Léon, Saint-Pierre de Buzet; Houeillès; part of Lavardac: Lavardac, Barbaste, Montgaillard, Pompiey, Xaintraillès; part of Mézin; Mézin, Gueyze, Lisse, Meylan, Poudenas, Réaup, Saint-Maure-de-Peyriac, Saint-Pé-Saint-Simon and Sos.

- 4.4. Proof of origin:

Background

Asparagus has been grown in the Landes area since the beginning of the twentieth century. Production has increased significantly since the 1960s, when it was an innovative product. In this vast expanse of woodland farmed for pine resin since the eighteenth century by the French State, asparagus growing — in conjunction with other crops — almost took over from resin tapping. In addition to adaptation to the climate and soil conditions, asparagus growing is well-suited to small and medium-sized farming structures and is labour intensive. This means it has sustained a fairly active and dense rural population in this specific area ('life in the heart of the forest').

Traceability

The product origin is guaranteed by ensuring traceability from field to distribution. Production areas are given a reference number. Batches of asparagus can be tracked from production to the packaging plant. Cases or individual packages of asparagus are marked with a specific label and a reference to locate the origin (producer code, date of the batch was harvested). Operators keep all records needed to prove traceability.

- 4.5. Method of production:

Asparagus is a perennial crop that is grown for about ten years. Production begins in the third year and lasts for about seven years. The part of the crop that is consumed is the spear, which is the underground stem produced from a 'crown'. Only varieties producing white or purple asparagus and contained in the applicant's list are authorised. Any new variety must undergo varietal tests.

Production begins by planting the crown between March and May in a plot of land chosen for its sand content (over 75 %), drainage properties, fertility and previous cropping. Sowing density ranges from 12 000 to 25 000 crowns per hectare, depending upon soil fertility and method of irrigation. Fertilisation, irrigation and plant health protection are provided as needed.

The ground is tilled to form a mound of very fine, light, uncompacted soil approximately 30 cm high. The final mound is dug in February before being mulched, or covered with a layer to improve the distribution of ground heat. Harvesting can begin as soon as the ground temperature reaches 9-12 °C at the depth of the crown, which typically occurs between March and May. On the third year after sowing, half the crop is harvested. The spears are immediately protected from exposure to light and heat and are chilled at 7 °C within four hours of harvesting. All selection, packaging and storage procedures prior to distribution must preserve the refrigeration chain and protect the crop from dehydration. These processes are carried out in the area defined above due to the fragility of the *Asperge des Sables des Landes* and in order to maintain freshness and tenderness. The date of delivery to the packaging plant is given on the label.

4.6. Link:

Sables des Landes asparagus are characteristically early, well and fully-formed, non-fibrous and not bitter. Typically, they are tender, sweet and very fragile. These characteristics are mainly the result of the way the spear grows in a certain type of soil and in specific climate conditions. It is grown in podzolic loam, relatively rich in organic matter and poor in clay content since this ensures the asparagus is not bitter-tasting. Due to the specific particle size, the soil is light, filtering and heats up quickly. In addition, this type of loam directly affects the asparagus spear as it provides limited mechanical resistance, encouraging rapid, straight growth.

The producers' skill in preparing the mound ensures the spear grows quickly and straight, helped by limited mechanical resistance from the soil – free of clods and stones –, the accumulated heat and sustained humidity.

The regional climate can be described as oceanic, typical of the Aquitaine region, i.e. temperate-humid. Spring is early, with fairly heavy rainfall and mild temperatures. The climate is further tempered by the large expanse of woodland. Dry and hot summers then provide the crop with all it needs for a successful harvest.

Its characteristics have made the *Asperge des Sables des Landes* highly sought after by European markets. A public awareness survey conducted in 1997 revealed that 90 % of professional buyers recognised *Landes* asparagus and placed it first or second for quality. Asparagus from *Landes* are also selected for export, which represents around 10 % of annual sales (about 7 % to Germany; about 2 % to Luxemburg; Belgium, Spain, and England). *Asperge des Sables des Landes* have been eaten in some countries since the 1960s.

The producers' skill in harvesting and selecting produce, the packaging plants and the sales agents all play an important part in ensuring these fresh and fragile products reach distribution.

4.7. Inspection body:

Name: QUALISUD

Address: 'Agropole' B.P. 102, Lasserre — 47 000 AGEN

In accordance with standard EN 45011

4.8. Labelling: The product is sold under the name 'Asperge des Sables des Landes'.

4.9. National requirements: —

Opinion of the Advisory Committee on concentrations given at the 71st meeting on 18 November 1999 concerning a preliminary draft decision relating to Case COMP M.1608 — KLM/Martinair III (Additional Procedure)

(2005/C 47/03)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission that KLM submitted incorrect/misleading information concerning Transavia's **charter** flight destinations to the Mediterranean area.
 2. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission that KLM provided incorrect/misleading information regarding Transavia's **scheduled** services to the Mediterranean area.
 3. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission's view that the misleading/incorrect information on Transavia's **charter** flights concerned important market issues of the intended merger and that the behaviour of KLM constitutes a *serious* infringement within the meaning of Article 14(1)(b).
 4. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission's view that the misleading/incorrect information on Transavia's **scheduled** flights concerned important market issues of the intended merger and that the behaviour of KLM constitutes a *serious* infringement within the meaning of Article 14(1)(b).
 5. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission that the misleading/incorrect information on Transavia's **charter** flights has been given *at least negligently* and that the behaviour of KLM therefore justifies the imposition of a fine.
 6. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission that the misleading/incorrect information on Transavia's **scheduled** flights has been given *at least negligently* and that the behaviour of KLM therefore justifies the imposition of a fine.
 7. The majority of the Advisory Committee agrees with the level of the fine the Commission proposes in the draft decision, a minority disagrees.
 8. The Advisory Committee invites the Commission to take into account all the other points raised by the Member States during the discussion.
 9. The Advisory Committee recommends publication of this Opinion in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.
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Publication of an application for registration pursuant to Article 6(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 2081/92 on the protection of geographical indications and designations of origin

(2005/C 47/04)

This publication confers the right to object to the application pursuant to Articles 7 and 12d of the above-mentioned Regulation. Any objection to this application must be submitted via the competent authority in a Member State, in a WTO member country or in a third country recognized in accordance with Article 12(3) within a time limit of six months from the date of this publication. The arguments for publication are set out below, in particular under 4.6, and are considered to justify the application within the meaning of Regulation (EEC) No 2081/92.

SUMMARY

COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 2081/92

'PÂTES D'ALSACE'

EC No: FR/00324/07.11.2003

PDO () PGI (X)

This summary has been drawn up for information purposes only. For full details, in particular the producers of the PDO or PGI concerned, please consult the complete version of the product specification obtainable at national level or from the European Commission ⁽¹⁾.

1. *Responsible department in the Member State:*

Name: Institut National des Appellations d'Origine
Address: 138, Champs Elysées — 75008 PARIS — FRANCE
Tel. (1) 53 89 80 00
Fax (1) 42 25 57 97

2. *Group:*

- 2.1. Name: Alsace Qualité: section 'fabricants de pâtes'
2.2. Address: 2 rue de Rome, 67300 SCHILTIGHEIM
Tel. (3) 88 19 16 78; Fax (3) 88 18 90 42
e-mail: alsace-qualite@alsace-qualite.com
2.3. Composition: local law association made up of three groups:
— agricultural trade organisations (chamber of agriculture, trade unions, cooperatives)
— producer organisations and agri-businesses organised in specialised groups
— representatives of distributors, consumers and restaurants

3. *Type of product:*

Group 2.7. Pasta

4. *Specification:*

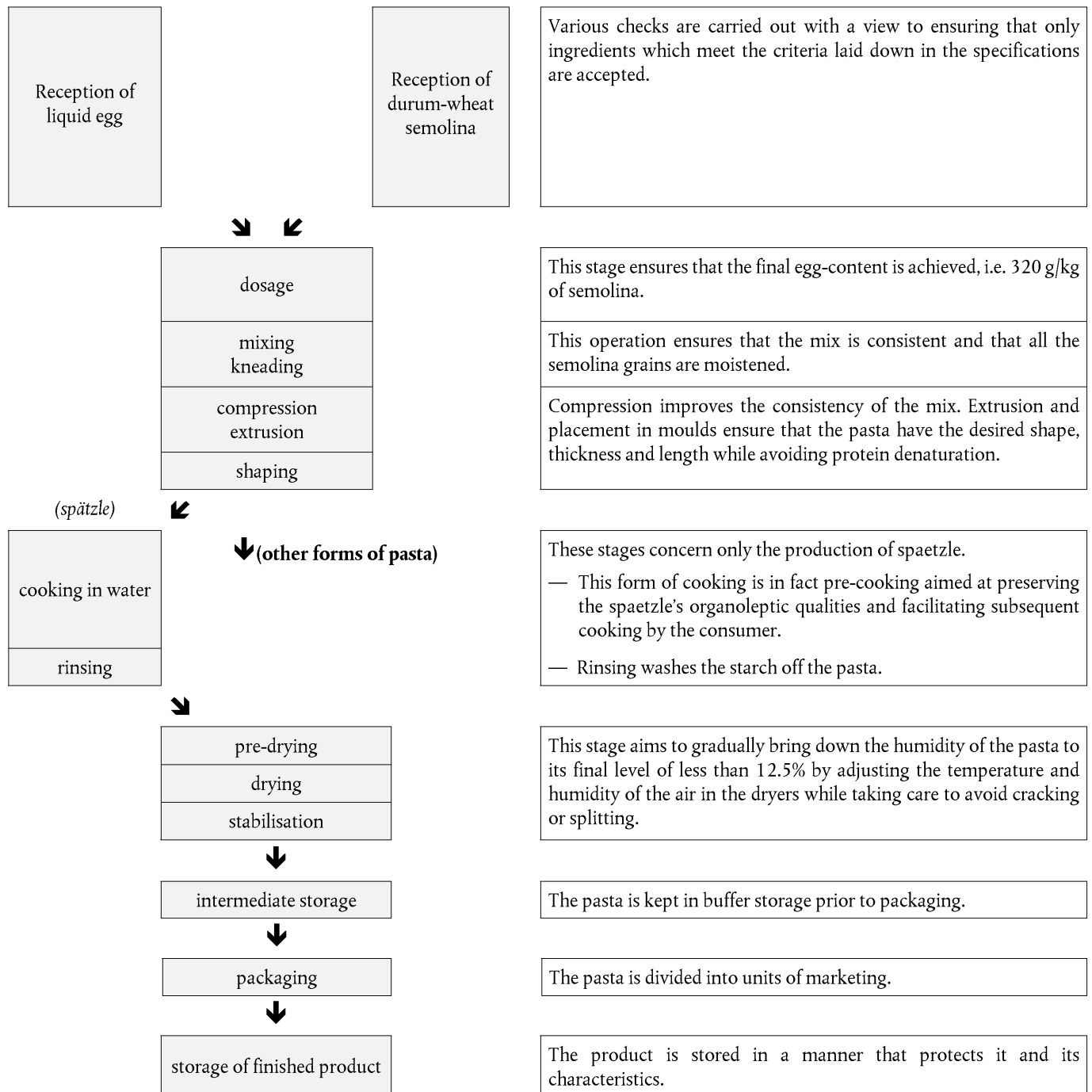
(summary of requirements under Article 4(2))

4.1. Name: 'Pâtes d'Alsace'

⁽¹⁾ European Commission — Directorate-General for Agriculture — Agricultural product quality policy — B-1049 Brussels.

- 4.2. Description: Pâtes d'Alsace is sold in packs that leave the product fully or partly visible.
It is produced in accordance with a traditional recipe, i.e. on the basis of a unique mix of the following ingredients in the following quantities:
- 1 kg of durum-wheat semolina of superior quality
 - 320 g of fresh egg (equivalent to seven fresh eggs)
- 4.3. Geographical area: The designation 'pâtes d'Alsace' may be applied only to pasta produced in production units located in the Alsace region.
- 4.4. Proof of origin:
'Pâtes d'Alsace' is produced from the raw materials listed above in production units located in Alsace which thus perpetuate the tradition of pasta made with eggs.
Each company has in place an internal traceability system which enables the production parameters and the raw materials used to be identified on the basis of the finished product.
Traceability is based on a system for identifying and recording the batches at every stage of production.
- 4.5. Method of production:
'Pâtes d'Alsace' is made from durum-wheat semolina of superior quality and 320 g of fresh egg per kg of semolina. The method of production is divided into a number of individually important stages.

“PÂTES D’ALSACE” PRODUCTION SCHEME



4.6. Link:

A special characteristic

Since ancient times, ‘pâtes d’Alsace’ has been produced from flour and eggs. This specifically Alsatian tradition of using a high proportion of eggs is due to the fact that production, up until the 19th century, was essentially domestic and rural, with eggs easily available on the farm.

For a long time, the production of pasta was the privilege of the housewife, with recipes and know-how handed down from mother to daughter.

The industrialisation of the production process at the end of the 19th century and, more importantly, at the beginning of the 20th century, did not lead to the disappearance of this traditional recipe. On the contrary, industrialists always sought to enrich pasta with eggs, until settling on the current proportion of seven eggs to a kilo of durum-wheat semolina. This organoleptically optimal mix is today unanimously accepted by Alsatian producers, enabling them to carry on the tradition of egg-pasta.

Distinct qualities

The use of eggs enhances the flavour, facilitates the handling of the pasta and improves its consistency during cooking.

A historical and current reputation

The historical study carried out by Roland Oberle, heritage curator and cultural attaché for 'Alsatian Art and History' at the Bas-Rhin General Council, shows that pasta production in Alsace probably dates back to the 15th century and, more importantly, that Alsatian pasta has always egg-based:

- 1507:** the first cookery book published in Alsace (Kochbuch, printed by Mathias Kopff, Strasbourg, 1507) and the German translation of Platina's work (Von allen Speiser und Gerichen, Strasbourg, 1530) already made reference to Wasser Strieble (Spätzle).
- 1671:** Abbot Buchinger publishes the recipe for Alsatian pasta still followed today: 'the noodles are made from large quantities of eggs, good flour and salt. No water, but lots of eggs'.
- 1811:** publication of the reference work on Alsatian gastronomy, the Oberrheinisches Kochbuch, which contains a recipe for noodles that follows the one already published by Abbot Buchinger.
- 1840:** first industry in Alsace, the Maison Scheurer is equipped with the latest machinery. It uses a kneading machine and a hydraulic press.
- Post-1870:** pasta is produced by hundreds of bakers, who use their ovens to dry the pasta to preserve it.
- 1871:** another 15 establishments join Scheurer. Alsace soon becomes the main region for producing egg-pasta in the German Reich.
- 1920:** the expansion continues with the founding of DEKA, which focuses on quality (superior durum-wheat semolina, fresh eggs broken at the factory).
- 1932:** DEKA products awarded a gold medal at the Exposition internationale du centenaire de Pasteur.
- 1933:** DEKA products awarded the Grand prix de l'Exposition Le Confort chez Soi and the gold medal at the Exposition d'économie domestique de Paris.
- 1934:** DEKA products presented outside the competition because of their outstanding merit at the Exposition universelle industrielle et commerciale de Paris.
- 1996:** publication of an historical work entitled 'L'histoire des pâtes d'Alsace' (Catherine Malaval and Roland Oberle – Editions VETTER).
- 1998:** 'pâtes d'Alsace' is listed and described in the 'Inventaire du patrimoine culinaire de la France — Alsace — Produits du terroir et recettes traditionnelles' (Editions Albin Michel).

For more than three centuries, the tradition of pasta made with fresh eggs has been one of the gastronomic specialities of Alsace.

Such pasta is eaten with traditional dishes such as jugged hare, fish matelote or Rhine salmon.

Today, 'pâtes d'Alsaces' accounts for over 50 % of national production of egg-pasta.

4.7. Inspection body:

Name: CERTIQUAL (association certifying Alsace quality products), local law association registered with the court of Schiltigheim under No 1163, in accordance with the EN 45011 standard, registered under No CC 08 and accredited by COFRAC.

Address: Espace Européen de l'Entreprise — 2 rue de Rome — 67300 SCHILTIGHEIM

Tel. (3) 88 19 16 78

Fax (3) 88 19 55 29

e-mail certiqua2@wanadoo.fr

4.8. Labelling: Each pack of pasta features the following text on its packaging:

PÂTES D'ALSACE
7 oeufs frais
au kilo de semoule de blé dur
CERTIQUAL
67300 SCHILTIGHEIM
numéro d'agrément CC 08

4.9. National requirements: —

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.3727 — 3i/Berkenhoff)
Candidate case for simplified procedure

(2005/C 47/05)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 16 February 2005, 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 3i Group plc ('3i', UK) and Granville Private Equity Managers (Deutschland) Fund Limited Partnership and GBCP (D) II LP (together referred to as 'GB-Funds', Germany) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control of the undertaking Berkenhoff Management Holding GmbH ('Berkenhoff Holding', Germany) by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for undertaking 3i: venture capital and private equity company,
- for undertaking GB-Funds: private equity funds,
- for undertaking Berkenhoff Holding: active in development, production and distribution of fine wire solutions in non-ferrous alloys.

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.3727 — 3i/Berkenhoff, 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⁾ Available on DG COMP website:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/competition/mergers/legislation/consultation/simplified_tru.pdf.

Prior notification of a concentration**(Case COMP/M.3511 — WIENER BÖRSE ET AL/BUDAPEST STOCK EXCHANGE/BUDAPEST COMMODITY EXCHANGE/KELER/JV)**

(2005/C 47/06)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 15 February 2005, 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 Wiener Börse AG ('WBAG', Austria), Oesterreichische Kontrollbank Aktiengesellschaft ('OeKB', Austria), Raiffeisen Zentralbank Österreich AG ('RZB', Austria), Erste Bank der oesterreichischen Sparkassen AG ('Erste', Austria) and HVB Bank Hungary Rt ('HVBH', Hungary) belonging to the HVB Group (Germany), acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control of the undertakings Budapesti Értéktőzsde Rt. (Budapest Stock Exchange, 'BSE', Hungary), Budapesti Árutőzsde Rt. (Budapest Commodity Exchange, 'BCE', Hungary) and Központi Elszámolóház és Értéktár Rt. ('KELER', Hungary) by way of purchase of shares and shareholders agreement.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - for WBAG: stock exchange and general commodity exchange in Austria,
 - for OeKB: Austrian Central Securities Depository, banking and financial services,
 - for RZB, Erste and HVB: Austrian banks active in banking and financial services,
 - for BSE: stock exchange in Hungary,
 - for BCE: commodity exchange in Hungary, and
 - for KELER: Central Clearing House and Depository for BSE.
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 (No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference number COMP/M.3511 — WIENER BÖRSE ET AL/BUDAPEST STOCK EXCHANGE/BUDAPEST COMMODITY EXCHANGE/KELER/JV, 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.

Information procedure — Technical rules

(2005/C 47/07)

(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 of 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 ⁽¹⁾	Title	End of three-month standstill period ⁽²⁾
2005/0020/UK	The draft Natural Mineral Water, Spring Water and Bottled Drinking Water Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2005	26.4.2005
2005/0021/UK	The draft Natural Mineral Water, Spring Water and Bottled Drinking Water Amendment (Wales) Regulations 2005	26.4.2005
2005/0022/NL	Licensing requirements attached as standard to certain categories of licence for the use of frequency space	27.4.2005
2005/0023/I	Draft Ministerial Decree on: 'Safety standards for travelling entertainment activities'	27.4.2005
2005/0024/SK	Decree of the Slovak Republic Ministry of Agriculture and the Slovak Republic Ministry of Health issuing the chapter of the Slovak Republic Foodstuffs Code governing potatoes for consumption and products made from them	27.4.2005
2005/0025/D	Additional Technical Terms of Contract — Hydraulic Engineering [German designation: ZTV-W] for the protection and repair of concrete compound units of hydraulic structures (performance category 219)	28.4.2005
2005/0026/S	Order amending the Vehicles Order (2002:925)	28.4.2005
2005/0028/S	Order amending the Order (2001:650) on a road traffic register	2.5.2005
2005/0029/LV	Draft Law 'Security Guard Activities Law'	⁽⁴⁾
2005/0030/A	Federal Act amending the Act on the Transport of Hazardous Goods [German designation: GGGB — Novelle 2005]	2.5.2005
2005/0031/SI	Regulations on the selection and positioning of extinguishers	3.5.2005
2005/0032/UK	The Kava-Kava in Food Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005	3.5.2005

⁽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 or rules on services 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 judgement delivered 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 national courts which must decline to apply a national technical regulation which has not been notified in accordance with the Directive.

This judgement 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, and consequently unenforceable against individuals.

For more information on the notification procedure, please write to:

European Commission
DG Enterprise and Industry, Unit C3
B-1049 Brussels
e-mail: Dir83-189-Central@cec.eu.int

Also consult the website: <http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/tris/>

If you require any further 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

BELNotif

*Qualité et Sécurité**SPF Economie, PME, Classes moyennes et Energie*

NG III – 4ème étage

boulevard du Roi Albert II / 16

B-1000 Bruxelles

Ms Pascaline Descamps

Tel.: (32) 2 206 46 89

Fax: (32) 2 206 57 46

E-mail: pascaline.descamps@mineco.fgov.be

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General e-mail: belnotif@mineco.fgov.be

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III

(Notices)

COMMISSION

CALL FOR PROPOSALS — DG EAC No EAC/04/05

for the implementation of Action 1, Action 2 and Action 3 in the academic year 2006/2007 and Action 4 in the year 2005 of

ERASMUS MUNDUS

The Community Action programme for the enhancement of quality in higher education and the promotion of intercultural understanding through co-operation with third countries

*(2005/C 47/08)***1. Objectives and description**

The Erasmus Mundus programme's overall aim is to enhance the quality of European higher education by fostering co-operation with third countries in order to improve the development of human resources and to promote dialogue and understanding between peoples and cultures.

The Commission will

- select high-quality integrated masters courses which are offered by a consortium of at least three higher education institutions in at least three participating countries (Action 1),
- give grants to highly qualified graduate students and scholars from third-countries to follow or participate in the selected masters courses (Action 2),
- select high-quality partnerships between selected masters courses and third-country higher education institutions (Action 3),
- select projects of at least three institutions in at least three participating countries aiming to improve accessibility and enhance the profile and visibility of higher education in the European Union (Action 4).

2. Eligible applicants

- Action 1: higher education institutions in the 25 EU Member States, the countries of the European Economic Area/European Free Trade Association (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway) and the candidate countries for accession to the EU (Bulgaria, Romania, and Turkey). As regards institutions from the candidate countries for accession to the EU (Bulgaria, Romania, and Turkey), they will be able to participate under the present call for proposals for Action 1 only if the official participation of these countries in the programme has been formalised through the relevant instruments governing the relations between the European Community and those countries before the selection decision is taken (September 2005). Otherwise, institutions coming from those countries are not eligible for Action 1 under the present call for proposals,
- Action 2: individuals from third countries, i.e. any country other than the countries mentioned under Action 1 above,
- Action 3: higher education institutions from all countries of the world,
- Action 4: institutions from all countries of the world.

3. Budget and project duration

The total budget earmarked for the funding of projects is estimated at EUR 63.3 million. In case of Action 4, financial assistance from the Commission cannot exceed 75 % of the total eligible costs.

- Action 1: each grant will amount to EUR 15 000 annually. Masters courses must start between August and November 2006,
- Action 2: each grant will amount to EUR 21 000 annually for each third-country student and EUR 13 000 for each third-country scholar. Grants are for masters courses starting in the academic year 2006/2007,
- Action 3: each grant will amount to a minimum of EUR 5 000 and a maximum of 15 000 annually plus allocations for student and scholar mobility. Partnerships must start between August and November 2006. The maximum duration of partnerships is 3 years,
- Action 4: grants will vary according to the project size. Projects must start between October and December 2005. The maximum duration of projects is 3 years.

4. Deadline

Applications must be sent to the Commission no later than

- Action 1 and Action 4: 31 May 2005,
- Action 3: 31 October 2005,
- Action 2: 28 February 2006.

5. Further information

The full text of the call for proposals and the application forms are available on the following website:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/mundus/index_en.html

Applications must comply with the requirements set out in the full text and be submitted using the form provided.

CORRIGENDA**Corrigendum to Commission notice of invitation to tender for refunds on common wheat exported to certain third countries**

(Official Journal of the European Union C 22, 27 January 2005)

(2005/C 47/09)

On page 19, under 'III. Tenders', in the third address:

for: 'Fax 33 92 69 48',

read: 'Fax 33 95 80 18';

on page 20, in the sixth address:

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