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II

*(Information)*INFORMATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES
AND AGENCIES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Non-opposition to a notified concentration**(Case M.7629 — PSP/OTTP/Tonopah Solar Investments/Tonopah Solar Energy)****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2015/C 206/01)

On 17 June 2015, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the internal market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾. The full text of the decision is available only in the English language and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- in the merger section of the Competition website of the Commission (<http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/cases/>). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,
- in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html?locale=en>) under document number 32015M7629. EUR-Lex is the online access to European law.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

IV

(Notices)

NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

COUNCIL

The following information is brought to the attention of AL-NASSER, Abdelkarim Hussein Mohamed, AL YACOUB, Ibrahim Salih Mohammed, IZZ-AL-DIN, Hasan (a.k.a GARBAYA, Ahmed, a.k.a. SA-ID, a.k.a. SALWWAN, Samir), MOHAMMED, Khalid Shaikh (a.k.a. ALL, Salem, a.k.a. BIN KHALID, Fahd Bin Adballah, a.k.a. HENIN, Ashraf Refaat Nabith, a.k.a. WADOOD, Khalid Abdul, 'Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine' — 'PFLP', 'Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine — General Command' (a.k.a. 'PFLP — General Command'), 'Fuerzas armadas revolucionarias de Colombia' — 'FARC' ('Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia') included on the list provided for in Article 2(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 2580/2001 on specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities with a view to combating terrorism

(see the Annex to Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/513 of 26 March 2015)

(2015/C 206/02)

The following information is brought to the attention of persons, groups and entities listed in Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/513 ⁽¹⁾.

Council Regulation (EC) No 2580/2001 ⁽²⁾ provides for a freezing of all funds, other financial assets and economic resources belonging to the persons, groups and entities concerned and that no funds, other financial assets and economic resources may be made available to them, whether directly or indirectly.

The Council has been provided with new information relevant to the listing of the abovementioned persons, groups and entities. Having considered this new information, the Council has amended the statement of reasons accordingly.

The persons, groups and entities concerned may submit a request to obtain the updated Council's statement of reasons for maintaining them on the abovementioned list to the following address:

Council of the European Union

(Attn: CP 931 designations)

Rue de la Loi 175

1048 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

E-mail: sanctions@consilium.europa.eu

Such a request should be submitted by 26 June 2015.

The persons, groups and entities concerned may submit at any time a request to the Council, together with any supporting documentation, that the decision to include and maintain them on the list should be reconsidered, to the address provided above. Such requests will be considered when they are received. In this respect, the attention of the persons, groups and entities concerned is drawn to the regular review by the Council of the list according to Article 1(6) of Common Position 2001/931/CFSP ⁽³⁾. In order for requests to be considered at the next review, it should be submitted by 1 July 2015.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 82, 27.3.2015, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 344, 28.12.2001, p. 70.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 344, 28.12.2001, p. 93.

The attention of the persons, groups and entities concerned is drawn to the possibility of making an application to the competent authorities of the relevant Member State(s) as listed in the Annex to the Regulation in order to obtain an authorisation to use frozen funds for essential needs or specific payments in accordance with Article 5(2) of that Regulation. An updated list of competent authorities is available on the web at the following address:

http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/cfsp/sanctions/measures.htm

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates ⁽¹⁾

22 June 2015

(2015/C 206/03)

1 euro =

| Currency | Exchange rate | Currency | Exchange rate | | |
|----------|-------------------|----------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| USD | US dollar | 1,1345 | CAD | Canadian dollar | 1,3879 |
| JPY | Japanese yen | 139,80 | HKD | Hong Kong dollar | 8,7944 |
| DKK | Danish krone | 7,4615 | NZD | New Zealand dollar | 1,6484 |
| GBP | Pound sterling | 0,71690 | SGD | Singapore dollar | 1,5141 |
| SEK | Swedish krona | 9,2253 | KRW | South Korean won | 1 249,02 |
| CHF | Swiss franc | 1,0435 | ZAR | South African rand | 13,7910 |
| ISK | Iceland króna | | CNY | Chinese yuan renminbi | 7,0446 |
| NOK | Norwegian krone | 8,7420 | HRK | Croatian kuna | 7,5715 |
| BGN | Bulgarian lev | 1,9558 | IDR | Indonesian rupiah | 15 080,90 |
| CZK | Czech koruna | 27,206 | MYR | Malaysian ringgit | 4,2345 |
| HUF | Hungarian forint | 310,83 | PHP | Philippine peso | 51,027 |
| PLN | Polish zloty | 4,1625 | RUB | Russian rouble | 61,1680 |
| RON | Romanian leu | 4,4836 | THB | Thai baht | 38,178 |
| TRY | Turkish lira | 3,0408 | BRL | Brazilian real | 3,5089 |
| AUD | Australian dollar | 1,4616 | MXN | Mexican peso | 17,3868 |
| | | | INR | Indian rupee | 72,0700 |

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

COMMISSION DECISION**of 17 June 2015****establishing the Commission Expert Group 'Platform for Tax Good Governance, Aggressive Tax Planning and Double Taxation' and replacing Decision C(2013) 2236**

(2015/C 206/04)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Whereas:

- (1) In its communication of 6 December 2012 ⁽¹⁾, the Commission presented an Action Plan to strengthen the fight against tax fraud and tax evasion. The communication was accompanied by two Recommendations, one on aggressive tax planning ⁽²⁾ and one regarding measures intended to encourage third countries to apply minimum standards of good governance in tax matters ⁽³⁾.
- (2) Commission Decision C(2013) 2236 ⁽⁴⁾ set up the Platform for Tax Good Governance, Aggressive Tax Planning and Double Taxation (the Platform), a Commission expert group, to review progress on a range of measures, including the 2012 Action Plan on tax fraud and evasion and the implementation of the two Recommendations. In its communication on double taxation in the single market ⁽⁵⁾, the Commission concluded that it would examine the potential benefits of setting up an EU Forum on double taxation. Given that double non-taxation and double taxation are often linked, it was deemed appropriate to also address double taxation in the Platform, and that is still the case today.
- (3) The European Parliament ⁽⁶⁾ and the Council of the European Union ⁽⁷⁾ have called for continuous efforts in the fight against tax fraud and tax avoidance.
- (4) The Platform has proved useful in providing input in the areas in which it is consulted. On 18 March 2015 the Commission adopted a package on tax transparency ⁽⁸⁾. On 17 June 2015 ⁽⁹⁾ it adopted a communication on a fairer corporate tax system in the Union (the 2015 Action Plan) where it reported on the application of the 2012 Recommendations with input from the Platform. In that communication the Commission announced that the mandate of the Platform would be prolonged, its scope expanded and its working methods enhanced.
- (5) With the development of the tax transparency and fair taxation agenda as defined in the two 2015 Commission communications, it is appropriate to review the tasks and operation of the Platform.
- (6) The Platform should allow for a dialogue in which experience and expertise are exchanged and the views of all stakeholders are heard.
- (7) The Platform should be chaired by a representative of the Commission and consist of representatives from the Member States' tax authorities, organisations representing business or civil society and tax practitioners. It is desirable for reasons of continuity that current members of the Platform appointed for the period of application of Commission Decision C (2013) 2236 should remain in office until the end of their mandate on 22 April 2016.
- (8) Rules on disclosure of information by members of the Platform should be laid down.

⁽¹⁾ COM(2012) 722.⁽²⁾ C(2012) 8806 final.⁽³⁾ C(2012) 8805 final.⁽⁴⁾ Commission Decision C(2013) 2236 of 23 April 2013 on setting up a Commission Expert Group to be known as the Platform for Tax Good Governance, Aggressive Tax Planning and Double Taxation.⁽⁵⁾ COM(2011) 712 final.⁽⁶⁾ European Parliament resolution of 25 March 2015 on the Annual Tax Report.⁽⁷⁾ Ecofin Council 9.12.2014, European Council 18.12.2014.⁽⁸⁾ Communication on tax transparency to fight tax evasion and avoidance (COM(2015)136), and Proposal to introduce the automatic exchange of information between EU Member States on their tax rulings (COM(2015) 135).⁽⁹⁾ Communication of 17 June 2015 COM(2015) 302 final.

- (9) Personal data should be processed in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁽¹⁾.
- (10) Decision C (2013) 2236 should be repealed,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Subject matter

The group of experts 'Platform for Tax Good Governance, Aggressive Tax Planning and Double Taxation' (the Platform) is hereby set up.

Article 2

Tasks

The Platform's tasks shall be:

- (a) to encourage discussion between business, civil society and national tax authorities' experts on issues in the field of good governance in tax matters, aggressive tax planning and double taxation;
- (b) to provide the Commission with information relevant to the identification of priorities in the areas referred to in point (a) and the selection of the appropriate means and instruments to achieve progress in these areas;
- (c) to contribute to the best possible application and implementation of the two Commission Communications of 18 March 2015 and 17 June 2015, by identifying technical and practical issues potentially relevant in these areas, as well as possible solutions;
- (d) to discuss practical insights provided by tax authorities, as well as business, civil society and tax practitioners, and to elaborate on possible ways to address more efficiently the current double taxation problems affecting the smooth functioning of the internal market.

For the purposes of this Decision, the term 'good governance in tax matters' covers transparency, exchange of information and fair tax competition.

Article 3

Consultation

The Commission may consult the Platform on any matter relating to good governance in tax matters, aggressive tax planning and double taxation and the follow-up to the 2015 Action Plan.

Article 4

Membership — Appointment

1. The Platform shall be composed of a maximum of 43 members.
2. Members of the Platform shall be:
 - (a) Member States' tax authorities;
 - (b) up to 15 business, civil society and tax practitioner organisations with competence in the matters referred to in Article 2.
3. The tax authorities of each Member State shall nominate one representative from among the officials dealing with cross-border taxation with a focus on fighting aggressive tax planning.
4. Current members of the Platform shall remain in office until 22 April 2016. Following a call for applications, the Director-General for Taxation and Customs Union shall appoint the members of the Platform referred to in point (b) of paragraph 2. The term of office of those members shall run from 23 April 2016 until 16 June 2019.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data (OJ L 8, 12.1.2001, p. 1).

5. When responding to the call for applications, organisations shall nominate one representative and one alternate to replace a representative who is absent or indisposed. The Director-General for Taxation and Customs Union may object to the nomination of a representative or alternate by an organisation on the basis that the person concerned does not have the profile required in the call for applications. In such cases, the organisation concerned shall be asked to nominate another representative or another alternate.
6. Alternates shall be nominated on the same conditions as representatives. Alternates shall automatically replace any representatives who are absent or indisposed.
7. Organisations deemed suitable for membership, but not appointed, may be placed on a reserve list, which the Commission shall use to appoint replacements.
8. Organisations referred to in point (b) of paragraph 2 or their representatives may be replaced or excluded for the remainder of their term of office in any of the following situations:
 - (a) where the organisation or its representative is no longer capable of contributing effectively to the Platform's deliberations;
 - (b) where the organisation or its representative does not comply with the condition set out in Article 339 of the Treaty;
 - (c) where the organisation or its representative resigns;
 - (d) where it is desirable in order to maintain a balanced representation of relevant areas of expertise and areas of interest.

Where an organisation or its representative is replaced or excluded, the Director-General for Taxation and Customs Union may, as appropriate, appoint a replacement organisation from the reserve list referred to in paragraph 7 or ask an organisation to nominate another representative or another alternate.

9. The names of organisations and their representatives shall be published in the Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities, hereinafter referred to as the 'Register', as well as on a dedicated website.
10. Personal data shall be collected, processed and published in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 45/2001.

Article 5

Operation

1. The Platform shall be chaired by the Director-General for Taxation and Customs Union or his representative.
2. To facilitate its efficient functioning the Platform shall establish two sub-groups in which government (Member States' tax authorities) and non-government (business, civil society and tax practitioner organisations) representatives meet separately.
3. In agreement with the Chair, the Platform may set up other sub-groups to examine specific questions on the basis of terms of reference defined by the Platform. Such sub-groups shall be disbanded as soon as their mandate is fulfilled.
4. The Chairperson may, on an ad hoc basis, invite experts from outside the Platform with specific competence on a subject on the agenda to participate in the work of the Platform or sub-group. In addition, the Chairperson may give observer status to individuals, organisations, as defined in Rule 8(3) of the horizontal rules on expert groups⁽¹⁾ and candidate countries.
5. Members and their representatives, as well as invited experts and observers, shall comply with the obligation of professional secrecy laid down by the Treaties and other relevant Union rules, as well as with the rules regarding the protection of EU classified information, laid down in Commission Decision 2001/844/EC, ECSC, Euratom⁽²⁾. Should they fail to respect these obligations, the Commission may take all appropriate measures.

⁽¹⁾ Communication from the President to the Commission — Framework for Commission expert groups: horizontal rules and public register, C(2010) 7649 final.

⁽²⁾ Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444 of 13 March 2015 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 53).

6. The meetings of the Platform and its sub-groups shall in principle be held on Commission premises. The Commission shall provide secretarial services. Other Commission services with an interest in the proceedings may be involved and may attend meetings of the Platform and its sub-groups.
7. The Platform shall adopt its rules of procedure on the basis of the standard rules of procedure for expert groups.
8. The Commission shall publish all relevant documents on the activities carried out by the Platform (such as agendas, minutes and participants' submissions) either in the Register or via a link from the Register to a dedicated website. A document shall not be published where its disclosure would undermine the protection of a public or private interest as defined in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾.

Article 6

Meeting expenses

1. Participants in the activities of the Platform shall not be remunerated for the services they render.
2. Travel and, where appropriate, subsistence expenses incurred by participants in the activities of the Platform shall be reimbursed by the Commission in accordance with the provisions in force within the Commission.
3. Those expenses shall be reimbursed within the limits of the available appropriations allocated under the annual procedure for the allocation of resources.

Article 7

Repeal

Decision C(2013) 2236 is repealed.

Article 8

Applicability

This Decision shall apply until 16 June 2019.

Done at Brussels, 17 June 2015.

For the Commission

Pierre MOSCOVICI

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents (OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43). These exceptions are intended to protect public security, military affairs, international relations, financial, monetary or economic policy, privacy and integrity of the individual, commercial interests, court proceedings and legal advice, inspections/investigations/audits and the institution's decision-making process.

NOTICES FROM MEMBER STATES

Commission notice pursuant to Article 16(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on common rules for the operation of air services in the Community

Modification of public service obligations in respect of scheduled air services

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2015/C 206/05)

| | |
|--|--|
| Member State | Finland |
| Route concerned | Helsinki – Savonlinna |
| Original date of entry into force of public service obligations | 22 August 2005 |
| Date of entry into force of the modifications | 11 January 2016 |
| Address where the text of the invitation to tender and any relevant information and/or documentation related to public tender and the public service obligation can be obtained free of charge | <p>Further information: Finnish Transport Agency</p> <p>Address: Kirjaamo PB 33 FI-00521 Helsinki SUOMI/FINLAND</p> <p>Tel. +358 505942353 Fax +358 295343700</p> <p>E-mail: kirjaamo@liikennevirasto.fi Internet: www.liikennevirasto.fi/savonlinna-airservices</p> |

Commission communication pursuant to Article 17(5) of Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on common rules for the operation of air services in the Community

Invitation to tender in respect of the operation of scheduled air services in accordance with public service obligations

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2015/C 206/06)

| | |
|--|---|
| Member State | Finland |
| Route concerned | Helsinki – Savonlinna |
| Period of validity of the contract | 11 January 2016 - 22 December 2017 |
| Deadline for submission of tenders | 61 days after the day of publication of the present invitation |
| Address where the text of the invitation to tender and any relevant information and/or documentation related to public tender and the public service obligation can be obtained free of charge | Finnish Transport Agency, Address: Kirjaamo PB 33 FI-00521 Helsinki SUOMI/FINLAND Tel. +358 505942353 Fax +358 295343700 E-mail: kirjaamo@liikennevirasto.fi Internet: www.liikennevirasto.fi/savonlinna-airservices |

V

(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION
POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.7583 — CSL Limited/Novartis Influenza Vaccines Business)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2015/C 206/07)

1. On 12 June 2015, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004⁽¹⁾ by which CSL Limited ('CSL', Australia) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of Novartis Influenza Vaccines Business ('Target', Switzerland) by way of purchase of shares and assets.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- CSL is a pharmaceutical company active in worldwide research, development, manufacturing and marketing of biotherapies, vaccines (via its subsidiary bioCSL) and other pharmaceuticals,
- the Target is Novartis' human influenza vaccines business, which manufactures and sells influenza vaccines primarily in the United States, the EEA and Argentina. Novartis is a diversified healthcare company. In Europe, its business includes Novartis Pharmaceuticals, Alcon (eye care medicines) and Sandoz (generic medicines).

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the Merger Regulation. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent to the Commission by fax (+32 22964301), by e-mail to COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu or by post, under reference M.7583 — CSL Limited/Novartis Influenza Vaccines Business to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case M.7658 — Platinum Equity/WFS Global Holding)
Candidate case for simplified procedure
(Text with EEA relevance)
(2015/C 206/08)

1. On 12 June 2015, 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 Platinum Equity, LLC ('Platinum', United States) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the whole of the undertaking WFS Global Holding ('WFS', France) by way of purchase of shares.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - for Platinum: merger, acquisition and operation of companies providing services and solutions to customers in a broad range of businesses, including information technology, telecommunications, logistics, metal services, manufacturing and distribution,
 - for WFS: provision of airport cargo as well as ramp and passenger handling services in various airports within the EEA.
3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the Merger Regulation. However, the final decision on this point is reserved. Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under the 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 this Notice.
4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent to the Commission by fax (+32 22964301), by e-mail to COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu or by post, under reference M.7658 — Platinum Equity/WFS Global Holding, to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

⁽²⁾ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

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