Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.8956 — Biogen/Samsung BioLogics/Bioepis JV)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2018/C 297/07)

1. On 17 August 2018, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([1]) by which Biogen Inc. ('Biogen', United States) and Samsung BioLogics Co. Ltd. ('Samsung BioLogics', South Korea), a company controlled by the Samsung Group (South Korea), acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of Samsung Bioepis Co Ltd. ('Bioepis', South Korea), currently solely controlled by Samsung BioLogics.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for Biogen: a biopharmaceutical company active in research, development and provision of therapies for serious neurological and neurodegenerative diseases worldwide,

— for Samsung BioLogics: a company active in the development and manufacturing of biopharmaceutical products worldwide,

— for Samsung Group: a conglomerate active in a wide array of industries, including electronics, shipbuilding, engineering and insurance,

— for Bioepis: active in the development of biosimilar medicines. Bioepis is a joint venture between Samsung BioLogics and Biogen.

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 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. The following reference should always be specified:

M.8956 — Biogen/Samsung BioLogics/Bioepis JV

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email, by fax, or by post. Please use the contact details below:

Email: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Fax +32 22964301

Postal 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.