Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.8520 — Cinven/CPPIB/GTA)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2017/C 262/04)

1. On 4 August 2017, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 [1] by which the undertakings Cinven Capital Management (V) General Partner Limited ('Cinven', United Kingdom) and the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board ('CPPIB', Canada) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control over GTA Travel Holding Ltd, Kuoni Holdings and their subsidiaries (together 'GTA'), by way of purchase of shares. Cinven and CPPIB jointly control Hotelbeds Group (Spain).

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for Cinven: private equity firm engaged in the provision of investment management and investment advisory services to a number of investment funds,

— for CPPIB: investment management organisation created by an Act of Parliament to invest the funds of the Canada Pension Plan,

— for GTA: intermediation of travel services, in particular business-to-business intermediation of hotel accommodation.

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 email to COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu or by post, under reference M.8520 — Cinven/CPPIB/GTA, 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').