EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 26.6.2023
C(2023) 4408 final

PUBLIC VERSION

Grupo Esteve Life Sciences, S.L.
Passeig Zona Franca 109
08038 Barcelona
Spain

LUBEA Cataman GmbH & Co. KG
Gutenbergring 69 A
22848 Norderstedt
Germany

Subject: **Case M.11154 – LUBEA / GEL / ESTEVE HEALTHCARE**
Commission decision pursuant to Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004[1] and Article 57 of the Agreement on the European Economic Area[2]

Dear Sir or Madam,

1. On 02 June 2023, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation, by which LUBEA Cataman GmbH & Co. KG ("LUBEA", Germany) and Grupo Esteve Life Sciences, S.L. ("GEL", Spain) will acquire within the meaning of Articles 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of Esteve Healtchare, S.L.U, ("Esteve Healthcare", Spain), by way of purchase of shares.[3]

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are the following:

   – LUBEA is German company active in the acquisition, development, holding and sale of investments in companies, as well as the establishment of companies. LUBEA's capital is held entirely by Lukas Asset Management SE & Co. KG (Germany), the family office managing assets of the Theo Albrecht family tree of the family owning and controlling the ALDI supermarket chains and related activities,

---

1 OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation'). With effect from 1 December 2009, the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ('TFEU') has introduced certain changes, such as the replacement of 'Community' by 'Union' and 'common market' by 'internal market'. The terminology of the TFEU will be used throughout this decision.

2 OJ L 1, 3.1.1994, p. 3 (the 'EEA Agreement').

3 Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 207, 14.06.2023, p. 2.

– GEL is a Spanish corporation headquartered in Barcelona. It is a family-owned business owned by members of the Esteve family, with the sole purpose of holding 100% of the shares in Esteve Healthcare,

– Esteve Healthcare is a Spanish-based international proprietary specialty pharma group, which is active in the entire pharmaceutical value chain, from preclinical research to manufacturing and the sale of finished dosage forms.

3. After examination of the notification, the European Commission has concluded that the notified operation falls within the scope of the Merger Regulation and of paragraph 5 (b) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004.[4]

4. For the reasons set out in the Notice on a simplified procedure, the European Commission has decided not to oppose the notified operation and to declare it compatible with the internal market and with the EEA Agreement. This decision is adopted in application of Article 6(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation and Article 57 of the EEA Agreement.

For the Commission

(Signed)
Olivier GUERSENT
Director-General

4 OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.