V

(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.9928 – QuattroR/HGM/Burgo)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2020/C 317/07)

1. On 17 September 2020 the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 and following a referral pursuant to Article 4(5) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([1]).

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

— QuattroR SGR S.p.A. ('QuattroR', Italy),

— Holding Gruppo Marchi S.p.A ('HGM', Italy),

— Burgo Group S.p.A. ('Burgo', Italy).

QuattroR and HGM acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of Burgo.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for QuattroR: a management company that focuses on investing and relaunching Italian businesses with solid market and industrial fundamentals that need fresh resources for growth or are facing temporary financial unbalance,

— for HGM: a holding company that, inter alia, controls Palladio Group S.p.A. an Italian-based company active in the production and sale of cartons, leaflets, booklets and adhesive labels and premium packaging and currently owns a controlling stake in Burgo,

— for Burgo: a manufacturer of pulp and paper, active in the manufacturing of (i) coated graphic paper, mainly for magazines and newsprint of various grades and qualities (coated mechanical and coated wood-free paper); (ii) uncoated graphic paper, mainly for books and stationeries (uncoated wood-free paper); (iii) short-fibre pulp, of which the majority is used for internal graphic paper production; (iv) specialty paper, mainly for packaging and labelling end-usages and (v) recycled containerboard, used by the assemblers of brown boxes.

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.

([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').
([2]) OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

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.9928 – QuattroR/HGM/Burgo

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