Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.8620 — KKR/WBA/PharMerica)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2017/C 294/07)

1. On 30 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 KKR & Co. L.P. ('KKR', USA) and Walgreens Boots Alliance, Inc. ('WBA', USA) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the undertaking PharMerica Corporation ('PharMerica', USA) by way of a purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— KKR is a global investment firm which offers a broad range of alternative asset management services to public and private market investors and provides capital markets solutions for the firm, its portfolio companies, and clients.

— WBA is a global pharmacy-led, health and wellbeing enterprise, operating retail pharmacies across the United States and Europe, as well as a global pharmaceutical wholesale and distribution network, with distribution centres delivering to pharmacies, doctors, health centres and hospitals in more than 20 countries.

— PharMerica provides long term care pharmacyE, infusion therapy, and specialty pharmacy services in the United States.

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 email to COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu or by post, under reference M.8620 — KKR/WBA/PharMerica, to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
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[1] OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').
[2] OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.