Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.9405 — CPF/Itochu/HyLife)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2019/C 318/11)

1. On 16 September 2019, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([1]).

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

— Charoen Pokphand Foods Public Company Limited ('CPF', Thailand),

— Itochu Corporation ('Itochu', Japan),

— HyLife Group Holdings Ltd ('HyLife Group', Canada), jointly controlled by HyLife Investments Ltd. (Canada) and Itochu.

Itochu and CPF acquire within the meaning of Article 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the whole of HyLife Group.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for CPF: breeding and farming of livestock such as swine and aquaculture, manufacturing of feed for livestock and aquaculture, as well as production of meat and other meal products, as well as operating food retail outlets and restaurants,

— for Itochu: active across a wide range of industries including textiles, machinery, metals and minerals, energy and chemicals, general products, information technology and communications, financial and insurance, as well as food,

— for HyLife: breeding, raising and finishing of hogs and production of pork products.

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.9405 — CPF/Itochu/HyLife

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:

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Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
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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.