EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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PUBLIC VERSION

RTL Group S.A.
43, Boulevard Pierre Frieden
L-1543- Luxembourg
Luxembourg

Subject: **Case M.10391 -RTL GROUP / TALPA NETWORK**
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 15 June 2022, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation, and following a partial referral to the Netherlands pursuant to Article 4(4) of the Merger Regulation,[3] by which RTL Group S.A. ("RTL Group"), controlled by Bertelsmann SE & Co. KGaA, ("Bertelsmann") will acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control over the whole of Talpa Network B.V. ("Talpa Network"), controlled by Mr. John de Mol by way of contract or any other means.[4]

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

   – RTL Group is a Luxembourg-based media company with TV channels and radio stations in several EU Member States including the Netherlands. It is active on all levels of the audiovisual value chain. It is controlled by Bertelsmann, which is a German company active in the media, services and education sectors,

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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 The partial referral to the Netherlands includes the activities defined as the "Netherlands AV/TV Transaction" in the decision of the Commission dated 29 September 2021, M.10391 – RTL GROUP / TALPA NETWORK pursuant to Article 4(4) of the Merger Regulation.

4 Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 241,24.06.2022, p.29.

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– Talpa Network is a Netherlands-based media company with subsidiaries in the Netherlands that broadcast TV and radio channels, that operate various online platforms and that publish magazines and games.

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(c) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004.[5]

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

5 OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.