Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.10487 — CDPQ/Investcorp/ICR)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2021/C 414/05)

1. On 1 October 2021, 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:

— Caisse de dépôt et placement de Québec ('CDPQ', Canada),

— Investcorp Holdings B.S.C. ('Investcorp', Kingdom of Bahrain),

— ICR OPCO, LLC ('ICR', USA).

CDPQ and Investcorp acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of ICR.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of securities.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for CDPQ: long-term institutional investor managing funds primarily for public and parapublic pension and insurance plans. It invests these funds globally in major financial markets, private equity, infrastructure, and real estate,

— for Investcorp: international financial institution acting as a principal and as an intermediary in international investment transactions,

— for ICR: strategic communication and advise, specialized in investor relations, public relations, crisis and special situations communications, digital branding, and capital advisory solutions.

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.10487 — CDPQ/Investcorp/ICR

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

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

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