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PUBLIC VERSION

Groep Vanden Avenne Commodities NV
Engelse Wandeling 2-F3
8500 Kortrijk
Belgium

Alcogroup SA
Boulevard du Souverain 100 Bte 9
1170 Brussels
Belgium

Subject: **Case M.11758 – VANDEN AVENNE / ALCOGROUP / IGPC**
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 14 October 2024, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which the undertakings Groep Vanden Avenne Commodities NV ('Vanden Avenne', Belgium) and Alcogroup SA ('Alcogroup', Belgium) intend to acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the undertaking Integrated Grain Processors Co-operative Inc. ('IGPC', Canada), by way of purchase of shares.[3]

(2) The business activities of the undertakings concerned are the following:

– Vanden Avenne supplies vegetable primary materials (including processed vegetable primary materials) to the feed, food and biofuel industries in the EEA. Vanden Avenne is also active in grain storage,

– Alcogroup distributes bioethanol for fuel and industrial applications in Europe.

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 OJ C, C/2024/6317, 21.10.2024.

– IGPC produces and supplies bioethanol for fuel purposes and by-products (such as CO_2 and animal feed). IGPC has one production site in Canada and primarily sells its production in Canada.

(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 (a) of the Commission Notice on a simplified treatment for certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004.[4]

(4) For the reasons set out in the Notice on a simplified treatment, 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

4 OJ C 160, 5.5.2023, p. 1 (the 'Notice on a simplified treatment').