V

(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case M.9909 – ISTA International/Aareal Bank/Objego)
Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2020/C 293/04)

1. On 26 August 2020, 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:

— ISTA International GmbH ('ISTA International', Germany), controlled by CK Hutchison Holdings Limited and CK Assets Holdings Limited (both Hong Kong/Cayman Islands),

— Aareal Bank AG ('Aareal Bank', Germany),

— Objego GmbH ('Objego', Germany), controlled by ISTA International.

ISTA International and Aareal Bank acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of Objego.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— ISTA International: submetering and related services in Germany, France and Denmark,

— Aareal Bank: real estate financing and related services along with software solutions for real estate undertakings,

— Objego: development and operation of a digital platform providing and arranging services in the real estate and energy sectors and related service sectors.

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 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.9909 – ISTA International/Aareal Bank/Objego

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

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email, by fax, or by post. Please use the contact details below:

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