EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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PUBLIC VERSION

To the notifying party

Subject: **Case M.9117 - SAUDI ARAMCO / ARLANXEO**
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 2 October 2018, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which the undertaking Saudi Arabian Oil Company (the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) ('Saudi Aramco'), through its wholly-owned subsidiary Aramco Overseas Holdings Coöperatief U.A. (the Netherlands), acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of the undertaking Arlanxeo Holding B.V. (the Netherlands) ('Arlanxeo') by way of purchase of shares.[3]

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

   – Saudi Aramco is engaged in the exploration, production and marketing of crude oil and in the product and marketing of refined products.

   – Arlanxeo is a specialty chemicals company that produces and offers a broad range of synthetic rubbers products.

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(d) of

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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 Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 365, 9.10.2018, p. 4.

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

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)

Johannes LAITENBERGER
Director-General

4 OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.