EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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PUBLIC VERSION

EQT Fund Management S.à r.l.
26A, Boulevard Royal
L-2449 Luxembourg
Luxembourg

Subject: **Case M.10278 – EQT / CERBA**
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 19 May 2021, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which the undertaking EQT Fund Management S.à r.l. ("EQT", Luxembourg) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of the undertaking Cerba Group ("Cerba", France) by way of purchase of shares.[3]

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

   – for EQT: investment fund manager for the investment fund EQT IX, which seeks to make investments primarily in Europe. The EQT funds' portfolio companies are active in a variety of industries and sectors, including in the pharmaceutical sector, in elderly care and veterinary services,

   – for Cerba: global and diversified laboratory services company operating within clinical pathology in France and internationally. It is currently active in 40 countries across five continents. Cerba is active in three main business lines: (i) specialty testing; (ii) routine testing and; and (iii) clinical trial. It also offers veterinary biology and well-being services.

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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 201, 28.5.2021, p. 15.

Commission européenne, DG COMP MERGER REGISTRY, 1049 Bruxelles, BELGIQUE
Europese Commissie, DG COMP MERGER REGISTRY, 1049 Brussel, BELGIË

Tel: +32 229-91111. Fax: +32 229-64301. E-mail: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu.

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(b) of 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)
Olivier GUERSENT
Director-General

4 OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.