C/2024/6125

9.10.2024

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.11712 – WATERLAND / LEBARA)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(C/2024/6125)

1. On 23 September 2024, 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:

— Waterland Private Equity Investments B.V. ('Waterland', the Netherlands),

— Lebara Group B.V. ('Lebara', the Netherlands).

Waterland will acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of Lebara.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are the following:

— Waterland: independent private equity investment group which controls Nuts Groep B.V. and Enreach Holding B.V., both offering mobile virtual network operator services to consumers and business customers respectively as part of their broader offerings.

— Lebara: a mobile virtual network operator active in the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Denmark, France and Germany.

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 treatment for certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 on the control of concentrations between undertakings ([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.11712 – WATERLAND / LEBARA

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

Email: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').
([2]) OJ C 160, 5.5.2023, p. 1.

Postal address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË