EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 11.7.2024
C(2024) 5031 final

PUBLIC VERSION

KKR & Co. Inc.
30 Hudson Yards
New York, NY 10001
United States of America

Subject: **Case M.11576 – KKR / NEXEYE**
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 June 2024, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which the undertaking KKR & Co. Inc. ('KKR', United States), intends to acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control over the undertaking Nexeye Holding B.V. ('Nexeye', the Netherlands), by way of purchase of shares.[3]

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

– KKR is a global investment firm that offers alternative asset management as well as capital markets and insurance solutions,

– Nexeye is an optical and hearing aids retailer headquartered in the Netherlands, with activities in Austria, Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, and Sweden. Nexeye consists of three value-for-money options brands (Hans Anders, Eyes + More, and Direkt Optik), operating in the five EEA Member States.

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

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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 OJ C, C/2024/4140, 27.6.2024.

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

(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