V

(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.10646 – Microsoft / Activision Blizzard)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2022/C 386/06)

1. On 30 September 2022, 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:

— Microsoft Corporation ('Microsoft', US),

— Activision Blizzard, Inc. ('Activision Blizzard', US).

Microsoft will acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of Activision Blizzard.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

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

— for Microsoft: a global technology company offering a wide range of products and services to customers through the following operating segments: Productivity and Business Processes; Intelligent Cloud; and More Personal Computing. Through its Gaming Business, Microsoft is active as a developer and publisher of games for personal computers ('**PCs**'), game consoles and mobile devices and is active as a distributor of games for PCs and consoles. Further, Microsoft offers the Xbox gaming console and related services;

— for Activision Blizzard: a developer and publisher of games for PCs, game consoles and mobile devices and a distributor of games for PCs.

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.

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.10646 – Microsoft / Activision Blizzard

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email, by fax, 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').