EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 24.1.2020
C(2020) 493 final

PUBLIC VERSION

To the notifying parties

Subject: **Case M.9688 – CINVEN / ASTORG / LGC SCIENCE GROUP**
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 December 2019, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which the undertakings Cinven Capital Management (VII) General Partner Limited ('Cinven', UK), and Astorg Asset Management S.à r.l. ('Astorg', Luxembourg), acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control over the whole of the undertaking LGC Science Group Holdings Limited ('LGC', UK) by way of purchase of shares.[3]

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

   – Cinven is a European private equity business engaged in the provision of investment management and investment advisory services to a number of investment funds,

   – Astorg is an independent European private equity firm with over EUR 8 billion of assets under management, and

   – LGC is the parent undertaking of a group of companies engaged in the provision of measurement tools, proficiency testing schemes, supply chain assurance standards, genomics reagents and instrumentation and research and measurement 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 5, 09.01.2020, p. 3.

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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(c) 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.