Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.9677 – DIC/BASF Colors & Effects)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2020/C 177/04)

1. On 15 May 2020, 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:

— The DIC Corporation ('DIC', Japan),

— BASF Colors & Effects ('BCE', Germany), controlled by BASF SE,

DIC acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of BCE.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for DIC: the production and sale of printing inks, organic pigments and synthetic resins. As regards pigments and other colourants, DIC is mainly active through its wholly-owned subsidiary Sun Chemical Corporation,

— for BCE: the production and sale of pigments and other colourants.

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.9677 – DIC/BASF Colors & Effects

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

Fax +32 22964301

Postal address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
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([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').