

Official Journal of the European Union

C 67



English edition

Information and Notices

Volume 60

3 March 2017

Contents

II *Information*

INFORMATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

European Commission

2017/C 67/01	Non-opposition to a notified concentration (Case M.8290 — Fairfax/AIG Target Portfolio) ⁽¹⁾	1
2017/C 67/02	Non-opposition to a notified concentration (Case M.8369 — KKR/Hitachi Koki) ⁽¹⁾	1

IV *Notices*

NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

European Commission

2017/C 67/03	Euro exchange rates	2
2017/C 67/04	Opinion of the Advisory Committee on restrictive agreements and dominant positions at its meeting on 8 March 2016 concerning a draft decision relating to Case AT.39965(1) — Mushrooms — Rapporteur: France	3
2017/C 67/05	Opinion of the Advisory Committee on restrictive agreements and dominant positions at its meeting on 4 April 2016 concerning a draft decision relating to Case AT.39965(2) — Mushrooms — Rapporteur: France	3

EN

⁽¹⁾ Text with EEA relevance.

2017/C 67/06	Final Report of the Hearing Officer — Mushrooms (Riberebro) (AT.39965)	4
2017/C 67/07	Summary of Commission Decision of 6 April 2016 relating to a proceeding under Article 101 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and Article 53 of the EEA Agreement (Case AT.39965 — Mushrooms) (<i>notified under document C(2016) 1933</i>)	5

V Announcements

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

European Commission

2017/C 67/08	Call for proposals — EACEA 08/2017 — EU Aid Volunteers initiative: Projects for deployment of senior and junior EU Aid Volunteers to support and complement humanitarian aid in third countries, with a focus on strengthening the capacity and resilience of vulnerable and disaster affected communities and implementing organisations	8
2017/C 67/09	Call for proposals — EACEA 09/2017 — EU Aid Volunteers initiative: Technical Assistance for sending organisations — Capacity Building for humanitarian aid of hosting organisations	12

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMON COMMERCIAL POLICY

European Commission

2017/C 67/10	Notice of initiation of a partial interim review of the anti-dumping and countervailing measures applicable to imports of crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules and key components (i.e. cells) originating in or consigned from the People's Republic of China	16
--------------	--	----

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

European Commission

2017/C 67/11	Prior notification of a concentration (Case M.8261 — Lanxess/Chemtura) ⁽¹⁾	20
2017/C 67/12	Prior notification of a concentration (Case M.8395 — Bridgepoint/Zenith) — Candidate case for simplified procedure ⁽¹⁾	21

⁽¹⁾ Text with EEA relevance.

II

*(Information)*INFORMATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES
AND AGENCIES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Non-opposition to a notified concentration**(Case M.8290 — Fairfax/AIG Target Portfolio)****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2017/C 67/01)

On 27 February 2017, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the internal market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾. The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- in the merger section of the Competition website of the Commission (<http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/cases/>). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,
- in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html?locale=en>) under document number 32017M8290. EUR-Lex is the online access to European law.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

Non-opposition to a notified concentration**(Case M.8369 — KKR/Hitachi Koki)****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2017/C 67/02)

On 21 February 2017, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the internal market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾. The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- in the merger section of the Competition website of the Commission (<http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/cases/>). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,
- in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html?locale=en>) under document number 32017M8369. EUR-Lex is the online access to European law.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

IV

(Notices)

NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND
AGENCIES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates ⁽¹⁾

2 March 2017

(2017/C 67/03)

1 euro =

Currency	Exchange rate	Currency	Exchange rate
USD US dollar	1,0514	CAD Canadian dollar	1,4069
JPY Japanese yen	120,24	HKD Hong Kong dollar	8,1622
DKK Danish krone	7,4336	NZD New Zealand dollar	1,4823
GBP Pound sterling	0,85560	SGD Singapore dollar	1,4840
SEK Swedish krona	9,5195	KRW South Korean won	1 204,29
CHF Swiss franc	1,0651	ZAR South African rand	13,7799
ISK Iceland króna		CNY Chinese yuan renminbi	7,2399
NOK Norwegian krone	8,8830	HRK Croatian kuna	7,4193
BGN Bulgarian lev	1,9558	IDR Indonesian rupiah	14 045,13
CZK Czech koruna	27,021	MYR Malaysian ringgit	4,6777
HUF Hungarian forint	308,33	PHP Philippine peso	52,997
PLN Polish zloty	4,2941	RUB Russian rouble	61,6805
RON Romanian leu	4,5220	THB Thai baht	36,804
TRY Turkish lira	3,8972	BRL Brazilian real	3,2687
AUD Australian dollar	1,3840	MXN Mexican peso	20,9495
		INR Indian rupee	70,2000

⁽¹⁾ Source: reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

Opinion of the Advisory Committee on restrictive agreements and dominant positions at its meeting on 8 March 2016 concerning a draft decision relating to Case AT.39965(1) — Mushrooms

Rapporteur: France

(2017/C 67/04)

1. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission that the anticompetitive behaviour covered by the draft decision constitutes agreements and/or concerted practices between undertakings within the meaning of Article 101 of the TFEU and Article 53 of the EEA Agreement.
2. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission that the undertaking concerned by the draft decision has participated in a single and continuous infringement of Article 101 of the TFEU and Article 53 of the EEA Agreement.
3. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission that the object of the agreements and/or concerted practices was to restrict competition within the meaning of Article 101 of the TFEU and Article 53 of the EEA Agreement.
4. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission that the agreements and/or concerted practices have been capable of appreciably affecting trade between the Member States of the EU and EEA.
5. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission's assessment as regards the duration of the infringement.
6. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission as regards the addressees of the decision.
7. The Advisory Committee recommends the publication of its Opinion in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Opinion of the Advisory Committee on restrictive agreements and dominant positions at its meeting on 4 April 2016 concerning a draft decision relating to Case AT.39965(2) — Mushrooms

Rapporteur: France

(2017/C 67/05)

1. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission that a fine should be imposed on the addressees of the draft decision.
 2. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission on the determination of the value of sales.
 3. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission on the basic amounts of the fine.
 4. The Advisory Committee agrees with the determination of the duration for the purpose of calculating the fine.
 5. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission that there are no mitigating/aggravating circumstances applicable in this case.
 6. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission as regards the reduction of the fine based on the 2006 Leniency Notice.
 7. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission's assessment of the Inability to Pay request.
 8. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Commission on the final amount of the fine.
 9. The Advisory Committee recommends the publication of its Opinion in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.
-

Final Report of the Hearing Officer ⁽¹⁾**Mushrooms (Riberebro)****(AT.39965)**

(2017/C 67/06)

This case concerns an infringement of Article 101 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and Article 53 of the EEA Agreement consisting of price coordination and customer allocation for canned mushrooms throughout the EEA between 1 September 2010 and 28 February 2012. The Commission has already adopted, on 25 June 2014, a decision addressed to the eight legal entities (constituting three undertakings) which opted for the cartel settlement procedure ⁽²⁾. The present draft decision is addressed to Grupo Riberebro Integral S.L. and Riberebro Integral S.A.U. (together 'Riberebro'), which did not introduce settlement submissions.

On 27 May 2015, the Commission adopted a statement of objections ('SO') against Riberebro, which was notified to Riberebro the following day. Riberebro was provided on 3 June 2015 with a CD-ROM containing the written documents of the Commission's investigation file, and was granted a time limit of six weeks to reply to the SO.

In its response to the SO, Riberebro stated that it did not contest the description of the facts nor the legal assessment made by the Commission in the SO, but it made submissions as to the appropriate level of the fine. Riberebro did not request an oral hearing.

Pursuant to Article 16 of Decision 2011/695/EU, I have examined whether the draft decision deals only with objections in respect of which Riberebro has been afforded the opportunity of making known its views. I conclude that it does.

In view of the above, and taking into account that Riberebro has not addressed any requests or complaints to me, I consider that the effective exercise of Riberebro's procedural rights has been respected.

Brussels, 4 April 2016.

Wouter WILS

⁽¹⁾ Pursuant to Articles 16 and 17 of Decision 2011/695/EU of the President of the European Commission of 13 October 2011 on the function and terms of reference of the hearing officer in certain competition proceedings (OJ L 275, 20.10.2011, p. 29).

⁽²⁾ See Commission Decision C(2014) 4227 final of 25 June 2014, Summary publication (OJ C 453, 17.12.2014, p. 21), and Final Report of the Hearing Officer (OJ C 453, 17.12.2014, p. 20).

Summary of Commission Decision
of 6 April 2016
relating to a proceeding under Article 101 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union
and Article 53 of the EEA Agreement
(Case AT.39965 — Mushrooms)
(notified under document C(2016) 1933)
(Only the English text is authentic)
(2017/C 67/07)

On 6 April 2016, the Commission adopted a decision relating to a proceeding under Article 101 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and Article 53 of the EEA agreement]. In accordance with the provisions of Article 30 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2003 ⁽¹⁾, the Commission herewith publishes the names of the parties and the main content of the decision, including any penalties imposed, having regard to the legitimate interest of undertakings in the protection of their business secrets.

1. INTRODUCTION

- (1) This Decision concerns a single and continuous infringement of Article 101 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (the Treaty) and Article 53 of the Agreement on the European Economic Area (the EEA Agreement). The infringement, in which the addressees Grupo Riberebro Integral S.L. and Riberebro Integral S.A.U. (hereinafter together referred to as 'Riberebro') participated together with other undertakings, consisted of price coordination and customer allocation for mushrooms sold in cans and jars (hereinafter referred to as 'canned mushrooms') and lasted at least from 1 September 2010 to 28 February 2012.
- (2) The anticompetitive conduct concerned by the present proceedings relates to canned mushrooms in tins and jars. The cartel identified in these proceedings covered the private label sales via tender procedures to retailers and the food service channel.
- (3) This Decision follows a Decision adopted under the settlement procedure against the other undertakings in the cartel.

2. CASE DESCRIPTION

2.1. Procedure

- (4) The Case started end 2011 on the basis of an immunity application under the Commission notice on immunity from fines and reduction of fines in cartel cases ⁽²⁾. The Commission carried out inspections under Article 20(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1/2003 at the premises of various mushroom producers in France, the Netherlands and Spain, and sent them thereafter several requests for information under Article 18 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2003.
- (5) On 21 May 2012 Riberebro submitted a leniency application.
- (6) On 9 April 2013, the Commission initiated proceedings pursuant to Article 11(6) of Regulation (EC) No 1/2003 against Bonduelle, Lutèce, Prochamp and Riberebro, with a view to engaging in settlement discussions ⁽³⁾. The Commission also announced its intention to grant Riberebro a reduction of the fine for its leniency cooperation within the range of 30-50 % foreseen in the Leniency Notice.
- (7) Subsequently, all parties, except Riberebro, submitted to the Commission their formal request to settle pursuant to Article 10a(2) of Regulation (EC) No 773/2004 ⁽⁴⁾.
- (8) On 25 June 2014, the Commission adopted a Settlement Decision addressed to the settling parties holding them liable for their respective conduct in this case ⁽⁵⁾.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 1, 4.1.2003, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ Commission notice on immunity from fines and reduction of fines in cartel cases (OJ C 298, 8.12.2006, p. 17).

⁽³⁾ Article 10a(2) of Regulation (EC) No 773/2004.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 123, 27.4.2004, p. 18.

⁽⁵⁾ Commission Decision C(2014) 4227 final of 25 June 2014 (OJ C 453, 17.12.2014, p. 21).

- (9) On 27 May 2015, the Commission adopted a Statement of Objections under the normal procedural rules addressed to Riberebro. Subsequently, the Commission gave Riberebro access to the accessible parts of the Commission's investigation file. On 17 July 2015, Riberebro replied to the Statement of Objections stating that it does not contest the description of the facts and the legal assessment set out therein and provided comments with regard to its cooperation under the Leniency Notice. Riberebro did not request an Oral Hearing.
- (10) On 4 April 2016 the Advisory Committee on Restrictive Practices and Dominant Positions issued a favourable opinion and the Commission adopted the Decision against Riberebro on 6 April 2016.

2.2. Summary of the infringement

- (11) The overall aim of this cartel was to stabilise the market shares for canned mushrooms and stop the decline of prices in the EEA with focus on Western European countries. The cartel was a non-aggression pact with a compensation scheme in case of customer transfer and application of minimum prices which had been agreed beforehand.
- (12) To achieve this aim, Riberebro participated in numerous regular multilateral meetings with its competitors and occasionally had additional contacts on a bilateral basis. In these contacts, Riberebro exchanged confidential information with its competitors on tenders, participated in the setting of minimum prices, and agreed on volume targets and customer allocations.
- (13) The Commission considers that Riberebro participated in a single and continuous infringement of Article 101 of the Treaty and Article 53 of the EEA Agreement from at least 1 September 2010 to 28 February 2012.
- (14) The evidence shows that Riberebro pursued with the contacts the same anti-competitive objective and economic aim as the other parties in the cartel, namely that of stabilising market shares for canned mushrooms and stopping the decline of prices.
- (15) The geographic scope of the conduct was EEA-wide – with focus on Western European countries.

2.3. Addressees

- (16) Grupo Riberebro Integral S.L. and Riberebro Integral S.A.U. are held jointly and severally liable for the undertaking's involvement in the infringement. Riberebro Integral S.A.U. was the main entity for the sales of canned mushrooms within the undertaking and it was a wholly owned subsidiary of Grupo Riberebro Integral S.L., the top legal entity of the undertaking.

2.4. Remedies

- (17) The Commission applies the 2006 Guidelines on Fines⁽¹⁾.

2.4.1. Basic amount of the fine

- (18) In setting the fines, the Commission took into account the value of Riberebro's sales of canned mushrooms in the last full business year of its participation in the infringement, namely 2011.
- (19) The basic amount of the fine is set at 17 % of the value of sales, as defined above, to reflect the nature, the geographic scope and the fact that the infringement has been thoroughly implemented. This basic amount is multiplied by the duration of participation in the infringement (1 September 2010 to 28 February 2012). An additional amount of 17 % of the value of sales is added to deter the undertaking from entering a cartel.

2.4.2. Application of the 10 % turnover limit

- (20) The fine does not exceed 10 % of Riberebro's total turnover in 2015.

2.4.3. Application of the 2006 Leniency Notice: reduction of fines

- (21) The Commission grants Riberebro a 50 % reduction of the fine as it was the first undertaking to meet the requirements of points 24 and 25 of Leniency Notice and its cooperation substantially strengthened the Commission's ability to prove the case.

⁽¹⁾ Guidelines on the method of setting fines imposed pursuant to Article 23(2)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 1/2003 (OJ C 210, 1.9.2006, p. 2).

2.4.4. *Ability to pay (ITP) the fine*

- (22) Based on point 35 of the Guidelines on fines, the Commission analysed and rejected Riberebro's claims for inability to pay.

3. **CONCLUSION**

- (23) The fine pursuant to Article 23(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1/2003 imposed on Grupo Riberebro Integral S.L. and Riberebro Integral S.A.U. jointly and severally is EUR 5 194 000.
-

V

(Announcements)

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

CALL FOR PROPOSALS — EACEA 08/2017

EU Aid Volunteers initiative: Projects for deployment of senior and junior EU Aid Volunteers to support and complement humanitarian aid in third countries, with a focus on strengthening the capacity and resilience of vulnerable and disaster affected communities and implementing organisations

(2017/C 67/08)

The Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council establishing the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps — EU Aid Volunteers (hereinafter referred to as ‘the EU Aid Volunteers initiative’) ⁽¹⁾ and related legislation ⁽²⁾ establish a framework for joint contributions from European volunteers to support and complement humanitarian aid in third countries.

The present call for proposals will provide funding to support actions aimed at deployment of EU Aid Volunteers to support and complement humanitarian aid in third countries in projects focusing on disaster risk reduction, disaster preparedness and linking relief rehabilitation and development.

1. Objectives

The objective of the call is to fund projects involving the deployment of EU Aid Volunteers. These projects will contribute to strengthening the Union's capacity to provide needs-based humanitarian aid aimed at strengthening the capacity and resilience of vulnerable and disaster-affected communities in third countries by focusing on disaster preparedness, disaster risk reduction and enhancing the link between relief, rehabilitation and development (LRRD). In addition, these projects may also strengthen the capacities of implementing sending and hosting organisations participating or intending to participate in the EU Aid Volunteers initiative, including in tools and methods of early warning for disasters.

With this call the European Commission expects to achieve the following results:

- 525 junior/senior volunteers deployed to communities in vulnerable and disaster-affected third countries,
- for junior professionals: possibility to take part in apprenticeship placements in EU before deployment,
- opportunities for online volunteering to support or complement the project activities,
- projects funded under this call provide synergies and complementarity to EU-funded operations in humanitarian aid or civil protection in the respective countries/regions.

2. Eligible bodies

All organisations involved in the project will be referred to hereafter as the ‘consortium’.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 April 2014 establishing the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps (‘EU Aid Volunteers Initiative’) (OJ L 122, 24.4.2014, p. 1).

⁽²⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1244/2014 of 20 November 2014 laying down rules for the implementation of Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps (‘EU Aid Volunteers initiative’) (OJ L 334, 21.11.2014, p. 52) and Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1398/2014 of 24 October 2014 laying down standards regarding candidate volunteers and EU Aid Volunteers (OJ L 373, 31.12.2014, p. 8).

All applicants involved in applying within this call, and acting as either sending or hosting organisations, must be certified under the EU Aid Volunteers initiative. Details about the certification mechanism can be found at:

https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/eu-aid-volunteers/funding/certification-mechanism-for-sending-and-hosting-organisations_en

The organisation applying on behalf of all applicants (coordinator) must be a certified EU sending organisation under the EU Aid Volunteers initiative.

The remaining applicants are either certified sending or certified hosting organisations under the EU Aid Volunteers initiative.

Project proposals involving sending and hosting organisations that have applied for certification before the deadline for submitting applications (Section 8) will be included in the eligibility check and evaluation phases. However the selection of these project proposals would be subject to the outcome of the certification process.

In order to maximise the chance that the decision on your application is taken in due time, it is highly recommended to apply for certification on or before **12 May 2017**.

A project consortium must involve at least two certified sending organisations from two different countries and two certified hosting organisations.

Non-certified organisations specialised in any areas relevant to the objectives or the actions of the project may be involved as partner in the consortium in order to contribute with their specific expertise (Article 8(3) Delegated Regulation). Such organisations have to meet the criteria as defined in the Regulation, Article 10(3) or Article 10(4).

3. Eligible activities

Activities supported under this call must include:

Deployment of senior and junior EU Aid Volunteers to humanitarian aid projects in the area of disaster risk reduction, preparedness and LRRD in third countries based on identified needs. This includes selection, recruitment and preparation of EU Aid Volunteers and communication activities in compliance with the Communication Plan of the EU Aid Volunteers initiative.

Activities to support the implementation of the main action may include:

- apprenticeship placements for junior volunteers in EU sending organisations,
- capacity building of vulnerable, disaster affected communities and local organisations,
- capacity building of hosting organisations,
- technical assistance for sending organisations,
- activities to promote involvement of online volunteers as well as employee volunteers to support the actions of the EU Aid Volunteers.

Project activities may include:

- information, communication and public awareness,
- hazard, risk analysis and early warning,
- contingency planning and preparedness for response,
- protection of livelihoods, assets and small scale mitigation works.

Activities within capacity building and technical assistance may include:

- activities to build/strengthen capacities,
- study/scoping visits to refine and finalise needs assessment of the action,
- seminars and workshops,
- job-shadowing,
- twinning arrangements and exchange of staff,

- exchange of knowledge, organisational learning and good practice,
- study visits,
- activities to foster partnership building,
- activities to assist organisations in meeting the Core Humanitarian Standards,
- activities to strengthen regional cooperation,
- (only for technical assistance) Coaching and mentoring of key sending organisation paid staff and volunteers,
- (only for capacity building) Training courses for third country trainers/coaches/mentors/multipliers,
- (only for capacity building) Study visits of up to 3 months for key paid staff or volunteers from third countries to be based in EU applicant/partner organisations.

Capacity building activities should be undertaken by senior volunteers or junior volunteers with significant experience in capacity building and supervised by a senior professional.

Online volunteering activities should be related to the project and shall be implemented via the EU Aid Volunteers Platform managed by the Commission.

4. Eligible candidate volunteers

Sending and hosting organisations shall adhere to the standards and procedures regarding candidate volunteers and EU Aid Volunteers as provided by Regulation (EU) No 375/2014, Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1398/2014 and Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1244/2014.

The following persons having a minimum age of 18 years shall be eligible to apply as candidate volunteers:

- citizens of the European Union, and
- third country nationals who are long-term residents in a Member State.

Candidate volunteers can be:

- junior professionals, in particular recent graduates with less than five years' professional experience and less than five years' experience in humanitarian action,
- and
- senior professionals with five years' professional experience in positions of responsibility or expert positions.

Selection of candidate volunteers is undertaken by sending and hosting organisations in conformity with Implementing Regulation (Chapter 2). Selected candidate volunteers must participate in the mandatory training programme provided within the EU Aid Volunteers initiative⁽¹⁾. Only those candidate volunteers who successfully pass this training and assessment will be eligible for deployment as EU Aid Volunteers.

In addition, junior candidate EU Aid Volunteers who will be required by sending and hosting organisations to undertake an apprenticeship placement must also successfully pass this training and assessment.

Training courses for EU Aid Volunteers selected under this call for proposals will take place between April and July 2018. When planning activities, applicants to this call for proposals must take these dates into account when planning their workflow and timetable (i.e. advertising of deployment vacancies; shortlisting candidate volunteers for potential deployment; online training of candidates for at least 2 weeks; on-site training of candidate volunteers over 10-12 days; start of apprenticeship/deployment placements). Organisations should therefore be ready to publish their vacancies at least 3 months ahead of the start of the training course.

5. Eligible activity venue and timeframe

Apprenticeship placements prior to deployment (only for junior volunteers) must take place in one of the sending organisations participating in the project for a maximum duration of 6 months, where possible in a country other than their country of origin.

⁽¹⁾ For more information, please consult the call for tenders EU Aid Volunteers initiative: training programme and training of candidate volunteers, 2015/S 069-122685.

Deployment placements can range between 1 month as a minimum and 18 months as a maximum.

An indicative list of third countries for 2017 for deployments and capacity building in third countries has been defined prior to the call according to a needs assessment methodology similar to that for humanitarian aid actions but excluding areas with ongoing armed conflict. This list plus details of the methodology can be found under the following link: https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/eu-aid-volunteers/funding_en

This list can be modified due to the events that could endanger the security and safety of volunteers.

The project activities can take place beyond the partner countries as long as the countries concerned are also on the list of countries mentioned above.

Projects must start on 1 December 2017 with a maximum duration of 24 months.

Applications for projects scheduled to run for longer periods than that specified in this call for proposals will not be accepted.

However, if after the signing of the agreement and the start of the project it becomes impossible for the beneficiary, for fully justified reasons, to complete the project within the scheduled period, an extension of the eligibility period may be granted.

A maximum extension of three additional months can be granted, if requested before the deadline specified in the agreement. The maximum duration will then be 27 months.

6. Award criteria

Eligible applications will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

- relevance of the project (maximum 30 points),
- quality of the project design and implementation (maximum 30 points),
- quality and relevance of the partnership and cooperation arrangements (maximum 20 points),
- impact and dissemination (maximum 20 points).

Projects scoring less than 60 overall points will not be considered for funding.

7. Budget available

The total budget earmarked for the co-financing of projects is estimated at EUR 12 600 000.

The maximum grant will be EUR 1 400 000. Grant requests below EUR 100 000 will not be considered for funding. The Education, Audiovisual and Cultural Executive Agency (EACEA) expects to fund 12 proposals.

The EACEA reserves the right not to distribute all the funds available.

8. Deadline for submission of applications

Grant applications must be drawn up in one of the EU official languages, using the electronic application form (eForm) specifically designed for this purpose. The e-Form is presented at the following address: https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/documents/eforms_en

The electronic application form duly completed must be submitted by **12.00 (midday, Brussels time) on 6 June 2017**.

9. Additional information

Applications must comply with the provisions contained in the application guidelines — Call for proposals EACEA 08/2017, be submitted on the e-Form provided for this purpose and contain the relevant annexes.

The documents can be found at the following address:

https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/eu-aid-volunteers/funding_en

In case of questions, please contact: EACEA-EUAID-VOLUNTEERS@ec.europa.eu

CALL FOR PROPOSALS — EACEA 09/2017**EU Aid Volunteers initiative: Technical Assistance for sending organisations****Capacity Building for humanitarian aid of hosting organisations**

(2017/C 67/09)

Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 April 2014 establishing the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps — 'EU Aid Volunteers initiative' ⁽¹⁾ (hereinafter referred to as 'the EU Aid Volunteers initiative') establishes a framework for joint contributions from European volunteers to support and complement humanitarian aid in third countries.

In this framework, the present call for proposals will provide funding through support for actions aimed at strengthening the capacity of prospective hosting organisations to prepare and respond to humanitarian crises. In addition it will provide support for actions aimed at strengthening the technical capacity of prospective sending organisations to participate in the EU Aid Volunteers initiative.

1. Objective

The objective of this call is to strengthen the capacities of sending and hosting organisations intending to participate in the EU Aid Volunteers initiative and to ensure compliance with the standards and procedures regarding candidate volunteers and EU Aid Volunteers in order to apply for certification which is required in order to deploy EU Aid Volunteers.

With this call, the European Commission expects to achieve the following results:

Capacities of around 110 sending and hosting organisations are strengthened in areas such as:

- Disaster risk management, preparedness and response;
- Linking relief, rehabilitation and development (LRRD);
- Strengthening local volunteering in third countries;
- Capacities to undergo certification including administrative capacity;
- Capacity to provide early warning to local communities.

2. Eligible criteria**2.1. Eligible bodies**

The organisation applying on behalf of all applicants (the coordinator) will be legally responsible for the Consortium in its contractual relationship with the Agency.

Proposals for both, Technical assistance and Capacity building activities, must be submitted by:

- non-governmental not-for-profit organisations formed in accordance with the law of a Member State and whose headquarters are located within the Union; or
- public law bodies of a civilian character governed by the law of a Member State; or
- the International Federation of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Only applications from legal entities established in the following countries are eligible:

- the Member States of the European Union: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom.

For both Technical Assistance and Capacity Building activities, the coordinator in each project is active in the field of humanitarian aid as defined in Article 3(d) of the Regulation ⁽²⁾ for at least 3 years;

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 122, 24.4.2014, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ 'Humanitarian aid' means activities and operations in third countries intended to provide needs-based emergency assistance aimed at preserving life, preventing and alleviating human suffering, and maintaining human dignity in the face of man-made crises or natural disasters. It encompasses assistance, relief and protection operations in humanitarian crises or their immediate aftermath, supporting measures to ensure access to people in need and to facilitate the free flow of assistance, as well as actions aimed at reinforcing disaster preparedness and disaster risk reduction, and contributing towards strengthening resilience and capacity to cope with, and recover from, crises.

Applicants may submit projects for both Technical Assistance and Capacity Building. In this case, applicants shall indicate in their application that they apply for both actions.

2.1.1. *For Technical Assistance*

The applicants shall belong to any of the following categories:

- non-governmental not-for-profit organisations formed in accordance with the law of a Member State and whose headquarters are located within the Union, or
- public law bodies of a civilian character, or
- the International Federation of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Projects are designed and implemented by transnational consortia involving entities from at least three countries participating in the programme and belonging to one of the categories mentioned in Article 10(3)(c) of the Regulation;

At least the coordinator or one applicant in each project must have been active in the field of volunteer management for at least 3 years.

2.1.2. *For Capacity Building*

The applicants shall belong to any of the following categories:

- non-governmental not-for-profit organisations operating or established in a third country under the laws in force in that country, or
- public law bodies of a civilian character, or
- international agencies and organisations which cannot act as the coordinator and must be from a third country.

Projects are designed and implemented by transnational partnerships involving entities from at least two countries participating in the programme belonging to one of the categories mentioned in the Regulation (Article 10(3)(c)) and at least two third countries in which humanitarian aid activities and operations as per Article (3)(d) take place and which belong to one of the categories mentioned under Article 10(4)(c).

- In each project, the coordinator and at least one applicant from a country participating in the programme must have been active in the field of humanitarian aid as defined in Article 3(d) of the Regulation for at least 3 years.
- In each project, at least one applicant from third countries in which humanitarian aid activities and operations take place is active in the field of humanitarian aid as defined in Article 3(d) of the Regulation.
- At least the coordinator or one applicant from a country participating in the programme in each project must have been active in the field of volunteer management for at least 3 years.

3. **Eligible activities**

Eligible activities include:

- Study/scoping visits to refine and finalise needs assessment of the action;
- Activities to build/strengthen capacities;
- Seminars and workshops;
- Job shadowing;
- Twinning arrangements and exchange of staff;
- Exchange of knowledge, organisational learning and good practices;
- Study visits;
- Activities to foster partnership building;

- Activities to assist organisations in meeting the Core Humanitarian Standards;
- Activities to strengthen regional cooperation;
- Development of, and managing online volunteer opportunities.

Additional eligible activities per sub-action:

- *Technical Assistance*
 - Coaching/mentoring of key sending organisation paid staff and volunteers;
- *Capacity Building*
 - Training courses for third country trainers/coaches/mentors/multipliers;
 - Study visits of up to 3 months for key paid staff or volunteers from third countries to be based in European applicant/partner organisations;
- *Technical capacity building on humanitarian operations focusing on:*
 - Needs assessment methodologies/information management;
 - Disaster risk management;
 - Disaster risk reduction/disaster preparedness;
 - Crisis response (and related sectors);
 - Linking relief, rehabilitation and development;
 - Resilience and climate change adaptation.

4. Award criteria

Eligible applications will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

- Relevance of the project (maximum 30 points)
- Quality of the project design and implementation (maximum 30 points)
- Quality and relevance of the partnership and cooperation arrangements (maximum 20 points)
- Impact and dissemination (maximum 20 points)

Projects scoring less than 60 overall points will not be considered for funding.

All projects, regardless whether they cover capacity building or technical assistance will be ranked according to the number of points they reach.

5. Budget available

The total budget earmarked for the co-financing of projects is estimated at EUR 7 607 000.

The maximum grant will be EUR 700 000. Each grant will amount to between EUR 100 000 and EUR 700 000.

The Agency expects to fund 22 proposals.

The Agency reserves the right not to distribute all the funds available.

6. Deadline for submission of applications

Grant applications must be drawn up in one of the EU official languages, using the electronic form (E-form) specifically designed for this purpose. The E-form is presented on the internet at the following address: https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/documents/eforms_en

The electronic application form duly completed must be received by 12:00 (midday, Brussels time) on 3 July 2017. After this time, the online application system will be closed.

Applicants may submit projects for both Technical Assistance and Capacity Building. In this case, applicants shall indicate in their application that they apply for both actions. Applications sent by post, fax or email will not be accepted.

7. **Additional information**

Applications must comply with the provisions contained in the application guidelines — Call for proposals EACEA 09/2017, be submitted on the E-form provided for this purpose and contain the relevant annexes.

The said documents can be found on the internet at the following address:

https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/eu-aid-volunteers/funding_en

In case of questions, please contact: EACEA-EUAID-VOLUNTEERS@ec.europa.eu

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMON COMMERCIAL POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Notice of initiation of a partial interim review of the anti-dumping and countervailing measures applicable to imports of crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules and key components (i.e. cells) originating in or consigned from the People's Republic of China

(2017/C 67/10)

The European Commission (the Commission) has decided on its own initiative to initiate a partial interim review investigation of the anti-dumping and countervailing measures applicable to imports of crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules and key components (i.e. cells) originating in the People's Republic of China pursuant to Article 11(3) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1036 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the European Union ⁽¹⁾ ('the basic anti-dumping Regulation') and Article 19 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1037 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 on protection against subsidised imports from countries not members of the European Union ⁽²⁾ ('the basic anti-subsidy Regulation').

The partial interim review is limited to the form of the measures.

1. Product under review

The product subject to this review is crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules or panels and cells of the type used in crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules or panels (the cells have a thickness not exceeding 400 micrometres) ('the product under review'), currently falling within CN codes ex 8501 31 00, ex 8501 32 00, ex 8501 33 00, ex 8501 34 00, ex 8501 61 20, ex 8501 61 80, ex 8501 62 00, ex 8501 63 00, ex 8501 64 00 and ex 8541 40 90 and originating in or consigned from the People's Republic of China, unless they are in transit in the sense of Article V GATT.

The following product types are excluded from the definition of the product concerned:

- solar chargers that consist of less than six cells, are portable and supply electricity to devices or charge batteries,
- thin film photovoltaic products,
- crystalline silicon photovoltaic products that are permanently integrated into electrical goods, where the function of the electrical goods is other than power generation, and where these electrical goods consume the electricity generated by the integrated crystalline silicon photovoltaic cell(s),
- modules or panels with a output voltage not exceeding 50 V DC and a power output not exceeding 50 W solely for direct use as battery chargers in systems with the same voltage and power characteristics.

2. Existing measures

The measures currently in force are a definitive anti-dumping duty imposed by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/367 ⁽³⁾ and a definitive countervailing duty imposed by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/366 ⁽⁴⁾, extended to imports consigned from Malaysia and Taiwan, whether declared as originating in Malaysia and in Taiwan or not, by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/185 ⁽⁵⁾ and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/184 ⁽⁶⁾, respectively.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 176, 30.6.2016, p. 21.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 176, 30.6.2016, p. 55.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 56, 3.3.2017, p. 131.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 56, 3.3.2017, p. 1.

⁽⁵⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/185 of 11 February 2016 extending the definitive anti-dumping duty imposed by Council Regulation (EU) No 1238/2013 on imports of crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules and key components (i.e. cells) originating in or consigned from the People's Republic of China to imports of crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules and key components (i.e. cells) consigned from Malaysia and Taiwan, whether declared as originating in Malaysia and in Taiwan or not (OJ L 37, 12.2.2016, p. 76).

⁽⁶⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/184 of 11 February 2016 extending the definitive countervailing duty imposed by Council Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1239/2013 on imports of crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules and key components (i.e. cells) originating in or consigned from the People's Republic of China to imports of crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules and key components (i.e. cells) consigned from Malaysia and Taiwan, whether declared as originating in Malaysia and in Taiwan or not (OJ L 37, 12.2.2016, p. 56).

On 2 August 2013, the Commission accepted a price undertaking offered by a group of cooperating exporting producers together with the China Chamber of Commerce for Import and Export of Machinery and Electronic Products ('CCCME') by way of Decision 2013/423/EU ⁽¹⁾. On 4 December 2013, the Commission confirmed the acceptance of the UT by Implementing Decision 2013/707/EU ⁽²⁾. The terms of the implementation of the undertaking referred to in Implementing Decision 2013/707/EU were further clarified in Implementing Decision 2014/657/EU ⁽³⁾. With successive Regulations a number of exporting producers have been withdrawn from the undertaking.

3. Grounds for the review

There is *prima facie* evidence that the circumstances on the basis of which the existing measures were imposed have changed and that these changes are of a lasting nature.

This evidence is related to the technological development and efficiency gains by the industry and to the question as to how the current form of the measures, namely a price undertaking based on a minimum import price (MIP) that is subject to a periodic adaptation mechanism, sufficiently takes into consideration the impact of these aspects on the import prices of the product under review into the Union. In addition, the fact that a large number of exporting producers were withdrawn from the undertaking (either voluntarily or due to breaches or impracticability) since it entered into force raises the question whether the undertaking can still be considered as an appropriate form for the measures.

Indeed, the experience on the implementation of the undertaking with a MIP that was set under economic circumstances which have evolved in the past three years points to the need to reconsider the form of the measures.

Therefore, it appears appropriate to examine whether the form of the measures remains the most appropriate. The *prima facie* evidence suggests that both the anti-dumping and countervailing measures may reflect the changed circumstances more appropriately by taking the form of a variable duty, based on a MIP for all imports of the product under review. This means that all imports with a declared value at or above the MIP would no longer be subject to duties. Such variable MIP would be regularly adjusted to reflect further technological development and efficiency gains in the solar sector.

4. Procedure

Having determined, after informing the Member States, that sufficient evidence exists to justify the initiation of a partial interim review limited to the form of the measures, the Commission hereby initiates a review in accordance with Article 11(3) of the basic anti-dumping Regulation and Article 19 of the basic anti-subsidy Regulation. The investigation will examine whether or not the form of the measures remains the most appropriate given the changed circumstances.

The Government of the People's Republic of China has been invited for consultations.

4.1. Review investigation period

The review investigation will cover the period from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2016 ('the review investigation period').

4.2. Questionnaires

In order to obtain the information it deems necessary for its investigation, the Commission may send questionnaires to interested parties that come forward and make themselves known to the Commission within 15 days of the publication of this Notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*. The replies to these questionnaires must reach the Commission within the specific deadlines set by the Commission in its communication with the parties.

4.3. Possibility to be heard by the Commission investigation services

All interested parties may request to be heard by the Commission investigation services. Any request to be heard must be made in writing and must specify the reasons for the request. For hearings on issues pertaining to the initial stage of the investigation the request must be submitted within 15 days of the date of publication of this Notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*. Thereafter, a request to be heard must be submitted within the specific deadlines set by the Commission in its communication with the parties.

⁽¹⁾ Commission Decision 2013/423/EU of 2 August 2013 accepting an undertaking offered in connection with the anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules and key components (i.e. cells and wafers) originating in or consigned from the People's Republic of China (OJ L 209, 3.8.2013, p. 26).

⁽²⁾ Commission Implementing Decision 2013/707/EU of 4 December 2013 confirming the acceptance of an undertaking offered in connection with the anti-dumping and anti-subsidy proceedings concerning imports of crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules and key components (i.e. cells) originating in or consigned from the People's Republic of China for the period of application of definitive measures (OJ L 325, 5.12.2013, p. 214).

⁽³⁾ Commission Implementing Decision 2014/657/EU of 10 September 2014 accepting a proposal by a group of exporting producers together with the China Chamber of Commerce for Import and Export of Machinery and Electronic Products for clarifications concerning the implementation of the undertaking referred to in Implementing Decision 2013/707/EU (OJ L 270, 11.9.2014, p. 6).

4.4. *Instructions for making written submissions and sending completed questionnaires and correspondence*

Information submitted to the Commission for the purpose of trade defence investigations shall be free from copyrights. Interested parties, before submitting to the Commission information and/or data which is subject to third party copyrights, must request specific permission to the copyright holder explicitly allowing a) the Commission to use the information and data for the purpose of this trade defence proceeding and b) to provide the information and/or data to interested parties to this investigation in a form that allows them to exercise their rights of defence.

All written submissions, completed questionnaires and correspondence provided by interested parties for which confidential treatment is requested shall be labelled 'Limited' ⁽¹⁾. Any request for confidential treatment must be duly justified.

Interested parties providing 'Limited' information are required to furnish non-confidential summaries of it pursuant to Article 19(2) of the basic anti-dumping Regulation and Article 29(2) of the basic anti-subsidy Regulation, which will be labelled 'For inspection by interested parties'. These summaries must be sufficiently detailed to permit a reasonable understanding of the substance of the information submitted in confidence. If an interested party providing confidential information does not furnish a non-confidential summary of it in the requested format and quality, such information may be disregarded.

Interested parties are invited to make all submissions and requests by email including scanned powers of attorney and certification sheets, with the exception of voluminous replies which shall be submitted on a CD-ROM or DVD by hand or by registered mail. By using email, interested parties express their agreement with the rules applicable to electronic submissions contained in the document 'CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IN TRADE DEFENCE CASES' published on the website of the Directorate-General for Trade: http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2011/june/tradoc_148003.pdf

The interested parties must indicate their name, address, telephone and a valid email address and they should ensure that the provided email address is a functioning official business email which is checked on a daily basis. Once contact details are provided, the Commission will communicate with interested parties by email only, unless they explicitly request to receive all documents from the Commission by another means of communication or unless the nature of the document to be sent requires the use of a registered mail. For further rules and information concerning correspondence with the Commission including principles that apply to submissions by email, interested parties should consult the communication instructions with interested parties referred to above.

Commission address for correspondence:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Trade
Directorate H
Office: CHAR 04/039
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Email: TRADE-SOLAR-INJURY@ec.europa.eu

5. **Non-cooperation**

In cases where any interested party refuses access to or does not provide the necessary information within the time limits, or significantly impedes the investigation, findings, affirmative or negative, may be made on the basis of facts available, in accordance with Article 18 of the basic anti-dumping Regulation and Article 28 of the basic anti-subsidy Regulation.

Where it is found that any interested party has supplied false or misleading information, the information may be disregarded and use may be made of facts available.

If an interested party does not cooperate or cooperates only partially and findings are therefore based on facts available in accordance with Article 18 of the basic anti-dumping Regulation and Article 28 of the basic anti-subsidy Regulation, the result may be less favourable to that party than if it had cooperated.

⁽¹⁾ A 'Limited' document is a document which is considered confidential pursuant to Article 19 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1036 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 176, 30.6.2016, p. 21), Article 29 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1037 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 176, 30.6.2016, p. 55), Article 6 of the WTO Agreement on Implementation of Article VI of the GATT 1994 (Anti-Dumping Agreement) and Article 12 of the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures. It is also a document protected pursuant to Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43).

Failure to give a computerised response shall not be deemed to constitute non-cooperation, provided that the interested party shows that presenting the response as requested would result in an unreasonable extra burden or unreasonable additional cost. The interested party should immediately contact the Commission.

6. Hearing Officer

Interested parties may request the intervention of the Hearing Officer in trade proceedings. The Hearing Officer acts as an interface between the interested parties and the Commission investigation services. The Hearing Officer reviews requests for access to the file, disputes regarding the confidentiality of documents, requests for extension of time limits and requests by third parties to be heard. The Hearing Officer may organise a hearing with an individual interested party and mediate to ensure that the interested parties' rights of defence are being fully exercised.

A request for a hearing with the Hearing Officer should be made in writing and should specify the reasons for the request. For hearings on issues pertaining to the initial stage of the investigation the request must be submitted within 15 days of the date of publication of this Notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*. Thereafter, a request to be heard must be submitted within specific deadlines set by the Commission in its communication with the parties.

The Hearing Officer will also provide opportunities for a hearing involving parties to take place which would allow different views to be presented and rebuttal arguments.

For further information and contact details interested parties may consult the Hearing Officer's web pages on DG Trade's website: <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/trade-policy-and-you/contacts/hearing-officer/>

7. Schedule of the investigation

The investigation will be conducted pursuant to Article 11(5) of the basic anti-dumping Regulation and Article 22(1) of the basic anti-subsidy Regulation. The Commission endeavours to conclude it within 6 months and not later than 9 months of the date of the publication of this Notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

8. Processing of personal data

Any personal data collected in this investigation will be treated in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data ⁽¹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 8, 12.1.2001, p. 1.

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.8261 — Lanxess/Chemtura)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2017/C 67/11)

1. On 24 February 2017, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾ by which the undertaking Lanxess AG (Germany) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the whole of the undertakings Chemtura Corporation (United States of America) by way of purchase of shares.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - for Lanxess: Lanxess is a specialty chemicals group based in Cologne, Germany. Lanxess' core business is the development, manufacturing and marketing of plastics, rubber, intermediates and specialty chemicals, including flame retardants and lubricant additives,
 - for Chemtura: Chemtura is a global specialty chemicals company, headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (United States), with its other principal executive office in Middlebury, Connecticut (United States).
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. Observations can be sent to the Commission by fax (+32 22964301), by email to COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu or by post, under reference M.8261 — Lanxess/Chemtura, to the following address:

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

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case M.8395 — Bridgepoint/Zenith)
Candidate case for simplified procedure
(Text with EEA relevance)
(2017/C 67/12)

1. On 23 February 2017, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾ by which the undertaking Bridgepoint Group Limited ('Bridgepoint', United Kingdom) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of Zenith Group Holdings Limited ('Zenith', United Kingdom) by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for Bridgepoint: independently owned private equity group focused on investing in established European middle market businesses in a broad range of sectors, including consumer/retail, business services, industrials, financial services, healthcare and media. Bridgepoint acquired Contract Vehicles Limited ('CVL', United Kingdom) on February 17, 2017. CVL provides contract hire and fleet management solutions mainly for heavy commercial vehicles in the United Kingdom.
- for Zenith: independent provider of vehicle leasing, outsourcing and fleet management services, to corporate customers.

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 procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽²⁾ it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in this 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. Observations can be sent to the Commission by fax (+32 22964301), by email to COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu or by post, under reference M.8395 — Bridgepoint/Zenith to the following address:

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

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

⁽²⁾ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

