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**M.9853 - HGK / IMPERIAL SHIPPING GROUP**

**SECTION 1.2**

**Description of the concentration**

Häfen und Güterverkehr Köln AG, Cologne/ Germany („HGK“), which is solely controlled by Stadtwerke Köln GmbH, Cologne/Germany (“SWK”) intends to acquire the European inland shipping business from Imperial Mobility International B.V. & Co. KG, Druten/ The Netherlands and its subsidiaries (“Imperial Group”). The transaction will consist of the acquisition of control within the meaning of Article 3 (1) (b) EUMR, through purchase of 100% of the shares in entities (including their respective affiliates) Imperial Shipping Rotterdam B.V., Rotterdam/the Netherlands, Wijnhoff & Van Gulpen & Larsen B.V., Druten/ the Netherlands, Imperial Logistics SARL, Thionville/ France, Imperial Gas Barging GmbH, Duisburg/ Germany, and Imperial Shipping Holding GmbH, Duisburg/ Germany.

HGK is active in the areas of inland waterway transportation, transshipment/ stevedoring services at inland terminals, Inland Port infrastructure, rail transportation, rail infrastructure, freight forwarding and logistics services and short sea shipping in Germany with a focus on Cologne and the Rhine area.

The target companies are active in the areas of inland navigation, transshipment/ stevedoring services, storage, transport logistics, ships clearance and trade in vehicles, servicing customers in Germany, Benelux and Northeast France.

The transactions touches upon the following markets in particular:

- Inland freight shipping (in particular along the river Rhine),
- Stevedoring/ transshipment services at inland terminals,
- Inland Port infrastructure (public ports).