

***Case No COMP/M.6084 -
WITTINGTON/ DIVISIE
BIJENKORF***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

**REGULATION (EC) No 139/2004
MERGER PROCEDURE**

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 19/01/2011

***In electronic form on the EUR-Lex website under document
number 32011M6084***



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 19.1.2011
SG-Greffe(2011) D/937
C(2011) 333

PUBLIC VERSION

MERGER PROCEDURE
ARTICLE 6(1)(b) DECISION

SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURE

To the notifying party:

Dear Madam(s) and/or Sir(s),

Subject: Case No COMP/M.6084 – WITTINGTON/ DIVISIE BIJENKORF
Notification of 10.12.2010 pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004¹
Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 345,
18.12.2010, p.13.

1. On 10.12.2010, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which the undertaking Wittington Investments, Limited ("Wittington", Canada) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the whole of the undertaking Divisie Bijenkorf B.V. ("Divisie Bijenkorf ", The Netherlands) by way of purchase of shares.

The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

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.

- for Wittington: operation of food processing and distribution mainly in North America; financial products and services in Canada, commercial real estate holdings in North America, and operation of fashion retail stores in Canada, Ireland and the UK;
 - for Divisie Bijenkorf: operation of department stores in The Netherlands under the De Bijenkorf brand, offering a mix of fashion, home, cosmetics, food and entertainment products.
2. 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 139/2004².
 3. 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.

For the Commission
(*signed*)
Alexander ITALIANER
Director General

² OJ C 56, 5.3.2005, p. 32.