Case No COMP/M.6574 -KPN / DE PERSGROEP / ROULARTA / JV

Only the English text is available and authentic.

REGULATION (EC) No 139/2004 MERGER PROCEDURE

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION Date: 02/07/2012

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION



Brussels, 02.07.2012 C(2012) 4691

PUBLIC VERSION

SIMPLIFIED MERGER PROCEDURE

To the notifying parties:

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

Subject: Case No COMP/M.6574 - KPN / DE PERSGROEP / ROULARTA / JV Commission decision pursuant to Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004¹

1. On 05.06.2012, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which the undertakings KPN Group Belgium nv/sa ("KPN GB", Belgium), De Persgroep NV ("De Persgroep", Belgium) and Roularta Media Group NV ("Roularta", Belgium) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the undertaking Hawaii NV by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture.

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.

The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for KPN GB: a 100% subsidiary of the group held by Koninklijke KPN NV, the incumbent telecommunications provider in the Netherlands. KPN GB is mainly active as a provider of mobile telephony services in Belgium, under its principal brand BASE;
- for De Persgroep: Belgian family-owned media company, a newspaper publisher in Belgium and the Netherlands, and a magazine publisher in Belgium. De Persgroep and Roularta are jointly controlling Vlaamse Media Maatschappij NV ("VMMa") which operates a number of Belgian/Flemish TV channels, such as VTM, 2BE, JIM, vtmKzoom and Vitaya;
- for Roularta: magazine publisher in Belgium, France, the Netherlands and Germany; owner of TV channels in Belgium;
- for Hawaii NV: platform provider of content and telecommunication services, offering mobile devices (smart phones, laptops, tablets) users access to mobile telecommunication and mobile content services².
- 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(a) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004³.
- 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

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Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 166, 12.06.2012, p.8

³ OJ C 56, 5.3.2005, p. 32.