

EN

***Case No COMP/M.6672 - HHR EURO CV/ STARWOOD/ LE
MERIDIEN NUREMBERG***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 17/07/2012

***In electronic form on the EUR-Lex website under document
number 32012M6672***



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 17.07.2012
C(2012) 5133

PUBLIC VERSION

SIMPLIFIED MERGER
PROCEDURE

To the notifying parties:

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

**Subject: Case No COMP/M.6672 – HHR EURO CV/ STARWOOD/ LE MERIDIEN
NUREMBERG
Commission decision pursuant to Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No
139/2004¹**

1. On 5 July 2012, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which the undertaking HHR Euro C.V. ('HHR', the Netherlands) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the undertaking Le Meridien Grand Hotel Nuremberg ('Le Meridien', Germany) by way of purchase of shares with Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. ('Starwood', United State of America). Starwood will retain rights amounting to joint control by virtue of contract of management².

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.

² Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJ) No C 202, 10.07.2012, p. 9 and corresponding Corrigendum in the OJ C203, 11.07.2012, p.13.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
- HHR: acquisition, ownership and investment in, and disposition of hotel real estate located in Europe;
 - Starwood: global hotel and leisure company which owns, manages and franchises hotels worldwide;
 - Le Meridien: hotel accommodation in Nuremberg.
3. 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) and (b) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004³.
4. 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

³ OJ C 56, 5.3.2005, p. 32.