

EN

***Case No M.7740 -  
APOLLO  
MANAGEMENT / CDG***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

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Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION  
Date: 24/09/2015

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 24.09.2015  
C(2015) 6701 final

PUBLIC VERSION

SIMPLIFIED MERGER  
PROCEDURE

**To the notifying party:**

Dear Sirs,

**Subject: Case M.7740 – APOLLO MANAGEMENT / CDG  
Commission decision pursuant to Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC)  
No 139/2004<sup>1</sup> and Article 57 of the Agreement on the European Economic Area<sup>2</sup>**

1. On 31 August 2015, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which investment funds managed by affiliates of Apollo Capital Management L.P. ("Apollo", United States) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the whole of the undertaking Casual Dining Group ("CDG", United Kingdom) by means of an amendment of the statutes of CDG.<sup>3</sup>
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
  - for Apollo: investment through funds managed through its affiliates in companies and debt issued by companies in various businesses around the world, including chemicals, real estate, insurance, paper businesses and television production businesses.
  - for CDG: dining restaurants in the United Kingdom.
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(b) of

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 1, 3.1.1994, p. 3 ("the EEA Agreement").

<sup>3</sup> Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 293, 5.09.2015, p.5.

the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004.<sup>4</sup>

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 and Article 57 of the EEA Agreement.

*For the Commission*  
*(signed)*  
*Johannes LAITENBERGER*  
*Director-General*

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<sup>4</sup> OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.