

Official Journal of the European Union

C 418



English edition

Information and Notices

Volume 58

16 December 2015

Contents

II *Information*

INFORMATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

European Commission

| | | |
|---------------|---|---|
| 2015/C 418/01 | Communication from the Commission — Corresponding values of the thresholds of Directives 2004/17/EC, 2004/18/EC and 2009/81/EC, of the European Parliament and of the Council | 1 |
|---------------|---|---|

IV *Notices*

NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

Council

| | | |
|---------------|--|---|
| 2015/C 418/02 | Council Decision of 14 December 2015 appointing the members and alternates of the Advisory Committee for the Coordination of Social Security Systems for Denmark | 4 |
| 2015/C 418/03 | Council Conclusions on an EU strategy on the reduction of alcohol-related harm | 6 |
| 2015/C 418/04 | Council conclusions on supporting people living with dementia: improving care policies and practices | 9 |

EN

European Commission

| | | |
|---------------|--|----|
| 2015/C 418/05 | Euro exchange rates | 13 |
| 2015/C 418/06 | Commission notice on current State aid recovery interest rates and reference/discount rates for 28 Member States applicable as from 1 January 2016 (<i>Published in accordance with Article 10 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 794/2004 of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 140, 30.4.2004, p. 1)</i>) | 14 |

NOTICES FROM MEMBER STATES

| | | |
|---------------|---|----|
| 2015/C 418/07 | Information communicated by Member States regarding closure of fisheries | 15 |
| 2015/C 418/08 | Commission communication pursuant to Article 16(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on common rules for the operation of air services in the Community — Public service obligations in respect of scheduled air services | 16 |

V *Announcements*

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

European Commission

| | | |
|---------------|--|----|
| 2015/C 418/09 | Prior notification of a concentration (Case M.7793 — Lone Star Fund IX/MRH) — Candidate case for simplified procedure ⁽¹⁾ | 17 |
|---------------|--|----|

⁽¹⁾ Text with EEA relevance

II

(Information)

INFORMATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES
AND AGENCIES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION

**Corresponding values of the thresholds of Directives 2004/17/EC, 2004/18/EC and 2009/81/EC,
of the European Parliament and of the Council**

(2015/C 418/01)

The corresponding values in the national currencies other than euros of the thresholds of Directives 2004/17/EC ⁽¹⁾, 2004/18/EC ⁽²⁾ and 2009/81/EC ⁽³⁾ are the following:

| | | | |
|------------|-----|-------------------|------------|
| EUR 80 000 | BGN | New Bulgarian Lev | 156 464 |
| | CZK | Czech Koruna | 2 184 400 |
| | DKK | Danish Krone | 596 520 |
| | GBP | Pound Sterling | 62 842 |
| | HRK | Croatian Kuna | 610 024 |
| | HUF | Hungarian Forint | 24 549 600 |
| | PLN | New Polish Zloty | 333 992 |
| | RON | New Romanian Leu | 355 632 |
| | SEK | Swedish Krona | 731 224 |

| | | | |
|-------------|-----|-------------------|------------|
| EUR 135 000 | BGN | New Bulgarian Lev | 264 033 |
| | CZK | Czech Koruna | 3 686 175 |
| | DKK | Danish Krone | 1 006 628 |
| | GBP | Pound Sterling | 106 047 |
| | HRK | Croatian Kuna | 1 029 416 |
| | HUF | Hungarian Forint | 41 427 450 |
| | PLN | New Polish Zloty | 563 612 |
| | RON | New Romanian Leu | 600 129 |
| | SEK | Swedish Krona | 1 233 941 |

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 134, 30.4.2004, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 134, 30.4.2004, p. 114.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 216, 20.8.2009, p. 76.

| | | | |
|-------------|-----|-------------------|------------|
| EUR 209 000 | BGN | New Bulgarian Lev | 408 762 |
| | CZK | Czech Koruna | 5 706 745 |
| | DKK | Danish Krone | 1 558 409 |
| | GBP | Pound Sterling | 164 176 |
| | HRK | Croatian Kuna | 1 593 688 |
| | HUF | Hungarian Forint | 64 135 830 |
| | PLN | New Polish Zloty | 872 554 |
| | RON | New Romanian Leu | 929 089 |
| | SEK | Swedish Krona | 1 910 323 |

| | | | |
|-------------|-----|-------------------|-------------|
| EUR 418 000 | BGN | New Bulgarian Lev | 817 524 |
| | CZK | Czech Koruna | 11 413 790 |
| | DKK | Danish Krone | 3 116 817 |
| | GBP | Pound Sterling | 328 352 |
| | HRK | Croatian Kuna | 3 187 375 |
| | HUF | Hungarian Forint | 128 271 660 |
| | PLN | New Polish Zloty | 1 745 108 |
| | RON | New Romanian Leu | 1 858 177 |
| | SEK | Swedish Krona | 3 820 645 |

| | | | |
|-------------|-----|-------------------|-------------|
| EUR 750 000 | BGN | New Bulgarian Lev | 1 466 850 |
| | CZK | Czech Koruna | 20 478 750 |
| | DKK | Danish Krone | 5 592 375 |
| | GBP | Pound Sterling | 589 148 |
| | HRK | Croatian Kuna | 5 718 975 |
| | HUF | Hungarian Forint | 230 152 500 |
| | PLN | New Polish Zloty | 3 131 175 |
| | RON | New Romanian Leu | 3 334 050 |
| | SEK | Swedish Krona | 6 855 225 |

| | | | |
|---------------|-----|-------------------|-------------|
| EUR 1 000 000 | BGN | New Bulgarian Lev | 1 955 800 |
| | CZK | Czech Koruna | 27 305 000 |
| | DKK | Danish Krone | 7 456 500 |
| | GBP | Pound Sterling | 785 530 |
| | HRK | Croatian Kuna | 7 625 300 |
| | HUF | Hungarian Forint | 306 870 000 |
| | PLN | New Polish Zloty | 4 174 900 |
| | RON | New Romanian Leu | 4 445 400 |
| | SEK | Swedish Krona | 9 140 300 |

| | | | |
|---------------|-----|-------------------|---------------|
| EUR 5 225 000 | BGN | New Bulgarian Lev | 10 219 055 |
| | CZK | Czech Koruna | 142 668 625 |
| | DKK | Danish Krone | 38 960 213 |
| | GBP | Pound Sterling | 4 104 394 |
| | HRK | Croatian Kuna | 39 842 193 |
| | HUF | Hungarian Forint | 1 603 395 750 |
| | PLN | New Polish Zloty | 21 813 853 |
| | RON | New Romanian Leu | 23 227 215 |
| | SEK | Swedish Krona | 47 758 068 |

IV

(Notices)

NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

COUNCIL

COUNCIL DECISION

of 14 December 2015

appointing the members and alternates of the Advisory Committee for the Coordination of Social Security Systems for Denmark

(2015/C 418/02)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the coordination of social security systems ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 75 thereof,

Having regard to the lists of candidates submitted to the Council by the Governments of the Member States,

Whereas:

- (1) By its Decision of 13 October 2015 ⁽²⁾, the Council appointed the members and alternate members of the Advisory Committee for the Coordination of Social Security Systems for the period 20 October 2015 to 19 October 2020.
- (2) The Government of Denmark has submitted further nominations for several posts to be filled,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The following are hereby appointed members and alternate members of the Advisory Committee for the Coordination of Social Security Systems from 20 October 2015 to 19 October 2020:

I. GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

| Country | Members | Alternates |
|---------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Denmark | Ms Karin MØHL LARSEN | Ms Marie-Louise OUTZEN |

II. TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES

| Country | Members | Alternates |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Denmark | Mr Christian SØLYST | Ms Tine SKOV JENSEN |

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 166, 30.4.2004, p. 1.⁽²⁾ Council Decision of 13 October 2015 appointing the members and alternates of the Advisory Committee for the Coordination of Social Security Systems (OJ C 341, 16.10.2015, p. 4).

III. REPRESENTATIVES OF EMPLOYERS' ORGANISATIONS

| Country | Members | Alternates |
|---------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Denmark | Ms Christiane MIßBECK-WINBERG | Mr Henning GADE |

Article 2

The Council will appoint the members and the alternate members who have not yet been nominated at a later date.

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, 14 December 2015.

For the Council

The President

F. ETGEN

Council Conclusions on an EU strategy on the reduction of alcohol-related harm

(2015/C 418/03)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

1. RECALLS that under Article 168 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union a high level of human health protection shall be ensured in the definition and implementation of all Union policies and activities, and that Union action which is to complement national policies shall be directed towards improving public health, preventing illness and disease, and obviating sources of danger to physical and mental health. Such action shall also cover the fight against the major health scourges, by in particular promoting research into their causes and their prevention, as well as health information and education;

The Union shall encourage cooperation between the Member States in the field of public health and, if necessary, support their action. The Union and the Member States shall foster cooperation with third countries and competent international organisations. Union action shall fully respect the responsibilities of the Member States for the definition of their health policy and for the organisation and delivery of health services and medical care, including the allocation of the resources assigned to them;

2. RECALLS that harmful use of alcohol has been recognised as an important risk factor set out in the communication from the Commission on the health strategy of the European Community ⁽¹⁾ and that actions to reduce alcohol-related harm have been financed from the second and third Union Health Programmes ⁽²⁾;
3. RECALLS the Council Recommendation of 2001 on the drinking of alcohol by young people ⁽³⁾, which invited the Commission, in cooperation with Member States, to make full use of all Community policies to address the matters covered in the recommendation, inter alia, the development at national and European level of comprehensive health promotion policies addressing alcohol;
4. RECALLS the EU Strategy to support Member States in reducing alcohol related harm (2006-2012) ⁽⁴⁾ as well as the Council Conclusions of 2001 ⁽⁵⁾, 2004 ⁽⁶⁾ and 2006 ⁽⁷⁾, inviting the Commission to put forward a comprehensive strategy aimed at reducing alcohol-related harm, the setting up of the Committee on National Alcohol Policy and Action (CNAPA) to support the implementation of such a strategy, as well as the Council Conclusions of 2009 ⁽⁸⁾ inviting the Commission to define priorities for the next phase of the Commission's work on alcohol and health after the end of the first EU Alcohol Strategy in 2012;
5. WELCOMES the European Parliament Resolution on Alcohol Strategy of 29 April 2015 calling for a new EU Alcohol Strategy (2016-2022) ⁽⁹⁾, reiterating the importance of a strong political commitment from the Commission, Parliament, the Council and the Member States to increase efforts to prevent alcohol-related harm;
6. WELCOMES the WHO Global Strategy to reduce harmful use of alcohol ⁽¹⁰⁾ and the WHO European action plan to reduce the harmful use of alcohol 2012-2020 ⁽¹¹⁾;

⁽¹⁾ 8756/00.

⁽²⁾ Decision No 1350/2007/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2007 establishing a second programme of Community action in the field of health (2008-13) (OJ L 301, 20.11.2007, p. 3); Regulation (EU) No 282/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 on the establishment of a third programme for the Union's action in the field of health (2014-2020) and repealing Decision No 1350/2007/EC (OJ L 86, 21.3.2014, p. 1).

⁽³⁾ Council Recommendation 2001/458/EC of 5 June 2001 on the drinking of alcohol by young people, in particular children and adolescents (OJ L 161, 16.6.2001, p. 38).

⁽⁴⁾ Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions of 24 October 2006, An EU strategy to support Member States in reducing alcohol related harm, COM(2006) 625 final.

⁽⁵⁾ Council Conclusions of 5 June 2001 (OJ C 175, 20.6.2001, p. 2).

⁽⁶⁾ Council Conclusions of 2 June 2004 on alcohol and young people, 9507/04 (Presse 163).

⁽⁷⁾ Council Conclusions of 30 November 2006, EU strategy to reduce alcohol-related harm, 15258/06.

⁽⁸⁾ Council Conclusions on alcohol and health of 1 December 2009 (OJ C 302, 12.12.2009, p. 15).

⁽⁹⁾ European Parliament resolution of 29 April 2015 on Alcohol Strategy (2015/2543(RSP)).

⁽¹⁰⁾ Resolution WHA63.13, page 27.

⁽¹¹⁾ Resolution EUR/RC61/R4.

7. NOTES WITH CONCERN that, according to the WHO's Global Status Report on alcohol and health ⁽¹⁾, harmful use of alcohol is among the world's leading risk factors for disease and disability, and that the European Union is the region with the highest alcohol consumption in the world with an average adult (aged 15+ years) alcohol consumption of 10,1 litres of pure alcohol in 2012 ⁽²⁾;
8. NOTES WITH CONCERN that, according to the report of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) on Tackling Harmful Alcohol Use — Economics and Public Health Policy ⁽³⁾, regular and heavy drinking is on the rise in some Member States, and there is general concern at the alarming increase in alcohol consumption among young people (minors and young adults) and women in many Member States, and that alcohol abuse not only has a negative impact on the health of individuals, but also on society at large;
9. STRESSES that reducing the burden of alcohol-related avoidable death, chronic diseases and injuries, violence, health inequalities and other social consequences to third parties, as well as risky drinking behaviour in particular among young people, has become a common concern and that cooperation and coordination at EU level would be of added value;
10. STRESSES that prevention of alcohol-related harm represents a necessary investment, which is beneficial for the economy as it allows economic losses and healthcare expenditure to be limited in the long term, inter alia, by decreasing the burden of chronic diseases, including cancer, and workforce productivity to be raised;
11. STRESSES also that reduction of harmful use of alcohol also has a positive effect on public security and road safety, in particular on the reduction of road deaths and injuries;
12. NOTES that the reduction of alcohol-related harm requires actions across a range of policy areas and involving many sectors across society, at both national and EU level;
13. REITERATES the call for an EU strategy on the reduction of alcohol-related harm expressed by a large number of ministers at the informal meeting of health ministers on 21 April 2015 as well as at the EPSCO Council on 19 June 2015, and underlines the fact that such an EU strategy can further support and complement national public health policies.

INVITES THE MEMBER STATES TO:

14. CONTINUE to promote a multi-sectoral approach as regards the reduction of alcohol-related harm at national and EU level and strengthen or develop, as appropriate, comprehensive national strategies or action plans tailored to specific local and regional traditions;
15. ADOPT appropriate measures to address the protection of young people from harmful use of alcohol, notably in the field of the legal drinking age and marketing exposure and CONTINUE to support information and education on the harmful use of alcohol and particularly risky drinking behaviour.

INVITES THE MEMBER STATES AND THE COMMISSION TO:

16. STRENGTHEN cooperation on identification of effective measures and best practices aimed at minimising health and social impacts as well as health inequalities stemming from of harmful use of alcohol, focusing particularly on prevention of risky drinking behaviour among young people, on people who consume alcohol at harmful levels or with harmful drinking patterns, on alcohol consumption during pregnancy and on driving while under the influence of alcohol;
17. CONTINUE to support the work of CNAPA, while taking into account the results of the implementation report on the first EU Alcohol Strategy ⁽⁴⁾ as well as the involvement of stakeholders at national and European level to reduce alcohol-related harm;

⁽¹⁾ WHO 2014, p. 46, p. 31.

⁽²⁾ Health at a Glance: Europe 2014 (joint publication of the OECD and the European Commission), December 2014.

⁽³⁾ Tackling Harmful Alcohol Use — Economics and Public Health Policy, May 2015.

⁽⁴⁾ European Commission, Directorate-General for Health & Consumers, First progress report on the implementation of the EU Alcohol Strategy, September 2009.

18. RECOGNISE the need to continue gathering information at EU level on the implementation of alcohol-related national legislation, respecting national competences as well as regional and local social and cultural traditions;
19. CONSIDER, in particular in the light of the report to be adopted by the Commission in accordance with Article 16(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the provision of food information to consumers ⁽¹⁾, the possibility of introduction of mandatory labelling of ingredients and nutrition declaration, in particular of the energy value, of alcoholic beverages.

INVITES THE COMMISSION TO:

20. CONTINUE its support to Member States in their efforts to reduce alcohol-related harm, while fully respecting the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality;
21. ADOPT by the end of 2016, while fully respecting Member States' competences, a comprehensive EU strategy dedicated to the reduction of alcohol-related harm and comprising actions across EU policies in order to tackle health, social and economic consequences of the harmful use of alcohol. This dedicated EU strategy should focus on initiatives on the reduction of alcohol-related harm with a cross-border dimension and an EU added value as a follow-up to the first EU Alcohol Strategy (2006-2012) and should take into account the work carried out by CNAPA as well as work done under the WHO Global Strategy on Alcohol and the WHO European action plan to reduce the harmful use of alcohol 2012-2020;
22. REPORT to the Council on the outcome of its work and progress made in the field of reducing alcohol-related harm.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2011 on the provision of food information to consumers, amending Regulations (EC) No 1924/2006 and (EC) No 1925/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and repealing Commission Directive 87/250/EEC, Council Directive 90/496/EEC, Commission Directive 1999/10/EC, Directive 2000/13/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, Commission Directives 2002/67/EC and 2008/5/EC and Commission Regulation (EC) No 608/2004 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2011, p. 18.)

Council conclusions on supporting people living with dementia: improving care policies and practices

(2015/C 418/04)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

1. RECALLS that under Article 168 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union a high level of human health protection must be ensured in the definition and implementation of all Union policies and activities, and that Union action, which is to complement national policies, is to be directed towards improving public health. The Union is to encourage cooperation between Member States in the area of public health and, if necessary, lend support to their actions and foster cooperation with competent international organisations. Union action must fully respect the responsibilities of the Member States for the organisation and delivery of health services and medical care, including allocation of the resources assigned to them;
2. NOTES WITH CONCERN that 47,5 million people worldwide are currently living with dementia, 58 % of which live in low- and middle-income countries. It is estimated that in the European Union 6,4 million people live with dementia ⁽¹⁾;
3. RECALLS that dementia is one of the major causes of disability and dependency among older people worldwide and that it has a physical, psychological, social and economic impact on people living with dementia and on their families and caregivers, as well as on society ⁽²⁾;
4. RECALLS that while the majority of people with dementia are elderly, there are also a significant number of people with early onset dementia;
5. EMPHASISES patients' rights, particularly those related to human dignity, as laid down in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights ⁽³⁾;
6. RECOGNISES that people can live well with dementia for a number of years, in particular if timely access, assessment, diagnosis and the right support are in place;
7. RECOGNISES the significant impact of dementia and of diseases linked to dementia on the financial sustainability of health and social security systems;
8. EMPHASISES the importance of promoting healthy lifestyles, including for brain health, throughout the life cycle, in order to increase healthy life years;
9. RECALLS that a better understanding of these conditions is required to achieve high health standards for an ageing society, which is one of the priorities of both the second and the current third Health Programme (2014-2020) ⁽⁴⁾;
10. RECALLS that numerous initiatives at EU level have also acknowledged dementia as a priority for action in the context of demographic change and reiterated the significant consequences of the increase in the number of people living with the disease ⁽⁵⁾;
11. RECALLS the Council Conclusions adopted on 16 December 2008 on public health strategies to combat neurodegenerative diseases associated with ageing, which called on the Commission to adopt an initiative in 2009 to combat these diseases ⁽⁶⁾;

⁽¹⁾ WHO, Fact sheet No 362, March 2015, <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs362/en/>; ALCOVE Joint Action report, Executive Summary, p. 29, http://www.alcove-project.eu/images/synthesis-report/ALCOVE_SYNTHESIS_REPORT_WP4.pdf

⁽²⁾ WHO, Fact sheet No 362, March 2015.

⁽³⁾ See Chapter I on Dignity, available to download at http://www.europarl.europa.eu/charter/pdf/text_en.pdf

⁽⁴⁾ Regulation (EU) No 282/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 on the establishment of a third Programme for the Union's action in the field of health (2014-2020) (OJ L 86, 21.3.2014, p. 1).

⁽⁵⁾ See overview on initiatives in the field of dementia – such as the ALCOVE Joint Action, the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing, the European Pact for Mental Health and Well-Being, the European platform to facilitate proof-of-concept for prevention of Alzheimer's Disease (EPOC-AD) and the Innovative Medicines Initiative – contained in the staff working document on the implementation of the Commission Communication on a European initiative on Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, SWD(2014) 321 final of 16.10.2014.

⁽⁶⁾ http://www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/pressData/en/lisa/104778.pdf

12. RECALLS that the Commission proposed a new approach for making better use of Europe's public R & D funds through Joint Programming in key areas that include Alzheimer's disease. As a result, the Member-States led Joint Programming Initiative on Neurodegenerative Diseases (JPND) was launched in 2010 with the aim to better coordinate national research efforts in the field of neurodegenerative diseases and in particular Alzheimer's disease;
13. RECALLS that the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (2007-2013) spent more than EUR 576 million in funding on research on dementia and neurodegenerative diseases between 2007 and 2013; building on these results, Horizon 2020 (2014-2020), the new EU Framework for Research and Innovation – Horizon 2020 allows to further address dementia as a societal and health challenge, with already more than EUR 103 million invested in dementia-relevant research and innovation actions;
14. WELCOMES the Resolution of the European Parliament, adopted on 19 January 2011, on a European initiative on Alzheimer's disease and other dementias calling for dementia to be made an EU health priority and strongly urging Member States to develop dedicated national plans ⁽¹⁾;
15. RECALLS the first report of the World Health Organisation (WHO), 'Dementia: A Public Health Priority' ⁽²⁾, published in 2012, which provided information on and raised awareness of dementia and made it one of the priority conditions addressed in the WHO Mental Health Gap Action Programme ⁽³⁾, which aims to scale up care for mental, neurological and substance abuse disorders;
16. WELCOMES the Declaration of G8 Health Ministers on Dementia, adopted on 11 December 2013 at the G8 Summit, to foster innovation to identify a cure or a disease-modifying therapy for dementia by 2025 as well as strategic priority areas and to increase funding for research ⁽⁴⁾;
17. RECALLS the Italian Presidency Conference 'Dementia in Europe: a challenge for our common future', held in Rome on 14 November 2014 ⁽⁵⁾, which provided an overview of initiatives on dementia in the EU, notably on prevention, treatment and elderly health promotion;
18. RECALLS the report of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) of 13 March 2015 entitled 'Better dementia care and a future cure require action today' ⁽⁶⁾, which reaffirmed the need for dementia to be made a political priority;
19. WELCOMES the Call for Action signed by participants at the first WHO Ministerial Conference on Global Action Against Dementia in Geneva on 17 March 2015, which underlined governments' primary role and responsibility in responding to the challenge of dementia and emphasised the need for multi-sectoral and coordinated action at global and national level, aimed notably at advancing prevention, risk reduction, diagnosis and treatment of dementia ⁽⁷⁾;
20. STRESSES that in recent years dementia has become a high priority for more and more Member States, given the fact that development, adoption or implementation of national strategies, action plans or programmes addressing dementia are ongoing in the majority of the Member States; that Member States' initiatives already in place or under way are based on an integrated approach to the patient pathway which considers health and social issues;
21. WELCOMES the discussion at the informal meeting of EU Health Ministers on 24 September 2015 on fostering development and implementation of national strategies, action plans or programmes on dementia as well as on facilitating the exchange of best practices at EU level, taking into account WHO activities;
22. WELCOMES the second Joint Action on Dementia, to be launched in 2016.

⁽¹⁾ 2010/2084 (INI).

⁽²⁾ WHO, 'Dementia: a public health priority', 2012, available to download at http://www.who.int/mental_health/publications/dementia_report_2012/en/

⁽³⁾ http://www.who.int/mental_health/mhgap/en/

⁽⁴⁾ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/g8-dementia-summit-agreements>

⁽⁵⁾ <http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/ItaliaUE2014/dettaglioEvento.jsp?lingua=english&id=246>

⁽⁶⁾ <http://www.oecd.org/newsroom/better-dementia-care-and-a-future-cure-require-action-today.htm>

⁽⁷⁾ <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2015/action-on-dementia/en/#>

INVITES THE MEMBER STATES TO:

23. ADDRESS dementia as a priority through cross-sectoral national strategies, action plans or programmes on dementia to provide appropriate treatment and assistance to people living with dementia, their families and caregivers, while ensuring the sustainability of health and social security systems.
24. CONTINUE to devote special attention to strengthening the coordination within Member States of relevant policies in the field of dementia, including reinforcing the role of primary care.

INVITES THE MEMBER STATES AND THE COMMISSION TO:

25. RECOGNISE that continued collaboration across sectors among Member States and at EU level – taking into account WHO activities – will allow for a valuable contribution to improve the support of people living with dementia;
26. RECOGNISE the benefits of the empowerment of people living with dementia and encourage their inclusion in decision-making processes by strengthening their representation, particularly in initiatives, organisations and bodies in the field of dementia;
27. SUPPORT a gender-sensitive, individual-and research based approach in the elaboration of strategies, plans and programmes on dementia, taking account of groups with specific needs, the impact of cultural diversity on perceptions of dementia, as well as the expectations and rights of people living with dementia and their families and caregivers;
28. RECOGNISE the important role of families and caregivers, notably by ensuring their inclusion in decision making processes, and the need to protect their physical and mental wellbeing through adequate support.
29. ACKNOWLEDGE the important work of the Governmental Expert Group on Dementia in facilitating the sharing of experiences and good practices to support Member States in developing and implementing national strategies, plans or programmes on dementia;
30. SUPPORT work in the context of EU policy areas that might have an impact on dementia policy, notably the Working Party on Public Health at Senior Level as well as the Social Protection Committee (SPC) ⁽¹⁾ and the Economic Policy Committee (EPC) ⁽²⁾ on health care and long-term care;
31. TAKE FORWARD, while fully respecting Member States' competences, discussions at EU level on the following issues:
 - a) the role of prevention and health promotion, risk reduction, early detection, timely diagnosis and post-diagnostic support in contributing to the reduction of the burden of dementia;
 - b) ways of ensuring that prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care is coordinated within countries, involving multi-disciplinary expertise, and that it is delivered closer to home;
 - c) the added value of the exchange of best practices with a focus on key components and tools to ensure the quality of care of patients and the support of carers, in order to better assess the various approaches and practices in these areas;
 - d) the promotion of the rights of people living with dementia, with a particular focus on the ethical dimension of dementia in order to ensure healthy ageing in dignity;
 - e) the use of the potential of eHealth and assistive technologies in improving support and care for people living with dementia;
 - f) the pooling of and access to existing knowledge about ongoing initiatives and the related evidence base as well as its integration into everyday practice in health and social care;
 - g) the need to promote the role and continuing education of health professionals to ensure the best possible support for people living with dementia and their families;
 - h) the promotion of dementia-friendly communities;

⁽¹⁾ SPC Working Group on Ageing Issues, see <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=758>

⁽²⁾ EPC Working Group on Ageing Populations and Sustainability, http://europa.eu/epc/working_groups/ageing_en.htm

32. INTENSIFY research on dementia, building upon the result of EU funded projects such as EU Joint Programming Initiative on Neurodegenerative Disease (JPND), particularly on its risk factors and underlying pathophysiology, as well as translation of successful interventions on dementia management into clinical practice, also considering public-public, public-private and international partnerships;
33. BENEFIT from resources, models and tools successfully developed at EU level, such as those gathered by the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing, the ALCOVE Joint Action and from the strategies developed for scaling-up good practices;
34. DEVELOP, where appropriate, in close cooperation with the Governmental Expert Group on Dementia, voluntary guidance based on a comprehensive and integrated perspective on dementia, taking into account the aspects of coordinated prevention and health promotion, timely diagnosis, post-diagnostic support, treatment and care, while respecting Member States' competences;
35. IDENTIFY and EXCHANGE, in close cooperation with the Governmental Expert Group on Dementia, good practices, notably as regards targeted prevention, including secondary prevention, health promotion, timely diagnosis, post-diagnostic support and therapy, research, training and further education of health professionals, as well as public information to combat stigma;
36. IMPROVE the quality of epidemiological information on dementia to facilitate the development of national strategies, actions plans or programmes as well as the exchange of good practices;
37. EMPHASISE the work of non-governmental organisations and voluntary work in the field of dementia aiming to contribute effectively to national strategies, action plans or programmes.

INVITES THE COMMISSION TO:

38. STRENGTHEN the cooperation of Member States in the Governmental Expert Group on Dementia to facilitate the sharing of information on policy frameworks and of good practices already in place, as well as to support countries in developing and implementing national strategies, plans and programmes on dementia;
 39. FOSTER the ongoing cooperation with the WHO and the OECD on dementia, in close coordination with Member States.
-

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates ⁽¹⁾

15 December 2015

(2015/C 418/05)

1 euro =

| Currency | Exchange rate | Currency | Exchange rate | | |
|----------|-------------------|----------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| USD | US dollar | 1,0990 | CAD | Canadian dollar | 1,5069 |
| JPY | Japanese yen | 132,97 | HKD | Hong Kong dollar | 8,5173 |
| DKK | Danish krone | 7,4614 | NZD | New Zealand dollar | 1,6186 |
| GBP | Pound sterling | 0,72520 | SGD | Singapore dollar | 1,5457 |
| SEK | Swedish krona | 9,2883 | KRW | South Korean won | 1 292,34 |
| CHF | Swiss franc | 1,0831 | ZAR | South African rand | 16,4213 |
| ISK | Iceland króna | | CNY | Chinese yuan renminbi | 7,1017 |
| NOK | Norwegian krone | 9,4945 | HRK | Croatian kuna | 7,6390 |
| BGN | Bulgarian lev | 1,9558 | IDR | Indonesian rupiah | 15 423,14 |
| CZK | Czech koruna | 27,022 | MYR | Malaysian ringgit | 4,7295 |
| HUF | Hungarian forint | 316,50 | PHP | Philippine peso | 52,057 |
| PLN | Polish zloty | 4,3537 | RUB | Russian rouble | 77,4920 |
| RON | Romanian leu | 4,4960 | THB | Thai baht | 39,427 |
| TRY | Turkish lira | 3,2573 | BRL | Brazilian real | 4,2609 |
| AUD | Australian dollar | 1,5200 | MXN | Mexican peso | 18,9649 |
| | | | INR | Indian rupee | 73,5161 |

⁽¹⁾ Source: reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

**Commission notice on current State aid recovery interest rates and reference/discount rates for
28 Member States applicable as from 1 January 2016**

*(Published in accordance with Article 10 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 794/2004 of 21 April 2004
(OJ L 140, 30.4.2004, p. 1))*

(2015/C 418/06)

Base rates calculated in accordance with the communication from the Commission on the revision of the method for setting the reference and discount rates (OJ C 14, 19.1.2008, p. 6.). Depending on the use of the reference rate, the appropriate margins have still to be added as defined in this communication. For the discount rate this means that a margin of 100 basis points has to be added. The Commission Regulation (EC) No 271/2008 of 30 January 2008 amending Regulation (EC) No 794/2004 foresees that, unless otherwise provided for in a specific decision, the recovery rate will also be calculated by adding 100 basis points to the base rate.

Modified rates are indicated in bold.

Previous table published in OJ C 333, 9.10.2015, p. 3.

| From | To | AT | BE | BG | CY | CZ | DE | DK | EE | EL | ES | FI | FR | HR | HU | IE | IT | LT | LU | LV | MT | NL | PL | PT | RO | SE | SI | SK | UK |
|----------|-----|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1.1.2016 | ... | 0,12 | 0,12 | 1,63 | 0,12 | 0,46 | 0,12 | 0,36 | 0,12 | 0,12 | 0,12 | 0,12 | 0,12 | 1,92 | 1,37 | 0,12 | 0,12 | 0,12 | 0,12 | 0,12 | 0,12 | 0,12 | 1,83 | 0,12 | 1,65 | -0,22 | 0,12 | 0,12 | 1,04 |

NOTICES FROM MEMBER STATES

Information communicated by Member States regarding closure of fisheries

(2015/C 418/07)

In accordance with Article 35(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy ⁽¹⁾, a decision has been taken to close the fishery as set down in the following table:

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Date and time of closure | 3.12.2015 |
| Duration | 3.12 – 31.12.2015 |
| Member State | Spain |
| Stock or Group of stocks | GHL/N3LMNO |
| Species | Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>) |
| Zone | NAFO 3LMNO |
| Type(s) of fishing vessels | — |
| Reference number | 67/TQ104 |

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1.

Commission communication pursuant to Article 16(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on common rules for the operation of air services in the Community

Public service obligations in respect of scheduled air services

(2015/C 418/08)

| | |
|--|--|
| Member State | Spain |
| Route concerned | Gran Canaria — Tenerife Sur Gran Canaria — El Hierro Tenerife Norte — La Gomera Gran Canaria — La Gomera |
| Reopening date of the PSO routes to community air carriers | 1.8.2016 |
| Address where the text and any other information or documentation related to the public service obligations can be obtained. | Ministerio de Fomento Dirección General de Aviación Civil Subdirección General de Transporte Aéreo Paseo de la Castellana 67 28071 Madrid ESPAÑA Tel. +34 915977505 Fax: +34 915978643 E-mail: osp.dgac@fomento.es |

The routes subject to public service obligations may be operated on the basis of free competition access as from 1 August 2016. If within a period of 15 calendar days following the date of publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*, no air carrier submits a programme of services compliant with the public service obligations imposed, access will be restricted to a single air carrier through the corresponding public tender procedure, in accordance with Article 16(9) of Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008.

V

(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION
POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.7793 — Lone Star Fund IX/MRH)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2015/C 418/09)

1. On 8 December 2015, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾ by which the undertaking Lone Star Fund IX (USA), belonging to the Lone Star group ('Lone Star', USA) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of the undertaking MRH (GB) Limited ('MRH', UK) by way of purchase of shares.
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - Lone Star is a group of private equity funds that invests in real estate, equity, credit and other financial assets,
 - MRH owns and operates retail motor fuel service stations in the UK and Channel Islands.
3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the Merger Regulation. However, the final decision on this point is reserved. Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽²⁾ it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in this Notice.
4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent to the Commission by fax (+32 22964301), by email to COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu or by post, under reference number M.7793 — Lone Star Fund IX/MRH, to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

⁽²⁾ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

ISSN 1977-091X (electronic edition)
ISSN 1725-2423 (paper edition)



Publications Office of the European Union
2985 Luxembourg
LUXEMBOURG

EN