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II

*(Information)*INFORMATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES
AND AGENCIES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Non-opposition to a notified concentration**(Case M.8080 — Maxburg II/VREP/Norafin)****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2016/C 263/01)

On 11 July 2016, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the internal market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾. The full text of the decision is available only in German language and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- in the merger section of the Competition website of the Commission (<http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/cases/>). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,
- in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html?locale=en>) under document number 32016M8080. EUR-Lex is the on-line access to the European law.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

Non-opposition to a notified concentration**(Case M.8094 — BNP Paribas Fortis Private Equity Belgium/Sofindev IV/DHAM/Novy International)****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2016/C 263/02)

On 14 July 2016, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the internal market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾. The full text of the decision is available only in the English language and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- in the merger section of the Competition website of the Commission (<http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/cases/>). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,
- in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html?locale=en>) under document number 32016M8094. EUR-Lex is the online access to European law.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

IV

(Notices)

NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND
AGENCIES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates ⁽¹⁾

19 July 2016

(2016/C 263/03)

1 euro =

Currency	Exchange rate	Currency	Exchange rate
USD US dollar	1,1035	CAD Canadian dollar	1,4364
JPY Japanese yen	117,20	HKD Hong Kong dollar	8,5585
DKK Danish krone	7,4389	NZD New Zealand dollar	1,5684
GBP Pound sterling	0,83950	SGD Singapore dollar	1,4921
SEK Swedish krona	9,4922	KRW South Korean won	1 257,60
CHF Swiss franc	1,0877	ZAR South African rand	15,8098
ISK Iceland króna		CNY Chinese yuan renminbi	7,3875
NOK Norwegian krone	9,3489	HRK Croatian kuna	7,4905
BGN Bulgarian lev	1,9558	IDR Indonesian rupiah	14 443,16
CZK Czech koruna	27,014	MYR Malaysian ringgit	4,4205
HUF Hungarian forint	314,73	PHP Philippine peso	51,735
PLN Polish zloty	4,3729	RUB Russian rouble	69,5272
RON Romanian leu	4,4772	THB Thai baht	38,615
TRY Turkish lira	3,2878	BRL Brazilian real	3,6078
AUD Australian dollar	1,4727	MXN Mexican peso	20,3706
		INR Indian rupee	74,0824

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

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION FOR THE COORDINATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEMS

DECISION No H8

of 17 December 2015 (updated with minor technical clarifications on 9 March 2016)

concerning the methods of operation and the composition of the Technical Commission for Data Processing of the Administrative Commission for the Coordination of Social Security Systems

(2016/C 263/04)

THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION FOR THE COORDINATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEMS,

Having regard to Article 72 of 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⁾, under which the Administrative Commission shall foster and develop cooperation between Member States by modernising procedures for the exchange of information, in particular by adapting the information flow between institutions for the purpose of exchange by electronic means, taking account of the development of data processing in each Member State; and adopt the common structural rules for data processing services, in particular on security and the use of standards, and shall lay down provisions for the operation of the common part of those services;

Having regard to Article 73 of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004, under which the Administrative Commission shall set up and determine the methods of operation and composition of a Technical Commission for Data processing, which shall deliver reports and a reasoned opinion before decisions are taken by the Administrative Commission pursuant to Article 72(d),

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

1. The Administrative Commission sets up the Technical Commission for Data Processing provided for in Article 73(1) of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004. It shall be called 'the Technical Commission'.
2. The Technical Commission shall have the functions laid down in Article 73(2) of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004.
3. The mandate with regard to the specific tasks of the Technical Commission shall be set by the Administrative Commission who may modify these tasks as required.

Article 2

1. The Technical Commission shall be composed of two members from each Member State, one of whom shall be nominated as the standing member, with the other designated as his alternate.
2. The nominations from each Member State shall be forwarded to the Secretariat of the Administrative Commission by the government representative for the Member State on the Administrative Commission.
3. Members may be accompanied at the meetings of the Technical Commission by one or more additional experts where this is necessary because of the nature of the subjects to be dealt with.
4. Each delegation may, as a rule, consist of not more than four persons.
5. The representative of the European Commission in the Administrative Commission or a person designated by him shall act in a consultative capacity within the Technical Commission.
6. The representative of the European Commission, his/her alternate or any other person designated by the Secretariat of the Administrative Commission may attend all meetings of the Technical Commission and its ad hoc working groups. Those meetings may furthermore be attended, where this is relevant to the question to be dealt with, by representative(s) of the relevant departments of the European Commission.
7. A member of the Secretariat of the Administrative Commission shall attend all meetings of the Technical Commission and its Ad-hoc working groups.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 166, 30.4.2004, p. 1.

Article 3

1. The office of Chair of the Technical Commission shall be held each half-year by either the standing member or another designated official belonging to the State whose representative on the Administrative Commission holds the office of Chair of that Commission for the same period.
2. If the Chair in office is prevented from attending a meeting of the Technical Commission, the alternate shall act as Chair.
3. The Chair of the Technical Commission may give the Secretariat instructions for meetings to be held and for the performance of activities that are within the scope of the tasks of the Technical Commission.

Article 4

The Technical Commission shall be convened by a letter of convocation sent to the members and the representative of the European Commission at least 10 working days before the meeting, by the Secretariat in consultation with the Chair of the Technical Commission.

Article 5

The Technical Commission shall adopt its reports and reasoned opinions where necessary on the basis of technical documents and studies. It can request from national administrations any information it deems necessary for appropriate accomplishment of its tasks.

Article 6

1. The Technical Commission may set up ad hoc working groups consisting of a limited number of persons to consider specific issues and present the Technical Commission with proposals.

The Technical Commission shall describe in a written mandate the tasks to be taken forward by such working groups and the timetable for completion of those tasks.

2. Ad hoc working groups shall be presided over by a person designated by the Chair of the Technical Commission in consultation with the representative of the European Commission or, failing this, by an expert representing the State whose representative on the Administrative Commission holds the office of Chair of that Commission.
3. The Chair of the ad hoc working group shall be summoned to the meeting of the Technical Commission in the course of which the report of that ad hoc working group is discussed.

Article 7

A designated member of the Secretariat of the Administrative Commission shall prepare and organise the meetings of the Technical Commission.

Article 8

1. Reports and reasoned opinions shall be adopted by simple majority of all members of the Technical Commission, each Member State having a single vote that shall be cast by the standing member or in his absence by his alternate. The reports or reasoned opinions of the Technical Commission must indicate whether they were reached unanimously or by simple majority. They must, should there be a minority, set out conclusions or reservations of the minority.
2. When a standing member of the Technical Commission holds the office of Chair, his alternate shall vote in his place.
3. Any member present when a vote is taken who abstains from voting shall be invited by the Chair to state his reasons for abstaining.
4. When the majority of members present abstain, the proposal put to the vote shall be considered as not having been taken into consideration.
5. The Technical Commission may decide to adopt reports and reasoned opinions by the use of written procedure if such a procedure was agreed at a prior meeting of the Technical Commission.

To this end the Chair shall communicate the text to be adopted to the members of the Technical Commission. The Members shall be given a set time limit of at least 10 working days, within which members shall have the possibility to state that they reject the proposed text or abstain from the voting. No response within the set time limit shall be considered as an affirmative vote.

The Chair may also decide to launch a written procedure in case no prior agreement had been obtained in a meeting of the Technical Commission. In such a case, only written agreements to the proposed text shall be counted as affirmative votes and the set time limit of at least 15 working days shall be given.

The Chair shall, at the expiry of the set time limit, inform the members of the result of the voting. A decision having received the required number of affirmative votes shall be considered adopted on the last day set for the period within which members were asked to respond.

6. If a member of the Technical Commission in the course of the written procedure proposes that the text shall be amended, the Chair shall either:

- (a) recommence the written procedure by communicating the proposed amendment to the members in accordance with the procedure in paragraph 5, or
- (b) cancel the written procedure in order to have the matter discussed at the next meeting,

depending on which procedure the Chair considers appropriate for the matter in question.

7. If a member of the Technical Commission before the expiry of the time limit set for responding, requests that the proposed text shall be examined at a meeting with the Technical Commission, the written procedure shall be cancelled.

The matter shall then be examined at the following meeting of the Technical Commission.

Article 9

1. The provisional agenda of each meeting of the Technical Commission shall be drawn up by the Secretariat in consultation with the Chair of the Technical Commission.

Before proposing to include an item in the agenda, the Secretariat may, where this appears necessary, ask the delegations concerned to make their views on this question known in writing.

The provisional agenda shall, in principle, comprise items for which a request is submitted by a member or by the representative of the European Commission.

2. The provisional agenda shall be sent at least 15 working days before the beginning of each meeting, to the members of the Technical Commission and to the persons mentioned in article 2(6) above. A revised version of the agenda can be sent 5 working days before the meeting.

The documents relating to the items on the agenda which require decisions or opinions in the respective meeting should be made available, in principle, at the latest 10 working days before the meeting. This does not apply to documents providing general information which do not need to be approved, exceptional circumstances and other cases that can be agreed by the Technical Commission according to Article 14 below.

3. At the beginning of each meeting the Technical Commission shall approve the agenda of the meeting.

A unanimous vote of the Technical Commission is required for the inclusion in the agenda of any items other than those appearing on the provisional agenda.

Article 10

1. The Secretariat of the Administrative Commission shall draw up the minutes of the Technical Commission meetings. The minutes are approved by the Technical Commission.

2. The English version of the minutes will be sent to delegations for review at the latest 1 month before the following Technical Commission meeting.

The linguistic versions of the minutes will be made available as soon as possible after the English version has incorporated all agreed changes.

3. Members who have not received the minutes in their own language may reserve their final approval until they have received the minutes in that language.

Article 11

1. The Technical Commission shall report in writing to the Administrative Commission, on its activities and achievements after each of its meetings.

2. The Chair of the Technical Commission shall report on the activities of the Technical Commission in the meetings of the Administrative Commission, if so required by the Chair of the Administrative Commission.

Article 12

Any proposed action of the Technical Commission involving expenses to be borne by the European Commission is subject to the approval of the representative of that institution.

Article 13

The reports, reasoned opinions, agenda, and any other documents supporting the activity of the Technical Commission will be drawn up in English.

Article 14

In so far as this is necessary, the Technical Commission may agree, by unanimous decision, to further specify and detail the current rules of procedures.

Article 15

This decision shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*. It shall apply from the date of publication.

Article 16

This Decision replaces Decision No H2 of 12 June 2009.

The Chair of the Administrative Commission

Claude EWEN

V

(Announcements)

OTHER ACTS

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Publication of an application pursuant to Article 50(2)(a) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs

(2016/C 263/05)

This publication confers the right to oppose the application pursuant to Article 51 of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾.

SINGLE DOCUMENT

‘BURRATA DI ANDRIA’**EU No: IT-PGI-0005-01393 — 27.10.2015****PDO () PGI (X)****1. Name**

‘Burrata di Andria’

2. Member State or Third Country

Italy

3. Description of the agricultural product or foodstuff**3.1. Type of product**

Class 1.3. Cheese

3.2. Description of product to which the name in (1) applies

‘Burrata di Andria’ PGI is a cow’s milk cheese made by adding cream to stretched-curd cheese. The casing is made entirely of ‘*pasta filata*’ (stretched curd) enclosing a filling of cream mixed with shredded *pasta filata*.

Shape and physical, chemical, microbiological and organoleptic characteristics

Weight: ‘Burrata di Andria’ PGI varies in weight between 100 g and 1 000 g

Appearance: ‘Burrata di Andria’ PGI is milk-white in colour, with a casing that is approximately ≥ 2 mm thick

Filling texture: a shredded, spongy, cream-soaked mass

Shape: round, shaped like a sack, topped with a characteristic bunched-up closure

Stracciatella: the filling is made from *pasta filata* that is shredded by hand then drenched in cream

Moisture content: between 60 % and 70 %

— when sliced, cream spills out,

— the shredded *pasta filata* filling is of various lengths,

— the cheese has a pleasant aroma of fresh or cooked milk, butter and cream.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 343, 14.12.2012, p. 1.

3.3. *Feed (for products of animal origin only) and raw materials (for processed products only)*

Cow's milk. The cream used to make 'Burrata di Andria' PGI is produced by centrifuging milk or the whey from fresh milk and then pasteurising it at 72 °C for 15 seconds, or with pasteurised fresh cream and/or packaged UHT cream and/or mixtures thereof, in compliance with the microbiological criteria laid down in the legislation in force.

3.4. *Specific steps in production that must take place in the identified geographical area*

All operations from the processing of the raw materials up to the production of the finished product must take place in the defined geographical area.

3.5. *Specific rules concerning slicing, grating, packaging, etc., of the product to which the registered name refers*

'Burrata di Andria' has to be packaged on the premises where it is made within the geographical area defined under point 4, as it is a fresh product that tends to deteriorate rapidly.

'Burrata di Andria' may be packaged:

- in food-grade plastic bags, wrapped in plastic coated paper and tied at the top with strands of food-grade raffia,
- wrapped in plasticised green leaves;
- in trays, jars or glass and/or immersed in preservative liquid.

The product must be kept at a temperature of between 4 °C and 6 °C. The individual cheeses in the containers range in weight from 100 g to 1 000 g.

3.6. *Specific rules concerning labelling of the product to which the registered name refers*

The Protected Geographical Indication 'Burrata di Andria' must appear on the label in clear and indelible lettering, clearly identifiable from any other wording on the label; this must be followed immediately by the words 'Protected Geographical Indication' and/or the abbreviation 'PGI'.

It is forbidden to add any description that is not expressly provided for. However, the use of names, trade names and private brands is permitted, provided that they have no laudatory purport and are not such as to mislead the consumer.

The logo of the Protected Geographical Indication 'Burrata di Andria' consists of the following graphics and words:



The 'Burrata di Andria' PGI logo must be reproduced generally on the labels, packaging and graphic sleeves of all packaged products, with the further specification that its dimensions — calculated by comparing the area of the rectangle corresponding to the overall height and width of the trademark — may not be less than 10 % or more than 25 % of the total area of the graphic sleeve.

The packaging must bear the European PGI symbol.

4. **Concise definition of the geographical area**

The geographical area within which 'Burrata di Andria' PGI is produced and packaged is the entire territory of the Region of Apulia.

5. Link with the geographical area

'Burrata di Andria' is a cheese typical of Apulia that differs from other cheeses on account of its particular production technique and its organoleptic characteristics, which make it one of the most highly prized and unusual cheeses from Apulia and the South of Italy.

According to oral tradition, Burrata di Andria was invented by Mr Lorenzo Bianchino on an old estate in the first decades of the 20th century. It is said that due to heavy snowfall, preventing him from delivering the milk to town, and meaning that he had to process it in some way and most importantly use the cream that naturally formed on the surface, Mr Bianchino tried using the same procedure as is used to make *mantèche* (casings made of aged *pasta filata* used to store butter), to make a fresh product. To this should be added the natural instinct of all peasant culture — avoiding waste and putting any surplus production to good use. Mr Bianchino therefore sought to mix the bits left over from *pasta filata* production with the cream and wrap this concoction in a casing also made of *pasta filata*.

Burrata di Andria looks like a *pasta filata* bag that is shaped by hand and that contains 'shredded' *pasta filata* and cream. The mixture of cream and *pasta filata* shreds are known as '*stracciatella*'. The term '*stracciatella*', coming from the verb 'to rip', derives from the way in which the contents are prepared. The *pasta filata* is ripped by hand into ragged strips.

One of the first references to this product dates back to 1931 in the '*Guida del Touring Club*' — the Touring Club Guide, and Burrata di Andria became very popular from the outset, not just in Italy but also abroad, to such an extent that Shah of Iran himself became one of its most faithful aficionados. The simple and buttery taste of this typical Apulian product means that it is appreciated by everyone who, wishing to explore Mediterranean cuisine, seeks simple, genuine products that are not overly processed.

Burrata di Andria figures on the menus of numerous restaurants all over the world, which highlight the product's value by specifying that it comes from Andria in Italy. In addition to having faithfully preserved the link between production tradition and territory, Burrata di Andria has succeeded in building up a remarkable market prominence given its limited shelf life, which restricts its marketing. As Burrata is a product that has to be consumed fresh, it seems to have been overlooked by the major commercial operators and relegated to a niche market. Nevertheless, there is still strong demand for this product due to the fact that it enjoys an excellent reputation among consumers.

Numerous articles have been written about this cheese in both the national and foreign press. In a report dated 26 August 1977, *Il Corriere della Sera* referred to the Burrata di Andria as an example of cheese-making excellence in Apulia and indeed all of southern Italy.

An article in *La Repubblica* dated 16 December 1999 specifically mentioned 'Burrata di Andria' as a product worth preserving.

It was also described as an amazing and unique cheese in an article by Allan Bay on www.vivimilano.it/atavola.

In an article on 30 July 1999, the *Il Sole 24 Ore*, referred to Burrata as one of Apulia's outstanding culinary specialities.

An article in *La Stampa*, written by Vanna Pescatori, entitled '*La Mondanità*', this exquisite cheese is mentioned on the menu of the Gala dinner organised by Ferrari, the prestigious car manufacturer based in Maranello.

In an article in the *Il Sole 24 ore* Sunday supplement '*Tempo Liberato*' by Davide Paolini entitled 'Delicious culinary heritage that must be preserved', the journalist likened 'Burrata di Andria' to other Italian culinary specialities such as Mozzarella di Bufala Campana, Coppa Piacentina, Caciocavallo Silano, etc. that should be protected and preserved.

On 18 August 1990, Nicola Dante Basile, in an article entitled 'Cheese: pecorino is the leading export' in the agricultural supplement of *Il Sole 24 Ore*, describe 'Burrata di Andria' as 'demanding' — no doubt in reference to the care bordering on veneration with which such a cheese should be treated.

In 2000, following the establishment of the register of traditional products by the Ministry of Agriculture (with Ministerial Decree No 350/1999), *Burrata di Andria* was immediately registered on the Apulia region's very first list.

It has also been described by Alberto Pejranò as 'a dairy jewel' in the feature 'Slow food weekends — the flavours of Frederick II's Apulia' on 9 October 2000. On the website www.stayinitaly.com in the section on the Apulia Region, 'Burrata di Andria' is mentioned as one of the region's typical cheeses. Other writers on the website www.agipzone.com describe 'Burrata di Andria' as the height of refinement.

Despite its short shelf-life, Burrata di Andria is greatly appreciated abroad, even in countries as far away as the USA, where the product is shipped weekly by some member producers. An example of its popularity is that it figures on the menu of 'Il Fornaio', a well-known chain of restaurants that often organises themed campaigns during which it promotes certain specialities and delicacies.

Reference to publication of the specification

(the second subparagraph of Article 6(1) of this Regulation)

The consolidated text of the product specification can be consulted on the following website:
<http://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/3335>

or alternatively:

by going directly to the homepage of the Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policy (www.politicheagricole.it) and clicking on 'Qualità e sicurezza' (at the top right-hand side of the screen) and then on 'Disciplinari di Produzione all'esame dell'UE'.

