

PRESS RELEASE

1. Competence of the CSSF as regards the takeover bid that Mittal Steel Company (Mittal) has announced to have the intention to launch on Arcelor S.A. (Arcelor).

The Luxembourg law of 23 December 1998, as amended, establishing a *commission de surveillance du secteur financier* sets down in article 2. (1) that the "Commission is the competent authority for the supervision of securities markets". The general missions of the CSSF are laid down in article 3 of this law and apply to the sector of securities markets as well as to the other sectors under the supervision of the CSSF. Moreover, the law of 23 December 1998, as amended, relating to the supervision of securities markets reiterates and specifies the general powers of the CSSF relating to the supervision of the Luxembourg securities markets and notably provides that the CSSF ensures enforcement, in a broad sense, of the rules regarding public "exposures, offers and sales of securities".

The legal doctrine has firmly established as jurisdiction criteria the law applying to the market on which the transaction takes place and the law of the company issuing the securities in respect of which the transaction is proposed which is in the present case the target company of the takeover bid. These criteria are now also incorporated in article 4 2) a) of Directive 2004/25/EC of 21 April 2004 on takeover bids. Thus, the applicability of Luxembourg law and the competence of the Luxembourg authorities are clearly established, since both above-mentioned criteria are concurrently fulfilled, without prejudice however, because of the multiple listing of the securities concerned, to the international public interest provisions and other mandatory standards relating to the proper operation of the market of the Member States on whose territory the other markets concerned are located. While the presently intended takeover bid targets a company whose registered office is located in Luxembourg, corporate law aspects that might arise in this case will be exclusively governed by Luxembourg law.

Moreover, pursuant to the law of 23 December 1998 relating to the supervision of securities markets, the CSSF's duties include, within the context of its supervisory mission of securities markets, the co-operation and exchange of information with the authorities of the other EU Member States vested with the mission to supervise financial markets. While enforcing its prerogatives, the CSSF will actively co-operate with the other authorities concerned, with whom fruitful discussions have already been opened.

2. Control of the CSSF

As far as the control of information and measures relating to a takeover bid are concerned, the CSSF fulfils its general mission as regards investor protection and market transparency with respect to the scrutiny of the offer document and control and approval of any defensive mechanisms of the target company. The CSSF will generally follow principles drawn from the provisions of the Directive 2004/25/EC to fulfil its general missions and will have to approve, in co-operation with the other authorities involved, the terms of the offer before it approves the offer document with the publication of which the bid can eventually start. Furthermore, as regards more particularly the scrutiny of information on a offer transaction on securities and the relevant administrative procedure, the CSSF will also refer to the general principles laid down in legislative acts on offers to the public for the scrutiny of an offer document which notably sets down that an offer document shall be comprehensive, that the information provided is coherent and that the offer document shall be understandable. For other circumstances, the common provisions of Luxembourg administrative law shall apply. Should the Luxembourg legislator specify the CSSF's missions in this context by means of a specific law relating to takeover bids, the CSSF would apply this law in an objective manner from the moment it enters into force, at the latest.

3. Present situation

As regards the documents relating to the takeover bid that the offeror, i.e. Mittal, must provide, the CSSF would like to underline that it was informed by Mittal on the morning of 27 January 2006 of its intention to launch a takeover bid on Arcelor. On the same day, a press release from Mittal was reviewed by the CSSF before being published by Mittal. On Monday, 30 January 2006, the CSSF received a draft offer document, but has to date not yet received the terms proposed as final by Mittal for the takeover bid. Consequently, the CSSF's official scrutiny relating to this file could not yet be opened to date.

Luxembourg, 3 February 2006

