The following report details mergers and acquisitions activity globally during the week commencing 16th April 2012 using data from the Zephyr database.

It focuses on deal activity by target company.

Aside from M&A Rumours and Opportunities all deals were announced or completed during the week.

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M&A

Top Deal by Value

Argentinean government expropriates controlling stake in YPF from Repsol

Target: YPF SA
Value: USD 10,500 million
Announced date: 16th April 2012
Target region: Argentina
Target business: Oil and gas exploration and production services, petrol station operator

The ongoing dispute between the Argentine government and Repsol over the future of YPF has reached a key turning point, as the government seized control of a 51 per cent stake in the oil and gas company worth USD 10,500 million.

Number Two Deal by Value

Electrabel makes cash offer for International Power

Target: International Power plc
Value: USD 10,129 million
Announced date: 16th April 2012
Target region: UK
Target business: Electricity producer

GDF Suez has finally agreed terms on which to acquire London-listed International Power. The French utility, through its subsidiary Electrabel, is offering GBP 4.18 in cash for the remaining 30 per cent stake in the target, representing a premium of 4 per cent. GDF Suez was first linked to an acquisition of the stake back in 2010.

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M&A

Rumours and Opportunities

Telstra prepares to sell fixed line assets to the Australian government

Target: Telstra Corporation Ltd's fixed line assets
Estimated value: USD 11,444 million
Rumour date: 18th April 2012
Target region: Australia
Target business: Fixed line telecommunications services

Australian telecommunications giant Telstra is set to sell its fixed line assets worth AUD 11,000 million to the government. These assets will form the basis of the country's National Broadband Network. The deal marks the highest-value M&A transaction of the week.

Abu Dhabi may sell Daimler stake: Reuters

Target: Daimler AG
Estimated value: USD 5,351 million
Rumour date: 19th April 2012
Target region: Germany
Target business: Car and truck manufacturer

Abu Dhabi fund Aabar is mulling the sale of its 9 per cent stake in German luxury car maker Daimler, according to Reuters. The sovereign wealth fund became the largest shareholder in Daimler after purchasing the interest for EUR 1,954 million in 2009.

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Capital Increase

Anglo American holds capital increase

Target: Anglo American plc
Value: USD 2,293 million
Completed date: 16th April 2012
Target region: UK
Target business: Platinum, diamond, copper, nickel, iron ore and coal mining services

London-listed mining and natural resources group Anglo American applied for a block listing of just over 63 million shares, representing a 5 per cent stake, which will be reserved for the conversion of convertible bonds due in 2014.

Private Equity

Qatar Holding acquires Smeralda Resorts in secondary buyout from Colony Capital

Target: Smeralda Holding Srl
Value: USD 1,307 million
Announced date: 16th April 2012
Target region: Italy
Target business: Hotel operator

Gulf-based sovereign wealth fund Qatar Holding has signed an agreement to acquire Colony Capital's 86 per cent stake in Italian hotel and resorts group Smeralda Holding, in a secondary buyout. Qatar already held a 14 per cent interest in the business.

-Ends-

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