

## Swedish Competition Authority requires prolonged investigation

As earlier communicated in a press release dated March 25, 2009, RNB RETAIL AND BRANDS has entered into an agreement with Åhléns AB to divest RNB's stores at NK Stockholm and NK Gothenburg. The divestment is conditional upon approval of the Swedish Competition Authority and approval by an Extraordinary General Meeting of RNB shareholders, which was given on April 15, 2009.

The Competition Authority on June 2, 2009 decided to implement a special investigation prior to making its final decision concerning approval of the acquisition. It was estimated that the special investigation was to be completed no later than at the beginning of September 2009.

The Swedish Competition Authority has today submitted an application to the District Court requesting an extension until October 1, 2009 concerning its opinion on Åhléns AB's offer for RNB's operations at NK in Stockholm and Gothenburg. Åhléns AB and RNB RETAIL AND BRANDS have consented to the extension.

The District Court is expected to grant its formal approval of the extended period within the next few days.

### **For further information, contact:**

Cecilia Lannebo, IR, RNB RETAIL AND BRANDS +46 (0) 8-410 520 45,+46 768 87 20 45, e-mail: [cecilia.lannebo@rnb.se](mailto:cecilia.lannebo@rnb.se)

*RNB RETAIL AND BRANDS AB is organized on the basis of two business areas - Polarn O. Pyret and a distribution platform for national and international brands. Polarn O. Pyret is a brand focused on baby and children's wear. The distribution platform consists of two main areas, Department Stores and Store Concepts. Department store operations are conducted via stores in the NK, Steen & Ström, Illum and Kosta outlet department stores. The store concepts comprise JC, Brothers and Sisters.*