

**Royal Decree of 22 January 1998 relating to the filing of complaints and applications referred to in Article 23, § 1, c) and d) of the Act on the Protection of Economic Competition, coordinated on 1 July 1999 (Belgian Official Gazette, 24 April 1998), as amended by the Royal Decree of 28 December 1999 (Belgian Official Gazette, 1 February 2000)**

*Unofficial coordination*

**Article 1.** - For the purpose of this Decree, the following definitions shall apply :

- Act : the Act on the Protection of Economic Competition, coordinated on 1 July 1999;
- Office : the Competition Office referred to in Article 14 of the Act;
- Corps : the Corps of Examiners established by the Act;
- Council : the Competition Council established by the Act.

**Art. 2.** § 1. Complaints and applications as referred to in Article 23, § 1, c) and d) of the Act and, if need be, the annexes thereto shall be lodged with the Council at the following address : Competition Council, de Meeûssquare 23, 1000 Brussels.

§ 2. Where complaints and applications as referred to in Article 23, § 1, c) and d) of the Act are signed by representatives of natural or legal persons, such representatives shall produce written authority stating their power of representation. Where the represented person is a legal person, evidence of the powers of said person shall be annexed to the form of authority.

Where complaints and applications as referred to in Article 23, § 1, c) and d) of the Act are filed by legal persons acting through their organs, they shall include in an annex evidence of the signatories' authority.

§ 3. Natural or legal persons or their representatives filing a complaint or application shall provide a correspondence address in Belgium.

**Art. 3.** § 1. Ten copies of each complaint and application as referred to in Article 2, § 1 of this Decree and, if necessary, of the annexes thereto, shall be filed with the Council.

These copies shall be delivered to the Council by registered letter or by courier against acknowledgement of receipt.

§ 2. Complaints and applications shall be circumstantial and shall clearly identify the restrictive competitive practices as well as the concentrations of undertakings referred to in the Act.

Complaints and applications shall be backed up with relevant substantiating documents.

§ 3. Complaints and applications shall be drawn up in one of the national languages. The annexes to a complaint or application shall be lodged in their original language. If that language

is not one of the national languages, the examiner appointed by the Corps or the Council may require the natural or legal persons filing the complaint or application to provide a translation of all or part of the annexes.

**Art. 4.** The Council shall without delay acknowledge receipt of complaints and applications submitted pursuant to this Decree. The acknowledgement of receipt shall indicate the registration number of the complaint or application and the date on which it is transmitted to the Corps.

The Secretariat of the Corps shall without delay communicate the name and address of the examiner appointed by the Corps to the natural or legal persons or to their representatives who have lodged the application or complaint by normal mail or by fax.

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