

COOPERATION AGREEMENT

in the competition policy field concluded between:

Competition Authority of Albania

and

Commission for Protection
of Competition of the Republic of Macedonia

(Hereinafter referred to as "the Parties")

- ❖ Expressing the wish to promote cooperation and enforcement in the field of competition policy;
- ❖ Aiming at creation of favorable conditions for the development of bilateral relations and regional cooperation;
- ❖ Based on principles of equality and mutual benefit;
- ❖ Ensuring the conditions for an effective functioning of the goods and services markets according to the competition rules/principles;
- ❖ Underlying the role of competition in the real and effective development of market economy;

Have agreed as follows:

Article I

The Parties will promote and strengthen cooperation in competition law enforcement and policy.

Article II

Cooperation will be realized in the mutual interest of the Parties in the basic directions as follows:

- a) Exchange of information on legislative norms and/or other legal tools on the basis

- of which the Parties' activities are carried out for the fulfillment of competences in the competition field;
- b) Cooperation for the improvement of the legal framework on restrictive business practices and of economic concentration control, taking into account the Parties' experience and the Acquis Communautaire;
 - c) Exchange of experience in the field of case investigations, concerning the violation of competition legislation;
 - d) Development of a common data base for research / documentation and studies in the competition field;
 - e) Development of bilateral cooperation for attendance to various activities organized at regional, European or international level.

Article III

The main forms of the Parties' interaction in the field of competition policy may be as follows:

- a) Exchange of non-confidential information related to the legislative developments and cases;
- b) Organizing study visits aiming at experts training;
- c) Exchange of experts for participation in professional activities and/or for assistance on enforcement and for improvement of decision-making process, if necessary, at the request of one of the Parties;
- d) Attendance to the conferences, symposiums, seminars and/or other events organized in Macedonia and in Albania having as purpose the competition advocacy;
- e) Organization of working groups at expert's level within both Parties to operatively ensure the interface for exchange of information on concrete interest issues by e-mail;
- f) Organization of meetings/visits at the high level within both Parties for discussing the perspectives and directions in which the bilateral cooperation will continue;
- g) Organization of training stages, in the limit of available funds;
- h) Exchange of documents, studies and books on competition.

Article IV

The transfer of information will be made in English language by e-mail or on the occasion of Parties' representatives meetings.

Article V

The events' agenda, date, place and other elements, including financial ones, shall be individually established by Parties.

Article VI

In order to apply the objectives of the present Agreement, the Parties shall designate the contact persons to be notified: the contacts shall take place within official and/or informal meetings.

Article VII

The disputes regarding the interpretation and implementation of the present Agreement, if any, will be solved by the Parties through friendly means.

Article VIII

The present Agreement shall not infringe and/or otherwise affect the rights and obligations of the Parties relating to other regional or international agreements, which they are signatories to.

Article IX

The present Agreement may be jointly revised by Parties, further to prior consultations.

Article X

The present Agreement shall enter into force for a not defined period at the date of its effective signature.

Article XI

Each of the Parties has the right to withdraw itself from Agreement by submitting a prior written notification to the other Party, within 3 months before the withdrawal become effective.

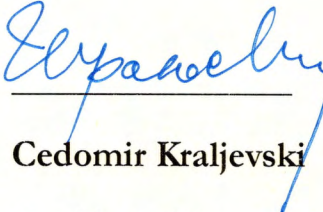
Article XII

The Agreement is signed in Tirana on the date of 5 December 2007 in 2 copies, in English language.



Lindita Milo (Lati)

***Chairwoman of the Competition Authority
Republic of Albania***



Cedomir Kraljevski

***President of the
Commission for Protection
of Competition
Republic of Macedonia***