



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

COMPETITIVENESS AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS



27.02.09

Abolishing accounting requirements for micro enterprises

COM(2009) 83 - Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 78/660/EEC on the annual accounts of certain types of companies as regards micro-entities

In this document the Commission is proposing an amendment to Directive 78/660/EEC on the annual accounts of certain types of companies (the 4th Company Law Directive) so as to allow Member States to completely abolish financial reporting obligations for the EU's smallest companies.

The Commission suggests establishing an option for Member States of removing the micro-entities from the scope of the 4th Company Law and Directive and, by doing so, relieving them from the requirement to draw up annual accounts. The objective of this proposal is to simplify the business environment and particularly the financial reporting requirements for micro-entities in order to enhance their competitiveness and release their growth potential. The changes should lead to reduced administrative burdens while safeguarding adequate protection and information to stakeholders and enable alignment of the micro-entities' reporting requirements with the real needs of users and preparers.

SOLVIT Report

SEC (2009) 142 – Commission Staff Working Document – SOLVIT 2008 Report - Development and performance of the SOLVIT network in 2008

SOLVIT is a network created by the Commission and the Member States, with the aim of solving problems that arise for individual citizens and businesses as a result



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

of the misapplication of internal market law. All of the EU Member States, plus Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein, have set up a national SOLVIT centre. These centres cooperate directly via an on-line database to devise rapid and pragmatic solutions to the problems submitted by citizens and businesses. SOLVIT has been operational since July 2002.

The document in question is a report on the performance and development of SOLVIT in 2008. The recommendations at the end of the report indicate which actions are needed by the Commission and the Member States to ensure that good practices continue to be applied. It also addresses the problems that may prevent SOLVIT from developing its full potential.

Convention on a common transit procedure

[SEC \(2009\) 143](#) - Draft Decision No 1/2009 OF THE EC-EFTA¹ Joint Committee on Common Transit amending the Convention of 20 May 1987 on a common transit procedure

The Convention on a common transit procedure lays down specific measures in particular as regards guarantees to be provided in respect of goods which involve higher risk of fraud in the course of a transit operation. Annex I of Appendix I of the Convention contains a list of such goods. The regular review of the list in Annex I of Appendix I to the Convention conducted on the basis of information collected from the Contracting Parties has shown that certain goods which appear in that list are no longer considered to involve a higher risk of fraud. It is thus appropriate to adjust the list in Annex I accordingly.

The document in question is a draft decision of the EC-EFTA joint Committee on common transit to amend the Convention by amending Annex I of Appendix I to the Convention.

EEA Agreement

[SEC \(2009\) 160](#) - Draft Decision of the EEA² Joint Committee No amending Annex II (Technical regulations, standards, testing and certification) and Protocol 37 to the EEA Agreement³

¹ European Free Trade Association

² European Economic Area



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

In order to ensure the requisite legal security and homogeneity of the Internal Market, the EEA Joint Committee is to integrate all the relevant Community legislation into the EEA Agreement as soon as possible after its adoption. The EEA Joint Committee should thus adopt the draft Decision to amend Annex II on technical regulations, standards, testing and certification to the EEA Agreement by adding new Community *acquis* concerning medicinal products.

This draft Joint Committee Decision establishes the modalities for the participation of the EEA EFTA States in the European Medicines Agencies, as well as a number of relevant committees and co-ordination groups.

The draft decision of the EEA Joint Committee is submitted for the approval of the Council, after which the Commission will put forward the position of the Community in the EEA Joint Committee at the earliest possible occasion.

CONSULTATION NOTE

Public consultation document on the review of the RoHS Directive – Directive 2002/95/EC on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment

Discussions on the Commission's proposal to review the RoHS directive have just started. The Commission's proposal may be found at:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2008:0809:FIN:EN:PDF>

The proposal seeks to do the following:

1. Assign clearer responsibilities to manufacturers, importers and distributors;
2. Attempt to clarify the scope of the directive;
3. Introduce medical devices with in its scope from January 2014;
4. Introduce In Vitro Diagnostic devices with in its scope from January 2016
5. Introduce industrial monitoring and control instruments with in its scope from January 2017;
6. Introduce a mechanism for the inclusion of new substances with in the scope of the directive;
7. Apply in parallel with REACH;
8. Call for the affixing of the CE mark and the drawing up of a declaration of conformity

Who would be interested: All economic operators that deal in electrical and electronic products

What may be affected: An indication may be obtained from Annex II of the proposal



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

JUDGEMENTS OF THE EUROPEAN COURT OF JUSTICE

CASE 311/06 - Consiglio degli Ingegneri v. Ministero della Giustizia, Marco Cavallera

In this judgement the Court held that the mere approval by one Member State of a qualification awarded by another Member State does not constitute a 'diploma' giving access to a regulated profession in the latter State. [More info](#)

CASE 318/07 - Hein Persche v Finanzamt Lüdenscheid

In this judgement the Court held that a tax deduction for gifts to charitable bodies must not be restricted to bodies established in the national territory.

COMMISSION CONSULTATION

Commission consults on a possible European Foundation Statute

The European Commission has launched a public consultation on the difficulties foundations face when operating cross-border, on the content of a possible European Foundation Statute and on how a Statute might affect donors' and founders' attitudes.

The questionnaire is available at:

http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/company/eufoundation/index_en.htm

Responses should be sent at the latest on **15 May 2009** to DG MARKT
Unit F2, European Commission, B-1049 Brussels or to market consultation



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

COMMISSION CONSULTATION

Call for evidence on Investor-Compensation Schemes Directive (Directive 1997/9/EC)

The aim of this call for evidence is to gather contributions by stakeholders and public authorities on the functioning of the Investor-Compensation Schemes Directive, in particular under the current financial turmoil, in order to assess whether it is necessary to review some aspects of the Directive ten years after its entry into force.

Deadline for consultation: 08.04.2009

Contributions from citizens, organisations and public authorities are welcome:

- If you are answering this consultation as a **citizen**, please [click here](#) to submit your contribution.
- If you are answering this consultation on behalf of an **organisation**, please [click here](#) to submit your contribution.
- If you are answering this consultation on behalf of a **public authority**, please [click here](#) to submit your contribution.

Received contributions will be published on the Internet. It is important to read the specific privacy statement attached to this consultation for