

Paris, August 23, 2017

#### **MINUTES**

of the T.R.A.D.E. Commission Meeting

held in

Riga, May 19, 2017, 3pm

Hotel Radisson Blu Latvija, Riga

### 1. Welcome

Babak opens the meeting and welcomes all attendees<sup>1</sup>.

2. Short introduction of the Commission to new members and introduction of the present participants

Babak presents the Commission. All attendees introduce themselves.

3. Approval of the minutes dated 25<sup>th</sup> November 2016 (HYC, Verona)

The minutes dated November 25, 2016 (HYC, Verona) were approved.

### 4. Feedback on the activities of the Commission in 2016/2017

The session "How to fashion contracts II – Crucial clauses in distribution contracts" was a success and attracted a high number of participants.

5. Update on the Commission's seminar in October 2017 (Bratislava)

The seminar will take place on 12-14 October 2017 and will be a double seminar organized with the Labour Commission. Christine indicates that the program is almost finalized and will deal with hot topics concerning various areas covered by the TRADE commission, in particular on-line distribution and platforms, distribution of pharmaceutical products, unfair commercial practices, balance in the negotiation of contracts and codes of ethics. Since the commission shares this seminar with the Labour Commission, topics interesting both commissions will also be presented, in particular TUPE issues when terminating a distribution

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The <sup>1</sup> See Annex for list of attendees.

agreement and the requalification of franchise and agency agreements into employment agreements.

Several members indicate that they would be interested in participating as speakers in this event.

# 6. Update on the Commission's activities for the 2017 Young Lawyers Congress in Tokyo

The session is jointly organized with the Transport Commission by Lucas Leite Marques (Transport Commission) and Benedikt Rohrssen (T.R.A.D.E. Commission). The session will deal with "Unmanned distribution". Lucas and Ben are currently selecting speakers and working on the content of the session. Mr Oskar Levander, Vice-President Innovation, Engineering & Technology, Marine at Rolls Royce may accept the role of keynote speaker at this session.

### 7. Update on status of 'International T.R.A.D.E. Days' in 2018

An annual conference of the TRADE commission should take place in April 2018 in Amsterdam. The commission is looking for volunteers to help organizing this event. Topics which could be of interest for in-house lawyers should be the priority. Drafting tips in distribution/commercial contracts were suggested.

8. Ideas for future seminars/workshops/working sessions and other events

It was suggested to include in one of the future seminar issues in relation to world

trade law. Even though this would be an interesting topic, it was reminded that
the commission does not deal with international public trade law, although the
commission's name might – on the first glance – be confusing in this respect.

The idea of a seminar or session about Brexit was discussed. Although the
participants to the meeting were not all convinced that a whole seminar could be
organized on this theme at this stage, Elena indicated that Brexit is a hot topic in
the UK which raises many interesting issues. This idea needs to be further
developed, maybe once we better know how the consequences of Brexit will be
dealt with by the UK and the EU.

# 9. Feedback on the Commission's Newsletter and encouragement to send in interesting articles, comments etc.

The commission presented its new Communication Officer, Elena Kadelburger.

The commission received more news and articles for the last Newsletter, which is very good news. Babak and Christine again encouraged everyone to contact Elena and share their professional news (change of firm, participation into

various events, publications, etc.) in the Newsletter and send legal articles to be published in the Newsletter.

# 10. Encouragement to be active in the Commission's Social media network on LinkedIn

Babak encouraged the attendees to join LinkedIn and be active on the platform.

No further points to be discussed, nor raised. Meeting is closed at 4.00 pm.

## The T.R.A.D.E. Presidency

Babak Tabeshian

Christine Borfiga

Moritz Maurer

### **Annex: List of Attendees**

Name Country

Babak Tabeshian, Germany

Christine Borfiga France

Joyce Pitcher France

Jakub Pohl Czech Republic

Tomas Rybar Slovakia

Olivier Sasserath Belgium

Elena Kadelburger UK

Dominik Wagner Germany

Ilja Czernik Germany

Jan v. Deichsel Germany

Marijn de Ruysscher Netherlands

Marco Gardino Italy

Chiara Caliandro Italy

Manuel Moling Italy

Giuliano Stasio Italy

Nicolas Mosimann Switzerland

Daniele Bracchi Italy

Marco Gardino Italy

Gergana Georgieva Georgia

Sorawat Wongkaweepairot Thailand

David Diris Belgium

Arpad Gered Austria

Lisa Taylor Ireland