# NOTICES FROM MEMBER STATES

# The information referring to Article 71 of Council Regulation (EC) No 4/2009 on jurisdiction, applicable law, recognition and enforcement of decisions and cooperation in matters relating to maintenance obligations (1)

(2015/C 38/06)

### List 1

The names of the courts or authorities with competence to deal with applications for a declaration of enforceability in accordance with Article 27(1) are the following:

- in Belgium, the Court of First Instance ('tribunal de première instance'/'rechtbank van eerste aanleg'/'erstinstanzliches Gericht'),
- in Bulgaria, the District Court ('окръжният съд'),
- in the Czech Republic, the District Court ('okresní soud'); in Prague, the Circuit Court ('obvodní soud'); in Brno, the Municipal Court ('městský soud'),
- in Denmark, the State Administration for Denmark ('Statsforvaltningen'),
- in Germany:
  - (a) the family division of the Local Court ('Amtsgericht-Familiengericht') in the place where a Higher Regional Court ('Oberlandesgericht'), in whose district the person against whom the application is made is habitually resident or in whose district enforcement is sought, is situated;
  - (b) in the district of the Higher Regional Court in Berlin ('Kammergericht' Berlin), the Local Court of Pankow-Weiss ('Amtsgerichts Pankow/Weissensee');
  - (c) if the proceedings concern the enforceability of a notarial document, that document may also be declared enforceable by a notary,
- in Estonia, the County Court ('maakohtud'),
- in Greece, the Court of First Instance ('Μονομελές Πρωτοδικείο'),
- in Spain, the Court of First Instance ('Juzgado de Primera Instancia'),
- in France, the President of the Regional Court ('tribunal de grande instance') or the President of the Chamber of Notaries ('Président de la Chambre des Notaires'),
- in Croatia, the Municipal Court ('Općinski sud'),
- in Ireland, the Master of the High Court,
- in Italy, the Court of Appeal ('Corte d'appello'),
- in Cyprus, the District Family Court ('Οικογενειακό Δικαστήριο') in Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca/Famagusta and Paphos,
- in Latvia, the District (or City District) Court ('rajona (pilsētas) tiesa'),
- in Lithuania, the Lithuanian Court of Appeal ('Lietuvos apeliacinis teismas'),
- in Luxembourg, the President of the 'Tribunal d'arrondissement',
- in Hungary, the District Courts ('Járásbíróság') situated at the seat of the Regional Court ('Törvényszék'); in Budapest, the Central District Court of Buda ('Budai Központi Kerületi Bíróság'),
- in Malta, the Civil Court (Family Section),
- in the Netherlands, the judges hearing applications for interim relief at the District Court ('voorzieningenrechter van de Rechtbank'),
- in Austria, the District Court ('Bezirksgericht'),
- in Poland, the District Court ('sady okręgowy'),

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>) OJ L 7, 10.1.2009, p. 1.

- in Portugal, the Family and Juvenile District Courts ('Secções de família e menores das instâncias centrais') and other sections of the District Courts ('Secções de competência genérica ou cível das instâncias locais'), depending on the courts that exist in that territorial jurisdiction,
- in Romania, the Tribunal ('Tribunalul'),
- in Slovenia, the District Court ('okrožno sodišče'),
- in Slovakia, the District Court ('okresný súd'),
- in Finland, the District Court ('käräjäoikeus'/'tingsrätt'),
- in Sweden, the Svea Court of Appeal ('Svea hovrätt'),
- in the United Kingdom:
  - (a) in England and Wales, the Family Court on transmission by the Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Unit (REMO Unit);
  - (b) in Scotland, the Sheriff Court, on transmission by Scottish Ministers;
  - (c) in Northern Ireland, the Magistrates' Court on transmission by the Department of Justice;
  - (d) in Gibraltar, the Clerk to the Magistrates' Court.

The names of the courts with competence to deal with appeals against decisions on applications for a declaration of enforceability in accordance with Article 32(2) are the following:

- in Belgium, for the defendant, the Court of First Instance ('tribunal de première instance'/'rechtbank van eerste aanleg'/ 'erstinstanzliches Gericht') and, for the appellant, the Court of Appeal ('cour d'appel'/'hof van beroep'),
- in Bulgaria, the Sofia Court of Appeal ('Софийският апелативен съд'),
- in the Czech Republic, the Regional Court ('krajský soud'), through the District Court ('okresní soud') that issued the decision; in Prague, the Municipal Court ('městský soud'), through the Circuit Court ('obvodní soud') that issued the decision; in Brno, the Regional Court ('krajský soud'), through the Municipal Court ('městský soud'), that issued the decision,
- in Denmark, the National Social Appeal Board, Division of Family Affairs ('Ankestyrelsen, Familieretsafdelingen'),
- in Germany, the Higher Regional Court ('Oberlandesgericht') through the Court that issued the decision,
- in Estonia, the Circuit Court ('ringkonnakohtud'),
- in Greece, the Court of Appeal (Έφετείο') in whose regional jurisdiction the court of first instance that issued the decision falls,
- in Spain, the Provincial Court ('audiencia provincial'),
- in France, the Court of Appeal ('Cour d'appel'),
- in Croatia, the County Court ('Županijski sud') through the Municipal Court ('Općinski sud'), i.e. the court of first instance that made the decision,
- in Ireland, the High Court,
- in Italy, the Court of Appeal ('Corte d'appello'),
- in Cyprus, the Family Court of Appeal ('Δευτεροβάθμιο Οικογενειακό Δικαστήριο'),
- in Latvia, the Regional Court ('apgabaltiesā'), through the relevant District (or City District) Court ('rajona (pilsētas) tiesa'),
- in Lithuania, the Lithuanian Court of Appeal ('Lietuvos apeliacinis teismas'),

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- in Luxembourg, the Superior Court hearing the appeal ('Cour Supérieure de Justice siégeant en matière d'appel civil'),
- in Hungary, the Regional Courts ('Törvényszékek'); in Budapest, the Budapest-Capital Regional Court ('Fővárosi Törvényszék'),
- in Malta, the Court of Appeal,
- in the Netherlands, the District Court ('Rechtbank') of the interim relief judge who ruled on the application,
- in Austria, the Regional Court ('Landesgericht'), through the District Court ('Bezirksgericht') that issued the decision,
- in Poland, the Court of Appeal ('Sąd apelacyjny'), through the Regional Court ('sąd rejonowy') that issued the decision,
- in Portugal, the Court of Appeal ('Tribunal da Relação'),
- in Romania, the Court of appeal ('Curtea de apel'),
- in Slovenia, the Court that issued the decision,
- in Slovakia, the Regional Court ('krajský súd'), through the District Court ('okresný súd') that issued the decision,
- in Finland, the Court of Appeal ('hovrätt'),
- in Sweden, the Svea Court of Appeal ('Svea hovrätt'),
- in the United Kingdom:
  - (a) in England and Wales, the Family Court on transmission by the REMO Unit;
  - (b) in Scotland, the Sheriff Court, on transmission by Scottish Ministers;
  - (c) in Northern Ireland, the Magistrates' Court on transmission by the Department of Justice;
  - (d) in Gibraltar, the Clerk to the Magistrates' Court.

#### List 3

The redress procedures referred to in Article 33 are the following:

- in Belgium, appeals on a point of law may be lodged before the Court of Cassation ('pourvoi en cassation devant la Cour de Cassation') against a judgment issued on appeal,
- in Bulgaria, appeals before the Supreme Court of Cassation ('Върховният касационен съд'),
- in the Czech Republic, requests for annulment ('žaloba pro zmatečnosť) in accordance with Section 229 et seq. of the Code of Civil Procedure, requests for a new trial ('zaloba na obnovu rizeni') in accordance with Section 228 et seq. of the Code of Civil Procedure and appeals on a point of law ('dovolání') in accordance with Section 236 et seq. of the Code of Civil Procedure and, for certain cases, in accordance with Section 30 of the Special Judicial Proceedings Act may be lodged before the Supreme Court against a judgment on appeal,
- in Denmark, decisions taken by the National Social Appeal Board, Division of Family Affairs ('Ankestyrelsen, Familieretsafdelingen') can be examined by the courts in accordance with Article 63 of the Constitution. Cases requiring the examination of a decision by the National Social Appeal Board, Division of Family Affairs, may be brought before the court in the jurisdiction of the complainant's domicile in Denmark, if the complainant is domiciled in Denmark. If he or she is not domiciled in Denmark, the case must be brought before Copenhagen District Court ('Københavns Byret'). Appeals against any decision by Copenhagen District Court may be lodged with the High Court ('landsretten'); appeals against any decision by the latter may be lodged with the Supreme Court ('Højesteret'), provided that the Appeals Permission Board ('Procesbevillingsnævnet') gives its consent. On receiving an application from a party, Copenhagen District Court may refer the case for examination by the High Court if a matter of principle is at stake,

- in Germany, further appeals ('Rechtsbeschwerde') may be brought before the Federal Court of Justice ('Bundesgerichtshof'). The further appeal must be brought within one month of service of the decision of the Appeal Court,
- in Estonia, appeals to the Supreme Court ('Riigikohus') (Code of Civil Procedure, Section 625 and Sections 695-701),
- in Greece, appeals in cassation ('αἰτηση αναἰρεσης') are brought before the Civil and Criminal Supreme Court ('Areios Pagos' or 'Άρειος Πάγος'),
- in Spain, extraordinary appeals based on a procedural infringement are made to the Superior Court of Justice, in each autonomous community ('Tribunal Superior de Justicia, en cada Comunidad Autónoma') and appeals in cassation are made to the Supreme Court ('recurso de casación ante el Tribunal Supremo'). These appeals are governed by Chapters IV and V, respectively, 'Extraordinary appeal based on a procedural infringement' ('Del recurso extraordinario por infracción procesal') and 'Appeal in cassation' ('Del recurso de casación'), of Title IV of Law 1/2000 on Civil Procedure,
- in France, appeals on a point of law ('pourvoi en cassation') are made to the Court of Cassation, which is governed by the rules laid down in Articles 973-982 and 1009-1031 of the Code of Civil Procedure,
- in Croatia, a revision before the Supreme Court of the Republic of Croatia ('Vrhovni sud Republike Hrvatske'), through the Municipal Court ('Općinski sud') that issued the decision at first instance, in accordance with Articles 382-400 of the Civil Procedure Act or a retrial on motion by one of the parties submitted to the Municipal Court ('Općinski sud') that issued the decision at first instance, in accordance with Articles 421-428 of the Civil Procedure Act,
- in Ireland, appeals on a point of law are made to the Court of Appeal (However, in accordance with the provisions of the Irish Constitution, the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction from a decision of the High Court if it is satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances warranting a direct appeal to it. The Supreme Court shall also have appellate jurisdiction from a decision of the Court of Appeal if it is satisfied that certain conditions laid down in the Constitution are satisfied.),
- in Italy, the ordinary and extraordinary procedures for contesting such decisions are appeals to the Court of Cassation, revocation by the same court and third-party challenges ('Ricorso per cassazione; Revocazione; Opposizione di terzo'),
- in Cyprus, no further appeal can be made to any other court,
- in Latvia, appeals are brought before the Supreme Court, through the relevant Regional Court ('pārsūdzēt Augstākajā tiesā ar attiecīgās apgabaltiesas starpniecību'),
- in Lithuania, appeals in cassation are brought before the Supreme Court of Lithuania ('Lietuvos Aukščiausiasis Teismas'). When an appeal in cassation has been accepted, it is entered, as a matter of priority, in the list of cases to be heard in cassation by the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court sets a deadline of no more than 14 days for submitting responses to the appeal. In its notification of registration of the appeal in the list of cases to be heard in cassation by the Supreme Court (Article 350(7) of the Code of Civil Procedure), the Supreme Court notifies the parties and other persons involved in the case of the deadline set for responding to the appeal. The parties must, and other persons involved in the case may, submit a written response to the appeal by the deadline set by the Supreme Court. That deadline is calculated from the date on which the appeal was entered in the list of cases to be heard in cassation by the Supreme Court,
- in Luxembourg, the decision given on a first appeal may only be contested by a further appeal on a point of law ('pourvoi en cassation') to the Court of Cassation,
- in Hungary, requests for review ('felülvizsgálati kérelem') are adjudicated by the Supreme Court (Curia), through the District Court ('Járásbíróság') that issued the decision at first instance,
- in Malta, no further appeal can be made to any other court,
- in the Netherlands, appeals in cassation are brought before the Supreme Court of the Netherlands ('Hoge Raad der Nederlanden'). Cassation can only consider points of law. The Supreme Court examines only whether the law, including the procedural rules, has been correctly applied. In matters of fact it is bound by what was established in the contested judgment. The parties in appeals in cassation are represented by a lawyer at the Supreme Court. In application proceedings, an application is submitted setting out the grounds for appeal. The defendant may lodge a statement of defence within three weeks (or a different period of time determined by the Supreme Court). If it is deemed to be in the interests of the case, the lawyers may provide clarification. The Procurator General of the Supreme Court produces a written opinion, whereupon the Supreme Court issues its judgment,

- in Austria, an appeal ('Revisionsrekurs') pursuant to Articles 78(1) and 84(4) of the Enforcement Code ('Exekutionsordnung') in conjunction with Article 528 of the Code of Civil Procedure ('Zivilprozessordnung') must be lodged with the District Court (court of first instance), which will refer it to the Supreme Court for decision,
- in Poland, appeals in cassation ('skarga kasacyjna') (Articles 398<sup>1</sup>-398<sup>21</sup> of the Polish Code of Civil Procedure), are brought before the Polish Supreme Court ('Sąd Najwyższy'). The appeal in cassation must be filed with the Supreme Court through the Appeal Court ('Sąd apelacyjny') that issued the contested decision (Article 398<sup>5</sup>(1) in conjunction with Article 1151<sup>1</sup>(3) of the Polish Code of Civil Procedure),
- in Portugal, appeals to the Supreme Court ('Supremo Tribunal de Justiça') can only be made on a point of law,
- in Romania, a decision issued on appeal may be challenged by means of a second appeal before the High Court of Cassation and Justice ('Înalta Curte de Casație și Justiție') (Article 97(1) of Law No 134/2010 on the Code of Civil Procedure),
- in Slovenia, appeals are made to the Supreme Court ('Vrhovno sodišče Republike Slovenije'),
- in Slovakia, extraordinary appeals ('dovolanie') pursuant to Articles 236-243d of the Code of Civil Procedure of the Slovak Republic, are made to the Supreme Court ('najvyšší súd'), through the court that issued the contested decision,
- in Finland, appeals are made to the Supreme Court ('korkein oikeus'/'högsta domstolen'). A person who wishes to appeal a judgment shall request leave for this from the Supreme Court ('leave to appeal'). Leave to appeal may be granted only if it is important for the case to be brought before the Supreme Court for a decision on the application of the law in other, similar cases or because of the uniformity of legal practice. Leave to appeal may also be granted, if there is a special reason for this because of a procedural or other error that has been made in the case on the basis of which the judgment is to be reversed or annulled; or if there is another important reason for granting leave to appeal instructions are annexed to the decision of the Court of Appeal. The instructions indicate on what grounds leave to appeal may be granted by law and how the person requesting leave to appeal and lodging the appeal is 60 days from the date on which the decision by the Court of Appeal was made available to the parties,
- in Sweden, appeals are made to the Supreme Court ('Högsta domstolen'). An appeal shall be handed in to Svea Court of Appeal,
- in the United Kingdom:
  - (a) in England and Wales, a single further appeal on a point of law can be made to the tier of court above the court where the first appeal was heard;
  - (b) in Scotland, an appeal can be made to the Court of Session;
  - (c) in Northern Ireland, a single further appeal on a point of law can be made to the Court of Appeal;
  - (d) in Gibraltar, an appeal can be made to the Supreme Court.

The review procedure for the purposes of Article 19 and the names of the courts with jurisdiction are the following:

- in Belgium, [...],
- in Bulgaria, the Supreme Court of Cassation ('Върховния касационен съд'),
- in the Czech Republic, the District Court ('okresní soud') that issued the judgment at first instance. An appeal is
  possible against decisions rejecting an application for a review,
- in Denmark, not applicable,
- in Germany, the Court that issued the decision. If the conditions of Article 19 are met, the provisions on judgments given by default apply by analogy. If the conditions of Article 19 are not met, the court rejects the application by decision. The decision may be taken without any oral procedure,

- in Estonia, the County Court ('maakohtud'). The procedure is conducted in line with the provisions to adjudicate petitions to set aside a default judgment, to the extent in which it has not been otherwise prescribed in the Regulation,
- in Greece, the Court that issued the decision,
- in Spain, the Court of First Instance (Juzgados de Primera Instancia') that issued the decision. The review procedure will be carried out in line with Chapter II, 'Appeals for judicial reviews and motions to have judgments set aside' ('De los recursos de reposición y revision'), of Title IV of Law 1/2000 on Civil Proceedings,
- in France, the appeal may be brought before the Court of Appeal ('court d'appel') with jurisdiction over the Court that issued the contested decision,
- in Croatia, the Municipal Court ('Općinski sud') that issued the decision at first instance. The procedure shall be instituted at the request of the party (according to the provisions of Articles 421-428 of the Civil Procedure Act) within 45 days from the day the defendant was effectively acquainted with the contents of the decision and was able to react, at the latest from the date of the first enforcement measure having the effect of making his property non-disposable in whole or in part. According to Article 117 of the Civil Procedure Act, the party may file a motion to restore a prior status and such a motion should be submitted to the court which was supposed to take an action that has not been taken,
- in Ireland, the Court that issued the decision (Superior Court, Circuit Court, District Court). The relevant Rules of Court can be found at:
  - (a) Superior Courts: Order 13 Rule 11 provides that 'where final judgment is entered pursuant to any of the preceding rules of this Order, it shall be lawful for the Court to vary or set aside such judgment upon such terms as may be just'. Furthermore, Superior Courts Order 27 Rule 14 provides that 'any judgment by default, whether under this Order or under any other of these Rules, may be set aside by the Court upon such terms as to costs or otherwise as the Court may think fit [...]';
  - (b) Circuit Court: Order 30 provides that 'any party against whom a judgment in default of appearance or defence has been given may [...] serve a notice of motion [...] to vary or set aside the said judgment'. The order goes on to provide that 'the Judge may [...] vary or set aside the judgment in question [...]';
  - (c) District Court: Order 45 Rule 3 provides that 'a party against whom any decree may have been obtained [...] may apply [...] for an order to vary or set aside the said decree [...]'. The order goes on to provide that 'the Court may [...] grant or refuse the application to vary or set aside the decree [...]',
- in Italy, the Ordinary Court ('tribunal ordinari') that issued the decision,
- in Cyprus, the District Family Court ('Οικογενειακό Δικαστήριο') that issued the contested decision. Review for the instances provided for in this Article is pursued by an application to set aside under Order 48, Rule 9(h) and (n) of the Civil Procedure Rules,
- in Latvia:
  - (a) with regard to the review of a judgment or decision by a District (City District) Court ('rajona (pilsētas) tiesa'), the relevant Regional Court ('apgabaltiesai');
  - (b) with regard to the review of a judgment or decision by a Regional Court ('apgabaltiesai'), the Chamber of Civil Cases of the Supreme Court ('Augstākās tiesas Civillietu tiesu palātai');
  - (c) with regard to the review of a judgment or decision by a chamber of the Supreme Court, the Department of Civil Cases of the Supreme Court ('Augstākās tiesas Civillietu departamentam').

An application may not be made if the period in which the enforcement document concerning the relevant ruling may be submitted for enforcement has expired. When considering an application, a Court examines whether the circumstances indicated by the applicant may be deemed circumstances warranting the review of the ruling pursuant to Article 19 of the Regulation. If the Court finds that the circumstances warrant a review of the ruling, it will rescind the contested ruling in full and refer the matter for re-examination to the court of first instance. If the Court deems that the circumstances indicated in the application do not warrant the review of the ruling, it will reject the application. An ancillary complaint may be made with regard to the Court's ruling,

- in Lithuania, the court that issued the decision: District and Regional Courts ('apylinkių teismai', 'apygardų teismai'). Once the court has accepted an application, it will forward a copy of that application and its annexes to the claimant and inform him or her that he or she must submit a written response to the application within 14 days of the date on which the application was sent. An application for a review of a decision on maintenance obligations is examined by the court by written procedure. If it deems it to be necessary, the Court may convene oral proceedings to hear the application. The Court must examine an application no later than 14 days after the expiry of the deadline for submission of responses and must adopt a ruling on one of the courses of action referred to in Article 19(3) of the Regulation,
- in Luxembourg, the Court that issued the decision. The application must be submitted in accordance with the forms
  that apply before the court that issued the decision subject to review:
  - (a) Justice de paix de Luxembourg;
  - (b) Justice de paix d'Esch-sur-Alzette;
  - (c) Justice de paix de Diekirch;
  - (d) Tribunal d'arrondissement de Luxembourg;
  - (e) Tribunal d'arrondissement de Diekirch;
  - (f) Cour Supérieure de Justice,
- in Hungary, the District Court (Járásbíróság) at first instance, in accordance with the rules of retrial (Act III of 1952 on the Code of Civil Procedure, Chapter XIII, Section 260-269),
- in Malta, the Civil Court (family section). The review procedure for the purposes of Article 19 is laid down in Article 6 of the International Maintenance Obligation Order, 2011 (LN452/11) on 'Review procedure',
- in the Netherlands, the Court that issued the decision. This may be the District Court ('Rechtbank') or the Court of Appeal ('Gerechtshof'),
- in Austria, the Court of First Instance, which will either rule on the matter itself (in the case of relief, for example) or refer it to the higher Court for decision:
  - (a) in the event of due service under Austrian law (Article 19(1)(b) of the Regulation): application for relief ('Antrag auf Wiedereinsetzung in den vorigen Stand') from the effects of failing to meet the deadline for contesting the claim or failing to attend a hearing;
  - (b) in the event of defective service under Austrian law (Article 19(1)(a) of the Regulation): there are two types of appeal, namely 'Berufung' against the decision (in the case of default judgments), and 'Rekurs' against the decision (in the case of court orders based on default),
- in Poland, the review procedure for the purposes of Article 19 of the Regulation is the procedure to overrule a decision issued in a case concerning maintenance regulated in Article 1144<sup>2</sup> of the Code of Civil Procedure. A motion to initiate such proceedings shall be submitted to the Court that issued the contested decision. It means that, depending on which court issued the contested decision on maintenance, the court with jurisdiction within the meaning of Article 19(1) of the Regulation can be:
  - (a) the Regional Court ('sąd rejonowy'); or
  - (b) the District Court ('sąd okręgowy') if this court issued a decision on maintenance in the proceedings concerning separation, divorce or annulment of marriage,
- in Portugal, the Court that issued the decision to be reviewed. The review procedure for the purposes of Article 19 is the application for review provided for in Article 696(e) of the Code of Civil Procedure and the procedure established in Article 140 of the Code of Civil Procedure,
- in Romania, the Court which handed down the decision, usually the District Court ('Judecătoria') or the Tribunal ('Tribunalul'). Pursuant to Article 505(1) of Law No 134/2010 on the Code of Civil Procedure, an action for annulment should be lodged with the court that issued the contested decision while, pursuant to Article 510(1) of Law No 134/2010 on the Code of Civil Procedure, an application for review should be lodged with the court that issued the definitive contested decision,

- in Slovenia, the District Court ('okrožno sodišče'), in particular the court that ruled at first instance. The review
  procedures for the purposed of Article 19 are the 'Reopening of the case' (Articles 394-401 of the Civil Procedure
  Act) or a 'Request for reinstatement of the status quo' (Articles 116-120),
- in Slovakia, the courts are entitled to review maintenance decisions in retrial under Articles 228-235 of the Code of Civil Procedure of the Slovak Republic. The application for retrial shall be reviewed by the District Court ('okresný súď) which adjudicated the merits of the case at the first instance,
- in Finland, the Court that issued the final judgment in the case. The procedure that applies *mutatis mutandis* is laid down in Sections 3-5 and 14a of Chapter 31 of the Code of Judicial Procedure,
- in Sweden, the Court of Appeal ('hovrätt') when the application for review concerns a decision by a District Court ('tingsrätt') or the Swedish Enforcement Authority ('Kronofogdemyndigheten'). The application must be made in writing and the applicant must specify which decision the application concerns. The application must also include the grounds upon which the application is based and the documentary and other evidence to which the applicant wishes to refer. The application must be communicated to the other party or parties,
- in the United Kingdom, not applicable.

The names and contact details of the Central Authorities and, where appropriate, the extent of their functions, in accordance with Article 49(3) are the following:

- in Belgium, the Federal Justice Public Service ('Service public fédéral Justice'): Boulevard de Waterloo 115, 1000 Brussels. Fax +32 25427006.
  - (a) for cases to be dealt with in French: Tel. +32 25426785.

E-mail: aliments@just.fgov.be

(b) for cases to be dealt with in Dutch: Tel. +32 25426762.

E-mail: alimentatie@just.fgov.be

— in Bulgaria, the Ministry of Justice ('Министерството на правосъдието'):

Ulitsa Slavyanska 1, 1040 Sofia. Tel. +359 29237555. Fax +359 29870098.

E-mail: E\_Gyurova@justice.government.bg or M\_Parvanova@justice.government.bg

 in the Czech Republic, the Office for International Legal Protection of Children ('Úřad pro mezinárodněprávní ochranu dětí'): Šilingrovo náměstí 3/4, 602 00 Brno.

Tel. +420 542215522. Fax +420 542212836.

E-mail: podatelna@umpod.cz Internet: http://www.umpod.cz

- in Denmark, not applicable,
- in Germany, the Federal Office of Justice ('Bundesamt für Justiz'): 53094 Bonn.

Tel. + 49 22899410-5534 / 22899410-5869 / 22899410-5549.

Fax 0228/99410-5050 (National) or +49 22899410-5202 (International).

E-mail: auslandsunterhalt@bfj.bund.de

— in Estonia, the Ministry of Justice ('Justiitsministeerium'):

Tõnismägi 5a, 15191 Tallinn. Tel. +372 6208100. E-mail: info@just.ee

— in Greece, the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights — Department of International Judicial Cooperation in Civil and Criminal Matters (Υπουργείο Δικαιοσύνης, Διαφάνειας και Ανθρωπίνων Δικαιωμάτων-Τμήμα Διεθνούς Δικαστικής Συνεργασίας σε Αστικές & Ποινικές Υποθέσεις):

Mesogeion 96, 115 27 Athens. Tel. +30 2107767312. Fax +30 2107767499.

E-mail: civilunit@justice.gov.gr

— in Spain, the Ministry of Justice ('Ministerio de Justicia'): Head of International Maintenance Payments. Sub-Directorate for International Judicial Cooperation, Ministry of Justice, c/ San Bernardo, 62, 28071 Madrid. Tel. + 34 913902295 / 913902294. Fax +34 913904457. E-mail: isabel.hernandez@mjusticia.es

- in France, Ministère des Affaires étrangères et européennes, Direction des Français à l'étranger et de l'administration consulaire Service des conventions, des affaires civiles et de l'entraide judiciaire Sous-direction de la protection des droits des personnes Bureau du recouvrement de créances alimentaires à l'étranger: 27 rue de la Convention CS, 91533 F, 75732 Paris Cedex 15. Tel. +33 143179199. Fax +33 143178197. E-mail: recouv-creances-alimentaires.fae-saj-pdp@diplomatie.gouv.fr
- in Croatia, the Ministry of Social Policy and Youth ('Ministarstvo socijalne politike i mladih'): Savska cesta 66, 10 000 Zagreb. Tel. +385 15557111. Fax +385 15557222. E-mail: ministarstvo@mspm.hr Internet: www.mspm.hr
- in Ireland, the Minister for Justice and Equality Department of Justice and Law Reform: Bishop's Square, Redmond's Hill, Dublin 2. Fax +353 14790201. E-mail: mainrecov\_inbox@justice.ie
- in Italy, the Department of Juvenile Justice within the Ministry of Justice ('Ministero della Giustizia–Dipartimento per la Giustizia minorile'):

via Damiano Chiesa 24, 00136 Rome.

Tel. +39 0668188326 / 0668188331. Fax +39 0668188323.

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Certified e-mail: aci0409.dgm@giustiziacert.it

— in Cyprus, the Ministry of Justice and Public Order — International Legal Cooperation Unit (Υπουργείο Δικαιοσύνης και Δημοσίας Τάξεως–Μονάδα Διεθνούς Νομικής Συνεργασίας): Athalassas Avenue 125, 1461 Nicosia.

Tel. +357 22805943. Fax +357 22805969. E-mail: yhadjiprodromou@mjpo.gov.cy

Tel. +357 22805932. Fax +357 22518328. E-mail: tdionysiou@mjpo.gov.cy

- in Latvia, the Administration of the Maintenance Guarantee Fund ('Uzturlīdzekļu garantiju fonda administrācija'): Pulkveža Brieža iela 15, Riga, LV-1010. Tel. +371 67830626. Fax +371 67830636. E-mail: pasts@ugf.gov.lv
- in Lithuania, Vilnius State-Guaranteed Legal Aid Service ('Vilniaus valstybės garantuojamos teisinės pagalbos tarnyba'): Odminių g. 11, LT-01122 Vilnius.

Tel. +370 852647480. Fax +370 852647481. E-mail: vilniausvgtpt@infolex.lt

in Luxembourg, the Public Prosecutor at the Supreme Court of Justice ('Parquet Général près la Cour supérieure de Justice')
 Parquet Général — Cité judiciaire 2080 Luxembourg. Tel. +352 475981-393 / 475981-329. Fax +352 470550.

E-mail: parquet.general@justice.etat.lu

- in Hungary, the Ministry of Justice of Hungary ('Magyarország Igazságügyi Minisztériuma'): Budapest, Kossuth square
   2-4, 1054. Tel. +36 17954846. Fax +36 17950463. E-mail: nmfo@im.gov.hu
- in Malta, Director for Social Welfare Standards Ministry for Education, Employment and the Family: 469 Bugeia Institute, St Joseph High Road, St Venera SVR 1012. Tel. +356 22788000. Fax +356 22788360. E-mail: welfare.standards@gov.mt
- in the Netherlands, the National Office for the Collection of Maintenance Payments ('Landelijk Bureau Inning Onderhoudsbijdragen' (LBIO)): Marten Meesweg 109-111, PO Box 8901, 3009 AX Rotterdam. Tel. +31 102894895. Fax +31 102894882.

E-mail: iia@lbio.nl Internet: http://www.lbio.nl

 in Austria, ('Bundesministerium f
ür Justiz'): Museumstraße 7, 1070 Vienna. Department: Abteilung I 10. Tel. +43 1521522142. Fax +43 152522829.

E-mail: team.z@bmj.gv.at

 in Poland, the Ministry of Justice - Department for International Cooperation and European Law ('Ministerstwo Sprawiedliwości - Departament Współpracy Międzynarodowej i Prawa Europejskiego'): Al. Ujazdowskie 11, 00-950 Warsaw. Tel. +48 222390870; Fax +48 226280949; E-mail: alimenty@ms.gov.pl

- in Portugal, Direção-Geral da Administração da Justiça: Av. D. João II, nº 1.08.01 D/E Pisos 0 e 9º ao 14º, 1990-097 Lisbon. Tel. +351 217906200 / 217906223.
  - Fax +351 211545100 / 211545116. E-mail: correio@dgaj.mj.pt or cji.dsaj@dgaj.mj.pt

Internet: http://www.dgai.mj.pt or http://www.cji-dgaj.mj.pt

 in Romania, the Ministry of Justice, International Law and Judicial Cooperation Directorate ('Ministerul Justiției, Direcția Drept Internațional și Cooperare Judiciară'): Str. Apolodor 17, Sector 5, 050741 Bucharest. Tel. +40 372041077.

Fax +40 372041079. E-mail: ddit@just.ro or dreptinternational@just.ro

- in Slovenia, the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities ('Ministrstvo za delo, družino, socialne zadeve in enake možnosti'): Kotnikova 28, SI-1000 Ljubljana. Tel. +386 13697700. Fax +386 13697832. E-mail: gp.mddsz@gov.si
- in Slovakia, the Centre for International Legal Protection of Children and Youth ('Centrum pre medzinárodnoprávnu ochranu detí a mládeže'): Špitálská 8, PO Box 57, 814 99 Bratislava. Tel. +421 220463208. Fax +421 220463258.

E-mail: cipc@cipc.gov.sk Internet: http://www.cipc.sk

 in Finland, the Ministry of Justice ('oikeusministeriö'/'justitieministeriet'), Unit for International Judicial Administration ('Oikeusministeriö Kansainvälisen oikeudenhoidon yksikkö'/'Enheten för internationell rättsvård'): PL 25, FI-00023 Valtioneuvosto. Tel. +358 916067628. Fax +358 916067524.

E-mail: central.authority@om.fi

- in Sweden, the Swedish Social Insurance Agency ('Försäkringskassan'):
  - (a) for general queries and questions regarding policy decisions: SE-103 51 Stockholm. Tel. +46 87869000. Fax +46 84112789.

E-mail: huvudkontoret@forsakringskassan.se

(b) for applications and requests for assistance in specific cases: Box 1164, SE-621 22 Visby. Tel. +46 771179000. Fax +46 101120411.

E-mail: centralmyndigheten@forsakringskassan.se

- in the United Kingdom, the Central Authorities for each jurisdiction are as follows:
  - (a) in England and Wales, the Lord Chancellor retain overall policy responsibility, but the administrative functions of the Central Authority will be performed by the Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Unit (REMO):

Victory House, 30-34 Kingsway, London, WC2B 6EX. Tel. +44 2036812757.

Fax +44 2036818764. E-mail: remo@offsol.gsi.gov.uk

- (b) in Scotland, the Scottish Government, Central Authority & International Law Branch: GW15 St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG. Tel. +44 1312443570 / 1312444832. Fax +44 1312444848. E-mail: maintenanceenforcement@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
- (c) in Northern Ireland, REMO Unit at Central Business Unit, Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service, Department of Justice: 4th Floor Laganside House, 23-27 Oxford Street, Belfast, BT1 3LA. Tel. 0300 200 7812 (United Kingdom) or +44 2890495884 (international). Fax +44 2890728945. E-mail: BusinessDevelopmentGroupDL@courtsni.gov.uk
- (d) in Gibraltar, Minister for Justice, Government of Gibraltar: No 6 Convent Place. Tel. +350 20059267. Fax +350 20059271. E-mail: moj@gibraltar.gov.gi

The names and contact details of the public bodies or other bodies and, where appropriate, the extent of their functions, in accordance with Article 51(3) are the following:

— in Belgium and Bulgaria, none,

in the Czech Republic, the Ministry of Justice ('Ministerstvo spravedlnosti') has full powers to ensure that legal aid is provided in line with Article 51(2)(a) of the Regulation: Vyšehradská 16, 128 10 Prague 2. Tel. +420 221997925. Fax +420 221997919. E-mail: moc@msp.justice.cz Internet: http://www.justice.cz

— in Denmark, not applicable,

- in Germany, Estonia, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Ireland, Italy, Cyprus and Latvia, none,
- in Lithuania, where applications relate to maintenance obligations arising from a parent-child relationship towards a person under the age of 21, the Children's Maintenance Fund Administration under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour ('Vaikų išlaikymo fondo administracija prie Socialinės apsaugos ir darbo ministerijos') performs the functions of the Central Authority under Article 51 of the Regulation: Rinktinės g. 48A, LT-09318 Vilnius. Tel. +370 852728081.

Fax +370 852653984. E-mail: info@vif.lt

Where circumstances so require, State-guaranteed legal aid in respect of the applications listed in Article 56 of the Regulation is provided in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Law on State-Guaranteed Legal Aid, unless otherwise provided for in the Lithuanian law implementing European Union and international legislation governing civil proceedings, or in the Regulation. Should it become apparent during examination of applications listed in Article 56 of the Regulation that an applicant needs State-guaranteed legal aid, the Vilnius State-Guaranteed Legal Aid Service and the Children's Maintenance Fund Administration under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour will send the application for State-guaranteed legal aid directly to the competent authorities responsible for organising State-guaranteed legal aid, namely the Lithuanian State-Guaranteed Legal Aid Services,

- in Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands and Austria, none,
- in Poland, District Courts ('sądy okręgowe') are the authorities designated to perform the tasks of the Central Authority for the transfer of applications and taking any appropriate action in relation to applications submitted. The names and contact details of the District Courts are available on the European Judicial Atlas in Civil Matters or the E-Justice portal,
- in Portugal, Romania, Slovenia and Slovakia, none,
- in Finland, the Social Insurance Institution of Finland (KELA) ('Kansaneläkeläitos'/'Folkpensionsanstalten'): Perintäkeskus, Helsingin perintäyksikkö, Kansainvälinen erityisperintä, PL 50, FI-00601 Helsinki.

Tel. +358 403545469. Fax +358 206353330. E-mail: kv.erityisperinta@kela.fi

Internet: http://www.kela.fi/in/internet/english.nsf

If KELA has awarded maintenance to an individual entitled to this, it may perform the following central authority functions:

- apply for recognition or recognition and declaration of the enforceability of a decision under Article 56(1)(a),
- apply for enforcement of a decision given or recognised in the requested Member State under Article 56(1)(b),
- make a request for specific measures under Article 53(1),
- in Sweden, none,
- in the United Kingdom, for Northern Ireland national: Legal Services Commission (for Article 51(2)(a) on the provision of legal aid): 2nd Floor, Waterfront Plaza, 8 Laganbank Road, Mays Meadow, Belfast, BT1 3BN. Tel. +44 2890408888.

Fax +44 2890408990; E-mail: accesstojustice@nilsc.org.uk

The names of the authorities with competence in matters of enforcement for the purposes of Article 21 are the following:

- in Belgium, the Court bailiffs ('huissiers de justice'/'Gerechtsdeurwaarders'),
- in Bulgaria, the District Court ('окръжният съд'),
- in the Czech Republic, the District Court ('okresní soudy'),
- in Denmark, the branch of SKAT for Southern Denmark,
- in Germany, the Local Court ('Amtsgericht') in whose district the enforcement proceedings are taking or have taken place,
- in Estonia, the County Court ('maakohtud'),
- in Greece, the Court of First Instance ('Μονομελές Πρωτοδικείο'),
- in Spain, the Court of First Instance (Juzgados de Primera Instancia') in the capital of the province where the party against whom enforcement is requested has his/her residence or of the province where the judgment is to be enforced,
- in France, the Court in the place where the debtor resides or where the enforcement takes place. If the debtor lives abroad, or if the place of residence is not known, the competent court is the court where the enforcement takes place,
- in Croatia, the Municipal Court ('Općinski sud'),
- in Ireland, the High Court,
- in Italy, the Ordinary Court ('Tribunale ordinario'),
- in Cyprus:
  - (a) Family Court ('Οικογενειακό Δικαστήριο') of Nicosia;
  - (b) Family Court ('Οικογενειακό Δικαστήριο') of Limassol;
  - (c) Family Court ('Οικογενειακό Δικαστήριο') of Larnarka/Famagusta;
  - (d) Family Court (Όικογενειακό Δικαστήριο') of Paphos,
- in Latvia, the District (or City District) Court ('rajona (pilsētas) tiesas'),
- in Lithuania, applications for refusal, as referred to in Article 21(2), are heard by the Lithuanian Court of Appeal ('Lietuvos apeliacinis teismas'). Applications to suspend, as referred to in Article 21(3), are heard by the District Court ('apylinkių teismai') of the place where enforcement is sought,
- in Luxembourg, the Public Prosecutor at the Supreme Court of Justice ('Parquet Général près la Cour supérieure de Justice'),
- in Hungary, in cases pursuant to Article 21(2), the District Court ('Járásbíróság') situated at the seat of the Regional Court ('Törvényszék'), in Budapest, the Central District Court of Buda ('Budai Központi Kerületi Bíróság'). In cases pursuant to Article 21(3), the District Court ('Járásbíróság') competent at the seat of the Court bailiff proceeding in the enforcement procedure,
- in Malta, the Civil Court (Family Section),
- in the Netherlands, the Judicial Officers ('Gerechtsdeurwaarders'),
- in Austria, the court with jurisdiction for enforcement ('zuständiges Exekutionsgericht') under Sections 17 to 19 of the Enforcement Code, or in case of appeal, the Appellate Court ('Instanzenzug übergeordnetes Gericht'),
- in Poland:
  - (a) for actions referred to in Article 21(2), the Regional Court ('sad rejonowy') (as having material jurisdiction) within whose jurisdiction the enforcement is carried out, and if enforcement has not yet been initiated, the Regional Court ('sad rejonowy') (as having material jurisdiction) competent according to the general provisions;
  - (b) for actions referred to in Article 21(3), the Regional Court ('sad rejonowy') at which the bailiff conducting the execution works,

- in Portugal, the Family and Juvenile District Courts ('Secções de família e menores das instâncias centrais') or the Enforcement District Courts ('Secção de execução das instâncias centrais') depending on the courts that exist in that territorial jurisdiction,
- in Romania, the District Court (Judecătoria'), in the place where the debtor resides or where the enforcement takes place,
- in Slovenia, the Local Court ('okrajno sodišče'),
- in Slovakia, the District Court ('okresný súd') acting as enforcement court ('exekučný súd'),
- in Finland, the bailiffs in the defendant's place of residence or domicile ('ulosottomies'/'utmätningsman'). The application can be addressed to any local enforcement agency,
- in Sweden, the Swedish Enforcement Authority ('Kronofogdemyndigheten'),
- in the United Kingdom:
  - (a) in England and Wales, the Family Court on transmission by the REMO Unit;
  - (b) in Scotland, the Sheriff Court, on transmission by Scottish Ministers;
  - (c) in Northern Ireland, the Magistrates' Court on transmission by the Department of Justice;
  - (d) in Gibraltar, the Clerk to the Magistrates' Court.

The languages accepted for translations of the documents referred to in Articles 20, 28 and 40 are the following:

- Belgium does not accept any language other than the official language or languages of the place of enforcement, in accordance with Belgian national law. The list of languages applicable is available in the manual of the receiving agencies for Council Regulation (EC) No 1393/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 November 2007 on the service in the Member States of judicial and extrajudicial documents in civil or commercial matters and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1348/2000 (<sup>1</sup>), published on the European Judicial Atlas in Civil Matters or the E-Justice portal,
- in Bulgaria, Bulgarian,
- in the Czech Republic, Czech or Slovak,
- in Denmark, Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian or Swedish,
- in Germany, German,
- in Estonia, Estonian or English,
- in Greece, Greek,
- in Spain, Spanish or Portuguese,
- in France, French,
- in Croatia, Croatian,
- in Ireland, Irish or English,
- in Italy, Italian,
- in Cyprus, Greek or English,
- in Latvia, Latvian,
- in Lithuania:
  - (a) for translation of the documents referred to in Article 20, Lithuanian;
  - (b) for translation of the documents referred to in Article 28 and 40, Lithuanian or English,

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>) OJ L 324, 10.12.2007, p. 79.

- in Luxembourg, French or German,
- in Hungary, Hungarian,
- in Malta, English,
- in the Netherlands, Dutch,
- in Austria, German,
- in Poland, Polish,
- in Portugal, Portuguese,
- in Romania, Romanian,
- in Slovenia, Slovenian and in:
  - (a) the Koper District Court ('okrožno sodišče v Kopru'), Slovenian or Italian;
  - (b) the Koper Local Court ('okrajno sodišče v Kopru'), Slovenian or Italian;
  - (c) the Piran Local Court ('okrajno sodišče v Pirani'), Slovenian or Italian;
  - (d) the Lendava Local Court ('okrajno sodišče v Lendavu'), Slovenian or Hungarian,
- in Slovakia, Slovak or Czech,
- in Finland, Finnish, Swedish or English,
- in Sweden, Swedish,
- in the United Kingdom, English.

The languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities referred to in Article 59 are the following:

- in Belgium, English, Dutch, French or German,
- in Bulgaria, Bulgarian,
- in the Czech Republic, Czech, English or Slovak,
- in Denmark, not applicable,
- in Germany, German. Communication between the Bundesamt f
  ür Justiz in its capacity as Central Authority and
  another Central Authority may be carried out in English provided this has been so agreed by the respective central
  authorities,
- in Estonia, English or Estonian,
- in Greece, Greek or English,
- in Spain, Spanish or English,
- in France, French,
- in Croatia:
  - (a) for the application and request forms, Croatian,
  - (b) for other communications, the Central Authority when requested accepts Croatian or English,
- in Ireland, Irish or English,
- in Italy, Italian,
- in Cyprus, Greek or English,
- in Latvia:
  - (a) for the application form, Latvian,
  - (b) for the request form, Latvian or English,
  - (c) for other communications, the Central Authority when requested accepts Latvian or English,

- in Lithuania, Lithuanian or English,
- in Luxembourg, French or German,
- in Hungary:
  - (a) for the application form, Hungarian,
  - (b) for the request form, Hungarian, English or German,
  - (c) for other communications, the Central Authority when requested accepts Hungarian, English or German,
- in Malta, Maltese or English,
- in the Netherlands:
  - (a) for the application and request forms, Dutch,
  - (b) for other communications, the Central Authority when requested accepts Dutch or English,
- in Austria, German, English or French,
- in Poland:
  - (a) for the application and request forms, Polish,
  - (b) for other communications, the Central Authority when requested accepts Polish or English,
- in Portugal, Portuguese, English or French,
- in Romania, Romanian, English or French,
- in Slovenia, Slovenian or English,
- in Slovakia, Slovak, Czech, English or German,
- in Finland, Finnish, Swedish or English,
- in Sweden, Swedish,
- in the United Kingdom, English.