

**THE AGREEMENT OF CO-OPERATION  
BETWEEN THE COMPETITION AUTHORITIES OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF LATVIA AND REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**

Anti-Monopoly Committee of the Republic of Latvia and State Competition and Consumer protection Office of the Republic of Lithuania,

having regard to the historical bands and common values,

observing desire to enhance these bands,

taking into consideration related goals of Parties to promote the strengthening of market economy and to ensure competitive environment in their countries,

observing common goal of Parties to promote joining into European Union as an equal members,

have agreed to conclude the agreement of co-operation, and on this purpose to nominate as their authorized,

Anti-Monopoly Committee of the Republic of Latvia,

State Competition and Consumer Protection Office of the Republic of Lithuania

whom exchanging with accordingly designed letters of attorney have agreed as follows:

**Article I  
NOTIFICATION**

1. Each Party's competition authority shall notify the other whenever its become aware that their enforcement activities may affect important interests of the other Party.

2. Enforcement activities as to which notification ordinarily will be appropriate include those that:

- involve investigation of the anticompetitive activities carried out by the economic entity having its residence in the other Party's territory;
- involve investigation required , encouraged or approved by the other Party;
- are relevant to enforcement activities of the other competition authority;
- involve remedies that would require or prohibit conduct in the other Party's territory.

3. Notification shall ordinarily be provided at the stage in an investigation when it becomes evident that notifiable circumstances are present, and in any event far enough in advance of the adoption of a decision to enable proceeding authority to take into account the other authority's views.

## **Article II**

### **EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

4. Parties shall realize mutual exchange of information about:

4.1. legal acts and amendments on the regulation of the protection of competition and the restriction of the activities of monopolies;

4.2. legal acts and amendments on the regulation of natural monopolies;

4.3. prices and tariffs of services rendered by natural monopolies (in the field of energy, communications, etc.) as well as the changes of prices and tariffs.

5. Each Party shall provide the other Party with any significant information that comes to the attention of the competition authorities about anticompetitive activities that its competition authorities believe is relevant to, or may warrant, enforcement activity by the other Party's competition authorities.

6. Information shall be provided if it does not violate the laws of the providing Party.

7. Party having received request to provide information will fulfil the request as soon as possible, otherwise it shall inform the requesting Party within five days indicating reasons of being unable to provide information.

8. Each Party agrees to maintain, to the fullest extent possible, the confidentiality of any information provided to it in confidence by the other Party under this Agreement.

## **Article III**

### **CO-OPERATION**

9. The competition authority of each Party will render assistance to the competition authorities of the other Party in their enforcement activities, to the current compatible with the assisting Party's laws and important interests.

10. Competition authority having received notification from the other Party shall thoroughly discuss provided factual materials and opinion of requesting authorities on the matter.

11. Any information provided under this Agreement may be carried out by direct oral, telephonic, written or facsimile communication from one Party's competition authority to the other Party's authority. Later on this information shall be confirmed promptly in written form. Written information, when it includes entity's documents or its approved copies, references, explanations, reports, notifications and other written documents, shall be provided in the providing Party's native language. If possible information can be translated into English or explanation in English attached.

12. The Parties will endeavor to arrange a practice for specialists from other involved Parties in order to profit by the most progressive experience on the investigation of trespasses of competition law and on questions of organization of work.

13. The Parties will arrange periodical seminars, conferences and other similar enterprises on actualities of the activities of competition authorities, mutual coordination of competition legislation and approaching to the requirements of European Union.

#### **Article IV**

#### **ENTRY INTO FORCE, TERMINATION AND REVIEW**

14. The Agreement shall enter into force from the moment of signing.


15. The Agreement shall be drawn up without time limit. Any Party can cancel the Agreement notifying about it in written form other Parties before six months.

16. The Parties shall review the operation of this Agreement not more than 24 months from the date of its entry into force, with a view to assessing their co-operative activities identifying ways in which the Agreement could be improved.

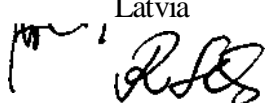
17. The Agreement is drawn up in three languages - English, Latvian and Lithuanian.

Agreement has been signed in Riga:

11.04, 1996

 I. Rudusa  
Chairperson of the Anti-Monopoly Committee of the Republic of  
Latvia

11.04, 1996

 R. Stanikunas  
Director of the State Competition and Consumer Protection Office  
of the Republic of Lithuania