



WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

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THE HAGUE AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS

Ratification of the 1999 Act: Spain

1. On September 23, 2003, the Government of Spain deposited with the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) its instrument of ratification of the Geneva (1999) Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs.
2. The said instrument of ratification was accompanied by the following declarations:
 - the declaration referred to in Rule 18(1)(b) of the Common Regulations, whereby the period of six months to notify a refusal of protection is replaced by a period of 12 months;
 - the declaration referred to in Rule 18(1)(c) of the Common Regulations, whereby the international registration shall produce its effects, at the latest, six months from the date of expiration of the applicable refusal period.
3. The ratification of the 1999 Act by Spain brings to 11 the number of States that have ratified or acceded to that Act (namely Estonia, Georgia, Iceland, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland and Ukraine). Following the ratification of the 1999 Act by Spain, the conditions required for the entry into force of such Act are now met. The 1999 Act will enter into force three months after the deposit by Spain of its instrument of ratification, that is, on December 23, 2003.
4. However, the implementation of the international procedure under the 1999 Act will take place *on April 1, 2004*, which is the date of entry into force of the Common Regulations under the 1999 Act, the 1960 Act and the 1934 Act of the Hague Agreement.
5. Further information concerning the entry into force of the 1999 Act, the adoption and entry into force of the Common Regulations under the 1999 Act, the 1960 Act and the 1934 Act, and the main consequences resulting therefrom for users of the Hague system, will be described in a separate information notice.

October 1, 2003