

## **HAGUE AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS**

### **Accession to the 1999 Act: Finland**

1. On February 1, 2011, the Government of Finland deposited with the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) its instrument of accession to the Geneva (1999) Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs.
2. The said instrument of accession was accompanied by the following declarations:
  - the declaration referred to in Article 11(1)(a) of the 1999 Act, whereby the maximum period for the deferment of the publication of an industrial design where Finland is designated in an international registration is six months from the filing date or, where priority is claimed, from the priority date;
  - the declaration required under Article 17(3)(c) of the 1999 Act, specifying that the maximum duration of protection provided for by the legislation of Finland in respect of industrial designs is 25 years. However, the declaration also specifies that the maximum duration of protection for a design which is a component part of a complex product and is used to restore the original appearance of the complex product is 15 years;
  - the declaration referred to in Rule 8(1) of the Common Regulations Under the 1999 Act and the 1960 Act of the Hague Agreement, whereby the law of Finland requires that an application for the protection of an industrial design be filed in the name of the creator of the industrial design. Where, in an international application designating Finland, the person identified as the creator is a person other than the person named as the applicant, the international application shall be accompanied by a statement justifying the applicant's right to the registration of the industrial design;
  - the declaration for the application of level three of the standard designation fee, under Rule 12(1)(c)(i) of the Common Regulations;
  - the declaration referred to in Rule 18(1)(b) of the Common Regulations, whereby the prescribed period of six months for notifying a refusal of protection is replaced by a period of 12 months.

3. The 1999 Act and the declarations thereunder will enter into force in respect of Finland on May 1, 2011.
4. The accession of Finland to the 1999 Act brings the number of Contracting Parties to this Act to 40. Therefore, the total number of Contracting Parties to the Hague Agreement is 58. A list of the Contracting Parties to the Hague Agreement is available on WIPO's website at the following address:  
*<http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/treaties/en/documents/pdf/hague.pdf>*.

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