

## **Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs**

### **Ratification of the 1999 Act: The Netherlands**

1. On September 18, 2018, the Government of the Netherlands 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 (for the European part of the Netherlands).
2. The instrument of ratification was accompanied by the following declarations:
  - the declaration referred to in Article 4(1)(b) of the 1999 Act, whereby international applications may not be filed through the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property (BOIP);
  - 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 provided for by the legislation of Benelux is 12 months;
  - 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 Benelux in respect of industrial designs is 25 years; and
  - the declaration referred to in Article 19(1) of the 1999 Act, according to which the BOIP is designated as the common Office for the three Benelux countries. The territories of the three countries to which the Benelux Convention on Intellectual Property (trademarks and designs) applies are considered as one single Contracting Party for the application of Articles 1, 3 to 18 and 31 of the 1999 Act.
3. The instrument deposited by the Government of the Netherlands is the last of the instruments of the three countries constituting the Benelux. Therefore, in accordance with Articles 27(3)(c), 28(3)(b), 30(1)(i) and 30(2) of the 1999 Act, the 1999 Act and the declarations made under Articles 4(1)(b), 11(1)(a) and 17(3)(c) of the same Act will enter into force, with respect to the Netherlands (for its European part), on December 18, 2018, and at the same date with respect to Belgium and Luxembourg (refer to Information Notice No. 15/2018).
4. The ratification of the 1999 Act by the Netherlands brings the number of Contracting Parties to this Act to 58, including Belgium and Luxembourg. The total number of Contracting Parties to the Hague Agreement remains 69.

5. A list of the Contracting Parties to the Hague Agreement is available on the WIPO website at the following address:  
<http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/treaties/en/documents/pdf/hague.pdf>.

November 21, 2018