#### **AGREEMENT ON CO-OPERATION BETWEEN**

URZĄD OCHRONY KONKURENCJI I KONSUMENTÓW (THE POLISH OFFICE OF COMPETITION AND CONSUMER PROTECTION) AND GAZDASÁGI VERSENYHIVATAL (THE HUNGARIAN COMPETITION AUTHORITY)

The Urząd Ochrony Konkurencji i Konsumentów (Polish Office of Competition and Consumer Protection , hereinafter referred to as UOKIK) and the Gazdasági Versenyhivatal (Hungarian Competition Authority , hereinafter referred to as GVH) (the UOKIK and the GVH together hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"),

Having due regard to the established framework for co-operation within the European Competition Network,

Expressing the wish to further promote co-operation in the field of competition law and policy,

Aiming the development of bilateral relations,

Recognizing the benefits of exchange of experiences in the field of the application of EC competition law,

Have agreed the following:

## Article 1 - Objective

The Parties will promote and strengthen co-operation in the field of competition law and policy, beyond the framework of the European Competition Network, further in the field of consumer protection.

### Article 2 – Areas for cooperation in the field of competition law and policy

- In order to secure legal and organisational mechanism for interaction focused on prevention and termination of actions that may negatively affect competition in Poland and in Hungary the Parties agree to
  - exchange experience concerning exploitative and exclusionary unilateral conducts infringing the relevant national or EC competition legislation,

- provide opportunity to receive specialists of the other Party with the aim to exchange experience,
- provide assistance in the determination of strategic and tactical aspects of the competition policy if requested.
- 2. The Parties will share their experience concerning projects in the field of raising awareness of competition law and policy (competition advocacy).

# Article 3 – Areas for cooperation in the field of consumer protection

- The Parties agree to share the experiences in connection to the incorporation of the EU law into their national legal system, and the role of the UOKIK and the GVH in the implementation of the national rules resulting from it. Furthermore, the experience concerning cooperation issues with authorities both on national and EU level will be explored.
- 2. In order to further explore policy approaches and to exchange experience in the field, the Parties agree to organise (1-2 days) study visits of experts in Poland and in Hungary. The detailed rules and dates of the study visits will be determined separately by both Parties.

# Article 4 – Areas for cooperation in matters common for competition law and policy, and consumer protection

- 1. Considering that both the UOKIK and the GVH share similar institutional design by housing the two functions (competition and consumer policies) in a single agency, it is a common goal to identify and explore the common overarching goals of the two fields. Accordingly, the Parties agree to share experiences on
  - synergies between competition and consumer policy,
  - consumer awareness issues.
  - cross-border cases.

#### Article 5 - Notification

- 1. If one of the Parties establishes that actions of undertakings in the territory of its state can have a negative impact on competition in the territory of the other Party, the former shall notify the latter about that.
- 2. If one of the Parties establishes that competition in its state can be negatively

affected by the actions of undertakings taken place in the territory of the other Party, the former shall notify the latter about that.

3. Notification shall be sent in written form and shall contain a brief account of the essence of the case, references to national legal norms, and other pieces of

information, which the sending Party considers to be necessary for submission.

4. The Party, which received notification shall consider the possibility of taking the appropriate measures pursuant to requirements of national laws and shall inform

the other Party of the results.

Article 6 - Concluding provisions

1. Unless special funds are dedicated to it or otherwise to be agreed by the Parties,

the co-operation under the present Agreement shall be financed by the requesting

Party.

2. The present Agreement is without prejudice to the rights and obligations of the

Parties, which ensue from international agreements where they participate.

3. The present Agreement enters into force on the date of effective signatures and is

valid for an unlimited period of time. The agreement is terminable by the Parties

upon written notification and in such a case it will expire after one month since

notification date.

Done at Warsaw/Budapest, on 14 October 2009, in six copies, each in Polish,

Hungarian and English, each text being equally authentic. In case of divergence in

interpretation the English version will be considered as final.

Małgorzata Krasnodebska-Tomkiel

President

**UOKIK** 

Zoltán Nagy

President

**GVH** 

