3rd Plenary Meeting of the Network of the Pilot Courts of the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ)

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“Crystal Scales of Justice” Award

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Setting up of a Working Group of Pilot Courts of second instance

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME
23-25 October 2008
Catania, Italy
Thursday, 23 October 2008

Welcome of the participants at the airport and transfer by taxi (on participants duty)

20h00    Transfer by bus from the hotel to the Theater Massimo Vicenzo Bellini
20h30    Symphonic concert for the attention of the participants
21h30    Dinner hosted by the Chairperson of the Theater (foyer of the Theater Bellini)
23h00    Return by bus to the hotels
Friday, 24 October 2008

8h30  Departure by bus to the meeting place

3rd PLENARY MEETING
OF THE NETWORK OF THE PILOT COURTS OF THE CEPEJ
« How to contribute in setting up a quicker justice and a justice of quality ? »
Place: Exposistem « Ciminiere », room « Eolie », Piazzale Asia, Catania

9h00  Opening of the meeting

Introduction by Mr Philippe BOILLAT, Director General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs, Council of Europe

Chairperson : Fausto DE SANTIS (Italy), President of the CEPEJ

Round table and discussion on the following questions:
1. How can the national Courts use the Report ?
2. What are the limits of such a Report ?
3. What are the possible improvements ?

Speaker:
Jean-Paul JEAN (France), Chair of the Working Group on the Evaluation of Judicial Systems (CEPEJ-GT-EVAL)

Representatives of the Pilot courts are invited to take the floor in order to answer shortly to the questions mentioned above.

10h30 - 11h00  Coffee break

Part I - Supporting the works of the CEPEJ as regards judicial time management
Chairperson : Jacques BÜHLER (Switzerland), Chair of the Steering Group of the SATURN Centre

Round table and discussion about following questions :
1. In concrete terms, how are you using the Checklist of the CEPEJ concerning time management?
2. What is the relevance of the « questionnaire on Common case categories, judicial timeframes and delays » for moving towards an observatory of judicial timeframes in Europe ?
3. Why did only a few States reply to the questionnaire?

Speaker:
Marco FABRI, Scientific expert to the Steering Group of the SATURN Centre

Representatives of the Pilot courts are invited to take the floor in order to answer shortly to the questions mentioned above.

Part II - Supporting the CEPEJ on a qualitative approach of justice
Chairperson : François PAYCHÈRE (Switzerland), Chair of the CEPEJ-GT-QUAL

Round table and discussion on the following questions :
1. Will you use the checklist for the promotion of the quality of justice and courts?
2. Which topics are to be further discussed?
3. What are the limits of such an instrument?

Speaker: John STACEY (United Kingdom), Vice-chairman of the CEPEJ

Representatives of the Pilot courts are invited to take the floor in order to answer shortly to the questions mentioned above.

13h00 Lunch break at the meeting premises

14h00 - 16h00 Continuation of the 3rd plenary meeting of the Pilot courts

Part III - The future of the co-operation between the CEPEJ and the Pilot courts

Chairperson: John STACEY (United Kingdom), Vice-chairman of the CEPEJ

How to improve the efficiency of the network of the Pilot courts?

Speaker: Elsa GARCIA MALTRAS DE BLAS (Spain), member of the Bureau of the CEPEJ

The future working programme (contractual relation between judges and users; the means to measure the satisfaction of the users, etc.)

Speaker: Ivana BORZOVA (Czech Republic), member of the Bureau of the CEPEJ

Discussion/Representatives of the Pilot courts are invited to reat to the themes mentioned above.
OFFICIAL CEREMONY
EUROPEAN DAY OF CIVIL JUSTICE
« CRYSTAL SCALES OF JUSTICE » AWARD

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Place : Exposistem « Ciminiere », room « Etna », Piazzale Asia, Catania

16h00 - 18h00  Official Ceremony organised by the Italian authorities
   Chairperson : Guido MARLETTA, President of the Appeal Court of Catania
   (Italian personalities to be confirmed)

18h00 - 19h30  «Crystal Scales of Justice » Award
   Chairperson : Fausto DE SANTIS (Italy), President of the CEPEJ

   ➤ Welcome address by Fausto DE SANTIS, President of the CEPEJ
   ➤ Welcome address by Guido MARLETTA, President of the Appeal Court of Catania
   ➤ Welcome address by DE BOER-BUQUICCHIO, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe (video)
   ➤ Welcome address by Jacques BARROT, Vice-President of the European Commission, responsible for Justice, Freedom and Security (video)

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   ➤ Introduction : Claude ENGELHARD, President of the Jury, Inspecteur des Services judiciaires, France

   ➤ Presentation of their projects by the four finalists (completed, for each presentation, by a brief speech of a member of the jury explaining why the jury selected the project):

   Dominique ATTIAS, Paris Bar Association, France (and Maria da Conceição OLIVEIRA, member of the jury)

   Livia POMODORO, Court of Milan, Italy (and Domenico DAMASCELLI, member of the jury)

   James RUSTIDGE, Mediator, « Her Majesty’s Courts Service », United Kingdom (and Christian BALDUS, member of the jury)

   Ali KAYA and Ali RIZA ÇAM, Ministry of Justice, Turkey (and Irakli ADEISHVILI, member of the jury)

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   ➤ Address by Salla SAASTAMOINEN, Head of the Civil Justice Unit, European Commission

   ➤ Address by Philippe BOILLAT, Director General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs, Council of Europe

   ➤ Proclamation of the results and official «Crystal Scales of Justice» Award and the three «special commendations of the Jury» by Salla SAASTAMOINEN and Philippe BOILLAT

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Round table and discussion of the awarded projects with the Jury, the finalists and the public

Moderator: Claude ENGELHARD, President of the Jury

Finalists

Representative of the Court “Crystal scales” 2006

Members of the jury:
Christian BALDUS, Professor of law, Germany
Domenico DAMASCELLI, Notary, Italy
Irakli ADEISHVILI, judge, Georgia
Outi KEMPPAINEN, Contact point of the European judicial Network, Finland
Maria da Conceição OLIVEIRA, Mediator and lawyer, Portugal
François PAYCHÈRE, Judge at the Court of justice of Geneva, Switzerland
Nikola PROKOPENKO, Ministry of Justice, “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”
Kasia LACH, European Commission
Stéphane LEYENBERGER, Council of Europe

19h30 Cocktail hosted by the European Commission

Stands of the European Commission, the Council of Europe and other judicial bodies

20h00 Transfer by bus to the hotels

20h45 Transfer by bus to the Palais Biscari and official dinner hosted by the Appeal Court of Catania, the Province of Catania and the Chamber of commerce of Catania.
This meeting is in principle opened for the Pilot Courts of 2nd instance or Higher instance. Representatives of other Pilot Courts wishing to attend are invited to inform the Secretariat.

8h30 Transfer by bus from the hotel to the meeting place

9h00 Opening of the meeting

Chairperson: Jean-Paul JEAN (France), Chair of the Working Group on the Evaluation of Judicial Systems (CEPEJ-GT-EVAL)

Introduction by Mr Philippe BOILLAT, Director General of Human Rights anf Legal Affairs, Council of Europe

Round table and discussion on the following questions:

| Question n°1 : What are the actual principal difficulties encountered in the daily work of courts (organisation, management, delays, staff, budget, etc.)? |
| Question n°2 : What are the particularities of the daily work inside courts of second instance compared to courts of first instance? |
| Question n°3 : What are the spheres allowing an improvement on which the CEPEJ should take an interest in? |
| Question n°4 : Do you think that more management techniques should be brought inside the courts? |
| Question n°5 : Is it relevant to consider the creation of a tool aiming to improve their daily work and specific for courts of second instance? |
| Question n°6 : What can be the prospects/futur working programme/added value of a possible specific network of pilot courts of second instance? |

Speakers:
Guido MARLETTA, President of the Appeal Court of Catania
Fausto DE SANTIS (Italy), President of the CEPEJ
Eberhard DESCH, Former President of the CEPEJ
Jean-Paul JEAN (France), Chair of the Working Group on the Evaluation of Judicial Systems (CEPEJ-GT-EVAL)
Stéphane LEYENBERGER, Secretary of the CEPEJ
Representatives of the following Pilot courts:
Jean-Louis VUILLEMIN President of the High Court of Justice, Andorra
Takis ELIADES, member of the Supreme Court, Cyprus
Ritva SUPPONEN, Judge, Court of Appeal of Rovaniemi, Finland
Lasha KALANDADZE, Vice-President of the Court of Appeal of Tbilissi, Georgia
Ulrich GROSS, Judge, Oberlandesgericht Stuttgart, Germany
Dag BRATHOLE, Court of Appeal of Frostating, Trondheim, Norway
Otto NIJHUIS, Judge, District Court of Arnhem, the Netherlands
Philippe THÉLIN, Judge, Administrative Court of Geneva, Switzerland

13h30       Lunch offered by the University of Catania

End of the meeting