## **Memorandum of Understanding**

# Regarding the Cooperation in the Competition Policy Field Concluded

#### between

## the National Agency for the Protection of Competition of Moldova

#### and

## the Austrian Federal Competition Authority

The National Agency for the Protection of Competition of Moldova and the Austrian Federal Competition Agency (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"),

Expressing the wish to promote cooperation and enforcement in the field of competition policy,

Aiming at the creation of favorable conditions for the development of bilateral relations,

Based on principles of equality and mutual benefit,

Underlining the role of competition in the real and effective development of market economy,

Have agreed as follows:

#### Article I

The Parties will promote and strengthen cooperation in competition law enforcement and policy.

### Article II

In the mutual interest of the Parties, cooperation will be realised in the following basic directions:

- a) exchange of information on legislation which regulates the competences for the Parties' activities in the competition field;
- b) exchange of experience in the field of investigations regarding the violation of competition rules;
- c) exchange of experience with the relations between Competition Authorities and National Regulatory Agencies.

### **Article III**

The main forms of the Parties' interaction in the field of competition policy may be as follows:

- a) exchange of non-confidential information on legislative developments and cases;
- b) organising study visits and experts' training;
- c) attendance to the conferences, symposiums, seminars and other events organized by the Parties;
- expert meetings or consultation possibilities via e-mail between experts of the Parties which operatively ensure the interface for an exchange of (non-confidential) information on concrete issues of mutual interest;
- e) organisation of high level-meetings/visits for discussing the perspectives and directions in which the bilateral cooperation will continue:
- f) exchange of documents, studies and books on competition.

#### Article IV

The transfer of information will be made in English language by mail/e-mail through designated general contact points or on the occasion of Parties' representatives meetings.

#### Article V

The activities' agenda, data, place and other elements, including financial aspects, shall be individually established by Parties by mutual agreement.

## **Article VI**

The disputes regarding the interpretation and implementation of the present agreement, if any, will be solved by the Parties through friendly means.

#### Article VII

The present agreement shall not infringe and/or otherwise affect the rights and obligations of the Parties relating to other regional or international agreements, which they are members / signatories to.

#### **Article VIII**

The present agreement may be jointly revised by Parties, upon prior consultations.

## **Article IX**

The present agreement shall enter into force at the date of its effective signature by both Parties and is valid for an unlimited period of time.

## **Article X**

Each of the Parties has the right to withdraw from the agreement by submitting a prior written notification to the other Party, within 3 months before the withdrawal becomes effective.

## **Article XI**

The Agreement is signed in Chişinău/Vienna in two identical copies in English, one for each of the Parties.

For the National Agency for the Protection of Competition of Moldova

Viorica CARRARE Director General

15.01.2009 Chiqinay For the Austrian Federal Competition Authority

Theodor THANNER
Director General

Verna, 26.11. 2008