

Strasbourg, 10 September 2009

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**EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR THE EFFICIENCY OF JUSTICE
(CEPEJ)**

NETWORK OF PILOT COURTS

**4th plenary meeting
Strasbourg, 10 September 2009**

CONCLUSIONS

The members of the CEPEJ Network of Pilot courts met in Strasbourg for their fourth plenary meeting on 10 September 2009. They agreed on the following points regarding the operational cooperation with the CEPEJ.

THE PILOT COURTS ARE INVITED IN PARTICULAR TO

as regards the setting up of a European observatory of judicial timeframes (SATURN Centre)

- to work as test bed for implementing specific provisions of the SATURN Guidelines on judicial time management (CEPEJ(2008)8) according to a protocol to be proposed by the SATURN Steering Group;
- to trial within the court the models of statistics and the calculation methods and ratios (clearance rate and disposition time) proposed in the SATURN Guidelines on judicial time management, so that they can progressively become European models applicable in all European courts;
- to organise data collection within the court so that they can fulfil the EUGMONT tables (appendix to the SATURN Guidelines), according to the legal fields on which they have jurisdiction; 2009 data should be submitted in the tables to the CEPEJ Secretariat before 30 March 2010;

as regards the quality of justice

- to indicate to the Secretariat before 6 November 2009 any comments on the draft Handbook: Carrying out of enquiries of the court user's satisfaction, possibly based on test on court users (CEPEJ-GT-QUAL(2009)5);
- to organise in 2010, as a court project, a court users' satisfaction survey based on this handbook;
- to trial within the court specific provisions of the CEPEJ's "Checklist for promoting the quality of justice and the courts" (CEPEJ(2008)2) according to a protocol to be proposed by the CEPEJ Working group on the quality of justice (CEPEJ-GT-QUAL);

as regards the participation to the regular activities of the CEPEJ

- to organise specific events within their court to celebrate the European Day of Justice (25 October) and to inform the Secretariat of these initiatives, to be posted on the CEPEJ Web site;
- to participate, where appropriate, in the European Prize of innovative practices contributing to the quality of justice; "The Crystal Scales of Justice" (in civil or/and in criminal matters) or/and to encourage other courts to do so;

as regards the dissemination of the information on CEPEJ's activities

- to organise a regular information on the CEPEJ's activities for the judicial and non judicial within the court, including in inviting on a regular basis the national member of the CEPEJ to visit the court;
- to disseminate the information on the CEPEJ's work and the documents designed by the CEPEJ among other courts in their countries;
- to consult regularly the CEPEJ web site and to participate actively in the discussion forum;
- to insert into the court's web site, where appropriate, a hyperlink to the CEPEJ's web site;
- to indicate to the Secretariat of the CEPEJ mailing lists so that relevant information on the work of the CEPEJ can be sent directly to the stakeholders;
- to indicate to the Secretariat of the CEPEJ any changes in the details of the court and of the court's representatives so that the information can be properly sent by the Secretariat to the network's members.

THE CEPEJ IS INVITED IN PARTICULAR

- to organise the work of the pilot courts in clusters and to appoint one CEPEJ's expert per cluster entrusted to follow this work;
- to encourage the ministries of justice in the member states to work in conjunction with the pilot courts as regards the collection of data on judicial timeframes;
- to pursue and improve the regular dissemination of information on the CEPEJ's measures and tools, in particular through the CEPEJ's Newsletter which should be sent to all representatives of the pilot courts;
- to urge member states to organise the translation of the relevant CEPEJ's documents into non official languages;
- to organise CEPEJ's Guidelines so that those aimed at individual courts can be easily identified;
- to encourage the CEPEJ's members to meet regularly with the representatives of the pilot courts to discuss the implementation of the CEPEJ's activity programme and to collect their comments and suggestions;
- to simplify the use of the web site discussion forum to encourage further exchanges between pilot courts through this communication tool.