

Press Release

Meeting of the Heads of Regulatory Authorities

5 October 1998- Vienna

1. The Heads of Regulatory Authorities met today in Vienna for the second meeting of the group under the Austrian Presidency. All 15 Member States and the EMEA were represented.

2. The group received a presentation on the operation of the Heads of Agencies web site, noting that in one 24 hour period, there were 1000 visits. The group discussed how the web site could be developed to further enhance the transparency of the mutual recognition procedure and made important decisions on the development of a „MR-Product Index“.3. The group also considered a report from the MRF-Group noting that EndraTrack had, for the first time, produced the statistics used in the MRFG Press Release. And, importantly, that the number of applications received indicated that there would be more applications this year than last, and that the procedure continued to go from strength to strength. In this context the consequences of the Commission Communication of July 1998 were discussed.

4. Looking forward to the expansion of the union, the group agreed that representatives from the group of the Central and Eastern European Countries (CADREAC) would be invited to the next meeting of the Heads of Agencies on 23 November 1998, again in Vienna. In addition, it was agreed that observers from Norway and Iceland would also be invited to attend.

5 October 1998

Note: The address of the Heads of Agencies

Web Site is: <http://heads.medagencies.org>.