

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA

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Notification to the Signatory States of the Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgements in Civil and Commercial Matters, concluded at Lugano on 16 September 1988

Declaration by the Republic of Finland

On 29 September 2009, the Republic of Finland formulated the following declaration (original in English):

«Article 3(2) of the Lugano Convention contains a list of certain provisions that shall in particular not be applicable to defendants domiciled in another Contracting State. According to the 15th indent in Finland: the second, third and fourth sentences of Section 1 of Chapter 10 of the Code of Judicial Procedure (oikeudenkäymiskaari/rättegångsbalken) shall not be applied.

According to Section 1 of Chapter 10 of the Code of Judicial Procedure a person who has no domicile in Finland shall be summoned to the court of the locality where he/she is found or where he has property in the country. If a Finnish citizen is living abroad, he/she may also be summoned to the court of the locality where he/she last had a domicile in Finland. A citizen of a foreign State who does not have home and domicile in Finland may, in the absence of separate provisions regarding the citizens of said State, be summoned to the court of the locality in Finland where he/she is found or where he/she has property.

The provisions on jurisdiction in Chapter 10 have been revised in Act 135/2009 on altering the Code of Judicial Procedure. The aforementioned Act has entered into force 1.9.2009. Within the revised Chapter 10 the congruent legislation to the sentences mentioned in the 15th indent of Article 3(2) of the Lugano Convention is found in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Section 18(1). According to the aforementioned paragraphs, if otherwise no court would have jurisdiction in the case, a case that concerns a claim to be brought against a natural person may be considered by the district court with jurisdiction for the place where the defendant resides or last had his or her domicile or habitual residence and a case that concerns ordering the defendant to pay a specified amount of money may be considered by the district court with jurisdiction for the place where the defendant has distrainable property.

Due to the aforementioned changes the 15th indent of Article 3(2) of the Lugano Convention should be altered to read as follows:

in Finnish:

"- Suomessa: oikeudenkäymiskaaren 10 luvun 18§:n 1 momentin 1 ja 2 kohtaa»;

in Swedish:

"- i Finland: 10 kap. 18 § 1 mom. 1 och 2 punkten i rättegångsbalken»;

in English:

"- in Finland: paragraphs 1 and 2 of Section 18(1) of Chapter 10 of the Code of Judicial Procedure (oikeudenkäymiskaari/rättegångsbalken)".»

The Act 135/2009 on altering the Code of Judicial Procedure in Finnish and Swedish as well as an unofficial translation of the Act to English, attached by the Republic of Finland to its declaration, is available on request from the depositary.

The Swiss Federal Council makes the present notification in its capacity as Depositary of the Convention (www.eda.admin.ch/depositary).

Bern, 20 October 2009

