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L.c. A No 6(17)

New Staff Rules of the Hague Conference on Private International Law

The Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference on Private International Law presents its compliments to the Diplomatic Missions of the Member States and, further to its circular letter L.c. ON 62(16) of 22 December 2016, has the honour to transmit to them a Note Verbale from the Embassy of the Russian Federation received on 25 January 2017.

The Permanent Bureau avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Diplomatic Missions of the Member States assurances of its highest consideration.

THE HAGUE, 25 January 2017

To the Diplomatic Missions of the Member States
Copy for information to the National and Contact Organs of the Members
Copy to the European Union



L.c. A No 6(17)

Nouveau Règlement du personnel de la Conférence de La Haye de droit international privé

Le Bureau Permanent de la Conférence de La Haye de droit international privé présente ses compliments aux Missions diplomatiques des États membres et, par suite de sa lettre circulaire L.c. ON 62(16) du 22 décembre 2016, a l'honneur de leur transmettre une Note Verbale émanant de l'ambassade de la Fédération de Russie, reçue le 25 janvier 2017.

Le Bureau Permanent saisit cette occasion pour renouveler aux Missions diplomatiques des États membres l'assurance de sa haute considération.

LA HAYE, le 25 janvier 2017

Aux Missions diplomatiques des États membres
Copie à titre d'information aux Organes nationaux et de liaison des Membres
Copie à l'Union européenne



**ПОСОЛЬСТВО
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ
В КОРОЛЕВСТВЕ НИДЕРЛАНДОВ**

**EMBASSY
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
IN THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS**

№ 188

The Embassy of the Russian Federation in the Kingdom of the Netherlands presents its compliments to the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference on Private International Law and has the honour to inform it of the following.

The Russian Federation took notice of the information contained in the Note verbale of the Permanent Bureau No. 62316(17)CB/SP of 13 January 2017 and regrets to state that it does not give answers to the questions specified in the Embassy's Note verbale No. 34 of 11 January 2017.

Furthermore, the afore-mentioned note of the Permanent Bureau virtually confirms, in the opinion of the Russian Federation, the validity of its concerns regarding the lack of the proper legal basis for the written vote procedure initiated to approve the new draft Staff Rules of the Conference (which in reality did not receive unanimous support of all the member states at the last meeting of the respective Working Group).

Nor can the Russian Federation agree with the description of the actual facts relating to the meeting of the Working Group on 9 December 2016 and its outcomes given in the NV of the Permanent Bureau. In particular, the Russian Federation does not confirm the existence of the

**HAGUE CONFERENCE ON
PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW
- Permanent Bureau -**

The Hague

consensus in the Working Group on the approval procedure in the form outlined in the circular letter of the Permanent Bureau (L.c. ON No. 62(16) of 22 December 2016).

Equally the Russian Federation does not agree with the statement that Article 18 of the Regulations on Financial Matters and Budgetary Practices can be applied to this situation by analogy as, inter alia, Article 18 sets out a different procedure than the one defined in the afore-mentioned circular letter of the Permanent Bureau of 22 December 2016.

In view of the above the Russian Federation strongly objects to the written vote procedure initiated for approval of the new draft Staff Rules and therefore sees no possibility either to participate in such a vote or to consider valid any decisions which, in the view of the Permanent Bureau, may be taken or approved as a result.

Furthermore, the Russian Federation reiterates its position regarding the necessity to continue discussions on the results of the respective Working Group activity at the sessions of the governing bodies of the Conference (sixth paragraph of the Embassy's NV No. 34 of 11 January 2017) and in this regard proposes to add this issue to the agenda of the forthcoming session of the Standing Committee on 9 February 2017 (L.c. A No. 2(17) of 17 January 2017).

The Embassy would highly appreciate it if the Permanent Bureau could convey the content of this Note verbale to the attention of the Member States of the Conference.

The Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Bureau the assurances of its highest consideration.

The Hague, "23" January 2017
