Commission notice on best practices for the conduct of proceedings concerning Articles 101 and $102\ \text{TFEU}$

(Text with EEA relevance)

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SCOPE AND PURPOSE OF THE NOTICE

THE INVESTIGATIVE PHASE

III Origin of cases

I II I Initial assessment and case allocation

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Opening of proceedings

I II I Languages

I II I Information requests

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I II II I Time limits

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I II II Confidentiality

III II II Meetings and other contacts with the parties and third parties

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III Legal professional privilege

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I II I Information exchange between competition authorities

III State of Play meetings

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III II II Format of the State of Play meetings I

III II II Timing of the State of Play meetings

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III II Triangular meetings

III Meetings with the Commissioner or the Director-General

Review of key submissions

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III II Possible outcomes of the investigation phase

PROCEDURES LEADING TO A PROHIBITION DECISION

III Right to be heard

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I II II I Statement of Objections

I II II Access to fileI

I II II Written reply to the Statement of Objections I

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I II II II Rights of complainants and interested third persons

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I II II Oral hearing

III II Supplementary Statement of Objections and letter of facts

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I II I Possible outcomes of this phase

COMMITMENT PROCEDURES

I II I Initiation of commitment discussions

Preliminary Assessment

I II I Submission of the commitments

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I II I The 'market test' and subsequent discussions with the parties I

PROCEDURE FOR REJECTION OF COMPLAINTS

III Grounds for rejection

I II I Procedure

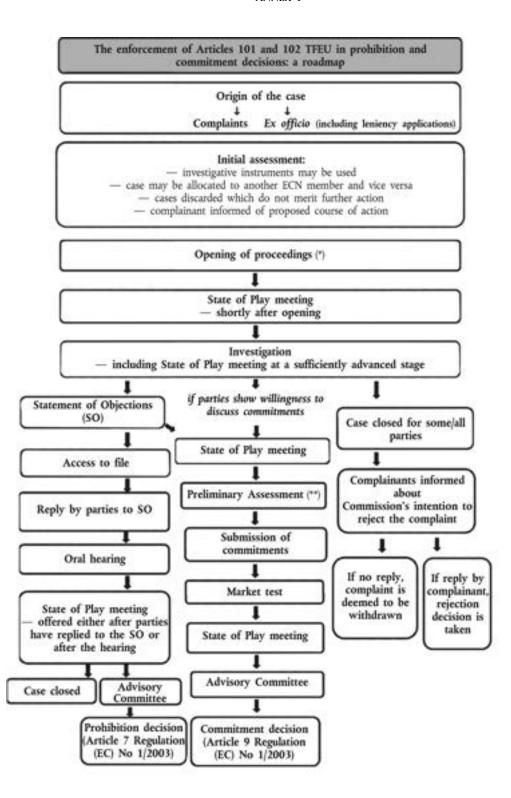
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I I LIMITS ON THE USE OF INFORMATION

ADOPTION, NOTIFICATION AND PUBLICATION OF DECISIONS

I I FUTURE REVISION



^(*) With the exception of cartel proceedings, where the opening of proceedings normally takes place simultaneously with the adoption of the Statement of Objections.

^(**) If an SO has already been issued, a Preliminary Assessment is not required.