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| INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 17/2019  |

**Madrid Protocol Concerning the International Registration of Marks**

**Notification under new Rule 27*ter*(2)(b) of the Common Regulations: Benelux**

1. Benelux has notified the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in accordance with new Rule 27*ter*(2)(b) of the Common Regulations under the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks and the Protocol Relating to that Agreement (the Common Regulations), which entered into force on February 1, 2019.
2. In the said notification, Benelux has declared that its law does not provide for the merger of registrations of a mark and that, as a result, its Office will not present to the International Bureau of WIPO requests for the merger of international registrations resulting from division under new Rule 27*ter*(2)(a).
3. Further details on the new Rules that entered into force on February 1, 2019, including new Rule 27*ter*, can be found in Information Notice No. 21/2018.

March 22, 2019