Dear Sir,

As you will be aware, in 2005 Austria ratified the 2000 EU Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters between the Member States of the EU and the 2001 Protocol to that Convention (Austrian Federal Law Gazette, part III, nr. 65 and 66/2005).

The statement on Article 24, which was amended previously (BGBl. III No 167/2013), has recently again be amended. The text of this statement as it currently reads, which has not yet been published in the Federal Law Gazette, is set out in the Annex, together with the other statements by Austria.

(Complimentary close)

(s.) Franz Wirtenberger

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ANNEX

BGBl. III - Published on 11 May 2005 - No 65

**Statements by the Republic of Austria on the**

**Convention of 29 May 2000 on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters between the Member States of the EU**

Re Article 1(5) of the Protocol

In accordance with Article 1(5) Austria states that it makes the execution of requests under Article 1 dependent on the same conditions as it applies in respect of requests for search and seizure.

Re Article 2(4) of the Protocol

In accordance with Article 2(4) Austria states that it makes the execution of requests under Article 2 dependent on the same conditions as it applies in respect of requests for search and seizure.

Re Article 24(1) of the Convention:

Austria declares, in accordance with Article 24(1), that the authorities competent for the application of the Convention are those already indicated in the European Convention of 20 April 1959 on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, and names:

• as the competent administrative authorities within the meaning of Article 3(1):
the district administrative authorities and the Federal Police departments;

• as the competent central authority within the meaning of Article 6(2) and (8):
the Federal Ministry of Justice;

• as the competent authorities within the meaning of Article 6(5):

- for requests under Article 12:
the public prosecutor's office in whose jurisdiction the border is expected to be crossed or from whose jurisdiction the controlled delivery is to start; - for requests under Article 13:
the examining magistrate of the court of first instance having territorial jurisdiction;

- for requests under Article 14:
the court of first instance from whose jurisdiction the operation is expected to be launched;

• as the competent authorities within the meaning of Article 6(6):
the district administrative authorities and the Federal Police departments;

• as the competent authority within the meaning of Articles 18 and 19 and Article 20(1) to (5):
the examining magistrate of the court of first instance having territorial jurisdiction;

• as the competent authority for the notification under Article 20(2):
SIRENE Austria.

Re Article 27(5) of the Convention:

Austria declares, in accordance with Article 27(5), that it will apply this Convention in its relations with Member States which have made the same declaration, until the Convention enters into force.