Internal Market Information System (IMI)

The European Commission, in order to improve the functioning of the Single Market by facilitating administrative cooperation and mutual assistance between member states, has developed the Internal Market Information system ("IMI"). The IMI system is a reliable tool for the secure exchange of information (including certain personal data) between national administrations of the EEA Member States and, where provided for in applicable Union acts, the Commission, Union Bodies, offices and agencies. IMI operates based on the Regulation (EU) 1024/2012 and may be used for administrative cooperation in areas listed in the Annex to the IMI Regulation and for pilot projects (Article 4 of the Regulation). Information is exchanged in a structured manner, following procedures and workflows established in advance.

The Competent Authority of a Member State that accepts applications for registration on its Register from professionals and service providers who are registered with corresponding Authorities of other Member States, may, through the system find the corresponding Authorities and, through the standard questions provided by the system, collect information concerning the applicants, which are relevant to the subject matter of their application.

The IMI System includes, *inter alia*, an "alert mechanism" providing the competent authorities with the ability to notify the authorities of other member states of every activity which might cause serious damage to the health or safety of persons or to the environment. In addition, to create several types of notifications.

The Coordinators of the IMI System may also act as Competent Authorities and as such may send or receive requests for information.

For further information as to how the Internal Market Information System operates you may visit https://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/imi-net/index_en.htm or link through the website of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism on https://www.meci.gov.cy