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STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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**1996 No. 173**

**HEALTH AND SAFETY  
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
INDUSTRIAL TRAINING**

**Industrial Tribunals (Constitution and Rules of  
Procedure) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996**

*Made* - - - - *24th April 1996*  
*Coming into operation* *1st June 1996*

The Department of Economic Development<sup>(1)</sup>, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Article 58A(1), (5), (6), (7) and (8)<sup>(2)</sup>, 59(1), (2)<sup>(3)</sup>, (2A)<sup>(4)</sup>, (2B), (2D)<sup>(5)</sup>, (3), (4)<sup>(6)</sup>, (6A)<sup>(7)</sup>, (6B), (7) and (8)<sup>(8)</sup> and 80(3) of the Industrial Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1976<sup>(9)</sup>, Article 26(1) of the Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978<sup>(10)</sup>, Article 30(1) of the Industrial Training (Northern Ireland) Order 1984<sup>(11)</sup> and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:

**Citation, commencement and revocations**

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Industrial Tribunals (Constitution and Rules of Procedure) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996 and the Rules of Procedure contained in Schedules 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 may be referred to, respectively, as—

- (a) the Industrial Tribunals Rules of Procedure 1996;
- (b) the Industrial Tribunals Complementary Rules of Procedure 1996;
- (c) the Industrial Tribunals (Levy Appeals) Rules of Procedure 1996;

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- (1) Formerly the Department of Manpower Services; see S.I. 1982/846 (N.I. 11) Article 3  
(2) Article 58A was inserted by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Article 14  
(3) As amended by S.I. 1982/528 (N.I. 8) Article 23(1) and Schedule 2, S.R. 1984 No. 16, regulation 3(3) and S.I. 1992/807 (N.I. 5) Article 100(1)  
(4) Article 59(2A) and (2B) were inserted by S.I. 1992/807 (N.I. 5). Article 100(2) and Article 59(2A) were amended by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Article 18(2) and Schedule 6  
(5) As inserted by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Article 18(2) and Schedule 6  
(6) As substituted by S.I. 1976/2147 (N.I. 28) Article 65(1) and Schedule 4, paragraph 5(10)  
(7) Article 59(6A) and (6B) were inserted by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Article 17(2)  
(8) As amended by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Article 17(3)  
(9) S.I. 1976/1043 (N.I. 16)  
(10) S.I. 1978/1039 (N.I. 9)  
(11) S.I. 1984/1159 (N.I. 9)

- (d) the Industrial Tribunals (Improvement and Prohibition Notices Appeals) Rules of Procedure 1996; and
  - (e) the Industrial Tribunals (Non-Discrimination Notices Appeals) Rules of Procedure 1996.
- (2) These Regulations shall come into operation on 1st June 1996.
- (3) The following Regulations are hereby revoked—
- (a) the Industrial Tribunals Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1965(12);
  - (b) the Industrial Tribunals (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1966(13);
  - (c) the Industrial Tribunals (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1967(14);
  - (d) the Industrial Tribunals (Improvement and Prohibition Notice Appeals) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1979(15);
  - (e) the Industrial Tribunals (Non-Discrimination Notice Appeals) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1980(16);
  - (f) the Industrial Tribunals (Rules of Procedure) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981(17);
  - (g) the Industrial Tribunals (Rules of Procedure) (Equal Value Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1984(18); and
  - (h) the Industrial Tribunals (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1989(19).

## Interpretation

### 2.—(1) In these Regulations—

“the Act of 1970” means the Equal Pay Act (Northern Ireland) 1970(20);

“applicant” means a person who presents an originating application or notice of appeal to the Secretary for a decision of a tribunal and includes—

- (a) the Department;
- (b) a claimant or complainant; and
- (c) in relation to an interlocutory application under a rule, a person who seeks any relief, and subject to paragraph (3) “appellant” shall be construed accordingly;

“the clerk” means the person appointed as clerk to the tribunal by the Secretary to act in that capacity at one or more hearings;

“the Commission” means the Equal Opportunities Commission for Northern Ireland established under Article 54 of the Order of 1976;

“decision” in relation to a tribunal includes a declaration, an order (other than an interlocutory order), a recommendation or an award of the tribunal;

“equal value claim” means a claim by an applicant which rests upon entitlement to the benefit of an equality clause by virtue of the operation of section 1(2)(c) of the Act of 1970(21);

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(12) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1965 No. 112

(13) (a) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1966 No. 261

(14) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1967 No. 109

(15) S.R. 1979 No. 324

(16) S.R. 1980 No. 135

(17) S.R. 1981 No. 188

(18) S.R. 1984 No. 40

(19) S.R. 1989 No. 446

(20) 1970 c. 32 (N.I.) as amended by S.R. 1984 No. 16

(21) As inserted by S.R. 1984 No. 16 Article 2(1)

“hearing” means a sitting of a tribunal duly constituted for the purpose of receiving evidence, hearing addresses and witnesses or doing anything lawfully requisite to enable the tribunal to reach a decision on any question;

“the Office of the Tribunals” means the Office of the Industrial Tribunals and the Fair Employment Tribunal;

“the No. 1 Order” means the Industrial Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1976;

“the Order of 1976” means the Sex Discrimination (Northern Ireland) Order 1976(22);

“the Order of 1978” means the Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978(23);

“the Order of 1984” means the Industrial Training (Northern Ireland) Order 1984(24);

“the panel of chairmen” means the panel appointed under regulation 4(1)(a);

“the President” means the President of the Industrial Tribunals and the Fair Employment Tribunal or the person nominated by the Lord Chancellor under section 3(6) of the Fair Employment (Northern Ireland) Act 1989(25) to discharge the functions of the President;

“Register” means the Register of applications, appeals and decisions maintained in pursuance of regulation 7;

“rule” means a rule of procedure contained in the Schedules;

“the Secretary” means the person appointed to act as the Secretary of the Office of Tribunals; and

“tribunal” means an industrial tribunal; and

“Vice-President” means the Vice-President of the Industrial Tribunals and the Fair Employment Tribunal or the person nominated by the Lord Chancellor under section 3(6) of the Fair Employment (Northern Ireland) Act 1989 to discharge the functions of Vice-President.

(2) In these Regulations, in so far as they relate to the rules in Schedules 1 and 2—

“the Agency” means the Labour Relations Agency;

“expert” means a member of the panel of independent experts within the meaning of section 2A(4) of the Act of 1970(26);

“the Order of 1988” means the Sex Discrimination (Northern Ireland) Order 1988(27);

“report” means a report required by a tribunal to be prepared by an expert, pursuant to section 2A(1)(b) of the Act of 1970; and

“respondent” means a party to the proceedings before a tribunal other than the applicant.

(3) In these Regulations, in so far as they relate to the rules in Schedule 3—

“appellant” means a person who sends a notice of appeal to the Board;

“the Board” means in relation to an appeal the Construction Industry Training Board; and

“levy” means a levy imposed under the Order of 1984.

(4) In these Regulations, in so far as they relate to the rules in Schedule 4—

“decision” in relation to a tribunal includes a direction under rule 4 and any order which is not an interlocutory order;

“improvement notice” means a notice under Article 23 of the Order of 1978;

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(22) S.I. 1976/1042 (N.I. 15)

(23) S.I. 1978/1043 (N.I. 9)

(24) S.I. 1984/1159 (N.I. 9)

(25) 1989 c. 32

(26) Section 2A was inserted by S.R. 1984 No. 16 Article 3(1)

(27) S.I. 1988/1303 (N.I. 13)

“inspector” means a person appointed under Article 21(1) of the Order of 1978;  
“prohibition notice” means a notice under Article 24 of the Order of 1978; and  
“respondent” means the inspector who issued the improvement notice or prohibition notice which is the subject of the appeal.

(5) In these Regulations, in so far as they relate to the rules in Schedule 5—

“decision” in relation to a tribunal includes a direction under Article 68(3) of the Order of 1976 and any other order which is not an interlocutory order; and

“non-discrimination notice” means a notice under Article 67 of the Order of 1976.

### **Industrial tribunals**

3.—(1) There shall continue to be tribunals established for the purposes of exercising the jurisdiction conferred on them by or under the Order of 1984 or any other statutory provision.

(2) The President or Vice-President shall determine at what time and in what place the tribunals shall sit.

### **Panels of chairmen and members of tribunals**

4.—(1) There shall be—

(a) a panel of chairmen being barristers or solicitors of not less than seven years' standing appointed by the Department; and

(b) two panels of members, being—

(i) persons appointed by the Department after consultation with such organisations or associations of organisations representative of employers as it sees fit; and

(ii) persons appointed by the Department after consultation with such organisations or associations of organisations representative of employees as it sees fit.

(2) Members of the panels constituted under these Regulations shall hold and vacate office under the terms of the instrument under which they are appointed but may resign their office by notice in writing to the Department; and any such member who ceases to hold office shall be eligible for reappointment.

### **Composition of tribunals**

5.—(1) For each hearing of any matter before a tribunal the President or Vice-President shall, subject to paragraph (5), select a chairman from the panel of chairmen appointed under regulation 4(1)(a) and the President and Vice-President may select themselves.

(2) In any proceedings which are to be determined by a tribunal comprising a chairman, selected in accordance with paragraph (1), and two other members, those other members shall be selected by the President or Vice-President, as to one member from the panel appointed under regulation 4(1)(b)(i) and the other member from the panel appointed under regulation 4(1)(b)(ii).

(3) In any proceedings which are to be determined by a tribunal whose composition is described in paragraph (2), those proceedings may, with the consent of the parties, be heard and determined in the absence of any one member, other than the chairman, and in that event the tribunal shall be properly constituted.

(4) The President or Vice-President may at any time select from the appropriate panel another person in substitution for the chairman or other member of the tribunal previously selected to hear proceedings before a tribunal.

(5) Paragraph (1) does not apply where the Secretary of State has issued a direction in accordance with Article 58A(7) of the No. 1 Order(28) (direction on the grounds of national security) that proceedings be heard and determined by the President alone.

### **Proceedings of tribunals**

6.—(1) Subject to the following paragraphs, the rules in Schedule 1 shall apply in relation to all proceedings before a tribunal except where separate rules of procedure made under any other statutory provision are applicable.

(2) In proceedings to which the rules in Schedule 1 apply and which involve an equal value claim, the rules in Schedule 2 (including rule 8A) shall apply respectively in place of rules 4, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 19 in Schedule 1.

(3) The rules contained in Schedules 1 and 2 shall apply in proceedings to which they relate where—

- (a) the respondent or one of the respondents resides or carries on business in Northern Ireland; or
- (b) had the remedy been by way of action in the county court, the cause of action would have arisen wholly or in part in Northern Ireland; or
- (c) the proceedings are to determine a question which has been referred to the tribunal by a court in Northern Ireland.

(4) The rules in Schedule 3 shall apply in relation to an appeal by a person assessed to a levy imposed under a levy order made under Article 23 of the Order of 1984(29);

(5) The rules in Schedule 4 shall apply in relation to an appeal against an improvement notice or prohibition notice under Article 26 of the Order of 1978(30); and

(6) The rules in Schedule 5 shall apply in relation to an appeal against a non-discrimination notice under Article 68 of the Order of 1976(31).

### **Register**

7. The Secretary shall maintain a Register of applications, appeals and decisions which shall be open to the inspection of any person without charge at all reasonable hours.

### **Proof of decisions of tribunals**

8. The production in any proceedings in any court of a document purporting to be certified by the Secretary to be a true copy of an entry of a decision in the Register shall, unless the contrary is proved, be sufficient evidence of the document and the facts stated therein.

### **Transitional provisions relating to Rules of Procedure**

9.—(1) The rules in Schedules 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 (in this Regulation referred to as “the new rules”) shall apply in all proceedings to which they relate, irrespective of when those proceedings were commenced, as from 1st June 1996, and the Rules of Procedure in—

- (a) the Schedule to the Industrial Tribunals Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1965(32);

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(28) Article 58A(7) was inserted by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Article 14

(29) S.I. 1984/1159 (N.I. 9)

(30) S.I. 1978/1039 (N.I. 9)

(31) S.I. 1976/1042 (N.I. 15)

(32) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1965 No. 112 as amended by S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1966 No. 261, S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1967 No. 109 and S.R. 1989 No. 441

- (b) the Schedule to the Industrial Tribunals (Improvement and Prohibition Notices Appeals) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1979**(33)**;
- (c) the Schedule to the Industrial Tribunals (Non-Discrimination Notices Appeals) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1980**(34)**;
- (d) the Industrial Tribunals (Rules of Procedure) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981**(35)**;
- (e) the Industrial Tribunals (Rules of Procedure) (Equal Value Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981**(36)**,

(in this Regulation together referred to as “the old rules”) shall cease to have effect in relation to proceedings on that date.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of section 29 of the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954**(37)** anything done validly under or pursuant to the old rules before 1st June 1996 shall be treated as having been done validly for the purposes of these Regulations and the new rules, whether or not what was done could have been done under or pursuant to these Regulations and the new rules.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), in any proceedings in which a pre-hearing assessment under rule 6 of the Industrial Tribunal (Rules of Procedure) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981 has taken place or commenced before 1st June 1996, that rule shall continue to have effect in relation to those proceedings and no pre-hearing review may be conducted under the new rules.

(4) Where the date of a pre-hearing assessment is first fixed before 1st June 1996 but that assessment has not taken place or commenced before 1st June 1996 the hearing shall be conducted as a pre-hearing review under the new rules.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Economic Development on .

24th April 1996

*W. D. A. Haire*  
Assistant Secretary

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**(33)** S.R. 1979 No. 324 as amended by S.R. 1989 No. 446  
**(34)** S.R. 1980 No. 135 as amended by S.R. 1989 No. 446  
**(35)** S.R. 1981 No. 188 as amended by S.R. 1989 No. 446  
**(36)** S.R. 1984 No. 135 as amended by S.R. 1989 No. 446  
**(37)** 1954 c. 33 (N.I.)

SCHEDULE 1

Regulations 2(2), 6(1), (2) and (3) and 9(1)

Industrial Tribunals Rules of Procedure 1996

**Originating application**

1.—(1) Where proceedings are brought by an applicant, they shall be instituted by the applicant presenting to the Secretary an originating application, which shall be in writing and shall set out—

- (a) the name and address of the applicant and, if different, an address within the United Kingdom to which he requires notices and documents relating to the proceedings to be sent;
- (b) the names and addresses of the person or persons against whom relief is sought; and
- (c) the grounds, with particulars thereof, on which relief is sought.

(2) In the case of an originating application in respect of a complaint under Article 77A(4A) of the Order of 1976<sup>(38)</sup> relating to a term of a collective agreement, the following persons whether or not identified in the originating application, shall be regarded as the persons against whom relief is sought and shall be treated as respondents for the purposes of these rules, that is to say—

- (a) the applicant's employer (or prospective employer); and
- (b) every organisation of employers and organisation of workers, and every association of or representative of such organisations, which, if the term were to be varied voluntarily, would be likely, in the opinion of the tribunal, to negotiate the variation,

provided that such an organisation or association shall not be treated as a respondent if, having made such enquiries of the applicant and such other enquiries as it thinks fit, the tribunal is of the opinion that it is not reasonably practicable to identify the organisation or association or representative.

(3) In the case of an originating application in respect of a prohibition order pursuant to Article 5A of the Employment (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1981<sup>(39)</sup> or the variation or revocation of a prohibition order pursuant to Article 5C of that Order, references to “relief” in these Rules shall include such a prohibition order.

(4) Where proceedings are referred to a tribunal by a court, these rules shall be applied to them, except where the rules are inappropriate, as if the proceedings had been instituted by the presentation of an originating application.

**Action upon receipt of originating application**

2.—(1) Upon receiving an originating application the Secretary shall—

- (a) send a copy of it to the respondent;
- (b) give every party notice in writing of the case number of the application (which shall constitute the title of the proceedings) and of the address to which notices and other communications to the Secretary shall be sent; and
- (c) send to the respondent a notice in writing which includes information, as appropriate to the case, about the means and time for entering an appearance, the consequences of failure to do so, and the right to receive a copy of the decision.

(2) The Secretary shall, subject to rule 13(6), enter particulars of an originating application in the Register either within 28 days of receiving it or, if that is not practicable, as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter.

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<sup>(38)</sup> Article 77A(4A) was inserted by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Article 11

<sup>(39)</sup> S.I. 1981/839 (N.I. 20) as amended by 1994 c. 40 section 35 and Schedule 10, paragraph 2

(3) The Secretary shall notify the parties that in every case where a statutory provision provides for conciliation, the conciliation services of the Agency are available to them.

### **Appearance by respondent**

3.—(1) A respondent shall, within 14 days of receiving the copy of the originating application, enter an appearance to the proceedings by presenting to the Secretary a written notice of appearance —

- (a) setting out his full name and address and, if different, an address within the United Kingdom to which he requires notices and documents relating to the proceedings to be sent;
- (b) stating whether or not he intends to resist the application; and
- (c) if he does intend to resist it setting out sufficient particulars to show on what grounds.

Upon receipt of a notice of appearance the Secretary shall send a copy of it to each other party.

(2) A respondent who has not entered an appearance shall not be entitled to take any part in the proceedings except—

- (a) to apply under rule 15(1) for an extension of the time appointed by paragraph (1) for entering an appearance;
- (b) to make an application under rule 4(1)(a);
- (c) to make an application under rule 11(4) on the grounds mentioned in rule 11(1)(b);
- (d) to be called as a witness by another person;
- (e) to be sent a copy of a document or altered entry in pursuance of rule 10(5), (9) or (10);

and in the rules which follow, the word “party” only includes such a respondent in relation to his entitlement to take such a part in the proceedings, and in relation to any such part which he takes.

(3) A notice of appearance which is presented to the Secretary after the time appointed by paragraph (1) for entering an appearance shall be deemed to include an application under rule 15(1) (by the respondent who presented the notice) for an extension of the time so appointed.

(4) Without prejudice to rule 15(3), if a chairman grants an application deemed to be included in a notice of appearance by paragraph (3) (which he may do notwithstanding that the grounds of the application are not stated) the Secretary shall send a copy of the notice of appearance to each other party.

(5) A chairman shall not refuse such an application unless he has sent notice to the person wishing to enter an appearance giving that person an opportunity to show cause why an extension should be granted.

### **Power to require further particulars and attendance of witnesses and to grant discovery**

4.—(1) A tribunal may, on the application of a party made either by notice to the Secretary or at the hearing of the originating application, or of its own motion, make an order, as may be granted by a county court, to—

- (a) require a party to furnish in writing to the person specified by the tribunal further particulars of the grounds on which that party relies and of any facts and contentions relevant thereto;
- (b) require one party to grant to another discovery or inspection (including the taking of copies) of documents,

and may appoint the time at or within which and the place at which any act required in pursuance of this rule is to be done.

Provided that the tribunal shall not under this rule require the production of any document certified by the Secretary of State as being a document of which the production would be against the interests of national security.

(2) A tribunal may, on the application of a party made either by notice to the Secretary or at the hearing of the originating application, or of its own motion, make an order—

- (a) to require the attendance of any person, including a party, as a witness, wherever such person may be within Northern Ireland; and
- (b) if it does so require the attendance of a person, to require him to produce any document in his possession or power relating to the matter to be determined,

and may appoint the time and place at which the person is to attend and, where appropriate, the time at or within which and the place at which any such document is to be produced.

(3) A tribunal may, on the application of a party made by notice to the Secretary or of its own motion, impose a requirement on a party to furnish to the tribunal a written answer to any question if it considers—

- (a) that the answer of the party to that question may help to clarify any issue likely to arise for determination in the proceedings; and
- (b) that it would be likely to assist the progress of the proceedings for that answer to be available to the tribunal before the hearing,

and may appoint the time within which the written answer is to be furnished. Where a requirement is imposed under this paragraph, the Secretary shall send to each other party a copy of such requirement and a copy of the written answer furnished to the tribunal.

(4) The tribunal shall take account of a written answer furnished pursuant to paragraph (3) in the same way as it takes account of representations in writing submitted by a party pursuant to rule 8(4).

(5) Where a requirement has been imposed under paragraph (1), (2) or (3)—

- (a) on a party in his absence; or
- (b) on a person other than a party,

that party or person may make an application to the tribunal to vary or set aside the requirement by notice to the Secretary given before the time at which or, as the case may be, the expiration of the time within which the requirement is to be complied with; and the Secretary shall give notice of the application to each party or, where applicable, to each other party.

(6) Every document containing a requirement imposed under paragraph (1)(b) or (2) shall contain a reference to the fact that, under Article 59(11) of the No. 1 Order(40), any person who without reasonable excuse fails to comply with any such requirement shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine and the document shall state the amount of the current maximum fine.

(7) If a requirement imposed under paragraph (1) or (3) is not complied with, a tribunal, before or at the hearing, may strike out the whole or part of the originating application, or, as the case may be, of the notice of appearance, and, where appropriate, direct that a respondent shall be debarred from defending altogether; but a tribunal shall not so strike out or direct unless it has sent notice to the party who has not complied with the requirement giving him an opportunity to show cause why the tribunal should not do so.

### **Time and place of hearing**

5.—(1) The President or Vice-President shall fix the date, time and place of the hearing of the originating application and the Secretary shall send to each party a notice of hearing together with

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(40) As amended by S.R. 1984 No. 16 regulation 3(3)

information and guidance as to attendance at the hearing, witnesses and the bringing of documents, representation by another person and the making of written representations.

(2) The Secretary shall send the notice of hearing to every party not less than 14 days before the date fixed for the hearing except—

- (a) where the Secretary has agreed a shorter time with the parties; or
- (b) on an application for interim relief made under Article 39 of the No. 1 Order<sup>(41)</sup>.

### **Entitlement to bring or contest the proceedings**

6.—(1) A tribunal may at any time before the hearing of an originating application, on the application of a party made by notice to the Secretary or of its own motion, hear and determine any issue relating to the entitlement of any party to bring or contest the proceedings to which the originating application relates.

(2) A tribunal shall not determine such an issue unless the Secretary has sent notice to each of the parties giving them an opportunity to submit representations in writing and to advance oral argument before the tribunal.

### **Pre-hearing review**

7.—(1) A tribunal may at any time before the hearing of an originating application, on the application of a party made by notice to the Secretary or of its own motion, conduct a pre-hearing review, consisting of a consideration of—

- (a) the contents of the originating application and notice of appearance;
- (b) any representations in writing; and
- (c) any oral argument advanced by or on behalf of a party.

(2) If a party applies for a pre-hearing review and the tribunal determines that there shall be no review, the Secretary shall send notice of the determination to that party.

(3) A pre-hearing review shall not take place unless the Secretary has sent notice to the parties giving them (and where appropriate, in proceedings which may involve payment out of the Northern Ireland National Insurance Fund<sup>(42)</sup>, the Department, if not a party) an opportunity to submit representations in writing and to advance oral argument at the review.

(4) If upon a pre-hearing review the tribunal considers that the contentions put forward by any party in relation to a matter required to be determined by a tribunal have no reasonable prospect of success, the tribunal may make an order against that party requiring the party to pay to the Secretary a deposit of an amount not exceeding £150 as a condition of being permitted to continue to take part in the proceedings relating to that matter.

(5) No order shall be made under this rule unless the tribunal has taken reasonable steps to ascertain the ability of the party against whom it is proposed to make the order to comply with such an order, and has taken account of any information so ascertained in determining the amount of the deposit.

(6) An order made under this rule, and the tribunal's reasons for considering that the contentions in question have no reasonable prospect of success, shall be recorded in summary form in a document signed by the chairman. A copy of that document shall be sent to each of the parties and shall be accompanied by a note explaining that if the party against whom the order is made persists in participating in proceedings relating to the matter to which the order relates, he may have an award of costs made against him and may lose his deposit.

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<sup>(41)</sup> As substituted by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Article 6(4) and Schedule 3 Part IV

<sup>(42)</sup> See 1992 c. 8 section 141(1)

(7) If a party against whom an order has been made does not pay to the Secretary the amount specified in the order either—

- (a) within the period of 21 days beginning with the day on which the document recording the making of the order is sent to him; or
- (b) within such further period, not exceeding 14 days, as the tribunal may allow in the light of representations made by that party within the said period of 21 days,

the tribunal shall strike out the originating application or notice of appearance of that party or, as the case may be, the part of it to which the order relates.

(8) The deposit paid by a party under an order made under this rule shall be refunded to him in full except where—

- (a) the tribunal has found against that party in a decision on the matter in respect of which the party was ordered to pay the deposit; and
- (b) an award of costs has been made against that party (whether arising out of the proceedings relating to that matter or out of proceedings relating to any other matter considered with that matter).

(9) A member of a tribunal which has conducted a pre-hearing review shall not be a member of the tribunal at the hearing of the originating application.

(10) Paragraph (9) shall not apply where, acting pursuant to a direction issued by the Secretary of State in accordance with Article 58A(7) of the No. 1 Order the President has conducted a pre-hearing review alone.

### **The hearing**

8.—(1) Any hearing of an originating application shall be heard by a tribunal composed in accordance with Article 58A(1), (2), (3) or (7) of the No. 1 Order<sup>(43)</sup>.

(2) Any hearing of or in connection with an originating application shall take place in public except where the Secretary of State has directed a tribunal to sit in private on grounds of national security in accordance with Article 59(4A) of the No. 1 Order<sup>(44)</sup>.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (2), a tribunal may sit in private for the purpose of hearing evidence—

- (a) which in the opinion of the tribunal relates to matters of such a nature that it would be against the interests of national security to allow the evidence to be given in public; or
- (b) from any person which in the opinion of the tribunal is likely to consist of—
  - (i) information which he could not disclose without contravening a prohibition imposed by or under any statutory provision; or
  - (ii) any information which has been communicated to him in confidence, or which he has otherwise obtained in consequence of the confidence reposed in him by another person; or
  - (iii) information the disclosure of which would cause substantial injury to any undertaking of his or any undertaking in which he works for reasons other than its effect on negotiations with respect to any of the matters mentioned in Article 3(1) of the No. 1 Order.

(4) If a party wishes to submit written representations for consideration by a tribunal at the hearing of the originating application that party shall send such representations to the Secretary not less than 7 days before the hearing and shall at the same time send a copy to each other party.

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<sup>(43)</sup> As inserted by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Article 14

<sup>(44)</sup> As inserted by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Schedule 5 paragraph 1

(5) The Department if it so elects shall be entitled to appear as if it were a party and be heard at any hearing of or in connection with an originating application in proceedings which may involve a payment out of the Northern Ireland National Insurance Fund and in that event it shall be treated for the purposes of these Rules as if it were a party.

### **Procedure at hearing**

9.—(1) The tribunal shall, so far as it appears to it appropriate, seek to avoid formality in its proceedings and shall not be bound by any statutory provision or rule of law relating to the admissibility of evidence in proceedings before the courts of law. The tribunal shall make such enquiries of persons appearing before it and witnesses as it considers appropriate and shall otherwise conduct the hearing in such manner as it considers most appropriate for the clarification of the issues before it and generally to the just handling of the proceedings.

(2) Subject to paragraph (1), at the hearing of the originating application a party shall be entitled to give evidence, to call witnesses, to question any witnesses and to address the tribunal.

(3) If a party fails to attend or to be represented at the time and place fixed for the hearing, the tribunal may, if that party is an applicant, dismiss or, in any case, dispose of the application in the absence of that party or may adjourn the hearing to a later date: provided that before dismissing or disposing of any application in the absence of a party the tribunal shall consider his originating application or notice of appearance, any representations in writing presented by him in pursuance of rule 8(4) and any written answer furnished to the tribunal pursuant to rule 4(3).

(4) A tribunal may require any witness to give evidence on oath or affirmation and for that purpose there may be administered an oath or affirmation in due form.

### **Decision of tribunal**

10.—(1) Where a tribunal is composed of three members its decision may be taken by a majority; and if a tribunal is composed of two members only, the chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

(2) The decision of a tribunal, which may be given orally at the end of a hearing or reserved, shall be recorded in a document signed by the chairman.

(3) The tribunal shall give reasons for its decision in a document signed by the chairman. That document shall contain a statement as to whether the reasons are given in summary or extended form and where the tribunal—

- (a) makes an award of compensation; or
- (b) comes to any other determination by virtue of which one party is required to pay a sum to another (excluding an award of costs or allowances),

the document shall also contain a statement of the amount of compensation awarded, or of the sum required to be paid, followed either by a table showing how the amount or sum has been calculated or by a description of the manner in which it has been calculated.

(4) The reasons for the decision of the tribunal shall be given in summary form except where—

- (a) the proceedings involved the determination of an issue arising under or relating to the Act of 1970, the Order of 1976 or the Order of 1988;
- (b) a request that the reasons be given in extended form is made orally at the hearing by a party;
- (c) such a request is made in writing by a party after the hearing either—
  - (i) before any document recording the reasons in summary form is sent to the parties; or
  - (ii) within 21 days of the date on which that document was sent to the parties; or
- (d) the tribunal considers that reasons given in summary form would not sufficiently explain the grounds for its decision,

and in those circumstances the reasons shall be given in extended form.

(5) The clerk shall send the documents referred to in paragraphs (2) and (3) to the Secretary who shall enter them in the Register and shall send a copy of the entry to each of the parties and where the proceedings were referred to the tribunal by a court, to that court.

(6) The document referred to in paragraph (3) shall be omitted from the Register in any case in which—

- (a) the Secretary of State has directed the tribunal, in accordance with Article 59(4A) of the No. 1 Order to sit in private on grounds of national security; or
- (b) evidence has been heard in private and the tribunal so directs.

In such a case the Secretary shall send that document to each of the parties; and where there are proceedings before a superior court relating to the decision in question, he shall send the document to that court, together with a copy of the entry in the Register of the document referred to in paragraph (2).

(7) In any case appearing to involve allegations of a sexual offence, the document referred to in paragraph (3) shall be entered on the Register with such omissions or deletions as have been made in accordance with rule 13(6).

(8) Clerical mistakes in the documents referred to in paragraphs (2) and (3), or errors arising in those documents from an accidental slip or omission, may at any time be corrected by the chairman by certificate under his hand.

(9) If a document is corrected by certificate under paragraph (8), or if a decision is—

- (a) revoked or varied under the chairman's hand under rule 11; or
- (b) altered in any way by order of a superior court,

the Secretary shall alter any entry in the Register which is affected to conform with the certificate or order and send a copy of any entry so altered to each of the parties and, where the proceedings were referred to the tribunal by a court, to that court.

(10) Where a document omitted from the Register pursuant to paragraph (6) is corrected by certificate under paragraph (8), the Secretary shall send a copy of the corrected document to each of the parties; and where there are proceedings before any superior court relating to the decision in question, he shall send a copy to that court together with a copy of the entry in the Register of the document referred to in paragraph (2), if it has been altered under paragraph (9).

(11) Where this rule requires a document to be signed by the chairman of a tribunal composed of three or two persons, but by reason of death or incapacity the chairman is unable to sign it, the document shall be signed by the other members or member of the tribunal, who shall certify that the chairman is unable to sign.

### **Review of tribunal's decision**

11.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this rule, a tribunal may, on the application of a party or of its own motion, review any decision on the grounds that—

- (a) the decision was wrongly made as a result of an error on the part of the tribunal staff;
- (b) a party did not receive notice of the proceedings leading to the decision;
- (c) the decision was made in the absence of a party;
- (d) new evidence has become available since the conclusion of the hearing to which the decision relates, provided that its existence could not have been reasonably known of or foreseen at the time of the hearing; or
- (e) the interests of justice require such a review.

(2) A tribunal may not review a decision of its own motion unless it is the tribunal which made the decision.

(3) A tribunal may only review a decision of its own motion if—

- (a) it exercises the power within the period beginning with the date of the hearing and ending with the fourteenth day after the date on which the decision was sent to the parties; and
- (b) it has sent notice to each of the parties explaining in summary form the ground upon which and reasons why it is proposed to review the decision and giving them an opportunity to show cause why there should be no review.

(4) An application for the purposes of paragraph (1) may be made at the hearing. If no application is made at the hearing, an application may be made to the Secretary at any time from the date of the hearing until 14 days after the date on which the decision was sent to the parties and must be in writing stating the grounds in full.

(5) An application for the purposes of paragraph (1) may be refused by the President, Vice-President or by the chairman of the tribunal which decided the case if in his opinion it has no reasonable prospect of success.

(6) If such an application is not refused under paragraph (5) it shall be heard by the tribunal which decided the case, or—

- (a) where it is not practicable for it to be heard by that tribunal; or
- (b) where the decision was made by a chairman acting alone under rule 13(8),

by a tribunal appointed by either the President or Vice-President.

(7) On reviewing its decision a tribunal may confirm the decision, or vary or revoke the decision under the chairman's hand; and if it revokes the decision, the tribunal shall order a re-hearing before either the same or a differently constituted tribunal.

## Costs

12.—(1) Where, in the opinion of the tribunal, a party has in bringing or conducting the proceedings acted scandalously, frivolously, vexatiously, abusively, disruptively or otherwise unreasonably, the tribunal may make—

- (a) an order containing an award against that party in respect of the costs incurred by another party;
- (b) an order that that party shall pay to the Department the whole, or any part, of any allowances (other than allowances paid to members of tribunals) paid by the Department under Article 30(3) of the Order of 1984<sup>(45)</sup> to any person for the purposes of, or in connection with, his attendance at the tribunal.

(2) Paragraph (1) applies to a respondent who has not entered an appearance in relation to the conduct of any part in the proceedings which he has taken.

(3) An order containing an award against a party (“the first party”) in respect of the costs incurred by another party (“the second party”) shall be—

- (a) where the tribunal thinks fit, an order that the first party pay to the second party a specified sum not exceeding £500;
- (b) where those parties agree on a sum to be paid by the first party to the second party in respect of those costs, an order that the first party pay to the second party a specified sum, being the sum so agreed; or

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<sup>(45)</sup> S.I. 1984/1159 (N.I. 9)

(c) in any other case, an order that the first party pay to the second party the whole or a specified part of the costs incurred by the second party as taxed (if not otherwise agreed).

(4) Where the tribunal has on the application of a party postponed the day or time fixed for or adjourned the hearing, the tribunal may make orders, of the kind mentioned in paragraphs (1)(a) and (1)(b), against or, as the case may require, in favour of that party as respects any costs incurred or any allowances paid as a result of the postponement or adjournment.

(5) A tribunal shall make orders against a respondent of the kinds mentioned in paragraphs 1(a) and 1(b) as respects any costs or any allowances paid as a result of the postponement or adjournment of a hearing where, on a complaint of unfair dismissal—

- (a) the applicant has expressed a wish to be reinstated or re-engaged which has been communicated to the respondent at least 7 days before the hearing of the complaint; or
- (b) the proceedings arise out of the respondent's failure to permit the applicant to return to work after an absence due to pregnancy or childbirth,

and the postponement or adjournment has been caused by the respondent's failure, without a special reason, to adduce reasonable evidence as to the availability of the job from which the applicant was dismissed, or, as the case may be, which she held before her absence, or of comparable or suitable employment.

(6) Any costs required by an order under this rule to be taxed may be taxed in the county court according to such of the scales prescribed by the county court rules for proceedings in the county court as shall be directed by the order.

(7) Where—

- (a) a party has been ordered under rule 7(4) to pay a deposit as a condition of being permitted to continue to take part in proceedings relating to a matter;
- (b) in respect of that matter, the tribunal has found against that party in its decision; and
- (c) there has been no award of costs made against that party arising out of the proceedings on the matter,

the tribunal shall consider whether to award costs against that party on the ground that he conducted the proceedings relating to the matter unreasonably in persisting in having the matter determined by a tribunal; but the tribunal shall not make an award of costs on that ground unless it has considered the document recording the order under rule 7 and is of the opinion that the reasons which caused the tribunal to find against the party in its decision were substantially the same as the reasons recorded in that document for considering that the contentions put forward by that party had no reasonable prospect of success.

(8) Where an award of costs is made against a party who has had an order under rule 7 made against him (whether the award arises out of the proceedings relating to the matter in respect of which the order was made or out of proceedings relating to any other matter considered with that matter), his deposit shall be paid in part or in full settlement of the award—

- (a) where an award is made in favour of one party, to that party; and
- (b) where awards are made in favour of more than one party, to all of them or any one or more of them as the tribunal thinks fit, and if to all or more than one, in such proportions as the tribunal considers appropriate,

and if the amount of the deposit exceeds the amount of the award of costs, the balance shall be refunded to the party who paid that deposit.

### **Miscellaneous powers**

13.—(1) Subject to the provisions of these Rules, a tribunal may regulate its own procedure.

(2) A tribunal may—

- (a) if the applicant at any time gives notice of the withdrawal of his originating application, dismiss the proceedings;
- (b) if both or all the parties agree in writing upon the terms of a decision to be made by the tribunal, decide accordingly;
- (c) consider representations in writing which have been submitted by a party to the Secretary (pursuant to rule 8(4)) less than 7 days before the hearing;
- (d) subject to paragraph (3), at any stage of the proceedings, order to be struck out or amended any originating application or notice of appearance, or anything in such application or notice of appearance, on the grounds that it is scandalous, frivolous or vexatious;
- (e) subject to paragraph (3), at any stage of the proceedings, order to be struck out any originating application or notice of appearance on the grounds that the manner in which the proceedings have been conducted by or on behalf of the applicant or, as the case may be, respondent has been scandalous, frivolous or vexatious; and
- (f) subject to paragraph (3), on the application of the respondent, or of its own motion, order an originating application to be struck out for want of prosecution; and
- (g) make any necessary amendments to the description of a party in the Register and in other documents relating to the originating application.

(3) Before making an order under sub-paragraph (d), (e) or (f) of paragraph (2) the tribunal shall send notice to the party against whom it is proposed that the order should be made giving him an opportunity to show cause why the order should not be made; but this paragraph shall not be taken to require the tribunal to send such notice to that party if the party has been given an opportunity to show cause orally why the order should not be made.

(4) Where a notice required by paragraph (3) is sent in relation to an order to strike out an originating application for want of prosecution, service of the notice shall be treated as having been effected if it has been sent by ordinary post or delivered in accordance with rule 19(3) and the tribunal may strike out the originating application (notwithstanding that there has been no direction for substituted service in accordance with rule 19(7)) if the party does not avail himself of the opportunity given by the notice.

(5) A tribunal may, before determining an application under rule 4 or rule 17, require the party making the application to give notice of it to every other party. The notice shall give particulars of the application and indicate the address to which and the time within which any objection to the application shall be made, being an address and time specified for the purposes of the application by the tribunal.

(6) In any case appearing to involve allegations of the commission of a sexual offence, the tribunal or the Secretary shall omit from the Register, or delete from the Register or any decision, document or record of the proceedings which is available to the public, any identifying matter.

(7) A chairman may postpone the day or time fixed for, or adjourn, any hearing (particularly where a statutory provision provides for conciliation in relation to the case for the purpose of giving an opportunity for the case to be settled by way of conciliation and withdrawn) and vary any such postponement or adjournment.

(8) Any act required or authorised by these rules to be done by a tribunal may be done by the President, Vice-President or a chairman except—

- (a) the hearing of an originating application under rule 8;
- (b) an act required or authorised to be so done by rule 9 or 10 which the rule implies is to be done by the tribunal which is hearing or has heard the originating application;
- (c) the review of a decision under rule 11(1), and the confirmation, variation or revocation of a decision, and ordering of a re-hearing, under rule 11(7).

(9) Any act required or authorised by rule 3(4) and (5), 13(7) or 15(1) to be done by a chairman may be done by a tribunal or on the direction of the President, Vice-President or a chairman.

### **Restricted reporting orders**

14.—(1) In any case which involves allegation of sexual misconduct the tribunal may at any time before promulgation of its decision in respect of an originating application, either on the application of a party made by notice to the Secretary or of its own motion, make a restricted reporting order.

(2) The tribunal shall not make a restricted reporting order unless it has given each party an opportunity to advance oral argument at a hearing.

(3) Where a tribunal makes a restricted reporting order—

- (a) it shall specify in the order the persons who may not be identified;
- (b) the order shall remain in force until the promulgation of the decision of the tribunal on the originating application to which it relates unless revoked earlier; and
- (c) the Secretary shall ensure that a notice of that fact is displayed on the notice board of the tribunal with any list of the proceedings taking place before the tribunal and on the door of the room in which the proceedings affected by the order are taking place.

(4) A tribunal may revoke a restricted reporting order at any time if it thinks fit.

(5) For the purposes of this rule “promulgation” occurs on the date recorded as being the date on which the document recording the determination of the originating application was sent to the parties.

### **Extension of time**

15.—(1) A chairman may on the application of a party or of his own motion extend the time for doing any act appointed by or under these Rules and may do so whether or not the time so appointed has expired.

(2) An application under paragraph (1) shall be made by sending to the Secretary a notice of application, which shall state the title of the proceedings and shall set out the grounds of the application.

(3) The Secretary shall give notice to each of the parties of any extension of time granted under this rule.

### **Directions**

16.—(1) A tribunal may at any time, on the application of a party or of its own motion, give directions on any matter arising in connection with the proceedings.

(2) An application under paragraph (1) shall be made by sending to the Secretary a notice of application, which shall state the title of the proceedings and set out the grounds of the application.

(3) A tribunal shall not grant an application under paragraph (1) without giving each party the opportunity to make oral or written representations in relation to the directions.

### **Joinder and representative respondents**

17.—(1) A tribunal may at any time, on the application of any person made by notice to the Secretary or of its own motion, direct any person against whom any relief is sought to be joined as a party, and give such consequential directions as it considers necessary.

(2) A tribunal may likewise, on such application or of its own motion, order that any respondent named in the originating application or subsequently joined as a party who appears to the tribunal

not to have been, or to have ceased to be, directly interested in the subject matter of the originating application, be dismissed from the proceedings.

(3) Where there are a number of persons having the same interest in an originating application, one or more of them may be cited as the person or persons against whom relief is sought, or may be authorised by the tribunal, before or at the hearing, to defend on behalf of all the persons so interested.

### **Combined proceedings**

18.—(1) Where there are two or more originating applications pending before the tribunals, and on the application of a party made by notice to the Secretary or of its own motion, it appears to a tribunal, that—

- (a) a common question of law or fact arises in some or all the originating applications; or
- (b) the relief sought in some or all of those originating applications is in respect of or arises out of the same set of facts; or
- (c) for any other reason it is desirable to make an order under this rule,

the tribunal may order that such of the originating applications as may be specified shall be considered together, and may give such consequential directions as may be necessary.

(2) The tribunal shall only make an order under this rule if—

- (a) each of the parties concerned has been given an opportunity at a hearing to show cause why such an order should not be made; or
- (b) it has sent notice to all the parties concerned giving them an opportunity to show such cause.

(3) The tribunal may, on the application of a party made by notice to the Secretary or of its own motion, vary or set aside an order made under this rule but shall not do so unless it has given each party an opportunity to make either oral or written representations before the order is varied or set aside.

### **Notices, etc.**

19.—(1) Any notice given under these Rules shall be in writing.

(2) All notices and documents required by these Rules to be sent to the Secretary may be sent to the Office of the Tribunals or such other office as may be notified by the Secretary to the parties.

(3) All notices and documents required or authorised by these Rules to be sent or given to any person hereinafter mentioned may be sent by ordinary post (subject to paragraphs (6) and (7)) or through a document exchange in accordance with paragraph (5) or delivered to or at—

- (a) in the case of a notice or document directed to the Department in proceedings to which it is not a party (or in respect of which it is treated as a party for the purposes of these Rules by virtue of rule 8(5)), the offices of the Department of Economic Development at Netherleigh, Massey Avenue, Belfast, BT4 2JP, or such other office as may be notified by the Department;
- (b) in the case of a notice or document directed to a court, the office of the clerk of the court;
- (c) in the case of a notice or document directed to a party—
  - (i) the address specified in his originating application or notice of appearance, or in a notice under paragraph (4) to which notices and documents are to be sent; or
  - (ii) if no such address has been specified, or if a notice sent to such an address has been returned, to any other known address or place of business in the United Kingdom or, if the party is a corporate body, the body's registered or principal office in the

United Kingdom, or in any case, such address or place outside the United Kingdom as the President or Vice-President may allow;

(d) in the case of a notice or document directed to any person other than a person specified in sub-paragraphs (a) to (c), his address or place of business in the United Kingdom or, if the person is a corporate body, the body's registered or principal office in the United Kingdom, and a notice or document sent or given to the representative of a party authorised in that behalf shall be deemed to have been sent or given to that party.

(4) A party may at any time by notice to the Secretary and to the other party or parties (and, where appropriate, to the Agency) change the address to which notices or documents are to be sent.

(5) Where—

(a) the proper address for service of any notice or document required or authorised by these Rules to be sent or given to any person includes a numbered box at a document exchange; or

(b) there is inscribed on the writing paper of the party on whom the notice or document is to be served (where such party acts in person) or on the writing paper of his solicitor (where such party acts by a solicitor) a document exchange box number, and such a party or his solicitor (as the case may be) has not indicated in writing to the party serving the notice or document that he is unwilling to accept service through a document exchange, service of the notice or document may be effected by leaving it addressed to that numbered box at that document exchange or at a document exchange which transmits documents every business day to that exchange; and any notice or document which is left at a document exchange in accordance with this paragraph shall unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to have been served on the second business day following the day on which it is left.

(6) The recorded delivery service shall be used instead of the ordinary post—

(a) when a second set of notices or documents is sent to a respondent who has not entered an appearance under rule 3(1); and

(b) for service of an order made under rule 4(2).

(7) In any case he considers appropriate the President or Vice-President may direct that there shall be substituted service in such manner as he may deem fit.

(8) In proceedings brought under any statutory provisions which provide for conciliation the Secretary shall send copies of all documents and notices to the Agency.

(9) In proceedings which may involve a payment out of the Northern Ireland National Insurance Fund the Secretary shall, where appropriate, send copies of all documents and notices to the Department whether or not it is a party.

(10) In proceedings under the Act of 1970, or the Order of 1976, the Secretary shall send to the Commission copies of every document and entry in the Register sent to the parties under rule 10(5), (9) and (10).

(11) In this rule “document exchange” means any document exchange for the time being approved by the Lord Chancellor.

## SCHEDULE 2

Regulations 2(2), 6(3) and 9(1)

Industrial Tribunals Complementary Rules of Procedure 1996  
*For use only in proceedings involving an equal value claim*

**Power to require further particulars and attendance of witnesses and to grant discovery**

4.—(1) A tribunal may, on the application of a party made either by notice to the Secretary or at the hearing of the originating application, or of its own motion, make an order, as may be granted by a county court to—

- (a) require a party to furnish in writing to the person specified by the tribunal further particulars of the grounds on which that party relies and of any facts and contentions relevant thereto;
- (b) require one party to grant to another discovery or inspection (including the taking of copies) of documents,

and may appoint the time at or within which and the place at which any act required in pursuance of this rule is to be done.

Provided that the tribunal shall not under this rule require the production of any document certified by the Secretary of State as being a document of which the production would be against the interests of national security.

(2) A tribunal may, on the application of a party made either by notice to the Secretary or at the hearing of the originating application, or of its own motion, make an order—

- (a) to require the attendance of any person, including a party, as a witness, wherever such person may be within Northern Ireland; and
- (b) if it does so require the attendance of a person, to require him to produce any document in his possession or power relating to the matter to be determined,

and may appoint the time and place at which the person is to attend and, where appropriate, the time at or within which and the place at which any such document is to be produced.

(2A) Subject to paragraph (2B), a tribunal may, on the application of an expert who has been required by the tribunal to prepare a report, make an order to—

- (a) require any person who the tribunal is satisfied may have information which may be relevant to the question or matter on which the expert is required to report, to furnish, in writing, such information as the tribunal may require;
- (b) require any person to produce any documents which are in the possession, custody or power of that person and which the tribunal is satisfied may contain matter relevant to the question on which the expert is required to report,

and any information so required to be furnished or document so required to be produced shall be furnished or produced, at or within such time as the tribunal may appoint, to the Secretary who shall send the information or document to the expert.

(2B) A tribunal shall not make an order imposing a requirement under paragraph (2A)—

- (a) on the Agency which has acted in connection with the complaint under Article 64 of the Order of 1976<sup>(46)</sup>; or
- (b) if it is satisfied that the person so required would have good grounds for refusing to comply with the requirement if it were a requirement made in connection with a hearing before the tribunal.

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(46) S.I. 1976/1042 (N.I. 15)

(3) A tribunal may, on the application of a party made by notice to the Secretary or of its own motion, impose a requirement on a party to furnish to the tribunal a written answer to any question if it considers—

- (a) that the answer of the party to that question may help to clarify any issue likely to arise for determination in the proceedings; and
- (b) that it would be likely to assist the progress of the proceedings for that answer to be available to the tribunal before the hearing,

and may appoint the time within which the written answer is to be furnished. Where a requirement is imposed under this paragraph the Secretary shall send to each other party a copy of such requirement and a copy of the written answer furnished to the tribunal.

(4) The tribunal shall take account of a written answer furnished pursuant to paragraph (3) in the same way as it takes account of representations in writing presented by a party pursuant to rule 8(4) in Schedule 1.

(5) Where a requirement has been imposed under paragraph (1), (2), (2A) or (3)—

- (a) on a party in his absence; or
- (b) on a person other than a party,

that party or person may make an application to the tribunal to vary or set aside the requirement by notice to the Secretary given before the time at which or, as the case may be, the expiration of the time within which the requirement is to be complied with; and the Secretary shall give notice of the application to each party, or, where applicable, to each other party.

(6) Every document containing a requirement imposed under paragraph (1)(b), (2) or (2A) shall contain a reference to the fact that, under Article 59(11) of the No. 1 Order, any person who without reasonable excuse fails to comply with any such requirement shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine and the document shall state the amount of the current maximum fine.

(7) If a requirement imposed under paragraph (1) or (3) is not complied with, a tribunal, before or at the hearing, may strike out the whole or part of the originating application, or, as the case may be, of the notice of appearance, and, where appropriate, direct that a respondent shall be debarred from defending altogether: but a tribunal shall not so strike out or direct unless it has sent notice to the party who has not complied with the requirement giving him an opportunity to show cause why the tribunal should not do so.

### **Procedure relating to expert's report**

8A.—(1) In any case involving an equal value claim where a question arises as to whether any work is of equal value to other work in terms of the demands made on the person employed on the work (for instance under such headings as effort, skill and decision) (in this rule hereinafter referred to as “the question”), a tribunal shall, before considering the question, except in cases to which section 2A(1)(a) of the Act of 1970 applies, require an expert to prepare a report with respect to the question and the requirement shall be made in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3).

(2) The requirement shall be made in writing and shall set out—

- (a) the name and address of each of the parties;
- (b) the address of the establishment at which the applicant is or, as the case may be, was employed;
- (c) the question; and
- (d) the identity of the person with reference to whose work the question arises,

and a copy of the requirement shall be sent to each of the parties.

(3) The requirement shall stipulate that the expert shall—

- (a) take account of all such information supplied and all such representations made to him as have a bearing on the question;
- (b) before drawing up his report, produce and send to the parties a written summary of the said information supplied and representations made under sub-paragraph (a) and invite the representations of the parties upon the material contained therein;
- (c) make his report to the tribunal in a document which shall reproduce the summary and contain a brief account of any representations received from the parties upon it, any conclusion he may have reached upon the question and the reasons for that conclusion or, as the case may be, for his failure to reach such a conclusion;
- (d) take no account of the difference of sex and at all times act fairly.

(4) Without prejudice to the generality of rule 13(7) where a tribunal requires an expert to prepare a report, it shall adjourn the hearing.

(5) The expert shall, either within 14 days of receiving the requirement or, where paragraph (6) applies, as soon as practicable thereafter, give notice in writing to the Secretary of the date by which he expects to send his report to the tribunal, and the Secretary shall send a copy of the notice to each party.

(6) If the expert considers that he is unable to determine the date referred to in paragraph (5) within the period of 14 days mentioned in that paragraph, he shall promptly give notice in writing to the Secretary of the reasons for his inability to determine that date and of the date by which he expects to be able to send the notice mentioned in that paragraph. The Secretary shall send a copy of any notice sent under this paragraph to each party.

(7) In paragraphs (8), (9) and (10), “the projected date” means the date most recently specified by the expert, in a notice given under paragraph (5) or (8) or in a progress report sent to the tribunal under paragraph (9), as the date by which he expects to send his report to the tribunal.

(8) If at any time the expert considers that there will be a material delay in sending his report to the tribunal beyond the projected date, he shall give notice in writing to the Secretary of—

- (a) that fact;
- (b) the date by which he now expects to send his report to the tribunal; and
- (c) the reasons for the delay including, in particular, whether he considers that any actions or failures to act by a party have, in whole or in part, caused the delay; and

the Secretary shall send a copy of any such notice to each party.

(9) At any time before the tribunal receives the report of the expert the tribunal may, acting on the request of a party or otherwise, require the expert to send a progress report to the tribunal. If so required, the expert shall, as soon as practicable—

- (a) if he receives the requirement before the projected date and has not sent his report, prepare and send to the tribunal a progress report—
  - (i) stating whether he considers that there will be any material delay in sending his report to the tribunal beyond the projected date; and
  - (ii) if he considers that there will be such a delay, giving the reasons for the delay and stating the date by which he now expects to send his report to the tribunal;
- (b) if he receives the requirement on or after the projected date and has not sent his report, prepare and send to the tribunal a progress report giving the reasons for the delay in sending his report and stating the date by which he now expects to send his report to the tribunal;
- (c) if he has sent his report to the tribunal, notify the Secretary of that fact; and

the Secretary shall send a copy of any progress report sent to the tribunal under this rule to each party.

(10) If a tribunal considers that—

- (a) the projected date specified in a notice given under paragraph (5) indicates that the expert will take longer than is appropriate to prepare his report; or
- (b) the projected date specified in a notice given under paragraph (8) or in a progress report sent to the tribunal under paragraph (9) indicates that there will be an unjustifiable delay beyond the previous projected date,

the tribunal may, after seeking representations from the parties and if it considers that it would be in the interests of justice to replace the expert, revoke, by notice in writing to the expert, the requirement to prepare a report; and in that event paragraph (1) shall again apply.

(11) Where a tribunal has received the report of an expert, it shall send a copy of the report to each party and fix a date for the hearing of the case to be resumed; and the date so fixed shall be the earliest reasonably practicable date after the expiration of 14 days from the date on which the report is sent to the parties.

(12) Upon the resumption of the hearing of the case in accordance with paragraph (11) the report shall be admitted as evidence in the case unless the tribunal has exercised its power under paragraph (13) not to admit the report.

(13) Where the tribunal, on the application of one or more of the parties or otherwise, forms the view—

- (a) that the expert has not complied with a stipulation in paragraph (3); or
- (b) that the conclusion contained in the report is one which, taking due account of the information supplied and representations made to the expert, could not reasonably have been reached; or
- (c) that for some other material reason (other than disagreement with the conclusion that the applicant's work is or is not of equal value or with the reasoning leading to that conclusion) the report is unsatisfactory,

the tribunal, may if it thinks fit, determine not to admit the report, and in such a case paragraph (1) shall again apply.

(14) In forming its view on the matters contained in paragraph (13)(a), (b) and (c) the tribunal shall take account of any representations of the parties thereon and may in that connection, subject to rule 9(2A) and (2B), permit any party to give evidence upon, to call witnesses and to question any witness upon any matter relevant thereto.

(15) The tribunal may, at any time after it has received the report of an expert, require that expert (or, if that is impracticable, another expert) to explain any matter contained in that report or, having regard to such matters as may be set out in the requirement, to give further consideration to the question.

(16) A requirement under paragraph (15) shall be made in accordance with paragraph (2) and shall stipulate that the expert shall make his reply in writing to the tribunal, giving his explanation or, as the case may be, setting down any conclusion which may result from his further consideration and his reasons for that conclusion.

(17) Where the tribunal has received a reply from the expert under paragraph (16), it shall send a copy of the reply to each of the parties and shall allow the parties to make representations thereon, and the reply shall be treated as information furnished to the tribunal and be given such weight as the tribunal thinks fit.

(18) Where a tribunal has determined under paragraph (13) not to admit a report, that report shall be treated for all purposes (other than the award of costs or allowances under rule 12) connected with the proceedings as if it had not been received by the tribunal and no further account shall be taken of it, and the requirement on the expert to prepare a report shall lapse.

## Procedure at hearing

9.—(1) The tribunal shall, so far as it appears to it appropriate, seek to avoid formality in its proceedings and shall not be bound by any statutory provision or rule of law relating to the admissibility of evidence in proceedings before the courts of law. The tribunal shall make such enquiries of persons appearing before it and witnesses as it considers appropriate and, subject to paragraphs (2A), (2B), (2C), (2D) and (2E), shall otherwise conduct the hearing in such manner as it considers most appropriate for the clarification of the issues before it and generally to the just handling of the proceedings.

(2) Subject to paragraphs (1), (2A), (2B), (2C) and (2D), at the hearing of the originating application a party shall be entitled to give evidence, to call witnesses, to question any witnesses and to address the tribunal.

(2A) The tribunal may, and shall upon the application of a party, require the attendance of an expert who has prepared a report in connection with an equal value claim in any hearing relating to that claim. Where an expert attends in compliance with such requirement any party may, subject to paragraph (1), cross-examine the expert on his report and on any other matter pertaining to the question on which the expert was required to report.

(2B) At any time after the tribunal has received the report of the expert, any party may, on giving reasonable notice of his intention to do so to the tribunal and to any other party, call one witness to give expert evidence on the question on which the tribunal has required the expert to prepare a report; and where such evidence is given, any other party may cross-examine the person giving that evidence upon it.

(2C) Except as provided in rule 8A(14) or by paragraph (2D), a party may not give evidence upon, or question any witness upon, any matter of fact upon which a conclusion in the report of the expert is based.

(2D) Subject to paragraphs (2A) and (2B), a tribunal may, notwithstanding paragraph (2C), permit a party to give evidence upon, to call witnesses and to question any witness upon any such matters of fact as are referred to in paragraph (2C) if either—

- (a) the matter of fact is relevant to and is raised in connection with the issue contained in section 1(3) of the Act of 1970 (defence of genuine material factor) upon which the determination of the tribunal is being sought; or
- (b) the report of the expert contains no conclusion on the question of whether the applicant's work and the work of the person identified in the requirement of the tribunal under rule 8A(2) are of equal value and the tribunal is satisfied that the absence of that conclusion is wholly or mainly due to the refusal or deliberate omission of a person required by the tribunal under rule 4(2A) to furnish information or to produce documents to comply with that requirement.

(2E) A tribunal may, on the application of a party, if in the circumstances of the case, having regard to the considerations expressed in paragraph (1), it considers that it is appropriate so to proceed, hear evidence upon and permit the parties to address it upon the issue contained in section 1(3) of the Act of 1970 before determining whether to require an expert to prepare a report under rule 8A.

(3) If a party fails to attend or to be represented at the time and place fixed for the hearing, the tribunal may, if that party is an applicant, dismiss or, in any case, dispose of the application in the absence of that party or may adjourn the hearing to a later date: provided that before dismissing or disposing of any application in the absence of a party the tribunal shall consider his originating application or notice of appearance, any representations in writing presented by him in pursuance of rule 8(4) in Schedule 1 and any written answer furnished to the tribunal pursuant to rule 4(3).

(4) A tribunal may require any witness to give evidence on oath or affirmation and for that purpose there may be administered an oath or affirmation in due form.

## Decision of tribunal

10.—(1) Where a tribunal is composed of three members its decision may be taken by a majority; and if a tribunal is composed of two members only, the chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

(2) The decision of a tribunal, which may be given orally at the end of a hearing or reserved, shall be recorded in a document signed by the chairman.

(3) The tribunal shall give reasons for its decision in extended form in a document signed by the chairman; and where the tribunal—

- (a) makes an award of compensation; or
- (b) comes to any other determination by virtue of which one party is required to pay a sum to another (excluding an award of costs or allowances),

the document shall also contain a statement of the amount of compensation awarded, or of the sum required to be paid, followed either by a table showing how the amount or sum has been calculated or by a description of the manner in which it has been calculated.

(4) There shall be appended to the document referred to in paragraph (3) a copy of the report, if any, of an expert received by the tribunal in the course of the proceedings.

(5) The clerk shall send the documents referred to in paragraphs (2) and (3) and the copy of the report referred to in paragraph (4), if any, to the Secretary who shall enter them in the Register and shall send a copy of the entry to each of the parties and where the proceedings were referred to the tribunal by a court, to that court.

(6) The document referred to in paragraph (3) and the copy of the report referred to in paragraph (4), if any, shall be omitted from the Register in any case in which—

- (a) the Secretary of State has directed the tribunal, in accordance with Article 59(4A) of the No. 1 Order<sup>(47)</sup> to sit in private on grounds of national security; or
- (b) evidence had been heard in private and the tribunal so directs.

In such a case the Secretary shall send that document to each of the parties; and where there are proceedings before a superior court relating to the decision in question, he shall send the document to that court, together with a copy of the entry in the Register of the document referred to in paragraph (2).

(7) In any case appearing to involve allegations of a sexual offence, the document referred to in paragraph (3) shall be entered on the Register with such omissions or deletions as have been made in accordance with rule 13(6).

(8) Clerical mistakes in the documents referred to in paragraphs (2) and (3), or errors arising in those documents from an accidental slip or omission, may at any time be corrected by the chairman by certificate under his hand.

(9) If a document is corrected by certificate under paragraph (8), or if a decision is—

- (a) revoked or varied by certificate under rule 11 in Schedule 1; or
- (b) altered in any way by order of a superior court,

the Secretary shall alter any entry in the Register which is affected to conform with the certificate or order and send a copy of any entry so altered to each of the parties and, where the proceedings were referred to the tribunal by a court, to that court.

(10) Where a document omitted from the Register pursuant to paragraph (6) is corrected by certificate under paragraph (8), the Secretary shall send a copy of the corrected document to each of the parties; and where there are proceedings before any superior court relating to the decision in

<sup>(47)</sup> As inserted by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Schedule 5, paragraph 1

question, he shall send a copy to that court together with a copy of the entry in the Register of the document referred to in paragraph (2), if it has been altered under paragraph (9).

(11) Where this rule requires a document to be signed by the chairman of a tribunal composed of three or two persons, but by reason of death or incapacity the chairman is unable to sign it, the document shall be signed by the other members or member of the tribunal, who shall certify that the chairman is unable to sign.

## Costs

12.—(1) Where, in the opinion of the tribunal, a party has in bringing or conducting the proceedings acted scandalously, frivolously, vexatiously, abusively, disruptively or otherwise unreasonably, the tribunal may make—

- (a) an order containing an award against that party in respect of the costs incurred by another party;
- (b) an order that that party shall pay to the Department the whole, or any part, of any allowances (other than allowances paid to members of tribunals) paid by the Department under Article 30(3) of the Order of 1984 to any person for the purposes of, or in connection with, his attendance at the tribunal.

(2) Paragraph (1) applies to a respondent who has not entered an appearance in relation to the conduct of any part in the proceedings which he has taken.

(2A) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(a), the costs in respect of which a tribunal may make an order include costs incurred by the party in whose favour the order is to be made in or in connection with the investigations carried out by the expert in preparing his report.

(3) An order containing an award against a party (“the first party”) in respect of the costs incurred by another party (“the second party”) shall be—

- (a) where the tribunal thinks fit, an order that the first party pay to the second party a specified sum not exceeding £500;
- (b) where those parties agree on a sum to be paid by the first party to the second party in respect of those costs, an order that the first party pay to the second party a specified sum, being the sum so agreed; or
- (c) in any other case, an order that the first party pay to the second party the whole or a specified part of the costs incurred by the second party as taxed (if not otherwise agreed).

(4) Where the tribunal has on the application of a party postponed the day or time fixed for or adjourned the hearing, the tribunal may make orders, of the kinds mentioned in paragraphs (1)(a) and (1)(b), against or, as the case may require, in favour of that party as respects any costs incurred or any allowances paid as a result of the postponement or adjournment.

(5) A tribunal shall make orders against a respondent of the kinds mentioned in paragraphs (1)(a) and (1)(b) as respects any costs or any allowances paid as a result of the postponement or adjournment of a hearing where, on a complaint of unfair dismissal—

- (a) the applicant has expressed a wish to be reinstated or re-engaged which has been communicated to the respondent at least 7 days before the hearing of the complaint; or
- (b) the proceedings arise out of the respondent’s failure to permit the applicant to return to work after an absence due to pregnancy or childbirth,

and the postponement or adjournment has been caused by the respondent’s failure, without a special reason, to adduce reasonable evidence as to the availability of the job from which the applicant was dismissed, or, as the case may be, which she held before her absence, or of comparable or suitable employment.

(6) Any costs required by an order under this rule to be taxed may be taxed in the county court according to such of the scales prescribed by the county court rules for proceedings in the county court as shall be directed by the order.

(7) Where—

- (a) a party has been ordered under rule 7(4) in Schedule 1 to pay a deposit as a condition of being permitted to continue to take part in proceedings relating to a matter;
- (b) in respect of that matter, the tribunal has found against that party in its decision; and
- (c) there has been no award of costs made against that party arising out of the proceedings on the matter,

the tribunal shall consider whether to award costs against that party on the ground that he conducted the proceedings relating to the matter unreasonably in persisting in having the matter determined by a tribunal; but the tribunal shall not make an award of costs on that ground unless it has considered the document recording the order under rule 7 in Schedule 1 and is of the opinion that the reasons which caused the tribunal to find against the party in its decision were substantially the same as the reasons recorded in that document for considering that the contentions put forward by that party had no reasonable prospect of success.

(8) Where an award of costs is made against a party who has had an order under rule 7 in Schedule 1 made against him (whether the award arises out of the proceedings relating to the matter in respect of which the order was made or out of proceedings relating to any other matter considered with that matter), his deposit shall be paid in part or full settlement of the award—

- (a) where an award is made in favour of one party, to that party; and
- (b) where awards are made in favour of more than one party, to all of them or any one or more of them as the tribunal thinks fit, and if to all or more than one, in such proportions as the tribunal considers appropriate,

and if the amount of the deposit exceeds the amount of the award of costs, the balance shall be refunded to the party who paid that deposit.

### **Miscellaneous powers**

13.—(1) Subject to the provisions of these Rules, a tribunal may regulate its own procedure.

(2) A tribunal may—

- (a) if the applicant at any time gives notice of the withdrawal of his originating application, dismiss the proceedings;
- (b) if both or all the parties agree in writing upon the terms of a decision to be made by the tribunal, decide accordingly;
- (c) consider representations in writing which have been submitted by a party to the Secretary (pursuant to rule 8(4) in Schedule 1) less than 7 days before the hearing;
- (d) subject to paragraph (3), at any stage of the proceedings, order to be struck out or amended any originating application or notice of appearance, or anything in such application or notice of appearance, on the grounds that it is scandalous, frivolous or vexatious;
- (e) subject to paragraph (3), at any stage of the proceedings, order to be struck out any originating application or notice of appearance on the grounds that the manner in which the proceedings have been conducted by or on behalf of the applicant or, as the case may be, respondent has been scandalous, frivolous or vexatious;
- (f) subject to paragraph (3), on the application of the respondent, or of its own motion, order an originating application to be struck out for want of prosecution;

(g) make any necessary amendments to the description of a party in the Register and in other documents relating to the originating application.

(3) Before making an order under sub-paragraph (d), (e) or (f) of paragraph (2) the tribunal shall send notice to the party against whom it is proposed that the order should be made giving him an opportunity to show cause why the order should not be made; but this paragraph shall not be taken to require the tribunal to send such notice to that party if the party has been given an opportunity to show cause orally why the order should not be made.

(4) Where a notice required by paragraph (3) is sent in relation to an order to strike out an originating application for want of prosecution, service of the notice shall be treated as having been effected if it has been sent by ordinary post or delivered in accordance with rule 19(3) and the tribunal may strike out the originating application (notwithstanding that there has been no direction for substituted service in accordance with rule 19(7)) if the party does not avail himself of the opportunity given by the notice.

(5) A tribunal may, before determining an application under rule 4 or rule 17 in Schedule 1, require the party making the application or, in the case of an application under rule 4(2A), the expert, to give notice of it to every other party (or, in the case of an application by the expert, to the parties and any other person on whom the tribunal is asked, in the application, to impose a requirement). The notice shall give particulars of the application and indicate the address to which and the time within which any objection to the application shall be made, being an address and time specified for the purposes of the application by the tribunal.

(6) In any case appearing to involve allegations of the commission of a sexual offence, the tribunal or the Secretary shall omit from the Register, or delete from the Register or any decision, document or record of the proceedings which is available to the public, any identifying matter.

(6A) Without prejudice to paragraph (7), the tribunal shall, before proceeding to hear the parties on an equal value claim, invite them to apply for an adjournment for the purpose of seeking to reach a settlement of the claim and shall, if both or all the parties agree to such a course, grant an adjournment for that purpose.

(6B) If, after the tribunal has adjourned the hearing under rule 8A(4) but before the tribunal has received the report of the expert, the applicant gives notice of withdrawal under paragraph (2)(a), the tribunal shall give notice to the expert that the requirement to prepare a report has ceased.

(6C) A notice given to the expert under paragraph (6B) shall be without prejudice to the operation of rule 12(2A).

(7) A chairman may postpone the day or time fixed for, or adjourn, any hearing (particularly where a statutory provision provides for conciliation in relation to the case, for the purpose of giving an opportunity for the case to be settled by way of conciliation and withdrawn) and vary any such postponement or adjournment.

(8) Any act required or authorised by these Rules to be done by a tribunal may be done by the President, Vice-President or a chairman except—

- (a) the hearing of an originating application under rule 8 in Schedule 1;
- (b) an act required or authorised to be so done by rule 9 or 10 which the rule implies is to be done by the tribunal which is hearing or heard the originating application;
- (c) the review of a decision under rule 11(1) in Schedule 1, and the confirmation, variation or revocation of a decision, and ordering of a re-hearing, under rule 11(7) in that Schedule.

(9) Any act required or authorised by rule 3(4) and (5) in Schedule 1, rule 13(7) or rule 15(1) in Schedule 1 to be done by a chairman may be done by a tribunal or on the direction of the President, Vice-President or a chairman.

## Notices, etc.

19.—(1) Any notice given under these Rules shall be in writing.

(2) All notices and documents required by these Rules to be sent to the Secretary may be sent to the Office of the Tribunals or such other office as may be notified by the Secretary to the parties.

(3) All notices and documents required or authorised by these Rules to be sent or to be given to any person hereinafter mentioned may be sent by ordinary post (subject to paragraphs (6) and (7)) or through a document exchange in accordance with paragraph (5) or delivered to or at—

(a) in the case of a notice or document directed to the Department in proceedings to which it is not a party (or in respect of which it is treated as a party for the purposes of these Rules by virtue of rule 8(5) in Schedule 1), the offices of the Department of Economic Development, Netherleigh, Massey Avenue, Belfast, BT4 2JP, or such other office as may be notified by the Department;

(b) in the case of a notice or document directed to a court, the office of the clerk of the court;

(c) in the case of a notice or document directed to a party—

(i) the address specified in his originating application or notice of appearance or in a notice under paragraph (4) to which notices and documents are to be sent; or

(ii) if no such address has been specified, or if a notice sent to such an address has been returned, to any other known address or place of business in the United Kingdom or, if the party is a corporate body, the body's registered or principal office in the United Kingdom, or, in any case, such address or place outside the United Kingdom as the President or Vice-President may allow;

(d) in the case of a notice or document directed to any person other than a person specified in sub-paragraphs (a) to (c), his address or place of business in the United Kingdom or, if the person is a corporate body, the body's registered or principal office in the United Kingdom,

and a notice or document sent or given to the representative of a party authorised in that behalf shall be deemed to have been sent or given to that party.

(4) A party may at any time by notice to the Secretary and to the other party or parties (and, where appropriate, to the Agency) change the address to which notices and documents are to be sent.

(5) Where—

(a) the proper address for service of any notice or document required or authorised by these Rules to be sent or given to any person includes a numbered box at a document exchange; or

(b) there is inscribed on the writing paper of the party on whom the notice or document is to be served (where such a party acts in person) or on the writing paper of his solicitor (where such a party acts by a solicitor) a document exchange box number, and such a party or his solicitor (as the case may be) has not indicated in writing to the party serving the notice or document that he is unwilling to accept service through a document exchange, service of the notice or document may be effected by leaving it addressed to that numbered box at that document exchange or at a document exchange which transmits documents every business day to that exchange; and any notice or document which is left at a document exchange in accordance with this paragraph shall unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to have been served on the second business day following the day on which it is left.

(6) The recorded delivery service shall be used instead of the ordinary post—

(a) when a second set of notices or documents is sent to a respondent who has not entered an appearance under rule 3(1) in Schedule 1; and

(b) for service of an order made under rule 4(2) or (2A).

(7) In any case he considers appropriate the President or Vice-President may direct that there shall be substituted service in such manner as he may deem fit.

(8) In proceedings brought under the provisions of any statutory provision providing for conciliation the Secretary shall send copies of all documents and notices to the Agency.

(9) In proceedings which may involve a payment out of the Northern Ireland National Insurance Fund, the Secretary shall, where appropriate, send copies of all documents and notices to the Department whether or not it is a party.

(10) In proceedings under the Act of 1970, or the Order of 1976, the Secretary shall send to the Commission, copies of every document and the entry in the Register sent to the parties under rule 10(5), (9) and (10).

(11) In this rule “document exchange” means any document exchange for the time being approved by the Lord Chancellor.

### SCHEDULE 3

Regulations 2(3), 6(4) and 9(1)

#### Industrial Tribunals (Levy Appeals) Rules of Procedure 1996 *For use in proceedings in levy appeals*

#### **Notice of appeal**

1. An appeal against an assessment to a levy shall be instituted by the appellant sending to the Board a notice of appeal in Form 1, setting out the grounds of the appeal.

#### **Action by the Board upon receipt of appeal**

2.—(1) Subject to the provisions of rules 3 and 4, the Board upon receiving the notice of appeal shall send within 21 days to the Secretary—

- (a) a copy of the notice of appeal;
- (b) a copy of the assessment notice and of any notice by the Board allowing further time for appealing;
- (c) a notice giving the Board’s address for service under these Rules, where that address is different from the address specified in the assessment notice, as the address for service of a notice of appeal; and
- (d) any representations in writing with respect to the appeal that the Board may think fit.

(2) Failure to comply with any provision of this rule or rule 3 shall not render the appeal or anything done in pursuance thereof invalid.

#### **Further particulars of appeal**

3.—(1) Subject to rule 4, this rule applies in a case where the Board upon receiving the notice of appeal requires further particulars of the grounds on which the appellant intends to rely and of any facts and contentions relevant thereto.

(2) The Board shall within 21 days of receiving the notice of appeal send to the appellant a notice specifying the further particulars required by the Board.

(3) Within 21 days of receiving a notice under paragraph (2), or within such further period as the Board may allow, the appellant shall send to the Board such further particulars.

(4) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (5) the Board shall, within 21 days of receiving such further particulars, send to the Secretary—

- (a) the documents specified in rule 2;
- (b) a copy of the notice requiring the further particulars; and
- (c) such further particulars, and any representations in writing with respect thereto that the Board may think fit.

(5) If such further particulars are not received by the Board in accordance with paragraph (3), the documents mentioned in paragraph (4)(a) and (b) shall be sent by the Board to the Secretary not later than—

- (a) the fiftieth day after the receipt of the notice of appeal by the Board; or
- (b) if the Board has allowed a further period for the sending of further particulars under paragraph (3), the seventh day after the expiration of that period.

#### **Withdrawal of appeal or assessment**

4.—(1) The appellant may withdraw the notice of appeal by notice given to the Board at any time before the entry of particulars of the appeal in the Register under rule 5(a) and in that event no further action shall be taken in relation to the appeal.

(2) Where an assessment to a levy is withdrawn by the Board, no further action shall be taken in relation to the appeal.

#### **Action by Secretary upon receipt of appeal**

5. Upon receiving from the Board the relevant documents in accordance with rules 2(1), 3(4) and (5) the Secretary shall as soon as practicable—

- (a) enter particulars of the appeal in the Register;
- (b) give notice to the appellant and to the Board of the case number of the appeal entered in the Register (which shall thereafter constitute the title of the appeal) and of the address to which notices and other communications to the Secretary shall be sent;
- (c) give notice to the appellant of the Board's address for service under these Rules where that address is different from the address specified in the assessment notice; and
- (d) send to the appellant a copy of any representations in writing by the Board under rule 2(1) (d) or 3(4)(c).

#### **Directions for further particulars**

6.—(1) In any case in which an appellant has not sent to the Board further particulars in accordance with a notice sent by the Board under rule 3 the tribunal may, on the application of the Board, by notice direct the appellant to supply such further particulars of the grounds on which he intends to rely and of any facts and contentions relevant thereto as may be specified in the notice, and the appellant shall send such particulars to the Secretary within such time as the tribunal shall direct.

(2) Upon receipt of further particulars from the appellant the Secretary shall send a copy thereof to the Board.

(3) If the appellant fails to comply with a direction made by the tribunal under this rule the tribunal may on the application of the Board dismiss the appeal or give such other directions as it thinks fit.

(4) A tribunal may at any time by notice direct the Board to furnish any particulars relating to the assessment to a levy which appear to be requisite for the decision of the appeal, and thereupon the Board shall send those particulars to the Secretary and to the appellant.

### Attendance of witnesses and discovery

7.—(1) A tribunal may on the application of the appellant or the Board made either by notice to the Secretary or at the hearing of the appeal or of its own motion make an order as may be granted by the county court to—

- (a) require one party to grant to another discovery and inspection (including the taking of copies) of documents; or
- (b) require the attendance of any person including a party as a witness, wherever such person may be within Northern Ireland; and if it does so require the attendance of a person, to require him to produce any document in his possession or power which relates to the appeal,

and may appoint the time and place at which the person is to attend and where appropriate the time at or within which and the place at which any such document is to be produced.

(2) Where a requirement has been imposed under paragraph (1)—

- (a) on a party in his absence; or
- (b) on a person other than a party,

that party or person may make an application to the tribunal to vary or set aside the requirement by notice to the Secretary given before the time at which or, as the case may be, the expiration of the time within which the requirement is to be complied with; and the Secretary shall give notice of the application to each party or, where applicable, to each other party.

(3) Every document containing a requirement imposed under paragraph (1) shall contain a reference to the fact, that, under Article 59(11) of the No. 1 Order any person who without reasonable excuse fails to comply with any such requirement shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine and the document shall state the amount of the current maximum fine.

### Time and place of hearing of appeal

8. The President or Vice-President shall fix the date, time and place of the hearing of an appeal, and the Secretary shall, not less than 14 days before the date so fixed, send to the appellant and to the Board a notice of hearing in Form 2.

### The hearing

9.—(1) Any hearing of an appeal shall be heard by a tribunal composed in accordance with Article 58A(1), (2), (3) or (7) of the No. 1 Order<sup>(48)</sup>.

(2) Any hearing of or in connection with an appeal shall take place in public except where the Secretary of State has directed a tribunal to sit in private on grounds of national security in accordance with Article 59(4A) of the No. 1 Order<sup>(49)</sup>.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (2), a tribunal may sit in private, if, on the application of the appellant or the Board, the tribunal considers it appropriate to do so, for the purpose of hearing evidence—

- (a) which in the opinion of the tribunal relates to matters of such a nature that it would be against the interests of national security to allow the evidence to be given in public; or
- (b) from any person which in the opinion of the tribunal is likely to consist of—
  - (i) information which he could not disclose without contravening a prohibition imposed by or under any statutory provision; or

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<sup>(48)</sup> As inserted by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Article 14

<sup>(49)</sup> As inserted by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Schedule 5 paragraph 1

- (ii) any information which has been communicated to him in confidence, or which he has otherwise obtained in consequence of the confidence reposed in him by another person; or
- (iii) information the disclosure of which would cause substantial injury to any undertaking of his or any undertaking in which he works for reasons other than its effect on negotiations with respect to any of the matters mentioned in Article 3(1) of the No. 1 Order.

(4) If the appellant or the Board wishes to submit written representations for consideration by a tribunal at the hearing of the originating application they shall send the representations to the Secretary not less than 7 days before the hearing and shall at the same time send a copy to the other party.

### **Procedure at hearing**

10.—(1) The tribunal shall, so far as it appears to it appropriate, seek to avoid formality in its proceedings and shall not be bound by any statutory provision or rule of law relating to the admissibility of evidence in proceedings before the courts of law. The tribunal shall make such enquiries of persons appearing before it and witnesses as it considers appropriate and shall otherwise conduct the hearing in such manner as it considers most appropriate for the clarification of the issues before it and generally to the just handling of the proceedings.

(2) Subject to paragraph (1), at the hearing of the appeal a party shall be entitled to give evidence, to call witnesses, to question any witnesses and to address the tribunal.

(3) If the appellant or the Board or both of them shall fail to attend or to be represented at the time and place fixed for a hearing the tribunal may dispose of the appeal in the absence of such party or parties or may adjourn the hearing to a later date: provided that before disposing of an appeal in the absence of either or both parties the tribunal shall consider any written representations sent by such party or parties under these Rules.

(4) A tribunal may require any witness to give evidence on oath or affirmation and for that purpose there may be administered an oath or affirmation in due form.

### **Decision of tribunal**

11.—(1) Where a tribunal is composed of three members its decision may be taken by a majority; and if a tribunal is composed of two members only, the chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

(2) The decision of a tribunal, which may be given orally at the end of a hearing or reserved, shall be recorded in a document signed by the chairman, and that document shall specify the reasons for the decision.

(3) The clerk shall send the document referred to in paragraph (2) to the Secretary who shall enter it in the Register, and shall send a copy of the entry to the appellant and the Board.

(4) The specification of the reasons for the decision shall be omitted from the Register in any case in which—

- (a) the Secretary of State has directed the tribunal, in accordance with Article 59(4A) of the No. 1 Order, to sit in private on grounds of national security;
- (b) evidence has been heard in private and the tribunal so directs; or
- (c) the tribunal on the application of the appellant so directs on the ground that disclosure will be contrary to the interests of the appellant,

and in that event a specification of the reasons shall be sent to the appellant and the Board, and to any superior court in any proceedings relating to the decision, together with the copy of the entry in the Register of the document referred to in paragraph (2).

(5) Clerical mistakes in the document referred to in paragraph (2) or errors arising therein from any accidental slip or omission, may at any time be corrected by the chairman by certificate under his hand.

(6) If a document is corrected by certificate under paragraph (5) the Secretary shall alter any entry in the Register and shall send a copy of any entry so corrected to the appellant and the Board.

(7) Where this rule requires a document to be signed by the chairman of a tribunal composed of three or two persons, but by reason of death or incapacity the chairman is unable to sign it, the document shall be signed by the other members or member of the tribunal, who shall certify that the chairman is unable to sign.

### **Costs**

12.—(1) The decision of the tribunal may include—

- (a) an order that the Board shall pay to the appellant or that the appellant shall pay to the Board either a specified sum in respect of the costs incurred by the appellant or the Board, as the case may be, or, in default of agreement, the taxed amount of those costs;
- (b) an order that the Board or the appellant shall pay to the Department the whole, or any part of, any allowances (other than allowances paid to members of tribunals) paid by the Department under Article 30(3) of the Industrial Training (Northern Ireland) Order 1984<sup>(50)</sup> to any person, for the purposes of or in connection with, his attendance at the tribunal.

(2) Any costs required by an order under paragraph (1) to be taxed may be taxed in the county court according to such of the scales prescribed by county court rules for proceedings in the county court as shall be directed by the order.

### **Miscellaneous powers**

13.—(1) Subject to the provisions of these Rules, a tribunal may regulate its own procedure.

(2) A tribunal may—

- (a) extend the time appointed by these Rules for doing any act notwithstanding that the time appointed may have expired;
- (b) before granting an application referred to in rule 6(1) or (3), 7(1) or 14, require the party making the application to give notice thereof to the other party;
- (c) postpone the day or time fixed for, or adjourn the hearing and vary any such postponement or adjournment;
- (d) if the appellant shall at any time after the entry of the appeal in the Register give notice of the abandonment of his appeal to the Secretary and to the Board, or the Board gives notice that the appeal is not contested to the Secretary and to the appellant, dismiss or allow the appeal, as the case may be;
- (e) if the appellant and the Board agree in writing upon the terms of a decision to be made by the tribunal, decide accordingly;
- (f) make any necessary amendments to the description of a party in the Register and in other documents relating to the appeal.

(3) A notice under paragraph (2)(b) shall give particulars of the application and indicate the address to which and the time within which any objection to the application shall be made, being an address and time specified by the tribunal for the purposes of the application.

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<sup>(50)</sup> S.I. 1984/1159 (N.I. 9)

(4) Any act required or authorised by these Rules to be done by a tribunal may be done by the President, Vice-President or a chairman except—

- (a) the hearing of an appeal under rule 9; and
  - (b) an act required or authorised to be so done by rule 10 or 11 which the rule implies is to be done by the tribunal which is hearing or has heard the appeal.
- (5) Rule 12 shall apply to an order under paragraph (2)(d) dismissing an appeal.

### **Applications**

14.—(1) An application to the tribunal for an extension of the time appointed by these Rules for doing any act may be made by the appellant or the Board either before or (subject to rule 7(2)) after the expiration of the time so appointed.

(2) A tribunal may at any time, on the application of an appellant or of its own motion, give directions on any matter arising in connection with the proceedings.

(3) An application made to the tribunal for an extension of the time for appealing against an assessment to a levy shall be made by sending to the Secretary a notice of application which shall state the title of the appeal, or the number of the assessment in the case where an appeal has not been entered in the Register, and shall set out the grounds of the application.

(4) The Secretary shall give notice to the appellant and to the Board of any extension of time granted by the tribunal or of any directions given by the tribunal in pursuance of these Rules.

### **Notices, etc.**

15.—(1) Any notice given under these Rules shall be in writing.

(2) All notices and documents required or authorised by these Rules to be sent or given to any person hereinafter mentioned may be sent by ordinary post (subject to paragraphs (5) and (6)) or through a document exchange in accordance with paragraph (4) or delivered to or at—

- (a) in the case of a notice of appeal or of any other document directed to the Board, the Board's address for service specified in the assessment notice;
- (b) in the case of a document (other than a notice of appeal) directed to the Secretary, the Office of the Tribunals or such other office as may be notified by the Secretary to the appellant and to the Board under rule 5(b);
- (c) in the case of a document directed to the appellant, his address for service specified in a notice given under these Rules or, failing such a notice or if a notice sent to such an address has been returned, his last known address or place of business in the United Kingdom, or if the appellant is a corporate body, such address or place of business or its registered or principal office;

and a notice or document sent or given to the representative of a party authorised in that behalf of the appellant or the Board shall be deemed to have been sent or given to the appellant or the Board as the case may be.

(3) The appellant or the Board may at any time by notice to the Secretary and to the other party change the address to which notices and documents are to be sent.

(4) Where—

- (a) the proper address for service of any notice or document required or authorised by these Rules to be sent or given to any person includes a numbered box at a document exchange; or
- (b) there is inscribed on the writing paper of the party on whom the notice or document is to be served (where such party acts in person) or on the writing paper of his solicitor (where

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**Status:** This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

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such party acts by a solicitor) a document exchange box number, and such a party or his solicitor (as the case may be) has not indicated in writing to the party serving the notice or document that he is unwilling to accept service through a document exchange, service of the notice or document may be effected by leaving it addressed to that numbered box at that document exchange or at a document exchange which transmits documents every business day to that exchange; and any notice or document which is left at a document exchange in accordance with this paragraph shall unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to have been served on the second business day following the day on which it is left.

- (5) Where a notice of appeal is not delivered, it shall be sent by the recorded delivery service.
- (6) In any case he considers appropriate the President or Vice-President may direct that there shall be substituted service in such manner as he may deem fit.
- (7) In this rule “document exchange” means any document exchange for the time being approved by the Lord Chancellor.

**FORM 1 The Industrial Training (Northern Ireland) Order 1984 NOTICE OF APPEAL AGAINST ASSESSMENT**

To:

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD, 17 DUNDROD ROAD, CRUMLIN, CO ANTRIM BT29 4SR

and

THE SECRETARY OF THE INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNALS AND THE FAIR EMPLOYMENT TRIBUNAL

I/We † ..... of \* ..... hereby give notice of an appeal under Article 24(4) of the Industrial Training (Northern Ireland) Order 1984, against the assessment to the levy made by the above-mentioned industry training board on ..... 19 ....., being the assessment numbered .....

**Grounds of Appeal**

The grounds of appeal are as follows: .....

**Address for Service**

All communications regarding the appeal should be addressed to:

me/us† at .....

..... to

my/our Solicitor(s)/Agent(s), Mr/Messrs° .....

..... at\*

Date .....

Signed .....

† Delete as appropriate

\* Insert address applicable.

° If the notice is signed on behalf of the appellant, the signatory must state in what capacity or what authority he signs.

Notice is hereby given on behalf of .....

of ..... (name of employer)

**FORM 2 The Industrial Training (Northern Ireland) Order 1984 NOTICE OF HEARING**

*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.*

Case No. .... \*Office of the Industrial Tribunals  
Tribunal ..... and the Fair Employment Tribunal,  
Long Bridge House  
20-24 Waring Street  
BELFAST BT1 2EB

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the appeal of .....  
..... against the assessment to the levy made by  
the Construction Industry Training Board and numbered .....  
will be heard by an industrial tribunal at ..... on the  
..... day of ..... at ..... hours or as soon as  
may be thereafter.

Unless the appellant receives from me a communication to the contrary, he should  
in his own interest appear at the hearing with his witnesses at the above time and  
place.

The appellant is entitled to be represented by counsel or solicitor or by another person.

If for any reason the appellant does not propose, or is unable, to appear at the hearing  
either in person or by representative, the appellant should immediately inform me in  
writing at the address mentioned at the head of this notice, stating the case number  
of the appeal and the reasons for the inability to attend or to be represented.

The appellant and the Board are entitled to submit representations in writing for  
consideration of the tribunal at the hearing of the appeal. Any such representations  
must be sent to the Secretary of the Industrial Tribunals and the Fair Employment  
Tribunal at the address mentioned at the head of this notice not less than seven days  
before the hearing, and a copy must be sent at the same time to the other party. If  
either or both parties fail to attend the hearing, the tribunal may dispose of the appeal  
in their absence, but in such case the tribunal will consider any representations so  
submitted.

Dated .....

Signed .....  
Secretary

To: the Appellant  
and: the Construction Industry Training Board.

SCHEDULE 4

Regulations 2(4), 6(5) and 9(1)

Industrial Tribunals (Improvement and Prohibition Notices Appeals) Rules of Procedure 1996  
*For use in proceedings on an appeal against an improvement notice or prohibition notice*

**Notice of appeal**

1. An appeal against an improvement notice or prohibition notice shall be commenced by the  
appellant sending to the Secretary a notice of appeal which shall be in writing and shall set out—

- (a) the name and address of the appellant and, if different, an address within the United Kingdom to which he requires notices and documents relating to the appeal to be sent;
- (b) the date of the improvement notice or prohibition notice appealed against and the address of the premises or place concerned;
- (c) the name and address of the respondent;
- (d) particulars of the requirements or directions appealed against; and
- (e) the grounds of the appeal.

### **Time limit for bringing appeal**

2.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the notice of appeal shall be sent to the Secretary within 21 days from the date of the service on the appellant of the improvement notice or prohibition notice appealed against.

(2) A tribunal may extend the time mentioned in paragraph (1) where it is satisfied, on an application made in writing to the Secretary either before or after the expiration of that time, that it is not or was not reasonably practicable for an appeal to be brought within that time.

### **Action upon receipt of notice of appeal**

3. Upon receiving a notice of appeal the Secretary shall—
- (a) enter particulars of it in the Register;
  - (b) send a copy of it to the respondent; and
  - (c) give every party notice of the case number of the appeal entered in the Register (which shall thereafter constitute the title of the proceedings) and of the address to which notices and other communications to the Secretary shall be sent.

### **Application for direction suspending the operation of a prohibition notice**

4.—(1) Where an appeal has been brought against a prohibition notice and an application is made to the tribunal by the appellant in pursuance of Article 26(2)(b) of the Order of 1978 for a direction suspending the operation of the notice until the appeal is finally disposed of or withdrawn, the application shall be sent in writing to the Secretary and shall set out—

- (a) the case number of the appeal if known to the appellant or particulars sufficient to identify the appeal; and
- (b) the grounds on which the application is made.

(2) Upon receiving the application referred to in paragraph (1) the Secretary shall enter particulars of it against the entry in the Register relating to the appeals and shall send a copy of it to the respondent.

### **Power to require further particulars and attendance of witnesses and to grant discovery**

5.—(1) A tribunal may on the application of a party made either by notice to the Secretary or at the hearing of the appeal or of its own motion make an order as may be granted by a county court to—

- (a) require a party to furnish in writing to the person specified by the tribunal further particulars of the grounds on which that party relies and of any facts and contentions relevant thereto;
- (b) require one party to grant to another discovery or inspection (including the taking of copies) of documents,

and may appoint the time at or within which and the place at which any act required in pursuance of this rule is to be done.

Provided that the tribunal shall not under this rule require the production of any document certified by the Secretary of State as being a document of which the production would be against the interests of national security.

(2) A tribunal may, on the application of a party made either by notice to the Secretary or at the hearing of the appeal, or of its own motion, make an order—

- (a) to require the attendance of any person, including a party, as a witness, wherever such person may be within Northern Ireland; and
- (b) if it does so require the attendance of a person, to require him to produce any document in his possession or power relating to the matter to be determined,

and may appoint the time and place at which the person is to attend and, where appropriate, the time at or within which and the place at which any such document is to be produced.

(3) A tribunal may, on the application of a party made by notice to the Secretary or of its own motion, impose a requirement on a party to furnish to the tribunal a written answer to any question if it considers—

- (a) that the answer of the party to that question may help to clarify any issue likely to arise for determination in the proceedings; and
- (b) that it would be likely to assist the progress of the proceedings for that answer to be available to the tribunal before the hearing,

and may appoint the time within which the written answer is to be furnished. Where a requirement is imposed under this paragraph, the Secretary shall send to each other party a copy of such requirement and a copy of the written answer furnished to the tribunal.

(4) The tribunal shall take account of a written answer furnished pursuant to paragraph (3) in the same way as it takes account of representations in writing submitted by a party pursuant to rule 7(4).

(5) Where a requirement has been imposed under paragraph (1), (2) or (3)—

- (a) on a party in his absence; or
- (b) on a person other than a party,

that party or person may make an application to the tribunal to vary or set aside the requirement by notice to the Secretary given before the time at which or, as the case may be, the expiration of the time within which the requirement is to be complied with; and the Secretary shall give notice of the application to each party or, where applicable, to each other party.

(6) Every document containing a requirement imposed under paragraph (1)(b) or (2) shall contain a reference to the fact that, under Article 59(11) of the No. 1 Order, any person who without reasonable excuse fails to comply with any such requirement shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine and the document shall state the amount of the current maximum fine.

(7) If a requirement imposed under paragraph (1) or (3) is not complied with, a tribunal, before or at the hearing, may strike out the whole or part of the notice of appeal, and, where appropriate, direct that a respondent shall be debarred from defending altogether; but a tribunal shall not so strike out or direct unless it has sent notice to the party who has not complied with the requirement giving him an opportunity to show cause why the tribunal should not do so.

### **Time and place of hearing and appointment of assessor**

6.—(1) The President or Vice-President shall fix the date, time and place of the hearing of the appeal and of any application under rule 4, and the Secretary shall not less than 14 days (or such shorter time as may be agreed by him with the parties) before the date so fixed send to each party a

notice of hearing together with information and guidance as to attendance at the hearing, witnesses and the bringing of documents (if any), representation by another person and the making of written representations.

(2) The Secretary shall also send notice of the hearing to such persons as the President or Vice-President may direct, but the requirement as to the period of 14 days referred to in paragraph (1) shall not apply to any such notice.

(3) The President or Vice-President may, if he thinks fit, appoint in pursuance of Article 26(3) of the Order of 1978 a person or persons having special knowledge or experience in relation to the subject matter of the appeal to sit with the tribunal as assessor or assessors.

### **The hearing**

7.—(1) Any hearing of an appeal shall be heard by a tribunal composed in accordance with Article 58A(1), (2), (3) or (7) of the No. 1 Order<sup>(51)</sup>.

(2) Any hearing of or in connection with an appeal shall take place in public except where the Secretary of State has directed a tribunal to sit in private on grounds of national security in accordance with Article 59(4A)<sup>(52)</sup> of the No. 1 Order.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (2), a tribunal may sit in private, if on the application of a party the tribunal considers it appropriate to do so, for the purpose of hearing evidence—

- (a) which in the opinion of the tribunal relates to matters of such a nature that it would be against the interests of national security to allow the evidence to be given in public; or
- (b) from any person which in the opinion of the tribunal is likely to consist of—
  - (i) information which he could not disclose without contravening a prohibition imposed by or under any statutory provision; or
  - (ii) any information which has been communicated to him in confidence, or which he has otherwise obtained in consequence of the confidence reposed in him by another person; or
  - (iii) information the disclosure of which would cause substantial injury to the undertaking of the appellant or of any undertaking in which he works for reasons other than its effect on negotiations with respect to any of the matters mentioned in Article 3(1) of the No. 1 Order.

(4) If a party wishes to submit written representations for consideration by a tribunal at the hearing of the appeal, that party shall send such representations to the Secretary not less than 7 days before the hearing and shall at the same time send a copy to the other party.

### **Procedure at hearing**

8.—(1) The tribunal shall, so far as it appears to it appropriate, seek to avoid formality in its proceedings and shall not be bound by any statutory provision or rule of law relating to the admissibility of evidence in proceedings before the courts of law. The tribunal shall make such enquiries of persons appearing before it and witnesses as it considers appropriate and shall otherwise conduct the hearing in such manner as it considers most appropriate for the clarification of the issues before it and generally to the just handling of the proceedings.

(2) Subject to paragraph (1), at any hearing of or in connection with an appeal a party shall be entitled to give evidence, to call witnesses, to question any witnesses and to address the tribunal.

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<sup>(51)</sup> As inserted by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Article 14

<sup>(52)</sup> As inserted by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Schedule 5 paragraph 1

(3) If a party fails to appear or to be represented at the time and place fixed for the hearing of an appeal, the tribunal may if that party is an appellant, dismiss, or in any case, dispose of the appeal in the absence of that party or may adjourn the hearing to a later date: provided that before disposing of an appeal in the absence of a party the tribunal shall consider any written representations submitted by that party in pursuance of rule 7(4) and any written answer furnished to the tribunal pursuant to rule 5(3).

(4) A tribunal may require any witness to give evidence on oath or affirmation and for that purpose there may be administered an oath or affirmation in due form.

### **Decision of tribunal**

9.—(1) Where a tribunal is composed of three members its decision may be taken by a majority; and if a tribunal is composed of two members only, the chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

(2) The decision of a tribunal which may be given orally at the end of a hearing or reserved shall be recorded in a document signed by the chairman which shall specify the reasons for the decision.

(3) The clerk shall send the document referred to in paragraph (2) to the Secretary who shall enter it in the Register and shall send a copy of the entry to each of the parties.

(4) The specification of the reasons for the decision shall be omitted from the Register in any case in which—

- (a) the Secretary of State has directed the tribunal, in accordance with Article 59(4A) of the No. 1 Order, to sit in private on grounds of national security; or
- (b) evidence has been heard in private and the tribunal so directs; or
- (c) the tribunal on the application of the appellant so directs on the ground that disclosure will be contrary to the interests of the appellant,

and in such a case, the Secretary shall send a specification of the reasons to each of the parties and to any superior court in any proceedings relating to such decision together with the copy of the entry in the Register of the document referred to in paragraph (2).

(5) Clerical mistakes in the document referred to in paragraph (2) or errors arising therein from any accidental slip or omission may at any time be corrected by the chairman by certificate under his hand.

(6) If a document is corrected by certificate under paragraph (5) or if a decision is—

- (a) reviewed, revoked or varied under the Chairman's hand under rule 10; or
- (b) altered in any way by order of a superior court,

the Secretary shall alter the entry in the Register to conform with any such certificate or order and shall send a copy of the entry so altered to each of the parties.

(7) Where a document omitted from the Register pursuant to paragraph (4) is corrected by certificate under paragraph (5), the Secretary shall send a copy of the corrected document to each of the parties; and where there are proceedings before any superior court relating to the decision in question, he shall send a copy to that court together with a copy of the entry in the Register of the document referred to in paragraph (2), if it has been altered under paragraph (6).

(8) Where this rule requires a document to be signed by the chairman of a tribunal composed of three or two persons, but by reason of death or incapacity the chairman is unable to sign it, the document shall be signed by the other members or member of the tribunal, who shall certify that the chairman is unable to sign.

## **Review of tribunal's decision**

10.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this rule a tribunal may on the application of a party or of its own motion review any decision on the grounds that—

- (a) the decision was wrongly made as a result of an error on the part of the tribunal staff;
- (b) a party did not receive notice of the proceedings leading to the decision;
- (c) the decision was made in the absence of a party;
- (d) new evidence has become available since the making of the decision provided that its existence could not have been reasonably known of or foreseen; or
- (e) the interests of justice require such a review.

(2) A tribunal may not review a decision of its own motion unless it is the tribunal which made the decision.

(3) A tribunal may only review a decision of its own motion if—

- (a) it exercises the power within the period beginning with the date of the hearing and ending with the fourteenth day after the date on which the decision was sent to the parties; and
- (b) it has sent notice to each of the parties explaining in summary form the ground upon which and reasons why it is proposed to review the decision and giving them an opportunity to show cause why there should be no review.

(4) An application for the purposes of paragraph (1) may be made at the hearing. If the application is not made at the hearing, such application shall be made to the Secretary at any time from the date of the hearing until 14 days after the date on which the decision was sent to the parties and must be in writing stating the grounds in full.

(5) An application for the purposes of paragraph (1) may be refused by the President, Vice-President or by the chairman of the tribunal which decided the case, if in his opinion it has no reasonable prospect of success.

(6) If such an application is not refused under paragraph (5) it shall be heard by the tribunal which decided the case, or—

- (a) where it is not practicable for it to be heard by that tribunal; or
- (b) where the decision was made by a chairman acting alone under rule 12(3),

by a tribunal appointed by either the President or Vice-President.

(7) On reviewing its decision a tribunal may confirm the decision, or vary or revoke the decision under the chairman's hand; and if it revokes the decision, the tribunal shall order a re-hearing before either the same or a differently constituted tribunal.

## **Costs**

11.—(1) Where, in the opinion of the tribunal, an appellant has in bringing or conducting the proceedings acted scandalously, frivolously, vexatiously, abusively, disruptively or otherwise unreasonably, the tribunal may make—

- (a) an order containing an award against that appellant in respect of the costs incurred by another party;
- (b) an order that the appellant shall pay to the Department the whole, or any part, of any allowances (other than allowances paid to members of tribunals) paid by the Department under Article 30(3) of the Order of 1984 to any person for the purposes of, or in connection with, his attendance at the tribunal.

(2) An order containing an award against a party ("the first party") in respect of the costs incurred by another party ("the second party") shall be—

- (a) where the tribunal thinks fit, an order that the first party pay to the second party a specified sum not exceeding £500;
  - (b) where those parties agree on a sum to be paid by the first party to the second party in respect of those costs, an order that the first party pay to the second party a specified sum, being the sum so agreed; or
  - (c) in any other case, an order that the first party pay to the second party the whole or a specified part of the costs incurred by the second party as taxed (if not otherwise agreed).
- (3) Where the tribunal has on the application of a party postponed the day or time fixed for or adjourned the hearing, the tribunal may make orders, of the kinds mentioned in paragraphs (1)(a) and (1)(b), against or, as the case may require, in favour of that party as respects any costs incurred or any allowances paid as a result of the postponement or adjournment.
- (4) Any costs required by an order under this rule to be taxed may be taxed in the county court according to such of the scales prescribed by the county court rules for proceedings in the county court as shall be directed by the order.

### **Miscellaneous powers**

- 12.—(1) Subject to the provisions of these Rules, a tribunal may regulate its own procedure.
- (2) A tribunal may—
- (a) postpone the day or time fixed for, or adjourn, any hearing;
  - (b) before granting an application under rule 5(1) or 10(1) require the party making the application to give notice thereof to the other party;
  - (c) either on the application of any person or of its own motion, direct any other person to be joined as a party to the appeal (giving such consequential directions as it considers necessary), but may do so only after having given to the person proposed to be joined a reasonable opportunity of making written or oral representations;
  - (d) make any necessary amendments to the description of a party in the Register and in other documents relating to the appeal;
  - (e) if the appellant shall at any time give notice of the abandonment of his appeal, dismiss the appeal;
  - (f) if the parties agree in writing upon the terms of a decision to be made by the tribunal, decide accordingly;
  - (g) subject to paragraph (3), at any stage of the proceedings, order to be struck out or amended any notice of appeal, or anything in such notice on the grounds that it is scandalous, frivolous or vexatious;
  - (h) subject to paragraph (3), at any stage of the proceedings, order to be struck out any notice of appeal on the grounds that the manner in which the proceedings have been conducted by or on behalf of the applicant or, as the case may be, respondent has been scandalous, frivolous or vexatious; and
    - (i) subject to paragraph (3), on the application of the respondent, or of its own motion, order a notice of appeal to be struck out for want of prosecution.
- (3) Before making an order under sub-paragraph (g), (h) or (i) of paragraph (2) the tribunal shall send notice to the party against whom it is proposed that the order should be made giving him an opportunity to show cause why the order should not be made; but this paragraph shall not be taken to require the tribunal to send such notice to that party if the party has been given an opportunity to show cause orally why the order should not be made.
- (4) Any act required or authorised by these Rules to be done by a tribunal may be done by the President, Vice-President or a chairman except—

- (a) the hearing of an appeal under rule 7;
  - (b) an act required or authorised to be so done by rule 8 or 9 which the rule implies is to be done by the tribunal which is hearing or heard the appeal;
  - (c) the review of a decision under rule 10(1); and the confirmation, variation or revocation of a decision, and ordering of a re-hearing, under rule 10(7);
  - (d) the granting of an application for an extension of time under rule 2(2).
- (5) Rule 11 shall apply to an order under paragraph (2)(e) dismissing an appeal or to an order under paragraph (2)(g), (h) or (i).

**Notices, etc.**

- 13.—(1) Any notice given under these Rules shall be in writing.
- (2) All notices and documents required or authorised by these Rules to be sent or given to any person hereinafter mentioned may be sent by ordinary post (subject to paragraphs (5) and (6)) or through a document exchange in accordance with paragraph (4) or delivered to or at—
- (a) in the case of a notice or document directed to the Department, the offices of the Department of Economic Development at Netherleigh, Massey Avenue, Belfast, BT4 2JP or such other office as may be notified by the Department;
  - (b) in the case of a document directed to the Secretary, the Office of the Tribunals or such other office as may be notified by the Secretary to the parties;
  - (c) in the case of a document directed to a party—
    - (i) the address specified in the notice of appeal or in a notice under paragraph (3) to which notices and documents are to be sent;
    - (ii) or if no such address has been specified or if a notice sent to such an address has been returned, to any other known address or place of business in the United Kingdom, or, if the party is a corporate body, the body's registered or principal office in the United Kingdom or in any case, such address or place outside the United Kingdom as the President or Vice-President may allow;
  - (d) in the case of a document directed to any person (other than a person specified in subparagraphs (a) to (c)), his address or place of business in the United Kingdom, or if such a person is a corporate body, the body's registered or principal office in the United Kingdom;
- and a notice or document sent or given to the representative of a party authorised in that behalf shall be deemed to have been sent or given to that party.
- (3) A party may at any time by notice to the Secretary and to the other party change the address to which notices and documents are to be sent.
- (4) Where—
- (a) the proper address for service of any notice or document required or authorised by these Rules to be sent or given to any person includes a numbered box at a document exchange; or
  - (b) there is inscribed on the writing paper of the party on whom the notice or document is to be served (where such party acts in person) or on the writing paper of his solicitor (where such party acts by a solicitor) a document exchange box number, and such a party or his solicitor (as the case may be) has not indicated in writing to the party serving the notice or document that he is unwilling to accept service through a document exchange, service of the notice or document may be effected by leaving it addressed to that numbered box at that document exchange or at a document exchange which transmits documents every business day to that exchange; and any notice or document which is left at a document

exchange in accordance with this paragraph shall unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to have been served on the second business day following the day on which it is left.

(5) Where a notice of appeal is not delivered, it shall be sent by the recorded delivery service.

(6) In any case he considers appropriate, the President or Vice-President may direct that there shall be substituted service in such manner as he may deem fit.

(7) In the case of an appeal to which the respondent is an inspector appointed otherwise than by a Northern Ireland Department, the Secretary shall send to the Department of Economic Development copies of the notice of appeal and the document recording the decision of the tribunal on the appeal.

(8) In this rule “document exchange” means any document exchange for the time being approved by the Lord Chancellor.

## SCHEDULE 5

Regulations 2(5), 6(6) and 9(1)

### Industrial Tribunals (Non-Discrimination Notices Appeals) Rules of Procedure 1996 *For use in proceedings on an appeal against a non-discrimination notice*

#### **Notice of appeal and time limit**

1. An appeal against a non-discrimination notice shall be commenced by the appellant sending to the Secretary a notice of appeal which shall be in writing and shall set out—

- (a) the name and address of the appellant and, if different, an address within the United Kingdom to which he requires notices and documents relating to the appeal to be sent;
- (b) the date of the non-discrimination notice appealed against;
- (c) the name and address of the Commission;
- (d) particulars of the requirements appealed against; and
- (e) the grounds of appeal.

#### **Action upon receipt of notice of appeal**

2. Upon receiving a notice of appeal the Secretary shall—

- (a) subject to rule 10(4), enter particulars of it in the Register;
- (b) send a copy of it to the Commission; and
- (c) give every party notice of the case number of the appeal entered in the Register (which shall thereafter constitute the title of the proceedings) and of the address to which notices and other communications to the Secretary shall be sent.

#### **Power to require further particulars and attendance of witnesses and to grant discovery**

3.—(1) A tribunal may, on the application of a party made either by notice to the Secretary or at the hearing of the appeal, or of its own motion, make an order, as may be granted by a county court, to—

- (a) require a party to furnish in writing to the person specified by the tribunal further particulars of the grounds on which that party relies and of any facts and contentions relevant thereto;
- (b) require one party to grant to another discovery or inspection (including the taking of copies) of documents,

and may appoint the time at or within which and the place at which any act required in pursuance of this rule is to be done.

Provided that the tribunal shall not under this rule require the production of any document certified by the Secretary of State as being a document of which the production would be against the interests of national security.

(2) A tribunal may, on the application of a party made either by notice to the Secretary or at the hearing, or of its own motion, make an order—

- (a) to require the attendance of any person, including a party, as a witness, wherever such person may be within Northern Ireland; and
- (b) if it does so require the attendance of a person, to require him to produce any document in his possession or power relating to the matter to be determined,

and may appoint the time and place at which the person is to attend and, where appropriate, the time at or within which and the place at which any such document is to be produced.

(3) A tribunal may, on the application of a party made by notice to the Secretary or of its own motion, impose a requirement on a party to furnish to the tribunal a written answer to any question if it considers—

- (a) that the answer of the party to that question may help to clarify any issue likely to arise for determination in the proceedings; and
- (b) that it would be likely to assist the progress of the proceedings for that answer to be available to the tribunal before the hearing, and may appoint the time within which the written answer is to be furnished. Where a requirement is imposed under this paragraph, the Secretary shall send to each other party a copy of such requirement and a copy of the written answer furnished to the tribunal.

(4) The tribunal shall take account of a written answer furnished pursuant to paragraph (3) in the same way as it takes account of representations in writing submitted by a party pursuant to rule 5(4).

(5) Where a requirement has been imposed under paragraph (1), (2) or (3)—

- (a) on a party in his absence; or
- (b) on a person other than a party,

that party or person may make an application to the tribunal to vary or set aside the requirement by notice to the Secretary given before the time at which or, as the case may be, the expiration of the time within which the requirement is to be complied with; and the Secretary shall give notice of the application to each party or, where applicable, to each other party.

(6) Every document containing a requirement imposed under paragraph (1)(b) or (2) shall contain a reference to the fact that, under Article 59(11) of the No. 1 Order, any person who without reasonable excuse fails to comply with any such requirement shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine and the document shall state the amount of the current maximum fine.

(7) If a requirement imposed under paragraph (1) or (3) is not complied with, a tribunal, before or at the hearing, may strike out the whole or part of the notice of appeal, and, where appropriate, direct that a respondent shall be debarred from defending altogether; but a tribunal shall not so strike out or direct unless it has sent notice to the party who has not complied with the requirement giving him an opportunity to show cause why the tribunal should not do so.

### **Time and place of hearing**

4.—(1) The President or Vice-President shall fix the date, time and place of the hearing of the appeal and the Secretary shall not less than 14 days (or such shorter time as may be agreed by him with the parties) before the date so fixed send to each party a notice of hearing together with

information and guidance as to attendance at the hearing, witnesses and the bringing of documents (if any), representations by another person and the making of written representations.

(2) The Secretary shall also send notice of the hearing to such persons as the President or Vice-President may direct, but the requirement as to the period of 14 days referred to in paragraph (1) shall not apply to any such notice.

### **The hearing**

5.—(1) Any hearing of an appeal shall be heard by a tribunal composed in accordance with Article 58A(1), (2), (3) or (7) of the No. 1 Order<sup>(53)</sup>.

(2) Any hearing of or in connection with an appeal shall take place in public except where the Secretary of State has directed a tribunal to sit in private on grounds of national security, in accordance with Article 59(4A)<sup>(54)</sup> of the No. 1 Order.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (2), a tribunal may sit in private, if on the application of a party the tribunal considers it appropriate to do so, for the purpose of hearing evidence—

- (a) which in the opinion of the tribunal relates to matters of such a nature that it would be against the interests of national security to allow the evidence to be given in public; or
- (b) from any person which in the opinion of the tribunal is likely to consist of—
  - (i) information which he could not disclose without contravening a prohibition imposed by or under any statutory provision; or
  - (ii) any information which has been communicated to him in confidence, or which he has otherwise obtained in consequence of the confidence reposed in him by another person; or
  - (iii) information the disclosure of which would cause substantial injury to any undertaking of his or any undertaking in which he works for reasons other than its effect on negotiations with respect to any of the matters mentioned in Article 3(1) of the No. 1 Order.

(4) If a party wishes to submit written representations for consideration by a tribunal at the hearing of the appeal, that party shall send such representations to the Secretary not less than 7 days before the hearing and shall at the same time send a copy to the other party.

### **Procedure at hearing**

6.—(1) The tribunal shall, so far as it appears to it appropriate, seek to avoid formality in its proceedings and shall not be bound by any statutory provisions or rule of law relating to the admissibility of evidence in proceedings before the courts of law. The tribunal shall make such enquiries of persons appearing before it and witnesses as it considers appropriate and shall otherwise conduct the hearing in such manner as it considers most appropriate for the clarification of the issues before it and generally to the just handling of the proceedings.

(2) Subject to paragraph (1), at the hearing of or in connection with an appeal a party shall be entitled to give evidence, to call witnesses, to question any witnesses and to address the tribunal.

(3) If a party shall fail to appear or to be represented at the time and place fixed for the hearing of an appeal, the tribunal may if that party is an appellant dismiss, or in any case, dispose of the appeal in the absence of that party or may adjourn the hearing to a later date: provided that before disposing of an appeal in the absence of a party the tribunal shall consider any written representations submitted by that party in pursuance of rule 5(4).

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<sup>(53)</sup> As inserted by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Article 14

<sup>(54)</sup> As inserted by S.I. 1993/2668 (N.I. 11) Schedule 5 paragraph 1

(4) A tribunal may require any witness to give evidence on oath or affirmation and for that purpose there may be administered an oath or affirmation in due form.

### **Decision of tribunal**

7.—(1) Where a tribunal is composed of three members its decision may be taken by a majority; and if a tribunal is composed of two members only, the chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

(2) The decision of a tribunal which may be given orally at the end of a hearing or reserved shall be recorded in a document signed by the chairman which shall specify the reasons for the decision.

(3) The clerk shall send the document referred to in paragraph (2) to the Secretary who shall enter it in the Register and shall send a copy of the entry to each of the parties.

(4) The specification of the reasons for the decision shall be omitted from the Register in any case in which—

(a) the Secretary of State has directed the tribunal, in accordance with Article 59(4A) of the No. 1 Order, to sit in private on grounds of national security; or

(b) evidence has been heard in private and the tribunal so directs,

and in that event a specification of the reasons shall be sent to the parties and to any superior court in any proceedings relating to such decision together with the copy of the entry in the Register of the document referred to in paragraph (2).

(5) In any appeal appearing to involve allegations of a sexual offence, the document referred to in paragraph (2) shall be entered on the Register with such omissions or deletions as have been made in accordance with rule 10(4).

(6) Clerical mistakes in the document referred to in paragraph (2) or errors arising therein from any accidental slip or omission may at any time be corrected by the chairman by certificate under his hand.

(7) If a document is corrected by certificate under paragraph (6) or if a decision is—

(a) revoked or varied under the chairman's hand under rule 8; or

(b) altered in any way by order of a superior court,

the Secretary shall alter the entry in the Register to conform with any such certificate or order and shall send a copy of any entry so altered to each of the parties.

(8) Where a document omitted from the Register pursuant to paragraph (4) is corrected by certificate under paragraph (6), the Secretary shall send a copy of the corrected document to each of the parties; and where there are proceedings before any superior court relating to the decision in question, he shall send a copy to that court together with a copy of the entry in the Register of the document referred to in paragraph (2), if it has been altered under paragraph (7).

(9) Where this rule requires a document to be signed by the chairman of a tribunal composed of three or two persons, but by reason of death or incapacity the chairman is unable to sign it, the document shall be signed by the other members or member of the tribunal, who shall certify that the chairman is unable to sign.

### **Review of tribunal's decision**

8.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this rule a tribunal may on the application of a party or of its own motion review any decision on the grounds that—

(a) the decision was wrongly made as a result of an error on the part of the tribunal staff;

(b) a party did not receive notice of the proceedings leading to the decision;

(c) the decision was made in the absence of a party;

- (d) new evidence has become available since the making of the decision provided that its existence could not have been reasonably known of or foreseen; or
  - (e) the interests of justice require such a review.
- (2) A tribunal may not review a decision of its own motion unless it is the tribunal which made the decision.
- (3) A tribunal may only review a decision of its own motion if—
- (a) it exercises the power within the period beginning with the date of the hearing and ending with the fourteenth day after the date on which the decision was sent to the parties; and
  - (b) it has sent notice to each of the parties explaining in summary form the ground upon which and reasons why it is proposed to review the decision and giving them an opportunity to show cause why there should be no review.
- (4) An application for the purposes of paragraph (1) may be made at the hearing. If the application is not made at the hearing, such application shall be made to the Secretary at any time from the date of the hearing until 14 days after the date on which the decision was sent to the parties and must be in writing stating the grounds in full.
- (5) An application for the purposes of paragraph (1) may be refused by the President or Vice-President or the chairman of the tribunal which decided the case, if in his opinion it has no reasonable prospect of success.
- (6) If such an application is not refused under paragraph (5), it shall be heard by the tribunal which decided the case, or—
- (a) where it is not practicable for it to be heard by that tribunal; or
  - (b) where the decision was made by a chairman acting alone under rule 10(5),
- by a tribunal appointed by either the President or Vice-President.
- (7) On reviewing its decision a tribunal may confirm the decision, or vary or revoke the decision under the chairman's hand; and if it revokes the decision, the tribunal shall order a re-hearing before either the same or a differently constituted tribunal.

### **Costs**

- 9.—(1) Where, in the opinion of the tribunal, an appellant has in bringing or conducting the proceedings acted scandalously, frivolously, vexatiously, abusively, disruptively or otherwise unreasonably, the tribunal may make—
- (a) an order containing an award against that appellant in respect of the costs incurred by another party;
  - (b) an order that the appellant shall pay to the Department the whole, or any part, of any allowances (other than allowances paid to members of tribunals) paid by the Department under Article 30(3) of the Order of 1984 to any person for the purposes of, or in connection with, his attendance at the tribunal.
- (2) An order containing an award against a party (“the first party”) in respect of the costs incurred by another party (“the second party”) shall be—
- (a) where the tribunal thinks fit, an order that the first party pay to the second party a specified sum not exceeding £500;
  - (b) where those parties agree on a sum to be paid by the first party to the second party in respect of those costs, an order that the first party pay to the second party a specified sum, being the sum so agreed; or
  - (c) in any other case, an order that the first party pay to the second party the whole or a specified part of the costs incurred by the second party as taxed (if not otherwise agreed).

(3) Where the tribunal has on the application of a party postponed the day or time fixed for or adjourned the hearing, the tribunal may make orders, of the kinds mentioned in paragraphs (1)(a) and (1)(b), against or, as the case may require, in favour of that party as respects any costs incurred or any allowances paid as a result of the postponement or adjournment.

(4) Any costs required by an order under this rule to be taxed may be taxed in the county court according to such of the scales prescribed by the county court rules for proceedings in the county court as shall be directed by the order.

### **Miscellaneous powers**

10.—(1) Subject to the provisions of these Rules, a tribunal may regulate its own procedure.

(2) A tribunal may—

- (a) postpone the day or time fixed for, or adjourn, any hearing;
- (b) before granting an application under rule 3(1) or rule 8(1) require the party making the application to give notice thereof to the other party;
- (c) either on the application of any person or of its own motion, direct any other person to be joined as a party to the appeal (giving such consequential directions as it considers necessary), but may do so only after having given to the person proposed to be joined a reasonable opportunity of making written or oral objection;
- (d) make any necessary amendments to the description of a party in the Register and in other documents relating to the appeal;
- (e) if the appellant shall at any time give notice of the abandonment of his appeal, dismiss the appeal;
- (f) if the parties agree in writing upon the terms of a decision to be made by the tribunal, decide accordingly;
- (g) subject to paragraph (3), at any stage of the proceedings, order to be struck out or amended any notice of appeal, or anything in such notice of appeal, on the grounds that it is scandalous, frivolous or vexatious;
- (h) subject to paragraph (3), at any stage of the proceedings, order to be struck out any notice of appeal on the grounds that the manner in which the proceedings have been conducted by or on behalf of the applicant has been scandalous, frivolous or vexatious; and
- (i) subject to paragraph (3), on the application of the respondent, or of its own motion, order a notice of appeal to be struck out for want of prosecution.

(3) Before making an order under sub-paragraph (g), (h) or (i) of paragraph (2) the tribunal shall send notice to the party against whom it is proposed that the order should be made giving him an opportunity to show cause why the order should not be made; but this paragraph shall not be taken to require the tribunal to send such notice to that party if the party has been given an opportunity to show cause orally why the order should not be made.

(4) In any appeal appearing to involve allegations of the commission of a sexual offence, the tribunal or the Secretary shall omit from the Register, or delete from the Register or any decision, document or record of the proceedings which is available to the public, any identifying matter.

(5) Any act required or authorised by these Rules to be done by a tribunal may be done by the President, Vice-President or a chairman except—

- (a) the hearing of an appeal under rule 5;
- (b) an act required or authorised to be done by rule 6 or 7 which the rule implies is to be done by the tribunal which is hearing or has heard the appeal;

- (c) the review of a decision under rule 8(1), and the confirmation, variation or revocation of a decision, and ordering of a re-hearing, under rule 8(7).
- (6) Rule 9 shall apply to an order under paragraph (2)(e) dismissing an appeal or to an order under paragraph (2)(g), (h) or (i).

### **Restricted reporting orders**

11.—(1) In any appeal which involves allegations of sexual misconduct the tribunal may at any time before promulgation of its decision, either on the application of a party made by notice to the Secretary or of its own motion, make a restricted reporting order.

(2) The tribunal shall not make a restricted reporting order unless it has given each party an opportunity to advance oral argument at a hearing.

(3) Where a tribunal makes a restricted reporting order—

- (a) it shall specify in the order the persons who may not be identified;
- (b) the order shall remain in force until the promulgation of the decision of the tribunal on the appeal to which it relates unless revoked earlier; and
- (c) the Secretary shall ensure that a notice of that fact is displayed on the notice board of the tribunal with any list of the proceedings taking place before the tribunal, and on the door of the room in which the proceedings affected by the order are taking place.

(4) A tribunal may revoke a restricted reporting order at any time if it thinks fit.

(5) For the purposes of this rule “promulgation” occurs on the date recorded as being the date on which the document recording the determination of the appeal was sent to the parties.

### **Notices, etc.**

12.—(1) Any notice given under these Rules shall be in writing.

(2) All notices and documents required or authorised by these Rules to be sent or given to any person hereinafter mentioned may be sent by post (subject to paragraphs (5) and (6)) or through a document exchange in accordance with paragraph (4) or delivered to or at—

- (a) in the case of a notice or document directed to the Secretary, the Office of the Tribunals or such other office as may be notified by the Secretary to the parties;
- (b) in the case of a notice or document directed to a party—
  - (i) the address specified in the notice of appeal or in a notice under paragraph (3) to which notices and documents are to be sent; or
  - (ii) if no such address is specified or if a notice sent to such an address has been returned, to any other known address or place of business in the United Kingdom, or if the party is a corporate body, the body’s registered or principal office in the United Kingdom, or in any case such address or place outside the United Kingdom as the President or Vice-President may allow;
- (c) in the case of a notice or document directed to any person (other than a person specified in sub-paragraph (a) or (b)), his address or place of business in the United Kingdom, or, if such a person is a corporate body, the body’s registered or principal office in the United Kingdom,

and a notice or document sent or given to the representative of a party authorised in that behalf shall be deemed to have been sent or given to that party.

(3) A party may at any time by notice to the Secretary and to the other party change the address to which notices or documents are to be sent.

- (4) Where—
- (a) the proper address for service of any notice or document required or authorised by these Rules to be sent or given to any person includes a numbered box at a document exchange; or
  - (b) there is inscribed on the writing paper of the party on whom the notice or document is to be served (where such party acts in person) or on the writing paper of his solicitor (where such party acts by a solicitor) a document exchange box number, and such a party or his solicitor (as the case may be) has not indicated in writing to the party serving the notice or document that he is unwilling to accept service through a document exchange, service of the notice or document may be effected by leaving it addressed to that numbered box at that document exchange or at a document exchange which transmits documents every business day to that exchange; and any notice or document which is left at a document exchange in accordance with this paragraph shall unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to have been served on the second business day following the day on which it is left.
- (5) Where a notice of appeal is not delivered, it shall be sent by the recorded delivery service.
- (6) In any case he considers appropriate the President or Vice-President may direct that there shall be substituted service in such manner as he may deem fit.
- (7) In this rule “document exchange” means any document exchange for the time being approved by the Lord Chancellor.

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations.)*

These Regulations revoke and replace Regulations prescribing rules of procedure for industrial tribunals in Northern Ireland.

Schedule 1 contains rules of procedure which apply to all proceedings before an industrial tribunal except where separate rules of procedure made under any other statutory provision are applicable.

Schedule 2 contains rules of procedure which complement those in Schedule 1 and are applicable in proceedings involving an equal value claim made under the Equal Pay Act (Northern Ireland) 1970.

Schedule 3 contains rules of procedure for use in proceedings in levy appeals made under Article 24(4) of the Industrial Training (Northern Ireland) Order 1984.

Schedule 4 contains rules of procedure for use in proceedings on an appeal against an improvement notice or prohibition notice made under Article 26 of the Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978.

Schedule 5 contains rules of procedure for use in proceedings on an appeal against a non-discrimination notice under Article 68 of the Sex Discrimination (Northern Ireland) Order 1976.

The Regulations make the following principal changes—

- (a) the industrial tribunals rules of procedure provide that if upon a pre-hearing review the tribunal considers that a party’s contentions have no reasonable prospect of success it may order that party to pay to the Secretary a deposit not exceeding £150 as a condition for being permitted to continue to take part in the proceedings;

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**Status:** This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

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- (b) in an appeal (other than a levy appeal or an appeal against a prohibition notice or improvement notice) in a case involving allegations of sexual misconduct a tribunal may make a reporting restriction order;
- (c) in appeals against an improvement notice or prohibition notice under the Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978 or against a non-discrimination notice under the Sex Discrimination (Northern Ireland) Order 1976 an order for costs may be made against an appellant who brings or conducts proceedings in a specified manner;
- (d) service of documents may be effected by use of a document exchange provided that certain conditions are specified.