#### DRAFT SCOTTISH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

## 2011 No.

# The Cross-Border Mediation (Scotland) Regulations 2011

### Amendments to limitation period in the Rent (Scotland) Act 1984

- **8.**—(1) The Rent (Scotland) Act 1984(1) is amended in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3).
- (2) In section 37(3), at the beginning, insert "Subject to section 37A(1) below".
- (3) After section 37 insert—

### "Extension of time limits for recovery from landlord: cross-border mediation

- **37A.**—(1) The two year period calculated in relation to a relevant cross-border dispute for the purposes of section 37(3) above is extended where it would, apart from this subsection, expire—
  - (a) in the 8 weeks after the date that a mediation in relation to the dispute ends;
  - (b) on the date that a mediation in relation to the dispute ends; or
  - (c) after the date when all of the parties to the dispute agree to participate in a mediation in relation to the dispute but before the date that such mediation ends.
- (2) Where subsection (1) applies, the period is extended so that it expires on the date falling 8 weeks after the date on which the mediation ends.
- (3) For the purpose of this section, mediation in relation to a relevant cross-border dispute ends when any of the following occurs—
  - (a) all of the parties reach an agreement in resolution of the dispute;
  - (b) all of the parties agree to end the mediation;
  - (c) a party withdraws from the mediation, which is the date on which—
    - (i) a party informs all of the other parties of that party's withdrawal,
    - (ii) in the case of a mediation involving 2 parties, 14 days expire after a request made by one party to the other party for confirmation of whether the other party has withdrawn, if the other party does not respond in that period, or
    - (iii) in the case of a mediation involving more than 2 parties, a party informs all of the remaining parties that the party received no response in the 14 days after a request to another party for confirmation of whether the other party had withdrawn; or
  - (d) a period of 14 days expires after the date on which the mediator's tenure ends (by reason of death, resignation or otherwise), if a replacement mediator has not been appointed.
  - (4) In this section—
    - "the Directive" means Directive 2008/52/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21st May 2008 on certain aspects of mediation in civil and commercial matters;

"mediation" and "mediator" have the meanings given by Article 3 of the Directive; and "relevant cross-border dispute" means a cross-border dispute within the meaning given by Article 2 of the Directive which is about an amount referred to in section 37(1) above."