STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2005 No. 2795

The Family Procedure (Adoption) Rules 2005

PART 16

WITNESSES, DEPOSITIONS AND EVIDENCE FOR FOREIGN COURTS

SECTION 2

TAKING OF EVIDENCE – MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Interpretation

152. In this Section—

"designated court" has the meaning given in the relevant practice direction;

"Regulation State" has the same meaning as "Member State" in the Taking of Evidence Regulation, that is all Member States except Denmark;

"the Taking of Evidence Regulation" means Council Regulation (EC) No. 1206/2001 of 28 May 2001 on co-operation between the courts of the Member States in the taking of evidence in civil and commercial matters.

Where a person to be examined is in another Regulation State

153.—(1) This rule applies where a party wishes to take a deposition from a person who is in another Regulation State—

- (a) outside the jurisdiction; and
- (b) in a Regulation State.

(2) The court may order the issue of a request to a designated court ("the requested court") in the Regulation State in which the proposed deponent is.

(3) If the court makes an order for the issue of a request, the party who sought the order must file—

- (a) a draft Form A as set out in the annex to the Taking of Evidence Regulation (request for the taking of evidence);
- (b) subject to paragraph (4), a translation of the form;
- (c) an undertaking to be responsible for costs sought by the requested court in relation to—
 - (i) fees paid to experts and interpreters; and
 - (ii) where requested by that party, the use of special procedures or communications technology; and
- (d) an undertaking to be responsible for the court's expenses.
- (4) There is no need to file a translation if—
 - (a) English is one of the official languages of the Regulation State where the examination is to take place; or

(b) the Regulation State has indicated, in accordance with the Taking of Evidence Regulation, that English is a language which it will accept.

(5) Where article 17 of the Taking of Evidence Regulation (direct taking of evidence by the requested court) allows evidence to be taken directly in another Regulation State, the court may make an order for the submission of a request in accordance with that article.

(6) If the court makes an order for the submission of a request under paragraph (5), the party who sought the order must file—

- (a) a draft Form I as set out in the annex to the Taking of Evidence Regulation (request for direct taking of evidence);
- (b) subject to paragraph (4), a translation of the form; and
- (c) an undertaking to be responsible for the court's expenses.