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Executive Summary

For those central and eastern European countries preparing for EU membership, domestic legislation on public procurement must be brought into line with the European Council Directives on Public Procurement.¹ These substantive procurement rules include two Directives specifically dealing with

1. The EC Procurement Directives applicable to the European Member States are: Council Directive 92/50/EEC of 18 June 1992 relating to the co-ordination of procedures for the award of public service contracts; Council Directive 93/36/EEC of 14 June 1993 co-ordinating procedures for the award of public supply contracts; Council Directive 93/37/EEC of 14 June 1993 concerning the co-ordination of procedures for the award of public works contracts; Council Directive 93/38/EEC of 14 June 1993 co-ordinating the procurement procedures of entities operating in the water, energy, transport and telecommunications sectors; and the two "Remedies Directives" as listed in footnote No. 1. For further information, please refer to full texts of the Directives on the European Union's Eur-Lex website at <http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/index.html>. Specifically, use the "Legislation in Force" search function at http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/search_lif_simple.html and enter the year and number of each Directive. N.B. on 10 May 2000, the European Commission adopted a legislative package to simply and modernise the Procurement Directives. The draft legislative proposals are now going through the various stages within the European Parliament and the European Council. This is a lengthy process and may result in amendments being made to the