

**DECREE**  
**of the Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic**

of 12 March 2008

**concerning the details of dual display with regard to consumer protection**

The Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic, pursuant to §18 (10)(a)(1) of Act No. 659/2007 Coll. on the Introduction of the Euro Currency in the Slovak Republic and on amendments to certain acts (hereinafter referred to as the "Act"), lays down:

§ 1

Dual display of prices, payments, and other amounts (hereinafter referred to as "dual display") shall be performed in a manner allowing the consumer to clearly and unambiguously distinguish between the prices stated in the main currency and the prices stated in the informative currency. The conversion table must be displayed in a manner that is unambiguous, identifiable, comprehensible, easily accessible and clearly legible for consumers.

For the purposes of this Decree:

- a) "main currency" shall be the Slovak koruna currency prior to the date of the introduction of the euro in the Slovak Republic (hereinafter referred to as "euro introduction"); after the euro introduction date, this term shall denote the euro;
- b) "informative currency" shall be the euro prior to the euro introduction date and, as of the euro introduction date, including the day on which the euro is introduced, this term shall denote the Slovak koruna currency;
- c) "conversion table" means the display of all price values, in ascending or descending order, of products and services offered by a seller, which are stated in the Slovak koruna currency and the euro (hereinafter referred to as "both currencies"), along with the display of the conversion rate.

§ 3

Exemption from dual display applies to:

- a) prices on the price tags directly placed on products, with the exception of products sold in bulk<sup>1</sup>, where it is sufficient to display the prices in the main currency, if the dual display of these prices is provided in some other appropriate manner in a visible place in an immediate proximity to the product;

<sup>1</sup> §2(c) of Regulation No. 387/2007 Coll. of the Government of the Slovak Republic on the Marking of Products with Prices.

- b) unit prices displayed on the packages of products sold in bulk;
- c) prices displayed by means of digital screen equipment for the display of prices that is not technically designed to provide dual display, such as public phone displays, other displays, electronic display boards, weight scales and price scanners;
- d) prices of returnable containers, in which case it is sufficient to display the prices on a pricelist in both currencies in a visible place in an immediate proximity to the point of redemption along with the conversion rate; dual display is also not required for documents issued by the seller to the consumer in connection with the redemption or issuing of returnable containers;
- e) prices of discounted products, with the exception of products sold in bulk, indicated in leaflets, banners and other marketing materials, where it is sufficient to provide dual display of the applicable discounted sale price along with the conversion rate;
- f) prices of discounted products sold in bulk, indicated in leaflets, banners and other marketing materials, where it is sufficient to provide dual display of the applicable discounted unit price along with the conversion rate;
- g) values stated on gift cards, coupons and a vouchers for goods and services issued prior to the commencement of the dual display obligation;
- h) prices provided as informative prices to end users of electronic communication services<sup>2</sup> in the form of short message service (SMS), by means of dialogue interface in IPTV services<sup>3</sup>, as well as information concerning the credit balance for pre-paid electronic communication services, where it is sufficient to indicate the prices in the main currency;
- i) prices provided as informative prices by means of voice communication, with the exception of information concerning the prices for services provided through public phones in accordance with §4(g);

<sup>2</sup> §5 of Act No. 610/2003 Coll. on Electronic Communications, as amended by Act No. 117/2006 Coll.

<sup>3</sup> Act No. 220/2007 Coll. on Digital Broadcasting of Programme Services and on Provision of other Content Services Through Digital Transmission and on amendments to several acts (the Digital Broadcasting Act).

- j) prices of services stated in the catalogues of tour operators and travel agencies or in the pricelists to such catalogues.

#### § 4

For dual display as regards the sale of several products and provision of several services, the following dual display methods shall be applied:

- a) unit prices per litre of fuel shall be displayed in both currencies on the pumps of petrol stations or in an immediate proximity thereto;
- b) prices of products and services stated in the catalogues issued
1. prior to the commencement of the dual display obligation and provided to consumers after the commencement of the dual display obligation shall be displayed using a conversion table to be inserted in the catalogue;
  2. following the commencement of the dual display obligation shall be displayed using a conversion table which forms an inseparable part of every catalogue;
- c) prices of all products and services in specialised shops selling meat and meat products, confectionery products and other perishable foodstuffs<sup>4</sup>, or in specialised shop sections selling meat and meat products, confectionery products and other perishable foodstuffs, and in fast food facilities, shall be displayed in both currencies on a pricelist in a visible and accessible place;
- d) prices of all products and services offered by means of vending machines or ticket machines for public transport shall be displayed in both currencies on a pricelist placed on the vending machines or ticket machines or in an immediate proximity thereto;
- e) prices of periodic and non-periodic publications<sup>5</sup> shall be displayed in both currencies on a pricelist placed in a visible and accessible place in the shop;
- f) prices of products or services offered by a seller employing five or less employees shall be displayed in both currencies on a pricelist placed in a visible and accessible place in the shop;
- g) information on prices for services provided by means of public phone booths shall be stated in both currencies on a toll-free non-stop customer service phone number to be shown on the public phone displays or in an immediate proximity thereto.

#### § 5

(1) Unit prices for electronic communication services<sup>2</sup> based on per-second billing, which are stated in euros, shall be mathematically rounded to at least four decimal places.

(2) Unit prices of water and sewerage<sup>6</sup>, unit prices of heating<sup>7</sup> and unit prices of electricity and gas<sup>8</sup> stated in euros shall be mathematically rounded to at least four decimal places.

#### § 6

This Decree shall enter into force on 27 March 2008.

**Ľubomír Jahnátek**

<sup>4</sup> §2(3) of Decree No. 2986/2003-100 of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic of 27 October 2003 which issues a Title of the Food Code of the Slovak Republic governing deep frozen food and frozen food. (Notification No. 480/2003 Coll.)

<sup>5</sup> §2(1) through (4) of Act No. 212/1997 Coll. on Compulsory Copies of Periodic Publications, Non-periodic Publications and Audiovisual Works, as amended.

<sup>6</sup> Act No. 442/2002 Coll. on the Public Water Supply and Public Sewerage and on amendments to Act No. 276/2001 Coll. on Regulation in Network Industries, as amended.

<sup>7</sup> Act §657/2004 Coll. on the Heating Sector, as amended.

<sup>8</sup> Act No. 656/2004 Coll. on the Energy Sector and on amendments to certain acts, as amended.

