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Solicitors Regulation Authority Registered European Law Firm Consultation 24 Martin Lane London EC4R 0DR

(By post and email: international@sra.org.uk)

24 June 2014

Dear Sirs

## Re: Consultation on proposed changes to the registered European lawyer regime

In response to the further consultation on this subject which closes today, we can confirm that we have no further comments, with one small caveat as set out below.

We note the proposals about how the conduct provisions should apply to RELs within an EEP that the same approach should be taken as with solicitors within foreign law firms, including applying the full Code to them in the same way as it applies to in house solicitors. That seems sensible to us. The one caveat we have which we hope can be addressed through Guidance is, for these purposes within an EEP, what is meant by "management responsibilities". Our concern is that as compared to lawyers working inhouse, where we would normally interpret this as relating to management responsibilities relating to the business as a whole which the solicitor is advising, the position within an EEP may be quite different where every lawyer/partner will usually have some "management responsibilities" relating to their own practice or practice area.

Yours faithfully

M- Sarah de Gay

Chair, Professional Rules and Regulation Committee

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