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Action brought on 7 October 2016 — Luxottica Group v EUIPO — Chen (BeyBeni)

(Case T-721/16)

(2016/C 454/53)

Language in which the application was lodged: Spanish

Parties

Applicant: Luxottica Group S.p.A. (Milan, Italy) (represented by: E.M. Ochoa Santamaría and I. Aparicio Martínez, lawyers)

Defendant: European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)

Other party to the proceedings before the Board of Appeal: Xian Chen (Wenzhou, China)

Details of the proceedings before EUIPO

Proprietor of the trade mark at issue: Other party to the proceedings before the Board of Appeal

Trade mark at issue: European Union figurative mark containing the word element 'BeyBeni' — Application for registration No 12 511 317

Procedure before EUIPO: Opposition proceedings

Contested decision: Decision of the Fifth Board of Appeal of EUIPO of 8 June 2016 in Case R 675/2015-5

Form of order sought

The applicant claims that the Court should:

- uphold the application by annulling the decision of the Fifth Board of Appeal of EUIPO of 8 June 2016 in Case R 675/2015-5 and by refusing registration of the EU trade mark No 12 511 317 'BeyBeni' pursuant to the provisions of Article 8(5) of Regulation No 207/2009;
- order the defendant to pay the costs.

Pleas in law

- Infringement of Article 8(5) of Regulation No 207/2009 in respect of the analysis of the conditions for its application.
- Infringement of Articles 63(2) and 75 of Regulation No 207/2009 in respect of a possible infringement of the right of the defence and the right to be heard at the appeal stage.

Action brought on 20 October 2016 — Valencia Club de Fútbol v Commission

(Case T-732/16)

(2016/C 454/54)

Language of the case: Spanish

Parties

Applicant: Valencia Club de Fútbol, SAD (Valencia, Spain) (represented by: J.R. García-Gallardo Gil-Fournier and A. Guerrero Righetto, lawyers)

Form of order sought

The applicant claims that the General Court should:

- annul the decision of the European Commission of 4 July 2016 on State aid SA.36387 (2013/C) (ex 2013/CP), implemented by Spain in favour of Valencia Club de Fútbol, S.A.D. (and other football clubs), in particular measures 1 and 4, which affect Valencia FC;
- order the Commission to pay the costs.

Pleas in law and main arguments

In support of the action, the applicant relies on eight pleas in law.

- 1. First plea in law, alleging a manifest error of assessment of three of the four criteria for considering a guarantee to be State aid. It claims in this regard that the Commission was wrong to find that Valencia FC was in a difficult financial position, relying on piecemeal information and without taking into account the specific business model of football clubs, basing itself on the book value of the players rather than on their real market value, and without analysing a feasibility study which at all times was based on realistic assumptions. In the second place, the Commission was wrong to consider that the guarantee covered more than 80 % of the loan and, in the third place, the Commission erred when it evaluated the general interest rate of the loan in relation to the market price.
- 2. Second plea in law, relied on in the alternative, based on the existence of manifest errors by the Commission in the application of the compatibility test in respect of four of six of the criteria in the Rescue and Restructuring Guidelines, that is: the return to long-term viability, the avoidance of any excessive distortion of competition by means of compensation, the principle that aid should be limited to the minimum necessary and the principle of 'one time, last time'.
- 3. Third plea in law, alleging that the Commission made an error in assessing the high value of the compensation offered, specifically, the pledge on shares, as well as additional guarantees provided by the Fundación Valencia to the Instituto Valenciano de Finanzas.
- 4. Fourth plea in law, alleging an error in the assessment of the amount of the alleged principal loan and interest to be recovered, since the Commission made both an erroneous assumption that the reference rates would remain the same throughout the duration of the measures and an erroneous assumption as to the duration of those measures.
- 5. Fifth plea in law, alleging infringement of the principle of proportionality, in that the sums which the Commission has ordered be recovered are disproportionate in comparison with those already paid.
- 6. Sixth plea in law, alleging an error of assessment by the Commission, in that it failed to consider the lender to be a beneficiary and took no account of the fact that the club had a new owner.
- 7. Seventh plea in law, alleging infringement of the principle of non-discrimination since the Commission assessed in the same way the different situations of the clubs under investigation, although their circumstances were entirely different.
- 8. Eighth plea in law, alleging infringement of the principle that reasons on which a measure is based must be given.

Action brought on 18 October 2016 — Banque Postale v ECB

(Case T-733/16)

(2016/C 454/55)

Language of the case: French

Parties

Applicant: La Banque Postale (Paris, France) (represented by: E. Guillaume and L. Coudray, lawyers)