

Press Release

8 December 2009

Court declares documents submitted by the public prosecutor in KBC/KBL case, inadmissible

In its judgment of 8 December 2009 on the KBC/KBL case, the Brussels Criminal Court ruled that the criminal proceedings were inadmissible. The Court judged that, given the extraordinary and doubtful circumstances in which the documents submitted by the public prosecutor came into the hands of the judicial authorities, they could not be used as evidence in legal proceedings.

Following a close investigation into the way in which the disputed documents were incorporated into the proceedings – an investigation that the investigators and judges have been working on for years – the Court ruled that the KBC/KBL criminal investigation had not been carried out in a fair and impartial manner. The Court gave very detailed reasons for this.

The public prosecutor still has a legal right to appeal the decision.

KBL and KBC have always stood by their directors and employees placed under suspicion in this case and are pleased that the Court has acknowledged that the objections that had been raised for many years were well-founded. They maintain that, regarding the substance of this case, their directors and employees did not violate any rules relating to what they were being accused of.

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