

THE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, CRAFTSMANSHIP AND AGRICULTURE

The Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Craftsmanship and Agriculture are autonomous boards of public law that perform functions of general interest for the development of the enterprise system in the local economies.

The Chambers are based in the capital city of each Province and, as a rule, their assigned area corresponds to that of the province.

Playing a leading role within local economies, the Chambers are an important point of reference for national production sectors, which are also very much part of the international scene. Their mission is to carry out administrative, promotional and market control functions.

The Chambers play a leading role among a wide range of authorities operating with institutions and organizations, offering services, projects and development strategies in favour of a well-balanced economic growth.

The Legislative Decree n. 23 of 15 February 2010 contains a number of functions which support the enterprise system on behalf of the Chambers, as witnessed in the past years:

- the upkeep of a business register, the Economic Administrative Index and the other registers that are lawfully assigned to the different Chambers;
- more convenient procedures in the opening and subsequent development of economic activities;
- territorial promotion and the stability of local economies in order to increase their competitiveness, as well as the facilitation of credit access even through loan consortia;
- the creation of local economy observatories and access to up-to-date economic information;
- internationalization of the Italian enterprise system abroad;
- promotion of Innovation and Technology and their infrastructures in the transfer of enterprises;
- provision of arbitral and conciliation services for the resolution of disputes between enterprises and between enterprises and their consumers or users;
- the creation of model contracts to be used by enterprises, their associations, and consumer rights confederations;
- services in controlling the presence of unjust clauses in contracts;

- product control and legal metrology and issuance of a merchandise certificate of origin;
- the study of local culture and traditions;
- school and university collaboration for vocational guidance and occupational direction.

Furthermore, the Legislative Decree n. 23 has defined the concept of the "Chamber system", which includes the Chambers of Commerce, the regional unions, the national Union of Chambers, the structural systems and the Italian Chambers of Commerce abroad.