

client alert

E-COMMERCE | ALGERIA |

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CONSERVATION OF DOCUMENTS ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED

Decree No. 16-142 of 5 May 2016 fixing the conservation conditions of documents signed electronically, made under Law No. 15-04 of 1 February 2015 laying down general rules for signature and electronic certification, was published in the Official Gazette of 8 May 2016 (the "**Decree 16-142**").

Decree 16-142 forms part of the recent implementation of a signing and electronic certification device for purposes such as promoting e-commerce in Algeria.

Thus, any natural or legal person party to an electronically signed document must, itself or via a third party entity, ensure its conservation.

The conservation of an electronically signed document must refer to the electronic document and its relevant electronic signature.

The electronically signed document is then stored on a storage medium designed to receive, conserve and restore the electronically signed document.

The storage medium must also enable:

- the further restitution of the document in its original form by the appropriate technical means;
- the verification of the electronic signature of the document;
- access to the full contents of the document at any time.

The electronically signed document is kept for as long as the document is useful.

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