



FORMAL OPINION

**On the State aid granted to SC STAR ASSEMBLY SRL, based on the
Government Decision no. 753/2008 for the setup of a regional development
State aid scheme for the promotion of investments, with the subsequent
amendments and completions**

By analyzing the following:

The provisions of the GD no. 753/2008¹ for the setup of a regional development State aid scheme for the promotion of investments,

and

the draft of Information sheet on the State aids in favor of large investment projects granted in accordance with the Guidelines on national regional aid for 2007-2013² (hereby named *Guidelines*),

submitted by the Ministry of Public Finance by the address no. 475527/17.09.2013, registered at the Competition Council with no. RG 11572/23.09.2013, in order to receive a formal opinion,

and

ascertaining that:

1. The Government Decision no.753/2008 implements a State aid scheme approved by the European Commission with no. N103/2008;
2. The Ministry of Public Finance has signed, on 28.08.2013, a financing agreement with SC STAR ASSEMBLY SRL, by which it is granted a regional State aid based on the scheme implemented by GD no.753/2008.
3. The State aid is addressed to a large investment project aiming the opening of a production unit of SC STAR ASSEMBLY SRL, namely a greenfield investment for the production of automatic transmissions.
4. The project consists in the build-up of buildings and acquisition of tangible and un-tangible assets necessary for the production process of the automatic transmissions with rear-wheel drive for the Mercedes-Benz cars/vans.

¹ With the subsequent completions

² Published in the Official Journal no. C54/2013

5. The amount of state aid granted to SC STAR ASSEMBLY SRL is below the individual notification threshold but, given that aims at a large investment project for which, in accordance with the provisions of the paragraph 65 of the Guidelines, require the submission of information sheet to the European Commission.

6. The Information sheet meets the form and substance of the standard form enclosed in the Annex III to the *Guidelines on national regional aid for 2007-2013*.

COMPETITION COUNCIL

Based on the *Competition Law no. 21/1996, republished, with the subsequent amendments and completions* and on art. 8 recital (1) of the *Government Emergency Ordinance no. 117/2006 on the national procedures in the State aid field, approved with amendments and completions by the Law no. 137/2007*,

ISSUES FORMAL OPINION

On the Draft of synthetic Information sheet on the regional State aid for the achievement of a large investment project granted to SC STAR ASSEMBLY SRL and submitted by Romania in accordance with the provisions of the *Guidelines on national regional aid for 2007-2013*.