



FORMAL OPINION
on the draft of de minimis aid scheme “Organizing economic missions and activities for export promotion abroad”

By analyzing

The draft of the De minimis aid scheme “Organizing economic missions and activities for export promotion abroad”

Submitted by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Tourism - Department of Foreign Trade and International Relations, by the address no 40786/09.04.2015, registered at the Competition Council with no. RG/4082/20.04.2015, in order to receive a formal opinion,

And ascertaining that:

1. The Scheme is financed from Ministry of Economy, Trade and Tourism funds, under the export promotion Program, managed by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Tourism on economic operators' participation to international fairs and exhibitions abroad, organizing economic missions and activities for export promotion abroad and making market and products studies, including complex objectives, in the period July 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015.
2. The Scheme was set up based on the Regulation (EC) no 1407/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid¹
3. The objective of the scheme is to support economic operators in the promotion of exports by granting de minimis aid for covering the costs of participation in trade missions abroad, in order to launch a new or existing product on a new market in another Member State or in a third country.
4. Funding awarded within the scheme will cover:
 - 50% of expenditure on external transportation, accommodation and medical insurance for one participant from each company, on the scales set for public institutions;

¹ Published in the Official Journal of the European Union no L 352/24.12.2013, final paper

- 100% of expenditure on transport in the country of destination of the people who organize and coordinate the promotional events and for a delegate of the economic operators participating in the actions; renting of the rooms for business meetings and of the necessary equipment, consisting of: LCD TV, DVD player, projector, computer, necessary for product presentations; development, transportation and insurance of the promotion and presentation materials consisting in catalogs, brochures and badges; transport and insurance of samples; expenses for customs formalities related to promotional and presentations materials, as for samples; costs for coverage of local action; representation expenses and protocol; expenses for travel, accommodation, subsistence and medical insurance for people who organize and coordinate activities within the Ministry of Education, including a representative from the NGO contributing to the action; costs related to the commission stipulated in the contract signed with the company which organizes the international exhibition events, as well as other costs proved to be allocated for organizing the international exhibition events, under the approval of the main credit release authority.

5. The scheme will apply from July 1 to December 31, 2015.

6. The total estimated budget allocated to the scheme is 6 million lei, amount that will be allocated to maximum 400 operators.

COMPETITION COUNCIL

Based on art. 7 point (5) of the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 77 of 3 December 2014 regarding national procedures in the state aid field and the amendment and completion of the Competition Law no. 21/1996,

ISSUES FORMAL OPINION

On the Draft of de minimis aid scheme "Organizing economic missions and activities for export promotion abroad", pursuant to the Regulation (EC) no 1407/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid.