



**FORMAL OPINION**  
**on the draft of de minimis aid scheme for actions within the Export Promotion Program, taken from July 1 to December 31, 2015**

By analyzing

The draft of de minimis aid scheme for actions within the Export Promotion Program, taken from July 1 to December 31, 2015

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 budget, 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 aid<sup>1</sup>;
3. The objective of the scheme is to support economic operators in the promotion of exports by granting de minimis aid so as to cover the costs of participation in trade fairs, 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;

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

- 100% of the costs for: transportation, insurance and handling exhibits, samples and advertising materials, related customs formalities, packages storage related to exhibits during the promotion campaign, implementing the conceptual design of the stand, renting, building and/or planning the exhibition space, transportation of the related materials, overheads related to the operating of the national pavilion during the exhibition events, protocol and representation expenses, 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, which travel period will be determined by the specification of the action, costs for advertising, presentation and general economic promotion and publicity for Romanian presence in the exhibition, 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 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 40 million lei, amount that will be allocated to maximum 700 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 for actions within the Export Promotion Program, taken from July 1 to December 31, 2015, 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.