



FORMAL OPINION
**on the draft of de minimis aid scheme “Making market and products studies,
including complex objectives”**

By analyzing

The draft of de minimis aid scheme “Making market and products studies, including complex objectives”

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 aid¹.
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 making studies, 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 of making market and products studies.
5. The scheme will apply from July 1 to December 31, 2015.

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

6. The total estimated budget allocated to the scheme is 300.000 lei, amount that will be allocated to maximum 50 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 “Making market and products studies, including complex objectives”, 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.