

**European Commission has launched a public consultation on the revision of the
de minimis Regulation No 1998/2006**

The European Commission published a questionnaire with a view to assess the necessity of the modification of the actual Regulation (EC) 1998/2006 on the application of Articles 87 and 88 of the Treaty (now Articles 107 and 108 TFEU) to *de minimis* aid.

The actual regulation sets the *de minimis* ceiling at EUR 200 000 per undertaking granted over any period of three fiscal years. The aid measures with a value below this threshold are deemed not to meet all the criteria of Article 107(1) TFEU and are therefore exempted from the notification obligation under Article 108(3) TFEU. Therefore, the granting of small amounts of support was considerably simplified.

Regulation (EC) 1998/2006 was applicable since 1 January 2007 and it will expire on 31 December 2013.

On 8 May 2012, the Commission adopted a Communication on the State aid modernisation initiative ('SAM'), which shall launch and frame the political debate on the modernisation of State aid control. The review of the *de minimis* Regulation is an important element of SAM.

The period for this consultation is: 26.07.2012 – 18.10.2012.

The questionnaire is available in:

DOCX: http://ec.europa.eu/competition/consultations/2012_de_minimis/questionnaire_en.docx

ODT: http://ec.europa.eu/competition/consultations/2012_de_minimis/questionnaire_en.odt