



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels,
C (2003)

Subject: Measures that will be regarded as existing aid within the meaning of Article 88 (1) of the EC Treaty

Your Excellency,

During the course of 2003, your authorities have submitted lists of measures which they wished to be considered as existing aid within the meaning of Article 88(1) EC. In accordance with the procedure provided for in Annex IV, Chapter 3, paragraph (1)(c) (under Article 22) of the Treaty of Accession of the Czech Republic, Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia to the European Union, these measures have been examined by the Commission.

I have the honour to inform you that the Commission has decided not to raise any objections to the measures included in the list annexed to this letter on the grounds that there are no serious doubts as to their compatibility with the common market. They will therefore be regarded as existing aid within the meaning of Article 88(1) of the EC Treaty from the date of accession.

This decision does not prejudice any future decision by the Commission on the existing aid status of the measures submitted by your authorities but not included in the list annexed to this letter.

The Latvian authorities are reminded that the interim procedure for existing aid does not apply to aid to the transport sector, nor to activities linked to the production, processing or marketing of products listed in Annex I to the EC Treaty with the exception of fisheries products and products derived thereof. Therefore, this decision explicitly excludes these sectors and any existing aid for such sectors must be communicated separately to the Commission pursuant to the rules applicable to the sector concerned.

Yours faithfully,
For the Commission

Mario MONTI
Member of the Commission

annex: I

Her Excellency Mrs. Sandra Kalniete
Minister for Foreign Affairs
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LATVIA

Annex: State aid measures in Latvia considered to be existing aid within the meaning of Article 88(1) EC from the date of the accession of Latvia to the European Union

COMP no.	Title of the aid measure (in original language)	Title of the aid measure (in English)	Duration	Date of approval	Aid granting authority	Aid objective	Budget mio €/yr	Form of aid	Individual aid / Aid scheme
LV 7 2003	Latvijas Garantiju aģentūras Aizdevumu garantiju atbalsta programma	Aid Scheme of Loan Guarantees of Latvian Guarantee Agency	31/12/2006	06/06/2003	Ltd. "Latvian Guarantee Agency" Non Profit Organization	SME	€ 41 million in total	Loan guarantees	Scheme
LV 8 2003	Ipaši atbalstāmo teritoriju uzņēmējdarbības (komercdarbības) attīstība	Development of commercial activity in specially assisted regions	31/12/2006	05/09/2003	State Ltd. Non Profit Organization "Reģionu attīstība"	SME	€ 13,63 million (in total)	Subsidies of credit interest and grants for initial investments in fixed assets	Scheme
LV 10 2003	Reģionālā atbalsta karte, saskaņā ar kuru tiks vērtēts Latvijā sniegtais atbalsts no publiskajiem finanšu resursiem	Regional aid map on the basis of which public aid granted by Latvia will be assessed	01/05/2004-31/12/2006	08/10/2003	NA	Regional aid map defines regions of the State, in which regional aid for initial investments and job creation may be granted as well as the upper ceilings of the aid	NA	NA	Scheme