State Aid Weekly e-News
No. 38/13 October 2013
Covers the period from 25 to 31 October

Highlights

Commission launches public consultation on new rules for state aids in agriculture, forestry and rural areas
The European Commission is launching a public consultation on draft new rules on block exemption for State aids in the agriculture and forestry sectors and in rural areas.
Read more

In this issue:
- Draft legislation and public consultations >>
- Simplified Procedure: notification summaries >>
- Decisions to open formal investigation >>
- Final Commission decisions >>
- Block exemptions >>
- European Parliament >>
- Court of Justice of the European Union >>
- European Economic Area >>
- Additional points of interest >>

Draft legislation and public consultations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Deadlines for comments</th>
<th>Further information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information request: Availability of short term export credit insurance for exports to Greece</td>
<td>06.11.2013</td>
<td>DG Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultation on the prolongation of the period of application of the General block exemption Regulation (‘GBER prolongation’)</td>
<td>08.11.2013</td>
<td>DG Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultation on a draft Block Exemption Regulation for the agriculture and forestry sector and for rural areas (draft ABER)</td>
<td>19.11.2013</td>
<td>DG Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midday Express - 16 October 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All public consultations: DG Competition, DG Agriculture, DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

Simplified Procedure: notification summaries

Invitation to comment on simplified procedure cases
The summaries of aid measures notified under the Notice on a Simplified Procedure for the treatment of certain types of State aid have been prepared by the Member States under their responsibility. The Commission can therefore not be held responsible for any incorrect or misleading information contained therein. Observations raising competition issues relating to the notified measure must reach the Commission no later than 10 working days following the date of the publication of a summary of notification. The submission shall include a non confidential version of the observations. For more information, click here

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Case number</th>
<th>Publication date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Prolongation of Tax Exemption for biogas</td>
<td>SA.36973</td>
<td>25.10.2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[en][sv]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[en][sv]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Decisions to open formal investigation
1. Decisions taken by the Commission

- none -

2. Decisions pending OJ publication

Click here to see the full list


* Where the last day of the public comments period falls on a public holiday in a Member State, the deadline for comments of parties residing in that Member State ends on the following working day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Title/link to documents</th>
<th>Case number</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Decision date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Increase of the second-loss guarantee for HSH Nordbank AG OJ C 315 of 29.10.2013, p. 81</td>
<td>SA.29338</td>
<td>Remedy for a serious disturbance in the economy</td>
<td>21.06.2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Alleged aid to German pharmaceutical companies in financial difficulties through rebates (Herstellerrabatt bei Pharmaunternehmen) OJ C 297 of 12.10.2013, p. 76</td>
<td>SA.34881</td>
<td>24.07.2013</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>LIP - Aid for Ford España OJ C 297 of 12.10.2013, p. 63</td>
<td>SA.34998</td>
<td>Regional development aid</td>
<td>15.05.2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Final Commission decisions

1. Decisions taken by the Commission

1.1. Decisions to close formal investigation

- none -

1.2. No objection decisions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Case number</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Decision date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Support to live performances - France</td>
<td>SA.37399</td>
<td>Culture aid</td>
<td>28.10.2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Crédits d'impôt cinéma et audiovisuel - prolongation</td>
<td>SA.37443</td>
<td>Culture aid</td>
<td>28.10.2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
France Crédit d’impôt pour les oeuvres cinématographiques  SA.37444  Culture aid  28.10.2013

Latvia Prolongation of the Latvian regional aid map 2007  SA.37437  Regional development aid  30.10.2013

Lithuania Prolongation of the Lithuanian regional aid map 2007-2013  SA.37400  Regional development aid  25.10.2013

Portugal Prolongation of the Portuguese regional aid map  SA.37471  Regional development aid  30.10.2013

Romania Prolongation of the Romanian regional aid map 2007-2013  SA.37401  Regional development aid  25.10.2013

Italy Prolongation of the Italian regional aid map 2007-13 until 30 June 2014  SA.37407  Regional development aid  25.10.2013

Spain Ayudas a la Difusión del Teatro y del Circo y a la Comunicación Teatral y Circense  SA.37036  Culture aid  25.10.2013

Sweden Prolongation of the Swedish regional aid map  SA.37472  Regional development aid  30.10.2013

2. Public versions of decisions to close formal investigation*
* Since the OJ publication of no objection/no aid decisions follows very shortly their publication on the website, this section of the e-News focuses only on decisions to close formal investigations. For the latest texts of no objection/no aid decisions please look section 3 "Decisions published in the OJ".

- none -

3. Decisions published in the OJ

3.1. Decisions to close formal investigation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Title/link to documents</th>
<th>Case number</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Decision date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DG Competition cases</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>Alleged aid to Nauta Shipyard&lt;br&gt; Positive decision&lt;br&gt; OJ L 284 of 26.10.2013, p. 27 bg es cs da&lt;br&gt; et el en fr it lv hu mt nl pl pt ro sk sl fi sv</td>
<td>SA.33113 (2012/C)&lt;br&gt;(ex 2011/NN, 2011/CP)</td>
<td>20.03.2013</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **DG Agriculture cases** | | | | |
| Belgium | Compensation under the manure decree<br> Only negative decision without recovery<br> OJ L 285 of 29.10.2013, p. 8 bg es cs da<br> et el en fr hr it lv hu mt nl pl pt ro sk sl fi sv | C 75/98 (ex NN 45/98) | 16.09.2013 |

3.2. No objection decisions
* Decisions not to raise objections are frequently grouped together in one single document for publication in the Official Journal. Since the link can only be made to the top of the first page of the document, you may have to scroll down in the document to find a particular case.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Title/link to documents*</th>
<th>Case number</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Decision date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DG Competition cases</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Crédits d’impôt cinéma et audiovisuel — modifications pour l’année 2013&lt;br&gt; OJ C 316 of 30.10.2013, p. 1 bg es cs da&lt;br&gt; et el en fr hr it lv hu mt nl pl pt ro sk sl fi sv</td>
<td>SA.36148</td>
<td>Culture aid</td>
<td>02.7.2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Rescue aid in favour to Probanka&lt;br&gt; OJ C 314 of 29.10.2013, p. 1 bg es cs da&lt;br&gt; et el en fr hr it lv hu mt nl pl pt ro sk sl fi sv</td>
<td>SA.37314</td>
<td>Remedy for a serious disturbance in the economy</td>
<td>06.09.2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Slovenia**

Rescue aid in favour to Probanka  
OJ C 314 of 29.10.2013, p. 2  
SA.37315  
Remedy for a serious disturbance in the economy  
06.09.2013

**Spain**

Amendment of the Restructuring of CEISS through integration with Unicaja Banco  
OJ C 316 of 30.10.2013, p. 2  
SA.36249  
Remedy for a serious disturbance in the economy  
25.7.2013

**DG Agriculture cases**

**Czech Republic**

Podpora vybraných činností zaměřených na ozdravování chovů prasat  
OJ C 316 of 30.10.2013, p. 6  
SA.36649  
Risk and crisis management (AGRI)  
16.08.2013

**Spain**

Prórroga del régimen  
SA.24867 (N 10/08) «Subvenciones destinadas al fomento de sistemas de producción en regímenes extensivos»  
OJ C 316 of 30.10.2013, p. 7  
SA.37033  
Agri-environmental commitments  
02.10.2013

**DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries cases**

**Czech Republic**

129 134 Odstranění havarijních stavů na rybnících a vodních nádržích  
OJ C 310 of 25.10.2013, p. 3  
SA.35863  
Natural disasters or exceptional occurrences  
2.10.2013

**Czech Republic**

Odstranění povodňových škod na hrázích, rybnících a vodních nádržích  
OJ C 310 of 25.10.2013, p. 4  
SA.35864  
Compensation of damages caused by natural disaster  
2.10.2013

**Block exemptions**

Block exemption Information sheets published in the OJ and/or in the State Aid register between 25.10.2010 and 31.10.2010

**European Parliament**

**Study: The Contribution of Competition Policy to Growth and the EU 2020 Strategy**

This study researches the link between competition policy and economic growth. In particular, the authors investigate the contribution from the competition instruments – antitrust, merger control, sector specific measures, liberalisation and State aid – to achieve the goals of the EU 2020 Strategy. The analysis is based on ten case studies of practical application of competition instruments in various sectors, such as energy, postal, telecommunication, transport, manufacturing and financial services. The authors conclude that competition policy contributes significantly to the EU 2020 Strategy and to economic growth, and the authors make recommendations for improvements of competition policy to further strengthen that contribution.

[Read more](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.LO.2013.316.01.0001.01.ENG)

**Court of Justice of the European Union**

* In order to consult the available languages of documents uploaded in the Curia website, please click on the earth symbol on the left side toolbar.

1. **Court of Justice**

   - none -

2. **General Court**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Court case*</th>
<th>Parties</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Type of act</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Related case</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State Aid Weekly e-News No 38/13 4
European Economic Area

Based on the Agreement on the European Economic Area (EEA), the EFTA States participating in the EEA have entrusted the EFTA Surveillance Authority and the EFTA Court with similar decision making powers to that of the Commission and the European Court of Justice, respectively, in the field of state aid for the EFTA States.

1. Decisions of the EFTA Surveillance Authority

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Title/link to documents*</th>
<th>Case number</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Decision date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Potential aid to Scandinavian Airlines through the new Revolving Credit Facility (SAS) Dec 259/13/COL, OJ C 287 of 03.10.2013, p. 10 bg es cs da de et el en fr hr it lv hu ml nl pl pt ro sk si fi sv</td>
<td>73991</td>
<td>Aviation aid</td>
<td>19.06.2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Where the last day of the public comments period falls on a public holiday in a Member State, the deadline for comments of parties residing in that Member State ends on the following working day.

2. EFTA Court

- none -

3. Block exemptions

- none -

4. State Aid New Legislation

- none -

5. Other EEA points of interest

- none -

Additional points of interest

Events

State Aid Procedures and Enforcement: the SANI System
EIPA
Maastricht, 27-28 November 2013
For further information, click here

State Aid: Energy and Environment - Review of Critical Issues
EIPA
Maastricht, 23-24 January 2014
For further information, click here

Studies and reports

Eurostat: Second quarter of 2013, business investment rate up to 19.2% in the euro area and 18.9% in the EU27; Business profit share up to 37.9% and 37.1% respectively
In the second quarter of 2013, the business investment rate was 19.2% in the euro area, compared with 18.8% in the first quarter of 2013. This rise was the result of a higher increase in investment (+3.2%) than in gross value added (+0.9%) while total stocks (materials, supplies and finished goods) fell.

**Invitations to tender**

- none -

**Council of the European Union**

**European Council 24/25 October 2013: Conclusions**

Signs of economic recovery are visible but the EU needs to pursue its efforts to increase growth potential, enhance job creation and boost European competitiveness. Today the European Council focused on the digital economy, innovation and services. These areas have a particular potential for growth and jobs which must be rapidly mobilized. The European Council provided concrete guidance so as to take full advantage of the existing potential.

**Miscellanea**

- none -

Next publication date: Friday 08.11.2013

**Subscription:**

If you wish to subscribe to "State Aid Weekly e-News" and receive it every Friday in your Inbox for free, please [click here](http://ec.europa.eu/competition/index_en.html). To unsubscribe, please use the same link, complete with your login or email address and password, confirm and on the next page click on "Unregister". Please, note that the information requested under "Change personal details" is not compulsory. In order to complete the subscription it is sufficient to fill in the data requested under "Add subscription".

**About e-News:**

This e-News is issued every week to present the latest developments in the area of State aid. It features information on new legislative texts and proposals, decisions of the European Commission and the Courts of the European Union and other state aid–related documents and events. A great deal of additional information on State aid matters is available on the Internet. It can be accessed through the Europa server: [http://ec.europa.eu/competition/index_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/competition/index_en.html)

Other documents related to the cases, can be found under the link to the State aid Register: [http://ec.europa.eu/competition/state_aid/register/](http://ec.europa.eu/competition/state_aid/register/)

**Publisher:**

European Commission
DG Competition
Unit H-3 – State aid network, Transparency and Fiscal aid
Chief Editor: Monique Negenman
Editing team: Helga Van den Steen, Marek Tóth, Souad Jemidar, Ulrich Diez, Rashko Dorosiev
mailto: comp-state-aid-enews@ec.europa.eu

**Disclaimer:**

Neither the European Commission nor any person acting on behalf of the Commission is responsible for the completeness, accuracy of the information and the use which might be made of the information provided in this document.

© European Union 2013.

Reproduction is authorised, provided the source is acknowledged, save where otherwise stated. Where prior permission must be obtained for the reproduction or use of textual and multimedia information, such permission shall cancel the above-mentioned general permission and shall clearly indicate any restrictions on use.