

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC FINANCE

16 Libertatii Avenue, district 5, code 050706, Bucharest

Actions of communication with the economic operators in the implementation of the State aid schemes managed by DGAS

Code: PO-23.22

Version I, July 23, 2020, Revision 2

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE

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Amendments record form

No.	Vers ion	Version date	Revis ion	Revision date	Page	Amendment description	Signature
	I	Septemb er 12, 2018	2	23.07. 2020	5	Point (15) was introduced after point (14) under sub-chapter 4.1, with the following content: "Video conference/audio conference = remote communication procedure organized by means of a software application, through which the applicant interacts by video and/or audio means with the representatives of D.G.A.S."	
	I	Septemb er 12, 2018	2	11.08. 2020	6	The expression "video conferences/audio conferences" was added in chapter 5.0 after the expression "technical meetings". The amendment is valid for the entire procedure	
	I	Septemb er 12, 2018	2	11.08. 2020	7	At point (1) in sub-chapter 5.3 was added the expression "or by means of a software application which ensures communication through video conference/audio conference"	
	I	Septemb er 12, 2018	2	11.08. 2020	13	Form F-PO-23.22.07 shall be completed with the text "has submitted an application for financing agreement".	
	I	Septemb er 12, 2018	2	31.08. 2020	4	The text "Law no. 188/1999 on the Statute of civil servants, republished, as subsequently amended and supplemented" at point (2) in sub-chapter 3.1 was replaced with the text "Government Emergency Ordinance no. 57/2019 on the Administrative Code"	
	I	Septemb er 12, 2018	2	31.08. 2020	4	Point (5) under sub-chapter 3.1 was eliminated.	
	I	Septemb er 12, 2018	2	Septemb er 4	6,7.8. 17	The word "coordinator" was eliminated from the entire procedure	

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1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this procedure is to establish the manner of communication of the representatives of D.G.A.S. and S.C.R.P.M.M.T. with the potential beneficiaries/beneficiaries of State aid, in the implementation of State aid schemes.

2.0 Scope

The procedure is applicable to the personnel of D.G.A.S. and S.C.R.P.M.M.T.

3.0 Reference documents

3.1 Primary legislation

- (1) Art. 31 in the Constitution of Romania, as republished;
- (2) Government Emergency Ordinance no. 57/2019 on the Administrative Code;
- (3) Law no. 544/2001 on preventing and combating human trafficking, as subsequently amended and supplemented;
- (4) Law no. 27/2002 on State reserves, as republished, as subsequently amended and supplemented;

3.2 Secondary legislation

- (1) Government Decision no. 807/2014 establishing certain State aid schemes to support investments with major impact in the economy, as subsequently amended and supplemented;
- (2) Government Decision no. 332/2014 establishing a State aid scheme to support investments promoting regional development through the creation of jobs, as subsequently amended and supplemented;
- (3) Government Decision no. 797/2012 establishing a State aid scheme to support investments promoting regional development through the use of new technologies and the creation of jobs, as subsequently amended and supplemented;
- (4) Government Decision no. 753/2008 establishing a State aid scheme for regional development through support of investments, as subsequently amended and supplemented;
- (5) Government Decision no. 1680/2008 establishing a State aid scheme to ensure sustainable economic development, as subsequently amended and supplemented;
- (6) Order of the minister of public finance no. 370/2002 regulating the activity of settlement of claims in the M.P.F.

4.0 Definitions and abbreviations

4.1 Definitions:

- (1) communication = actions undertaken by the representatives of D.G.A.S. and S.C.R.P.M.M.T. to inform the potential beneficiaries/beneficiaries of State aid with regard to the manner of implementation of the State aid schemes.
- (2) Technical meeting request = a document through which a potential beneficiary/a beneficiary of State aid requests a meeting at the seat of D.G.A.S. or by video conference/audio conference, with the representatives of D.G.A.S.; the document must be signed by the applicant and must observe the form and content provided in Form F-PO-23.22.07.

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- (3) Potential beneficiary of State aid = an economic operator who wants technical information about the manner of financing of investments through the State aid schemes managed by the MPF and who is interested, in principle, to submit an application for financing agreement or who has submitted an application for financing agreement.
- (4) Beneficiary of State aid = an economic operator who has obtained a financing agreement and who requests a meeting with representatives of D.G.A.S. in order to clarify certain technical aspects presented in the legislative acts of the field and in the supplementary materials and related to the manner of implementation/monitoring of the investment project, of performance of the payment of State aid.
- (5) Deputy General Director = deputy general director who coordinates the department of assessment, selection, issuance of financing agreements/the department of implementation of projects and payments.
- (6) Single register of technical meeting requests = contains information with regard to the registration number of the request in the S.C.R.P.M.M.T, the registration number with D.G.A.S., the applicant, the manner of settlement and the date of the technical meeting, in accordance with Form F-PO-23.22.08.
- (7) Registration = receipt of the registration number from the S.C.R.P.M.M.T. and D.G.A.S. through the single register of information requests and/or S.I.D.O.C.
- (8) Appointed person = the person who issues the response to the application and/or participates to the technical meeting.
- (9) Head of S.E.S.E.A.F. = the person who holds the management position of the Department of assessment, selection, and issuance of financing agreements.
- (10) Head of S.I.P.P. = the person who holds the management position of the Department of implementation of projects and payments.
- (11) Applicant = possible beneficiary/beneficiary of the State aid.
- (12) Thematic = topics of discussion related to the provisions of the legislative acts which establish the State aid schemes managed by D.G.A.S. and the supplementary documentation (Applicant's Guide, Payment Manual, etc.)
- (13) Term of reply to the request for the technical meeting = 5 business days (1 day for transmission by S.C.R.P.M.M.T. to the D.G.A.S., 3 days for elaboration of the response of D.G.A.S., 1 day for transmission of the response to the applicant).
- (14) Maximum term of award of the meeting = 15 business days.
- (15) <u>Video conference/audio conference = remote communication procedure organized by means of a software application, through which the applicant interacts by video and/or audio means with the representatives of D.G.A.S.</u>

4.2. Abbreviations

- (1) M.P.F. = Ministry of Public Finance;
- (2) D.G.A.S. = General Directorate of State Aid;
- (3) S.C.R.P.M.M.T. = Department of Communication, Public Relations, Mass Media and Transparency;
- (4) S.I.D.O.C. = Electronic system of document registration and tracking;
- (5) S.E.S.E.A.F. = Department of Assessment, Selection, and Issuance of Financing Agreements;

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- (6) S.I.P.P. = Department of Implementation of Projects and Payments;
- (7) B.I.R.P.T. = Office of Information, Public Relations and Transparency.

5.0 Description of the procedure

The communication procedure details the following communication instruments:

- technical meetings/<u>video conferences</u>/<u>audio conferences</u> with possible beneficiaries or beneficiaries of State aid:
- communication by telephone or e-mail with the beneficiaries of State aid;
- the electronic platform "State aid questions form".

5.1 Receipt, registration, verification/analysis, distribution and monitoring the settlement on time of the requests for technical meetings/video conferences/audio conferences:

- (1) Form F-PO-23.22.07 is published on the website <u>www.mfinante.gov.ro</u> in the section of State aid under a new section called "Technical meeting request";
- (2) The meeting request form shall be sent at <u>publicinfo@mfinante.gov.ro</u>;
- (3) S.C.R.P.M.M.T. registers the request in the Single register of information requests and verifies on the date of receipt if it observes the following requirements, in accordance with Form F-PO-23.22.07;
 - 1 The last name, first name and e-mail address the response should be sent to;
 - 2 The request is addressed to D.G.A.S.;
 - 3 The thematic proposed for the technical meeting by the applicant is related to the activity of D.G.A.S.;
 - 4 The participants and their positions;
 - 5 The expression of consent of all participants to the meeting from the side of the enterprise with regard to the recording of discussions in Form F-PO-23.22.07;
- (4) All requests which are not compliant with Form F-PO-23.22.07 shall be dismissed;
- (5) After it verifies the requests, S.C.R.P.M.M.T. forwards them to D.G.A.S.

5.2 Circuit and settlement of the requests for technical meetings/video conferences/audio conferences:

- (1) The requests registered in the Single register of information requests and sent by S.C.R.P.M.M.T. shall be registered at the secretariat of D.G.A.S. in S.I.D.O.C.;
- (2) The general director distributes the request to the deputy general directors, as applicable, and they send them in their turn to the heads of department of S.E.S.E.A.F./S.I.P.P.;
- (3) The head of department of S.E.S.E.A.F./S.I.P.P. appoints the person who analyzes and formulates the response to the request within 3 business days;
- (4) The response contains at least the following information: the place, date, time of the meeting, the obligation to confirm the participants/to request a rescheduling at the e-mail address of the general director of D.G.A.S. If the meeting is not granted the applicant shall be sent a motivated response;

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- (5) For the requests sent in electronic form at different addresses in the D.G.A.S. than publicinfo@mfinante.gov.ro, shall be formulated a response directing the retransmission of the request at publicinfo@mfinante.gov.ro;
- (6) After the draft response is approved by the head of department of S.E.S.E.A.F./S.I.P.P., the deputy general directors, as applicable, and the general director, it shall be sent to S.C.R.P.M.M.T.;
- (7) S.C.R.P.M.M.T. shall send the response to the applicant within the term of reply at the technical meeting request.

5.3. Manner of performance of the technical meetings/video conference/audio conference

- (1) The technical meetings shall be held at the seat of D.G.A.S., on the date and time communicated through the response letter or by means of a software application which ensures communication through video conference/audio conference;
- (2) The meeting shall be attended by the general director, the deputy general director, as applicable, the head of department of S.E.S.E.A.F./S.I.P.P. and the people from D.G.A.S. appointed to participate;
- (3) During the technical meeting/video conference/audio conference shall be discussed the thematic proposed by the applicant, in accordance with the request thereof.
- (4) The discussions held during the technical meetings/<u>video conference</u>/audio conference shall be audio recorded.
- (5) At the end of the technical meeting held at the seat of D.G.A.S. shall be elaborated the Sheet of the technical meeting, in accordance with Form F-PO-23.22.09, which shall be signed by the participants.

5.4 Archiving of the documents which form the basis of the request/granting and holding of the technical meeting/video conference/audio conference and archiving of the audio recordings

- (1) The requests for technical meetings, the copy of the response and the documentation presented during the technical meeting, as applicable, shall be kept for a term of 5 years with D.G.A.S., after which they shall be sent to the specialty structure to be archived.
- (2) The audio recordings shall be stored on electronic media (for example: hard disk, memory card, etc.) in digital format (for example: mp3, mp4, wma, etc.) and shall be kept for a period of 5 years with D.G.A.S., after which they shall be sent to the specialty structure to be archived.

5.5. Communication by telephone or e-mail with the beneficiaries of State aid

If, in the stage of assessment of the requests for payment of State aid or during the monitoring period, there are uncertainties with regard to the documentation that was sent, for the purpose of reducing the duration of the analysis the representatives of D.G.A.S involved in the analysis of the documentation may request additional information by telephone or e-mail. If it is considered after these discussions that it is necessary to submit additional supporting documents, the beneficiaries of State aid shall submit them at their own initiative with the General Registrar of the M.P.F.

5.6. The electronic platform "State aid questions form"

The potential beneficiaries of State aid/the beneficiaries of State aid may request information about the manner of implementation of the State aid schemes on the electronic platform "State aid questions form"

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- (1) The requests of information regarding the State aid schemes can be formulated through the applications made available on the website www.mfinante.gov.ro "State aid assistance questions form";
- (2) The people appointed from the B.I.R.P.T. verify if the requests of assistance received through the platform "State aid questions form" are correctly formulated and correspond to the object of activity of the directorate of State aid in order to be validated by being allocated the registration number and date;
- (3) After validation, the requests shall be automatically sent through the platform "State aid questions form" to the personnel appointed from D.G.A.S. for competent settlement;
- (4) The person authorized within D.G.A.S. shall elaborate the response, shall submit it for approval to the management of D.G.A.S. and then shall send it to the applicant through the platform "State aid questions form";
- (5) During the time interval between the transmission of the question to the applicant and the validation thereof in the B.I.R.P.T., the application shall display the requests "In progress at Communication" and between the time of their validation and the transmission of the response, the application shall display the requests "In progress at State aid";
- (6) After the response is transmitted the requests shall be displayed in the application in the section "Response sent".

6.0 Responsibilities

6.1 General Director of D.G.A.S.:

- (1) Analyzes the content of the requests and decides on granting/not granting the meeting;
- (2) Distributes the requests to the Deputy general director, according to the thematic proposed by the applicant;
- (3) Signs the responses to the applicants elaborated by the personnel subordinated thereto if the meeting is not granted;
- (4) Participates to the meeting.

6.2 The Deputy General Director

- (1) Distributes the requests to the head of department of S.E.S.E.A.F./S.I.P.P. and endorses the response to the request;
- (2) Participates to the meeting.

6.3 Head of Department

- (1) Appoints the person from the department of S.E.S.E.A.F./S.I.P.P., as applicable, to elaborate the response to the request;
- (2) Signs the response to the request;
- (3) Participates to the meeting.

6.4 The appointed person

(1) Elaborates the response to the request and/or participates to the technical meeting/video conference/audio conference.

6.5 The representative of S.C.R.P.M.M.T.

(1) Is responsible for the registration and distribution of the requests to D.G.A.S.;

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(2) Sends by e-mail the responses formulated by D.G.A.S.

6.6 The secretariat within D.G.A.S.

(1) Is responsible for the registration of the entries and exits of the requests through S.I.D.O.C.

7.0 Forms

Form F-PO-23.22.07 - Technical meeting request;

Form F-PO-23.22.08 - Single register of technical meeting requests

Form F-PO-23.22.09 - Sheet of the technical meeting

8.0 Appendices:

Process diagram

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Form F-PO-23.22.07

Date of registration
Registration number
TECHNICAL MEETING REQUEST
We, the undersigned: (enterprise name,
1. The company is in one of the following situations:
it intends to submit an Application for financing agreement;
it has submitted an Application for financing agreement;
it has received a Financing Agreement, is implementing the investment project and intends to submit a request for amendment of the plan;
it has received a Financing Agreement and intends to submit/has submitted a payment request for the transfer of the amount corresponding to the approved State aid;
it has received a Financing Agreement, has completed the investment project and is in the period of monitoring thereof.
2. Proposed thematic: (shall be presented in brief)
a)
3. Participants and their positions:
a)
Date:

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Form F-PO-23.22.08

MODEL OF SINGLE REGISTER OF TECHNICAL MEETING REQUESTS

. Manner of settlement	Cur	Registration no. with S.C.R.P.M.M.T.	Registration no. D.G.A.S.	Identification details of the applicant		Date/time of the
No.	+				Manner of settlement	Surrout mattures
	No.		i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i			
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Sheet of the technical meeting organized on, in accordance with request

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Form F-PO-23.22.09

no/						
Ministry of Public Finance - General	Directorate of State Aid					
Date of the meeting: Duration:						
	= 10 = 10 = 10 = 10 = 10 = 10 = 10 = 10					
Participants:						
1. From S.C						
No. First, last name	Position	Signature				
<u> </u>						
2. From D.G.A.S.						
Z. From D.G.A.S.						
No. First, last name	Position	Signature				
110. First, last name	rosition	Signature				
THEMATIC discussed, in accordance with the request of S.C						
1						
2						
3						
Note:						
The discussions held during the technical meeting were audio recorded						

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Annex - Process diagram

Process diagram on actions of communication with the economic operators, in the implementation of State aid schemes managed by D.G.A.S.

The technical meeting request registered in the Single register of requests and sent by S.C.R.P.M.M.T. shall be registered with the secretariat of D.G.A.S. in S.I.D.O.C. and shall be distributed as follows: general director → deputy general director → head of department→ appointed person



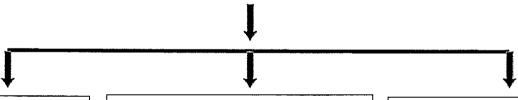
The appointed person shall analyze and formulate the response to the Technical meeting request within 3 business days, shall submit it for endorsement to the head of department and the deputy general director and for approval to the general director



The response to the Technical meeting request shall be sent to S.C.R.P.M.M.T.



S.C.R.P.M.M.T. shall send the response to the applicant within the term of reply to the Technical meeting request, being possible one of the following situations



If the meeting is not granted the applicant shall be sent a motivated response For the technical meeting requests sent in electronic form at other addresses than publicinfo@mfinante.gov.ro, shall be formulated a response directing the retransmission of the request at publicinfo@mfinante.gov.ro

The response to the technical meeting request contains at least the following information: the place, date, time of the meeting, the obligation to confirm/to request a rescheduling at the e-mail address of the general director of D.G.A.S. and the participants