Brussels, 16 December 2020 COMP/A3/GC*2020/154990

PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, AUSTRIA PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, BELGIUM PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, BULGARIA PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, CROATIA PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, CYPRUS PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, CZECH REPUBLIC PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, DENMARK PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, ESTONIAN REPUBLIC PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, FINLAND PERMANENT REPRESENTATION, FRANCE PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION. GERMANY PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, GREECE PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, IRELAND PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, ITALY PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, LATVIAN REPUBLIC PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, LUXEMBOURG PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, MALTA PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION. THE NETHERLANDS PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, POLAND PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, PORTUGAL PERMANENT REPRESENTATION, ROMANIA PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, SPAIN PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, SLOVAK REPUBLIC PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, SLOVENIAN REPUBLIC PERM ANENT REPRESENTATION, SWEDEN

SECOND SURVEY ON THE USE OF STATE AID IN THE COVID-19 CRIS IS Data collection - Instruction file

The European Commission sent to your authorities on 7 December 2020 a letter about "Second survey and data collection on the use of State aid in the COVID-19 crisis". As anticipated in that letter, the survey contains also a data collection part, which aims at gaining up-to-date insights into the actual implementation of the State aid measures authorised by the European Commission.

The technical aspects related to the data collection are detailed below.

The European Commission kindly reminds your authorities that all COVID-19 State aid measures are subject to specific monitoring and reporting provisions¹ and encourages a swift reporting of the information required under point 88 of the Temporary Framework

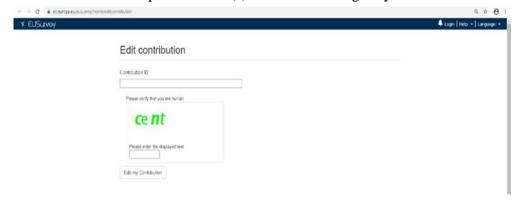
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¹ Section 4 of the Temporary Framework

of 19 March, amended on 3 April, 8 May 2020, 29 June 2020 and 13 October 2020 in the Transparency Award Module (TAM)² or in the national transparency websites.

Transmission of the data

- The deadline to submit the data collection is **Friday 29 January 2020 close of business**.
- Member States are kindly requested to upload the Excel file "[MS code] Second Survey Data Collection State aid in the COVID19 crisis.xlsx", duly filled in, at the same link of the first part of the present survey (questionnaire): https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/Temporary-framework-II
- The password to access the survey was sent in a separate message on 7 December 2020 and is unchanged.
- Submissions via email will not be taken into consideration.
- In order to upload the Excel file after the submission of the first part of the survey, you can re-access your submitted contribution via this link: https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/home/editcontribution and the contribution ID that you got from the confirmation page. This ID also appears on the PDF copy of you your contribution (if you cannot find the contribution ID, click the 'Contact form').
- You will be able to upload the file(s) and then save again your contribution.



General instructions

Members States are to consult this set of instructions carefully for assistance in filling in the Excel file correctly.

- Data shall be provided using the dedicated template file "[MS code] Second Survey Data Collection State aid in the COVID19 crisis.xlsx" attached to these instructions.
- Data shall be provided for all COVID-19 State aid measures approved either under the Temporary Framework or directly under the Treaty. In order to facilitate this task, the template file is pre-filled with the list of State aid measures

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² https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/competition/transparency/public?lang=en

approved in your Member State. For each State aid measure, the template reports the State aid number as indicated in the text of the decision approved by the Commission, the title of the measure and State aid number of each amendment to the measure, if any. Therefore, if a measure has been subject to an amendment, the related data must be reported in correspondence to the initial measure.

- Data should be provided at **aggregate level**, covering all regions and all granting authorities.
- If it is not possible to provide aggregated data, Member States have the possibility to send disaggregated data to the Commission, for example by region or by granting authority. In this case, the Commission will take upon itself the task of aggregating the information.
- In case a piece of information is not available, please provide **best estimates** and mention it in the dedicated columns "*Comments*", available in every data sheet. Aggregates can also be provided as orders of magnitude or in ranges.
- All monetary amounts shall be expressed in **thousands of Euros**.
- All monetary amounts shall be reported in **number format**.
- Data should always be reported in the appropriate cell, even if the requested information is missing. If a value is not available (meaning that best estimates are not possible), this should be reported as "n.a.". Values equal to zero should always be reported as zeros (i.e., only true zeros should be encoded as "0"). As a result, no cell in the data file should be empty.
- Any other feature of the specific data items that will be shared with the European Commission that is not covered by these instructions or by the template, and that is deemed to be relevant for their subsequent use, should be described by the Member State with the greatest possible detail in the dedicated columns "Comments", available in every data sheet.

Structure of the Excel file

The file contains 10 data sheets:

- 1. "Budgets TF": Please fill-in this data sheet with data relative to the total budget (*i.e.* amount committed in national budgetary laws) for all the measures approved under the Temporary Framework. This data sheet includes also a breakdown of the budget by section of the Temporary Framework. If the budget of a measure was revised downwards compared to what was originally planned, this should be clearly indicated in the dedicated column.
- 2. "Budgets Treaty": Please fill-in this data sheet with data relative to the total budget (*i.e.* amount committed in national budgetary laws) for all the measures approved directly under the Treaty. If the budget of a measure was revised downwards compared to what was originally planned, this should be clearly indicated in the dedicated column.

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- 3. "Sept 2020 TF": Please fill-in this data sheet with data relative to the amount of aid granted for all the measures approved under the Temporary Framework, from Commission's approval until 30 September 2020. This data sheet includes also a breakdown by section of the Temporary Framework. Amounts should be reported in nominal terms, i.e. nominal amount and not_in gross grant equivalent. Data should refer to the indicated cut-off reference date, i.e. 30 September 2020. If data is only available at a date before 30 September 2020, the reference date should be clearly reported in the file.
- 4. "Sept 2020 Treaty": Please fill-in this data sheet with data relative to the amount of aid granted for all the measures approved directly under the Treaty, from Commission's approval until 30 September 2020. Amounts should be reported in nominal terms, i.e. nominal amount and not_in gross grant equivalent. Data should refer to the indicated cut-off reference date, i.e. 30 September 2020. If data is only available at a date before 30 September 2020, the reference date should be clearly reported in the file.
- 5. "Dec 2020 TF": Please fill-in this data sheet with data relative to the amount of aid granted for all the measures approved under the Temporary Framework, from Commission's approval until 31 December 2020. This data sheet includes also a breakdown by section of the Temporary Framework. Amounts should be reported in nominal terms, i.e. nominal amount and not_in gross grant equivalent. Data should refer to the indicated cut-off reference date, i.e. 30 December 2020. If data is only available at a date before 30 December 2020, the reference date should be clearly reported in the file.
- 6. "Dec 2020 Treaty": Please fill-in this data sheet with data relative to the amount of aid granted for all the measures approved directly under the Treaty, from Commission's approval until 31 December 2020. Amounts should be reported in nominal terms, i.e. nominal amount and not_in gross grant equivalent. Data should refer to the indicated cut-off reference date, i.e. 31 December 2020. If data is only available at a date before 31 December 2020, the reference date should be clearly reported in the file.
- 7. "OPTIONAL June 2020 TF": Please fill out only in case you want to amend the data already reported. This data sheet is pre-filled with the aid granted until 30 June 2020 under measures approved under the Temporary Framework as elaborated by the Commission based on your submission(s) in the context of the first survey.
- 8. "OPTIONAL June 2020 Treaty": Please fill out only in case you want to amend the data already reported. This data sheet is pre-filled with the aid granted until 30 June 2020 under measures approved directly under the Treaty as elaborated by the Commission based on your submission(s) in the context of the first survey.
- 9. "Sectors": This data sheet should be filled in with data relative to the amounts of aid granted, **breakdown by sector** (identified by the main section of the NACE code of the beneficiary), as of 31 December 2020 for all the legal bases.

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³ Aid granted is any aid arising from a legally binding commitment from the Member State to award the aid that can be invoked before the national courts. This differs from aid paid out.

10. "Beneficiary type": This data sheet should be filled in with data relative to the amounts of aid granted, breakdown by type of beneficiary (e.g. large undertakings, SMEs), as of 31 December 2020 for all the legal bases.

Any question related to the correct compilation of this data collection can be addressed to the email address: comp-covid@ec.europa.eu.

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