

RULES ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EMPLOYMENT PROMOTION ACT

*Prom. SG. 58/27 Jun 2003, amend. SG. 82/21 Sep 2004, amend. SG. 84/27 Sep 2004, amend. SG. 26/25 Mar 2005, amend. SG. 95/29 Nov 2005, amend. SG. 42/23 May 2006, amend. SG. 60/4 Jul 2008, amend. SG. 98/14 Dec 2010, amend. SG. 26/30 Mar 2012, amend. SG. 87/4 Oct 2013, amend. and suppl. SG. 62/9 Aug 2016, amend. and suppl. SG. 84/20 Oct 2017, amend. and suppl. SG. 3/8 Jan 2019, amend. SG. 70/7 Aug 2020, amend. SG. 52/22 Jun 2021, amend. and suppl. SG. 6/20 Jan 2023, **amend. and suppl. SG. 26/26 Mar 2024***

Chapter one. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Art. 1. (Amend. “ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, suppl. “ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, suppl. “ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) The regulations provide the statute and the functions of the employment authorities, the conditions and the order for preparing and approval of National action plan for employment, the financing of the active policy for employment promotion to work with economically inactive persons and to study and analyze labor resources, the rights and the obligations of the persons who look for employment and of the employers, the procedure for notification at mass layoffs, the conditions and the order for conceding of mediation services, the conditions and the order for planning, development and approval of the programmes for employment and training, the conditions and the order for including in programmes and for using preferences in measures for employment and training, the training of adults and vocational guidance, the terms and order for organizing and financing the validation of professional knowledge, skills and competences, the conditions and the procedure for allocation of funds under the Employment Promotion Act in the form of de minimis and State aid schemes.

Art. 2. (Suppl. “ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) The co-operation between the employment authorities and the representatives of the organizations of Art. 3 of the Employment Promotion Act (EPA) shall be implemented at all levels at developing and fulfilment of the activities for the active policy on the labour market, work with economically inactive persons and for research and analysis of labor resources.

Chapter two. EMPLOYMENT AUTHORITIES

Art. 3. (Amend. “ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. “ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) Authorities creating conditions and conducting the policy for employment promotion and training of adults and vocational guidance shall be: the Council of Ministers, the Ministers, the National council for employment promotion and the executive director of the Employment Agency at the Minister of Labour and Social Policy.

Art. 4. The Council of Ministers shall determine the state policy for employment promotion in compliance with the priorities of the government and the recommendations of the European Union and the international organisations.

Art. 5. Authorities implementing the state policy for employment promotion in the regions shall be:

1. (suppl. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) the regional governors and the mayor of the municipality/region;
2. (amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) the permanent and the temporary commissions for employment at the regional development councils;
3. (repealed - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024)
4. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) the "Labor Bureau" regional directorates and the "Labor Bureau" directorates, hereinafter referred to as "territorial divisions of the Employment Agency";
5. the councils for co-operation.

Art. 6. (1) (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) The commission for employment at the regional development council shall be permanent body assisting the regional governor in determining, organising and controlling the conducting of the state policy for employment promotion and training of adults on a regional level.

(2) The commission of para 1 shall:

1. (amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. â€“ SG 70/20) determine the priorities of the regional policy for employment promotion and be responsible for the development of regional programmes for employment and/or training of adults in accordance with the priorities of the documents on strategic planning of the regional and spatial development as per the Regional Development Act, and also with the priorities of the national strategic documents and the National action plan for employment;
2. (suppl. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) approve the draft regional program for employment and training and send it to the Minister of Labour and Social Policy for approval and funding;
3. ensure conditions for conducting of the regional policy for employment promotion;
4. implement observation and control of the spent resources for active policy;
5. (new - SG 84/17) collect, process and submit to the Employment Agency information about the employers' needs of workforce in the region.

(3) (Repealed - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024)

(4) Temporary commission for employment shall be created for solving of defined tasks, connected with the priorities of the regional policy for employment promotion.

Art. 7. The commission for employment shall determine every year priorities and approve plan for its activity after the defining of the priorities of the state policy for employment promotion and the approval of the National action plan for employment.

Art. 7a. (New - SG 84/17) (1) (Amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The Executive Director of the Employment Agency shall annually organize the conduct of a survey on employers' labor force needs and by the end of May send a letter to the Chairpersons of the commissions for employment at the regional development

council and the territorial divisions of the Employment Agency with instructions on the terms and procedures for collecting and processing information on the employers' needs of workforce in the region.

(2) The Regional Governor, on a proposal from the Commission for Employment, issues an order for the establishment of a working group, which includes representatives of the institutions under Art. 9, para. 5, items 1, 2, 4 and 5 of the EPA.

(3) The Working Group organizes, coordinates and conducts information gathering from employers in the region and brings the information for discussion to the Commission for Employment.

(4) (Amend. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019) The information shall also include a proposal for the organization of trainings as per the need of workforce from the employers, and shall be sent by the Chairperson of the Commission for Employment to the headquarters of the Employment Agency within the term specified in the letter under Para. 1.

(5) (Amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) The employment Agency shall summarize the information, received from the employment commissions about the employers' labor force needs, prepare an analytical report on the results of the survey at national level and send it to the Minister of Labor and Social Policy, within two weeks of receiving the information from the commissions.

Art. 8. (1) (Amend. - SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The council for co-operation shall be at the territorial divisions of the Employment Agency and it shall:

1. implement control and observation of the programmes, projects and measures for training and employment, and also of the training of adults;

2. monitor the compliance with the procedure for selection of employers in the course of use of the employment and training promotion measures;

3. (revoked â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016)

(2) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) At established breaches of para 1, item 1 the Council for co-operation shall notify the executive director of Employment Agency and the director of the territorial directorate of Executive agency "Chief labour inspection", and if there are sufficient data about committed indictable offence â€“ also the bodies of pre-judicial procedure.

(3) (Suppl. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) In the Council for co-operation a representative of the municipality/region shall be included.

(4) (Suppl. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) When the territorial divisions of the Employment Agency services several municipalities/regions, a representative of one of them shall be determined for participation in the Council for co-operation on rotation principle. The representatives of the other municipalities/regions may participate in the session of the Council for co-operation with consultative vote.

(5) (New - SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Where on the territory of a territorial divisions of the Employment Agency exist more than three representative organisations of employees or employers on national level, they shall determine their representatives for participation in the Cooperation Council on a rotating basis.

(6) (Prev. text of Para 05, amend. - SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) The Council for co-operation shall approve rules on its structure and activity in one month term after it is established, which might be amended or supplemented, where appropriate.

Chapter three.

NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR EMPLOYMENT

Art. 9. (1) The Minister of Labour and Social Policy shall, after consultations and in co-operation with the representative organisations of the employers and of the workers and the employees, determine the order and the mechanism for the development of National action plan for employment.

(2) (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, suppl. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) With the National action plan for employment shall be determined the activities for realization of the state policy for employment promotion, protection of the labour market, vocational guidance, validation of professional knowledge, skills and competences, training of adults, the resources of Art. 30a, Para 1 of EPA and their amount.

(3) (Suppl. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) The employment authorities and the social partners shall present every year to the Minister of Labour and Social Policy projects under Art. 31 of the EPA, connected with the priorities of the policy for employment promotion for including in the National action plan for employment.

(4) (Suppl. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) The Minister of Labour and Social Policy shall prepare draft of National action plan for employment, including also projects, presented by the order of para 3 and the amount of funds for a regional program for employment and training of each area.

(5) The National council for employment promotion and the National council for tripartite co-operation shall discuss consecutively the draft of para 4 and give statements about it.

(6) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The Minister of Labour and Social Policy shall submit the draft of para 4 for approval to the Council of Ministers in two months term after the promulgation of the decree of the Council of Ministers for the fulfilment of the state budget for the respective year.

(7) The financing of the National action plan for employment shall be ensured for each calendar year within the framework of the resources for realising of the active policy, determined with the State Budget Act for the corresponding year.

(8) (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) Where in the National Action Plan for Employment there are resources provided in the form of state or de minimis aid, shall be indicated the annual budget and the total estimated budget of each scheme.

Chapter four.

FINANCING OF THE ACTIVE POLICY FOR EMPLOYMENT PROMOTION

Art. 10. (1) The Minister of Labour and Social Policy shall determine every year the priorities, the programmes and the measures, which are financed from the state budget and are included in the National action plan for employment.

(2) (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) In compliance with the procedure for development of the draft budget of the Republic of Bulgaria for the corresponding year the Minister of Labour and Social Policy shall notify every year the Ministries, the Employment

Agency and the commissions for employment to the district development councils about the opportunity to propose measures and programmes for financing.

(3) (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) The proposals of para 2, made by the employment commissions to district development councils, should be guaranteed financially in the part, which is not provided in the budget of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy.

Art. 11. (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, suppl. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) The Executive director of the Employment Agency shall every year prepare and present to the Minister of Labour and Social Policy a draft budget, which will include the resources for maintenance of the Agency and for financing of measures and programmes for employment and training of adults and validation of professional knowledge, skills and competences of unemployed persons, directed by the Employment Agency.

Art. 12. (1) The Minister of Labour and Social Policy shall determine the allocation of the resources for realising of the active policy depending on the priorities, determined in the National action plan for employment, within the framework of the resources for the year, determined with the State Budget Act.

(2) At the allocation of the resources for the respective year shall be guaranteed the expenses for concluded contracts under Art. 30b of EPA from previous periods.

(3) The Minister of Labour and Social Policy shall co-ordinate the activities for the active policy with the National action plan for employment promotion.

Art. 12a. (New - SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) (1) In order to cover the costs of the Employment Agency under Art. 16, Item 15 of the EPA may be used funds of the reserve for employment and training programmes and measures provided for in the National Action Plan of Employment for the respective year.

(2) (Amend. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The funds referred to in Para 1 may be used only to cover direct admissible costs within the meaning of the Act on Management of EU Funds under Shared Management, where the said costs have been verified by the Management Body and not certified by the Certification Body or by the European Commission, or have been subject to a financial correction on the part of a competent authority.

(3) The Executive Director of the Employment Agency shall file with the Minister of Labour and Social Policy a reasoned report containing a proposal for granting funds for costs coverage under Para 2.

(4) The report referred to in Para 3 shall contain an account of the costs to be refunded by indicating:

1. (amend. - SG 87/13) the order(s) and/or the contract(s) for granting free financial aid by virtue of which day have been incurred;

2. (amend. - SG 87/13) the amount of the costs subject to refund, a description of the methods for their calculation, a reasoning of their admissibility according to the requirements of Art. 16, item 15 of the EPA and a description of the reasons requiring the refund of the expenses;

3. the act/document of notifying the Management Body that the costs are not certified or on the basis of which the financial correction have been imposed.

(5) The Minister of Labour and Social Policy shall issue an order on granting the funds referred to in Para 3 after coordinating it with the National Council of Employment promotion.

Chapter five.

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE PERSONS SEEKING WORK AND OF THE EMPLOYERS

Section I.

General provisions

Art. 13. (1) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The services of Art. 17, para 1 and 2 of EPA shall be conceded to the persons seeking work and to the employers by the respective employers of territorial division of the Employment Agency.

(2) (Suppl. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Territorial division of the Employment Agency shall maintain and announce an updated list of the vacant positions.

(3) (Amend. - SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) The information of Para. 2 shall be published on the [official site of the Employment Agency](#) and shall contain:

1. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) territorial divisions of the Employment Agency;

2. number, date and term of validity of the application;

3. name of position;

4.(suppl. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) location (municipality/region);

5. type of labour contract;

6. working time;

7. salary;

8. number of vacant employment positions;

9. requirements to the person seeking employment (education, professional experience, additional skills, etc.);

10. (new - SG 84/17) the name and address of the employer (the appointing authority) in the cases where the employer selects the candidates for employment or their appointment is done by conducting a competition under the Civil Servants Act.

11. (new â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) name and contact details, if the employer has requested their publication.

(4) (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) The persons seeking work can receive additional information of para 2 from the employment mediators.

(5) (Amend. SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) In case of a refusal to be conceded services of Art. 17, Para 1, items 6, 7 and 8, and Para. 2, items 4 - 7 of EPA, as well as at their partial conceding the director of territorial divisions of the Employment Agency shall pronounce with written decision in 7 days term.

(6) (Amend. SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. - SG 42/06, in force from 12.07.2006, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The decisions of para 5 shall be issued, appealed against and fulfilled by the order of the Administrative Procedure Code.

(7) (Amend. SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006, amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The decisions of the director of a territorial division of the Employment Agency are issued according to a model approved by the executive director of the Employment Agency.

Section II.

Registration, rights and obligations of the persons seeking work (Title amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008)

Art. 14. (1) (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008; amend. - SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019, amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Jobseekers shall register in person at the territorial division of the Employment Agency electronically, in accordance with the Electronic Government Act, on-site, through a licensed postal operator or in another appropriate way, announced on the website of the Employment Agency. When submitting the application electronically, the persons shall be identified in accordance with the Electronic Government Act. The registration shall be made, based on an application - declaration in a template, approved by the Executive Director of the Employment Agency and following the submission of:

1. an identity document, a national document for foreign travel and residence permit, foreigner's registration card for persons, enjoying temporary protection or enjoying the rights under Art. 29, Para. 3 of the Asylum and Refugees Act;

2. documents for acquired education and / or qualification for persons, for whom information cannot be obtained through official means;

3. a decision of the Territorial Expert Medical Commission / National Expert Medical Commission - for persons with permanently reduced working capacity, for whom information cannot be obtained through official means;

4. a written declaration for authentication of other circumstances and / or other documents - in cases where they are necessary and the data may not be obtained by official means.

(2) (New - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The application-declaration under para. 1 contains a notification for official change of registration under Art. 20, para. 10 of the EPA.

(3) (Amend. SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008; amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, prev. para 2, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Persons, seeking work shall have the right of registration in the territorial division of the Employment Agency under their permanent or present address. An application-declaration under Para. 1 may be submitted locally at any territorial division of the Employment Agency. Foreigners, benefiting from temporary protection may register at the address, where they have settled or reside, certified by the documents under Art. 18, Para. 5 of the EPA.

(4) (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 84/17, prev. para 3, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The registered persons seeking work shall be obliged within 7 working days after occurred change in any of the declared circumstances, to notify in writing the territorial division of the Employment Agency regardless of the address of their registration.

(5) (New - SG 84/17, amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, prev. para 4, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Jobseekers, registered as unemployed shall notify the territorial division of the Employment Agency within 7 working days of receiving the grant document to a retirement pension in the Republic of Bulgaria, a professional pension for early retirement under Art. 168 of the Social Insurance Code, retirement pension and reduced age under Art. 68a of the Social Insurance Code or old-age pension in another state.

(6) (New, SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, prev. para. 4, suppl. - SG 84/17,

amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, prev. para 5, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The notification under Para 4 and 5 shall be executed in writing through an application-affidavit in a form approved by the Executive Director of the Employment Agency. The application-declaration can be sent in any of the territorial divisions of the Employment Agency at the registration of the person, using a licensed postal operator, electronically in accordance with the Electronic Government Act, or in another appropriate way, announced on the website of the Employment Agency or can be submitted in person. When included in programs, measures and projects for employment, persons, directed by the territorial divisions of the Employment Agency shall not submit an application-declaration.

(7) (New, SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006, prev. para. 5 - SG 84/17, prev. para 6, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Registration shall not be performed at the territorial division of the Employment Agency, if the work seeking person:

1. (revoked - SG 84/17)

2. (amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008; amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 84/17, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) is with terminated previous registration on the ground of Art. 20, Para. 4, item 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 and 8 of the EPA during the last 3 months;

3. (amend. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, repealed - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024)

4. (new â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, revoked â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016)

(8) (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, revoked - SG 84/17, prev. para 7 - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024)

(9) (New â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, prev. para. 6 - SG 84/17, amend. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019, prev. para 8, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The employment seeking persons may file the documents under Para 1, Items 2-4 visiting the territorial division of the Employment Agency to prepare action plan or to meet with an employment mediator.

Art. 15. (1) The registration shall be implemented in a register with consecutive numbers, the information about the persons being introduced in the automated information system and the group according to Art. 18, para 1 and 3 of EPA being marked.

(2) (New - SG 87/13, amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) The register of the persons, seeking employment shall be maintained electronically and shall inform the National Database of the Labour Market (NDBLM). The processing of information and personal data in the NDBLM shall be carried out as set out in the Personal Data Protection Act.

(3) (Amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010; prev. text of Para 02 - SG 87/13) Registration card shall be issued to each registered person.

(4) (Prev. text of Para 03 - SG 87/13) The persons, for whom at their registration there is appropriate free working place, shall be directed by the employment mediator to the employer, declared the place.

(5) (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008; prev. text of Para 04 - SG 87/13, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) For the unemployed persons action plan within one month after their registration shall be prepared, provided that they have not started working.

(6) (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; prev. text of Para 05, amend. - SG 87/13, amend. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 84/17, amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) The action plan shall include the recommendations of the employment

mediator, the actions and deadlines for the implementation of the respective recommendations. Until the 18th month of registration with the long-term unemployed, an employment integration agreement shall be concluded.

(7) (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 26/12; prev. text of Para 06, amend. - SG 87/13, amend. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 84/17, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) In the registration card of the unemployed person shall be entered the actions from the action plan and the deadlines for there's implementation. The registration card contains information about the rights and obligations of jobseekers, as well as notification of the official change of registration under Art. 20, para. 10 of the EPA.

(8) (Prev. text of Para 07 - SG 87/13) Official certificate shall be issued to the registered persons for certifying of the registration on their request.

(9) (New - SG 87/13, amend. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, suppl. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The exchange of information of the persons registered at the territorial division of the Employment Agency with the Ministry of Education and Science, the National expert doctorâ€™s commission, the National Revenue Agency, the Executive Agency "Chief Labour Inspectorate", the National Social Security Institute, the Social Assistance Agency, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the National Agency for Vocational Education and Training, Directorate General "Civil Registration and Administrative Services" at the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works and the Bulgarian Investment Agency shall be carried out ex officio.

Art. 16. (1) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The registration shall be terminated and restored with decision of the director of territorial division of the Employment Agency.

(2) (New â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019) The registration of the persons seeking employment shall be terminated under the conditions of Art. 20, Para. 3 and 4 of the EPA from the date of occurrence of the relevant circumstance.

(3) (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, previous Para. 2, amend. - SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019) The registration of unemployed persons shall be restored upon presentation of evidence for good reasons of Art. 20, para 6 of the EPA in 7 working days term after the falling away of the good reason.

(4) (Previous Para. 3 - SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019) The registration shall be restored for:

1. (revoked as unlawful â€“ Decision of the Supreme Administrative Court No 2368 of March 16, 2005)

2. (revoked as unlawful â€“ Decision of the Supreme Administrative Court No 2368 of March 16, 2005)

(5) (Revoked., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006, previous Para. 4 - SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019)

(6) (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, previous Para. 5 - SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019) Registration of persons in the cases of Art. 20, Para. 7 of the EPA shall be renewed upon declaration of the fact by the individuals.

(7) (Prev. Para. 5 - SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; suppl. - SG 42/06, in force from 23.05.2006; revoked â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, previous Para. 6 - SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019)

(8) (New - SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; Suppl. - SG 42/06, in force from 23.05.2006, amend. - SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, prev. para. 5 - SG 62/16, in force from

09.08.2016, previous Para. 7 - SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019, amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Registration shall be restored after presentation of an identity document, a national document for traveling abroad and a residence permit, registration card of a foreigner, enjoying temporary protection or enjoying rights under Art. 29, Para. 3 of the Asylum and Refugees Act, and personal submission of an application-declaration to the Director of the territorial division of the Employment Agency electronically, in accordance with the Electronic Government Act, on-site, through a licensed postal operator, or in another appropriate way, announced on the website of the Employment Agency. An application-declaration may be submitted on-site at any territorial division of the Employment Agency. When submitting the application electronically, the persons are identified in accordance with the Electronic Government Act.

Section III.

Rights and obligations of the employers

Art. 17. (1) (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, suppl. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The employers may submit announcements about the needs for manpower with description of the character of the work and pointed out educational and qualification requirements to the candidate and the manner of selection; applications for training and/or supporting of territorial mobility of the hired personnel. The announcements shall be taken in writing or orally at the territorial division of the Employment Agency, as well as electronically under the Electronic Government Act and shall be entered in the automated information system. The samples of the application forms shall be subject to approval by the Executive Director of Employment Agency.

(2) (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006, amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) When in the announcement of para 2 the employer sets conditions, contradicting with the law or containing requirements to the candidates not complying with the character of the work, the director of territorial division of the Employment Agency shall refuse to fulfil the mediation services for hiring of manpower with a written decision.

(3) The refusals of para 2 shall be subject to appeal by the order of Art. 13.

(4) (Amend. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The employer shall be obliged within 7 working days to inform in writing or orally the territorial division of the Employment Agency about:

1. the occupied and the closed working places, announced as free;
2. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) the persons, accepted to work, directed by the territorial division of the Employment Agency;
3. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) the unemployed persons, directed by the territorial division of the Employment Agency and refused to accept the offered appropriate work;
4. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) the persons directed by the territorial division of the Employment Agency, with whom employment contracts have been concluded, who in the lawfully established term have not appeared and have not started work;
5. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) the refusal to hire to work persons, directed by the territorial division of the Employment Agency.

(5) The free working places remaining unoccupied within 3 months after announcing them shall fall out of the register. When the employer wishes the announced working place to be maintained in the register after this period, they may announce it as permanent unoccupied working place.

(6) (New â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, suppl. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The employers referred to in Art. 22a of the EPA shall notify to the territorial division of the Employment Agency of the vacant working places at the opening of a procedure for their occupation, but no later than 14 days prior to expiry of the deadline for applying.

Chapter six.

INFORMATION PROCEDURE IN MASS LAYOFFS

Art. 18. (1) (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) To certify for the planned mass layoffs, the employer shall present at the territorial division of the Employment Agency a notification under Art. 24 of EPA and a decision of a management body or another competent body and an updated certificate of business registration, or shall indicate his/her unified identification code.

(2) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The employer may present at the territorial division of the Employment Agency a request for the need of training of the staff remaining employed in the enterprise.

Art. 19. (1) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The teams of Art. 25, para 1 of EPA shall be created on initiative of the employer, the representatives of the organisations of the workers and the employees in the enterprise or the director of the territorial division of the Employment Agency and act during the period from submitting of the notification till the end of the mass layoff.

(2) The teams of para 1 shall:

1. (amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) investigate the needs of the workers and the employees for mediation for employment and training and co-operate with the respective territorial division of the Employment Agency at rendering services for employment;

2. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) together with the respective territorial division of the Employment Agency determine the kinds of services and ensure conditions for rendering them at the enterprise;

3. determine schedules and terms for using of the mediation services of the Employment Agency by the workers and the employees;

4. (amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) propose projects for training, bound with opportunities for employment;

5. (amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, suppl. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) render co-operation to the workers and employees for including in appropriate courses for training or in procedures for validation of professional knowledge, skills and competence, in view to preservation of the employment or starting another work;

6. direct the workers and the employees to free working places, consult them about the opportunities for starting of independent economic activity and including in another alternative forms of employment.

(3) (Amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) The programmes for employment shall be developed by the order of Art. 24 upon proposal of the employer, the representatives of the organisations of the workers and the employees and the Employment Agency on the basis of investigated market niches, detachment of separate parts of the enterprise, realisation of branch programmes etc.

Chapter seven. MEDIATION SERVICES

Art. 20. (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. - SG 84/17) (1) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Employment mediation services under Art. 26, items 1, 2 and 5 of the EPA shall be organized and provided by the territorial division of the Employment Agency regardless of the registration address of the jobseekers.

(2) (Amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, repealed - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024)

(3) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Employment mediation services under Art. 26 of the EPA shall be organized and provided by the territorial division of the Employment Agency without any restriction as to the address of the employers and the institutions carrying out training of adults and validation of professional knowledge, skills and competences of unemployed persons.

Art. 21. (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The mediation services for the persons seeking work registered at the territorial division of the Employment Agency, shall include:

1. (amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) informing and/or consulting about:
 - a) their rights and obligations according to EPA;
 - b) the free working places and the requirements for occupying them;
 - c) (amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006) the opportunities for participation in programmes and measures for employment and training;
 - d) (amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) the opportunities for training of adults;
 - e) the options to change profession and to work beyond the boundaries of the settlement of residence;
 - f) (suppl. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) the conditions and the order for work in other countries under intergovernmental agreements and through the network of the European employment services (EURES);
2. psychological assistance;
3. (amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006, amend. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) motivation about an active behavior on the labour market and directing to appropriate programmes and measures for employment and training;
4. (amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) directing to training of adults;
5. directing and assisting for starting work, including in another settlement in the country or in other countries;
6. (revoked â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008)
7. (new â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) referral to a procedure for validation of professional knowledge, skills and competences.

Art. 21a. (New - SG 87/13) (1) (Repealed â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023)
(2) (Amend. - SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023). Information on employment mediation services shall also be provided to persons, who are not registered as jobseekers under the EPA.

Art. 22. The mediation services for the employers shall include:

1. conceding of information about the persons, seeking work in defined professions, specialities, professional experience, additional skills and readiness to start work;
2. conceding of information about programmes and measures for preservation and employment promotion, as well as for training of the hired staff;
3. conceding of information about their rights and obligations at mass layoff of workers and employees;
4. mediation for hiring to work by:
 - a) conceding of information about the order and the ways for announcement of the free working places;
 - b) receiving of announcements for free working places;
 - c) processing and dissemination of the information about the announced free working places;
 - d) selection of appropriate candidates, meeting the requirements of the employer;
 - e) directing of appropriate candidates to the respective working place;
 - f) requiring of reverse information about the result of the directing.
5. (amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006) directing to appropriate programmes and measures for employment and training;
6. (new - SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006, amend. - SG 52/21, in force from 01.06.2021) providing information on granting access to the labour market to foreigners.

Art. 22a. (New â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) (1) The intermediaries referred to in Art. 28, Para 9, Item 1 of EPA shall be obliged, in case they maintain an electronic register of the vacant working positions, which is accessible over the Internet, to provide rights to access it through the [website](#) of the Employment Agency.

(2) (Amend. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) The intermediaries referred to in Art. 28, Para 9, Item 9 of the EPA shall register with the electronic information communication system on the website of the Employment Agency the following information of the announced vacant working places:

1. offices which will serve job seekers;
2. place of work (in the country, to other countries or to sailors);
3. terms and conditions for holding the workplace, including job/profession/specialty; number of vacancies; period of validity of the application; address of workplace (country, region, municipality, location);
4. selection procedure for job seekers.

(3) (Amend. â€“ SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) The intermediaries under Art. 28, Para 9, Item 2 of the EPA shall be obliged to update within 3 working days within the period of validity of the application the information referred to in Para 2 with respect to the working places, which have been already occupied or there is no longer need of finding a candidate.

Chapter eight.

PROGRAMMES FOR EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Art. 23. (Amend., SG 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) (1) Projects of national employment and/or training programs shall be developed by the Minister of Labor and Social Policy and the Executive Director of the Employment Agency or together with representatives of other interested organizations and social partners and shall be proposed for funding and inclusion in the National Action Plan on employment.

(2) The programs under Para. 1 shall be approved by the Minister of Labor and Social Policy after discussion by the National Council for Employment Promotion.

Art. 24. (Amend. “ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. “ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019) (1) The draft branch programmes shall be drawn up according to a model approved by the Minister of Labour and Social Policy and shall be submitted to the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy pursuant to a written invitation by the Minister of Labour and Social Policy to the authorities referred to in Art. 31, Para 3, Items 2 and 3 of the EPA.

(2) The draft programmes by the institutions and organisations under Art. 31, Para 1 of the EPA shall be drawn up according to a model approved by the Minister of Labour and Social Policy and shall be submitted to the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy pursuant to a written invitation by the Minister of Labour and Social Policy.

(3) The invitation under Para. 1 and 2 shall contain:

1. a deadline for the submission of the draft programs, which may not be less than 14 days from the sending of the invitation;
2. maximum amount of the state budget funds for financing one program;
3. the priorities and the main target groups of the active employment policy for the year, in which the programs will be implemented;
4. the types of training that will be financed with funds from the state budget;
5. minimum requirements for employment of unemployed persons participating in the program;
6. other requirements and guidelines for developing drafts of programs.

(4) The drafts of programs shall be submitted on paper and in electronic form.

(5) The Minister of Labour and Social Policy shall issue an order to determine the composition of the commission responsible for assessment and selection of drafts of programmes under Para 1 and 2 in accordance with the decision of the National Council of Employment promotion under Art. 31, Para. 2 of the EPA.

(6) Members of the commission may be persons who have declared:

1. lack of economic interest related to the assessment of the drafts of programmes;
2. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) they are not "related persons" in the sense of the Counteracting Corruption Act with a participant in the procedure;
3. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) lack of personal interest in the sense of the Counteracting Corruption Act related to the assessment of the drafts of programmes.

(7) The members of the commission shall submit a declaration under para. 6 after receiving the list of participants in the procedure and in case of change in the declared data.

(8) The members of the Commission shall be obliged to keep in secret the circumstances, which they have learned in connection with their work in the Commission.

(9) The Commission shall allow for evaluation the drafts of programs which:

1. have been submitted on time;

2. do not exceed the maximum amount for financing determined by the invitation under Para. 3;

3. have been prepared in accordance with the model approved by the Minister of Labour and Social Policy;

4. contain all the documents and meet the requirements specified in the invitation under Para. 3.

(10) The Commission shall examine and evaluate the accepted drafts of programs according to the following criteria:

1. relative share of unemployed persons from municipalities with average monthly unemployment rate in the first nine months of the current year, which rate is higher than the average monthly for the country, with unemployed persons included in employment and / or training under the program, from the total number of unemployed persons included in the program;

2. relative share of the unemployed persons from the disadvantaged groups on the labour market, included in employment and / or training under the program, from the total number of unemployed persons included in the program;

3. relative share of the unemployed persons included in the training for professions and specialties, sought by the labour market, from the total number of unemployed persons included in the program training;

4. the relative share of the unemployed persons included in training for acquiring a degree of professional qualification, from the total number of the persons included in vocational training under the program;

5. connection of the envisaged training on key competence with the respective training for acquiring professional qualification in the program;

6. the relative share of the unemployed persons, who will be employed for a period exceeding the mandatory minimum period of employment indicated in the invitation under Para. 3, from the total number of unemployed persons included in employment under the program;

7. the relative share of the persons who will be included in employment above the minimum requirement specified in the invitation under Para. 3, from the total number of persons involved in training under the program.

(11) The evaluation shall be carried out according to a methodology approved by the Minister of Labour and Social Policy, after coordination with the National Council for Employment Promotion.

(12) The Commission shall rate the draft programs on the basis of the evaluation results, shall determine the programs approved for funding, and the amount of funds and parameters for the implementation of the respective program.

(13) The Commission shall draw up a protocol of its performance, which shall be submitted for approval by the Minister of Labour and Social Policy. The protocol shall include:

1. a list of the drafts of programs which are not eligible for evaluation, and the reasons therefor;

2. a list of the drafts of programs suggested not to be funded, and the reasons thereof;

3. a list of the drafts of programs proposed for funding, including the amount of funds, and parameters for the implementation of the program concerned;

4. special opinions and motives of the members of the commission.

(14) The approved programmes/projects shall be proposed for funding and inclusion into the National Employment Action Plan and the action plan of the Employment Agency.

Art. 25. (1) (Amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) (1) (Amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) The Regional Programme for employment and training of the district shall be developed according to a model, approved by the Minister of Labor and Social Policy. The project proposal for a regional program may be developed jointly with representative organizations of employers and of workers and employees, and other legal entities.

(2) Regional Programme of the area may include a module "employment" and/or "training":

1. "Training" - through training for acquiring professional qualification and/or key competencies;

2. "Employment" - through non-subsidized and/or subsidized employment.

(3) In the National Action Plan for Employment for the respective year shall be defined the target groups and the amount of funding for regional programs for employment and training for each area according to the average monthly unemployment rate and the average monthly number of registered unemployed in the region in the first nine months of the previous year. The amount of funds shall be calculated by a method approved by the Minister of Labour and Social Policy.

Art. 25a. (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) (1) The Minister of Labour and Social Policy shall send a written invitation to develop a regional program for employment and training in the area to the chairpersons of commissions on employment with the district development councils after the adoption of the National action plan for employment for the respective year.

(2) (Amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) The regional and municipal administrations shall develop draft proposal for regional program of the region and shall submit it to the Employment Commission.

(3) The regional governor on the proposal of the Commission for Employment shall issue an order to form a commission to develop a regional program for employment and training in the area based on the proposals under par. 2 of the regional and municipal administrations.

(4) (Amend. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019) The members of the commission under par. 3 may be persons who declare that:

1. they have no material interest in the evaluation of the drafts of programs;

2. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) they are not "related persons" with any of the participants in the procedure under the Counteracting Corruption Act;

3. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) they have no private interest under the Counteracting Corruption Act in evaluating the drafts of proposals.

(5) The Commission under par. 3 shall prepare a draft regional program for employment and training in the area based on the evaluation and selection of submitted proposals.

(6) The assessment of submitted proposals shall be carried out under the criteria average annual unemployment rate and average annual number of registered unemployed in the previous year in the respective municipality, the needs of employers of manpower and under methodology approved by the Commission on Employment.

(7) The Commission under par. 3 shall submit the draft regional program for employment and training to the Employment Commission for approval.

(8) The Employment Commission shall approve the regional program for employment and training and for its decision shall prepare a protocol.

(9) The Chairperson of the Committee on Employment shall send to the Minister of Labour and Social Policy for confirmation the regional program for employment and training of the area, accompanied by the protocol under Para. 8.

Chapter nine.
PLANNING OF PROGRAMMES AND MEASURES FOR EMPLOYMENT
PROMOTION

Art. 26. (Amend. - SG 42/06, in force from 23.05.2006; amend. - SG 87/13, amend. - SG 84/17) Till the end of October of the current year the Ministries and the Employment Agency shall present to the Minister of Labour and Social Policy proposals for including in the National action plan for employment programmes for employment and education.

Art. 27. (1) (Prev. text of Art. 27 - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The allocation of funds for the implementation of national programs and measures as per the EPA in the regions shall be carried out by the Executive Director of the Employment Agency based on the proposals of the regional directorates "Labor Bureau" and their assessment with the criteria approved by the Minister of Labour and Social Policy in line with the government's priorities and the policy on employment promotion.

(2) (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 84/17, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) After expiration of the first three months of the financial year, the Executive Director of the Employment Agency may reallocate resources from one region to others within one programme or measure.

Art. 28. (1) After approval of the National action plan for employment the executive director of the Employment Agency shall present to the Minister of Labour and Social Policy a draft action plan for the current year.

(2) The plan of para 1 shall be approved by the Minister of Labour and Social Policy and includes the activities, connected with the functions of the Employment Agency, programmes and measures for employment promotion and for training.

(3) (New " SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) The Employment Agency shall carry out monthly monitoring of the implementation of the National Employment Action Plan according to indices approved by the Minister of Labour and Social Policy and shall submit monthly reports to the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy of the achieved results.

(4) (New " SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. " SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) The Employment Agency shall draw up a semi-annual and an annual analysis of its action plan and shall submit them to the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy within two months from expiration of the period under analysis.

Chapter nine "a".
CONDITIONS TO PROVIDE DE MINIMIS AID (NEW - SG 62/16, IN FORCE FROM
09.08.2016)

Section I.
General provisions (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016)

Art. 28a. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) (1) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Granting funds under the Employment Promotion Act (EPA), with the exception of the measures under Art. 51 of the EPA, shall take the form of de minimis aid schemes, where applicable, in compliance with Regulation (EC) No 2023/2831 of the Commission of 13 December 2023 on the application of Art. 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid (OJ, L 2023/2831 of 15.12.2023), hereinafter referred to as "Regulation (EU) No 2023/2831".

(2) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Subject to the rules, with the exception of the measures under Art. 51 of the EPA, shall promote employment in economic activities such as de minimis aid scheme for employment and de minimis aid scheme for training in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 2023/2831.

(3) Every year, the National Action Plan for Employment shall identify programs and measures for employment and training, in which granting of funds takes the form of a de minimis aid scheme.

Section II.
Scope of activities (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016)

Art. 28b. (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) (1) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Ineligible for support in the form of de minimis aid scheme shall be undertakings - employers, institutions engaged in adults education or vocational guidance operating in:

1. the field of primary production of agricultural products;
2. the primary production of fishery and aquaculture products;
3. the processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products, when the amount of aid is determined based on the price or quantity of products purchased or placed on the market;
4. the processing of agricultural products and their trade, in one of the following cases:
 - a) when the aid is tied to the obligation to be transferred in part or in full to the primary producers;
 - b) when the amount of aid is determined on the basis of the price or quantity of those products which are purchased from primary producers or placed on the market by the undertakings concerned.

(2) (Amend. - SG 84/17, suppl. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Ineligible for aid in the form of de minimis aid scheme shall be enterprises in which the aid is used to promote exports through a direct link to the quantities exported, the establishment and operation of a distribution network to cover other current expenditure linked to the export activity or the aid is tied to the use of domestic goods and services instead of imported goods and services.

(3) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) When an undertaking "employer, institutions providing adult education or vocational guidance - carries out activities in eligible sectors under Regulation (EC) No 2023/2831 and also exercises activity in ineligible sectors listed in para. 1, under those Regulations shall be encouraged activities only in eligible sectors, as the undertaking should keep a system for analytical accounting for each activity, distinguishing

from revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities linked to each activity so that the excluded sectors not be subject to promotion.

Section III.

Amount of aid (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016)

Art. 28c. (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) (1) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The maximum amount of funds granted to undertakings - employers, institutions engaged in adult education or vocational guidance, under the EPA in the form of de minimis aid schemes, along with other received therefrom minimis aid, even in the case of one and the same undertaking, may not exceed the Bulgarian Levâ€™s equivalent of EUR 300 000, for a period of three previous years.

(2) (Repealed - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024)

(3) Where with the granting of a new de minimis aid would be exceeded the ceiling set in par. 1, the amount of de minimis aid shall be reduced ex officio to the maximum eligible amount.

(4) The amount of de minimis aid received by undertakings under par. 1 shall be determined as the sum of de minimis aid for which the contract is concluded under Art. 30b as per the EPA and other de minimis aid received by them, including:

1. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) undertakings, with which the employer, institution carrying adult education or vocational guidance forms "single undertaking" within the meaning of Art. 2, paragraph 2 of Regulation (EU) â„– 2023/2831;

2. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) all undertakings which have been consolidated, have merged with or acquired by any of the undertakings forming the "single undertaking" with the employer or institution carrying adult education or vocational guidance, according to Art. 3, paragraph 8 of Regulation (EU) â„– 2023/2831;

3. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) undertakings which form the "single undertaking" with the employer or institution carrying adult education or vocational guidance, which have received de minimis aid before splitting or separation, according to Art. 3, paragraph 9 of Regulation (EU) â„– 2023/2831.

(5) The de minimis aid shall be considered to be granted from the date of conclusion of the contract under Art. 30b of the EPA, regardless of the date of aid payment to the undertaking.

(6) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The de minimis aid granted under schemes under Art. 28a may be cumulated with de minimis aid granted under Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/2832 of 13 December 2023 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid granted to undertakings providing services of general economic interest (OJ, L 2023/2832 of 15.12.2023). The minimum aid under schemes under Art. 28a can be accumulated with minimum aid granted under Commission Regulation (EC) â„– 1408/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid in the agriculture sector (OJ, L 352 of 24.12.2013) and Commission Regulation (EU) â„– 717/2014 of 27 June 2014 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid in the sector fisheries and aquaculture (OJ, L 190 of 28.06.2014) up to the relevant amount specified in para. 1.

(7) (Amend. - SG 84/17) The de minimis aid shall be cumulated with state aid granted for the same eligible costs or with State aid for the same risk financing measure if such

cumulation does not exceed the highest applicable aid intensity or aid amount determined in the specific circumstances of each case by a block exemption regulation or by a decision adopted by the Commission.

(8) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The contract under Art. 30b of the EPA scheme for de minimis aid shall contain an express reference to Regulation (EC) â„– 2023/2831 and to the national legislation, on which the individual aid is based.

(9) The Employment Agency shall inform the Minister of Finance for the provision of any aid falling within the scope of de minimis aid under the terms and conditions of the State Aid Act and its implementing Rules.

(10) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The Employment Agency shall document and collect all the information on the application of de minimis aid schemes under this chapter. Documents regarding de minimis aid schemes shall be retained for 10 years from the date on which the aid was granted.

(11) The inspection under this chapter for compliance with the terms of de minimis aid schemes shall be carried out based on the methodology for assessing the compliance of de minimis aid, approved by order of the Executive Director of the Employment Agency.

Section IV.

Recovery of unlawfully received de minimis aid (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016)

Art. 28d. (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) (1) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Failure to comply with the requirements of Regulation (EC) â„– 2023/2831, the Employment Promotion Act and these Regulations, the undertaking shall restore full funds provided under the contract under Art. 30b of the EPA with the legal interest from the date of receipt until final payment.

(2) The Employment Agency shall send an invitation to the employer, to the institution carrying adult education or vocational guidance for voluntary execution of the obligation within 14 days of receipt of the invitation.

(3) In the invitation of voluntary execution, the Employment Agency shall inform the employer, the institution carrying adult education or vocational guidance about the amounts due, the deadline for restoring them, the bank account in which to be restored, the order in which the Employment Agency to be notified of the voluntary restoring, as well as the enforcement actions which will be taken after the expiry of the deadline for voluntary execution.

(4) Should the employer, the institution carrying out adult education or vocational guidance not comply voluntarily its obligation, within 10 working days after the expiry of the deadline for voluntary execution of the obligation the Employment Agency shall inform the National Revenue Agency for collection claim.

Chapter nine "b".

CONDITIONS TO PROVIDE STATE AID (NEW - SG 62 OF 2016 (*))

Section I.

General provisions (New - SG 62 of 2016 (*))

Art. 28e. (New - SG 62 of 2016 (*)) Granting of funds under Art. 51 of the EPA shall take the form of:

1. a State aid scheme for hiring disadvantaged workers in the form of wage subsidies in compliance with the requirements of Regulation (EU) â„– 651 of the Commission of 17 June 2014 on declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market while applying Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (published in the Official Journal of the EU, issue L 187 of 26.06.2014), hereinafter referred to as "Regulation (EU) â„– 651/2014", and with the regulations which amend, supplement or replace it;

2. a State aid scheme for hiring employees with disabilities in the form of wage subsidies under the requirements of Regulation (EU) â„– 651 of the Commission of 17 June 2014 on declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (published in the Official Journal of the EU, issue L 187 of 26.06.2014) and the regulations which amend, supplement or replace it.

Section II.

Scope (New - SG 62 of 2016 (*))

Art. 28f. (New - SG 62 of 2016 (*)) (1) Fund shall not be granted under Art. 51 of the EPA to undertakings:

1. against which has been issued and not yet executed an order for reimbursement of funds following a previous Commission decision finding the aid declared unlawful and incompatible with the internal market;

2. which are in difficulty within the meaning of Art. 2, item 18 of Regulation (EU) â„– 651/2014.

(2) Under Art. 51 of the EPA, State aid shall not be provided when its granting leads to violation of the provisions of Regulation (EU) â„– 651/2014, including Art. 1, paragraph 2, letter "c" and "d", paragraph 3, letter "c" and "d" and paragraph 5 of the Regulation.

(3) The conditions under par. 1 shall apply to undertakings within the meaning of Annex I of Regulation (EU) â„– 651/2014, including at group level.

Section III.

Amount of aid (New - SG 62 of 2016 (*))

Art. 28g. (New - SG 62 of 2016 (*)) (1) For each job created under Art. 51, para. 1, where an unemployed person has been hired with a registration that has been maintained at less for 6 months, or an unemployed person till 24 years of age or unemployed person with high school education or lower, or an unemployed person aged over 50, directed by the division of the Employment Agency, the employer shall be made available amounts under Art. 30a, para. 1, item 1, 2, 4 and 5 of EPA for the time during which the person has been employed, but for not less than 3 months and not more than 12 months.

(2) The amounts under par. 1 shall be provided in the amount of up to 50 percent of eligible costs for the period of subsidization.

(3) For each job created under Art. 51, para. 2, where an unemployed person has been hired with permanent disabilities, directed by the division of the Employment Agency, the employer shall be made available amounts under Art. 30a, para. 1, item 1, 2, 4 and 5 of EPA for

the time during which the person has been employed, but for not less than 3 months and not more than 12 months.

(4) The amounts under par. 3 shall be provided up to 75 percent of eligible costs for the period of subsidization.

(5) On each job created in Art. 51, para. 1 and 2 of the EPA unemployed persons may be appointed when the appointment is a net increase of the average number of personnel in the undertaking within the meaning of § 1, item 9 of the additional provisions and Art. 2, item 32 of Regulation (EU) â„– 651/2014 compared to the average number of employees during the previous 12 months. Where the appointment is not a net increase in the number of staff, the position must be vacated following a voluntary departure, disability, retirement age, voluntary reduction of working time or lawful dismissal for misconduct and not as a result of cutting down the staff.

(6) The minimum period of employment of employees under Art. 51 of EPA shall be three months, except in the case of lawful dismissal for misconduct.

(7) The total amount of funds under Art. 51 of EPA received by an undertaking within the meaning of Annex I of Regulation (EU) â„– 651/2014 may not exceed the individual threshold set under Chapter I, Article. 4, paragraph 1, letter "n" and the letter "o" of the Regulation:

1. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) the BGN equivalent of 5,5 mln. Euros for an undertaking for one year - aid for hiring unemployed persons under Art. 51, para. 1 of the EPA;

2. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) the BGN equivalent of 11 mln. Euros for an undertaking for one year - aid for hiring unemployed persons under Art. 51, para. 2 of the EPA.

(8) State aid shall be considered to be granted from the date of conclusion of the contract under Art. 30b of EPA, regardless of the date of aid payment to the undertaking.

(9) The contract under Art. 30b of EPA under an aid scheme according to Regulation (EU) â„– 651/2014 shall contain an explicit reference to the specific provisions of Chapter III of Regulation (EU) â„– 651/2014 and of the national legislation, on which individual aid is based.

Section IV.

Cumulation (New - SG 62 of 2016 (*))

Art. 28h. (New - SG 62 of 2016 (*)) (1) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The fixed amounts of the aid under Art. 28g, para. 2, 4 and 7 shall refer to the total amount of public support for an undertaking (within the meaning of Annex I of Regulation (EU) â„– 651/2014) for one year, regardless of whether that support is financed from local, regional or national sources or EU sources.

(2) Aid for recruitment of unemployed persons under Art. 51, para. 1 of EPA and the aid for hiring unemployed persons under Art. 51, para. 2 of EPA who are eligible under this chapter shall not be cumulated with any other State aid, as well as with de minimis aid within the meaning of § 1, item 3 of the additional provision of the State aid Act for the same eligible costs, if such cumulation would result in an aid intensity or aid amount exceeding the values â„– specified in Art. 28g, para. 2, 4 and 7.

(3) When EU funding managed centrally by the institutions, agencies, joint ventures or other bodies of the European Union, which is not directly or indirectly controlled by the Republic

of Bulgaria, including its central and regional authorities, and is combined with State aid, only this aid shall be taken into account in order to establish whether the notification thresholds have been complied with and the maximum aid intensities or maximum amounts of aid, provided that the total amount of public funding provided in connection with the same eligible costs does not exceed the most favorable financing rate established in the applicable legislation rules of the European Union.

(4) The inspection under this chapter for compliance with the terms of the aid scheme for hiring unemployed persons under Art. 51, para. 1 of EPA and aid scheme for hiring unemployed persons under Art. 51, para. 2 of EPA shall be carried out with a methodology for assessment of compliance of employment aid, approved by order of the Executive Director of the Employment Agency.

Section V.

Transparency and monitoring (New - SG 62 of 2016 (*))

Art. 28i. (New - SG 62 of 2016 (*)) (1) Within 6 months from the date of granting the aid, the executive director of the Employment Agency shall ensure transparency of the aid granted pursuant to Art. 9 of Regulation (EU) â„– 651/2014, the State Aid Act and its implementing rules.

(2) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The Executive Director of the Employment Agency or an official authorized thereof shall ensure compliance of any aid granted under this chapter with the terms of the respective aid scheme and of Regulation (EU) â„– 651/2014 and shall keep all information for the provision of the aid and the ensure compliance.

(3) Information on aid granted under Art. 51, para. 1 and 2 EPA shall be stored for a period of 10 years from the date on which the last aid under the relevant scheme is granted.

(4) Upon request by the European Commission, the Executive Director of the Employment Agency shall provide through the Minister of Finance pursuant to the State Aid Act all the information and supporting documentation, which the European Commission considers necessary for the purpose of monitoring the implementation of Regulation (EU) â„– 651/2014. The information and documentation shall be provided to the Minister of Finance within 15 working days of the request of the European Commission and/or of the Minister of Finance, unless another term is specified in the request.

(5) (Suppl. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The Employment Agency shall prepare an annual report on the implementation and enforcement of the terms of this chapter for each calendar year or for a part of the calendar year.

(6) The report shall be forwarded to the European Commission pursuant to the State Aid Act.

Section VI.

Recovery of unlawfully received State aid (New - SG 62 of 2016 (*))

Art. 28j. (New - SG 62 of 2016 (*)) (1) Failure to comply with the requirements of Regulation (EU) â„– 651/2014, the Employment Promotion Act and these Regulations, the recipient shall restore the full amount of the funds provided under the contract under Art. 30b of EPA with the legal interest from the date of the aid granted until the final repayment.

(2) The Employment Agency shall send a formal invitation for voluntary execution of the obligation within 14 days of receipt of the invitation.

(3) In the invitation for voluntary execution shall be stated the amount of tax due, the deadline for its restoration, data on the bank account in which to be restored, the order in which the Employment Agency be notified of the voluntary recovery, as well as the actions of enforcement which will be taken after expiry of the deadline for voluntary execution.

(4) Should the recipient fail to fulfill its obligation voluntarily, within 10 working days of expiry of the deadline for voluntary execution of the obligation the Employment Agency shall inform the National Revenue Agency for collection of the claim.

Chapter ten.

CONDITIONS AND ORDER FOR INCLUDING IN PROGRAMMES AND FOR USING OF PREFERENCES FROM MEASURES FOR EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING AND FOR VALIDATION OF PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND COMPETENCES (TITLE, SUPPL. â€“ SG, 6/23, EFFECTIVE FROM 20.01.2023)

Section I.

General provisions

Art. 29. (1) (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008; amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010; amend. - SG 87/13, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The resources for employment and training of Art. 36, 46, 46a, 50, 51, 55c, 55d and 55e of EPA shall be provided to employers and institutions engaged in adult education or vocational guidance in employment, vocational guidance and training of unemployed persons directed by a division of the Employment Agency, meeting the conditions for inclusion.

(2) The resources of para 1 shall be conceded on the basis of:

1. (amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006, suppl. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) a written announcement in the form as per Art. 17, Para 1 by the employer about free jobs, submitted on paper or electronically;

2. (amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006, revoked - SG 84/17)

3. (amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) concluded written contract between the employer and the Employment Agency represented by its Executive Director or an official authorized by him/her;

4. (amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008; amend. â€“ SG 26/12; suppl. - SG 87/13, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, repealed - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024)

5. (amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010; amend. - SG 87/13, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) an official verification of the circumstances, that the employer/institutions engaged in adult education or vocational guidance, have no public obligations due, except for obligations under acts not entered into force, as well as rescheduled, delayed or secured obligations, no obligations arising from non-performance of contracts, measures and trainings and also of projects under the programmes

“Human Resources Development” and meets the requirements of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2023/2831;

6. (new “ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, revoked - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016)

7. (new “ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) a document copy attesting a registration under the European Eco-Management and Audit (EMAS) according to Art. 134 of the Environmental Protection Act and under Ordinance „– H-2 of 2 July 2012 on the procedures for registration, renewal of registration and control under the Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS) (SG 55 of 2012); implemented environmental management system according to the standards of BDS EN ISO 14001, EN ISO 14001 or ISO 14001; granted right to use the EU eco-marking pursuant to Art. 138 and 139 of the Environmental Protection Act on a product resulting of the primary economic activity of the employer “ in the cases of Art. 55e of the EPA;

8. (new “ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010; amend. “ SG 26/12) a copy of a guarantee of origin issued by the Sustainable Energy Development Agency under Ordinance No RD-16-1117 of 2011 on the Conditions and Order of Issuing, Transferring, Withdrawing and Recognising the Guarantees of Origin of Energy of Renewable Sources (SG 84/11), if carrying out economic activity in Sector D “Production and distribution of electric and heat energy and of gaseous fuels” from the approved lists of economic activities - in the cases of Art. 55f of the EPA.

9. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. “ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) an official verification of the circumstances, that the employer during the last 6 months was not the employer of unemployed persons, who will be appointed in the cases of Art. 36, para. 1, Art. 46, 46a, Art. 50, 55d and 55e of EPA;

10. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. “ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) an official verification on the basis of a written declaration by the employer/institution carrying out adult education or vocational guidance for the received de minimis and State aid - when granting funds in the form of de minimis aid schemes;

11. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) a written declaration by the employer/institution carrying out adult education or vocational guidance for state aid received in connection with the same eligible costs - when granting funds on Art. 51 of EPA;

12. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. “ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) relevant documents for the enterprise, reflecting the allocation of capital in case that they are not accessible officially, for enterprises, in providing de minimis or State aid:

a) book for shareholders - applicable to public companies with shares by name;
b) update for the allocation of capital - applicable to public companies;
c) partnership contract - applicable to limited liability companies, sole limited liability companies (founding act), general partnerships and limited partnerships;
d) book of shareholders and the Statute - applicable to limited partnerships with shares;
e) (amend. “ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) a members’™ book - applicable to cooperatives;

13. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, revoked - SG 84/17)

14. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) a written request for referral of unemployed persons to be included in training programs for employment and training and incentives.

(3) (amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 84/17, repealed â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023)

(4) The resources of para 1 shall be paid or restored according to the amounts, determined in the National action plan for employment for the respective calendar year and the actually worked time during the month for each person, hired with legal relation of employment.

(5) (New - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The amount of funds for each individual group in a disadvantaged position on the labor market under Art. 36 of the EPA is determined in the National Employment Action Plan for the relevant year according to the relative share of the individual group from the average monthly number of registered unemployed persons in a disadvantaged position on the labor market for the nine months of the previous year.

(6) (New - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) After one month has passed since the procedure under Art. 50, para. 3 in connection with the implementation of Art. 36 of the EPA, employers' requests are approved in the order they are received, until the unused funds are exhausted in the relevant territorial division of the Employment Agency.

(7) (Prev. para 5 - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The indemnification for not used basic annual leave under Art. 224 of the Labour Code shall be for the account of the employer.

(8) (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008; amend. - SG 87/13, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, prev. para 6 - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Funds for subsidized employment, training of adults and validation of professional knowledge, skills and competences shall be provided to employers, unemployed persons, training institutions and institutions under Art. 9, Para. 1, item 1 of the Act on Vocational Education and Training, which conduct validation, according to the contract under Art. 30b of the EPA.

(9) (Prev. para 7 - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The realisation of programmes and measures by a division of the Employment Agency for the respective month shall be implemented through financing from:

1. the Employment Agency;
2. (amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) the budget of the state public insurance;
3. other organisations;
4. (new â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) European Union funds;
5. (new â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) international funds.

(10) (New â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010; amend. and suppl. â€“ SG 26/12, prev. para 8 - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The employers carrying out economic activity of Sector E â€œSupply of waters; sewerage services, waste management and restorationâ€• , Sector D â€œProduction and distribution of electric and heat energy and of gaseous fuelsâ€• and Sector R: Sports, Culture and Entertainment from the approved lists of economic activities shall not file a document under Para 2, Item 7 â€“ in the cases of Art. 55e of the EPA.

Art. 30. (1) (Amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The executive director of the Employment Agency shall approve models of written contracts under Art. 30b, para 1 of EPA, which are concluded between the Employment Agency represented by its Executive Director or an official authorized by him/her and:

1. the unemployed person;
2. the employer;
3. (amend. â€“ SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006) the training institution.

4. (new - SG 42/06, in force from 23.05.2006; amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, revoked - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016)

5. (new â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) the Ministry of Justice through the General Directorate "Enforcement of sentences" and/or its territorial units;

6. (new â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) the licensed institution implementing vocational guidance.

7. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) a person under Art. 27, Para. 2, item 2 of EPA;

8. (new â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) institution under Art. 9, Para. 1, item 1 of the Act on Vocational Education and Training, which conducts validation of professional knowledge, skills and competences.

(2) The contract of para 1, items 1 and 3 shall be concluded for the term of activity of the respective preference under EPA or for the term, regulated in a programme under Art. 31 of EPA.

(3) (Amend. - SG 87/13) The contract of para 1, item 2 shall be concluded for the term of activity of the respective preference under EPA and for the term of Art. 56, para 3 of EPA or for the term, regulated in a programme under Art. 31 of EPA.

(4) At change of the conditions in the contract an addition (annex) to the contract shall be concluded;

(5) At hiring of unemployed persons with employment contract under programmes and measures with incomplete (by hour) working time the extent of the remuneration shall be determined according to the lawfully established working hours for the respective month.

(6) At combining of employment with part working time and literacy in a programme for subsidised employment the persons shall receive remuneration for the actually worked out time in hours and scholarship for literacy in extent, determined every year with the National action plan for employment.

(7) (Suppl. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) The conceding of resources under programmes and measures for employment and training and validation of professional knowledge, skills and competence shall be implemented pursuant to a contract under Art. 30b, Para. 1 of EPA in extent, determined every year with the National action plan for employment, till the depletion of the defined resources by the order of Art. 27.

Section II.

Company employment (Repealed - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024)

Art. 31. (Repealed - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024)

Section III.

Programmes and measures for transition from passive to active measures

Art. 32. (amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. - SG 42/06, in force from 23.05.2006, revoked - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016)

Art. 33. (amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006, revoked - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016)

Art. 34. (1) (amend. - SG 42/06, in force from 23.05.2006) The persons registered as unemployed in the subunits of the Employment Agency and directed to be presented before an employer outside the borders of the populated place or directed and started job outside the borders of the populated place shall use funds referred to in Art. 42, para 2 of EPA.

(2) The funds under Art. 42 of EPA shall be with the purpose for:

1. daily transport expenses to the place of work and back;
2. Transport expenses for appearing before the employer for hiring at work.

(3) (Suppl. - SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) The funds under Para 2, item 1 shall be paid to the persons monthly for a previous month, on the base of:

1. (amend. - SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, suppl. - SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) a written application-declaration;
2. concluded contract under Art. 30b, Para 1, item 1 of EPA, to which within a determined period by the parties shall be attached:
 - a) (amend. - SG 84/17, repealed - SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023);
 - b) (amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) evidence of made transport expenses - travel documents.
3. (new - SG, 6/23, effective from 20.01.2023) data from official checks in the information system of the National Revenue Agency for presence of a valid employment contract and number of days, worked.

(4) The funds under Para 2, item 2 shall be paid to the persons at once, on the base of:

1. (amend. - SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, suppl. - SG, 6/23, effective from 20.01.2023) a written application-declaration;
2. fragment of the directing letter, containing information about the results of the directing;
3. (amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) evidence of made transport expenses - travel documents.

Art. 34a. (New - SG 84/17) (1) The sums under Art. 42, Para. 3 of the EPA may be used by persons, registered as unemployed in the divisions of the Employment Agency including young people from specialized institutions or using social services in the residential community, who have graduated, when they simultaneously meet the following conditions:

1. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) they are directed by the territorial division of the Employment Agency for employment in a settlement located more than 50 km from the settlement at their current address;
2. they change their current/permanent address in the settlement at the place of work within the term under Art. 99, Para. 1 of the Civil Registration Act;
3. they do not have a residential property in the settlement where they are hired - for persons who will be granted sums for paying rent;
4. (amend. - SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019) have not transferred ownership of a residential property in the settlement in which they are hired, during the preceding 24 months - for persons who will be granted sums for paying rent.

(2) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The unemployed person shall submit an application for use of the funds under Art. 42, para. 3 of the Employment Promotion Act in the territorial division of the Employment Agency in whose territory the workplace for which he/she is approved.

(3) The person shall declare the circumstances under para. 1, item 2, 3 and 4 with a written declaration and shall be held criminally liable for the correctness of the data.

(4) The contract under Art. 30b, Para. 1, item 1 of the EPA shall be concluded within one month from the submitting of the application under para. 2.

(5) (Repealed – SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023)

(6) The sums are paid in the month following the one to which they refer after submission of documents for expenses incurred for a cr che, kindergarten, Internet use or payments of rent in the settlement at the place of work.

(7) The payment of sums shall be suspended upon termination of the employment contract.

Art. 35. (Amend. – SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 84/17, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The payment of the resources of Art. 42, para. 2 of EPA shall be implemented by the Employment Agency via the territorial division of the Employment Agency on a bank account specified by the unemployed person.

Art. 36. (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 84/17, suppl. – SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) Upon termination of the employment relationship at the initiative of the person within the term of the concluded contract under Art. 30b, Para. 1, item 1 of the EPA, it shall refund the received sums under Art. 34, Para. 2, item 1 and Art. 34a, except for the cases under Art. 325, Para. 1, item 8 and Art. 327, Para. 1, item 2 of the Labour Code or when starting another job.

Art. 36a. (New - SG 42/06, in force from 23.05.2006, revoked - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016)

Art. 37. (Repealed - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024)

Art. 37a. (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) (1) Every year, in the National Action Plan for Employment shall be determined the amounts for supported employment under Art. 30a, para. 1, item 23 of EPA and also the number of unemployed people with disabilities or of other disadvantaged groups in the labour market, for whom these amounts will be provided.

(2) The Employment Agency shall conduct a selection process for contractors of the measure under Art. 43a of EPA pursuant to the Public Procurement Act. In the procedure may participate persons under Art. 27, para. 2, item 2 of EPA registered to provide joint services of Art. 26, item 1, 2, 4 and 5 of EPA.

(3) The contracts with the contractors under par. 2 shall be concluded for a period of two years.

(4) For every unemployed person under par. 1 who has been hired on a non-subsidized job for a period not shorter than 12 months, the contractors shall be provided with funds in the amount specified in the National Action Plan on Employment for the respective year.

(5) Amounts for Supported Employment shall be paid in two parts - until the end of the first month after the end of the 12th month from the conclusion of the employment contract with the person, in the amounts specified in the National Action Plan on Employment.

Section III "a".

Work with economically inactive persons (New – SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023)

Art. 37b. (New â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) (1) To establish contact with economically inactive persons, the territorial divisions of the Employment Agency shall use information from the electronic register under Art. 43c, Para. 1 of the EPA.

(2) Economically inactive persons, with whom contact has been established shall be provided with information, counseling, guidance for independent job search or registration in a territorial division of the Employment Agency.

(3) Information on the activities, carried out under Para. 2 shall be entered in the electronic register under Art. 43c, Para. 1 of the EPA for each person, with whom contact has been established.

Art. 37c. (New â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) (1) The activities with the economically inactive persons shall be carried out by the territorial divisions of the Employment Agency, together with the regional employment authorities under Art. 9, Para. 1 of the EPA.

(2) Specific activities for working with economically inactive persons, tailored to the specifics of the region and the needs of the persons, shall be included in cooperation agreements, concluded at the local level between the territorial divisions of the Employment Agency and the regional employment authorities under Art. 9, Para. 1 of the EPA.

(3) For the implementation of the activities, included in the agreements under Para. 2, interdepartmental teams shall be created with the participation of representatives of the territorial divisions of the Employment Agency and of the regional employment authorities under Art. 9, Para. 1 of the EPA.

Section IV. Programmes and measures for training

Art. 38. An employer, who uses the preference of Art. 44 of EPA shall preserve the employment of the persons for a term not shorter than 6 months after the end of the training.

Art. 39. (Revoked - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016)

Art. 39a. (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) (1) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) An employer who wishes to use preference under Art. 46a of EPA, shall file in the territorial division of the Employment Agency a request for job opening for training through work (dual system of training) of the unemployed. A copy is appended to the request of a contract with an educational institution with which partners will conduct training through work (dual system of training).

(2) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The territorial division of the Employment Agency shall refer the unemployed persons who meet the requirements for enrollment criteria announced by the training institutions to participate in the selection procedure under the terms and conditions of Ordinance â„– 1 on the terms and conditions for training through work (dual training) (SG 70 of 2015).

(3) (Amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) Means of Art. 46a Para. 1 of EPA shall be provided to the employer for each person, with which a contract is concluded under Art. 230, para. 1 of the LC. The funds shall be provided for the duration of the contract, but for not more than 18 months.

(4) (Amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) For each person involved in training through work (dual system of training), for the training institution in partnership with which training is being conducted, funds shall be provided in the amount specified in the National Action Plan on Employment for the respective year. The funds shall be provided for the

period of training in the profession and the specialty according to a Framework Programme under Art. 10 of the Vocational Education and Training Act, but for no longer than 18 months.

Section V. Encouraging entrepreneurship

Art. 40. (1) (Amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The unemployed person, who wishes to use the preferences of Art. 47, para 1 of EPA, shall submit a written application to the territorial division of the Employment Agency with attached business project for the activity.

(2) The persons, implementing economic activity within the approved business project, shall be registered according to the legislation in effect.

(3) The unemployed persons, wishing to use the encouraging measure of art. 47, para 1 of EPA, can present joint project for implementing of common economic activity, in which is determined the distribution of the sources of financing of the activity of each person.

(4) When the persons of para 3 are members of a family, the registration of the economic activity can be implemented only one member of the family. In this case the person, registered economic activity, shall conclude employment contract with the other member of the family.

(5) The relations between the persons of Art. 47, para 4 of EPA shall be provided with employment contract, which is concluded for not less than 4 months.

Art. 41. (1) (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, suppl. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20/01/2023, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The business project shall be considered by a commission in a body of: two representatives of the territorial division of the Employment Agency, a representative of the territorial division of the National insurance institute, representative of the organisation of the employers, representative of the respective branch organisation, one representative of a nationally representative organization of the officers and employees and representative of the municipality. When territorial division of the Employment Agency serves several municipalities/regions, a representative shall be designated of one of them to participate in the committee on a rotating basis. Representatives of other municipalities/regions may participate in an advisory capacity.

(2) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The commission of para 1 shall pronounce with a reasoned proposal to the director of the territorial division of the Employment Agency for approval or disapproval of the submitted business project.

(3) (Amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) The director of the territorial division of the Employment Agency shall issue a decision in accordance with the reasoned proposal of the commission under para 1 and the provided by the territorial unit of the National Insurance Institute certified copy of the disposition for release of a monetary compensation for unemployment and a reference for the paid to the moment compensations to the person within one month period from the submission of the application under Art. 40, Para 1.

(4) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) On the base of the decision under Para 3 by which the business project is approved, the director of the territorial division of the Employment Agency shall conclude a contract under Art. 30b, Para 1, item 1 of EPA.

(5) (Amend. - SG 42/06, in force from 12.07.2006, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The decision of the director of territorial division of the Employment Agency for

disapproval of the business project under Art. 47, Para 1 of EPA shall be issued, appealed and executed following the procedure of the Administrative Procedure Code.

(6) For the concluded contracts under Para 47, the National Insurance Institute shall transfer to the person the lump-sum under Art. 47 of the EPA.

Art. 42. (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. - SG 42/06, in force from 23.05.2006) (1) The persons under art. 48 of EPA shall have the right of credit for qualification in the subject of economic activity and/or its management in amount not more than what was determined in the National Action Plan for Employment for the respective year.

(2) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Within one month period from the end of the training the persons shall present document of successfully completed training and the respective documents evidencing the expenses at the territorial division of the Employment Agency.

(3) After presenting the documents referred to in para 2 and in case that the provided credit exceeds the paid resources for training, the persons shall reimburse the difference and 50 per cent of the paid resources for training.

(4) After presenting the documents referred to in para 2 and in case that the provided credit is equal or less than the paid resources for training, the persons shall reimburse 50 per cent of the received credit.

(5) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The persons referred to in art. 48 of EPA shall completely reimburse the received credit on the condition they have not presented at the territorial division of the Employment Agency the documents referred to in para 2.

Art. 43. (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006) The period of the contract under art. 41, para 4 may be prolonged in event of necessity with the remaining period of the labour contract with the unemployed person under Art. 47, Para 4 of EPA as well as to the deadline of the training of the persons under Art. 48 of EPA.

Art. 44 (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; revoked “ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010)

Art. 45. (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. - SG 42/06, in force from 23.05.2006) (1) (suppl. “ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008; amend. “ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, the words "or Art. 49a, Para 1" shall be deleted “ in force from 04.08.2013, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The unemployed persons who wish to use the encouraging measure under Art. 49, Para 1 of EPA shall submit an application in written at the territorial division of the Employment Agency with attached thereto business project of the activity which they shall perform and an affidavit that they have not exercised rights under art. 47, para 1, Art. 49, par. 1 of EPA in the preceding period of 3 years.

(2) (Amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The business project shall be considered by a commission in a body of: two representatives of territorial division of the Employment Agency, a representative of the organisation of the employers, representative of the respective branch organisation, one representative of a nationally representative organisation of the officers and employees and representative of the municipality. When territorial division of the Employment Agency serves several municipalities, a representative shall be designated of one of them to participate in the

committee on a rotating basis. Representatives of other municipalities may participate in an advisory capacity.

(3) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The commission of para 2 shall pronounce with a reasoned proposal to the director of the territorial division of the Employment Agency for approval or disapproval of the submitted business project and about the amount of the expenses under Art. 30a, Para 1, item 16 of EPA, which shall be reimbursed to the person.

(4) (Amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The director of the territorial division of the Employment Agency shall issue a decision in accordance with the reasoned proposal of the commission under para 2 by which he/she approves/disapproves the funding of the business project under Art. 30a, Para 1, item 16 of EPA within one month period from the submission of the application under Para 1.

(5) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) On the base of the decision under Para 4 by which the business project is approved, the director of the territorial division of the Employment Agency shall conclude a contract for providing the resources of expenses under Art. 30a, Para 1, item 16 of EPA.

(6) The resources under Art. 49, Para 1 of EPA shall be reimbursed to the persons within the period of the contract of Para 5 on the base of the following documents:

1. a contract under Para 5;
2. (amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) an application with attached documents evidencing the expenses;
3. affidavit that regarding the expenses made subsidies under another procedure were not used.

(7) (Amend. - SG 42/06, in force from 12.07.2006, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The decision of the director of the territorial division of the Employment Agency not to grant funds for expenses under Art. 30a, item 16 of EPA shall be issued, appealed and executed following the procedure of the Administrative Procedure Code.

(8) The persons referred to in Art. 49, par. 4 of EPA shall have the right of additional resources for training for acquiring professional qualification in the subject of activity and/or its management in amount up to the one determined with the National Action Plan for Employment for the respective year.

(9) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Within one month period from the end of the training the persons shall present document of successfully completed training and the respective documents evidencing the expenses at the territorial division of the Employment Agency.

(10) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The persons shall completely reimburse the received resources for training, on the condition they have not presented the document referred to in para 9 at the territorial division of the Employment Agency.

(11) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) After presenting at the territorial division of the Employment Agency the documents referred to in para 9 and in case the provided additional resources are different from the ones paid for the training, the persons shall reimburse the difference between the additionally provided resources and the price of education or the territorial division of the Employment Agency shall pay up to the price of training but not more than the amount determined in the National Action Plan for Employment.

(12) (New â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) The persons of Art. 49, par. 4 of EPA immediately after commencement of activity, shall have the right to additional monthly allocations in an amount not exceeding the one determined in the National action plan for employment for the respective year.

Art. 46. (Revoked â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010)

Art. 47. (Revoked â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010)

Art. 48. (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. - SG 42/06, in force from 23.05.2006; revoked â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010)

Art. 49. (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) The persons, who meet the conditions of Art. 47, para 1 of EPA and art. 49, para 1, shall choose to use the regime more favourable for them.

Art. 49a. (new - SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) (1) At temporary impossibility of the person/s to fulfil obligations under a contract of Art. 41, Para 4, Art. 45, Para 5 because of during decease and labour readjustment, certified with decision of the Territorial expert medical commission/ the National expert medical commission the term of the contract can be extended, additional conditions being also possible to be agreed on.

(2) (amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) At permanent impossibility to work, certified with decision of the Territorial expert medical commission/ the National expert medical commission, which leads to impossibility to be fulfilled the obligations under the contract or at death the received sum under art. 47, para 1 and art. 49, para 1 of EPA shall not be restored

Art. 49b. (New - SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006) (1) (suppl. - SG 42/06, in force from 23.05.2006; amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The persons of Art. 47, para 1 and Art. 49, para 1 of EPA shall submit at the territorial division of the Employment Agency a written application for restoring of the expenses for the used external consultant and/or accompanying services, to which shall be attached documents for the used services

(2) (amend. - SG 42/06, in force from 23.05.2006) The services referred to in para 1 shall include:

1. preparation of business project;
2. filling in of documents for credit;
3. filling in of tender and competition documentation;
4. preparin of market researches, analyses and strategies;
5. consultations on information technologies;
6. consultations on human resources;
7. consultations on accounting reporting and finance;
8. consultations on administrative-legal issues.

(3) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The limits under para 2 shall be determined by the Council for co-operation in compliance with the practice for concluded contracts for consulting services in the region, serviced by the territorial division of the Employment Agency.

Section VI.

Protection and preservation of employment

Art. 50. (1) (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. - SG 87/13, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) The employer may apply for receiving funds under programmes and encouraging measures for employment and training under the following conditions:

1. (suppl. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) to have no public obligations due, with the exception of obligations under acts not entered into force, as well as rescheduled, deferred or secured obligations;
2. be registered under the applicable law;
3. (amend. and suppl. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) no obligations for non-fulfillment of contracted programs, measures and training, as well as projects, realized under the Development of Human Resources programmes;
4. (repealed - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024)
5. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) to use funds under the measure of Art. 55d of EPA to provide documents evidencing the existence of circumstances of Art. 55d, Para 3 of EPA;
6. not to have been granted funds from other funding sources for the same costs, indicated in Art. 30a of the EPA;

(2) (Amend. SG 82/04; amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010; amend. â€“ SG 26/12; amend. - SG 87/13, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) The employee shall prove with written declaration the circumstances of Para. 1, item 6, with a written declaration, whereby being held criminally liable for their correctness.

(3) (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006, amend. - SG 84/17, amend. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The employer shall use the promotion measures for employment under Art. 17, Para 2, item 4 of the EPA with the exception of the measures under Art. 46a, and Art. 55e by the following order:

1. (amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) the territorial division of the Employment Agency shall announce every month on the information board and on the webpage of the Employment Agency the promotion measures and the financial resources, for which contracts can be concluded with employers; the initial announcement of the promotion measures and financial resources that may be subject to contracts with employers shall not be later than three months from the decision of the Council of Ministers for adoption of the National Action Plan of Employment for the respective year;

2. (amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) in 7 working days term after the announcement of item 1 the employer shall submit at the territorial division of the Employment Agency application about the free working places according to model, approved by the executive director of the Employment Agency about the circumstances under para1;

3. employers who does not meet the conditions under para 1 shall not be admitted to selection;

4. (amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) in 3 working days term after the expiry of the term of item 2 the Council for co-operation shall select and evaluate employers who

have submitted applications, and shall offer the Director of the territorial division of the Employment Agency a list of employers with approved applications;

5. (suppl. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019) the selection and the assessment of the employers who have submitted applications shall be performed under the following criteria:

a) (amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) type of the undertaking according to the Small and Medium enterprises Act;

b) type of the main activity;

c) used encouraging measures for the previous 24 months;

d) execution of the obligations under previous contracts;

e) (new - SG 84/17) assured remuneration over the minimum insurable income for the respective position and economic activity;

6. the assessment of the separate criteria shall be performed under conditions and parameters as defined by a methodology approved by an order of the Minister of Labour and Social Policy;

7. (amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) the list of the employers with approved applications shall be put on the information board of the territorial division of the Employment Agency not later than 7 working days after the expiry of the term of item 2;

8. (new â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) within 10 working days after the term under item 7 the territorial division of the Employment Agency shall make an assessment of the eligibility / compliance of the applicant for minimum / state aid; the list of approved / eligible employers shall be announced on the information wall of the territorial division of the Employment Agency;

9. (previous item 8, amend. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) the director of the territorial division of the Employment Agency shall inform in writing the Council for co-operation about the concluded contracts with employers;

10. (amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008; amend. â€“ SG 26/12; amend. - SG 87/13, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, previous item 9, amend. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019, repealed - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024)

11. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, previous item 10, amend. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019) funds for the hired persons under the terms of Art. 51 of EPA shall be paid, if they meet the requirements of Art. 56, para. 8 of EPA.

(4) (new - SG 84/17, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The promotion measures under Art. 46a and Art. 55e EPA are used by employers in the following order:

1. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) the Labor Office Directorate publishes information on the information board and the Employment Agency's [website](#) on the financial support for promotional measures for which it can conclude contracts with employers;

2. the employer shall submit an application for a vacancy and use of the funds under item 1 in a form approved by the Executive Director of the Employment Agency and documents for the circumstances under Art. 50 para. 1;

3. applications submitted by employers who meet the conditions under Art. 50 para. 1, shall be approved in the order of their entry till the exhaustion of the funds under item 1;

4. (amend. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) within 10 working days from the submitting of the application, the territorial division of the Employment Agency shall carry out an assessment of the eligibility/compliance of the applicant for minimum assistance and notify the approved employers;

5. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) within the term under item 4 the approved employers shall be announced on the information board of the territorial division of the Employment Agency;

6. (amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) the territorial division of the Employment Agency shall conclude contracts within the limits of the funds under item 1 with the approved employers within 30 days from the submitting of the application.

(5) (New â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019) The assessment under Para. 3, item 8 and Para. 4, item 4 shall be carried out according to methodologies approved by the Executive Director of the Employment Agency.

Art. 50a. (New - SG 84/17) (1) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The territorial division of the Employment Agency publishes up-to-date information on the information board and on the Employment Agency's [website](#) on the unused financial resources for promotional measures for which it can conclude contracts with employers.

(2) Employers can use the promotional measures under Art. 50, Para. 4, items 2, 4, 5 and 6.

(3) Applications submitted by employers who meet the conditions of Art. 50, para. 1, shall be approved in the order of their entry till the exhaustion of the funds under para. 1.

Art. 51. (1) (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008; amend. and suppl. - SG 87/13, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) An employer who uses preference under Art. 36, para 1 and Art. 50 of EPA can conclude contract by the order of the Labour Code consecutively with more than one unemployed person, directed by the territorial division of the Employment Agency for the announced working place within the term of the preference and the term of Art. 56, para 5 of EPA.

(2) (New â€“ SG 26/12, revoked - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016)

(3) (Prev. text of Para 02 â€“ SG 26/12; amend. - SG 87/13, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The employment contract with each following unemployed person, hired at the announced working place, shall be for term equal to the remainder term of the preference and the term of Art. 56, para 5 of EPA.

Art. 52. (1) (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) An employer, who has not ensured employment to unemployed person at the working places of Art. 36, para 1 and Art. 50 of EPA during the period of subsidising of the respective promotion measure of EPA and for additional period, equal to the period of subsidising, shall restore then received sums for the respective promotion measure with the lawful interest.

(2) New â€“ SG 26/12) An employer who has failed to provide employment of unemployed persons under Art. 55e of the EPA within the subsidizing period shall refund the received promotion measure amounts together with the legal interested.

(3) (Prev. text of Para 02 â€“ SG 26/12) An employer, who terminates unilaterally the legal relation of employment before the expiry of the term under the promotion measure and the additional period of para 1 due to reasons, which are not connected with guilty not fulfilment of the labour obligations, shall restore the received resources with the lawful interest.

(4) (Amend. - SG 42/06, in force from 23.05.2006; prev. text of Para 03, amend. â€“ SG 26/12; amend. - SG 87/13, revoked - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016)

(5) (Prev. text of Para 04, amend. â€“ SG 26/12; amend. - SG 87/13, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The sums of para 1 and

2 shall be also not restored at objective impossibility of the territorial division of the Employment Agency to direct to the freed working place other appropriate unemployed person within the defined term of the promotion measure or the term of Art. 56, para 5 of EPA.

(6) (Prev. text of Para 05, amend. â€“ SG 26/12; revoked - SG 87/13)

Art. 52a. (New â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) An employer who is granted funds from other sources of funding of the same costs indicated in Art. 30a of the EPA shall refund the amounts received for the respective programme, promotion measure or training.

Art. 53. (Revoked â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008)

Art. 53a. (New â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) (1) An employer, using the preference of Art. 57a of EPA, shall submit an application to the territorial unit of Employment Agency, with attached documents thereto, evidencing that he/she provides on a daily basis organized transport to a distance of up to 100 km to hired workers and employees, residing outside the borders of the settlement at the place of work.

(2) The application of par. 1 with the attached documents shall be subject to consideration and approval by the Cooperation Council.

Chapter eleven.

TRAINING OF ADULTS, VALIDATION OF PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND COMPETENCE, AND VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE (TITLE AMEND. â€“ SG 60/08, IN FORCE FROM 04.07.2008, AMEND. â€“ SG, 6/23, IN FORCE FROM 20.01.2023)

Section I.

Training of adults (Title amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008)

Art. 54. (Suppl. - SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) (1) Training of adults and vocational guidance shall be implemented according to the provisions of chapter seven of EPA.

(2) The following principles shall be applied in vocational guidance and in training of adults:

1. freedom of the choice of profession, kind and form of training;
2. free and equal access to training;
3. conformity of the training with the needs of employers for manpower, the status of the labour market and the individual abilities of the persons.

Art. 55. (Revoked - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016)

Art. 56. (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; revoked â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008)

Art. 57. (1) Investigation of the demand on the labour market for qualified manpower can be assigned by the order of the Public Procurement Act.

(2) (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019) With the National action plan for employment resources shall be set for investigating

the needs of employers for qualified manpower, the results from the investigation being used for planning of training of adults, organised by the Employment Agency.

Art. 58. (1) (Revoked â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008)

(2) The training of persons, provided in programmes of chapter six, section II of EPA, shall be implemented under conditions and by the order of the Rules as well as by the order of the respective programme.

Art. 58a. (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, repealed - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024)

Section II.

Training of adults, validation of professional knowledge, skills and competence and vocational guidance, organized by the Employment Agency (Title amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023)

Art. 59. (1) (revoked â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008)

(2) (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) The training of adults shall be implemented for acquisition of knowledge and skills, necessary for taking announced free working places, for satisfying of future needs of the labour market for qualified manpower and for preserving of the employment of employed persons.

(3) (New â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019) When planning adult training organized by the Employment Agency to meet future labour market needs from a qualified workforce, the information provided by the employment commissions to the Regional Development Councils pursuant to Art. 7a shall be used.

(4) (Amend. SG 82/04, amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, previous Para. 3, suppl. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019) The subunits of the Employment Agency shall conclude contracts with training institutions, with the Ministry of Justice though General Directorate "Enforcement of sentences" and/or its territorial units, with employers and with the unemployed persons.

(5) (New - SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, previous Para. 4 â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The territorial division of the Employment Agency shall perform individual and/or group motivational sessions of the unemployed to promote active attitude on the labour market.

Art. 60. (Amend. SG 82/04; amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008; revoked â€“ SG 26/12)

Art. 61. (Revoked â€“ SG 82/04)

Note: Decree No 249 of September 10th, 2004 for adopting Ordinance for awarding small public procurements (Prom. SG 84/04) provides amendments to the text of this article. However, this article was completely revoked by Decree No 244 of September 13th, 2004 for

amendment and supplement of the Rules on Implementation of the Employment Promotion Act (SG 82/04).

Art. 62. (1) (Amend. SG 82/04; amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) Divisions of the Employment Agency may organize training of unemployed persons without a job placement secured beforehand only in professions from the list of professions, for which vocational training of unemployed persons is held without a secured job placement, approved by an order of the Minister of Labour and Social Policy.

(2) (Revoked - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016)

(3) (Amend. SG 82/04, amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006, revoked, SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006)

(4) (New â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) The Employment Agency shall finance training of persons, servicing the sentence of "restraint of liberty" without preliminary ensured job upon a request of the Ministry of Justice through General Directorate "Enforcement of Sentences".

Art. 63. (Amend. SG 82/04, amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) (1) (amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) The employer has right to nominate a training institution, meeting the requirements of EPA or to require the unit of the Employment Agency to organise training for acquiring of professional qualification or key competences of unemployed persons and employed persons of Art. 63, Para. 1, item 1 and 3 of EPA with regard to protection of employment under the following conditions:

1. (suppl. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) there are no public obligations due, except for obligations under acts not entered into force, as well as rescheduled, delayed or secured obligations;

2. (amend. - SG 87/13, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) to meet the requirements of Chapter Nine "A";

3. to be registered in compliance with the applicable laws;

4. (new â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) lack of duties for non-performance of concluded contracts under programmes, measures and trainings and projects under the "Human Resources Development" programmes;

5. (new â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) not having been granted funds from other funding sources for the same costs, indicated in Art. 30a of the EPA.

6. (prev. text of Item 04 â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) to provide or to keep the employment of all successfully completed persons for a period of not less than 6 months after the accomplishment of the training; in case of training for acquisition of professional qualification the employer shall have to provide or to keep the employment for the particular work place, for which the person has been enrolled for training.

(2) (Amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) The employer may prove by a written declaration the circumstances under par. 1, item 1, 2, 5 and 5, whereby being held criminally liable for their correctness.

(3) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The employer shall submit to the territorial division of the Employment Agency an application for training in a form, approved by the Executive Director of Employment Agency, and declarations and documents of the circumstances of par. 1.

(4) (Amend. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Within 10 working days after the filing of the application under ParĐ°. 3, the

territorial division of the Employment Agency shall make an assessment of the eligibility of the employer for the allocation of funds in the form of minimal assistance under the methodology as per Art. 28c, Para. 11.

(5) (Amend. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Within the term under Para. 4 the list of approved employers shall be announced on the information desk of the territorial division of the Employment Agency.

(6) The relationships between the employer and the unit of Employment Agency shall be regulated by a contract.

(7) (Amend. â€“ SG 3/19, in force from 08.01.2019, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The Director of the territorial division of the Employment Agency shall inform in writing the Cooperation Council about the concluded contracts with employers.

(8) The Employment Agency shall finance the training up to the approved maximum amount of the resources for training per person, determined by the National action plan for employment for the respective year.

(9) (Amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) Financing of training of person in enterprises under Art. 63, Para. 1, item 3 of EPA shall be carried out with the equal share of the Employment Agency and the employer. Training of person in enterprises fully supported by the budget shall not be financed.

Art. 64. (Amend. SG 82/04; revoked â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008)

Art. 65. (Revoked, SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006)

Art. 66. (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006, revoked, SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006)

Art. 67. (1) (Amend. and suppl. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) The employer shall have right to implement selection of unemployed persons, who are to be included in training for acquiring of professional qualification or key competences, necessary for taking concrete working places, announced by him.

(2) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) In the cases, when the employer does not exercise his right of para 1 the selection shall be implemented by the territorial division of the Employment Agency.

Art. 68. (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) During the period of conducting of the training Employment Agency and its territorial units shall exercise control for the fulfilment of the undertaken contractual obligations.

Art. 69. (1) (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 84/17) For participation in training of adults according to Art. 66, par. 3 of EPA the Employment Agency units shall pay funds for scholarship, transport and accommodation expenses on the basis of document, issued by the training institution, certifying the days of attending of classes.

(2) (Amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) The scholarship shall be paid by the division of the Employment Agency monthly based on the document certifying the days of attendance in classes, issued by the training institution.

(3) (Revoked â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008).

(4) (New â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, amend. - SG 84/17) Employment Agency units shall provide funds for accommodation and transport expenses to trained unemployed persons, provided that the training is carried out in another settlement, different from personsâ€™ residence.

(5) (New â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) In case the daily transport expenses of the trained person are less than the daily accommodation expenses, Employment Agency units, in consideration of the training schedule, may cover only the daily transport expenses.

(6) (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Daily transport costs of trainees incurred for travel up to 50 km (inclusive) are paid by the territorial division of the Employment Agency in an amount determined in the National Employment Action Plan for the relevant year. Daily transport costs of trainees incurred for traveling over 50 km are paid by the territorial division of the Employment Agency on the basis of documents proving the costs incurred for public transport.

(7) (New - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) The resources for accommodation expenses of the unemployed trainees shall be paid by the division of the Employment Agency for the whole period, during which the persons are accommodated in a hostel.

(8) (New â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008, prev. Para. 6, amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) Employment Agency shall conclude a contract for group risk insurance of trained persons for the time of training.

Art. 70. (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006, revoked, SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006)

Art. 71. (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) (1) The vocational guidance shall be carried out in order to assist the persons in compliance with their personal profile and individual characteristics in their choice of profession, appropriate training and career development.

(2) The vocational guidance shall be conducted in individual and group forms.

(3) The vocational guidance shall be implemented at the units of the Employment Agency and/or at the information â€“ consultation units thereof, and also in the licensed institutions following the provisions of the Vocational Education and Training Act (VETA).

(4) The vocational guidance may be carried out by professions of all fields of the economic and the social sphere.

(5) (Amend. - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) The units of the Employment Agency shall provide vocational guidance to employed and trained, wishing to work in their time free from studying.

(6) Employment Agency units shall organize vocational guidance to unemployed persons or conclude a contract for provision of vocational guidance by a licensed institution following the provisions of the VETA.

(7) (Amend. - SG 87/13) Employment Agency units shall carry out selection of a licensed institution for provision of vocational guidance pursuant to the provisions of the Public Procurement Act.

(8) Vocational guidance in licensed institutions pursuant to the provisions of VETA of unemployed persons, directed by Employment Agency units, shall be financed from the funds for active policy in an amount, determined in the National action plan for employment for the respective year.

(9) The amounts of para. 8 shall be allocated only once for a period of two years for the same unemployed person.

(10) (New â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) The Employment Agency and its territorial divisions shall exercise control of the performance of the duties under the concluded contracts for professional orientation.

Art. 72. (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) Vocational guidance within the frame of group activities may also include presentation of employers and training institutions activities, related to particular professions.

Art. 73. The division of the Employment Agency shall inform, consult and organise through directing the unemployed persons to include them in training at the centres for professional training at the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy.

Art. 74. (Amend., SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006; amend. â€“ SG 98/10, in force from 14.12.2010) The division of the Employment Agency shall co-operate by informing, consulting and directing for including in training with the persons of art. 48 and 49 of EPA.

Art. 75. (Amend. â€“ SG 60/08, in force from 04.07.2008) (1) Vocational guidance shall be provided using specialized information materials and technical facilities.

(2) The Employment Agency may organise the development of specialised information materials for vocational guidance.

Art. 76. (New â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) The divisions of the Employment Agency shall inform, consult and direct unemployed persons to procedures for validation of professional knowledge, skills and competences, in order to facilitate access of persons to training for the acquisition of a qualification by profession and to the labor market.

Art. 77. (New â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) The Employment Agency shall publish on its website a list of the institutions under Art. 9, Para. 1, item 1 of the Vocational Education and Training Axt, which have the right to perform validation of professional knowledge, skills and competences in professions from the List of Professions for Vocational Education and Training under Art. 6 of the Vocational Education and Training Act.

Art. 78. (New â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) (1) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Unemployed persons, who wish to participate in a procedure for validation of professional knowledge, skills and competences shall submit to the territorial division of the Employment Agency, where they are registered, an application in a form, approved by the Executive director of the Employment Agency.

(2) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The territorial division of the Employment Agency shall direct the unemployed person for inclusion in a validation procedure in an institution of his choice from the list under Art. 77, with which the person concluded a contract for validation of professional knowledge, skills and competences.

Art. 79. New â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) (1) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) For participation in a validation procedure, the territorial division of the Employment Agency shall pay the unemployed persons funds for a scholarship, transport and accommodation expenses on the basis of a document, certifying the days of attendance, issued by the institution, carrying out validation of professional knowledge, skills and competences.

(2) Funds for transport and accommodation expenses shall be paid when the procedure for validation of professional knowledge, skills and competences takes place in a settlement, other than the place of residence of the unemployed persons.

(3) When the daily transport costs of the unemployed persons, included in a procedure for validation of professional knowledge, skills and competences are less than the daily accommodation costs, only the daily transport costs shall be paid.

(4) (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) The transport costs of unemployed persons included in a procedure for validation of professional knowledge, skills and competences incurred for a journey up to 50 km (incl.), are paid by the territorial division of the Employment Agency in an amount determined in the National Employment Action Plan for the relevant year. Daily transport costs of trainees incurred for traveling over 50 km are paid by the territorial division of the Employment Agency on the basis of documents proving the costs incurred for public transport.

(5) Funds for accommodation expenses of unemployed persons, included in a procedure for validation of professional knowledge, skills and competences shall be paid for the entire period of the procedure, during which the persons are accommodated in a dormitory.

Art. 80. (New â€“ SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023) (1) The institution, carrying out the procedure for validating of professional knowledge, skills and competences shall be paid funds up to the maximum amount, determined in the National Employment Action Plan for the relevant year, for each unemployed person, directed in accordance with Art. 78, Para. 2.

(2) The funds under Para. 1 shall be paid on the basis of a document, certifying the actual costs for establishing, documenting, evaluating and recognizing the person's experience, as well as for conducting the examinations for the acquisition of professional qualifications, prepared by the institution, implementing the procedure for validating professional knowledge, skills and competencies.

Additional provisions

§ 1. In the context of these Rules:

1. "Additional period, equal to the period of subsidising" is a period, equal to the term of the encouraging measure of EPA, which starts from the date of expiry of the term of the encouraging measure.

2. (revoked, SG 95/05, in force from 01.01.2006)

3. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) "Group" is a group of companies as defined in Annex I of Regulation (EU) â„– 651/2014

4. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) "Aid intensity" is the gross amount of the grant expressed as a percentage of the eligible costs before deduction of taxes or fees.

5. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) The "Undertaking" is any entity engaged in an economic activity, regardless of its legal status and the way it is financed, and irrespective of the location of the registered office and place of establishment.

6. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) "A single undertaking" are all undertakings which maintain among themselves at least some of the following type of relationships:

a) a given undertaking has the majority of the votes of the shareholders or partners in another undertaking;

b) a given undertaking has the right to appoint or remove the majority of the members of the administrative, management or supervisory body of another undertaking;

c) a given undertaking has the right to exercise a dominant influence over another undertaking by virtue of a contract concluded with that undertaking, or to a provision in its statutes or founding act;

d) a given undertaking which is a shareholder or partner in another undertaking, controls alone by virtue of an agreement with the rest of the shareholders or partners in that undertaking the majority of the votes of shareholders or partners in this undertaking.

Undertakings having any of the relationships referred to in letters "a" - "d" through one or more other undertakings shall also be considered as the single undertaking.

7. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) "Processing of agricultural products" means any operation performed on an agricultural product from which is also achieved an agricultural product, except for activities carried out on site in the farm which are necessary for preparing an animal or plant product for its first sale.

8. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) "Agricultural products" means products listed in Annex I to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), excluding the fisheries and aquaculture products included in the scope of Regulation (EC) No 1379/2013.

9. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) "Average number of staff" is the created and maintained employment rate for the respective financial year, determined according to the methodology for calculation of the size and average number of staff of the National Institute of statistics and reflected in the annual report on the activities under the Statistics Act, the Corporate Income Tax Act and the Income taxes on Natural Persons Act.

10. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) "Trade in agricultural products" means owning or displaying for sale, offering for sale, delivery or general marketing in any other way, except the first sale by the primary producer to a reseller or processor, as well as any activity of preparing a product for such first sale; the sale by a primary producer to end consumers shall be considered as trade, if it takes place in separate premises reserved for that purpose.

11. (new - SG 62/16, in force from 09.08.2016) "Eligible costs" of Art. 28g, para. 2 and 4 are the costs for: salaries; additional remuneration in the minimum amounts set out in the Labour Code and in the Rules on its implementation; due contribution payable by the employer to the "Pensions" fund, "Labour accident and occupational disease", fund "Sickness and Maternity" on the received, including accrued and unpaid, gross salary or non-accounted gross remuneration, including the remuneration under item 3 and 6, according to Art. 6, para. 3 of the Social Insurance Code, as well as for funds for additional mandatory pension insurance and the National Health Insurance Fund; due contribution payable by the employer to the "Unemployment" fund on the received, including accrued and unpaid, gross salary or non-accounted gross salary, including salary under item 3 and 6, according to Art. 6, para. 3 of the Code of Social Insurance.

12. (new - SG 84/17, amend. No SG, 6/23, in force from 20.01.2023, amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) "Employment Integration Agreement" is a part of the action plan, which includes proposals of the territorial division of the Employment Agency to a long-term unemployed person for the use of specific intermediary services and referral to services provided by other institutions to overcome individual barriers to labor market integration and defining responsibilities of the long-term unemployed related to the search and employment process.

13. (New - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) "Primary production of agricultural products" is the production of soil and livestock products listed in Annex I to the TFEU without carrying out any further operations that change the nature of these products.

14. (New - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) "Primary production of fishery and aquaculture products" means all operations related to fishing, breeding or rearing of aquatic organisms, as well as farm activities or operations on board which are necessary to prepare an animal or plant for first sale, including slicing, filleting or freezing, as well as the first sale to resellers or processors.

15. (New - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) "Fisheries and aquaculture products" are the products defined in Article 5, letters a) and b) of Regulation (EU) No. 1379/2013.

16. (New - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) "Processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products" means all operations, including handling, processing and conversion, carried out after the moment of landing ashore or collection in the case of aquaculture that leads to the production of a processed product as well as its distribution.

Transitional and concluding provisions

§ 2. The unemployed and the employers, concluded contracts before the regulation enters into force and using preferences under the conditions of EPA, shall continue to use them under the conditions of the contract.

§ 3. (Amend. - SG 26/24, in force from 26.03.2024) Unemployed and employers, who have submitted application for using of preferences by the order of EPA till the regulation enters into force, can use them after presenting the documents, pointed out in the regulation and observing the procedures by the order of the regulation.

§ 4. The regulation is approved pursuant to §8, para 1 of the transitional and concluding provisions of EPA.

§ 5. The fulfilment of the regulation shall be assigned to the Minister of Labour and Social Policy.

Additional provisions

**TO DECREE NO. 110 FROM 12 MAY 2006 FOR AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING
THE REGULATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EMPLOYMENT
PROMOTION ACT ADOPTED WITH DECREE NO. 131 OF THE COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS FROM 2003**

(PROM. â€“ SG 42/06, IN FORCE FROM 23.05.2006)

§ 16. In all places in the Regulation the words "the Law for the administrative procedure" shall be replaced with "the Administrative Procedure Code".

Concluding provisions

**TO DECREE NO. 110 FROM 12 MAY 2006 FOR AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING
THE REGULATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE EMPLOYMENT PROMOTION**

**ACT ADOPTED WITH DECREE NO. 131 OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS FROM
2003**

(PROM. â€“ SG 42/06, IN FORCE FROM 23.05.2006)

§ 17. The Decree shall enter into force from the day of its promulgation in the State Gazette except § 16 which shall enter into force from 12 July 2006.

Concluding provisions
TO DECREE NO. 148 FROM 27 JUNE 2008 FOR AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING
THE REGULATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE EMPLOYMENT PROMOTION
ACT ADOPTED WITH DECREE NO. 131 OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS FROM
2003

(PROM. â€“ SG 60/08, IN FORCE FROM 04.07.2008)

§ 50. The Decree shall enter into force from the day of its promulgation in the State Gazette.

Concluding provisions
DECREE NO. 291 OF 9 DECEMBER 2010 ON AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING
THE REGULATIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EMPLOYMENT
PROMOTION ACT ADOPTED BY DECREE NO. 131 OF THE COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS OF 2003

(PROM. â€“ SG 98/10, IN FORCE FROM 14.12.2010)

§ 32. The present Decree shall enter into force from the day of its promulgation in the State Gazette, except the provision of § 22, Item 1, Letter "b", which shall enter into force from 4 August 2013.

Transitional and concluding provisions
TO DECREE â„– 196 OF AUGUST 3, 2016, ON AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING
THE REGULATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EMPLOYMENT
PROMOTION ACT ADOPTED BY DECREE â„– 131 OF THE COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS IN 2003

(PROM. - SG 62/16, IN FORCE FROM 09.08.2016)

§ 44. In determining the amount of funding for regional programs for employment and training for each area in 2016 shall be used the data on the average monthly unemployment rate and the average monthly number of registered unemployed in the region in 2015.

§ 45. The provisions of Chapter Nine "a" shall apply for the period of validity of the Regulation (EU) â„– 1407/2013 and for the periods of validity of the regulations which amend, supplement or replace it.

§ 46. The provisions of Chapter Nine "b" shall apply for the period of validity of the Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014 and for the periods of validity of the regulations which amend, supplement or replace it.

§ 47. This Decree shall enter into force on the day of its promulgation in the State Gazette with the exception of § 19, which shall enter into force from the date of receipt of a final number of state aid schemes in the state aid registry of the European Commission.

Transitional and concluding provisions

TO DECREE No. 354 OF 31 DECEMBER 2018 AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE RULES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EMPLOYMENT PROMOTION ACT

(PROM. - SG 3 OF 2019, IN FORCE FROM 08.01.2019)

§ 11. Employment integration agreements shall be concluded with all long-term unemployed persons with registration in the Labour Office Directorate for more than 18 months until the end of 2019.

§ 12. The Decree shall enter into force on the day of its promulgation in the State Gazette.

Concluding provisions

TO DECREE No. 199 OF 17 JUNE 2021 AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE RULES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACT ON LABOUR MIGRATION AND LABOUR MOBILITY, ADOPTED BY DECREE No. 255 OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF 2016

(PROM. - SG 52/21, IN FORCE FROM 01.06.2021)

§ 26. The Decree shall enter into force on June 1, 2021.

Concluding provisions

TO DECREE No. 486 OF DECEMBER 22, 2022, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE RULES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EMPLOYMENT PROMOTION ACT, ADOPTED BY DECREE No. 131 OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF 2003

(PUBL. - SG, 6/23, IN FORCE FROM 20.01.2023)

§ 36. The Decree shall enter into force from the day of its promulgation in the State Gazette.

Concluding provisions

TO DECREE No. 61 OF 21 MARCH 2024 AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE RULES ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EMPLOYMENT PROMOTION ACT

(PROM. - SG 26/24, IN FORCE FROM 26.03.2024)

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§ 20. Everywhere in the rules, the words "Regulation (EU) No. 1407/2013" are replaced by "Regulation (EU) No. 2023/2831".

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§ 50. The decree enters into force from the day of its promulgation in the State Gazette.