



**THE COMPETITION COUNCIL HAS ISSUED A FORMAL OPINION ON THE
STATE AID SCHEME FOR MODERNIZING AND DEVELOPING THE AIR
TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE**

The Competition Council has issued a Formal opinion on the **State aid scheme "Financial support for modernizing and developing the air transport infrastructure"**. The scheme, initiated by the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, shall be enforced after receiving the approval from the European body.

This scheme creates a normative framework necessary to grant non-reimbursable funds to maximum 14 D category airports (airports with an annual traffic under 1 million passengers) in order to build up, modernize and develop the air transport infrastructure (terminals, runways, aprons, control towers and other facilities that directly support them).

The scheme's budget amounts approx. Euro 150 million, funds coming from the national budget as well as from European funds.

"Through this measure it is aimed to develop, on Romanian territory, under safety and efficiency conditions, an air transport infrastructure, for passengers as well as for freight, at European standards" has declared Mr. Bogdan Chirițoiu, President of the Competition Council.

The State aid scheme to be implemented until the end of 2015 is set up in accordance with the Community guidelines on financing of airports and start-up aid to airlines departing from regional airports.

The regional State aid scheme was set up in applying the major intervention field 2.4 – Modernizing and developing the air transport infrastructure, Priority Axis 2- "Modernizing and developing the national air transport infrastructure outside the priority axis TEN-T in order to create a lasting national transport system", within the Sectoral Operational Program "Transport" (POS T)".