



## PRESS RELEASE

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regarding the main short term indicators in August and during 1.I.-31.VIII.2003

**Industrial production** registered in August 2003 in comparison with August 2002 a growth of 5.9% under comparable conditions from the viewpoint of the working days number and a growth of 2.5% in absolute volume.

During 1.I.-31.VIII.2003, industrial production increased as against the same period of 2002 by 3.6% under comparable conditions and by 3.3% in absolute volume. In this period, it was registered a growth of 4.4% under comparable conditions in manufacturing and a growth of 6.4% in electric and thermal energy, gas and hot water production, transport and distribution.

On 31.VIII.2003, the value of stocks of finished products in industry was ROL 53716 billion current prices, representing 38.6% of August resources.

During 1.I.-31.VIII.2003, **the main resources of primary energy** amounted to 25179.3 thousand tons equivalent oil<sup>1)</sup>, of which 16098.5 thousand tons equivalent oil<sup>1)</sup> from domestic production.

The production of electric energy, achieved in this period accounted for 37.8 billion kWh, by 6.5% more than in the same period of the previous year. Electric energy obtained in classical thermo-power stations represented 64.8% of total production, by 13.1% more than during 1.I.-31.VIII.2002.

In **agriculture**, according to the current data of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forests, Waters and Environment, on September 29, 2003, the harvesting of the main autumn crops was carried out on 1060.3 thousand hectares for sunflower, 2218.7 thousand hectares for maize and sorghum and 211.2 thousand hectares for autumn potatoes.

Until this date, the ploughings for autumn sowings were carried out on 1414.2 thousand hectares.

The livestock, existent at the end of August 2003, in comparison with the same date of the previous year were by 8.3% higher for pigs, by 1.6% higher for sheep and goats and by 0.6% higher for cattle.

During 1.I.-31.VII.2003, **turnover volume of enterprises having as their main activity retail** (excepting trade of motor vehicles and motorcycles) was by 4.2% over the level of registered in the same period of 2002, a higher growth being obtained for the sales of non-food goods (+6.5%).

During 1.I.-31.VII.2003, **turnover volume of enterprises having as their main activity wholesale and retail, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, retail of fuels for motor vehicles**, was by 14.1% higher than in the same period of 2002, being determined by higher turnover volume obtained from trade of motor vehicles, motorcycles, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles (+20.3%) and from retail of fuels for motor vehicles (+9.0%).

In those seven months of 2003, **the activity of market services rendered to the population** pointed out a turnover of 4.7% higher than in the same period of the previous year, because of the growth for gambling and other recreative activities (+19.6%) and for cleaning, laundry and dyeing textiles and fur (+5.7%).

According to the data provided by the National Agency for Employment, **the number of unemployed registered** at the end of August 2003 was 619.2 thousands. In comparison with August 2002, the number of unemployed registered at the agencies for employment was by 196.3 thousand persons lower. Of total unemployed registered, women represented 43.4%.

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<sup>1)</sup> Conventional fuel with calorific power of 10.000 kcal/kg.

**Unemployment rate** registered in August 2003 was 6.6% in relation with total civil active population (6.9% in July 2003 and 8.7% in August 2002). In the same month, women unemployment rate was 5.9% (6.2% in July 2003 and 8.0% in August 2002).

Higher unemployment rates were registered in the following counties: Hunedoara (11.0%), Galați (10.8%), Brașov (10.7%) and Vaslui (10.0%). The lowest unemployment rates were noticed in the counties Bihor (2.3%), Satu Mare (2.8%), Timiș (3.4%), Arad (3.5%) and Bucharest Municipality (2.8%).