



## PRESS RELEASE

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### regarding the main short term economic indicators in September 2006 and during 1.I. – 30.IX.2006

In September and during 1.I – 30.IX.2006, economic activity is characterized by the further keeping of an upward trend, in comparison with the same period of 2005, this being registered in the last months. This trend points out the persistence of a climate consolidating the main economic indicators, mainly in the activities of construction, trade and retail, services as well as in industry.

This fact was determined by the favourable conditions generated by the low level registered by the inflation rate, the evolution of earnings, including real earning, as well as the relatively low level of unemployment.

Imports of goods further registered a rate exceeding the exports, resulting in the growth of commercial deficit, which practically had a constantly upward evolution.

### I. Synthesis of the evolution of main economic indicators in September and during 1.I. – 30.IX.2006

- %

	September 2006 as against:		1.I-30.IX.2006 as against 1.I-30.IX.2005
	August 2006	September 2005	
<b>Industrial production – total (unadjusted series)</b>	<b>106.5</b>	<b>106.7</b>	<b>107.2</b>
<b>- of which:</b>	100.6	99.0	103.4
Mining and quarrying	108.1	107.9	107.7
Manufacturing	91.3	99.5	105.5
Electric and thermal energy			
<b>Labour productivity in industry</b>	<b>107.5</b>	<b>110.2</b>	<b>111.0</b>
<b>Turnover - industry – total</b>	<b>103.8</b>	<b>101.0</b>	<b>105.1</b>
<b>Construction works</b>	<b>109.4</b>	<b>119.9</b>	<b>117.8</b>
<b>Turnover – retail <sup>1)</sup></b>	<b>90.3</b>	<b>122.0</b>	<b>124.8</b>
<b>Turnover – trade with motor vehicles <sup>2)</sup></b>	<b>88.4</b>	<b>116.4</b>	<b>119.6</b>
<b>FOB exports of goods</b>	<b>109.5</b>	<b>106.1</b>	<b>116.0</b>
<b>CIF imports of goods</b>	<b>100.9</b>	<b>118.8</b>	<b>124.5</b>
<b>Commercial deficit</b>	<b>87.9</b>	<b>152.5</b>	<b>145.6</b>
<b>Turnover – market services for the population</b>	<b>111.2</b>	<b>131.1</b>	<b>108.4</b>

<sup>1)</sup> Except trade with motor vehicles and motorcycles.

Growth rates for the main indicators in September 2006 as against September 2005 did not point out significant evolutions in comparison with August 2006 as against the same month of the previous year. It should be mentioned only the lower growth rates of exports of goods by 6.1% in September as against 7.8% in August 2006, respectively of import, by 18.8% as against 24.2%, and consequently the lower commercial deficit by 152.5% as compared to 160.7% registered in August.

It should be also pointed out the growth of turnover in the field of market services for the population by 31.1% in September 2006 as against September 2005, in comparison with the index under 100% (98.3%) registered in August 2006 as against August 2005.

A more dynamic evolution, generally a positive one was pointed out by the growth rates for the main indicators registered in September 2006 as against August 2006, in comparison with August as against July 2006. Therefore, industrial production which registered a growth of 6.5% in September as against August, exceeds by over 7 percentage points the index of the previous month which registered a decrease (99.4%) as against July 2006. The growth was mainly determined by the evolution of manufacturing production, its index being higher by almost 9 percentage points as compared to the previous month. On the contrary, in September 2006, the production of electric and thermal energy, gas and water was by 11.1 percentage points under the index registered in August as against July.

Derived indicator – labour productivity in industry – registered a growth by 7.8 percentage points (107.5% as against 99.7%).

The same trend is also registered by the dynamics of other indicators, such as: construction works, FOB export of goods, CIF import of goods, turnover in the field of market services for the population.

Exceptions from the mentioned positive evolutions are noticed for the indicators: turnover in retail (90.3% as against 107.3%) and turnover in trade with motor vehicles and retail of fuel for motor vehicles (88.4% as against 106.5%).

As a result of the evolution of the main short term economic indicators in September 2006, related to the same trend registered in the previous months too, the cumulated situation during I.I. – 30.IX.2006, as against the same period of 2005, is kept in the same limits, the only change to be pointed out regarded the turnover in the field of market services for the population, which registered a rate growth by about 3 percentage points as against during I.I. – 31.VIII.2006, in comparison with the same period of the previous year.

## **II. Sectoral evolutions**

**Industrial production registered a growth per total by 6.5%, in September 2006 as against August 2006**, due to the higher manufacturing production by 8.1%.

Regarding the evolution by broad industrial groups, the production growth per total was determined by 31.6% growth of production in capital goods industry, as well as of the production of road transport means which increased by 94.5% as against the previous month.

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<sup>2)</sup> *Comprise wholesale and retail trade, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, retail trade of fuel for motor vehicles.*

Growths between 10% and 25% were also registered in the following divisions of manufacturing: electric machinery and appliances (+22.1%), tobacco products (+20,9%), pulp, paper and paper products (+18.6%), radio, TV and communications equipment and apparatus (+17.5%), furniture and other industrial activities (+17.5%), leather goods and footwear (+11.7%).

Industrial production in September 2006 is higher than in September 2005 by 6.7%, this growth being sufficient to ensure **the keeping of the growth rate during 1.I – 30.IX.2006 as against the same period of the previous year (107.2%).**

In the first nine months of the year, **the main resources of primary energy** amounted to 31.3 million tons equivalent oil, increasing by 1.7% as against the same period of the previous year, as a result of domestic production growth by 0.8% and of import by 3.1%. This period, **final consumption of electric energy** was by 2.4% higher than in the same period of 2005 and public lighting and domestic consumption registered increases by 7.1%, respectively by 6.6%.

Registering a growth of about 20% (19.9%) in September 2006 as against the same month of the previous year, **construction works** further keep a rapid rate during the whole period since the beginning of the year, registering a certain growth trend (117.8 % in the first nine months as against 117.3% in eight months).

During 1.I – 30.IX.2006 it should be pointed out that a production rate higher than general average was registered, by construction type, in engineering (122.5%) and by structure elements in current repairs and maintenance works (122.7%) and in new construction (117.5%).

In September 2006, as compared to September 2005, **turnover obtained by enterprises having retail as main activity** (except trade with motor vehicles and motorcycles) was by 22.0% higher (+20.6% for food goods, beverages and tobacco and +23.0% for non-food goods).

During 1.I.-30.IX.2006, turnover volume was by 24.8% over the level registered during 1.I.-30.IX.2005, higher growths being obtained both fro sales of non-food goods (+22.1%) and for sales of food goods, beverages and tobacco (+28.2%).

In comparison with September 2005, turnover obtained in September 2006 by enterprises having as main activity **wholesale and retail trade, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, retail of fuel for motor vehicles** was by 16.4% higher, due to the growths registered mainly in trade and maintenance of motor vehicles (+25.4%).

Turnover volume registered during 1.I.-30.IX.2006 was by 19.6% higher than during 1.I.-30.IX.2005.

In September 2006 in comparison with the same month of 2005 the activity of **market services rendered to the population** registered a growth of turnover by 31.1%, and during 1.I.-30.IX.2006, turnover was by 8,4% higher than the level registered in the same period of 2005.

### III. Evolution of some social indicators in September 2006

	M.U.	Achieved	September 2006 in % as against:	
			August 2006	September 2005
Number of employees in the economy	thou persons	4608.5	99.9	101.2
Number of registered unemployed	thou persons	440.2	98.6	89.1
Gross nominal average earning	RON	1148	102.3	119.0
Net nominal average earning	RON	860	102.3	116.8
Consumer price index	%	-	100.05	105.48

In September 2006, **number of employees** was 4608.5 thou persons, by 6.8 thousands lower than in August 2006, the highest decreases being registered in clothing, hotels and restaurants, wood and wood products processing.

According to the data provided by the National Agency for Employment, **number of registered unemployed** at the end of September 2006 was 440.2 thousands. In comparison with September 2005, number of registered unemployed was by 53.6 thousands lower. In total registered unemployed, women represented 42.6 %.

In September 2006, **unemployment rate** was 5.0% related to total civil active population, decreasing as against September 2005 (5.6%). Female unemployment rate was by 0.9 percentage points lower than male one (4.5% as against 5.4%).

Higher unemployment rates were registered in the counties: Vaslui (9.8%), Gorj (8.8%), Mehedinți (8.7%), Ialomița (8.6%), Teleorman (7.7%). The lowest unemployment rates were registered in the counties: Timiș (2.0%), Ilfov (2.3%), Bihor (2.6%), Bistrița Năsăud (2.8%), Satu Mare (2.8%) as well as in Bucharest Municipality (2.6%).

September 2006 real earning index, calculated as ratio between net nominal average earning index and consumer price index, was 102.2% as against the previous month, by 110.7% as against the same month of 2005, reaching a lower level of under 7% in comparison with October 1990 (93.1%).