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PRESS RELEASE

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Evolution of main economic short term indicators in January 2007

I. Synthesis of evolution of main economic indicators

In January 2007

- %

	January 2007 as against:	
	December 2006	January 2006
Industrial production– total (unadjusted series)	98,4	104,9
- of which:		
Mining and quarrying	92,5	95,4
Manufacturing	99,2	106,9
Electric and thermal energy	97,1	94,9
Labour productivity in industry	98,9	110,3
Turnover - industry – total	96,9	133,1
Construction works (unadjusted series)	37,2	125,7
Turnover – retail trade ¹⁾ (unadjusted series)	73,2	123,0
Turnover – trade with motor vehicles ²⁾ (unadjusted series)	80,0	151,6
Turnover – market services for the population (unadjusted series)	70,3	114,1

In January 2007, main economic short term indicators registered significant decreases as against December 2006. In comparison with the same month of 2006, increases were registered for all the indicators.

II. Sectoral evolutions

Industrial production registered in January 2007 as against December 2006, a decrease per total by 1.6%, because of production decrease in all the sectors of activity: -7.5% in mining and quarrying, -2.9% in electric and thermal energy, gas and water and -0.8% in manufacturing. Although, the whole manufacturing diminished its activity volume, certain branches however registered increases, the most important being for leather goods and footwear (+47.9%), textiles (+24.7%), machinery and electric appliances (+23.9%), road transport means (+21.1%), radio, TV and communications equipment (+20.7%).

Concerning the evolution by broad industrial groups, the production decrease per total was mainly determined by production decrease by 6.3% in current use goods industry and by 4.2% in capital goods industry.

Industrial production in January 2007 was by 4.9% higher than in January 2006, due to the increases registered in durable goods industry (+13.4%), intermediate goods industry (+11.2%) and current use industry (+6.4%).

¹⁾ Except trade with motor vehicles and motorcycles.

²⁾ Comprise: wholesale and retail trade, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, retail trade of fuel for motor vehicles.

The main resources of primary energy amounted in January 2007, 3.3 million tons equivalent oil, decreasing by 3.8% as against January 2006, as a result of production decrease by 9.7%. In January 2007, **final consumption of electric energy** was by 2.1% higher than in the same month of 2006; public lighting decreased by 7.4% and domestic consumption registered a growth of 10.4%.

Construction works decreased by 62.8% in January 2007 as against December 2006. In comparison with the same month of 2006, value of construction works increased in real terms by 25.7%.

In January 2007, a production rate higher than general average was registered by construction type, for residential buildings (127.6%) and by structure elements, for maintenance and repair works (134.3%) and for capital repair works (132.2%).

In January 2007, as against December 2006, **turnover obtained by enterprises having as retail trade as main activity** (except trade with motor vehicles and motorcycles) was by 26.8% lower (-19.7% for food goods, beverages and tobacco and -29.2% for non-food goods).

In comparison with the same month of 2006, turnover volume was by 23.0% higher, higher increases being obtained both for sales of food goods, beverages and tobacco (+16.5%) and for sales of non-food goods (+29.7%).

In comparison with December 2006, turnover obtained in January 2007 by enterprises having as main activity **wholesale and retail trade, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, retail trade of fuel for motor vehicles** was by 20.0% lower because of the decrease registered for trade with motor vehicles (-31.0%,).

Turnover volume in this activity increased by 51.6% as against January 2006, because of the increases registered both for trade with motor vehicles (+42.6%) and for retail trade of fuel (+71.8%).

In January 2007, the activity of **market services rendered to the population** registered a turnover by 29.7% lower in comparison with the previous month and by 14.1% higher than in January 2006. In comparison with the same month of 2006, higher increases were registered in the activities: textiles and fur laundry, cleaning and dying (+42.1%), hairdresser and other beauty activities (+23.6%) and for activities of travel agencies and tour-operators (+22.9%).

III. Evolution of certain social indicators in January 2007

	M.U.	Achieved	January 2007 in percentages as against:	
			December 2006	January 2006
Number of employees in economy (at end of month)	thou persons	4647,0	101,6	102,0
Number of registered unemployed (at end of month)	thou persons	477,3	103,6	87,1
Gross nominal average earning	RON	1232	83,2	112,0
Net nominal average earning	RON	918	83,5	111,1
Consumer price index	%		100,2	104,0

In January 2007, **number of employees** was by 72.0 thousand persons more than in December 2006, the highest increases being registered in wholesale, hotels and restaurants, health and social assistance, financial intermediation, manufacturing, electric machinery and appliances and construction.

According to the data provided by the National Agency for Employment, **number of unemployed registered** at the end of January 2007 was 477.3 thou persons. In comparison with January 2006, number of registered unemployed was by 70.7 thou persons lower. Women represented 40.6% of total registered unemployed.

Unemployment rate registered in January 2007 was 5.4% in relation with total civil active population, decreasing as against January 2006 (6.1%). Female unemployment rate was by 1.4 percentage points lower than male unemployment rate (4.6% as against 6.0%).

Higher unemployment rates were registered in the counties: Mehedinți (10.5%), Vaslui (10.4%), Ialomița (9.1%), Teleorman (8.5%), Gorj (8.2 %) and Buzău (8.0%). The lowest unemployment rates were registered in the counties: Ilfov (2.0%), Timiș (2.1%), Bihor (3.0%), as well as in Bucharest Municipality (2.4%).

Real earning index for January 2007, calculated as ratio between net nominal average earning index and consumer price index was 83.3% as against the previous month, 106.8% as against the same month of 2005, respectively 97.2% in comparison with October 1990.