

Second Survey on the use of the TF COVID-19 by MS
Input WJZ van VWS tbv ISO reactie

5.1.2e

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Q1 , Q3 en Q5

VWS heeft hierover niet een duidelijke mening.

Q2 or Q4

The Dutch authorities would welcome the addition of loans and guarantees as compatible forms of aid for 'Investment aid for testing and upscaling infrastructures' (section 3.7) and 'Investment aid for the production of COVID-19 relevant products' (section 3.8). Points 37.b. and 39.b. consider investment aid in the form of direct grants, tax advantages or repayable advances as compatible aid. In some cases, the Dutch authorities wish to promote the production of products mentioned in sections 3.7 and 3.8 through loans or guarantees on loans in stead of grants (or subsidies). In our opinion these forms of aid offer Member States more repayment security and a more businesslike relationship with the beneficiaries. In some cases the Dutch authorities would like to have a right of pledge on assets or claims. We would suggest a duration of loans and guarantees on loans up to ten years.

Furthermore, the Dutch authorities would welcome extension of the requirement to complete investment projects from six months (points 37.d. and 39.d.) to one year, as it usually takes more time to complete an investment project in the Netherlands. This can happen due to the time it takes to obtain the required permits and such.

Q6

In our estimation it could be required to extend the TF beyond 31st June 2021 as the second wave of COVID-19 will probably end somewhere in Spring 2021. It could be necessary to support the economy and undertakings beyond the first six months of 2021.

Q7

The Dutch authorities can envisage a need to support undertakings or initiatives for the production of COVID-19 relevant products beyond the TF. The COVID-19 crisis has made clear that the Netherlands and the European Union has become dependent on non-EU production for these types of products. The Dutch authorities wish to diminish this dependence by promoting EU production initiatives. It would be helpful if State aid for these types of initiatives would be considered compatible. This could mean that maximum aid amounts are upgraded.

Q9, Q10 en Q11

VWS heeft hierover niet een duidelijke mening.