

REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

QUALITY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION



### ACTION PROGRAMME FOR ELIMINATING ADMINISTRATIVE BARRIERS AND REDUCING LEGISLATIVE BURDENS FOR 2012 AND 2013

July 2012

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#### INTRODUCTION

The EU is the largest single economic area in the world, and for its long-term development, it is significant to maintain a high-quality legal framework which is simple to use in all Member States. Revising and improving the EU legal framework is essential to ensure competitiveness in world economy. Achieving this includes the reduction and elimination of unnecessary administrative burdens for companies.

Legislation is important and imperative, but additional costs, such as the costs of meeting regulatory requirements due to non-transparent and vaguely written legislation, are additional burdens for companies and waste valuable time, and consequently, reduce competitiveness. Administrative barriers are actually being eliminated where it is assessed that legislative burdens are not imperative to achieve objectives or that burdens are not proportional to objectives.

Similarly to some other EU Member States, Slovenia is subject to a (too) large number of legislative burdens which cause numerous inconveniences and unnecessary barriers to business entities and citizens when conducting business and in their everyday life. There are literally too many regulations, which are often not harmonised, thus producing problems upon their implementation in practice.

At the first stage, administrative barriers are eliminated by merely providing clear and unambiguous provisions in regulations, harmonising them and, particularly, ensuring the transparency of individual legislative fields. At the second stage, we attempt to eliminate barriers which put an unnecessary burden on the economy or citizens. Often, we are not even aware of the fact that individual regulations do not have positive results. Thus it is crucial to conduct the assessment of impacts of individual legislative solutions or systematic evaluation.

The renewed Action Programme for eliminating administrative barriers focuses on socalled 'curative' measures; nevertheless, prevention is also very important. In the process of adopting regulations, it is necessary to conduct the impact assessments, find the best solutions, and communicate with the public and key stakeholders. This is the only way for regulations to be adopted, efficient and implemented in practice.

It needs to be specifically emphasised that the renewed programme for eliminating administrative barriers is aimed at unburdening the economy and citizens. It may also have a significant impact on reducing the costs of public administration, as unnecessary burdens are often aimed at the public sector. Costs are related to additional staff employment, primarily due to excessive and ill-conceived regulations. In future, special attention should be paid to the field of internal (administrative) unburdening.

#### **1. BETTER REGULATIONS**

A quality and minimally burdensome legislative environment improves the competitiveness of the economy, promotes openness of the market, improves the standard of living and increases transparency.

Better regulation and e-Government tools could ensure simpler conduct of business for companies, and save time and money for citizens, companies and public administration.

#### 1.1. EXCHANGE OF BEST PRACTICES

The report 'Europe Can Do Better' or 'Europe Can Be More Successful', which was prepared for the European Commission by a high-level group of independent experts under the leadership of Dr Stoiber for the elimination of administrative burdens, shows that almost a third of administrative burdens deriving from EU legislation do not stem from the inefficiency of legislation as such, but from the inadequate implementation of EU regulations. <u>Member States should ensure suitable</u> implementation of EU legislation. This does not require the development of extensive new capabilities, nor is there a need to convince the majority of the population. Companies which are enabled by the state to conduct business with fewer burdens may dedicate more time to the performance of their activity, thus improving productivity and overall competitiveness in accordance with the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. Optimum implementation and avoiding excessive regulation of EU requirements and standards are therefore key elements for more effective operations and increasing the competitiveness of companies.

In addition to the report 'Europe Can Do Better', a brochure (Best practices for reducing administrative burdens) was published, which includes key recommendations, with proposed steps for the efficient implementation of EU legislation and concrete examples of best practices of Member States.

#### The proposed steps include questions regarding:

- the exchange of best practices,
- the systematic use of assessing the impacts of regulations and policies,
- excessive EU requirements/standards (gold-plating),
- considering the principle 'Think Small First' (SME test),
- the determination of legislative requirements while taking into account risk,
- electronic solutions and
- the reuse of data already acquired.

#### 1.2. HOW TO ACHIEVE BETTER REGULATIONS

Basic tools:

<u>Assessing the impacts of regulations and policies</u> on the basis of well-performed analyses of economic, environmental and social impacts is essential to the quality formation of proposals of regulations.

<u>Cooperation with the public</u> is intended to assure the suitable inclusion of expert and other interested public at the earliest stage in the procedure for preparing proposals for regulations.

<u>The elimination of administrative barriers</u> constitutes procedures for the reduction, elimination or prevention of administrative burdens, including measuring administrative costs imposed on business entities or citizens by legislation.

<u>The simplification of legislation</u> includes methods of abrogation and codification, and the merger of various acts or unwritten legal provisions into a uniform (legal) text; the transformation of legislation on the basis of amendments and codification of a certain act, and the replacement of directives with decrees.

Better legislation is a result of a good development policy and plan for legal processes. Minimum standards and tools must be observed when preparing legislation, whereby the following conditions must be met:

- It is necessary for the Government to take action.
- The objectives of Government action must be clear.
- Government measures must be prepared systematically, taking into account costs and benefits, include stakeholders and comparisons of various alternatives, including the implementation of non-legislative options.
- Government measures must be efficient and proportionate (verify whether objectives may be achieved in less burdensome manners).
- The emphasis must be put on broader and as early as possible inclusion of interested and expert public.
- Proposals for the simplification, abolition or amendment of existing regulations must be constantly addressed and a systematic evaluation of legislation or measures performed must be implemented.
- The emphasis must be on the possible simplification, abolition, amendment or merger of existing regulations.
- Regulations must be regularly reviewed and, if necessary, transformed.

#### **1.3. WAYS TO REDUCE ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER LEGISLATIVE BURDENS**

There are numerous ways to reduce unnecessary administrative and other legislative burdens, eliminate unnecessary barriers, and simplify individual procedures. We may address comprehensive system solutions in a systematic way (activities of line ministries) by:

- Abrogating, reducing, and merging, thus improving regulations (the emphasis is primarily on older regulations – some dating back to the SFRY (Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, some even back to FPRY (Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia), regulations which do not suit the purpose for which they were created, regulations of which only some provisions are in force, etc. – by merging or abrogating useless regulations, we may contribute to the rationalisation or simplification of legislation);
- Simplifying processes (re-engineering);
- Exchanging data within the administration ('data, not people, should travel');
- Developing efficient information-communication solutions and services on the condition that processes have been previously simplified;
- Making services more accessible to users user's experience;
- Assuring better, more accessible, simple and comprehensible instructions and information;
- Performing necessary deregulations.

In addition to the above-mentioned methods, the following principles and steps should be considered and pursued: 'Think Small First', 'Everything in One Place' and 'Only Once'.

Regarding the 'Think Small First' principle:

- Regulations should be formed in accordance with the 'Think Small First' principle (Small Business Act in Europe) and take into consideration the characteristics of small and medium-sized companies (SME) upon the formation of legislation and strive to simplify the legislative environment.
- It verifies the impact of legislation on micro and small companies with a specific assessment of impacts of a regulation on the economy (the SME test).
- It enables efficient consultation with key stakeholders, including SME organisations prior to the adoption of a regulation which has an impact on companies.
- Less rigorous measures and adapted approaches, when appropriate, should be used for small and micro companies (discrepancies, transitional periods and exceptions; mainly regarding the requirements for notification or reporting).

Regarding the **'Only Once'** principle:

- Data which are already available within the administration should not be required unless they need to be updated.
- Duplication of requirements of public authorities for information which is already available should be eliminated.

Regarding the 'Everything in One Place' principle:

- The VEM points for entrepreneurs should be upgraded (inclusion of the point of single contact for Services Directive (PSC) + inclusion of other support mechanisms for entrepreneurs inclusion in the market).
- New VEM points should be built legislation, priority areas, deriving from life events, e.g. new investors and construction procedures (the field of building permits – *inter alia* enabled an insight into resolving an individual application with all the corresponding attachments; the field of healthcare, agriculture, finance – a company's cycle, and payment of taxes and other duties).

#### Reducing the extent and complexity of individual steps of a procedure

The acquisition of data available in public records would reduce the scope of documentation the investor is required to submit, as the data may be acquired in electronic form and connected to databases on applications. Only data important for decision making and not for e.g. administrative suitability regarding other procedures (e.g. for procedures according to spatial legislation) should be required, unless procedures are being merged, which is welcome.

#### Reducing the number of steps of an individual procedure

Some steps may run parallel, e.g. the acquisition of opinions and review of adequacy of an application for the environment protection consent, thus it is reasonable for them to run parallel in a process and to enable the payment of administrative procedures by payment order and electronic transfer – payment via the internet by credit card, special payment order by means of electronic banking.

#### Modified technique of procedures

The availability of forms for all applications on the internet and application over the internet. One practical option is a form on the website of a line ministry which may be completed either directly or converted to the Word format, completed and submitted to a special e-mail address. Direct entry of data in the field or on the portal. Clear instructions or support for users to comprehend and decide which procedure they require would improve the quality of applications and their submission in a correct manner and to the right address. Consequently, the burden of civil servants would be reduced due to the smaller number of applications which require rejection or supplementation, and processing time would be reduced.

#### Improving the quality of procedures

In addition to practical instructions for users on which forms to complete and how, a few examples of well and badly completed forms or applications should be published. It is recommended that they be based on real-life examples in order to reflect the most common problems. This approach also facilitates the regular improvement of forms and procedures, as errors are analysed more often and systematically for the preparation of examples of errors than they would be otherwise.

#### Shortening deadlines

Shortening deadlines is sensible in all procedures which are not complex, as they do not require in-depth analysis and decision-making, but organisation of the work process, which can be done by civil servants with less specialised knowledge.

#### 2. HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES PERFORMED

#### Year 2005

In 2005, the Economy Friendly Administration Council was established, the purpose of which is to reduce administrative barriers in the establishment and operation of companies.

The Methodology for fulfilling and monitoring the Statement on the elimination of administrative barriers and cooperation with the interested public was adopted; on this basis the implementation of the content determination for the initial regulation impact assessment commenced. The initial regulation impact assessment is information which contains an approximate analysis, possible risks, benefits and costs of impacts, and serves as support for further work on proposals of regulations to persons preparing regulations.

A special e-mail address has been set up at <u>oao.predlogi@gov.si</u>.<sup>1</sup>

#### Year 2006

In 2006, the Rules amending the Rules of Procedure of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia (Article 8) were adopted, which introduced a more transparent procedure for adopting regulations, with more thorough monitoring of cooperation with the interested public and the use of the impact assessment on the economy, environment, social security and administrative barriers.

This was **the beginning of the systematic revision of the rules in terms of administrative burdens**, as a significant share of administrative burdens is imposed by rules issued by ministers. These acts are not the subject of a Government procedure, and thus there is no guarantee that they were revised in terms of administrative

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Between 2005 and 2008, over 800 proposals of citizens and entrepreneurs were submitted.

barriers. Therefore, the Government instructed that all ministries, from 6 January 2006 on, forward for revision all rules issued by ministers, as well as other regulations (instructions, orders), which may be issued by ministers on the basis of law and regulate legal relations outside the body, to the Ministry of Public Administration via e-mail prior to them being sent to the Government Office of Legislation.

The Ministry of Public Administration in cooperation with various stakeholders prepared **the Programme for eliminating administrative barriers (2006)**, which was adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and included 34 measures.

#### Year 2007

In April 2007, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia formed a permanent interministerial working group for better preparation of regulations and the elimination of administrative barriers. This group included representatives of all ministries and some government offices. The main task of the working group was to introduce mechanisms for the better preparation of legislation, i.e. simplification and accessibility of legislation, impact assessments, the elimination of administrative barriers and consultations with the public. Ad hoc working groups could be specially formed for individual projects.

The Ministry of Public Administration in cooperation with various stakeholders prepared the Programme for eliminating administrative barriers (2007), which included 30 measures. In September 2007, the Ministry of Public Administration was awarded the ePractice.eu Good Practice label for the example of best practice in eliminating administrative barriers by developing the new information system which supported this programme.

#### <u>Year 2008</u>

In cooperation with several stakeholders, the Ministry for Public Administration prepared **the Programme for eliminating administrative barriers 2008 and 2009**. The programme consisted of three parts and included a new package of 44 measures for eliminating administrative barriers, two programmes for implementing measure 28/07 – the reduction of obligations in the field of collecting statistical information and collecting various reports, and the first programme for reducing administrative burdens by 25% by 2010.

In 2008, the Manual for Planning, Managing and Evaluating of Public Participation Processes was prepared. The manual fully explains and presents various options of public participation in the regulation process.

It may be the case that the programme implementation in 2008 was hindered by the fact that regulations, subjects to modifications, were not included in the work programme of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for 2008; nevertheless, 17 out of 35 measures, the implementation deadline for which expired on 31 December 2008, were realised. Thus the programme realisation rate for 2008 was approximately 50 per cent.

#### Year 2009

**On 19 November 2009, the National Assembly adopted the Resolution on Legislative Regulation**<sup>2</sup>, which represents a political commitment of each government to respect the principles of better preparation of regulations and to include the public in procedures for adopting regulations during the process of forming new policies or in the procedure for the preparation of new regulations.

**Handbook on Impact Assessment was also prepared in 2009.** The handbook is an instruction or aid for preparing a regulation or government material and implementing training for civil servants from the field of impact assessments on the economy, environment and social services. The handbook will be amended by contributions from individual ministries.

The Programme of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for eliminating administrative barriers and reducing administrative burdens by 25% by 2012 was adopted as the fundamental strategic and operational document for reducing administrative burdens and eliminating administrative barriers, which is part of the endeavour to improve public administration or the entire project of eliminating administrative barriers, and a continuation and upgrade of planned and systematic government actions. The programme consists of two parts, i.e. the programme for reducing administrative burdens by 25% by 2012 and 41 'quick' measures. In 2009, the Government approved a list of acts (71) and related executive acts measured within the project, i.e. a total of 3,500 regulations.

#### <u>Year 2010</u>

In 2010, special attention was paid to the area of labour law, primarily due to realising the Programme of administrative unburdening 'Minus 25%'. Thus the main activities were performed in the procedures for amending the Employment and Insurance against Unemployment Act, with which new acts were being prepared – the Labour Market Regulation Act, and Occupational Health and Safety Act, and later on, in other acts, which were the subject of this Action Programme.

Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and Instruction No. 10 for Implementing the Provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia were made. The Rules amending the Rules of Procedure of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia were adopted on 8 April 2010 and entered into force on 4 May 2010. The contents of the aforementioned amendments follow the directives of the Resolution on Legislative Regulation and specifically regulate the implementation of impact assessments of regulations, and specifically define cooperation and consultations with the public. The technical or implementation aspect of these provisions was included in the text of Instruction No. 10 for Implementing the Provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$  More on the realisation of the Resolution on Legislative Regulation in the Interim report on the implementation of tasks and realisation of objectives in

the field of preparing better regulations and the Programme for elimination of administrative barriers and reduction of administrative burdens by 25% by the year 2012 for 2011, the Decision of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 01005-1/2009/33 of 2 February 2012 is available at: http://www.mpju.gov.si/fileadmin/mpju.gov.si/pageuploads/Upravni\_procesi/Porocilo\_VRS\_BR\_minus25\_OAO\_2011.pdf.

Government of the Republic of Slovenia, which was adopted on 26 May 2010 and entered into force on 4 June 2010. The Instruction specifically defines the constituent parts of the accompanying letter and the contents of government material, and their manner of preparation.

**Information support for the legislative procedure was also carried out.** On 1 April 2010, the Information support system for procedures for the preparation of regulations came into use. This system covers all significant stages in the process of adopting regulations and enables the inclusion of contributions from the interested public to the contents of regulations. The connection of the support system with the web portal e-democracy enables simple monitoring of valid legislation and legislation at the preparatory stage in one place, since the provisions of the Resolution, Rules on Procedures, the Instruction as well as of the Act on the Access to Information of Public Character require ministries and government offices to publish all regulations at the preparatory stage on their websites with the purpose of informing and cooperating with the public. This single point of contact is located on the e-democracy portal and is available on the Internet.

# Within the second stage of the implementation of the Action Programme for a 25% reduction of administrative burdens by the year 2012, 3,529 regulations were reviewed and <u>administrative burdens costing EUR 1.5 billion</u> were assessed on the basis of the common methodology for measuring administrative costs.

The analyses showed that greater emphasis regarding unburdening will have to be put on the areas of the environment and spatial planning, labour legislation, cohesion (drawing on European funds), finance (including taxes and excise duties), the economy (including status related legal affairs, and business or financial reports), and taxes and other duties.

#### <u>Year 2011</u>

2011 saw the intensive implementation of the 'Minus 25%' Programme and the preparation of a plan of measures for the realisation of the 'Minus 25%' Programme. During the fourth stage, the implementation or realisation of the programme of measures was significantly slowed down, as some acts from the field of labour legislation were rejected in referendums, and in the second half of 2011, the adoption of acts, which should be amended in order for the fourth stage of the Action Programme to be realised, came to an almost complete halt.<sup>3</sup> Due to the aforementioned, the deadlines for the implementation of the fourth and fifth stages had to be extended.

Regardless of the aforementioned, it is necessary to emphasise that, overall ('Minus 25%' Programme and individual additional measures), over 200 measures were realised in the period between 2009 and 2011. More information on the savings resulting from individual measures is available on the web portal www.minus25.gov.si.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Due to the aforementioned, the deadlines for the implementation of the fourth and fifth stages had to be extended. At the fifth stage, the assessment or measurement of impacts on the basis of the common methodology will have to be performed. The anticipated final deadline for realising the minus 25% objective is May 2013.

**In October** 2011, we established the **'Minus 25' portal** in accordance with the Action Plan. The purpose of the portal is to provide the public with all current information regarding the implementation of the Programme for reducing administrative burdens or realisation of the 'Minus 25%' Programme. The portal is especially intended to publish best practices (at both national and EU levels), reports on administrative burdens in an individual regulation (act, rule, etc.) measured in the programme, and to convey additional proposals of users for simplification in order to achieve the greatest effect possible regarding the pursuit of the objective to reduce administrative burdens and simplify procedures by 25 per cent and, consequently, of simpler and more transparent legislation.

#### **3. ACTION PROGRAMME 'Minus 25%'**

The Action Programme to reduce administrative burdens by 25% by 2012, which the Government of the Republic of Slovenia adopted and confirmed in 2009 and which is the fundamental strategic document for reducing administrative burdens and eliminating administrative barriers, brings a new attitude towards the preparation of better regulations, including the elimination of administrative burdens and simplification of procedures.

The Action Programme to reduce administrative burdens by 25% by 2012 is comprised of individual stages. Thus far, the first, second and third stages have been performed. The fourth stage includes the procedure for the implementation of normative amendments on the basis of the measures adopted, while the fifth stage includes assessing the efficiency of amendments in order to realise the Action Plan's objectives.

In accordance with the <u>common methodology for measuring administrative costs</u> <u>prepared according to the SCM international methodology</u>, which is a tool for estimating administrative costs that enables a systematic, precise and detailed distribution of the regulation, measurements were implemented at <u>the second stage</u> in **14 areas; 71 laws** and **3,528 executive regulations were reviewed**, whereby 996 of them burden the administration. The analysed regulations result in EUR **1.449** billion in administrative costs to the economy and citizens. <u>In order to realise the minus 25%</u> <u>objective</u>, these costs must be reduced by EUR 362 million.

## 4. PREPARATION OF THE RENEWED ACTION PROGRAMME FOR 2012 AND 2013

Considering the findings of the analyses performed and numerous other initiatives by expert and interested publics, it is evident that the proposed plan of measures from 2011 would not have achieved the set objective of unburdening in the amount of EUR 362 million. <u>The renewal of the programme is thus imperative.</u>

The new programme was prepared on the basis of the Plan of Measures for 2011 (136 measures were transferred), proposals from the general public (chambers, associations, municipalities, non-governmental organisations etc..), measures from the Contract for Slovenia 2012–2015 and additional proposals from line ministries. On the basis of a preliminary legislation analysis, individual additional measures were prepared by the Ministry of Justice and Public Administration.

The greatest emphasis is put on the process of unburdening the environment and spatial planning, the wider area of labour law, cohesion (drawing on European funds), finance (taxes and excise duties, as well as other duties) and the economy (status related legal affairs, and business or financial reports).

**The renewed Action Programme** comprises **269 measures**, 136 of which were transferred from 2011, since they were not realised in that year, as well as an **additional 133 measures** according to individual areas of priority.

The anticipated final deadlines for the realisation of the minus 25% objective or the renewed Action programme for individual measures are defined in Appendix 1. In the last, i.e. the fifth, stage of the project, the Ministry of Justice and Public Administration in cooperation with the external expert public will conduct an assessment and measure the impacts resulting from the realisation of measures of the programme at individual line ministries. It is very important that results are measured on the basis of a SCM international methodology; but it is even more important that the **positive effects of changes are experienced by the stakeholders** who actively participate in the evaluation.

AREA	Unrealised measures rom the Plan of Measures 2011	Additional measures 2012–2013	Total
FINANCE	4	22	26
ECONOMY AND COHESION	9	20	29
SPATIAL PLANNING, INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT	16	26	42
ENVIRONMENT	13	17	30
LABOUR LAW AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS	14	14	28
HEALTH	19	5	24
JUSTICE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	3	13	16
EDUCATION AND CULTURE	8	4	12
AGRICULTURE	49	10	59
DEFENCE	1	1	2
INTERNAL AFFAIRS	/	1	1
TOTAL	136	133	269

#### Table 1: Numerical review of measures proposed by areas

#### 4.1. ROLE OF THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The Ministry of Justice and Public Administration manages, coordinates and harmonises the implementation of the better legislation programme and the Action **Programme for eliminating of administrative barriers.** For the more efficient and

successful realisation of the programme, the Minister of Justice and Public Administration will establish a special working group of agents for individual areas.

The members of the inter-ministerial group - agents will be responsible for implementing measures according to individual areas. In cooperation with the agents, the Ministry will prepare regular quarterly reports on the programme implementation. The Government and public will be informed of the realisation of the programme via the www.minus25.gov.si portal.

The Ministry of Justice and Public Administration will actively participate in individual measures which will have priority in improving the business environment for the economy. Among the priority areas, we should highlight: the environment and spatial planning, financial/tax and legislation and statute law, labour law, public procurements/public tenders and the renewal of legislation on regulated activities and professions.<sup>4</sup>.

In cooperation with the agents of individual line ministries, special attention will be dedicated to preventing new administrative barriers in such a way that in the case of inappropriate legislative solutions which unnecessarily burden citizens or business entities, the Ministry of Justice and Public Administration will warn the competent line ministry and, if necessary, also the Government. It is very important that modified or new regulations relieve the administration and do not add unnecessary new burdens.

On the basis of adopted government decisions, the Ministry of Justice and Public Administration will continue to review new executive acts of individual line ministries, and in the case of inappropriate solutions, issue a negative opinion to the line ministry involved.

Intensive communication will be held with the public via the 'Minus 25%' portal; other activities focused on the reduction of bureaucracy or realisation of measures not included in the Action Programme will be implemented on a daily basis. Special emphasis will be put on e-services projects and the implementation of activities in the field of deregulation or renewal of legislation on regulated activities and professions.

## 5. BEST PRACTICES OF EU MEMBER STATES, AND KEY NATIONAL AND EUROPEAN DOCUMENTS

Links to web portals and strategic documents for implementing better legislation of some EU Member States.

Web portals:

Slovenia

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Ministry of Justice and Public Administration manages the PSC project and the inter-ministerial working group for the renewal of legislation in the field of regulated activities and professions

Resolution on Legislative Regulation and other documents from the field of better regulation and the elimination of administrative barriers available on the website of the Ministry for Justice and Public Administration:

- <u>http://www.mpju.gov.si/si/delovna\_podrocja/podrocje\_javne\_uprave/upravni</u> <u>procesi/</u>
- http://www.minus25.gov.si

Great Britain

- An example of a British web portal for <u>the elimination of administrative</u> <u>barriers</u>,
- <u>http://www.bis.gov.uk/bre</u>

Netherlands

• An example of a British web portal for <u>the elimination of administrative</u> <u>barriers for companies</u>.

Germany

- <u>http://www.bundesregierung.de/Webs/Breg/DE/Themen/Buerokratieabbau/</u> node.html
- <u>http://www.normenkontrollrat.bund.de/Webs/NKR/DE/Homepage/home.html</u>

#### Sweden

- <u>www.sweden.gov.se</u>,
- <u>www.tillvaxtverket.se</u>,
- <u>www.regelradet.se</u>

#### Denmark

- <u>www.amvab.dk</u>.
- <u>www.regelforenkling.dk</u>.
- The Danish Ministry of Economic and Business Affairs
- <u>The Danish Commerce and Companies Agency</u>

#### European Commission

- <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/governance/better-regulation/key-docs-en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/governance/better-regulation/key-docs-en.htm</a>
- <u>http://ec.europa.eu/governance/better\_regulation/admin\_costs\_en.htm</u>
- <u>http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/smart-regulation/administrative-burdens/action-programme/index\_en.htm</u>
- <u>http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/smart-regulation/administrative-burdens/priority-areas/index\_en.htm</u>

SCM Network

• <u>http://www.administrative-burdens.com/</u>

Australia

Information on implementing a policy of better legislation in Australia is available at:

- <u>http://www.betterregulation.nsw.gov.au/</u>
- <u>http://www.finance.gov.au/obpr/about/</u>

Guideline for the assessment of savings

• <u>http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf file/0004/136237/Guidelines f</u> or estimating savings under the red tape reduction target.pdf

Test for the assessment of competitiveness

• <u>http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf file/0020/30863/01b Assessm</u> ent Against the Competition Test.pdf

Consultation policy

 <u>http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf file/0004/72949/Consultation</u> <u>Policy NOV 2009.pdf</u>

Manual – Best practices

• <u>http://www.finance.gov.au/obpr/proposal/handbook/docs/Best-Practice-</u> <u>Regulation-Handbook.pdf</u>

**APPENDIX 1:** The plan of individual measures for the elimination of administrative barriers and reduction of legislative burdens for 2012 and 2013 according to individual fields (a table in the xls format)