GUIDELINES

ON THE ACTIVITY OF THE BULGARIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (BCCI) for the period 2024 - 2028

WE – THE MEMBERS OF BCCI – entrepreneurs, regional chambers of commerce and industry, sectoral unions and other non-governmental organizations, represented at the 35TH General Assembly of BCCI, held on 18 June 2024, in order to execute the powers pursuant to Art. 23, Para. 1, Item 2 of BCCI's Statutes,

DECLARE HEREBY OUR INTENTION TO ACHIEVE THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES:

- A more favourable environment for the Bulgarian entrepreneurship, for the growth of its investments, for its sustainable and independent development;
- raising the competitiveness of the manufactured goods and the provided services by Bulgarian entrepreneurs;
- developing the existing forms of flexible employment, liberalisation of all forms of temporary employment (work at home, teleworking, hiring through temporary employment agencies, short-term seasonal work, parttime work, etc.) and stimulating youth employment, employment combined with increasing the education, qualification and re-qualification, opening of high-tech and highly productive jobs and the like;
- regulating migration with the purpose of improving the conditions for import of deficit workforce for this country;
- stable development of the Bulgarian economy;
- general stimulation of the investment activity, increasing the foreign investments in the Republic of Bulgaria

AND FOR THIS PURPOSE, WE UNITE OUR EFFORTS AT BCCI TO ACHIEVE RESULTS IN THE FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS:

I. MACROECONOMIC STABILITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

- 1. Maintaining the currency board until the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria to the Eurozone;
 - 2. Supporting the continuing enlargement of the European Union;
 - 3. Preserving the tax model (incl. the so-called "flat tax"), not allowing any increase in the tax rates;
 - 4. Restricting the redistribution of the funds through the state budget up to 35% of GDP, including by means of:
 - Measures aimed at efficiency of public expenditures;

- Regulating the fixing of all state fees by adopting a methodology based on a cost-covering principle (as required by the Law on Limiting the Administrative Regulation and Administrative Control on Economic Activity);
- Extensive introduction of e-services, accompanied by decreasing the number of public officials;¹
- Observing the rule that the fees collected for a specific administrative service shall be used to improve its quality and accessibility as well as to reduce the period for its provision;
- Linking the increased budgetary funding of unreformed sectors (including that of structurally essential state-owned enterprises) with the achievement/ degree of achievement of pre-set goals/reforms;
- Stopping the practice to credit/finance any economic activities in unreformed state-owned enterprises;
- Stopping any state activities that are non-public in nature and are
 offered on the market by private entities, since the opposite is a
 form of unfair competition; increasing the private offering of public
 services;
- Providing sectoral organizations with the administration of lighter regulatory regimes (registrations) by the state authorities, on the basis of a competition and in compliance with the legally established criteria which keep the competition – adopting a Law on Sectoral Organizations
- 5. Taking serious measures for mass electronization of activities and services (e.g., implementation of the so-called "e-Government").
- 6. Committing all state institutions or, respectively, competent authorities to improve Bulgaria's positions in international rating rankings.
- 7. Limiting and, in the future, giving up any subsidies and compensations which distort the market and the prices.
- 8. Improving the reporting of the state expenditures and funds, including the Energy System Security Fund.
- 9. Ensuring sustainable growth of economy through achieving sustainability of the business environment.

I I. FIGHTING INFLATION

1. Increasing the expenditures in the field of public finance only after impact assessment, including versus inflation.

¹ Currently (according to the latest data from NSI) about 31% of the persons, working according to a legal labour relationship, are in the budget sector, and in the last five years, the persons, working in the state and municipal administration, have increased by about 10%.

2. Compliance of the Policies on increasing remuneration in the administration only after achieving the set targets in the activity.

I I . IMPROVEMENT OF THE CONDITIONS FOR ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

- 1. Regulatory changes related to the state regulation of the prices of monopoly companies, aimed at introducing permanent monitoring of::
 - the reasonableness of the expenditures of the companies;
 - compliance with their investment commitments;
 - the need to reduce the regulated prices when there is a decrease of the prices of the raw materials and materials purchased by them (on the Bulgarian and international markets);
 - the need to increase the regulated prices, substantiated mainly by the above prerequisites.
- 2. Regulatory changes related to the regulatory regimes, aimed at:
- revoking central regulatory regimes that do not comply with the Act Restricting Administrative Regulation and Administrative Control over Economic Activity;
- regulating in the Law on Local Self-governance and Local Administration clear and specific conditions allowing the introduction of local regulatory regimes in compliance with the Act Restricting Administrative Regulation and Administrative Control over Economic Activity;
- regulating in the Administrative Procedure Code a general presumption for the "Tacit Consent", if nothing else is stipulated in the special law;
- wider introduction of the principle of "Tacit Consent" in the special laws;
- transfer of registration regimes to sectorial organizations on a competitive basis, under pre-announced (regulated) criteria/conditions that preserve competition.
- 3. Improving the work of the control bodies towards establishing permanent control on the observance of the taxation, customs and social security regimes with the purpose of radically curbing the grey sector and corruption.
- 4. Introducing an electronic system to track, in real time, the reference amounts of the securities for the customs regimes for temporary storage and giving the economic operators the opportunity to track, in real time, the compliance with the requirements for an adequate level of these reference amounts and the timely filling in of the documents for the customs securities.
- 5. Promoting the negotiation of the minimum wage in collective agreements at the enterprise level and, if possible, on regional level.
- 6. limiting the negotiation of the minimum wage in collective agreements at the sectoral/branch level, in view of the great difference in the economic and financial capacities of enterprises from the same or related industries/branches/areas.

- 7. Revoking the principle of statutory setting of the minimum wage for all sectors and branches; the minimum wage to be negotiated and determined on the basis of a tripartite framework agreement drawn up in accordance with the principles of ILO Convention 131.
- 8. Revoking the setting of minimum social security thresholds, because this approach has no analogue in any other EU member-state.
- 9. Revoking the mandatory provisions of the employer not directly related to the production activity and contradicting the principle of equality before the law e.g., those related to trade union activity, which can become a part of a collective employment contract, such as:
 - granting trade union activists with additional leave, creating working conditions for the trade unions, prior coordination with the trade unions regarding the introduction of the part-time employment, withdrawal of the trade unions' right to visit enterprises and require explanations from the employer, termination of employment contract of a member of the trade union's management;
 - related to non-production activities of workers and employees, including those related to health and occupational safety conditions (HOSC), such as: financing of social and cultural services for the workers/employees; payment of periodic medical examinations of the workers/employees;
 - the adoption of Rules for the Internal working order and Internal Rules for health and safety at work;
 - the conclusion of a compulsory contract with an occupational medicine service such an employer shall be obliged to apply simplified model rules adopted by the Executive Agency for the Promotion of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises and the Labour Inspectorate, developed jointly with the social partners; separate waste collection;
 - the establishment of a Working Conditions Committee or Working Conditions Group.

10. Optimization of the tax and social security regime, through:

- accurate fulfillment of the obligations of the state bodies, the state-owned enterprises, etc. for timely reimbursement of value added tax, for payments under public procurement contracts, for reimbursement by the public authorities of amounts unduly paid to them, and for interest payable, for payment of benefits, etc.;
- revoking the tax on dividends and reducing by 5% the income tax of sole proprietors;
- reducing the statutory deadlines for the reimbursement of value added tax (VAT);
 - investments in state and municipal infrastructure related to the implementation of an investment projects to benefit from tax credit under the VAT Act;

- improving the regime of the so called "joint liability" under Art. 177 of the VAT Act limiting the assumptions of liability of a taxable person in cases of abuse in the chain of contractual relations;
- equal distribution (50/50) between employer and worker/employee of the due social security contributions;
- regulating a personal social security contribution for the public sector employees.
- 11. Prioritisation of funds in the main infrastructure (rail, road, sea, rives and airport) to ensure competitive conditions of activity of the various modes of transport with a view to targeting less developed areas. Expanding (including internationally) the competition when fulfilling orders to build such infrastructure.
- 12.Implementation of measures for carrying out the policy "Trust the Bulgarian" aimed at promoting the use of Bulgarian goods and services and increasing consumers' trust in them, while preserving the principles of competitiveness and freedom of consumer choice.
- 13. Making less strict the regimes for the disposal of assets of state and municipal companies, for which the Principal has assumed that they are not needed to perform their economic activity and whose function is only to burden the balance sheet of these companies.
- 14. Taking legislative measures to develop the public-private partnership, including through competitive private offering of public services.
- 15. Really making the administration activity follow the principle: "Think Small First".
- 16. Any new administrative burden for the business shall be carried out after an analysis and comparison of the conditions, under which the Bulgarian companies' competitors on other markets (inside and outside the EU) are working.
- 17. Supporting measures to limit the disasters, caused by the conflicts worldwide, to the globalisation of the world economy.
- 18.Increasing the cooperation with the neighbouring countries towards improving and removing the obstacles to the transport and logistic links.

IV. EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AIMED AT PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF ENTREPRENEURS

- 1. Equal respect for and approach to the interests of entrepreneurs from the same industry in different member-states, when regulating at European level the conditions for carrying out their activity.
- 2. Measures to correct existing deviations when transposing directives in
- 3. Equal obligations for manufacturers and traders in the different memberstates to sell in other member-states certain types of goods with the same qualitative indicators.
- Measures to remove restrictions on the penetration of new markets for EU companies.

• Measures to acquaint Bulgarian companies with the existing arrangements with third countries and regions (markets, economic alliances, etc.) at EU level.

V. INCREASING THE ABSORPTION OF EU FUNDS' RESOURCES

- 1. Establishing criteria and transparency when selecting the evaluators of project proposals.
- 2. Seeking alternative forms of the bank guarantee, especially with a focus on small and medium-sized enterprises.
- 3. Fast prosecution of officials faulty for suspension or detention of EU funding.
- 4. Increase private sector participation in the implementation of activities and projects financed by money from these funds.

VI. RESTRUCTURING OF THE ENERGY SECTOR AIMED AT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ENERGY SECTOR AND INCREASED ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN VARIOUS SPHERES

- 1. Implementation of the third and preparation for implementation of the fourth energy package, Directive 2009/73/EC, Directive 2009/72/EC, Regulation (EC) No. 715/2009, Regulation (EC) No. 714/2009, Regulation (EC) No. 713/2009.
- 2. Improving energy efficiency in transport, including through the support of the institutionalization of transport energy, development of measures for fuel and energy saving in transport;
- 3. Improving energy efficiency in buildings and facilities, including through the development of professional facility management, financing of contracts for energy execution, implementation of intelligent systems and networks;
- 4. Improving energy efficiency in households, including by supporting the policy aiming to overcome energy poverty.
- 5. Promoting measures to decarbonise the energy sector through innovations in carbon capture and storage in geological formations, implementing plants for green hydrogen production.
- 6. Expert evaluation and EIA of the projects for the utilization of the offshore wind potential of Bulgaria and of a new type of RES /renewable energy sources/ (geothermal energy, hydrogen sulphide, hydrogen, etc.). The aim of these activities should be: a) to assess the impact of offshore systems on air currents and b) to assess the impact of photovoltaic systems with the effect of a possible increase in temperature, including the average annual temperature.
- 7. Promoting measures for the mass implementation of energy storage systems (batteries) in combination with renewable energy sources for self-consumption in order to achieve the Green Deal objectives.
- 8. Including Bulgaria in projects to introduce small modular nuclear power plants.
- 9. Affordable energy and energy resources from differentiated sources.

- 10. Preparation of a National Balance of Carbon Emissions that takes into account the absorbing qualities and potential of forests, green areas and water systems, and that includes, in the balance sheet, all greenhouse gas emissions from all emitters, including agricultural and domestic users.
- 11.Clearly formulating the targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through a market price for pollution quotas. For this purpose, it is necessary to form a National Pollution Quotas Market to improve and make transparent the efforts to protect the environment and reduce negative impacts on climate.
- 12. An assessment of the benefits and costs of the energy mix, including all energy media and taking into account the technologically linked processes of energy resource extraction.

VII. GREEN DEAL

- 1. An assessment of the benefits, costs and long-term effects of the Green Deal, including with consideration of any possible reactions through the WTO procedures, trade "wars" and the like.
- 2. The tempo of the Green Deal has be complied with the objective of increasing the competitiveness of European economy.
- 3. Combatting climate change with methods and means that do not burden the individual company (e.g. forest expansion, carbon dioxide capture and storage, renewable energy sources, etc.).
- 4. Creating a common carbon market where all emissions can be traded.
- 5. Ensuring a balance of economic and social objectives and environmental protection.

VIII. SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITALISATION OF THE ECONOMY

- 1. Promoting the digitalisation of the economy through implementation of information technologies, regulating artificial intelligence and databases in business.
- 2. Priority actions for integration of Industry 5.0 in the Bulgarian economy.
- 3. Accelerated digital transformation by expanding the networks for digital connectivity networks with a very high capacity for secure data transfer, ensuring access to adequate technological knowledge and digital skills.

IX. DEVELOPMENT OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

1. Accelerating the transition to a circular economy and sustainable business models and products.

- 2. Helping businesses, in particular micro, small- and medium-sized enterprises, to meet the requirements for reaching the EU Green Pact targets for carbon neutrality /zero carbon footprint/ and the *Ready for Goal 55* Legislative Package by:
 - guaranteed access to energy sources;
 - Ensuring suitable infrastructure to decarbonise their production processes and reduce carbon emissions.
- 3. Supporting and diversifying businesses' access to financial resources to help them meet climate change requirements through:
 - Developing simplified standards, specifically tailored to micro, small- and medium-sized enterprises, for reporting to banks and EU financial instruments to use the financial borrowings;
 - adoption of specific regulatory standards for loans, granted to micro, small- and medium-sized enterprises, for environmental purposes.
- 4. Financial incentive programmes for micro, small- and medium-sized enterprises to fulfill their green obligations.
- 5. Supporting the twin transition to a green and digital economy of enterprises.
- 6. Encouraging more initiatives connected with raising the awareness of businesses and their current activities in relation to the EU Green Deal
- 7. Establishing a circular economy and eliminating pollution.
- 8. Enhancing industrial competitiveness and ensuring a fair transition for the affected regions and workers/employees.

X. IMPROVEMENT OF THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN VIEW OF IMPROVING THE OPPORTUNITIES OF THE LABOUR MARKET

- 1. Adopting measures to ensure closer connection of education, vocational training and qualifications with the needs of entrepreneurship, aimed at:
 - building and maintaining a system for forecasting (in the short-, medium- and long-term) the needs of entrepreneurship for certain professions, skills, competencies, including in promising and key sectors for the economy, as well as the introduction of training plans related to green jobs;
 - Expanding opportunities for inclusion of practicing specialists on all levels of education and training in drawing up the training programmes, the holding of training and in the assessment of the results and of the acquired knowledge and skills;
 - Improving the tax accounting for such activities, which are complied with best practices of reporting the investments in 'human capital';
 - Prioritisation in the financing of the public procurement in the field of higher education of the technical specialities and bachelor and master programmes on

fundamental natural sciences, which are of crucial importance to the development of the economy;

- Creating a mechanism guaranteeing that there is correspondence between the plan for admission to vocational schools and higher education institutions and the needs of entrepreneurship.
- 2. Improving the administrative and regulatory framework for facilitated application of the regulatory framework by employers and schools for the successful development of dual vocational education and training.
- 3. Adapting vocational education and training to the needs of the labour market by promoting the organisation and implementation of internship programmes and traineeships.
- 4. Establishment of a Advisory Council for Higher Education matters with the participation of all stakeholders.
- 5. Implementing measures related to the updating and simplification of curricula in line with labour market requirements.
- 6. Improving the qualifications of teachers, especially of those who teach specialised subjects in vocational schools.
- 7. Development of workforce import opportunities, in compliance with the needs of entrepreneurship and when regulation migration.
- 8. Encouraging the study of foreign students in Bulgarian educational institutions, including through state-funded programmes for people from developing countries, and easing the procedures for their employment to work.
- 9. Development of the dual form of training as an opportunity to provide qualified personnel for the business and low youth unemployment.
- 10.Implementation of programmes for employment of people in the third age, in order to use their knowledge and skills for a longer period of time.
- 11. Effective cooperation between the systems for vocational education & training and higher education. The introduction of the credit transfer system will facilitate the transition between secondary and higher education.
- 12.Improvement of the legal framework for validation of knowledge, skills and competences in order to expand the opportunities of people for inclusion in the labour market.
- 13. Promoting the development of cluster structures for joint actions and initiatives between vocational secondary schools, universities and enterprises in separate regions.
- 14.Introducing mechanisms for tracking the professional realisation of the people graduating vocational secondary and higher education.

15.Liberalisation of temporary employment, employment contracts, including through amendments to the Labour Code and related regulations.²

XI. MEASURES TO COPE WITH THE LACK OF QUALIFIED PERSONNEL

- 1. Stimulating the introduction of innovations, new machines, new technologies to reduce the need for labour force.
- 2. Changes in the work of the Social Assistance Agency in order to include some of those, who have given up looking for work, to receive incentives to participate in the labour market.
- 3. Improving the work of the Employment Agency, if possible, bringing it closer to the quality of the services, provided by private recruitment agencies.

XII. IMPROVEMENT OF THE TRIPARTITE COOPERATION

- 1. Changes in the legal framework regulating the tripartite dialogue which are aimed at improving its effectiveness, given the cases of formalisation of the partnership.
- 2. Under the applicable legislation, specification (in the Supplementary Provisions of the Labour Code, or in an adopted Law on Sectoral Organisations) of the concept of "sectoral organisation".
- 3. Cancelling the restriction under Art. 35, Para. 3 of the Labour Code (to authorise a national organisation in cases where a trade union is a member of more than one organisation like that) as contradicting the constitutional right to freedom of association.
- 4. Not allowing unequal treatment of employers' organisations in social dialogue, including through preferential funding, creating disparities.
- 5. Normalization (by creating a new Section III in the Regulations on the Organization and Activities of the Tripartite Cooperation Councils) of guarantees aimed at transparency and publicity of the work of the Tripartite Cooperation Councils, by creating and permanently maintaining an independent website of the National Tripartite Cooperation Council, as well as of the sectoral/branch and regional Tripartite Cooperation Councils, where all materials discussed at national and branch/sectoral/regional level are published, as well as the opinions and minutes, presented by the partners.
- 6. Balanced change in the legal framework to achieve the rule of law while respecting the principle of sustainability of legislation.

² Currently and in the last ten years, the share of these contracts in Bulgaria is 3-4% of all employment contracts, in the EU it is 17-18%, and in some of the old member states and Switzerland - over 30%. It is believed (and all research proves) that liberalisation of this kind creates opportunities for work from home, income generation for people with disabilities and that it eases work and increases income for mothers with young children.

XIII. IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF BCCI'S ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF ITS MEMBERS by:

- 1. Support for the expansion of the regional network of sectoral organisations (through the regional chambers of commerce and industry and the national managing bodies of the sectoral unions, or through the Council of Presidents and the Council of Sectoral Organisations).
- 2. Continued efforts to attract new members to BCCI reputable and well-managed companies (traders and non-profit legal entities).
- 3. Expanding the mutual exchange of information and the sharing of best practices in the system of BCCI and the regional chambers of commerce and industry to increase the effectiveness of work with members, with the trade unions, with the central state and local authorities and with local government bodies.
- 4. Partnership with the managing authorities of individual programmes managing European or national funds to widely disseminate information for public consultation on draft guidelines for applications for individual procedures and for open procedures; organisation of joint information events to explain the requirements for individual procedures; cooperation with the Bulgarian Development Bank and the Fund of Funds on financial instruments to support enterprises.
- 5. Digitalization of BCCI services (in particular the services provided by the International Cooperation and International Organizations Directorate) in:
 - organizing webinars on-line seminars (participation in seminars, trainings, workshops, etc. without leaving the office or by visiting BCCI and with opportunities to use speakers and participants from around the world);
 - organizing video-conferenced sales meetings using specialized programs and artificial intelligence;
 - using partner matching systems (when organizing business forums, registration should be done online with automatic partner suggestion and fixing of meetings);
 - exploring the attitudes and positions of business on issues, put forward for public consultation, and providing opinions.
- 6. Training in the areas of "social marketing" and "social media marketing" to increase the social engagement of the business and reach selected groups of customers.
- 7. Training in the field of "business etiquette" in order to make a successful and meaningful business contact (protocol, national characteristics, business behaviour, company presentation, etc.) training sessions before a specific business event, or as a stand-alone training.
- 8. Continuing to improve the existing functionalities of the BCCI registers in order to permanently update them and achieve greater speed in servicing members.

- 9. Optimization of the possibilities to use electronic services from the Unified trade register of BCCI through the introduction of new forms of electronic identification of signature and documents, required for registration and updating of data on registered persons, issue and validation of Certificates of origin of goods, Export invoices and other commercial documents, issue of ATA carnets.
- 10. Periodic update of BCCI's service packages, provided to its members.
- 11. Continued cooperation with consultation companies, financial structures and rating organisations to produce rankings or to advise companies individually.
- 12. Expanding the information in the public part of the Unified Trade Register by including visual information about the products offered by the companies, the production and office premises.
- 13. Encouraging the use of out-of-court dispute resolution between domestic and foreign companies (mediation, commercial arbitration); promoting and increasing the use of electronic mediation.
- 14. Expanding the BCCI's application and participation in projects related to the achievement of objectives for the benefit of BCCI members.
- 15. Maintaining BCCI's membership in the most prestigious European and international organizations and a measured expansion of cooperation with other European and international organizations with a focus on new regions important for the future development of Bulgarian entrepreneurship.
- 16. Further improvement of the BCCI's organizational structure in order to achieve its objectives more effectively and efficiently.
- 17. Adaptation of the activities related to the protection of personal data administered by BCCI in full compliance with the requirements of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016.
- 18. Maintaining the certification level of BCCI in accordance with the requirements of ISO 9001.
- 19. Permanent and effective presence of BCCI in social networks; creation/inclusion of special groups by sector, region, country and by other criteria in order to personalize the membership and partners of BCCI, as well as better communication with them.
- 20. Expansion of the number and types of electronic services provided by the Unified Trade Register of BCCI, in line with current trends and policies on digitalization and use of modern methods and forms of work and communication.
- 21. Promotion, including through various electronic platforms, of the opportunities and facilitations for entrepreneurs for using the electronic services provided by the Unified Trade Register of BCCI, accessible through its public part on the Chamber's website: www.bcci.bg.

- 22.Issue of electronic Certificates of origin of goods in accordance with the Accreditation of BCCI as the only organization in Bulgaria, affiliated to the International Accreditation Chain for Certificates of Origin at the ICC Paris and holding international authorization to carry out this activity.
- 23. Issue of electronic ATA carnets for temporary import, export and transit of goods.
- 24. Continuation of the good interaction and useful cooperation between BCCI and the Sectoral Organizations members of the Chamber, for the benefit of the Bulgarian business.
- 25. Defending the role and importance of the Unified system of BCCI and the Regional chambers of commerce and industry (RCCIs) in protecting and supporting the interests of entrepreneurs by region in an improved economic environment and adopting and applying regional development programmes.
- 26. Maintaining electronic contact with BCCI members companies, industry structures, in order to provide timely information on pending changes in the country's regulatory framework that will directly affect their activities, providing them with a real opportunity to react immediately and express their positions and arguments for or against these changes.
- 27. Optimizing and increasing the efficiency of the activities and services offered by BCCI in supporting BG companies, and adding new ones related to the new strategic challenges in European terms.
- 28.Improve the synchronization and work with sectoral and joint chambers in the direction of joining efforts in leading directions and activities.
- 29. Focusing the joint work with higher education institutions on:
 - Conducting thematic trainings one-off or included in Bachelor, Master or PhD programmes;
 - encouraging the creation of technology transfer centres and innovation clusters;
 - encouraging the establishment of collaborative prototyping centres.

XIV. SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS AND POLICIES

- 1. EGS sustainability standards implementing specific policies and strategies that will encourage businesses to achieve their goals in these areas.
- 2. Significant reduction in the time for response of the Bulgarian and European institutions in case of any deterioration found in the economic environment.
- 3. Ensuring a timely response to changes in the regional or global economy.

XV. INNOVATION AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES

- 1. Targeting project funding towards innovation in areas such as artificial intelligence, virtual reality, quantum technologies, specific foods, agriculture, healthcare, renewable energy, unmanned aerial systems, space technologies.
- 2. Regulating the framework for the use and application of technologies based on artificial intelligence with restrictions focused on the scope of the final product, not on the technologies used.
- 3. Regulating the use of unmanned aerial systems, especially in the Urban Air Mobility part.
- 4. Promoting the use of 3D scanning, modelling and printing technologies.
- 5. Adoption of the status and financing of the statutory Industrial Property Fund of the Patent Office.
- 6. Public funding of applied innovation to be linked to an appropriate percentage of self-financing by the beneficiary enterprises.
- 7. Preferential financing of the acquisition of fixed assets.
- 8. Balanced financing of projects related to innovation and those with a technological modernisation focus, in view of the need to renew and modernise the machinery stock.

XVI. ARBITRATION COURT

- 1. Increasing the number of contracts with arbitration clauses in the AC at BCCI.
- 2. Participation of the arbitrators of the AC at BCCI in international events, seminars, meetings to promote the activities and advantages of the AC.
- 3. Promotion of the possibility to hear arbitration cases in regional chambers.
- 4. Maintaining the high quality of customer service of the AC at BCCI.
- 5. Activity to attract and include new arbitrators with proven professional qualities between the ages of 35 and 45 in the list of arbitrators at BCCI.

XVII. IMPROVING THE SYSTEM OF BCCI

- 1. Strengthening the resilience of the system of BCCI and RCCIs.
- 2. Use of different funding sources (projects, own consultation activity, etc.).
- 3. Cost reduction measures.
- 4. Disposal of inefficient activities and refocus on money generation activities.