

Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)

Call for proposals within the framework of the Federal Government's Strategy for the Internationalization of Science and Research

Regulations governing funding of projects with the Republic of Singapore as part of strategic project support with the participation of science and industry ("2+2" projects) on the priority topic of "blockchain technologies"

of 12 December 2018

1 Aim, purpose of funding, legal basis

1.1 Aim and purpose of funding

Singapore and its outstanding universities and research institutions, companies, its global frontrunner position in innovation, and its equally advanced collaborations between universities and industry, make it an excellent research and innovation partner for Germany. Cooperation in research, technology and innovation is to be intensified on the basis of the bilateral agreement on scientific and technological cooperation signed by the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Singapore in 1994.

This funding measure is carried out under the Federal Government's Strategy for the Internationalization of Education, Science and Research and the BMBF's ten-point programme for more innovation in small and medium-sized enterprises known as Priority for SMEs (*Vorfahrt für den Mittelstand*) under the *KMU-international* programme.

This call for proposals within the framework of the BMBF's strategic project funding is intended to support innovative German-Singaporean collaborative projects for applied research on blockchain technologies. As a disruptive transfer technology, blockchain is considered to have significant but as yet unquantifiable potential for innovative applications across many sectors and fields of application. This funding measure will enable research on blockchain technologies in the areas of application of Industrie 4.0, industrial manufacturing, supply chains and logistics. In concrete terms, funding will be available for cooperation between German and Singaporean representatives from science and industry in the form of "2+2 projects" which involve the participation of at least one German and one Singaporean research-performing commercial company/industrial partner, particularly if they are small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

The aim of the strategic project funding in the form of this call for proposals is the pooling of knowledge, experience, research infrastructures and other resources of the German and Singaporean partners to generate added value for the participating research and collaboration partners. The exchange of knowledge and joint developments are intended to provide the long-term basis for mutual market access and economic cooperation. The funding is intended to create the basis for a lasting partnership for research, development and innovation.

A corresponding call for proposals for the Singaporean partners will be published in Singapore by A*STAR (<https://www.a-star.edu.sg/> Research / Funding Opportunities).

1.2 Legal basis

The Federal Government will award grants in accordance with these funding regulations, sections 23 and 44 of the Federal Budget Code (BHO) and the administrative regulations adopted thereunder as well as the BMBF's regulations governing applications for expenditure-based grants (AZA) and/or cost-based grants (AZK). There is no legal entitlement to a grant. The granting authority will decide freely after due assessment of the circumstances within the framework of the budget funds available.

Under these funding regulations, state aid will be granted on the basis of Article 25(2)(a-c) of the Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 Declaring Certain Categories of Aid Compatible with the Internal Market in Application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (General Block Exemption Regulation – GBER) (OJ L 187 of 26 June 2014, p. 1) in the version of the Regulation (EU) 2017/1084 of 14 June 2017 (OJ L 156 of 20 June 2017, p. 1). Funding is provided in accordance with the Common Provisions set out in Chapter I GBER, in particular taking account of the definitions given in Article 2 of the Regulation (please refer to the Annex with regard to the requirements of state aid legislation applying to these funding regulations).

2 Object of funding

Funding will be provided for collaborative projects which involve international cooperation with partners from Singapore and address one or more of the following priority areas in line with the funding purpose described above:

Blockchain technologies in applications:

- Industrie 4.0/advanced manufacturing
- Supply chains
- Logistics

Research and development questions on such technological requirements as the following will be addressed with a view to application: security and privacy, scalability, interoperability and performance capability of blockchain technology, new insights on smart contracts and their practical further development, data decoupling and processing, as well as algorithms for the establishment of business models and 'ecosystems'.

The projects will be expected to have great practical relevance and to produce insights and exploitable research results which lead to new technologies, products and/or services.

The benefits for Germany and Singapore should be clearly identifiable and strategies should be set out for implementing the research findings in government, society and industry.

Furthermore, projects should contribute to achieving the following cooperation objectives:

- International networking in the stated priority areas
- Preparation of follow-up activities (e.g. application for funding under specialist BMBF programmes, from the DFG or under Horizon 2020)

- Promotion of young researchers

3 Funding recipients

Applications may be submitted by commercial companies, universities, non-university research institutions and other institutions contributing to research. Applicants are required to have a plant or branch (company) or another entity to act as funding recipient (universities, non-university research institutions and other institutions contributing to research) in Germany at the time of payment of the grant.

The results from the funded project may only be used in Germany or the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland and in Singapore.

Small and medium-sized enterprises or SMEs within the meaning of this call are companies that meet the requirements of the EU definition of SMEs (cf. Annex I of the GBER or the Commission Recommendation of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (notified under document number C(2003) 1422) (2003/361/EC):

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32003H0361&from=EN>].

The funding recipient must state its category as defined in Annex I of the GBER in its written application for funding.

Research institutions which receive basic funding from the Federal Government and/or the *Länder* can only be granted project funding on top of their institutional funding to cover additional project-related expenditure or costs under certain preconditions.

Concerning the conditions for when state aid is or is not deemed to be involved, and the extent to which funding can be provided without constituting aid, please consult the Commission communication concerning the Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation of 27 June 2014 (OJ C 198 of 27/06/2014 p.1 ff); in particular Section 2.

4 Special prerequisites for funding

It is a prerequisite that projects include the participation of at least one German and one Singaporean research institution/university as well as one German and one Singaporean commercial company/industrial partner ("2+2 projects").

Projects proposed for funding under this call should document their potential for longer-term sustainable cooperation with Singapore. There should be a balance between the benefits for the partner countries with regard to the scientific and economic goals.

The terms of cooperation between the partners in a collaborative project must be set out in a written cooperation agreement. Collaboration partners which are research institutions within the meaning of Article 2(83) GBER must ensure that no indirect aid flows to companies under the collaboration. The provisions of Section 2.2 of the Commission communication concerning the Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (OJ C 198 of 27 June 2014, p. 1) must be observed. Before a funding decision on

a collaborative project is taken, the cooperation partners must prove that they have reached a basic consensus on further criteria stipulated by the BMBF (cf. BMBF leaflet No. 0110).¹

5 Type, scope and rates of funding

As a rule, funding will be provided as non-repayable project grants amounting to 300,000 euros per collaboration to the German side for a maximum period of 36 months.

Grants for commercial companies and for projects of research institutions which fall into the category of economic activities² are calculated on the basis of the eligible project-related costs. As a rule, up to 50% can be covered by government grants, taking state aid legislation into account (see annex) and depending on the project's relevance to application. The BMBF's policy requires an appropriate own contribution of at least 50% towards the eligible costs incurred.

The basis for calculating the grants for higher education institutions, research and science institutions and similar establishments which do not fall into the category of economic activities is the eligible project-related expenditure (in the case of the Helmholtz centres and the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, eligible project-related costs), which can receive up to 100% coverage in individual cases, taking into account state aid legislation.

In the case of non-commercial research projects at higher education institutions and teaching hospitals, a flat-rate grant amounting to 20% of total expenditure will be awarded in addition to the eligible expenditure. As a rule, the maximum funding amount including the flat-rate grant per project for the German institutions may not exceed the 300,000 euros stated above.

The calculation of the respective rate of funding must take account of the GBER (see Annex).

The following expenditures/costs will be eligible for funding:

a) Staff for conducting scientific or technical activities or research:

Project-related expenditure/costs can be assigned for scientific staff (normally up to the TVöD German public sector pay scale EG 13) and technical and student staff.

b) Project-related resources and equipment:

Funding for project-related resources (such as consumables, office supplies, appliances, contracts) can be provided to a limited extent usually up to 20% of the total funding amount.

c) Travel and stays by German and foreign researchers and experts:

In general, travel within Germany and to the partner country Singapore will be covered.

The following applies to the funding of travel by researchers and experts employed by the German partner institution:

The costs/expenditure for travel to and from the project partner's location will be covered including the necessary visa (if by air: economy class) and the expenditure/costs for the

¹ https://foerderportal.bund.de/easy/easy_index.php?auswahl=easy_formulare; header BMBF under "Allgemeine Vordrucke und Vorlagen für Berichte".

² For the definition of economic activity, see no. 17 of the R&D&I state aid Framework

stays as well as travel within Germany in accordance with the applicable rules of the institution or company.

The sending country funds travel and stays by foreign project researchers and experts.

d) Workshops:

Workshops with existing partners or aimed at opening up new potential for cooperation may receive the following support in Germany:

Funding will be provided to cover the various expenditure and/or costs related to the organization of workshops. Grants can be provided, for example, for the rental of venues, transfers, provision of workshop documents, adequate hospitality, and accommodation for German experts.

As a rule, no funding will be provided to cover any of the cost of the participating institutions' normal basic equipment.

The determination of the respective eligible costs must take account of the GBER (see Annex).

6 Other terms and conditions

The *Nebenbestimmungen für Zuwendungen auf Kostenbasis des Bundesministeriums für Bildung und Forschung an gewerbliche Unternehmen für Forschungs- und Entwicklungsvorhaben* (NKBF 2017) (Auxiliary Terms and Conditions for Funds Provided by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research to Commercial Companies for Research and Development Projects on a Cost Basis) will be part of the notification of award for grants on a cost basis.

Notification of award for grants on an expenditure basis will include the *Nebenbestimmungen für Zuwendungen auf Ausgabenbasis des Bundesministeriums für Bildung und Forschung zur Projektförderung* (NABF) (Auxiliary Terms and Conditions for Funds Provided by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research for the Promotion of Projects on an Expenditure Basis) and the *Besondere Nebenbestimmungen für den Abruf von Zuwendungen im mittelbaren Abrufverfahren im Geschäftsbereich des BMBF* (BNBest-mittelbarer Abruf-BMBF) for the drawdown of funds.

For the purpose of conducting progress reviews within the meaning of administrative regulation (VV) 11a pertaining to section 44 of the Federal Budget Code (BHO), funding recipients are required to provide the data necessary for the progress review to the BMBF or the institutions charged with such tasks without delay. The information will be used exclusively for the purposes of any supporting research and subsequent evaluation; it will be treated with confidentiality and published in anonymized form, making it impossible to trace it back to individual persons or organizations.

Funding recipients are expected to ensure open access if they publish the results of the research project in a scientific journal. This can be done through publication in an electronic journal which is accessible to the public free of charge. If the results are initially published in a way which does not provide the public with free electronic access, the article must be made publicly available free of charge by electronic means following an embargo period where appropriate (secondary publication). Embargo periods for secondary publication must not

exceed 12 months. The BMBF expressly welcomes secondary open access publication of scientific monographs resulting from the project.

7 Procedure

7.1 Involvement of a project management organization and request for documents

The BMBF has currently entrusted the following project management agency with implementing the funding measure:

DLR Project Management Agency
European and International Cooperation
Heinrich-Konen-Strasse 1
53227 Bonn, Germany
Web: <http://www.internationales-buero.de>

Contact persons:

Scientific:

Dr. Hans-Jörg Stähle
Phone: +49 228 3821-1403
Fax: +49 228 3821-1444
E-mail: hans.staehle@dlr.de

Administrative:

Sebastian Auer
Phone: +49 228 3821-1914
Fax: +49 228 3821-1444
E-mail: sebastian.auer@dlr.de

Procedure in the partner country:

Singaporean partners must submit corresponding applications to the Agency for Science, Technology & Research (A*STAR). The contact persons at A*STAR are:

Dr. Ei-Leen Tan
E-mail: Tan_Ei-Leen@hq.a-star.edu.sg

Dr. Terri Phua
E-mail: terri_phua@hq.a-star.edu.sg

Dr. Shalini D/O Suku Maran
E-mail: Shalini_Suku_Maran@hq.a-star.edu.sg ;

Any modifications will be announced in the *Bundesanzeiger* (Federal Gazette) or in another suitable form. Applicants are recommended to contact the project management agency for advice on applications. The agency will provide further information and details.

Forms for funding applications, guidelines, leaflets, information and auxiliary terms and conditions are available at https://foerderportal.bund.de/easy/easy_index.php?auswahl=easy_formulare&formularschraenk=bmbf.

Applicants must use the 'PT-Outline' electronic tool for drafting project outlines and the 'easy-Online' electronic application system for drafting formal proposals (<https://foerderportal.bund.de/easyonline>).

7.2 Two-phase application procedure

The application procedure will take place in two phases. The BMBF or the commissioned project management organization may demand the submission, including retrospectively, of documentation, declarations and relevant receipts, in particular regarding credit worthiness.

7.2.1 Submission and selection of project outlines

In the first phase, project outlines must be submitted to the DLR Project Management Agency in electronic form in German or English with a German or English summary

by **27 March 2019** at the latest

using the PT-Outline online tool (<https://secure.pt-dlr.de/ptoutline/SGP192P2Z1>).

A decision on the provision of funding will be taken after final consideration on the basis of the stated criteria and evaluation.

The deadline for submissions is not a cut-off deadline. However, it may not be possible to consider project outlines received after the above date.

The project outline should preferably not exceed 10 pages. There is a set format for the project outline which can be downloaded in "PT-Outline" under "Upload project description".

The outline should include the following aspects of the project:

- I. Information on the project coordinator and on the German and Singaporean project partners
- II. A meaningful summary (of goals, research priorities, exploitation of results)
- III. The scientific framework of the project
 - a. Planned measures to implement the objectives of the funding measure set out in No. 2 above
 - b. Description of the scientific objective of the project
 - c. Information on the state of scientific and technological development
- IV. International cooperation within the project
 - a. Added value of international cooperation
 - b. Contributions of the Singaporean partners, access to Singaporean resources

- c. Experience of the participating partners in international cooperation; previous collaborations
 - d. Participation by commercial companies, particularly SMEs, on the German side
- V. Sustainability of the measure/exploitation plan
 - a. Expected scientific results
 - b. Lasting consolidation of the cooperation with the project partners in Singapore
 - c. Planned exploitation (above all commercial exploitation by the consortium and by the German partners in particular, information about target groups, market potential, potential competitors, barriers to market entry, existing intellectual property rights, handling of intellectual property rights in the consortium); planned cooperation in follow-up projects where appropriate
 - d. Planned expansion of the cooperation to other institutions and networks in the partner countries
- VI. Description of the planned steps of the cooperation project
- VII. Estimated expenditure/costs

The outline must show clearly how all the partners are evenly represented in the project's tasks and results. The protection of intellectual property also plays an important role in this context. In order to facilitate coordination with the Singaporean partners, the project outline may be submitted in English. In this case, the outline must be accompanied by a one-page summary in German.

The evaluation of the project outlines received may involve external experts and will be based on the following criteria:

- I. Fulfilment of the formal prerequisites for funding
- II. Compliance with the funding aims of the call stated in section 1 above and the object of funding stated in section 2 above
- III. Scientific criteria
 - a. Quality and originality of the project
 - b. Relevance to BMBF programmes on the focal topic
 - c. Expertise of the applicant and the German and international partners involved
 - d. Scientific benefits and prospects for the exploitation of the expected results
- IV. Criteria concerning international cooperation
 - a. Initiation/development of new international partnerships
 - b. Experience of the applicant in international cooperation

- c. Lasting consolidation of bilateral/international partnerships
- d. Quality of the cooperation and added value for partner institutions
- e. Support for young researchers

V. Plausibility and feasibility of the project (financing; milestones; time frame)

Suitable project outlines will be selected for funding on the basis of the above criteria and evaluation. Applicants will be informed in writing of the result of the selection process.

Applicants have no legal claim to the return of their project outlines and of any other documents which they may have submitted in this phase of the procedure.

7.2.2 Submission of formal proposals and decision-making procedure

In the second phase of the funding procedure, the applicants whose project outlines have been successful will be invited to submit formal proposals. An application for funding is only complete if at least the requirements of Article 6(2) GBER (cf. Annex) are fulfilled.

The "easy-Online" electronic application system must be used for drafting formal applications (taking into account the requirements set out in the Annex). (<https://foerderportal.bund.de/easyonline>).

In the case of collaborative projects, the formal proposals of the individual partners must be submitted in consultation with the envisaged project coordinator.

Formal proposals must include:

- I. A detailed (sub-)project description
- II. A detailed work plan and time schedule
 - a. Feasibility of the work plan
 - b. Plausibility of the time schedule
- III. Detailed information about the financing of the project
 - c. Appropriateness and need for the requested amount of funding
 - d. Security of overall financing during the entire project period

The work and financial plans will be evaluated in accordance with the criteria listed under 7.2.2 (II and III).

The formal proposals must observe and fulfil any thematic or funding requirements and/or the evaluators' recommendations for the implementation of the project.

It is absolutely imperative for applicants to include a project description in German in their formal proposals. This should not exceed 12 pages.

A funding decision will be taken after final consideration on the basis of the above criteria and evaluation.

7.3 Provisions to be observed

The approval, payment and accounting for the funds as well as the proof and examination of the proper use and, if necessary, the revocation of the award and the reclaiming of the funds awarded are governed by sections 48 to 49a of the Administrative Procedure Act (VwVfG), sections 23 and 44 of the Federal Budget Code (BHO) and the related general administrative regulations unless deviation is allowed from the general administrative regulations under the present funding regulations. The *Bundesrechnungshof* is entitled to carry out audits in accordance with Section 91 of the Federal Budget Code (BHO).

8 Validity

These funding regulations will be valid until the day of expiry of their legal basis for state aid, the GBER (cf. annex), to which a six-month adaptation period is added, that is, until 30 June 2021. If the period of the GBER is extended without relevant modification of the state aid provisions, the duration of these funding regulations will be extended accordingly, though not beyond 30 October 2024. If the GBER is not extended but replaced by a new GBER or if relevant amendments are made to the content of the currently applicable GBER, follow-up funding regulations will be adopted which will comply with the then applicable exemption provisions and remain effective at least until 31 December 2024.

Bonn, **12 December 2018**

Federal Ministry of
Education and Research

Dr. Lothar Mennicken

Annex

1 General prerequisites for funding

The aid is only lawful if all the prerequisites of Chapter I GBER and the prerequisites in Chapter III applicable to the designated category of state aid are fulfilled in line with Article 3 GBER and the national courts are obliged to order the repayment of unlawful state aid in accordance with the rulings of the European courts.

In applying for funding under these funding regulations, applicants commit themselves to actively cooperate in complying with the requirements of state aid legislation. Thus, applicants must, upon application or subsequently, provide information and documentation requested by the funding provider as evidence of credit worthiness and conformity with state aid requirements. Furthermore, applicants must cooperate within any procedures of or at the European Commission and comply with all requirements of the Commission.

A prerequisite for the granting of state aid under an aid scheme exempted by the GBER is that this has an incentive effect within the meaning of Article 6 GBER. State aid is considered to have an incentive effect if the beneficiary has submitted a written application for the aid in a Member State concerned before work on the project or activity starts. The application for aid must include at least the following information: name and size of the undertaking; description of the project including its start and end dates; location of the project; the costs of the project; type of aid (e.g. grant, loan, guarantee, repayable advance payment or capital injection) and size of the public financing needed for the project.

State aid on the basis of the GBER will not be granted if there are grounds for exclusion under Article 1(2 to 5) GBER; in particular this applies if the undertaking is subject to an outstanding recovery order following a previous Commission decision declaring an aid illegal and incompatible with the internal market or the undertaking is an “undertaking in difficulty” as defined in Article 2(18) GBER.

European legislation requires that every individual aid exceeding EUR 500 000 must be published on a special website (cf. Article 9 GBER).

In individual cases, the funding received may be monitored by the Commission in line with Article 12 GBER.

State aid is granted under these funding regulations in the form of grants in accordance with Article 5(1 and 2) GBER.

The GBER restricts the granting of state aid for economic activities in the following areas to the corresponding maximum amounts stated below:

- EUR 40 million per undertaking, per project which mostly involves fundamental research (Article 4(1)(i)(i) GBER); that is the case where more than half of the eligible costs of the project are incurred through activities which fall within the category of fundamental research;
- EUR 20 million per undertaking, per project which mostly involves industrial research (Article 4(1)(i)(ii) GBER); that is the case where more than half of the eligible costs of the project are incurred through activities which fall within the category of industrial

research or within the categories of industrial research and fundamental research taken together;

- EUR 15 million per undertaking, per project which mostly involves experimental development (Article 4(1)(i)(iii) GBER); that is the case where more than half of the eligible costs of the project are incurred through activities which fall within the category of experimental development.

The rules concerning cumulation set out in Article 8 GBER must be observed when determining whether these maximum amounts ('notification thresholds') are respected. The maximum amounts may not be circumvented by artificially splitting up projects with related content. Partial approval up to the maximum amount of aid subject to notification is not permitted.

2 Scope/rates of funding; cumulation

The following provisions of the GBER apply to these funding regulations, in particular concerning eligible costs and state aid intensities. The following eligible costs and intensities set out the overall thresholds within which eligible costs and rates of funding for projects involving economic activity can be granted.

The aided part of the research project must fall completely within one or more of the following categories:

- Fundamental research
- Industrial research
- Experimental development

(cf. Article 25(2) GBER; definitions according to Article 2(84 et seqq.) GBER).

For the purpose of classifying research work as basic research, industrial research, and experimental development, please refer to the relevant information in no. 75 and footnote no. 2 of the R&D&I state aid Framework.

The eligible costs of each research and development project must be allocated to the relevant research and development categories.

Eligible costs in accordance with Article 25(3) GBER are:

- Staff costs: for researchers, technicians and other supporting staff to the extent employed on the project (Article 25(3)(a) GBER);
- Costs of instruments and equipment to the extent and for the period used for the project. Where such instruments and equipment are not used for their full life for the project, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the project, as calculated on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles are considered as eligible (Article 25(3)(b) GBER);
- Costs of contractual research, knowledge and patents bought or licensed from outside sources at arm's length conditions, as well as costs of consultancy and equivalent services used exclusively for the project (Article 25(3)(d) GBER);

- Additional overheads and other operating expenses, including costs of materials, supplies and similar products, incurred directly as a result of the project (Article 25(3)(e) GBER).

Pursuant to Article 25(5) GBER, the aid intensity for each beneficiary must not exceed the following rates:

- 100% of the eligible costs for fundamental research (Article 25(5)(a) GBER)
- 50% of the eligible costs for industrial research (Article 25(5)(b) GBER)
- 25% of the eligible costs for experimental development (Article 25(5)(c) GBER)

The aid intensities for industrial research and experimental development may be increased up to a maximum 80% of the costs eligible for state aid as follows if the prerequisites stated in Article 25(6) are fulfilled:

- by 10 percentage points for medium-sized enterprises
- by 20 percentage points for small enterprises
- by 15 percentage points if one of the following conditions is fulfilled:

The project involves effective collaboration

- between undertakings among which at least one is an SME, or is carried out in at least two EU Member States, or in a Member State and in a Contracting Party of the EEA Agreement, and no single undertaking bears more than 70% of the eligible costs, or
- between an undertaking and one or more research and knowledge-dissemination organisations, where the latter bear at least 10% of the eligible costs and have the right to publish their own research results;
- the results of the project are widely disseminated through conferences, publication, open access repositories, or free or open source software.

Article 7(1) GBER requires that the eligible costs be supported by documentary evidence which must be clear, specific and contemporary.

For the purposes of calculating aid intensity and eligible costs, all figures used must be taken before any deduction of tax or other charge.

For the purposes of complying with the maximum permissible aid intensity, the rules concerning cumulation set out in Article 8 GBER must be observed:

The cumulation of several aid measures for the same eligible costs/expenditure is only allowed in exceptional cases as specified as follows:

Where European Union funding centrally managed by the institutions, agencies, joint undertakings or other bodies of the Union, which is not directly or indirectly under the control of Member States and therefore does not constitute state aid (including the European Structural and Investment Funds among others), is combined with state aid, only the latter may be considered for determining whether notification thresholds and maximum aid intensities or maximum aid amounts are respected, provided that the total amount of public funding granted in relation to the same eligible costs (including centrally managed Union

funds) does not exceed the most favourable funding rate laid down in the applicable rules of European Union law.

Aid with identifiable eligible costs exempted by the GBER may be cumulated with: (a) any other state aid, as long as those measures concern different identifiable eligible costs, (b) any other state aid, in relation to the same eligible costs, partly or fully overlapping, only if such cumulation does not result in exceeding the highest aid intensity or aid amount applicable to this aid under the GBER.

Aid without identifiable eligible costs may be cumulated with any other state aid without identifiable eligible costs, up to the highest relevant total financing threshold fixed in the specific circumstances of each case by the GBER or a decision adopted by the Commission.

State aid exempted under the GBER may not be cumulated with any de minimis aid in respect of the same eligible costs if such cumulation would result in an aid intensity or aid amount exceeding those laid down in Chapter III of the GBER.