**Act of 29 November 2013,**
**(§ 30a)**
**amending and supplementing Act No. 523/2004 Coll. on the General Government Budgetary Rules and on amendments to certain other Acts, in the wording of subsequent regulations**

„§ 30a
Specific Provisions on the Balanced Budget of the General Government

(1) The general government budget shall be balanced or in surplus. The general government budget shall be deemed balanced also in a situation where the general government deficit, adjusted for the impact of the economic cycle and one-off impacts (hereinafter referred to as the "structural deficit") is equal to or below 0.5% of gross domestic product[42ac)]; the one-off impact is a revenue or expenditure which is not of a permanent or recurring nature and the impact of which on the general government balance is limited in time. If the ratio of the general government debt[42ad)] is significantly below 60% of gross domestic product and the risks in terms of long-term sustainability[42ae)] are minimal, the structural deficit may be equal to or lower than 1% of gross domestic product. A balanced budget or a surplus budget of the general government, including the adjustment path towards the medium-term objective, shall be ensured in compliance with the international treaty binding for the Slovak Republic and pursuant to separate regulations.[42ac)]

(2) In the case of a significant deviation[42af)] from the medium-term objective or from the adjustment path towards the objective referred to in paragraph 1, a correction mechanism shall be applied; the Ministry of Finance shall, pursuant to separate regulations[42ag)], publish a notice on whether a significant deviation has occurred, twice a year, by 30 June and 30 November of the current budgetary year. If the Ministry of Finance publishes a notice that a significant deviation has occurred, it shall propose to the Government a public expenditure ceiling and measures for the period of correction of the significant deviation, taking into account the magnitude of the deviation and respecting the medium-term objective and annual reduction in the share of the general government deficit in gross domestic product pursuant to separate regulations[42ag)]; the public expenditure ceiling is defined as the maximum amount of accrued consolidated expenditures of the general government. The Ministry of Finance shall discuss, in advance, any proposal for measures with impact on local governments with the national associations of municipalities and representatives of higher territorial units. The Government shall decide on the correction mechanism, as part of which it shall also decide on the proposed public expenditure ceiling and approve measures to be implemented as part of the correction mechanism; before the Government takes the decision, the proposal shall be assessed by the Council for Budget Responsibility.[42ah)] If the Government chooses not to apply the correction mechanism, it shall deliver to the Parliament a written justification of the decision not to apply correction mechanism.

(3) The obligation to activate the correction mechanism shall not apply during the existence of exceptional circumstances.[42ai)] The beginning and end of the duration of exceptional circumstances shall be declared by the Government based on the proposal by the Ministry of Finance and subject to prior assessment thereof by the Council for Budget Responsibility.

(4) The Council for Budget Responsibility shall assess and publish its assessment of the application or non-application of the correction mechanism pursuant to paragraph 2 and of the beginning and end of the duration of extraordinary circumstances pursuant to paragraph 3; the Ministry of Finance shall publish its opinions on such assessments.“.

Footnotes to references 42ac to 42ai shall have the wording as follows:

“42ac) Article 3, paragraph 1 (b) of the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the European Economic Area between the Kingdom of Belgium, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Kingdom of Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Republic of Estonia, Ireland, the Hellenic Republic, the Kingdom of Spain, the Republic of France, the Republic of Italy, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Poland, the Portuguese Republic, the Republic of Romania, the Republic of Slovenia, the Slovak Republic, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden (Notification No. 18/2013 Coll. of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic).
Council Regulation (EC) No 1466/97 of 7 July 1997 on the strengthening of the surveillance of budgetary positions and the surveillance and coordination of economic policies (Extraordinary issue OJ EU, chapter 10/vol. 1, OJ EC L 209, 2.08.1997), as amended.
Council Regulation (EC) No. 1467/97 of 7 July 1997 on speeding up and clarifying the implementation of the excessive deficit procedure (Extraordinary issue OJ EU, chapter 10/vol.1, OJ EC L 209, 02.08.1997), as amended.
42ad) Article 5(2) of constitutional act 493/2011 Coll.
42ae) Article 2, paragraph (a) of constitutional act 493/2011 Coll.
42af) Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 1466/97.
42ag) Articles 5 and 6 of Regulation (EC) No 1466/97.
Article 3(4) of Regulation (EC) No. 1467/97.
42ah) Article 3 of constitutional act 493/2011 Coll.
42ai) Article 3, paragraph 3(b) of the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union (Notification No. 18/2013 of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs).“.