Description:

(a) Mining and quarrying (ISIC Rev. 3.1 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, CPC 5115, 7131, 8675, 883)

With respect to Investment liberalisation – Market access:

In **NL**: The exploration for and exploitation of hydrocarbons in the Netherlands is always performed jointly by a private company and the public (limited) company designated by the Minister of Economic Affairs. Articles 81 and 82 of the Mining Act stipulate that all shares in this designated company must be directly or indirectly held by the Dutch State (ISIC Rev. 3.1 10, 3.1 11, 3.1 12, 3.1 13, 3.1 14).

Measures:
NL: Mijnbouwwet (Mining Act).

With respect to Investment liberalisation – Market access, National treatment:

In **BE**: The exploration for and exploitation of mineral resources and other non-living resources in territorial waters and the continental shelf are subject to concession. The concessionaire must have an address for service in Belgium (ISIC Rev. 3.1:14).

Measures:
BE: Arrêté Royal du 1er septembre 2004 relatif aux conditions, à la délimitation géographique et à la procédure d'octroi des concessions d'exploration et d'exploitation des ressources minérales et autres ressources non vivantes de la mer territoriale et du plateau continental.

In **BG**: Certain economic activities related to the exploitation or use of State or public property are subject to concessions granted under the provisions of the Concessions Act or other special concessions laws. The activities of prospecting or exploration of underground natural resources on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, in the continental shelf and in the exclusive economic zone in the Black Sea are subject to permission, while the activities of extraction and exploitation are subject to concession granted under the Underground Natural Resources Act.

It is forbidden for companies registered in preferential tax treatment jurisdictions (that is, off-shore zones) or related, directly or indirectly, to such companies to participate in open procedures for granting permits or concessions for prospecting, exploration or extraction of natural resources, including uranium and thorium ores, as well as to operate an existing permit or concession which has been granted, as such operations are precluded, including the possibility to register the geological or commercial discovery of a deposit as a result of exploration.