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NEWSLETTER NO. 104

FEBRUARY 2013

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FOREIGN INVESTMENT PROMOTION AGENCY
OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

THE CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES' PRODUCTS EXPO 2014, 8-11 JUNE 2014, NINGBO, ZHEJIANG PROVINCE, CHINA

The Ministry of Commerce of People's Republic of China will organize from 8th to 11th June 2014 in Ningbo, Zhejiang Province, in China, the Ministerial Conference of China and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe on the promotion of economy and trade, as well as Special Products Fair for countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

This conference and fair will be organized in line with the Guidelines from Bucharest on cooperation between China and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, adopted at the 2nd Summit of the Prime Ministers of Central and Eastern Europe and the People's Republic of China on 26th November 2013 in order to further develop economic and trade relations and improve balanced development of the bilateral trade.

When it comes to the fair, the Chinese side will provide 10 free standard booths and shall provide support for the approval of goods at custom.

The Embassy of the People's Republic of China is ready to provide assistance to the BiH businesspeople interested in participating at this fair regarding visa issues.

FIPA ACTIVITIES ≡

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FIPA BLAZENKA MISKOVIC PARTICIPATED AT THE 17TH EURASIAN ECONOMIC SUMMIT



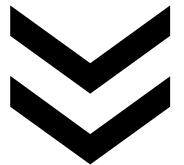
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FIPA MET WITH THE MINISTER OF ECONOMY OF SREDNJA BOSNA CANTON



...AND MORE ACTIVITIES...



THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FIPA BLAZENKA MISKOVIC PARTICIPATED AT THE 17TH EUR-ASIAN ECONOMIC SUMMIT



17th Eurasian Economic Summit was organized by Marmara Group in Istanbul from 4th to 6th February 2014. It was attended by representatives of legislative and executive authorities, international organizations, associations of entrepreneurs and large number of business people from Europe, Asia and other parts of the world.

Participants were addressed by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of BiH Mr Vjekoslav Bevanda, stressing among other huge investment potential that our country has.

The Deputy Director of FIPA, Blazenka Miskovic participated at the summit and at meetings with potential investors she provided information on investment potential, the legislation in the field of investment, sectors and investment opportunities in BiH.

Turkey is one of the investors in BiH, and newly established contacts and meetings held with potential investors from Turkey represent an additional contribution to the existing cooperation.

The Deputy Director had a meeting with Mr. Ilker Ayci , President of ISPAT (Agency for the Support and Promotion of Investments of Turkey), in which they discussed the possibilities of cooperation between the two partner agencies through exchange of information and experience in the field of attracting investments.



DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FIPA MET WITH THE MINISTER OF ECONOMY OF SREDNJA BOSNA CANTON



On 17th February 2014, the Deputy Director of FIPA Blazenka Miskovic met in Travnik with the Minister of Economy of Srednja Bosna Canton Mr Sedzad Milanovic to discuss strengthening cooperation between the two institutions.

The Deputy Director of FIPA informed Mr Milanovic on planned promotion's activities in 2014 with a special emphasis on the promotion of agriculture and tourism sectors which represent important and underused potential of BiH. Agriculture and tourism are the resources that provide great opportunities for investment in this Canton.

Mr Milanovic presented information on the economy in Canton and the taken measures and adopted laws and regulations of the cantonal government in order to improve business conditions, as well as the activities of the Ministry in the field of economic development and attracting investment.

It was expressed interest in realization of projects Canton in cooperation with foreign partners, and it has agreed to intensive institutional cooperation in the field of promotion and attracting investment.

BUSINESS & INVESTMENT NEWS ≡

≡ BIH FARMERS AT FRUIT LOGISTICAL FAIR IN BERLIN



INVESTMENT IN TPP "UGLJEVIK 3" AND HPP "MRSOVO"- 350 MILLION BAM ≡



...AND MORE NEWS...



HELIOPLAST OPENED NEW PLANT FOR PRODUCTION OF PLASTIC PACKAGING



Helioplast from Gracanica opened a brand new manufacturing facility, and formalized the acquisition with RPC Superfos, one of the five clusters within the British company RPC GroupPlc.

It is a leader in the production of packaging, which operates across Europe and the U.S. and who recognized Helioplast as a serious partner, ready to compete in the most demanding markets, thanks to its product quality and the achieved results.

In the new organization, RPC Superfos will own 80 percent of Helioplast, while the old owners will retain the remaining 20 percent.

In addition to Mayor of Gracanica Nusret Helic, today's festive activities were attended by the Ambassador of France in BiH Roland Gilles, representatives of the British Embassy in BiH, Prime Minister Tuzla Canton (TK) Sead Causevic, representatives of the British partner Pim Vervas and Rene Valentin and his associates, Ledo CEO Tomislav Kitonic, as well as numerous Gracanica businessmen and friends of Helioplast.

RPC representatives pointed out that Helioplast fits well into their growth plans, and that their goal is to help Helioplast, take it into the RPC group, develop it and give a stronger position in the market.

They stressed that their plans include the continuation of the established practices in communicating with customers, along with a successful and capable management.



BIH FARMERS AT FRUIT LOGISTICAL FAIR IN BERLIN

Organized by the BiH Foreign Trade Chamber (VTK), the Swiss Programme of Promotion of Import to EU and Switzerland (SIPPO) and USAID/Sida FARMA project, BiH delegation of agriculture sector will visit Fruit Logistica fair, the most important international trade fair in the sector of fresh fruits and vegetables, which will be held from 5th to 7th February in Berlin.

The delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in addition to the organizers, will consist of the representatives of 18 BiH companies of which Maocanka Commerce from Brcko and Vocni Rasadnik from Srebrenik, will represent the BiH at SIPPO as exhibitors.



ITALIANS WILL INVEST 1.5 MILLION EUR IN BOSANSKO GRAHOVO



On the basis of the Law on Agricultural Land and the Decision of the Mayor of Bosansko Grahovo, the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Forestry of Zapadna-Herzegovina Canton Ilija Slivic signed with the Italian company "Gabiccini" Ltd. Livno an Agreement on the Lease of Agricultural Land in the Municipality of Bosansko Grahovo,

Agreement is concluded for 10 years and the lease is covering approximately 344 hectares of agricultural land with the annual lease amount of 48.000 BAM.

Italian company "Gabiccini" has been present at the European market in the poultry industry for many years.

According to the presented project, the value of the investment in the leased land will amount to 1,5 million EUR.

It is also planned to construct a farm and a factory for feed production, which would create new jobs for local population.



ANNOUNCEMENT OF INVESTMENT IN ENERGY SECTOR OF RS

The Government of RS adopted at the last session the Decision on starting procedure for granting of the coal exploitation concession at the site Delic and Peljave - Tobut „in municipalities of Lopare and Ugljevik.

According to the proposal of Decision, the total value of investments is 203 498 195 BAM.

The initiative for concessions on the mentioned deposits has launched by the company „ŽComsar Energy Ltd. Banja Luka“.

This project should employ 261 workers, and temporarily another 150 workers.

Based on the made study, the deposit has 35,838,453 tons of exploitation reserves, while the planned annual coal production should amount to 2 million tons. Reserves will allow exploitation in the next 19 years.

Coal will be used for Thermal Power Plant „Ugljevik 3“ for the electricity production.



INVESTMENT IN TPP “UGLJEVIK 3” AND HPP “MRSOVO”- 350 MILLION BAM



The company “Comsar Energy” will invest this year in RS, about 350 million KM in two major projects: the construction of TPP “Ugljevik 3”, 2X300 MW of installed capacity, and HPP “Mrsovo” in the Municipality of Rudo. The total investment of both plants exceeds one billion EUR.

The works on the Thermal Power Plant 3 in Ugljevik should start till the second half of 2014, and the deadline for construction of TPP is between 36 and 40 months from the start of work.

Works at the river turning and excavation of the foundations for gravitational dam for HPP “Mrsovo” will start at the beginning of 2015.

This project of the company “Comsar Energy” in RS is the largest Greenfield investment in the energy sector in Southeast Europe.



BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA SHOE FACTORY “BEMA” IS EXPANDING

Bosnia Herzegovina Shoe Factory “Bema” in Mrkonjic Grad is expanding.

From the beginning of this year, they have already hired 45 employees and plans to introduce other shifts, which would be secured position for another 350 people.

The company currently has 300 employees with total production exported to the EU market.



SANITEKS D.D. BUZIM OPENS 120 NEW JOBS



At a time, when unemployed people in BiH are trained and perfected to work in fields that are in deficit in the EU, the Development Agency Una-Sana Canton in cooperation with partners has launched a program of training and retraining for local firms.

It is about 120 persons from the unemployment register in Buzim, which will get the first job in the production facility of the company Saniteks d.d. in Buzim.



NINETEEN COMPANIES FROM THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA HAVE A CONTRACT OF REPRESENTATION AND DISTRIBUTION SIGNED WITH COMPANIES BASED IN THE FEDERATION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Among those companies are: Swislion Takovo, Vino Zupa Aleksandrovac, Sinalco Sabac, Jumis Nis, Bambi Pozarevac, Centro proizvod Beograd, Jaffa Crvenka, Nectar Backa Palanka, Dairy from Sabac (Imlek), Hello juices Smederovo, Rubin Krusevac, Vinarija Coka.



RUSSIANS TAKE OVER THE MOVABLE PROPERTY OF BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA'S FORMER "ENERGOINVEST" SWITCHGEAR EQUIPMENT



Bosnia Herzegovina Minister of Industry, Energy and Mines of the Republic of Srpska, Zeljko Kovacevic said that Russian investors have taken over the movable property of the former "Energoinvest" Switchgear Equipment / RAOP.

Immediately after taking movable property, 30 workers were hired.

"They have serious intentions, as they have invested 7.5 million and have the intention that in the future they will invest millions of euros. They want to keep production that used to be in the switch equipment and want to re-hire workers, but they were not in a position to move with it, because they were taken over movable property ", said Kovacevic.



FIRST LABORATORY IN BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA FOR FURNITURE AND WOOD PRODUCT TESTING OPENED

The first laboratory in Bosnia Herzegovina for testing of furniture and wood products (LIND) was opened in premises of the Techno Park in Zenica on the occasion of the accreditation of the laboratory. The LIND is now accredited to certify that wood products meet the EU security standards which are necessary for the export of these products to the EU market.

The LIND laboratory was established through successful implementation of the EU funded project 'ŽMENTOR'. The aim of this project was to provide support to the transfer of new technologies and standards into BiH wood industry and increase export and competitiveness of small and medium enterprises. Holger Schroeder, Head of Operations at the EU Delegation to BiH stressed that this project has demonstrated how IPA funds can be used in a targeted and effective manner to help business and promote competitiveness and employment. He also said that the accreditation of the LIND laboratory is result and a perfect example of the good cooperation. Certificate of Accreditation was awarded by the representative of the Institute for Accreditation of Bosnia and Herzegovina - BATA, Zarko Petrovic, and the host of this event was the Mayor of Zenica, Husejin Smajlovic.

The project was implemented by the Zenica Economic Development Agency (ZEDA) together with their partners, Regional Development Agency of Central BiH, Zenica University, businesses and authorities at local, cantonal and entity level. The EU funding of 400.000 EUR was matched with total co-funding of 100.000 EUR provided by Municipality Zenica, Government of Zenica-Doboj Canton and FBiH Ministry of Development, Entrepreneurship and Crafts.



AN ITALIAN COMPANY OPENS NEW PRODUCTION FACILITY IN NOVO GORAZDE



The Mayor of the Municipality of Novo Gorazde Dalibor Neskovic confirmed that the contract on opening of new production facility was signed with the Italian textile company "La Distributrice" which produces clothing of the well-known brand "Ladini".



ITALIAN COMPANY SOCKSMAKER 3 TO TRANSFER PRODUCTION FROM CHINA TO BIH

Italian company Socksmaker 3, the first socks manufacturer in BiH, has decided to leave China and transfer its facilities to BiH and employ additional 80 workers, with an investment of one million euros.

The Ambassador of Italy in BiH Ruggero Corrias, together with the BiH Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations Ermina Salkicevic-Dizdarevic, visited Usora and toured Liquivex company, where Italy's Liquigas has 90% of capital, and said that "the delocalization of production to BiH, flowered by strong diplomacy as support to growth, can be an opportunity for development and growth of both countries."

"Along with a European law on gas, companies such as Italy's Liquivex would be ready to double up their investments in BiH. This is a path that should be followed in order to attract bigger investments, new employment and fight social and economic grievances," the ambassador said.

MEETING & EVENTS ≡

February 4-6

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FIPA BLAZENKA MISKOVIC PARTICIPATED AT THE 17TH EURASIAN ECONOMIC SUMMIT

February 17

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FIPA MET WITH THE MINISTER OF ECONOMY OF SREDNJA BOSNA CANTON

A map of Europe with white outlines of countries on a blue background. The country of Bosnia and Herzegovina is highlighted in the colors of its flag: yellow, blue, and white with stars.

INVEST IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA YOUR NEW OPPORTUNITY

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WHY INVEST IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA?

- STRATEGIC LOCATION
- AVAILABLE NATURAL RESOURCES AND BEAUTIES
- LONG TRADITION IN DIFFERENT INDUSTRY BRANCHES
- ABUNDANCE OF INDUSTRIAL ZONE, ATTRACTIVE SITES AND AVAILABLE PRODUCTION FACILITIES
- FAVOURABLE LEGAL ENVIRONMENT
 - LOW TAX RATES
- HIGHLY EDUCATED AND PRICE COMPETITIVE LABOUR FORCE
 - STABLE DOMESTIC CURRENCY BAM PEGGED TO EURO
 - REGIONAL AND BILATERAL FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS
 - EU PERSPECTIVE