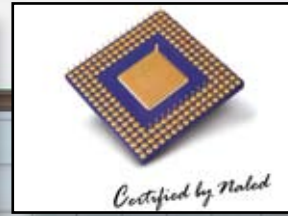




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TOURING INVESTMENTS IN NIS CITY

Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic together with his associates organised an investment bus ride for the national and local media representatives.



Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic speaking to media after bus tour

The idea was to show all investment locations. The guide to all those locations was the Mayor himself.

“We have managed to create the necessary conditions for the implementation of the investment projects worth 300 million Euros and thus create new 700 jobs. We have created those conditions by cooperating closely with republic and international institutions and by establishing the relations of

partnership with the investors”, said Mayor Simonovic.

Media representatives visited the Industrial Zone North and locations for future Science and Technological Park, Company Supernova commercial complex, National Bank of Serbia archives, and the potential location for expanded capacities of Benetton factory. Mayor also took the media representatives to see the reconstructed boulevards and new public lighting along the



reconstructed main city traffic roads. He also presented the location of ex military barracks Bubanjski heroji where new commercial and residential center was expected to be built. The bus took them all to El complex and to the companies there that were employing 1000 workers. Mayor Simonovic also presented the locations of Lozni kalem where Aqua Park Complex would be built and the location of former Medijana motel intended for new business and commercial complex.

The Mayor and the journalist stopped to visit two successful local companies Harder Digital Sova and Triple Crown specializing in the

production of optical and electronic equipment. Mayor's decision to visit those two companies was based on the intention to show that a lot of small and medium sized local companies were doing business successfully.

At the end of the bus tour, Mayor Simonovic and media representatives met with business community representatives at Nis City Airport Constantine the Great. This was an opportunity for media to learn straight from horse's mouth about the positive experience that investors had in doing business with the city administration.



Visiting local successful company

BENETTON RESPECTS RECONSTRUCTION PLAN

Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic and Serbian Benetton Branch Manager Flavio Smonetti visited Bentton new factory facilities at Nitex complex.

Benetton Group SpA (BEN), Italy's largest clothing retailer, bought production facilities of apparel maker Nitex. Benetton is going to offer employment to 2,700 people over the next four years. A four-year operation plan involves the Italians using the plant for knitwear and woven textile clothing production, primarily for export worldwide. By the end of 2011 Benetton expects to produce 1 million garments in Nitex plant. The total value of this investment project is 43.2 million EUR.

The reconstruction of the old Nitex Complex is going according to planned dynamics. Also the dynamics of hiring workers is being respected. Currently 150 workers are being employed in the production. Benetton plans to hire up to 900 workers next year. Benetton also brought to Niš its subsidiaries and suppliers and the company also established cooperation with domestic companies that could meet the standards of this company. The production will be primarily intended for export and it is planned that annual turn-over in the full

capacity of the factory will reach 72 million Euros.

The City of Niš has been supporting Benetton within the jurisdiction of local authorities, assuming all responsibility for providing proper and expeditious administrative service. City of Niš, in cooperation with Free Customs Zones Administration and upon approval of Government of Republic of Serbia, intends to extend Free Customs Zone onto the ex Nitex Complex.

On January 31, 2011 Niš City Mayor Miloš Simonović, Serbian Government Vice President and Minister of Economy and Regional Development, Mlađan Dinkić and Operations Director Fabio Sartori, signed an Agreement on Regulation of Mutual Rights and Obligations regarding the investment in Niš. The auction for Nitex Complex property was held in May 2011. On May 31, 2011, the Purchase Sale Contract for Nitex Complex was signed in Nis. The official ceremony was attended by Serbian President Boris Tadić and Benetton Group President Luciano Benetton.



Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic and Serbian Benetton Branch Manager Flavio Simonetti



Production has already started

FREE ZONE IN NIS

In March this year, RS Government adopted the Strategy for the Development of Free Zones till 2016 and new incentives for export oriented zone users doing business in the zones.

The companies which decide to do their business in the zone will have fiscal benefits (exemptions from any tax burden for customs fee and VAT. Additional incentives are expected to be adopted additionally by RS Government.

MoUs that RS Government and City of Nis signed with the companies Yura Corporation, Dytech, Shin Won and Benetton stipulated the provision of establishing free zones where those companies would do their business.

Free Zone South, with HQ in Nis, is located on three different locations: in industrial zone DONJE MEDJUROVO and NITEX Complex, both in Nis. The third location is in industrial zone in Prokuplje where the factory LEONI is. This Free Zone should

start operating by end of 2012; it will employ 7500 workers and the total investment is 90mil Euros (43.2 mil EUR by Benetton, 15 mil EUR by Yura, 15 mil EUR by Leoni, 13 mil EUR by Shin Won and 8 mil EUR by Dytech). Decision for establishing Free Zone South has been made by City of Nis and Municipality of Prokuplje, where Nis will have 70% of interest and Prokuplje 30%. Also, the decision was made to form the company to manage the free zone. The free zone founders will forward the request for establishing zone borders to the RS Ministry of Finance Administration for Free Zones. The companies, which will be using the services of this free zone, are mostly from automobile and textile industry.

By establishing Free Zone



Free Zone in Nis

South the City of Nis will create conditions for attracting new investors and promoting competitiveness on the direct investment market.

BUSINESSMEN FROM NIS AND EASTERN SERBIA MUNICIPALITIES TOGETHER AT ROUNDTABLE

With the support of GIZ-KWD Programme, in the organization of NALED and OLED Nis, the roundtable was held at the Nis City Airport Constantine the Great with the Working Group for Entrepreneurship Development.

Besides EDWG members, the roundtable was attended by businessmen from Nis, as well as by representatives of SME sector from certain municipalities of Eastern Serbia. The programmes of support to business and entrepreneurship, opportunities and ways of using financial and non-financial assistance to SME sector and cooperation between public and private sector were discussed at the roundtable.

At the very beginning of the roundtable, the results of the analysis on entrepreneurship conducted in Eastern Serbia municipalities were presented. The objective of this analysis was to determine the data which could be used to assess participation and importance of entrepreneurs, small and medium sized enterprises in overall economy of

these municipalities. OLED Nis delivered short presentation on activities in the field of local economic development and cooperation with local business community.

National Agency for Regional Development (NARR) presented programs of financial and non-financial assistance to SME sector as well as results of certain programs (such as support to SME competitiveness development, support to associations of entrepreneurs, support to SME to enhance innovation and similar) and comparative review of the use of these funds in 10 municipalities in Eastern Serbia. The representatives of - Internal and External SME Networking Project, which was supported by Kingdom of Denmark Ministry of Interior Neighbourhood Programme and



Entrepreneurship Development Working Group

implemented by LEDIB also took active part at the roundtable. At the end of meeting, the representatives of local businesses from Nis and the region spoke about the cooperation with Nis City Office for Local Economic Development.

CAMPAIGN STARTS FOR PROMOTING INVESTMENTS INTO CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES WITH NALED CERTIFICATE

Niš City, as the city being certified by NALED, participated at the official launching of the campaign for the promotion of investments into cities and municipalities with NALED certificate held at Belgrade Airport Constantine the Great. Seven cities and municipalities were presented at the press conference.

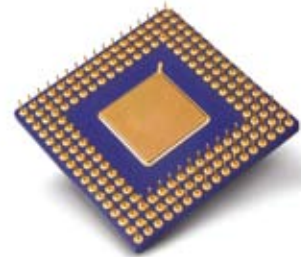
“The campaign has started today. Nis City is presented as the smart investment and we joined our forces with Yura Company as our best practice example. We hope that this campaign will help us to continue good trend of investors coming to Niš”, said Milan Randjelovic, Head of Nis City Office for Local Economic Development.

Dejan Radulovic, assistant to RS Minister of Economy and Regional Development, on this occasion stated that the ministry had excellent cooperation with the City of Nis in relation to implementation of the investment projects, supporting regional development and Regional Development Council. “Our campaign intends to promote municipalities and cities where the investors have recognized the quality of service provided by local administrations and the efficiency of responding to the investors’ needs”, said Vladimir Cupic, NALED Steering Committee President.

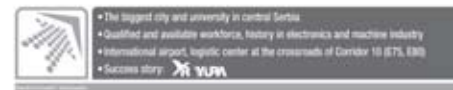
NALED Certification program is a process that promotes standards and enables evaluation of quality of services and information that local governments provide to businesses. Program certification is an instrument that allows assessment of the quality of local communities related to their investment opportunities, initiatives to attract investments and programs subsequent care of business offering. Amongst the cities and municipalities which have been certified so far, the City of Niš collected 96.5 points out of 100 possible. Obtaining the business-friendly certificate as a seal of excellence

of local administration, municipalities are ranked high in a select group of local communities in Serbia which are dedicated to economic development in the long-term and that due to consistent reforms of the municipal administration, managed to create conditions favorable for business development and influx of investors. In order to receive this certificate the local self government should become efficient in providing services to the citizens which will simplify and promote the system of its functioning. On the other hand, local self government should be a partner to local business community trying to respond to their needs.

Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic, said related to the campaign beginning that the City of Nis was the city with the most foreign and national investments. The city managed to impact in the best possible way the creation of business friendly environment by offering real business opportunities, by presenting success business ventures and by promoting potentials for economic development. The city management accepts new business ideas and plans and it works intensively on adopting the principles of modern administration which imply efficient, available and reliable local self government.



Certified by Naled

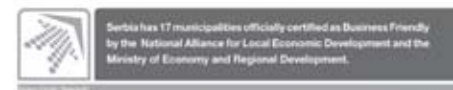


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CITY OF NIS AT INVESTEXPO FAIR IN NOVI SAD

This year, again, the City of Nis participated at 6th International Fair of Investments and Power Supply in Novi Sad.

The Fair has been marked by good business atmosphere and investors from Azerbaijan, Austria, Croatia, Italy, Germany, Norway, Slovakia and Serbia have expressed interest in the projects presented. The Investment Fair saw 55 local self-governments from Serbia and the region, 43 municipalities from Serbia, presenting over 160 investment projects with a total budget of almost one billion euro. City of Nis together with National Alliance for Local Economic Development (NALED) presented its investment projects and new possibilities for potential investors.

The international character of the Fair was confirmed by the direct presence of towns and municipalities

from Croatia, Romania, the Republic of Srpska, Slovakia and the French national institute. Most projects presented relate to construction and reconstruction of infrastructure, industrial zones and there have been many more projects regarding tourism development.

Representatives of local self-governments agreed that the greatest interest was expressed in Brownfield and Greenfield investments since they were the best way to utilize the existing capacities with minimal investments, while their equipment, size and infrastructure were of great importance.

A conclusion drawn by the participants is that the Fair should continue to promote national investment



potential and connecting the countries from the region. Other means include developing inter-municipal cooperation in order to promote Serbia as a safe destination for investments. Serbia's candidature for the European Union provides a safe framework for investments in our country.

NEW COOLING STORAGE FOR FRUIT AND WINE GROWERS IN NIS

The Association of Fruit and Wine Growers Čegar received new cooling storage with the capacity of 25 tons together with the mechanization for fruit growing.

The equipment was provided by German Organisation HELP within the project Poverty Reduction through Local Sustainable Development in the South Serbia. The total value of this particular grant is 15 000 EUR. This project is being implemented in the Cities Nis and Vranje and the municipalities of Aleksinac, Bujanovac, Presevo and Pirot and the project is financed by German government and target cities and municipalities in South Serbia. 320 000 EUR (out of which 130 000 EUR is the contribution from City of Nis) have been allocated for the implementation of the project on Nis City territory.

According to Aleksandra Brzaković, the Head of Nis City Administration for Agriculture and Rural Development, this donation represents the best way of connecting local self-

government, respective administrations and departments and development programmes and projects with the objective of developing the agriculture in this area.

"Each day we receive yet another proof that we have not made a mistake when we formed the separate Administration for Agriculture and Rural Development. We have managed to raise the consciousness of individual farmers that they needed to unite. This new cooling storage will enable fruit and wine growers more storing space and consequently preconditions for reaching the adequate price for their produce", said Nis City Mayor Simonovic. He added that several foreign investors expressed their interest in opening logistic centers for the buying out and distributing agricultural products.



Assistance to Friut and Wine Growers in Nis Region



Aleksandra Brzakovic, Head of Nis City Administration for Agriculture and Rural Development

RUSSIAN AID FOR SERBS IN KOSOVO AND METOHIA DELIVERED TO NIS

35 tons of humanitarian aid intended for Serbs in Kosovo and Metohia was delivered to Niš Airport Constantine the Great.

Goran Bogdanović, Minister for Kosovo and Metohia, Aleksandar Konuzin, Ambassador of Russian Federation, Radivoj Kocić, Assistant to the Mayor and Žarko Ranković, Member of City Council attended the plane landing.

In the following few days, Red Cross will distribute delivered humanitarian aid consisting of food to Serbs in Kosovo.



Goran Bogdanovic RS Minister for Kosovo and Metohija and Aleksandar Konuzin, Ambassador of Russian Federation in Serbia

- This is not the first help that Russian people and state have given to Serbs in Kosovo. Such cooperation has been lasting for 12 years, said Minister Bogdanović.

As it was announced, new delivery of humanitarian aid with medical equipment and material, intended for health-care centers in areas where Serbs lived, would arrive soon.

Ambassador Konuzin pointed out that Serbian-Russian Humanitarian Center will be located in Niš.

- It is very important that the delivery of this humanitarian aid is done over Niš. This gives us possibility to work on technology of mutual cooperation in cases of humanitarian activities. Last year, after the earthquake in Kraljevo, humanitarian aid was delivered to Niš. One part of humanitarian aid for future center was delivered to Niš airport, joint Russian Serbian exercises of firemen were performed, while there have already been several real fire fighting operations in Serbia, when planes located in Niš were used for operations, said Ambassador Konuzin.



Humanitarian aid from Russian Federation for Serbs in Kosovo

He emphasized that the idea of establishing humanitarian center in Niš was spreading and that Serbian and Russian side were in contact with European countries interested in cooperation with this center which would, according to the plan, start functioning fully, in the spring, the following year.

NIS – GOOD EXAMPLE OF CITIZEN ORIENTED CONCEPTS OF SECURITY

Nis City Council Member Žarko Ranković took active part in the Safe City Event held within Belgrade Security Week, a joint initiative of civil society organizations that aimed at creating a space for a dialogue about citizen-oriented concepts of security.

It also encouraged the public debate on different issues and current challenges of social, collective, regional, political, and environmental security in the form of public panels, conferences, exhibitions and movie projections.

"City of Nis has the City Safety Strategy. This document is the result of joint efforts of all city structures, all political parties, business community, RS Ministry of Interior, RS Ministry of Defense. The document has been adopted unanimously by Nis City Assembly which proves how much significance is given to the security issues in our city. The Strategy was developed with the assistance from USAID", said Rankovic. Vision of the Strategy is economically, socially and environmentally safe city that is permanently improving its institutions in charge of safety, acting proactively and resolving risks and threats properly.

"City of Nis opened Regional Safe House for the children and women, domestic violence victims. We prepared the project on installing video surveillance of city main traffic roads. We are also preparing the project for installing video surveillance at the vulnerable city spots from - public locations with increased risk level of crimes. City of Nis adopted the action plan for floods control and it is in its prevention phase", added Rankovic.

PREPARATION FOR EDICT OF MILAN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATING

Council for the implementation of the preparation activities for celebrating 1700th anniversary of Edict of Milan signing met to discuss the local action plan. The meeting was presided by Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic.

This local action plan envisages completion of infrastructure works on main city traffic roads that connect the most important cultural and historical monuments in the city - Fortress, Scull Tower and Medijana Archeological Park. This local action plan also includes the presentation, popularization and promotion of cultural heritage through archeological and architectural researches, preservation and conservation works on the site and on the mobile artifacts.

The revitalization of the Fortress represents one of the key projects in those preparatory activities and they include: introduction of public lighting, revitalization of the painters' studios located inside the Fortress. The buildings of powder magazine and black smith shop will be reconstructed as well. Also the preserved antique street to the left of the Fortress entrance will be given new glow.

Another preparation priority represents setting of the monument dedicated to the Constantine the Great. The best concept for the monument is the one which represents Constantine the Great sitting on his throne holding cross in one hand and sword in the other. Also, the church honoring the Constantine the Great and his mother Helen the Empress will be finished completely before the jubilee celebration.

The campaign celebrating Edict of Milan signing anniversary celebration will include several scientific events. The Mayors of Constantine's cities (Milano, Trier, Rome, Arles, Nis, Izmit) and Carnuntum Petronel will meet at the convention in Nis on June 3 2012. This event will be the continuation of networking of those cities with the

objective to join forces in the organization of big Christian jubilee.

The adopted local action plan shows the determination by Nis City to be prepared for the year of 2013. The visions and dreams of Constantine the Great in which Monogram of Christ appeared followed by the words - In Hoc Signo Vincas - With This Sign You Shall Win - led him to many victories and propelled him to announce together with Licinus that it was proper that the Christians and all others should have liberty to follow that mode of religion which to each of them appeared best, thereby granting tolerance to all religions, including Christianity. City of Nis is determined to take active part in glorious celebration of 2013 which will be the year of dialog and tolerance, which, in its very essence represents the strength to accept the diversity which exist in cultures all around the world.



Preparing for 2013

COOPERATION WITH FRANCE IN THE AREA OF CULTURE

Mr. Jean-Luc Goester, Counsellor for Cooperation and Culture in the Embassy of France and Director of French Institute, visited Niš for the first time and met with Mr. Miodrag Radovic, Niš City Council Member.



Jean Luc Goester - New Director of Belgrade French Institute

During the reception, Mr. Radović said that the City of Niš had been closely cooperating with the French Institute, but, also with French cities, Arles, Tours and Gironde Region. As well, Niš University has established a very good cooperation with University in Tours.

French Institute Director pointed out that he was very satisfied with cooperation with the City of Niš and thanked city authorities for executing efficiently all the agreements and joint plans.

Mr Goester and Mr Radović also spoke about plans and future projects that should be realized in 2012, in cooperation with French institute and cities that Niš City had been cooperating with.

TWO DECADES OF URBAN PLANNING EXHIBITION

20th International Urban Planning Exhibition has been opened at the Gallery of Contemporary Arts.

This exhibition is traditional annual event organised by Serbian Association of Town Planners which gathers experts of various vocations and profiles who want to make the space we live in more wholesome and beautiful. It happens in a different city each year. Each city can have the direct benefit from it. This year Nis is the elected city.

The 20th anniversary means a lot of work during twenty years organizing, promoting, evaluating with global objective of upgrading planning. "Urban Planning Exhibition represents the achievements in the field of town and spatial planning in the course of

previous year and it also celebrates World Town Planning Day - November 8. The Exhibition promotes good practices, exchange of knowledge and experiences, freedom of thought and creation. The milestone 20th Exhibition particularly on the part of Nis Town Planning Institute is dominated by works of young experts, who proved that investing in their development provided valuable results and that a new generation has been being formed to surely represent the elite in the strategic planning processes in Niš, Serbia and on the wider planes in the Balkans and in Europe", said Dragan Radivojevic, the director of Nis Town



20th International Urban Planning Exhibition

Planning Institute.

Before official exhibition opening, Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic met with the Mr. Joao Teixeira, Chairman of the Spatial Planners European Council. Mr. Teixeira thanked the City of Nis for the provided support and he thanked all Serbian colleagues for all the work that they were doing to upgrade planning.

BIG PLACE IN WORLD HISTORY

The City of Nis received the title Big Place in World History at the third symposium of the historical cities held in Carnuntum near Vienna within the international art projects Emperors of Carnuntum who changed the World.

The founder and the manager of the Archeological Park of Carnuntum Piero Bordin initiated this project in 2008 with the support of Lower Austria Government Department for Culture and Science. 1700 years ago, in November, 308 A.D. the so-called Conference at Carnuntum took place under the leadership of the former emperor Diocletian. Then the decision was made to establish the new Tetrarchy - Rule of Four and the power over the Roman Empire was redistributed. Consequently, and within a short period of time, through the "Emperors of Carnuntum" and through the change of course 1700 years ago, an incomprehensible change took place which altered and engraved our world and our western Culture. In the name of the Four Tetrarchs appointed in Carnuntum, Galerius issued the Nicomedia Edict of Tolerance (today

the City of Izmit) on April 30th, 311 A.D., which was extended by Constantine the Great and Licinius through the Edict of Milan in 313 A.D., thus granting religious liberty to all creeds.

The first part of the project was dedicated to the events marking the anniversary of Carnuntum Conference and Nocimedia Tolerance Edict. The year of 2012 which represents the next phase in the project implementation will be of special interest for the City of Nis since it will be the preparation phase for 2013. The year of 2012 will be marked as the year of Constantine the Great. The monument will be built in the honor of Constantine and it is expected to be unveiled officially during the celebrating Nis City festivities in June 2012.

This meeting in Carnuntum was a good opportunity to declare once again the twinning intentions of the cities



of Izmit and Nis - Roman Nicomedia and Naissus. Also the University of Kocaeli extended its invitation to the University of Nis with the intention to initiate the academic cooperation between two institutions.

BERLIN WALL FALL ANNIVERSARY

As a part of Nis Music Festival – NIMUS the concert of string quintet was held on November 7.

The concert was the gift from Embassy of Federal Republic of Germany in Belgrade on the occasion of celebrating 22nd Berlin Wall Fall anniversary. In his address before the concert H.E. Ambassador Maas said that October and November were very important months for German people – in October they were celebrating their National Day, the Day of German Unity and in November, they were celebrating the Fall of the Berlin Wall.



Gift from German Embassy

“We want to share these events – especially the joy and the gratitude – with the people in Serbia. That is why we try every year to have a festive event in different cities of the country in order to underline the importance of our relationship. This year we decided to offer a special event to the people of Nis, this important

centre in the South of Serbia”, said Ambassador Mass. The lovers of classic music had an opportunity to enjoy the marvelous music of Krommer, Hummel and Mozart performed by Ognjen Popovic on clarinet, Mirjana Neskovic and Ksenija Milosevic on violins, Boris Brezovac on viola and Dejan Bozic on cello.

EUROPEAN FASHION IN 19TH CENTURY SERBIAN WRITERS' LITERARY WORKS

The exhibition of the costumes and apparels depicted in the literary works by 19th century Serbian writers was organized at Nis Cultural Center.



The author of this exhibition is a costume designer Biljana Krstic. The biggest part of the exhibition was dedicated to the clothes that characters in the books of Stevan Sreamac wore. Sreamac moved to Nis from Vojvodina at the end of 19th century and brought the European spirit with him to this little town.

ANTIFASCISM IS MY CHOICE

Anti-fascist Collective Nis which gathers Centre for Development of Civil Resources (CRCR / AKC), Local Democracy Agency (LDA), Human Rights Committee Nis (the Committee), Yurom Center, Women's Space and the Center for Girls in Nis marks November 9th – International Day Against Fascism in tribute to victims of persecution during the Kristall Nacht (November 9, 1938), victims of the Holocaust and all victims of fascism.



As part of marking this day on Monday, the street performance in front of Nis shopping mall Kalca was held when the activities of the above mentioned organisations posed as the live statues holding the photographs of hate speech taken in the streets of Nis City. They were also carrying the posters with anti-fascism slogans. The removal of hate speech graffiti from the memorial complex Bubanj was planned for Wednesday, November 9th.

Anti-fascism is one of the founding EU values. May 9th – Victory Day over Fascism is also the Day of Europe.