



# Niš

## Newsletter

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## NEW FLIGHTS FROM NIŠ AIRPORT

Most probably starting from December, this year, Montenegro Airlines will introduce the flight Niš-Zurich from Niš Airport Constantine the Great every Monday and Sunday and the flight Niš - Podgorica every Tuesday and Sunday starting from December. Montenegro Airlines has the intention to introduce other national and international flights from Niš airport.



Niš City Mayor Miloš Simonović emphasized that one plane of the Montenegro Airlines fleet would be stationed at the Niš airport for a day each week and that it would be convenient to negotiate the introduction of more international flights from Niš.

The negotiations with Swedish and Italian companies are undergoing. Swedish company MCA

airlines announced that it would fly from Niš to Stockholm three times a week. These flights will be especially convenient for a large numbers of Serbs who reside and work in Sweden.

The contract with the company Wind Jet and the flights to Bologna are expected by the end of this year. The city management are also negotiating the possibility of establishing flight to Russia.



These new lines will double the number of passengers flying from Constantine the Great airport and it will consequently lead to further development of the airport itself.

2.5 million people live at the territory which naturally gravitates to Niš airport and this number justifies the reasons for expecting sufficient number of passengers and sustainable development of the airport.

## NIŠ INVESTMENT FORUM 09

**Niš Investment Forum - NIF 09 under the title Preparing the Future - Today's Challenge for Tomorrow's Profit was held in Niš on October 9.**



This event gathered more than 200 participants - representatives of business community from the region, interested domestic and foreign investors, cities and municipalities, representatives of embassies and foreign chambers of commerce. The representatives of 12 embassies and trade chambers took part in the event: Denmark, France, Germany, Bulgaria, Austria, Spain, Slovakia, Hungary, Israel, USA and South Korea. They all had the opportunity to hear about the possibilities of investment in the infrastructure of municipalities, as well as business opportunities with the most sophisticated and respected companies in the region.



Niš City Mayor  
Miloš Simonović

Greeting the present guests, Niš City Mayor Miloš Simonović said that Niš Investment Forum was excellent opportunity for foreign investors to become familiar with those companies from this region and about investment potentials



of this part of Serbia. This was the opportunity for the region to show that it was ready to accept new ideas and to develop with new strategic partners.

«We have succeeded in linking local authorities with private and civil sector and we have managed to create favorable climate for investing in our region», said Mayor Simonović.

The Mayor reiterated once again the willingness of the city and whole region to use all of their capacities in order to attract direct national and foreign investments which represented the key element

of economic development and of better life for all citizens of Niš and this region. The most important step in this process was to build capacities of local administration which should adopt and apply European standards so that it could become efficient, available and accountable local administration in providing services to interested investors, business community and citizens.

Mayor Simonović particularly emphasized the intention of the City to involve all its capacities in planning and creating new ideas and conditions which would improve the quality of life in this region. University of Niš, network of secondary professional schools, industrial tradition, logistic support, closeness to the corridors VII and X, international airport Constantine the Great, tourism potentials - all these are advantages which should be further developed and strengthened with the objective of reaching sustainable economic development.

The City of Niš presented at NIF09 5 locations which were ready for leasing to the best bidders. The incentives offered to potential investors were presented too.

## AMBASSADORS OF HUNGARY AND SPAIN AND USA EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES IN NIŠ

Before the official opening of NIF 09 Niš City Mayor Miloš Simonović met with the head of political department at USA Embassy in Belgrade Ms. Deborah Menuti and with the representatives of the USA Embassy economic department to discuss the economic potentials in the City of Nis and in South East Serbia.

The Mayor Simonović also met with Hungarian Ambassador

Mr. Varga Imre who was joined by Mr. Süveges-Szabó László, the director of Hungarian Agency for Investment and Trade Development. The Hungarian delegation was particularly interested in cooperation with this region and their estimation was that there were great possibilities for Hungarian investments and establishing business cooperation from the companies in this region.

The Ambassador of Spain Mr.

Ignacio de Palacio Espagna also met with Mayor Simonović before the NIF09 event. Mr. Espagna introduced the representatives of the Spanish company Materiales Renovades, the member of FCC Corporation, dealing with the usage of waste for energy production. The company Materiales Renovades is interested in doing business in the region of South East Serbia.

## LOCATIONS OF LOZNI KALEM AND SKOPLJANSKA ON THE AUCTION

Having in mind the interests of the local community and the need to attract new investments with the objective of encouraging local economic development, the City of Niš decided to launch the public auction for the lease-holding of the unconstructed land and publicly owned construction sites at the location of Lozni Kamen near the spa of Niška Banja and at the location of Skopljanska in the very city center.

The Location Lozni Kalem with the total area of 22ha 54a is designated for the construction of a recreation centre in accordance with the Niš City Plan on Detailed Regulation of Recreation Centers Lozni Kalem in Niška Banja which includes Block A with an area of altogether 7ha 96a intended for recreation and sports content (recreational and sports pitches intended for small in and outdoor sports with additional contents, indoor and outdoor aqua park, terrain for expanding the contents of the aqua park and public structures intended for business) and Block B with an area of altogether 5ha 79a intended for health, tourist and commercial contents (spa and wellness center with additional contents, hotel complex with lodgings

and possible artificial lake intended for health tourism).

The Location in Skopljanska street with an area of 3351 m<sup>2</sup> of construction plot is intended for the construction of structures for city central and general functions, as well

as hotels with additional content.

All local and foreign legal and physical persons have the right to participate in the public auction. The particular plot is offered for lease holding for a period of 99 years to the person who offers the highest bid.



LOZNI KALEM



SKOPLJANSKA

**YOU CAN DOWNLOAD THE AD FROM THE NIŠ CITY OFFICIAL WEB SITE: WWW.NI.RS**

# GASIFICATION OF NIŠ CONTINUED

Niš City Mayor Miloš Simonović and Yugorosgaz CEO Vladimir Koldin signed the Protocol on continuation of the gasification in Niš City.



The ceremony of protocol signing was attended by Russian Ambassador Aleksandar Konuzin and RS Ministry of Mining and Energy State Secretary Dušan Mrakić.

This protocol will intensify further gasification on Niš City Territory, the extension of the distribution network and the increase of the number of natural gas consumers in private households and in business and industrial facilities.

Mayor Simonović expressed his reassurance that all the dilemmas about the construction of the gas pipeline from Niš to Leskovac and Vranje had been resolved so the citizens in southern municipalities



Russian Ambassador  
Aleksandar Konuzin

would have the equal opportunities to use one of the cleanest energy fuels.



RS Ministry of Mining and Energy State Secretary Dušan Mrakić announced that the construction of the gas power plant could be expected soon, so the City of Niš would become the gas distribution center in this part of Serbia.

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY SIEMENS CAMPAIGN IN NIŠ

The City of Niš and the Company Siemens organized the SIEMENS DAY as the continuation of the campaign entitled "Energy Efficiency and Care about Environment". On this occasion, Siemens presented the actual solutions for the improvement of energy efficiency in the areas of industry and energy.

"The City of Nis is open for the cooperation with big companies and I expect our city to be the subject of interest related to the potential investments coming from SIEMENS. We are determined to do our best related to energy efficiency and environment protection", said Nis City Mayor Miloš Simonović.

Mayor Simonović shared the information that the City of Nis is cooperation with the Swedish Ministry of Exterior in finding the consultancy company for the development of Energy Efficiency Study.

The application of the energy efficiency concepts could be one of the main solutions for more efficient and painless overcoming of the negative effects caused by the economic crisis. The essence of this concept is saving and decrease in the expenses by the application of the Siemens innovative solutions.



Niš City Mayor  
Miloš Simonović

## ROUND TABLE ON SOCIAL HOUSING

The novelties envisaged for by New Law on Social Housing have been presented at the round table held at Niš City Hall.

According to the words of Svetlana Ristić from the Department for Housing Affaires from the Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning, according to the new Law, the local self-governments will have the key role in systematical solution to the social housing problem.

- The strategy will be developed on national level, the appropriate regulations will be adopted and the money will be allocated, but the local self-governments will have the key role because they are the only ones that have the best insight into the

real needs at its territory, Mrs. Ristić pointed out.

The task of the local self-governments will be to form non-profit housing agencies in order to enable the construction of social flats at the lowest possible prices.

Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning together UN Habitat Program and Niš City Housing Agency successfully implemented the project of constructing the residential buildings in Pasi Poljana where the refugee and IDP families were moved in.

According to the words of

the City Housing Agency director Miomir Pesic, one of the most important projects that the Agency will work on is the relocation of Roma families from non-hygienic settlement at the Jewish cemetery.

- The flats will be built on the future Boulevard Simo Matavul for the relocation of Roma families from Jewish cemetery. This new settlement of social flats will be intended not only for Romas, but also for the rest of our citizens who are in need of these kind of housing, Mr. Pešić announced.

## NEW ISREALI STORE IN NIŠ

His Excellency Arthur Koll, the Ambassador of Israel to Serbia visited the City of Niš on the occasion of opening of the Home Center in Nis which would employ 21 workers. Mr. Koll cut officially the tape during the opening ceremony.



Home Center is 1000m2 big store which is the part of the chain of more than 60 stores all over the world. The company operates successfully due to the adapted management policy to the conditions of new global economic crisis. According to the Israeli Ambassador the opening of the store in the City of Niš is the result of good cooperation between Serbia and Israel.

Niš City Mayor Miloš Simonović attended the opening ceremony. He expressed his pleasure of having this Israeli company in the city since it would employ 21 new workers from our city. The store also presents the opportunity for the manufacturers from Niš to be included as suppliers to this chain of stores.

Later at the reception at

Niš City Hall, the Ambassador emphasized that Israeli investments in Serbia were slowed down. The role of each embassy is to be a mediator in opening the new markets. The Ambassador Koll was also interested in the progress of the project related to the relocation of Roma families from the Jewish cemetery. He said that it was very important that the understanding was reached between the city authorities and Jewish community in Niš so that this community can function normally.

Niš City Council member Miodrag Radović announced that the implementation of the project could be expected in March next year and that the reactions of the Roma community were very positive about the project. The project will be implemented together with UN Habitat.

## INDONEASIAN INTERNATIONAL FAIR PRESENTED IN NIŠ

Upon the invitation of the Ambassador of Indonesia H.E. Mr. Muhammad Abduh Dalimunthe, Mayor of Niš Miloš Simonović with the associates attended the presentation of 24th International Fair of the Indonesian expo products ranging from the industrial, mining, agricultural to crafts sectors which was to be held from 28 October 28 to November 1, 2009 in Jakarta.

All Indonesian export potentials will be presented at the fair, as well as the investors and trade companies. One of the basic goals of the Fair is promotion of trade, investments and tourism between existing and future partners of Indonesia. Ambassador of Indonesia H.E. Muhammad Abduh Dalimunthe said that the International Fair was an excellent way to make Indonesia closer to Europe. Indonesia is interested in establishing cooperation with the new partners in the South

Eastern Europe, especially with Serbia in which, accordingly to the Ambassador's opinion, economic potentials were insufficiently used.

Mayor of Niš Miloš Simonović said that every kind of connecting and meeting with new partners and potential investors was very important for our businessmen, as well as for finding new opportunities for economy development. Mayor Simonović welcomed the idea of the International Fair in Jakarta organization and thanked the Ambassador of Indonesia H.E.

Muhammad Abduh Dalimunthe for the invitation extended to the businessmen from the South of Serbia to take part at the Fair.



Niš City Mayor Miloš Simonović and H.E. Mr. Muhammad Abduh Dalimunthe, the Ambassador of Indonesia

## NIŠ REGIONAL CENTER FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT

**Republic of Serbia Minister of Interior Ivica Dačić and Russian Minister for Civil Defense, Emergency Management and Natural Disasters Response Sergey Shojgu signed the Agreement on cooperation in the field of humanitarian response to disasters from the aspects of mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.**

The center should be located in Niš, at the airport Constantine the Great and it should serve as the logistics base for the rescue operations in Serbia and wider region.

Disaster can strike anytime, anywhere. It takes many forms - a hurricane, an earthquake, a tornado, a flood, a fire or a hazardous spill, an act of nature or an act of terrorism. It builds over days or weeks, or hits suddenly, without warning. The mission of center is to support the citizens and first responders to ensure that they all work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect

against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards. The center would be operational during the whole year. The center facilities will include the premises for keeping urgent material reserves needed for the operations of rescue. The center will have its own services for the maintenance and the repair of the rescue and protection equipment.

The ministerial conference is planned to be held in Belgrade in February where the specifics on the establishment of the regional center will be discussed with the participation of the countries from the neighbourhood.

Related to the announcement of the opening of the regional center for disaster response, Niš City Mayor Miloš Simonović said that having international institution of this kind represented another indicator of the geostrategic importance of the city. It is the proof of willingness of the city to support institutional building. Mayor Simonović added that the positioning of the Niš as one of the most important regional center in Western Balkans was of outmost importance for the attraction of new investments and opening of new jobs.

## JUMP OVER ISRAEL'S NEGEV DESERT

**Invited by the National Memorial Ammunition Hill from Jerusalem, the delegation of the 63rd veteran parachuting brigade stationed in Niš visited the Israel.**

The Ammunition Hill was the site of one of the fiercest battles of the Six Day War. In 1975, a memorial site was inaugurated in which a part of the old post was preserved and a museum was built. One wall in the museum lists the names of the 182 Israeli soldiers killed in the battles for the capture of Jerusalem. In 1987, the site was declared a national memorial site. The main ceremony on Jerusalem Day is held there.

During the visit to Israel the veteran parachutist from Nis together with their colleagues from Republika Srpska and Israel performed a joint jump over the desert of Negev. They also had the opportunity to meet

with the representatives of the City of Beersheba and on this occasion they extended the greetings from Niš



City Mayor and presented the Head of the City of Beersheba International Department with the gifts that the City

of Niš sent for Beersheba Mayor, Mr. Rubik Danilovich. The delegation was received by the Jerusalem patriarch Teofilo III who delivered the pilgrimage certificates. The Niš parachutist also learned during their visit to the Monastery of St. Archangel, which was the endowment of King Milutin that one of the Jerusalem's gate used to bear the name - Serbian gate.

The visit of Nis veteran parachutist delegation to Israel was supported by Niš City as the continuation of the cooperation which was established between the City of Niš and the City of Beersheba.

## TRAINING FOR SERBIAN ARMY MINE DEACTIVATION SPECIALIST IN NIŠ

**The reception was organized for the Italian army military attaché, the general Mauor de Vicentis who was joined by Italian soldiers and the representatives of the Serbian Army Contingency Department.**

The host at the reception at Niš City Hall was Niš City Council member, Žarko Ranković.

In line with the protocol of the donation signed between the Ministry of Defense of Serbia and the Ministry of Defense of Italy last year, the DA of the Republic of Italy to Serbia, Brigadier General Mauor de Vicentis presented EUR 600,000 worth of equipment. The equipment will significantly improve the work of SAF services and Contingency Department which deal with the removal and destruction of unexploded ordnance. These are technical devices such as state-of-the-art metal detectors, mine detectors and detectors for detecting aviation bombs and other explosive devices. Furthermore, this equipment included 30 protection pyrotechnical suits. The donation includes another six terrain vehicles equipped with the equipment

for deactivation and destruction of unexploded ordnance donated to military post in Niš. The City of Niš was chosen for the organization of the training for mine deactivation squad for working with new equipment. The training will be organised in November for the mine deactivation specialist from whole Serbia.

On the occasion of the reception at Niš City Hall, Councilor Ranković thanked general De Vicentes for the donation and for the support and he informed the general about the activities undertaken by Nis City on the preparation of the City Safety Strategy. The city also proved to be a good host to international military-medical exercise MEDECEUR which was organised under the patronage of Partnership for Peace Programme. Councilor Ranković also spoke about development of the Center for humanitarian response to



**General Mauor de Vicentis**

disasters from the aspects of mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. Councilor Ranković expressed his hopes that Italian army would support the development of the Center as well.

General Mauro de Vicentes pointed out that Italian army had always felt territorial and moral closeness to Serbia and that the decision to provide some support came as no surprise.

# CITY OF NIŠ BACK ON THE MAP OF KURSK PARTNERS

**Friendly relations between the City of Niš and the City of Kursk are initially established in 1920 when the holy icon of Kurskaja Korenaja was sent to the City of Niš for safe keeping.**

This icon is now kept in USA and this year, for the first time, this icon has been temporarily sent back to the City of Kursk for the celebration of city festivities. The actual Agreement on Cooperation between the City of Niš and the City of Kursk was signed in September 2004 with the objective to strengthen and develop friendly and economic relations between two cities and cooperation in the fields of industry, SME development, science, culture and tourism.

Official business delegation from Niš consisting of the general manager of El Holding Corporation Mr. Miodrag Stamenković with associates visited the City of Kursk on the occasion of the city festivity celebration and they used this opportunity to meet with Kursk business community representatives.

The delegation from Niš attended the official reception and laid down the ceremonial wreath of flowers at the memorial monument - Eternal

fire erected in the honor of killed soldiers during II World War.

During the city festivities, the City of Kursk opened the Club of City Partners in the central city street and the City of Niš was given its place.



Niš Delegation and Kursk City Mayor

# GERMAN SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS VISITED THEIR NIS PARTNERS

**At the Nis City Hall the official reception was organized for the students of Nis secondary professional administrative school and their peers from the secondary school Ludwig Erhard from Pforzheim, Germany.**



Those two secondary schools are partners and their partnerships is the part of the implementation activities of the project entitled ReCeKo - Regional Centers of Competence which is realized in cooperation with RS Ministry of Education and German organization GTZ. The objective of the project is the improvement of the professional education in the field of economics by creating new vocations. Secondary professional schools should shape their curricula according to the local and regional needs and thus create the possibilities for the secondary professional schools to have the impact on local and regional development.

"This visit of German secondary school students is the proof that the City of Nis is interested in the education of the young and the cooperation with other countries. So far, the City of Nis and GTZ have cooperated in the realization of the communal infrastructural projects. Now, this cooperation has been extended to education and to young", said Miodrag Radović, Niš City Council Member.

Mr. Rolph Becker, the director of the Ludwig Erhard School, said that about 20 secondary schools from Germany were going to join the project of establishing partnerships

with the Serbian secondary schools. "I am happy that our school has a partner school in Niš because I believe that we should build Europe together. Our young people are our recourses and they should be our most important investments in Germany and here as well. We appreciate then hospitality and kindness of our hosts and we are particularly impressed by the open spirit of the young people here who are pro Europe.

The director of the Niš secondary professional administrative school Mr. Milorad Gavrilovic expressed his gratitude to the local authorities which enabled the implementation of this project and financially supported the visit of the students from Niš to Germany.

"I hope that these young people will be leaders in the development of their communities, here in Niš and in Pforzheim and that we will continue to cooperate successfully through good projects", said director Gavrilović.

# NIŠ – MEMBER OF ALLIANCE OF EUROPEAN CULTURAL CITIES

City of Niš joined Alliance of European Cultural Cities.



AVEC is international network gathering 30 cities from 11 European countries among which are: Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Spain, France, Hungary, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Romania and Serbia. The Association was established in 1997. The headquarters are in the City of Arles, France. The main office is in the City of Tours,

heritages which could serve as base on which to build a sustainable city. Each member city takes part to the construction of a heritage with shared values, through the conservation of the legacies of the past and the development of new creations in accordance with the AVEC Charter. Each City - or Area - of Culture defines and implements, within the limits of its jurisdiction, a detailed plan to put into practice heritage preservation, enrichment and the valorisation of its heritage.

president of the Nis City Municipality Medijana Dragoslav Ćirković attended the session of the AVEC Administration Council held in Santarem Portugal on October 30th, 2009. On this occasion Mayor Simonović presented the cultural heritage of Niš. He also spoke about the projects that City of Niš identified as its priorities in the field of heritage preservation: Archeological Park Medijana, Palace with Octagon and Revitalization of Fortress. The very notion of conservation has drastically changed from preservation to sustainable use. Heritage preservation became the practice of managing change as a factor which balances preserving heritage values and ensuring development. More specifically, in a new developmental context, heritage is recognized as engine of economic development



Niš City Mayor  
Miloš Simonović

France. So far, the only AVEC member from Serbia was Niš City Municipality Medijana which joined the AVEC in 2008.

AVEC gathers the cities with the will to build a Europe of Regions based on the respect of the differences and the interactions between cultures, the cities with rich material and spiritual cultural and historical

Through the membership in AVEC, the City of Niš will try to apply daily European standards committing ourselves to sustainable management of cultural heritage and obtain quality brand of sustainable cultural cities – QUALICITIES label. Networking with more experienced cities and territories in the cultural event organizations and transfers of know-how in the fields of heritage management and cultural tourism would enable Niš to integrate as harmoniously as possible innovation in what already exists and thus contribute to economic development.

Niš City Mayor Miloš Simonović together with the



President of the Niš City Municipality  
Medijana Dragoslav Ćirković

which provides employment, generates income, revitalizes local urban and rural areas and enhances environmental protection.

# EU OUTREACH PROGRAMME IN NIŠ

The Ambassador of Sweden H.E. Mr. Krister Bringeus, the Ambassador of Denmark, H.E. Mrs. Mette Kjuel Nielsen, together with Minister of Environment Oliver Dulić, visited the City of Niš.



The visit was a part of the EU Outreach Programme coordinated by the Swedish EU Presidency in Belgrade. EU Outreach Programme comprises the sequence of visits to Serbian municipalities with the focus on environment protection. The Ambassador of EU countries in Belgrade are travelling all around Serbia with the purpose to inform and keep a dialogue on EU related topics with representatives of local administrations, journalist and students. During the Swedish EU presidency, the Embassy of



**Ambassador of Denmark  
H.E. Mrs. Mette Kjuel Nielsen**

Sweden in Belgrade chose Serbian environmental challenges as a priority topic and this visit was

an opportunity to highlight the importance of this issue in Niš.

After a warm welcome from the Mayor Miloš Simonović, the media was given the possibility to get statements from the Swedish and the Danish Ambassador.



**Ambassador of Sweden  
H.E. Mr. Krister Bringeus**

Then followed a presentation about the campaign Let's Clean Niš and the establishment of Region for Communal Waste Treatment and a briefing about the action "Let's Clean Up Serbia". The Ambassadors, together with Minister Dulić and Mayor Simonović addressed the issue of the environmental challenges in Serbia and the value of a cleaner and safer environment.

Also on the agenda was a visit to the Faculty of Occupational Safety where students were given the possibility to share their views and ideas on environmental protection. The Ambassadors and Minister Dulić were given an overview of the existing Faculty in Niš which had the department for environment protection issues.



**Minister of Environment  
Oliver Dulić**

The school visit was followed up with a round tour of PUC Naissus, a company working with operation and maintenance of water supply. Hosted by director Aleksandar Mitic, the guests were given a presentation of the joint project between the City of Niš and Swedish Consults regarding a strategy for purification of waste water.



**Niš City Mayor  
Miloš Simonović**

# PRESENTATION OF THE CAMPAIGN LET'S CLEAR NIŠ

Since the environment protection is one of the priority policies of Swedish EU presidency, this visit of the Swedish Ambassador Mr. Krister Bringeus and the Danish Ambassador Mrs. Mette Kjuel Nielse within the framework of the project EU Outreach together RS Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning Mr. Oliver Dulić, was good opportunity to present the campaign Let's Clean Niš which was being carried out within the national campaign Let's Clean Serbia.

Under the umbrella of the national campaign Let's Clean Serbia, the City of Niš undertook steps in the implementation of the activities within the local campaign Let's Clean Nis. The objective of the campaign is not only to clean the city and remove wild landfills, but also to educate the general public about harmful impact of waste which is the final product of everyday activities. The city initiated the establishing of the Region for Communal Waste Treatment and reached consensus with municipalities in the region regarding the common approach to waste management. The funds have been secured to reconstruct and shut down the landfill Bubanj.

There were about 106 wild landfills in the city. The research showed that those wild landfills could be found not only on the city outskirts but in the city center as well. The villages were in the worst situation because there was no organised system of waste collection. The City tried to expand its service of waste collection for 10% more. So far, 25% of these wild landfills have been cleared and 35 acres have been turned into useful ground. More than 5,5 thousands of tons of waste have been cleared from the city

streets, green surfaces, river banks and village meadows.

"If we want to raise the consciousness of our citizens on this issue we must work every day. We must educate ourselves and educate our children. We must learn the



importance of healthier environment and we must take better care of it. We need the support from media and from NGOs. If you do not live in healthy environment you cannot be positive and achieve good results. It is all up to us. It is up to us to make and keep our city clean", said Mayor Simonović.

During 2009, the city allocated 80 million dinars for different environment protection

projects. The City secured significant funds from national budget and foreign donors and it will keep on searching for the resources not only for the environmental projects but also for sustainable development projects. Minister Dulić congratulated the Mayor Simonović on achieved results and he added that not so many municipalities in Serbia recognized the importance of solving the problems of environment protection. The Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning intends to bring Serbia to the level of the medium developed countries related to the recycling and usage of waste during next five years. Minister Dulić reminded everybody present at Niš City Hall that becoming the member of EU depended on the achieved results in the area of environment protection. He said that great work was ahead all of us since 40% of whole Serbia was not covered with communal infrastructure. The Ambassador of Sweden, Mr. Krister Bringeus, pointed out that the requirements that Serbia needed to fulfill in order to enter EU were primarily in the field of environment protection.

## 35th NIMUS – MAGIC OF SOUNDS

**One of the most important music festivals in Serbia - NIMUS - will be held from October 22 until November 17, 2009 for the 35th time in a row.**

“Although the budget for this year festival is the same as the last year budget, we have managed to schedule 16 top musical events” said Mrs. Nadja Markovic, Nis City Vice-Mayor at the press conference organized at the occasion of presenting the programme of NIMUS 2009 was presented.

This year the organization of NIMUS is supported by RS Ministry of Culture, French Culture Center Niš, American Culture Center Niš and the German Government.

“This year, we will try to offer to our audience unexpected music events. The German Embassy has



donated the performance of the VIVA - Cello band, 12 cello players from Essen who will perform on November 13. The French Culture Center assisted in bringing the quartet Erell to this year festival”, said

Mrs. Tatjana Veličković Minčić, the art director of 35th NIMUS.

Niš Symphony Orchestra conducted by Mr. Dejan Savić will perform at the opening night of this year NIMUS.

Most of the concerts will be held at Niš Symphony Orchestra Concert Hall. Nis audience will have the chance to enjoy the opera Eugenie Onegin performed by Belgrade National Theatre.

Niš Symphony Orchestra will perform again at the festival closing night.

## ARCHEOLOGICAL FINDINGS PRESENTED TO THE PUBLIC

**Niš City Mayor Miloš Simonović visited the archeological sites on the location of Bubanj and Humska Čuka on the occasion of first public presentation of the archeological research findings done by the experts from Niš National Museum and Archeological Institute from Belgrade.**

These locations revealed the remains of the settlement dating from IV and V century BC.

“A lot of items have been



Niš City Mayor  
Miloš Simonović

found on the very ground surface. They represent well preserved remains of the buildings, weapons and tools from the Bronze Age. Most

items are made of ceramics but some are made of stone. The best preserved are the items from Metal and Iron period”, said Mr. Milorad Stojić, the leader of the archeological team.

The City of Niš allocated 1.200.000,00 dinars for the initial research.

“Archeological sites on Bubanj and Humska Čuka represent great potentials which can explain the development of the civilizations not only in the Balkans but in the whole Europe. They are our potentials which should be explored first and then promoted outside the border of our country”, said Mayor Simonović.

Mayor Miloš Simonović

announced the construction of the archeological park around the archeological site on Bubanj so that archeological treasure found there could be preserved from deterioration and made available to all visitors. The City of Niš will continue to finance the further archeological exploration.



Archeological site Humska Čuka

# NIŠ SPORTS HALL TAILORED TO WORLD STANDARDS

Although there are still over two years to go until the beginning of the Men's EHF EURO 2012, the preparations for the event are ongoing.



In September EHF inspected the venues and hotels for the 2012 Men's European Handball Championship that will take place in Serbia between the 17 to 29th January 2012.

The EHF visited five arenas in four possible host cities. These venues are Vrsac-Millennium, Novi Sad - Spens, Pionir and Belgrade Arena in Belgrade. The EHF delegation

has discussed adaptations required for event purposes with the local organisers in some of the venues. In addition, the EHF also visited the city of Niš and viewed the plans for a 5th venue called Car Constantin.

The City of Niš is going to allocate significant funds for the reconstruction of the sports hall Čair in order to make it eligible for the organization of the international

sports competitions and to satisfy rigorous conditions demanded by international sports federations. This hall will be built with the support of various European and national funds including the Serbian Federal Ministry of Sports. The construction is due to start soon and is due for completion in 2011.

"Last year, Čair sports hall was the venue of numerous matches between national teams in different sports. That is why we have to do everything within our powers to make this sports hall meet the international criteria. We hope to finish the complete reconstruction in 18 months. Good will and team work of all relevant stake holders is all that we need", said Mayor Simonović.

## SPORT AMBASSADOR FROM NIŠ

**Niš City Mayor organized welcoming reception for Serbian and French national handball teams before the friendly match here in Sports Hall Čair.**

This match was organized on the occasion of celebration 60th anniversary of the Serbian Handball Federation.

Niš City Mayor expressed great pleasure and satisfaction that Serbian Handball Federation decided to mark its anniversary here in Niš. The Mayor Simonović gave Niš City Gratitude Charter to Nikola Karabatic, the member of French National Team, who was born in Niš for the contribution he made in promoting the City of Niš through sports all over the world.



Nikola Karabatic

Nikola Karabatic also had presents for the Mayor. It was his French national team T-shirt with No 13 on the back.

