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No. 37 - January 2012.

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NEW INVESTMENT BY AMERICAN COMPANY

The contract for alienation of publicly owned construction land for construction purposes on the location of ex military barracks Bubanjski heroji between the City of Nis and the company Clean Earth Capital was signed at Nis City Hall.



Philip Bay, Earth Clean Capital General Manager,
USA Ambassador H.E. Mrs. Marry Warlick, Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic

The ceremonial signing was attended by USA Ambassador H.E. Mrs. Marry Warlick.

American company Clean Earth Capital bought 15 hectares of land property where once military barracks Bubanjski heroji had been located. The community of investors in Nis has been enlarged for a new member who would invest 60 mil Euros in our city. City of Nis expects to derive income of 20 mil Euros with the

realisation of this project. Clean Earth Capital will clear all existing objects on the above mentioned location; it will develop and equip the land property infrastructurally. The intended purpose for this land property is the construction of residential and business facilities with additional purposes for commercial services, craft services, trade, administrative services, catering business, servicing, housing, health care, recreation, education, children's institutions, social



institutions. Production and warehouse facilities are forbidden to be built in the area. Upon the completion of the construction, 21.000 m² of the gross residential constructed area will be transferred into the ownership of Nis City which would be handed over to RS Ministry of Defense according to the agreement reached between the City of Nis and RS Ministry of Defense on the exchange of property.

Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic said that the city managed to complete one of its priority projects - finding the best use for 15 hectares of land in the very city center, the land which had been neglected for past 10 years. New content will be added to our city which will improve the quality of life for our citizens. Mayor Simonovic thanked Ambassador Warlick for coming to the signing ceremony showing how important this investment was for the whole region of South Serbia. Mayor Simonovic also thanked General Mojsilovic for the good cooperation with the RS Ministry of Defense in the realisation of this project out of which

300 families of the RS Ministry of Defense employees will have direct benefit. The City of Niš with its projects of converting military property for civil uses is the example of good practice in the cooperation with Serbian government. Mayor Simonovic announced the adaptation of Army Congress Hall in the very city center soon.

"It is our core objective to make it possible for young talented people from Nis to stay, live and work in Nis and to make this city a center which would also attract young talented people from whole region", said Philip Bay, Earth Clean Capital General Manager. "We are going to bring a well known American university here with the hope that Nis will be the center of excellence especially in engineering studies. Also, we are going to be the center open to all artists as well."

USA Ambassador Marry Warlick congratulated on the successful implementation of this project and expressed her expectations that this success would encourage other American companies to invest in Serbia.

GERMAN LMB SOFT BUILDS NEW FACTORY IN NIS

The company LMB Soft from Germany bought land property of 40a in the industrial zone Donje Medjurovo through bidding process.

The Contract on Alienation of Buildable Land between the City of Nis and the company LMB Soft was signed by Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic and LMB Soft General Manager Klaus Yentsch.

The company LMB Soft specializes in the production of high-tech medical equipment for blood separation and transfusion. They are planning to extend the production facilities into new production premises of 1200sqm in the industrial zone of Donje Medjurovo. The company employs highly qualified engineers (mechanical and electrical engineers) as well as specialists for software development. The company exports primarily. It has been present in 28 countries in Europe and Asia and on the African and



Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic and LMB Soft General Manager Klaus Yentsch

American markets as well. The company will employ 60 new workers with university degrees. The construction will start in April this year. Besides investing in the construction of the new factory, LMB Soft will also invest in the education of the employees.

NIS CITY COUNCIL ADOPTED FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

At this year first session Nis City Council adopted Bankable Feasibility Study for the Development of Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) for PUC Naissus.



Working Session of Nis City Council

In 2009, City of Nis signed the Contract with Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs on preparation of the Bankable Feasibility Study for the development of WWTP. Swedish SEK advisory services agency was hired to prepare the study.

"The study we adopted represents the basis for the preparation of the documentation needed for launching the tender for the implementation of this project. Having in mind that the budget needed for the realisation of this project is 60 million Euros and the fact that the City of Nis is not in the position to take any loans, it has been decided to use DBFO (design, build, finance and operate by investor) model in the implementation of this project. This will be the biggest investment project for the City of Nis", said Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic.

The project itself envisages the construction of the plant for treatment of waste waters, two collectors on the both banks of the Nisava River and continuation of sewerage network in the village area. Implementing this project will solve the big problem on non-existent treatment of waste waters on the territory of Nis.

CENTER FOR BUILDING LICENSE ISSUING OPENED

The Center for Building License Issuing was opened as the part of Nis City Administration.

This center is the result of the Project Improvement of City Services and Management Capacities in the City of Nis in cooperation with NGO Balkan Development Team from Nis and City of Aarhus from Denmark. The project was financed by EU through Exchange 3 Programme. Total project value is 143.000 EUR out of which 122.000 is donated by EU while the rest is contributed by City of Nis. The official opening was attended by Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic, the Head of EU Delegation in Serbia, Djordje Stanicic, Secretary General at Serbia Standing Conference of Municipalities and Towns, the general managers of the public utility companies involved in the work of this center.

By establishing Center for Building License Issuing the flow of information will be improved and the

process for issuing the permits will be speeded up. This center will be the place where the companies and individuals will be able to get all the necessary information about the possibilities and regulations related to the construction on Nis City territory. Also the official request can be submitted at the center. The center will mediate between the local and republic administrative services in charge of issuing the necessary permits (Nis City Administration for Planning and Construction, Nis City Mail Reception Service, Republic Geodetic Authority Office and Cadastre Office Nis). It will also comprise all the data bases of all the relevant local and national services and public utility companies and enable tracking and supervision of the submitted requests and permit issuing.



Center for Building License Issuing – Better Flow of Information



Center for Building License Issuing – Project Partners

RECYCLING CENTER IN NIS

Agreement on the realisation of the Economic Integration of the Roma in Recycling Sector was signed at Serbian Government.

The agreement envisages the opening of Recycling Centers in Aleksinac, Nis, Stara Pazova, Vladicin Han and Surdulica. The agreement worth around 2.5 million Euros was signed by Serbian Environment Protection Fund Director Zeljka Jurakic and Serbian Roma Federation president Jovan Damjanovic.

The project envisages the inclusion of Roma population in the recycling sector. 114 million RSD has been allocated from the Fund for the equipment of the plants and vehicle procurement. The facility for pressing and baling of the product packages will be built as the part of this project.

“Roma population which traditionally collects waste as providing the means of living for their families are introduced into legal business transactions” said Zeljka Jurakic. Serbian

Roma Federation president Jovan Damjanovic said that this project was very important since this was the first time that Roma population in Serbia was given such a project.

The City of Nis did a lot regarding the process of integrating Roma community taking into consideration that around 40.000 Roma people live in Nis. Most of them had no education at all.

“The opening of the recycling center is important because it will employ quite a number of Roma community members who will be integrated into society and thus cease to be dependent on social welfare provided by state or social welfare services or on the subsidies provided by local self governments”, said Nis City Council members Dusica Davidovic.



Dusica Davidovic,
Member of Nis City Council

VISIT OF NEW CHINESE AMBASSADOR TO NIS

Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic met with new Chinese Ambassador in Serbia Zhang Wanxue at Nis City Hall.

The two officials discussed the possibilities for cooperation between People's Republic of China and Nis City and the whole region of South East Serbia. Mayor Simonovic said that the most intensive cooperation was expected in the fields of energy and mining and he expressed his hopes that implementation of actual projects could start soon.

Mayor Simonovic also pointed out that the cooperation between Nis University and Chinese universities was very important as well as establishing direct cooperation between Nis City as a local administration and the local administrations in China.

Mayor Simonovic added that the City of Nis had a close cooperation with Chinese community here in Nis. Ambassador Wanxue expressed his gratitude to Nis City Mayor and to the citizens of Nis for incorporating Chinese community into everyday living of the city.

"There is traditional friendship between our two nations. Two years ago Serbian high official delegation visited China and then the decision was reached on strategic partnership between our two countries. Since then our relations have been improving and progressing" said Ambassador Wanxue. Ambassador Wanxue added that he



Chinese Ambassador in Serbia Zhang Wanxue at Nis City Hall

defined with Mayor Simonovic three potential directions in cooperation development: cooperation in the fields of energy, infrastructure and economy as well as the possibilities for Chinese investments in this part of Serbia; the second was establishing direct links between the City of Nis and cities in China and the third was intensifying the cooperation in the fields of economy and education.

JOINT PROJECTS WITH SOFIA

Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic with associates met with Sofia Mayor Deputy Todor Čobanov and with the representatives of Bulgarian capital in charge of investments, infrastructure and tourism.

Cities of Sofia and Nis renewed their once close cooperation a year ago. The meeting was focused on preparing joint applications for the project to be financed by EU cross-border cooperation funds.

Mayor Simonovic said that they were discussing the project of cultural heritage revalorization and reconstruction of the walls at the fortresses in Sofia and Nis. The estimated project value is 800.000 EUR. The other project was related to the promotion of touristic offer in Sofia and Nis worth 200.000 EUR which envisaged creation of certain tools to help out the restaurant owners and touristic agencies to present in the adequate way the touristic offer available at both cities. The deadline for project application is February 20 and if approved, the procedure will be

initiated for both projects to move to actual implementation. The technical documentation for both projects is ready.

"Sofia and Nis have very strong historical bonds. The events that happened 17 centuries ago changed the history of Europe. Two Roman emperors, born in our cities, made decisions which shaped the history. In 311 A. D. the Emperor Galerius signed the Edict on Tolerance and two years after that the Emperor Constantine the Great signed Edict of Milan granting tolerance to all religions including Christianity. Our two cities cherish this heritage and the evidence of the importance our cities had in European history. City of Sofia is happy to have the City of Nis as the partner", said Sofia Mayor Deputy Cobanov.



Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic and Sofia Mayor Deputy Todor Čobanov

2012 MEN'S EHF EURO 2012 A JOB WELL DONE

Fireworks in four Serbian cities marked the beginning of the 10th European Men's Handball Championship on January 15th.



Men's EHF EURO 2012

Having just celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the EHF this was actually the 10th Men's EHF EURO taking place in the 10th different country, highlighting the commitment from the EHF to spread the game Europe-wide. The Serbian Handball Federation has not had an easy job preparing with all the demands that hosting an international handball tournament had. United the title "Welcome to the Land of Handball Fantasy", Serbian Handball Federation joined forces with representatives of local governments, city mayors to make this championship happen. More than 1,200 volunteers and 500 professionals were working on EHF EURO 2012 throughout all four cities. It was really one big challenge. The championship's host cities were Belgrade, Novi Sad, Niš and Vrsac. The tournament saw 16 teams competing in four cities across five venues for the right to be crowned Champions of Europe and with it, automatic qualification for the London 2012 Olympic Games. Group B preliminary round matches were taking place in Nis Sports Hall Čair, which had been extensively renovated for the event and could hold up to 4000 spectators in modern facilities. Although Group B did

not include the Serbian team, it featured tournament favorites Germany and Sweden, as well as teams from the Czech Republic and Macedonia. Generally, all four cities were full with a lot of people from across Europe coming to Serbia, especially Nis. About 3000 spectators arrived from FYROM to support their national theme and created a festivity atmosphere in Nis during the tournament.

Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic hosted the reception at Nis City Hall for the participants of EHF EURO 2012 Championship Group B Qualification Round. "I wish the warmest welcome to all participants. For all of us in Nis this is a wonderful opportunity to show that we as a city are capable of organizing an event of such importance. We want to present ourselves as good hosts and we hope that EHF EURO 2012 will help us to bring back handball in Nis and Serbia", said Mayor Simonovic.

On this occasion EHF High Representative Laszlo Schinke gave Mayor Simonovic the replica of cup which the captain of the EURO 2012 winning team will hold high above after the final match on January 29. Mr. Schinke offered his sincere thanks to

NIS JAZZ BAND EYOT AT MIDEM OFF 2012 IN CANNES

Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic met with the members of Nis Jazz Band Eyot.



Nis City Mayor Milos Simonovic met with the members of Nis Jazz Band Eyot

This band has been chosen as one of three finalists to play at official show case at Midem off 2012 Festival in Cannes, France. This will be an excellent opportunity for this band to present themselves to the biggest music production and distributing companies. Eyot was founded 2 years ago. Their music represents the musicians hungering for a fresh sound, blending the culture of jazz, the sophistication of classical piano, the gritty elements of East European folk music, and just a hint of smooth electronic fusion. So far, the band has performed in many European cities and managed to position itself as one of the most authentic representatives of Serbian music. On this occasion of meeting with Eyot band members, Mayor Simonovic said that he was happy for the success this band achieved and that he was sure that they would be good promoters of Nis at this worldwide known festival.



Men's EHF EURO 2012

Serbian Handball Federation and to the Mayors of four cities which were the hosts of this championship as well as to all of those involved in the organisation for all of their hard work in creating this event.

Mihajlo Mihajlovski, FYROM Handball Federation president, said that his national team felt at home in Nis not only because of the presence of the numerous fans but also because of the hospitality showed by the Mayor himself and all Nis citizens. Mayor Simonovic received the FYROM national team jersey with his name and number 7 on it. Mihajlovski said that their best handball player wears the jersey with this number and that Mayor Simonovic was one of the best mayors in Serbia.

The captivating two-week EHF EURO 2012 reached its climax on January 29, with the final match between EHF EURO 2008 winners Denmark and host Serbia in which Denmark won their second European Championship title.

EHF President Tor Lian was really delighted by the 2012 Men's EHF EURO in Serbia: "Serbia has done a great job of organizing EHF EURO 2012. They took on all the challenges asked of them which has led to the very successful organisation in general. Again the hosts made great efforts and did

a really great job to reach the standard of venues, which the EHF requested. We awarded Serbia the right to host this Men's EHF EURO back in 2008, and they have worked solidly and hard to achieve all their goals. Of course they needed to prepare well but they have made it a perfect tournament. The Serbian government offered really strong support to the Serbian Handball Federation. This governmental support is important for us as the EHF as we then know we have partners we can rely on, but I also believe Serbia can take the benefits from this EHF EURO for the future too.

On the Final EHF EURO 2012 Press Conference Jean Brihault - Vice President, EHF and Chairman EHF EURO 2012 said: "Our general impression of EHF EURO 2012 is a very favourable one. From the day Serbia won the bid there has been total involvement. The Serbian Organizing Committee has done tremendous work and the matches at EHF EURO 2012 have been extraordinary going down to not just the last few minutes, but last seconds. We would like to sincerely thank the organisers, the Serbian Handball Federation and the political authorities-the mayors of the host cities who were with championship at every stage.



Men's EHF EURO 2012



Men's EHF EURO 2012



Men's EHF EURO 2012



Men's EHF EURO 2012