

**Economic and Social Development Unit (ESD)
South East Europe Investment Committee (SEEIC)**

Sarajevo, 12 December 2012

Report on the Coordination Meeting between RCC/SEEIC, CEFTA Secretariat, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Economic Relations (MoFTER) of Bosnia and Herzegovina organized at the RCC Secretariat, 11 December 2012

In the context of the upcoming Bosnia and Herzegovina's takeover of CEFTA chairmanship and SEEIC co-chairmanship in 2013, a meeting was held between the representatives of RCC/SEEIC (Sanjin Arifagic, Dragana Djurica), CEFTA Secretariat (Renata Vitez), MoFTER (Hamdo Tinjak, Mirza Hujic, Zada Muminovic) and FIPA (Slavica Korica) on 11 December 2012 at RCC's premises. The meeting was organized with the aim of exchanging information about the ongoing and planned activities, as well as synchronization of working calendars of CEFTA and SEEIC for 2013, with particular regard to the development of the Integrated Growth pillar of the SEE 2020 Strategy.

The participants have agreed to the following:

- In order to ensure valid and timely exchange of information in the coming year, contact points have been determined among participants:
 - o MVTEO/FIPA: for integrated growth pillar development from the side of SEEIC, Mr. Hamdo Tinjak as CET leader would remain the main contact point while Ms. Slavica Korica would be copied on all correspondence regarding investment promotion; Ms. Zada Muminovic would be the main interlocutor for trade facilitation and trade liberalization dimensions of the integrated growth pillar;
 - o CEFTA: Ms. Renata Vitez (with other CEFTA Secretariat experts on each of the dimensions: Mr. Umut Ergezer – trade facilitation, Ms. Aleksandra Rakovic – trade liberalization, Ms. Liudmila Nistor Mihajlova – logistics);
 - o RCC/SEEIC: Mr. Sanjin Arifagic and Ms. Dragana Djurica.
- SEEIC- events relating to the SEE 2020 development would adhere to the following schedule:
 - o February 2013 – Task Force on Integrated Growth (or Investment Policy and Promotion Working Group) meets to analyze the OECD review of investment policies and review of conditions impeding FDI and prepare first recommendations for action.

- March 2013 – SEEIC meeting back-to-back with CEFTA Deputy Ministers' meeting focused on reviewing inputs from the working groups/task forces relating to SEE 2020 development;
- April/May 2013 – second meeting of the TF on Integrated Growth (or WG on Investment Policy and Promotion) to finalize inputs in the area of investment climate for the integrated growth pillar of SEE 2020;
- June 2013 – SEEIC planned to be held back-to-back with CEFTA Deputy Ministers' meeting, to review and endorse the first draft of the SEE 2020 Strategy;
- October 2013 – SEEIC meeting to review and endorse the SEE 2020 Strategy to be proposed to the Ministers for adoption;
- November 2013 – SEEIC Ministerial conference back-to-back with CEFTA Joint Committee with anticipated adoption of the complete SEE 2020 Strategy document and action plan.

Along with the official meetings, SEEIC will manage other necessary workshops, task force and expert meetings needed for drafting of the SEE 2020 Strategy, particularly those pillars where SEEIC is directly involved, while coordinating and following the developments in other pillars executed by respective RCC units.

- RCC will provide a proposal (by mid-January 2013) to the BiH co-chairs for a revised SEEIC Rules of Procedure to allow for one-year SEEIC Work Programmes instead of two-year rolling programmes as currently prescribed.
- RCC will provide a draft SEEIC Work Programme to the SEEIC co-chair outlining the priorities and activities planned during 2013 by mid-January 2012. Bosnia and Herzegovina (represented by Country Economic Team Leader, Mr. Hamdo Tinjak) will consider the SEEIC Work Programme for the 2013 and provide any amendments and/or additions deemed necessary by the end of January 2012 so as for the Work Programme to be finalized and disseminated to the SEEIC members prior to the March meeting.
- CEFTA Secretariat will forward its working calendar for 2013 to the meeting participants, with the objective of harmonization of dates and activities.
- RCC/SEEIC will coordinate the process of acquiring external resources to support the development of the SEE 2020 Strategy, both at the overall Strategy level and pillar-level. RCC will be preparing an inventory of consulting needs per each of the pillars and dimensions of SEE 2020 so as to prepare a consolidated proposal that will be presented to the EC with a request for funding, with expected resolution during January 2013. CEFTA Secretariat will provide an indication of its consulting needs within the SEE 2020 context by the end of 2012.
- CEFTA Secretariat will keep the RCC/SEEIC informed and, where found necessary, directly involved in the developments of the trade facilitation and trade liberalization of the Integrated Growth Pillar of the SEE 2020 Strategy.
- SEEIC will establish a Task Force on Integrated Growth (or will use the Working Group on Investment Policy and Promotion) during January 2013 to work on the investment climate dimension of the SEE 2020 Strategy. The Task Force (or Working Group) would be comprised of one investment policy expert from the relevant Ministry and one representative from the relevant investment promotion agency, from each of

the Western Balkans economies. RCC/SEEIC will prepare a Terms of Reference with official proposal for this Task Force (or Working Group) and deliver it during the week of 17-21 December 2012 to the BiH co-chair for review.

- NIPAC representatives will continue to be invited to the SEEIC meetings so as to enable the flow on information on the SEE 2020 Strategy development process. SEEIC will explore the possibility of involving NIPACs at the working group level as well so as to enable inputs on programming IPA II going forward.

SEEIC Project Leader

Dragana Djurica