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The Republic of Macedonia presents an attractive business destination, center of the Balkan, which offers qualified and relatively cheap labor, attractive tax legislation, stable business ambience, as well as series of benefits for investing in the technological-industrial development zones.

With the business benefits which the Republic of Macedonia offers, it presents a regional destination for conquering the markets in Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, Bulgaria and Greece.

The economic potential, the good geographical position, the enormous natural resources, the low taxes and the transport expenses, as well as the large number of free trade agreements which this country has signed, are reasons enough for the foreign companies to locate their capacities in our country.

The implementation of accelerated economic reforms and the process of integration of Macedonia give a clear signal for the existence of economic stability in the country. The opportunities for investing in the infrastructure such as transport corridors, airports, the hotel trade, real estate, and the telecommunications sector are great.

Macedonia is a country with structure of small and medium-sized enterprises which successfully survived the transition and which are flexible for partnerships and conquering of new markets. Development of the companies and attracting investments is basic in generating new jobs and economic development. The new development tendencies in the European Union, such as IPA-funds and competitiveness and innovations program, are the new challenge which Macedonia should overcome in order to increase competitiveness and productivity of the companies. In this direction, we should make

efforts for boosting the entrepreneurship through programs for support of the small and medium-sized enterprises.

Creation of dynamic export sector means flexible combination of the market forces of the small and medium-sized enterprises. Macedonia is a country with enormous agricultural potential and raw materials. With the natural conditions for production of various fruit and vegetable, the food processing and the wine production are the main agricultural branches with investment potential.

The metal manufacturing industry, which is export-oriented, the civil engineering, and the textile industry have a long tradition of investing in and development of strong companies. The investments in the information and communications technologies are the new potentials for the companies. The exploitation of the solar energy, geothermal water, use of bio-fuels and exploration of the possibilities for exploitation of the wind energy are the latest types of renewable sources in which Macedonia will additionally invest.

The cultural heritage, the moderate climate, and the beautiful natural lakes and mountains make Macedonia new tourist destination on the Balkan. All these natural resources, located in a diameter of 200 km, enable development of all sorts of tourism.

The cooperation with foreign chambers of commerce strengthens the trade exchange and provides wide opportunities for the Macedonian and the foreign companies to launch their products on the Macedonian market. Namely, the profit tax is 10%, the personal income tax is 10%, the property tax is 0.1-0.2%, while the real estate sale tax is 2-4%. With these favorable investing conditions, various opportunities for opening businesses and achieving close cooperation are offered to the foreign companies.

All this makes Macedonia attractive for investments, domestic and foreign, and the key factors for their attraction are the business environment, the infrastructure, and the opportunities for development.

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