



Communiqué

Skopje 21.08.2007: Macedonia 2025 is an independent non-political organization whose goals are to help identify, develop and promote several key Macedonian industries; help educate and inspire entrepreneurship and economic/business development in Macedonia and to create a high impact organization that will be independent and highly relevant for many years to come.

Over the past few days a delegation consisting of five of the eight board members of the organisation met with a very dedicated and motivated group of small business people and entrepreneurs. Included in the delegation were Mike Zafirovski President and CEO of NORTEL Networks Inc., John Bitove, Chairman and CEO of Prizm Canadian Income Fund and Canadian Satellite Radio – XM Canada, Mitre Kutanovski a former executive at American Express and currently President and CEO of the Mitre Group, Ljupčo Naumovski, Vice President Commercial and General Director for Russia at Kinross Gold Corp., of Canada and Venko Gligorov the founder of Login Systems.

After meetings in Struga, Ohrid and Skopje with a large number of Macedonian entrepreneurs from across the country, the delegation observed that Macedonian entrepreneurial instincts, ambitions and challenges are no different than anywhere else in the world. Delegation members were heartened at the level of commitment and passion for success of the business people with whom they met.

During workshop sessions in Ohrid and Skopje, the delegation heard investment and business proposals that were of different levels of development and sophistication. In making a selection of the best proposals, the delegation assessed applicants based on the quality of the ideas and proposals, the level of preparedness of the entrepreneurs, the practicality of the projects and the attractiveness and potential returns for investors

The Directors of Macedonia 2025 sincerely congratulate all the presenters and applicants; however we are pleased to announce that we have selected five of the best proposals for special recognition. We will be awarding them one thousand euros each for the further development of their proposals.

In addition to the financial award we will continue to provide our counsel, make use of our contacts and advise them on sourcing investments and partnerships around the world.

The board assessed that there are a number of other proposals that are worthy of ongoing advice and support. In order to facilitate this continued cooperation arrangements will be made directly with those individuals.

As part of its mandate, Macedonia 2025 will continue to offer its objective views on the progress on economic reforms and the business climate to President Crvenkovski, Prime Minister Gruevski and members of the government. In meetings over the last few days, candid discussions were held with the President, Prime Minister and many Cabinet

Ministers. In addition to the assessment of the international investment community on Macedonia's progress, the Directors relayed views of the Macedonian business community with which they met. They were pleased that this information was well received and furthermore, they were able to obtain additional information on the Government's future plans and how Macedonia 2025 can be most help full in creating an environment that will lead to more sustainable economic development and prosperity.

BUILDING A STRONGER NATION