

## **FT Invest in Georgia Forum New Opportunities in a Reforming Economy**

*Thursday, 26th November 2009, The Dorchester, London*

### **Programme**

08:00 – 09:10 Registration and Networking Breakfast

#### **09:10 – 09:15 Chair's opening remarks**

Mr Quentin Peel, International Affairs Editor, Financial Times

### **SESSION 1: GEORGIA: ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS**

Georgia's strong economic performance over the past five years has created a very favourable market environment. And in spite of the global financial crisis and armed conflict with Russia of August 2008 the Georgian economy is showing strong signs of resilience. Nevertheless, challenges lie ahead and more needs to be done to ensure the Georgian economy sustains growth and continues to build on its record of attracting foreign investors. How will the recent Liberty, Opportunity and Dignity Act create further incentives for private companies to invest? And what other strategic initiatives will help sustain economic growth over the coming years?

09:15 – 09:35 Keynote speech by H. E. Mr. Nika Gilauri, Prime Minister of Georgia

09:35 – 09:45 Thomas Mirow, President, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

09:45 – 09:55 Q&A

### **SESSION 2: DOING BUSINESS IN GEORGIA**

Georgia is ranked by the World Bank as the 11th easiest and most attractive place for doing business worldwide. And in Eastern and Central Europe Georgia is ranked number one. How can companies take advantage of the opportunities Georgia offers to foreign investors and avoid any potential pitfalls? Hear from a panel of speakers who will debate the practicalities of doing business in Georgia and provide real examples of lessons learnt.

09:55 – 10:05 Zurab Pololikashvili, Minister of Economic Development of Georgia

10:05 – 10:15 Guy Lewis, CEO, HSBC Georgia

10:15 – 10:25 Martti Yrö-Koskinen, Head of Communications TeliaSonera Eurasia

10:25 – 10:50 Q&A

10:50– 11:10 Networking Coffee Break

### **SESSION 3: INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

As Georgia continues to solidify its reputation as a key business hub, which developing areas of investment will continue to attract foreign investors? Will, for example, new incentives in healthcare open up new investment opportunities? What are the most promising renewable energy investment and export opportunities? And which sectors will offer investors the best returns in the short, medium and long term?

11:10 – 11:20 Alexander Khetaguri, Minister of Energy of Georgia

11:20 – 11:30 Radoslav Dudolenski, Director General, Energo-Pro Georgia

11:30 – 11:40 Q & A on Energy

11:40 – 11:50 Alexander Kvitashvili, Minister of Health, Labour and Social Protection of Georgia

11:50 – 12:00 Devi Khechinashvili, Chairman of the Board, Georgian Insurance Association

12:00 – 12:10 Q & A

12:10– 12:20 Chair's closing remarks

12:20 – 13:30 Networking luncheon