Issue 1
April, 2015

CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN VIETNAM

Newsletter

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Chairman’s Foreword

Dear CEEC members and readers,

As the CEEC’s new chairman I am honored to present to you the first edition of our newsletter. We all feel happy and excited as this edition represents a milestone in our operations. It took us more than a year of hard work to make this happen. CEEC is now the “world first and only” Chamber that promotes Central and Eastern European Business in Vietnam and vice versa, giving first hand expertise and connect the CEEC legal, cultural and business background to opportunities with Vietnamese partners and markets.

In this newsletter, we will introduce our new Executive Committee members for the term 2015-2017. We will also briefly summarize what has been achieved so far in CEEC’s operation, in terms of both internal activities and external relations.

We would like to encourage all of the businesses coming from Central and Eastern Europe to join us in the Chamber so that together, we can contribute to create a strong business network and a beneficial business environment for all.

We would also like to express our utmost gratitude to your support to the Chamber so far. For the time to come, we hope to continue to receive your help and suggestions as we grow.

All the best for CEEC and its members!

Best Regards,

Marko Moric
CEEC - First Annual General Meeting

After one year of preparation, the Central and Eastern European Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam (CEEC) has got the approval from the Vietnamese authorities and presents itself as a business support, not-for-profit organization from businesses to businesses.

Finally, on March 7th, 2015, the first Annual General Meeting has been carried out via video-conference with the participation of 30 voting members in Hanoi and Hochiminh City. The content of the meeting included the Welcome and Introduction of CEEC to the participants; Announcement and Vote for CEEC’s Statutes; Introduction of Executive Committee Tasks & Nominations; Election of Executive Committee Members and finally, discussion of the future steps for CEEC.

By the end of the meeting, all the participants have unanimously accepted the formal Regulations as well as voted for an Executive Committee (2015-2017), which is now composed of 7 members: Marko Moric (Chairman), Magdalena Krakowiak (Vice Chairwoman), Csaba Bundik (Vice Chairman), Helga Nagy (Treasurer); Christoph Schill (Executive Director), Istvan Lenart (Executive Committee Member), and Ivan Kashukeev (Executive Committee Member).

LE THI MAI PHUONG
BBA (Hanoi University)
M.Sc. Global Supply Chain Management (HEC Montreal Business School)
Position: Office Manager, General Assistant

RESPONSIBILITIES:
Support the Chamber’s administration
Liaise with subcontractors/suppliers (IT, office materials)
Support the event admin
Support the membership administration
Support the financial administration
Translation and interpretation
Support the Executive Committee administration
(Agenda, communication)

Human Resources

Ms. Phuong, Le
Email: office@ceecvn.org
Mobile: +84 (0) 96 399 6006
Skype: phuongle.08.06
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (2015-2017)

In the first Annual General Meeting of the Central and Eastern European Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam, taking place on March 7th, 2015, the Executive Committee has been elected for the term 2015-2017. The Committee shall play a vital role in managing and supervising the Chamber's day-to-day operations as well as the implementation of any contracts that the Chamber undertake. Starting to work instantly on promoting CEEC's businesses and opportunities in Vietnam, the 7 new Executive Committee members of the first and only CEEC are being introduced briefly hereby:

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MARKO MORIC - CHAIRMAN

Marko Moric started working in Vietnam since 2005 in Melia Hotel, Hanoi. During 10 years afterward, the CEEC's Chairman has became a professional and created a vast network in many different areas including; hospitality management, marketing, human resource management, asset management, international trade, consultant in fisheries, wood, and real estate sectors, and organization and management of foreign representative offices in Vietnam.

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MAGDALENA KRAKOWIAK - VICE-CHAIRWOMAN

Magdalena Krakowiak located and set off to work in Vietnam since September, 2012. She is a successful business woman with strong expertise in managing international direct marketing companies, especially in projects targeting toward households. Magda is now the managing director at Conception Ltd., a marketing service firm, newly established in Vietnam but with over 15 years of experience in family marketing field in Europe.

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CSABA BUNDIK - VICE-CHAIRMAN

Csaba Bundik is active in management consulting, business development and venture capital fields with strong networks in South East Asia, Europe and US. Cofounder and member of the Board of the Hungarian asset management company, named ALTERA, which is listed in the Budapest Stock Exchange. Formerly served as Executive Director of EuroCham Vietnam.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (2015-2017)

**HELGA NAGY - TREASURER**

Helga Nagy draws on over 25 years of successful work in the corporate and private sector in Europe, with over 15 years residing in Vietnam and realizing challenging projects in higher education, manufacturing, operations, hospitality and the service sector. Helga has a track record as lecturer, trainer and entrepreneur and supported numerous companies to establish strategic business partnerships. Helga is active in the area of personal and professional skills development in multi-cultural business environments.

**CHRISTOPH SCHILL - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Christoph Schill has earned substantial expertise in finance and banking, human resource, project management and consultancy since 1996. The CEEC’s Executive Director first came to work in Vietnam in 2010 as an organizational development & product innovation consultant. He worked in EuroCham Vietnam as a Project Manager before taking his current green growth consultant and chief representative position at Pracsis South East Asia, a Brussels based EU service provider.

**ISTVAN LENART - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER**

Istvan Lenart arrived to Vietnam in 2008 as representative of a Hungarian private enterprise, contractual partner of the Hungarian Investment and Trade Development Agency. He established Vietnam Office and Lao PDR Branch Office of the company. Later he worked as Commercial Attaché and Deputy Consul of the Hungarian Embassy in Hanoi. With 15 years of professional experience he is currently Chief Representative of SKC Trade House Ltd. in Vietnam and Country Representative of the Hungarian National Trading House.

**IVAN KASHUKEEV - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER**

Ivan Kashukeev is an expert in business administration as well as finance and banking. He has got more than ten years of working as a financial adviser for different companies in Bulgaria. Ivan is now the General Manager at Rudmetal Trade Ltd. (Sofia, Bulgaria). Simultaneously, since January of 2011, he has been the General Manager for BulViet Ltd. and worked in Vietnam until present.
Situated in the centre of Hanoi, at No. 1 Ba Trieu Street, the SKC Trade House Representative Office is a great workplace in terms of proximity to State Agencies, Governmental Offices and Ambassadors’ Residences. In CEEC’s very first days, SKC Trade House Representative Office and Mr. Istvan Lenart, Chief Representative at SKC and CEEC’s Current Executive Committee Member, have kindly agreed upon sharing the location along with its facilities and utilities with the Chamber. The picture on the top left corner of the page shows a small part of the office with the view looks out onto Hoan Kiem Lake.

The Office Manager has been provided with the basic office equipment (computer) along with all necessary stationary. CEEC’s email system has also been activated and functioned properly during its first week.

In addition, on Thursday, April, 9th, 2015, the Executive Committee members in Hanoi (Mr. Marko Moric, Mr. Csaba Bundik, and Mr. Istvan Lenart) have started the web design. So CEEC’s website is expected to be put in use soon.

The Executive Committee members in Hanoi have agreed upon meeting every Thursday in SKC Trade House Representative Office’s meeting room to update every activities of the Chamber on weekly basis. Other Executive Members in Ho Chi Minh are joining in every second Thursday by telephone & video conference but also meet on a regular weekly basis themselves and join the several events going on in HCMC. Thus, all the backoffice preparation for CEEC keeps everyone busy. However, we would like to keep you updated regularly, so please, feel free to contact us or put forward your questions to CEEC via:
office@ceecvn.org
EXTERNAL RELATIONS

MEETING WITH H.E. MR. FRANZ JESSEN, HEAD OF THE EU DELEGATION TO VIETNAM

On April 6th, 2015, CEEC Executive Committee members have had an official meeting with H.E. Mr. Franz Jessen, Head of the European Union (EU) Delegation to Vietnam, who has received us in his office. From CEEC side Mr. Marko Moric, Chairman, Mr. Csaba Bundik, Vice-Chairman and Mr. Istvan Lenart, Member of Executive Committee took part. In the meeting, the Ambassador has congratulated CEEC on the establishment of the Chamber and ensured us of his as well as the EU Delegation’s support.

On April 7th, the EU Delegation has warmly invited CEEC to a reception at the EU residence in the honour of the visit of the European Parliament’s Committee on International Trade (INTA). The purpose of the INTA visit was to seek understanding of Vietnam’s trade and economic liberalisation, particularly Vietnam’s perception on the ongoing EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations as well as the pending conclusion and enforcement of the FTA.

From left to right: Mr. Istvan Lenart (CEEC’s Member of Executive Committee); H.E. Mr. Franz Jessen (EU Ambassador) and Mr. Marko Moric (CEEC’s Chairman)
EXTERNAL RELATIONS

MADE IN POLAND – Cooperation Opportunities For Vietnamese Companies

Poland’s Ministry of Economy announced the launch of a “Made in Poland” campaign to enlarge the market share of Polish products at a conference held in Ha Noi on Tuesday, April 15th, 2015. The event was held at Intercontinental Hanoi Westlake Hotel, and attended by food and mining industry experts, representatives of the Ministry of Economy of Poland and institutions supporting the development of food and mining sectors in Poland.

From CEEC, Mr. Marko Moric, Chairman and Mr. Istvan Lenart, Executive Committee Member attended and were pleasantly invited to meet with H.E. the Ambassador of Poland on May 12th, 2015 to introduce CEEC and the 2015 schedule to her.

VIETNAM EXPO - The 25th International Trade Fair

The International Trade Fair- VIETNAM EXPO is the oldest trade fair which is organized annually in April at Vietnam Exhibition & Fair Center, Hanoi. With the theme: “Cooperation towards ASEAN economy community” The 25th International trade fair- VIETNAM EXPO 2015 hosted by Ministry of Industry & Trade, directed by Vietnam Trade Promotion Agency and organized by VI NEXAD was held from 15th to 18th April 2015 at Vietnam Exhibition & Fair Center- 148 Giang Vo, Ba Dinh District, HaNoi. This fair is considered one of important trade promotion activities to Vietnam Industry and Trade, contributing significantly to the cooperation program, the import-export trade promotion and investment in Vietnam.

CEEC’s Executive Committee members have visited Czech Trade and Mr. Zdenek Degen (Director of Czech Trade) to get an introduction about the Chamber and our Hanoi Executive Committee Members personally.
APRIL-MAY EVENTS

EuroCham Breakfast talk: Vietnam’s efforts in enforcement of intellectual property rights.

World IP Day was launched in the year 2000 by the World Intellectual Property Organization to promote and protect creative ideas, including music, art, trademarks, writings and inventions. In celebration of the 15th World IP Day, 26 April, on March 31, 2015, Mr. Tran Viet Thanh, the Vice Minister of Ministry of Science and Technology announced a campaign to improve public understanding of intellectual property laws in the recognition, application, development and protection of IPRs; promote research and innovation and the application of science and technology for increased productivity and socioeconomic development in Vietnam; and prepare the entire society for the upcoming Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and Vietnam and TPP accession.

In response to this campaign, the European Chamber of Commerce will organise a Breakfast Talk during which Ms. Nguyen Nhu Quynh, the Deputy Chief Inspector of the Ministry of Science and Technology will provide the members with updates on Vietnam’s efforts in enforcement of intellectual property rights.

Source: http://www.eurochamvn.org/node/14473

9th European Food Festival

For the 9th time EuroCham will organize the much appreciated and popular European Food Festival in Hanoi. The event will be held on the 9th of May 2015 in the gardens of the National Library and will again invite the public of Hanoi to take part in a festival of food, drinks and European cuisine.

This is also the year the European Union and Vietnam celebrate 25 years of diplomatic relations. To commemorate this, the EU Delegation will organize a number of festivities and events during the month of May. On the 8th of May the EU Delegation will hold a special reception with invited guests of the government, the diplomatic and the business community. EuroCham and the EU Delegation will combine these two events and create a two day celebration of European cuisine.

Date: Saturday, 09 May 2015
Time: 4:00pm
Venue: National Library, 31 Trang Thi, Hanoi
Fee: VND 320,000

Date: Friday, 24 April 2015
Time: 8:30am - 10:00am
Venue: EuroCham’s offices simultaneously via video conference
Fee: Member: VND 300,000
Non-member: VND 500,000
**APRIL-MAY EVENTS**

**Supported EVBN’s event: MNCs – SMEs ANNUAL SPEED MEETING**

**Date:** Tuesday, 26th, May 2015  
**Time:** 2:00pm - 5:00pm  
**Venue:** Sofitel Saigon Plaza - 17 Le Duan, District 1, HCMC

THE ONLY EUROPEAN BUSINESS MATCHMAKING EVENT IN VIETNAM THAT BRINGS SMES AND LARGE CORPORATIONS TOGETHER
EVBN would like to invite MNCs and SMEs to participate in the “MNCs-SMEs Annual Speed Meeting” event taken place on May 26, 2015 from 2pm to 6pm at Sofitel Saigon Plaza. The event is now open for MNCs to register. After having the list of MNCs, we will open registration for SMEs on April 24th, 2015.

For MNCs
Please, feel free to contact:
Ms. Julie NGUYEN – Tel: (84 8) 38 25 86 25 – Ext 104, Email: julie.nguyen@ccifv.org
Ms. Thanh Cao NGUYEN – Tel: (84 8) 38 23 95 15 – Ext 106, Email: events@evbn.org
For registration, please fill in the link before Friday 17th April, 2015.
Please also send your logo (high quality) to Ms Thanh Cao NGUYEN, events@evbn.org

For SMEs
The registration will be open on April 24th, 2015

Source: http://www.eurochamvn.org/node/14380