



# UKRAINE

## OPEN FOR BUSINESS

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### UKRAINE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION TO INCLUDE 59 UKRAINIANS, 13 FOREIGN EXPERTS



A constitutional commission being formed in Ukraine will comprise of 72 members, among them 13 experts from international organizations, says President Petro Poroshenko's decree posted on his website. Constitutional amendments are expected to strengthen the role of territorial communities and lift parliamentary and judicial immunity, the decree says.

"I am convinced that following local elections and decentralization, the territorial communities' effectiveness and responsibility will increase," Poroshenko said.

The decree supports international organizations' proposal to involve 13 of their experts and monitors in the constitutional commission's work.

The constitutional commission may include, if their consent is secured, chairman of the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine Armen Harutyu-

nyan, chief of the judiciary administering advisory unit of the EU advisory mission for civil security reform Robert Boer and Team Leader of the EU Project "Support to Justice Sector Reforms in Ukraine" Virgilijus Valancius, as well as Iryna Ulasjuk, a legal advisor to the director of the OSCE's Office for National Minorities; Oleksandr Vodiankov, national legal advisor and head of the rule of law department of the OSCE project coordinator in Ukraine, Alain Delcamp, an expert of the Congress of Regional and Local Authorities of the Council of Europe; Special Advisor of the Council of Europe Secretary General for Ukraine Christos Giakoumopoulos, member of the Venice Commission Hanna Suchocka and head of the political department of the European Union's delegation to Ukraine Hannes Schreiber. ■

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## UKRAINE MUST FULFILL ALL CONDITIONS FOR JOINING EU BY 2020

By 2020, Ukraine must fulfill all conditions for joining the EU, Chairman of the Parliament (Verkhovna Rada) of Ukraine Volodymyr Hroisman has said.



"Our task is to do our best so that by 2020 we could fulfill all the conditions for joining the EU," Hroisman said in an interview with "Das Parlament!" weekly (German).

Chairman of Ukrainian parliament noted that "accumulation of reforms that Ukraine needs to conduct today is the result of failures of previous years." He noted that "some reforms will be painful," but Ukrainian citizens would treat them with understanding.

"I believe Ukrainians will show understanding of the necessity of the reforms," Hroisman said.

According to him, Ukraine's facing many tasks to fulfill. ■

## EU, UKRAINE SELECT 10 PRIORITY REFORMS

The European Union and Ukraine agreed the updated Association Agenda with 10 Ukrainian priority reforms at the EU-Ukraine Association Council.

"Being agreed between the Ukrainian Government and the EU and its Member States, this document constitutes the main political tool for the implementation and monitoring of the Association Agreement," the European Council's press service reported.

The Association Agenda outlines ten short-term reform actions that Ukraine should address as a matter of priority in the areas of constitution, elections, judiciary, anti-corruption, public administration, energy, deregulation, public procurement, taxation and external audit. ■

## INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AID FOR UKRAINE SOARS TO \$40 BLN – POROSHENKO

Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko has said that the international financial aid for Ukraine will total \$40 billion.

"With aid from the World Bank, international financial institutions, the United States, the European Union, Canada, Australia, Japan, Switzerland, and Turkey, the total sum, including funds from the IMF (International Monetary Fund) will amount to \$40 billion," Poroshenko said. He recalled that recently the IMF has approved a new \$17.5 billion aid program for Ukraine.

"We have already held the first stage of reforms, and made a decision about the legislation to ensure implementation of our memorandum with the IMF, and I want to say that as a result of very difficult talks with the IMF we managed to defend our key positions on support, including social protection, and to prevent our poorest social groups from being increasingly worse off," the Ukrainian president said. ■

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SUPPORT OF UKRAINE TO BE HELD ON APRIL 28

The international conference for the financial support of Ukraine is scheduled for April 28, Adviser to the Prime Minister of Ukraine Danylo Lubkivsky has said.

"A large international conference in support of Ukraine is scheduled for April 28, there is a separate issue there, which deals with internally displaced people, Donbas, and Crimea," he said. "Today we are working with our international partners to accumulate EUR1.5 billion for the aid and restoration of Donbas," the official said. He noted that the conference would become the opportunity to mobilize these resources. ■



## UKRAINE SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH EU ON PARTICIPATION IN HORIZON 2020 PROGRAM

Ukraine and the European Union have signed an agreement on Ukraine's participation in the Horizon 2020 research and innovation program.

"I am very pleased to welcome Ukraine to our EU research funding program Horizon 2020... Ukraine will now have access to the full spectrum of activities funded under Horizon 2020, helping it to spur its economy. I hope Ukraine will make the most of these opportunities," EU Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation Commissioner Carlos Moedas said at a press conference. He also said that Ukrainian entrepreneurs will be able to receive grants provided by the European Research Council and get access to the program's instruments designed for small and medium sized businesses.

The total amount of Ukraine's contribution for participation in the program will be EUR 35.5 million until 2020. Horizon 2020 is the largest EU research and innovation program which is designed for seven years (2014 to 2020), and is aimed at the support of research and innovative activities. ■

# POROSHENKO: PEACEKEEPING IN DONBAS IS UKRAINE'S PREROGATIVE

The deployment of an EU police mission or a UN peacekeeping force to Ukraine is the exclusive prerogative of the Ukrainian state, Petro Poroshenko stated.

"This is the territory of Ukraine. And we hate the idea that any other state will decide if the United Nations' peacekeepers should be there or not. And we are very much interested, that it should be also a possibility for the European Union police mission – or in the United Nations Security Council, peacekeeping mission would be mostly represented by the European Union. We trust them, these are our partners. And we think this is a very effective way to solve the question," Poroshenko told Euronews in an interview.

As the peacekeeping mission decision may be vetoed at the UN Security Council, Poroshenko suggested: "And that's why we would need to have that discussion the same way that we have in Minsk, that would be a unanimous decision, to have peacekeepers."

"Yes we have support, we have a confirmation" from the European Union and NATO, Poroshenko continued.

"Where do we need these peacekeepers? First, on our border, because the border is a key element of the sovereignty and we need peacekeepers to close these borders to stop supplying troops, ammunition and weapons to Ukrainian territory, very simple. And second, the peacekeepers alongside the buffer zone, with the touch line which was set here just to guarantee peace and stability," he said in conclusion. ■



## UKRAINE, TURKEY TO IMPLEMENT JOINT HIGH TECH PROJECTS

Ukraine and Turkey intend to implement joint large scale high tech projects, President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko has stated.

"We jointly with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan have focused on strengthening the practical component of the Ukrainian-Turkish cooperation by implementing large scale high tech projects. The matter concerns the development and production of a regional passenger aircraft for the needs of Turkey on the basis of the latest technologies of state-owned enterprise Antonov, projects in aerospace," Poroshenko told reporters after talks with his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Kyiv.

In addition, according to Poroshenko, the sides discussed the prospects of joint cooperation in the military and technical sphere, the production of engines and a number of other important fields that make up common interest. ■

# UKRAINE MUST CONDUCT REAL REFORMS – GERMAN EXPERT



The largest danger that Ukraine currently faces is an investment crisis, a lack of trust among foreign partners, and the delay of reforms, Director of the Committee on Eastern European Economic Relations and Chairman of the German-Ukrainian Forum Rainer Lindner has said.

"The future depends on how the new government is able to retain the trust of investors. This is the main thing. You can dispute with each other endlessly, but no one is interested in this. You should stop looking for guilty persons and pointing out the legacy of the previous authorities and start acting," he said at a press lunch in Kyiv.

He said that it is very important to make the right decisions, carry out urgent reforms and improve the investment climate so that investors who are currently working remain and potential investors do not forget about Ukraine.

Lindner said that Ukraine's priorities should be the decentralization of the budget, the fight against corruption, and reform of the electoral and judicial systems. He said that agriculture, engineering (including aircraft building) and energy saving solutions are the most interesting areas for German businesses in Ukraine.

The Committee on Eastern European Economic Relations was set up 62 years ago. It has a network of contacts with government representatives and business associations in Germany and in Russia, Central and Eastern Europe, South-East Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. ■

## EU COUNCIL APPROVES EUR 1.8 BLN MACRO-FINANCIAL AID FOR UKRAINE

The Council of the European Union has approved the issue of EUR1.8 billion macro-financial assistance loan to Ukraine for up to 15 years. "The EU Council on March 31, 2015 made the decision, providing for the issue of up to EUR1.8 billion of further macro-financial assistance to Ukraine," reads a report issued by the EU Council.

According to the report, the funds have been granted as part of the EFF program of the International Monetary Fund to stabilize the economy, conduct reforms and to improve the balance of payments.

The four-year EFF program worth \$17.5 billion for Ukraine, approved by the IMF in early March, also provides for the issue by other international financial institutions and partner countries of \$7.3 billion: \$6.3 billion in 2015 and \$1 billion – in 2016. ■

## RADA ADOPTS LAW ON IMMEDIATE REDUCTION OF JSC QUORUM

The Verkhovna Rada has approved government bill No. 2273, which foresees the reduction of the quorum required for shareholders' meetings to be held to 50% plus one share.

The bill will now take effect immediately, not on January 1, 2016 as was previously foreseen.

A total of 275 MPs voted in favor.

One of the key enterprises which will be affected by the bill is PJSC Ukrnafta; its minority shareholders have repeatedly blocked the holding of general meetings, management changes, and dividend payments. ■



## GOVERNMENT TO SUBMIT BILL TOUGHENING RESPONSIBILITY FOR CORRUPTION

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine will initiate amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code and the Criminal Code of Ukraine to toughen responsibility for corruption, Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk has said.

"Taking into account the recent events, including court rulings under which corrupt officials are being released on symbolic bail, the government will submit to the parliament amendments to the criminal procedure legislation and criminal legislation in order to significantly strengthen the responsibility of corrupt officials," he said at an extended staff meeting of the Interior Ministry Ukraine on fighting corruption. ■

# UKRAINIAN PM YATSENIUK SUPPORTS HIRING FOREIGN INVESTIGATORS

Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk has said that it would be reasonable to involve foreign investigators in inquiries against corruption in Ukraine.

"I ask the Interior Ministry of Ukraine to introduce amendments to the law so that, under the respective decision of the investigators, we have a right to involve professionals from the U.S. and some EU countries to run investigative procedures, so they can help to probe into criminal cases, to trace the foreign assets of officials, as well as other persons, who are suspect of corruption," Yatseniuk said while delivering a speech at the extended meeting of the ministry's board on fighting corruption.



According to Yatseniuk, he will instruct the Interior Ministry and the Foreign Ministry to draw up a list of the necessary bilateral agreements to be signed with key states "to invite international structures and foreign investigators to receive as much info as possible on all the financial accounts, property, and assets of Ukrainian citizens who are abroad and are involved in criminal and corrupt activities." ■

## USAID TO PROVIDE \$30 MLN TO ECONOMY MINISTRY TO EXPAND EXPORTS, TRAIN MANAGERS

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) via Western NIS Enterprise Fund (WNISEF) will provide \$30 million to the Economic Development and Trade Ministry of Ukraine during three years for four programs, and the main program is the expansion of export opportunities of the country.

WNISEF President Jaroslawa Johnson and Ukrainian Economic Development and Trade Minister Abromavicius signed a memorandum of program financing. Johnson said that the fund will provide technical aid to the Economic Development and Trade Ministry to draw up the export promotion policy, issue grants for taking MBA, provide beneficial loans to companies which will create new jobs and resolve problems of displaced persons.

Abromavicius said that the major part of the funds will be sent to expand export markets for Ukrainian companies.

WNISEF is a \$150 million fund that has invested in small and medium-sized companies in Ukraine and Moldova. ■



## KEY CONDITION FOR RENEWAL OF FOREIGN INVESTORS' INTEREST IN UKRAINE IS PEACE – WSE ADVISOR

The key condition for the resumption of private foreign investors' interest in Ukraine is the restoration of peace in the country, Adviser to the Warsaw Stock Exchange, board member of Progress Holding (Poland) Bogdan Adamowicz considers.



WARSAW STOCK EXCHANGE

"The first thing is that peace should be restored. Then we can talk about preserving the country's integrity. And if it is, then investors will be interested in investment in Ukraine," he said at the second international business forum "Ukraine 2015. Strategic vision: opportunities and challenges". The expert noted investors do not perceive the current situation with the implementation of the Minsk agreements as the establishment of peace. ■

## NATIONAL BANK OF UKRAINE'S OFFICIAL RATES AS OF 01/04/15

CURRENCY	RATE
100 Australian dollars	1782.6299
100 British pounds sterling	3469.1796
100 Danish kroner	337.7825
100 US dollars	2345.1383
100 Euro	2523.1343
100 Iceland kronas	17.0916
100 Canadian dollars	1836.6096
100 Norwegian kroner	289.8988
100 Polish zlotys	617.5979
10 Russian rubles	4.0679
100 Singapore dollars	1707.8207
100 SDR	3235.0974
100 Turkish liras	896.9231
1 000 Hungarian forints	84.2646
100 Czech korunas	91.6404
100 Swedish kronas	271.5939
100 Swiss francs	2411.4827
100 Renminby Yuan (China)	378.2243
1 000 Japanese yen	195.6676

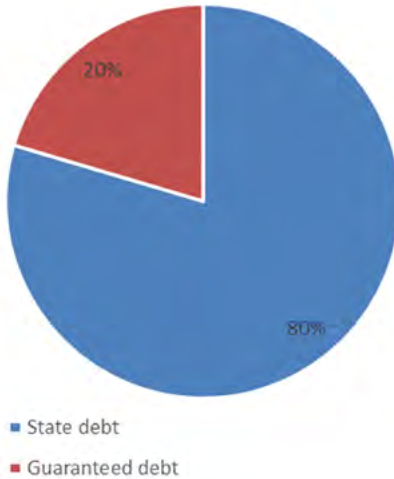
© Source: National Bank of Ukraine

## EXTERNAL AND GUARANTEED STATE DEBT OF UKRAINE IN 2015 (MLN USD)

	Total debt			State debt		Guaranteed debt	
	Value	Change	%	Value	Change	Value	%
As of 01.01.2015	38792,2			30809,1		7983,1	
As of 01.02.2015	38162,5	-629,7	-1,6%	30372,8	-1,4%	7789,7	-2,4%

Source: The Ministry of Finance

## SHARE OF EXTERNAL AND GUARANTEED STATE DEBT OF UKRAINE IN 2015 (MLN USD)



## UKRAINE'S AGGREGATE DEBT SHRINKS BY 15.7% IN FEBRUARY – FINANCE MINISTRY

Ukraine's aggregate direct and guaranteed state debt shrank by 15.7% in February 2015, to \$58.118 billion, Ukraine's Finance Ministry reported on its website.

Total domestic debt fell by 34.69% in February, to \$20.082 billion, while total foreign debt slid by 0.34%, to \$38.036 billion.



In general, Ukraine's aggregate state debt saw a 16.75% reduction in January-February 2015.

As was reported, Ukraine's aggregate state debt declined by 4.6% in 2014, from \$73.162 billion. ■

## UAH/EUR INTERBANK EXCHANGE RATE



## EBRD, KFW, IFC TO CAPITALIZE MEGABANK

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), KfW Entwicklungsbank and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) will take part in the additional capitalization of Megabank, retaining their stakes in its capital, and bring UAH 43.2 million to the bank's capital by issuing additional shares.

Megabank shareholders in December 2014 decided to increase its charter capital by 24% or UAH 120 million, to UAH 620 million through the private placement of shares.

The EBRD and KfW shares are 15% each, and for IFC – 6.02%

Megabank ranked 32nd among 158 operating banks as of January 1, 2015, in terms of total assets worth UAH 6.91 billion, according to the National Bank of Ukraine. ■

## CABINET TO RAISE EUR500 MLN FROM GERMANY, \$4.2 MLN FROM JAPAN

The Cabinet of Ministers has approved the documents necessary for raising a loan of up to EUR500 million from the German government and a \$4.2 million grant from the Japanese government, Minister of the Cabinet Hanna Onischenko has said at a briefing.

According to her, the cabinet at a meeting on March 25 approved the relevant draft memoranda with the governments of Germany and Japan.

Japan is to provide a grant for the purchase of medical equipment and special equipment for the recovery of the eastern Ukraine.

In addition, the Cabinet approved a financial agreement with KfW for EUR14 million, which will be used to maintain nature reserve land. ■

## UKRAINE EXPORTS ALMOST 25.7 MLN TONNES OF GRAIN SINCE EARLY 2014/15 AGRI-YEAR

Grain exports from Ukraine since the beginning of the agricultural year (July-June) as of March 13, 2015 came to almost 25.65 million tonnes, including 9.47 million tonnes of wheat, the Agricultural Policy and Food Ministry of Ukraine has said in a press release.

A total of 12.05 million tonnes of corn and almost 3.9 million tonnes of barley were exported. Other grain crop exports totaled 259,000 tonnes.

As reported, with reference to preliminary data from the State Statistics Service, in 2014 Ukraine harvested a record high yield of 63.8 million tonnes of grain and leguminous crops (excluding Crimea), which is 2.4% more than in 2013. ■

# AGRO-REGION PLANS TO BUILD ELEVATOR FOR \$100 MLN

Agro-Region (Kyiv region) plans to build an elevator with a grain storage capacity of 50,000 tonnes, Deputy Director General for Production Volodymyr Kravtsov has told Interfax-Ukraine.

"We're looking for a site which would satisfy us. We prefer to build a new elevator and it is convenient both for the two branches," he said.

Kravtsov said that about \$10 million is required to build the elevator. At present, Agro-Region uses ground-level storage facilities and silo bags to store harvest and the services of elevators belonging to other companies.

Agro-Region LLC belongs to Sweden's East Capital. The company's core business is crop growing. ■



## US OPIC READY TO INVEST \$250 MLN IN EACH PROJECT IN UKRAINE – AGRICULTURAL MINISTRY

Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC, the United States) is ready to invest in projects in Ukraine in the amount of up to \$250 million in one project, while the number of projects initiated is not limited.

According to the press Agricultural Policy and a meeting of Ukrainian Minister of Agricultural Policy and Food Oleksiy Pavlenko and OPIC President Kareem

"We need support to efficiency of agriculture, in access to financing for small companies in entering the markets of developing countries, basically at the expense of loans and guarantees, political risk insurance, and support for private equity funds. ■



service of the Ministry of Food, this was agreed at a meeting of Agricultural Policy and Senior Advisor to the Saleh in Washington.

"We need to strengthen and improve the particular with respect to producers," Pavlenko said. ■

said that OPIC assists U.S. ■

## POROSHENKO INITIATES POLITICAL DISCUSSION ON INTRODUCTION OF UKRAINIAN LAND MARKET

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has initiated a political discussion on creating a land market in Ukraine, Deputy Head of the Presidential Administration of Ukraine Dmitry Shymkiv has said.

"The president noted that creating the land market was one of the most important issues in agricultural reform," Shymkiv said at a briefing Tuesday, while speaking on the results of a meeting of the National Reforms Council.

He added that Poroshenko believes that the land market issue is political and it shouldn't be speculated on.

Other issues discussed at the meeting include the reform of agricultural-industrial sector conducted by Agrarian Policy and Food Minister Oleksiy Pavlenko. In particular, attention was paid to European integration.

Poroshenko said that the Agrarian Policy and Food Ministry has succeeded more than others in mastering European directives and deregulation. ■

## SOROS READY TO INVEST \$1 BLN IN UKRAINE

Billionaire George Soros has said that he has concrete ideas about investing in agricultural and infrastructure projects in Ukraine and that he is ready to invest about \$1 billion in the country.

In an interview with the Austrian newspaper Der Standard, Soros said Ukraine needed around EUR 50 billion of investment.

He urged Western governments to help raise the attractiveness of investing in Ukraine through protecting investors from political risks, which can be achieved using mezzanine financing at EU interest rates, which are very close to zero.

Soros, who has criticized the policies of German Chancellor Angela Merkel for many years, praised her work on Ukraine. According to him, Merkel is currently acting as a politician of truly European scale, who is not only pursuing the narrow national interests of Germany. ■

## EFFICIENCY OF UKRAINIAN AGRICULTURE COULD RISE 50% THOUGH HIGH-TECH – EXPERT

Agriculture is the only sector of the Ukrainian economy which could quickly exhibit its potential on a global level, Director of the Committee on Eastern European Economic Relations and Chairman of the German-Ukrainian Forum Rainer Lindner has said.

"As for agriculture: bright reforms in sale of land parcels are required so that investors receive certain guarantees. Psychologically this is a difficult decision, but very important. The efficiency of the Ukrainian agricultural sector could be increased by 50% with the attraction of high technologies," he said at a press lunch in Kyiv on Tuesday.

Lindner said that Ukraine is one of the key exporters of agricultural products and it is important to retain this.

"I think that our committee will find a fit partner to realize projects in the area," he added. ■

## DEERE & COMPANY TO CONSIDER KHARKIV TRACTOR PLANT'S PROPOSAL ON JOINT HARVESTER PRODUCTION



U.S. engineering company Deere & Company will consider a PJSC Kharkiv Tractor Plant proposal on the joint production of harvesters in Ukraine.

"Kharkiv Tractor Plant has sent a proposal to realize a joint project to assemble harvesters at the plant. The Deere & Company management will consider and analyze the proposal," reads a press release issued by the Ministry of Agricultural Policy and Food.

To implement the project, the ministry will analyze the opportunities and potential of equipment, spare parts, and components for further talks on cooperation with the U.S. company.

"The increased presence of Deere & Company in the Ukrainian market is a major impetus for the development of the entire agricultural sector," Minister of Agricultural Policy and Food Oleksiy Pavlenko said.

As reported, the CEO of the plant recently announced that mass production of combines would be carried out jointly with Finnish-based Sampo Rosenlew from 2016. ■

## INVESTORS PLANNING TO BUILD SEVEN PARKING AREAS IN KYIV



Municipal enterprise Kyivtransparkservice currently has seven investment projects to construct parking areas under realization.

The Kyiv City Administration press service has said that the projects envisage the building of parking areas.

"After the realization of the projects the city will not only receive around 900 parking spaces for cars, but also large payments to the budget. The total sum of investment exceeds UAH 80.3 million, and UAH 4.8 million out of the sum was paid to develop social, utility and transport infrastructure," reads the report.

Kyivtransparkservice also said that the cost of parking services provided by the investors cannot exceed the tariffs set by Kyivtransparkservice, and that utility networks created by investors will be transferred to municipal ownership. ■



# TENDER TO CONSTRUCT LVIV-KRAKOVETS CONCESSION ROAD TO BE ANNOUNCED IN APRIL

A tender to construct the Lviv-Krakovets concession road is to be announced in April, Chairman of the State Agency of Automobile Roads of Ukraine (Ukravtodor) Serhiy Pidhainy said during a visiting session of the parliamentary committee on transport. "We plan in April this year to announce a tender for the construction and maintenance of Ukraine's first concession road, Lviv-Krakovets," he said.

According to Pidhainy, the draft financial model, all the necessary studies and the tender documents have been developed and are being approved by the government.

The concession road will be 84.4 km long, from the Polish border to Lviv.

The planned duration of the concession is 49 years: four years for construction and 45 years for operation. ■

## INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS: CONCESSION ROAD

### Krakovets-Lviv road:

- part of the international transport corridor #3 Berlin/Dresden-Wroclaw-Lviv-Kyiv
- will connect "Krakovets" Ukrainian-Polish border crossing with existing highway M-06 Kyiv-Lviv-Chop



- Investment volume: **317 million USD**
- Project: length **84,4 km**, design speed – **150 km/hour**
  - the challenge of connecting international transport corridor #3 will be solved, including the high accident part of the road Krakovets-Yavoriv and near the city of Lviv
- Construction started in 2009
  - Preparatory operations have been carried out – first construction leg (communications placed, archeological works and tree cuttings completed).

# CABINET APPROVES REVISED BORTNYCHI AERATION STATION PROJECT, JAPAN MAY ISSUE LOAN IN MAY

The Ukrainian government has approved the revised project for the reconstruction of Bortnychi aeration station in Kyiv and its main technical and economic indicators, the adaptation of which to the lending conditions of the Official Development Assistance program according to the STEP (Special Terms for Economic Partnership) was one of the main conditions of the Japanese government issuing a loan for the project's implementation.

Kyiv City State Administration said the corresponding draft order on the approval of the revised project was approved by the Cabinet at a meeting on March 25.

According to the signed protocol, credit funds worth 108 billion Japanese yen (in April 2014 it was planned to receive 112 billion Japanese yen, or about \$1.1 billion) will be issued to Ukraine for a period of 40 years (with a grace period of ten years), at 0.1% per annum.

According to the administration, the protocol was signed by the Finance Ministry, the Ministry of Regional Development, Construction, Housing and Utilities Services, the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, PJSC Kyivvodokanal (Kyiv), and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

The decision will allow funds to be attracted from the Japanese government for the implementation of the major part of the project to reconstruct the Bortnychi aeration station in May 2015. ■

## UKRAINE, TURKEY AGREE ON MULTI-BILLION SPACE PROGRAM – POROSHENKO



Turkey and Ukraine have agreed on cooperation in the space sector, said Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has said.

"Recently, the Turkish delegation has left Ukraine. We agreed on a multi-billion space program. Not everything can be disclosed at the moment," the president said at a press briefing in Dnipropetrovsk.

Poroshenko also noted that for his part he would try to do everything possible to load the enterprise with work. However, he stressed that businesses needed to be competitive, "or give way to others." ■

## PROSPECTS OF UKRAINE-GERMANY COOPERATION IN HOUSING ENERGY EFFICIENCY ARE HUGE – EXPERT

The prospects of cooperation between Ukrainian and German businesses in the energy performance of buildings are enormous although there are many obstacles, first of all, interstate ones, and the lack of an easy-to-understand legislative base in Ukraine, Director General of OMOX developing company Oleksiy Kulahin has said.

"There is alternative energy solution in Germany. It is very promising for Ukraine, but we need legislative changes so that any person who created the alternative energy system could enter common grids, sell, and consume this energy," Kulahin said at a press lunch in Kyiv.

He said that boilers in Kyiv require reconstruction; while cooperation with German companies could ensure that the boilers could provide both heat and power generation.

Director of the Committee on Eastern European Economic Relations and Chairman of the German-Ukrainian Forum Rainer Lindner said that a platform for increasing the energy performance of buildings and boilers has been created in Ukraine. ■



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## MPS PROPOSE RADA REGULATES PROCEDURE ON AMC IMPOSING FINES

Mps have proposed that the Verkhovna Rada should regulate the procedure governing how the Antimonopoly Committee of Ukraine's (AMC) imposes fines for the violation of laws on protecting economic competition, MP Viktoriya Ptashnyk (Samopomich) said at a press conference, held at Interfax-Ukraine.

According to her, the existing legislation sets a high bar for penalties. In particular, the fine could reach 10% of the company's annual turnover for a serious violation of competition legislation. At the same time, the AMC may impose a fine of UAH one million on one

A draft law on amendments to the legislation protecting economic competition, regarding the AMC defining the penalties for violations, registered in the Verkhovna Rada, foresees the Cabinet's approving the methods used to calculate fines.

Acting President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Ukraine Taras Kachka said that in 2008 the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development recommended that Ukraine implement a clear methodology for imposing fines. He said that the AMC agreed with this, but did nothing. ■

The Ukrainian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (ULIE) is the largest union of business associations and individual enterprises in Ukraine with its members ranging from vertically integrated corporations to small and medium enterprises (SMEs). For already more than 20 years the League's key mission is to promote and protect interests of the Ukrainian business within Ukraine and beyond. With its central offices in Kyiv, ULIE manages 28 regional subsidiaries, 73 branches, 22 representative offices and 34 commissions on key sectors of the economy. The League is also a signatory to 155 international agreements on cooperation and has representative offices in 21 countries, including Representative Office in the EU in Brussels.

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