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DSRSG Ruecker and Minister Çeku Hand Over First Major Licenses for Mining Industry

PRISTINA – DSRSG Joachim Ruecker together with the Minister for Energy and Mining Ethem Çeku handed over the first major licenses for mining companies and the construction minerals industry. At a ceremony in the premises of the Independent Commission for Mines and Minerals (ICMM) both officials described this event as start-up for the revitalization of the sector.

DSRSG Ruecker said: “The mining sector is one of Kosovo’s main comparative advantages. For a sustainable development, the good cooperation with the government is of crucial importance.” Minister Çeku expressed his hope that the issuing of licenses will lead to the creation of more jobs and therefore to a more dignified life for the Kosovo population. It is also another step towards a European future for Kosovo.

Ruecker and Çeku handed over the licenses for Trepça and Feronikel on behalf of the Governing Board of ICMM. A total of 18 exploration and exploitation licenses was issued, among them licenses for industrial minerals (lead and zinc) and construction minerals (cement, hard rock, sand and gravel). The market value of the minerals within the 18 different licence areas comes to approximately 6 billion euros.

The Chairman of the ICMM Governing Board, Nick Burcham, pointed out that the Commission has produced by now a large number of geological maps of Kosovo according to the GIS system. The GIS system is the first operational geographical information system that should supply the mining sector and potential investors with the necessary information for future mining projects.

These maps and additional information are available at the ICMM office in Pristina: 00381-38-240 252-208, kwudtke@eumik.org.

A webpage with the GIS information is planned for late summer.

The licensed mines are:

1. “Belo Brdo”, lead zinc mine, Leposavic/Leposaviq municipality
2. “Trepca Crnac”, lead zinc mine, Leposavic/Leposaviq municipality
3. “Stanterg”, lead zinc mine, Mitrovice/Mitrovica municipality
4. “Te Aleni”, construction material, Istog/Istok municipality
5. “N.T.P. Guri”, construction material, Istog/Istok municipality
6. “N.U.Sh. Ferronikel”, industrial minerals, Glllogoc/Glogovac municipality
7. “Boksit e Kosoves”, bauxite mines, Kline/Klina municipality
8. “Sh.A. Trasing”, construction material, Glllogoc/Glogovac municipality
9. “Trepca Hajvalija”, lead zinc mine, Prishtine/Pristina municipality

10. "Trepca Artana", lead zinc mine, Novoberde/Novo Brdo municipality
11. "Beta Commerc", construction material, Gjilan/Gnjilane municipality
12. "N.T.P. Fertaxi", construction material, Shtime/Stimlje municipality
13. "N.T.P.N. Fasada", construction material, Shtime/Stimlje municipality
14. "Graniti F", construction material, Viti/Vitina municipality
15. "KAG Asphalt", construction material, Prizren municipality
16. "N.P.P. 7 Shtatori", construction material, Kacanik municipality
17. "New Lepenci Sh.P.K.", construction material, Kacanik municipality
18. "Sharr Beteiligungs GmbH", construction material/cement, Kacanik municipality