

INCREASING THE ROLE OF THE BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES IN THE IC

With CoM Decision No. 335 dated 22.05.2019 “On Some Changes in CoM Decision No. 294, dated 08.04.2015, “On the Establishment of the Investment Council”, the role of business representatives in the Investment Council (IC) was strengthened. The number of business representatives in the IC was increased from 6 (3 chambers of commerce/business associations and 3 companies) to 8 (6 chambers of commerce/2 companies). This change was made in order to include more business community actors when discussing the problems of the investment climate in the country and prioritize the proposed solutions to address them.

Business representatives in the IC are the following:

- 2 members from chambers of commerce and industry with *permanent status* in the IC.
 - (i) Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Albania
 - (ii) Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Tirana
- 4 members from business associations with a *2 year mandate*:
 - (iii) FIAA- Foreign Investors Albanian Association
 - (iv) AmCham- American Chamber of Commerce in Albania
 - (v) DIHA- German Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Albania
 - (vi) Confindustria Albania
- 2 *ad-hoc* members (companies) which shall be appointed on the ad hoc basis according to the topics subject of discussion in the IC meetings.

Selection of the chambers of commerce and business associations in the new composition of the IC has considered creating an optimum balance of representation among the approximately 98 organizations which activity is related with business climate in the country and the following mix of criteria among:

- a. chambers of commerce and industry established by the law and associations representing groups of interest or business segments; associations representative of albanian businesses and those representing foreign businesses.
- b. business sectors represented by each association, number of members and geographic coverage.
- c. indexes on evaluation of business climate in the country and other researches published by them;
- d. their level of organization and structuring;
- e. their engagement and contribution in the frame of the IC and/or Focus Groups organized by the Secretariat;
- f. if they have/have not been members of IC;

Based on the above and on the basis of the objective criteria, below is a brief profile of each member of the IC business community:

1. Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Albania (UCCIAL)

- ***Establishing:*** 1994
- ***Membership:*** 20 Chambers of Commerce and Industry
- ***Profile of the members and its business sectors:*** All sectors and types of albanian businesses
- ***Geographic coverage:*** National
- ***Member and contribution to IC:*** Member of IC for period 2018-2019
- ***Publications/Other*** – N/A

2. Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Tirana

- **Establishing:** 1923
- **Membership:** 99 companies (last update June 2019)
- **Profile of the members and its business sectors:** Manufacturing, service, construction, trade
- **Geographic coverage:** Tirana
- **Member and contribution to IC:** Member of IC for period 2015-2016
- **Publications/Other** – several activities/ national and/ or regional initiatives, website

3. FIAA- Foreign Investors Albanian Association

- **Establishing:** 2000
- **Membership:** 83 companies
- **Profile of the members and its business sectors':** Foreign investors/ domestic in Energy, Telecommunications, National Resources etc.
- **Geographic coverage:** National
- **Member and contribution to IC:** Member of IC for period 2015-2016 and 2018-2019, partner in IC surveys and focus groups.
- **Publications/Other** –White Book and business climate Index, national conferences with foreign investors

4. AmCham- American Chamber of Commerce in Albania

- **Establishing:** 2000
- **Membership:** 245 companies
- **Profile of the members and its business sectors:** Foreign investors/ domestic in Banking, Energy, Consultancy, Telecommunications etc.
- **Geographic coverage:** National
- **Member and contribution to IC:** Member of IC for period 2016-2017, partner in IC surveys and focus groups.
- **Publications/Other** – AmCham Business Index, Magazine “The Advantage”, business forums, etc.

5. DIHA- German Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Albania

- **Establishing:** 2008
- **Membership:** around 90 companies
- **Profile of the members and its business sectors:** Foreign investors
- **Geographic coverage:** National
- **Member and contribution to IC:** Not a previous member, partner in focus groups, Surveys of the IC
- **Publications/Other** – Periodic business climate surveys

6. Confindustria Albania

- **Establishing:** 2016
- **Membership:** 106
- **Profile of the members and its business sectors':** Foreign investors/Transport & Logistics, Financial Services, Mechanical and Engineering
- **Geographic coverage:** National and International
- **Member and contribution to IC:** Not a previous member, partner in focus groups, Surveys of the IC
- **Publications/Other –** Publications in the field of energy sector, business climate and investors' forums etc.

IC as an inclusive platform is committed as until now, collaborating with all associations and stakeholders, experts and other organizations dealing with the investment/business climate who may be represented in IC with the observer's status or at technical level in the Working Groups/Focus Groups organized by the IC Secretariat.

Note: The information contained in this material is based on information published on the official websites of business associations and chambers of commerce and/or confirmed by them to the IC Secretariat.