

AGENDA

MEETING XXIX INVESTMENT COUNCIL (IC)

CHALLENGES OF SMEs: THE TRANSITION TO ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES

Date: 31 January 2023 (Tuesday) 11h30 – 13h00

Palace of Congress, Oval Room

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| 11:30 – 11:40 | Welcome and Approval of the Agenda
<i>Ms Delina Ibrahimaj, IC Chair/Minister of Finance and Economy</i> |
| 11:40 – 11:50 | Presentation “Challenges of SMEs during the transition to alternative energy sources”
<i>Secretariat of Investment Council</i> |
| 11:50 – 12:50 | Focused discussion by IC Members

How to generate constructive options for addressing entrepreneur’s uncertainties in the frame of the green agenda and the approach to mitigate costs related to investment uncertainties on energy source diversification:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) <i>A <u>sustainable</u> energy network is indispensable and directly affects the smooth running of business activity. In the frame of the current energy crises and dependence of Albania on an unstable hydrological regime due to intense climate changes, what can be done to address the raised security energy supply uncertainties?</i>b) <i>Albania could be a “green battery” for the Balkan region due to its immense potential on renewable resources, but the local private sector remains concerned about the efficiency of these “new energy sources” and is still hesitant to invest in this direction. Any clear energy market plans?</i>c) <i>Local SME knowledge creation/management capacities on energy diversification and ongoing supporting (local and international) instruments could mitigate initial investment costs related to renewable energy investments, particularly SMEs in priority sectors, such as tourism and the processing industry. Who could promote and facilitate the process?</i> |
| 12:50 – 13:00 | Approval of the Recommendations - Closing Remarks
<i>Ms Delina Ibrahimaj, IC Chair/Minister of Finance and Economy</i> |