

## Milestones of Investors Council April 2021 – June 2021

### Investors Council Meeting:

On May 27 the 15th Investors Council meeting was held that was chaired by the Prime Minister of Georgia Irakli Gharibashvili. The Prime Minister Garibashvili was the Head of Georgian Government in 2015 when the Memorandum of Understanding of Investors Council was signed with the EBRD establishing this constructive platform of private and public sector dialogue.

The main topic of the 15th Meeting of the Investors Council was improving the investment climate, discussing the real challenges the private sector is facing, precise steps to be taken and future activities of the IC.

During the discussion, the Council Members discussed the assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on the economy, post-pandemic economic recovery process and attracting FDI's by means of short and medium-term measures.

### Attracting Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs):

Together with the Government of Georgia the ICS is actively involved in taking steps in order to attract new Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) in Georgia:

- In this regard, on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 the technical assistance project - "Assessment of the Impact of COVID-19 on the Georgian Economy and Preparation of a Medium-term Strategy for Recovery" was presented to the Government of Georgia that was prepared by the global consultancy firm, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC). The scope of project included the assessment of the impact the current pandemic had on various sectors of the economy. The main challenges were presented to the audience. In addition, short and medium-term recommendations for attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) as well as economic models have been developed and presented to the Ministries of Economy and Finance.
- On June 21, ICS organized a meeting of IC members with Mr. Irakli Nadareishvili, Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, and Mr. Mikheil Khidureli, Director of "Enterprise Georgia". Meeting was organized as part of preparation for the upcoming IC meeting dedicated to FDI attraction. Representatives of the Enterprise Georgia made a presentation on the recent activities of the agency and

action plan on FDI attraction; challenges were discussed and suggestions were provided by the IC members.

- On June 24, Head of ICS held a meeting with Mr. Vazil Hudak, advisor to the Prime Minister of Georgia on FDI. During the meeting, activities of ICS related to FDI attraction were discussed. Mr. Hudak pledged to actively cooperate with the IC in future and work together in improving the investment climate and attracting more investments into Georgia.
- On June 29, ICS organized a meeting of IC members on Challenges of FDI attraction in the Energy Sector. Tornike Kazarashvili, Head of Energy Policy and Investment Projects Department of MoESD made a presentation on Georgian electricity generation sector, ongoing and potential projects, and challenges. Also, the activity and portfolio of Georgian Energy Development Fund were discussed.

## Company Law Reform:

ICS has been actively involved in the company law reform since 2016. In cooperation with the legal committee of the parliament, ICS was involved in preparing the draft law on entrepreneurs for the first plenary hearing after all relevant committees including the leading legal committee gave a green light for the draft to go forward.

Draft law on Entrepreneurs has been approved by the Parliament in the first hearing on May 28, 2021.

ICS continued working closely with the Legal Committee of the Parliament to prepare the draft law for the second plenary hearing. Around four hundred remaining comments from all stakeholders (business organizations, lawyers, state agencies) have been reviewed and the draft has been revised accordingly.