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DECISION No. 1023, dated 16.12.2015

ON STRATEGIC SUBSECTORS AND AREAS WITH DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution and points 2 and 7, Article 8, Law No. 55/2015, "On strategic investments in the Republic of Albania", upon the proposal of the Minister of Economic Development, Tourism, Trade and Entrepreneurship, the Council of Ministers

DECIDED:

I. STRATEGIC SUBSECTORS

- 1. Pursuant to Law No. 55/2015, "On strategic investments in the Republic of Albania", strategic sectors are the economic sectors, which are considered by the Albanian state with high potential for the development of the country's economy.
- 2. Strategic Investment Sectors are considered:
 - a) Energy and Mining Sector;
 - b) "Transport, infrastructure of electronic communications and urban waste" Sector;
 - c) "Tourism (tourist structures)" Sector;
 - ç) "Agriculture (Large agricultural farm) and fishing" Sector;
 - d) "Technology and Economic Development Area" Sector;
 - dh) Priority Development Areas.
- 3. Within the strategic sectors defined in point 2 of this decision, specific subsectors are defined and identified, as follows hereunder:
 - a) Strategic Energy and Mining Sector, in which:

Ministry of Justice, Boulevard "Zogu I" Tirana, Albania

Tel: +355 4 22 40 333 E-mail: info@euralius.eu Web: www.euralius.eu











- I. the energy subsector includes strategic investments in the areas of production, transmission, distribution and supply of electricity;
- II. the hydrocarbon subsector includes strategic investments in the fields of research, development, extraction, production, separation, processing, collection, transport and distribution of crude oil and hydrocarbon by-products, activities in the field of transmission, distribution, trading, storage, supply, and those for the construction and operation of natural gas infrastructure;
- III. the mining subsector includes strategic investments in the areas of research, detection and exploitation of the mining environment.
- b) Strategic transport sector, infrastructure of electronic communications and urban waste, in which:
 - the maritime transport subsector includes strategic investments in the construction, maintenance, management of seaports, port areas and marines, and the provision of sea transport services for goods and passengers;
 - ii. the air transport subsector includes strategic investments in the construction, maintenance, management of airports, and the provision of air transport services for goods and passengers;
 - iii. the rail transport subsector includes strategic investments in the construction, maintenance, management of railway infrastructure, and the provision of rail transport services for goods and passengers;
 - iv. the road transport subsector includes strategic investments in the construction, maintenance, management of regional and national roads, and the provision of road transport services for goods and passengers;
 - v. the transport network subsector includes strategic investments in the construction, maintenance, management of alternative transport networks, such as: trams, subways or similar alternative transports, and the provision of passenger transport services therein;
 - vi. the subsector of electronic communications includes strategic investments in the construction, maintenance, management of electronic communications infrastructure, and the provision of access services to such networks for users;
- vii. the urban waste subsector includes strategic investments in activities related to integrated waste management, including waste collection, transportation, recovery, disposal, construction, requalification, management and care for landfill closure;
- viii. the subsector of water supply-sewerage and wastewater treatment includes strategic investments related to the construction, rehabilitation and/or maintenance of the water supply system, sewerage system and wastewater treatment plants.
- c) Strategic Tourism Sector, in which the subsector of tourist structures includes strategic investments in the construction, maintenance and management of accommodation tourist structures, considered as tourism enterprises, in accordance with the provisions of the tourism legislation.
- ç) Strategic Sector of Agriculture and Fisheries, in which:
 - i. the agricultural production subsector includes strategic investments, which follow the model of large agricultural farms;



- ii. the livestock infrastructure subsector includes strategic investments that create and manage the required infrastructure for livestock and provide services related to the distribution of livestock products;
- iii. the fisheries infrastructure subsector includes strategic investments aiming at the construction and management of fisheries and aquaculture infrastructure and the provision of services for the distribution of fish products.
- d) the strategic sector of technology and economic development area, in which the subsector of industrial/technological parks includes strategic investments in the construction, maintenance and management of industrial/technological and innovation parks, and the provision with the required infrastructure for production, industrial development, trading and delivery of services related to the activities exercised within them.

II. PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT AREAS

- 1. Pursuant to Law no. 55/2015, "On strategic investments in the Republic of Albania", the priority development areas are the regional and/or local areas of local government, considered as areas of special importance, which require special support, aiming at the economic development, promotion of employment, improvement of living conditions and efficient use of public resources and infrastructure.
- 2. Development of priority development areas mainly focuses on:
 - a) orientation of investments in certain territorial areas, in order to promote the concentration of the same or similar types of industries or commercial activities in order to benefit from the specialization of jobseekers, economies of scale and the allocation of infrastructure costs. For this purpose, incentive mechanisms will be used, aimed at increasing the efficiency of existing or developing infrastructure, and measures will be taken in order to protect the environment from industrial impacts;
 - b) orientation of investments in certain territorial areas, with high levels of unemployment and where economic development is at unsatisfactory levels compared to other regions of the country. For this purpose, incentive mechanisms will be used, aiming at economic development, increasing the welfare of the population, increasing employment and vocational training, and improving infrastructures.
- 3. The auxiliary criteria for identifying priority development areas will be:
 - a) study of the location, concentration, number and economic importance of the existing industrial and commercial activities, with a view to creating economic synergies between them;
 - b) analysis of the state of existing or developing infrastructure;
 - c) level of unemployment in the area;
 - d) income per capita and other auxiliary criteria, according to public needs and strategies;



- e) realization of the effective environmental protection objectives;
- dh) the effective use of the special skills and qualifications of the active jobseekers of the area;
- f) economic development statistics of the relevant area, according to INSTAT studies or other public entities;
- 4. The proposal for the announcement of priority development areas can be made by the line ministers, the Albanian Investment Development Agency and the Strategic Investment Committee.
- 5. The identification, announcement and determination of the manner and the rules for the functioning of the areas, which will be considered with development priority, is made on a case by case basis by the Council of Ministers, by a special decision.

III. TRANSITORY AND FINAL PROVISION

The Ministry of Economic Development, Tourism, Trade and Entrepreneurship, the Albanian Investment Development Agency and the ministries responsible for verifying the compliance of investment projects with strategic subsectors, and for drafting proposals for the announcement of priority development areas shall be responsible for the implementation of this decision.

This decision shall enter into force after its publication in the Official Journal.

PRIME MINISTER

Edi Rama