

Second HSBC branch opens in Tbilisi

By Nino Kalandarishvili

On May 15 the second branch of HSBC Bank Georgia opened on Pekini Street in Tbilisi. The new office it occupies was built by leading constructing company NCC.

HSBC started its banking activities in Georgia in June 2008 and in ten months has employed 84 people and increased its capital by USD 5 mln. HSBC bank has the lowest mortgage loan rates on the Georgian market.

HSBC Bank Georgia offers a wide range of services to its customers, including retail and commercial banking, debit and credit cards, different kinds of commercial lending, bonds, trade services and corporate treasury services. In the future HSBC Bank Georgia will provide its customers with internet banking services. In June 2008



Antony Turner, CEO, HSBC Bank Georgia

the bank's deposit capital was GEL 23.9 mln. It is now GEL 32,272,880.

Antony Turner, the CEO of HSBC Bank Georgia, said: "Our plans in Georgia remain unchanged. HSBC will expand its business in this country steadily. Now we are focused on Tbilisi but

in the longer term we will consider having branches in other cities of Georgia. Our bank is guided by customer needs: as we see demand we respond to it, and we will offer banking convenience to our customers. The Pekini Street branch is a good example of this."

With 27 years of professional banking experience, British national Antony Tuner has served in a variety of HSBC Group roles in Qatar, Hong Kong, Brunei, Bahrain, Oman, the United Kingdom, Dubai, Brazil, Italy and Armenia prior to taking up his current position in Georgia.

HSBC is the one of the largest banks in the world, with 9,000 offices in 85 countries which serve 100 million customers. HSBC provides its banking and financial services in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, the Americas, the Middle East and Africa.



Armenian PM on world crisis

By Messenger Staff

Armenian Prime Minister Tigran Sarkisian has stated that the world financial and economic

crisis is much deeper than was initially assessed by the IMF and World Bank. Unfortunately the prognoses of these organizations have changed for the worse, he said.

2009 could be the most dramatic year for the economy but hopefully by the end of it stabilization might occur and from 2010 onwards some positive developments can be seen.

Eastern Partnership versus CIS?

By Messenger Staff

CIS Executive Secretary Sergey Lebedev from Russia has suggested that Eastern Partnership Programme member countries might face certain difficulties in the CIS. Parts of some agreements signed by CIS members contradict certain paragraphs of the Eastern

Partnership Programme terms, something easily overlooked, and thus EPP countries will have to make a choice between the two.

Lebedev thinks that the losses EPP countries might have to bear could be much higher than the benefits they will gain from being part of it. The CIS Executive Secretary expressed the hope however

that some commonsense steps could be still taken to rescue the situation.

All six EPP members are post-Soviet countries. Georgia has withdrawn from the CIS but the other five EPP countries, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine, are still members.

Azeri natural gas price increase

By Messenger Staff

Turkey's Environment and Energy Resources Minister has said that the price of Azeri-origin natural gas will be revised according to market prices. In 2001, when the Azeri-Turkish gas supply contract was signed, the prices were calculated differently.

Negotiations between the two countries, which have been under-

way since April last year, have resulted in new prices being agreed but the exact figures have not yet been given. Turkish officials think that a price increase will not harm Turkish consumers.

More people want to leave Georgia

By Messenger Staff

The number of people wanting to leave Georgia as labour migrants has increased recently. The International Organisation for Migration says that 54% of female and 46% of male respondents to a recent survey have expressed a willingness to accept any offer to leave Georgia and work outside the country. The ages of those questioned are between 25 and 30.

The region in which the greatest proportion of 25-30 year olds wishes to leave the country, according to the poll, is Imereti. This is followed by Kakheti, Tbilisi, Adjara and Kvemo Kartli. Most of those who want to leave are eth-

nic Georgians, unmarried, with a bachelors or masters degree. Teachers, doctors and economists are the professionals with the greatest desire to leave, although they will seek work as babysitters and in restaurants or hotels.

The countries most respondents would like to work in are the USA, "any country", Greece, Turkey and Italy. The most common reasons given for wanting to migrate are having relatives living abroad, just wanting to leave Georgia, thinking it is easier to get a job abroad, knowing the language of the desired country, and an attractive image of the country seen on TV.

Scarlet Sails TAVERN

Opening hours
12.00 ~ 1.00

SEAFOOD AND BRITISH CUISINE



25 Leselidze Street, Tbilisi, Georgia
Tel: (+995 32) 93 10 28
Mob: (+995 77) 40 21 29 (Engl.)

OFFICE Office Furniture & Stationery

Phone: (995 32) 390 390
391 391
Fax: (995 32) 396 288
394 181

http://www.office1.ge
office1@office1.ge
29 Vicho-Pshavela .bn. Tbilisi, 0168 Georgia

Popular Healer Askurava - Family Firm Fractures, bone traumas



Consultations:
from 12.00 to 17.00
except Saturdays and Sundays

Address: Tbilisi,
25, Leselidze St., 5, Iveria St.
Tel.: (995 32) 988684; 999694.
Fax: (995 32) 987995

Hotel D'Plaza

We do our best to exceed your expectations

Accommodation Conference Hall
Airport transfer Banquet services

Address: 3, Shantlalvani av., Tbilisi, Georgia
Tel: (+995 32) 24 00 2404; (+995 32) 24 24 88
Fax: (+995 32) 24 19 05
E-mail: dplaza@dplaza.com dplaza@plaza.ge Web: www.dplaza.ge