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NEWS BULLETIN # 1

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GEORGIA-RUSSIA-PEACEKEEPERS-PARLIAMENT

PARLIAMENT TO CONSIDER PEACEKEEPERS' ISSUE JULY 18

TBILISI. CAUCASUS PRESS. 07-18-06. The Parliament of Georgia will convene for a special session today to consider the issue of withdrawal of the Russian peacekeepers from Georgia.

The session will be held in the absence of the opposition factions which boycott the Parliament's work.

The opposition believes that Parliament's resolution on the peacekeepers will have no real force and will set no deadline for their withdrawal.

PARLIAMENT-SPEAKER-BUSINESSMEN

PARLIAMENT SPEAKER TO MEET WITH BUSINESSMEN

TBILISI. CAUCASUS PRESS. 07-18-06. Parliament Speaker Nino Burjanadze and Vice-Speaker Mikheil Machavariani will hold a meeting with representatives Georgian Business Union today to discuss the draft law on Customs Tariff that envisages abolition of tariffs.

Representatives of the Parliament and the Government will meet next week to discuss the new Customs Code. Nino Burjanadze and Prime Minister Zurab Nogaideli will participate in the meeting.

EU-GEORGIA-SEMINAR

SEMINAR ON EU-GEORGIA TRADE ISSUES

TBILISI. CAUCASUS PRESS. 07-18-06. The Delegation of the European Commission and the EU-Georgia Business Council will hold a Seminar on EU-Georgia Trade Issues.

The Delegation of the European Commission informed CAUCASUS PRESS that Torben Holtze, Head of Delegation of the European Commission to Georgia, Giorgi Baramidze, State Minister for Integration into European and Euro-Atlantic Structures, Jemal Inaishvili, President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Tamar Kovziridze, Deputy Minister for Economic Development, Konstantine Zaldastanishvili, Secretary General of the EU-Georgia Business Council and Sofia Munoz, Deputy Head of Unit for Russia, CIS, candidate countries and the Balkans, Directorate General for Trade of the European Commission will make opening remarks at the seminar.

Georgian business and government representatives and European and Georgian experts will participate in this event that will take place 18 July at 10:30 (registration at 10:00) at the Marriott Tbilisi Hotel.

GEORGIA-EU TRADE TURNOVER GROWS

TBILISI. CAUCASUS PRESS. 07-18-06. Georgia's trade turnover with the EU states is growing.

The Ministry of Economic Development of Georgia told CAUCASUS PRESS that trade turnover reached \$836.7 mln in 2005 exceeding the indicator of the previous year by 14.8%.

Georgia-EU trade turnover makes up 24.9% of country's foreign trade turnover.

ITALIAN EMBASSY ORGANIZES PHOTO EXHIBITION IN KARVASLA

TBILISI. CAUCASUS PRESS. 07-18-06. Exhibition entitled «Old Caucasus in the Italian and Georgian Photography» will open at the Tbilisi History Museum (Karvasla) July 18 at 18.00 hrs.

The exhibition is organized by the Embassy in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture of Georgia and Tbilisi Institute of Manuscripts to feature photographs made in the Caucasus in the end of the 19th century.

The Italian Embassy told CAUCASUS PRESS that the exhibition will include Vittorio Sella's photographs and photographs from the Institute of Manuscripts that have never been shown to the public before.

«Our collaboration started when I visited the archives of the Institute of Manuscripts,» Ambassador Fabrizio Romano said. «I was impressed by the exhaustive, thorough work of gathering and cataloguing that the staff of the institute had carried out. Moreover, the photos were extremely interesting and immediately reminded me of the ones that the Italian explorer, mountaineer and photographer Vittorio Sella had taken during his visit to the Caucasus in the 1880s and 90s. So, together with Prof. Zaza Aleksidze we decided to organise this exhibition showing landscapes and people of the olden times as seen from Italian and Georgia perspective,» Mr. Romano said.

MAGAZINE-PRESENTATION

PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC-POLITICAL MAGAZINE

TBILISI. CAUCASUS PRESS. 07-18-06. Publishing House Iveria XXI and Journalists' Union House of Georgian-Ukrainian Press and Book, through the support of the Ukrainian Embassy in Georgia holds presentation of public-political magazine «The President of My Country».

The Ombudsman's Office told CAUCASUS PRESS that the presentation will be held today at 16.00 at the Ombudsman's Office and will be attended by representatives of the Ukrainian Embassy in Georgia and Georgian Embassy in Ukraine, publicists, writers, businessmen and other persons contributing to development of Georgian-Ukrainian ties.

GEORGIA-NLM-DECLARATION

NATIONAL-LIBERATING MOVEMENT OFFERS RADICAL VERSION OF DECLARATION OF OPPOSITION FORCES

TBILISI. CAUCASUS PRESS. 07-18-06. Georgian National Liberating Movement invites on all opposition forces and representatives of the civil society, who share opposition's views, to gather in the yard of the Svetitskhoveli Cathedral today in order to sign the radical declaration of opposition forces drafted by the Movement.

«If the authorities ignore the declaration, we will gather 100.000 people at the Dynamo stadium in Tbilisi in the fall,» Movement representatives said.

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