

	
ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT	EU/TACIS PROGRAM

PRESS RELEASE

Roundtable on Enterprise Development and Investment Climate in Ukraine
(Kiev, 13 June 2006)

Recent political and economic developments in Ukraine have opened a window of opportunity to enhance the country's integration into the world economy and the international economic system. The process is, however, still hampered by a number of obstacles, especially unfavourable business climate, formal barriers and informal impediments to foreign investment and an insufficiently developed financial sector. The purpose of the roundtable is to address these key obstacles and propose policy recommendations, based in particular on experiences of OECD countries. The main issues to be discussed are:

- **Legal framework for business operations:** the principal task in this area is to reduce existing impediments of the legal system for business and investment, in particular by revising and reconciling business-related provisions in the Civil Code and commercial and corporation law and developing transparent system of permits in the sphere of business.
- **Financial markets and their role in creating favourable investment climate:** Ukraine's financial system has to be more responsive to the needs of the business community in general and foreign investors in particular. The main recommendations are to develop a good regulatory basis and supervision structure for the financial sector in line with international standards, build up a strong and effective banking sector, in particular through its diversification and opening to foreign partners and encourage liberalisation of capital markets by promoting transparency and integrity, including through greater participation of institutional investors.
- **Investment and regional development:** Based on three regional studies (Lviv, Kharkiv and the Republic of Crimea), the OECD proposes that regions develop a coherent foreign investment strategy, adopt a targeted approach to investment promotion, set up a systematic follow-up of existing investment projects and encourage entrepreneurship and activities of small and medium sized firms in view to encourage foreign investment linkages with the local economy.

The roundtable is organised within the OECD/EC project on "*Improving the conditions for enterprise development and the investment climate for domestic and international investors*", financed by the EC-TACIS programme. The event is co-hosted by the UNDP. Some 60 participants will take part to discussions, including the Ukrainian officials from the central government, the Parliament, government agencies and regional administrations as well as the business community and representatives of international organisations.

To claim the accreditation for the roundtable and obtain further information, journalists are invited to contact: Mr. Vakhtang Mikadze [E-mail: vakhtang.mikadze@ulg.kiev.ua Tel: 38 044 502 1024 or 38 050 703 9522].