



On November 14, 2012 in Batumi Sheraton Hotel was held the meeting among the Government of Georgia and the representatives of local large and medium businesses, as well as the foreign investors working in the region. International Investors Association of Georgia and its members also attended the conference. The chairman of Ajara A.R Government Mr. Archil Khabadze, the Minister of Finance of Georgia Mr. Nodar Khaduri and the Minister of Ajara Finance and Economy Mr. Giorgi Tavartkiladze delivered welcoming speech. The investors were introduced economic policy of the new government, top priority of which is business integrity and its development to create the most comfortable conditions in the country.

According to the Government representatives

need to be restore a fair and competitive business-environment once and for all-where will be the Common Rule of the game and artificial monopolies will no longer exist. The discussion was as well as focused on simplification and the improvement of Georgian legislation. The businessmen were asked to be fair taxpayers and the government will be always committed to the business community.

„I think that it was a timely and productive meeting as businessmen are the people who make up new jobs and wealth in the country. They also have problems with tax laws and administration as well as problems related to the fines. Decisions taken by the government will never be spontaneous.” – Nodar Khaduri said.

„ We want to create a competitive environment, select the best projects and approve them. I also declare that none of the projects will be suspended” – said

Archil Khabadze.

The meeting was held in question-answer format. During the discussion several problematic issues were raised. The most problematic was the tax code. According to the businessmen Revenue Service and the entrepreneurs interpret the Code in different ways. The Minister of Finance of Georgia said that the activities to regulate the tax legislation are underway. It should be noted that at the meeting majority of foreign investors were Turkish businessmen. As it is known, the information about restriction of the activities of the Turkish investors operating in Georgia was reported. The businesspersons were interested in the mentioned issue. The government said that it is false and Republic of Turkey is and will be the country's major

economic partner. During the meeting, the issue of arrested entrepreneurs' amnesty was conversed too. The Minister of Finance of Georgia promised to review all the concrete issues and asked the interested people to submit the official letter to the appropriate bodies. Gambling business-one of the actual issues was as well as discussed at the meeting. The businessmen requested to be informed in the closing casinos in Batumi, because they plan to add investment in the field in future. The Government representatives clarified that the study is underway and the decision related to the issue will be made after discussion, review and analysis. The Government is ready to ensure the freedom of the business in Georgia and defend its rights. The chairman of Ajara A.R Government promised to organize similar meetings in future.