



### **Important economic events and amendments to the legal regulations in June 2003**

- ❖ *On June 2, the payment of the first installment of the Government denationalization Bonds started.*
- ❖ *On June 3, the production prices of oil derivatives went up ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" no. 36/2003).*
- ❖ *On June 11, amendments to several laws were adopted at a Government session:*
  - 1/ Amendments to the Law on Deposit Insurance Fund, according to which the Fund will indemnify the depositors of a particular bank, within three months after the revocation of the bank's operating license. New development is the decrease in the premium the banks pay to the Fund, which will equal maximum 0.7% of the amount of the deposits of natural persons in the bank (instead of the previous maximum of 2.5%, while the actual payment equaled 1%), in order to lower the costs of the banks and the interest rates. Also, instead of the previous 5% of the savings deposits, as the banks' premium should be, it decreased to 4%. The newly formed banks will have to pay membership premium in the Fund of 1%;*
  - 2/ Amendments to the Law on Leasing, which also covers the leasing of real estate, and not only movables. The amendments removed the previous requirement for depositing Euro 100,000 for conducting leasing activities in order to stimulate the companies and banks to perform this activity;*
  - 3/ Amendments to the Law on Denationalization and the Law on Old Foreign Exchange Savings, that allow the bonds issued on this basis also to be used for payment of all liabilities to the Asset Management Agency (former Bank Rehabilitation Agency).*
- ❖ *On June 11, the allocation of the banks' compulsory reserve in foreign exchange (foreign exchange deposits) at a rate of 7.5% and the banks' compulsory reserve in Denars (Denar deposits) at a reduced rate of 7.5% started.*
- ❖ *On June 12, the second mobile operator in the Republic of Macedonia – Cosmophone started operating.*
- ❖ *On June 12, National Council for Entrepreneurship and Competitiveness of Macedonia was established, in order to improve the competitiveness of the domestic production on the European and the international market, as well as to remove the barriers in the operation of the private sector as the one responsible for the future development of the economy. Also, the first two clusters were established: one in the area of tourism, and the other in the area of production of lamb meat and dairy products. The clusters cover all producers in the aforementioned branches.*
- ❖ *On June 13, the sale of the remaining portion of the state and the social capital owned by the Privatization Agency of the Republic of Macedonia through the Stock Exchange started, while the sale of the claims of the Asset Management Agency started on June 20.*
- ❖ *On June 17, the retail prices of the oil derivatives increased on the basis of a Government Decision ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" no. 39/2003).*
- ❖ *Successful penetration of the construction companies abroad – upon invitation of the Government of Ukraine, the construction company "Granit" from Skopje signed an agreement for construction of the road infrastructure in Ukraine in the amount of Euro 20 million (second largest construction project this company makes in this foreign country). Subject of construction is the highway from Kiev to Odessa at which "Granit" is to construct four sections in total length of 12 kilometers. Companies from Turkey, Italy, as well as domestic companies from Ukraine will be involved in the construction works.*