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Energy Sector

The long-term cooperation agreement has been signed between the governments of Georgia and Turkey. For the first time in the Caucasus region, by the end of 2016, countries will jointly prepare the long-term plan for development of the connecting transmission network.

Throughout the cooperation, Turkey will share its experience in European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E) with Georgia. This will provide a strong platform for Georgia to join the European transmission network in the nearest future and facilitate cooperation with the neighboring countries.

Furthermore, on April 8, 2015 "Ten-Year Plan of Georgia's Transmission Network" was approved by the Minister of Energy of Georgia, covering periods throughout 2015-2025.

The main purpose of the plan is to keep up with the recent and future developments in energy sector in order to ensure uninterrupted transmission of electricity to neighboring countries.

Arbitration

Substantial amendment was introduced to the Law of Georgia on Arbitration on March 18, 2015.

Prior to the amendment, the courts were required to dismiss the claims in the events when the arbitration agreements were signed by the parties. From now on, court shall only dismiss the claims at the motions of the defendants. Hence, amendment enables parties to agree on court's jurisdiction despite their previous agreement to solve disputes through arbitration.

Law on Labor Migration

For the purposes of EU's Eastern Partnership's multilateral format Georgia is implementing the Eastern Partnership bilateral and multilateral roadmaps which, among other issues, provide for reforms in migration-related sectors. New labor migration law was adopted by the Parliament of Georgia on April 1, 2015, taking effect as of November 1, 2015. New labor migration legislation mainly aims at restricting illegal labour migration as well as risks of trafficking. Alongside with the newly adopted law, changes have been made in Georgian Law on Entrepreneurs according to which an entrepreneur is obliged to inform National Agency of Public Registry if its business is related to the performance of the labor activities abroad.

Labor Safety

On February 5, 2015 Government of Georgia has approved State Program for Monitoring Labor Conditions. The program is designed to help employers create safe and healthy working environment and prevent labor safety violations. Target group of this program are employers who are willing to join the program on the voluntary basis.

Legal Status of Aliens

According to the recent amendments to the Law of Georgia on the Legal Status of Aliens and Stateless Persons, Government of Georgia will approve the list of countries, whose citizens may enter Georgia without visa and stay in the country for a full 1 year period. Previously, foreign citizens not requiring visa, were only authorized to stay in Georgia for no more than 90 calendar days in any 180-day period.

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