



AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN BULGARIA

AMCHAM HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING

29th June /Tuesday/ 2010, 5:00 p.m.
American Corner at Sofia City Library
4-A, Slaveykov Square

OFFICIAL GUEST SPEAKER:

MRS VALENTINA SIMEONOVA
DEPUTY MINISTER of LABOUR and SOCIAL POLICY
and
MR. MARTIN PETKOV
EXPERT, CONSULTO BULGARIA

Working language: Bulgarian

AGENDA

- 5:00 – 5:30pm** *Welcoming Coffee/Networking*
- 5:30 – 6:30pm** **Topics of Discussion**
- Policy of the Ministry of Labor in the sphere of social works; European Programs
 - Current and upcoming programs under Operational Programs “Human Resources”

AmCham HR Committee invited Valentina Simeonova, deputy minister of labour and social policy, and Martin Petkov, expert with Consulto Bulgaria to give more information to member companies regarding policy of the ministry, European programs, and current and upcoming programs under operational program Human Resources. Fifty HR specialists with Amcham member companies attended the meeting on June 29 at the American corner on Slaveikov Sq.

Bulgaria’s Deputy Minister of Labor and Social Policy, Valentina Simeonova, announced the cabinet is to prepare by the end of the year a project for a national strategy for fighting poverty, geared towards socially excluded, unemployed and disadvantaged individuals.

In 3 years the ministry will close down the current homes for children with disabilities and will establish protected homes for those children. The project envisages building of infrastructure of different social centers mainly in the big cities where professionals will take care for children with disabilities.

A staggering number, about 1,2 million, of Bulgarians live below the poverty line, a May study of the Economic Social Council showed.

Main aspects of the EU operational program Human Resources development were explained by Martin Petkov, Expert with Consulto Bulgaria. The program priorities include: Integration of vulnerable groups and non-active persons on the labor market; Increase of productivity and adaptation of employed persons; Improvement of the quality of training and education; Improvement of the access to training and education; Social inclusion and social economy promotion;

Improvement of the effectiveness of the institutions in the field of labor market, social and health services.

Under the program there are voucher (training) schemes for part-time employees ranging between 600 and 1125 BGN per voucher/training. For full-time employees the money range from 600 to 1800 BGN per voucher/training. For unemployed category - where employer has stated he wishes to hire them after passing training (minimal wage to be subsidized for a period of 9-12 months). Please find attached the [PRESENTATION](#).



Business Park Sofia, bld. 2, fl. 6,
1766 Sofia, Bulgaria
www.amcham.bg

Tel: (359 2) 9742 743/4/5;
Fax: (359 2) 9742 741
e-mail: amcham@amcham.bg