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UPCOMING EVENTS IN BRIEF:

April:

3 - social Friday night out

6 - event with the World Bank

Other events will be announced on the DBC webpage

Further events in April will be announced on website

May:

Events will be announced on the DBC webpage

June:

27 - Midsummer Party

Who is who on the Board of DBC

Chairman: Lau Geckler, Microsoft

Vice Chairman: Christian Mortensen, Icopal

Board Secretary and treasurer: Anders Bruhn, DI

Editor of the DBC newsletter: Roman Tsurkan, Delacour Dania

Web Master: Niels Jensen, Arla Foods

Event organizer: Anna Shumskaya, Emborg

Event organizer: Helena Bollesen, Bianco

Board Member: Flemming Crawford, Embassy of Denmark

Secretary of the DBC: Natalia Erzhenskova, DI.

NEWS FROM THE DBC BOARD

Dear DBC Member,

I would first like to welcome new board members Helena Bollesen (Bianco), Anders Bruhn (DI) and Anna Shumskaya (Emborg). We have been re-constituted as a board (see www.dbc-moscow.ru) and are ready to launch a set of activities in the first half of 2009 that seeks to keep a balance between social, cultural and business activities. However for us to serve you, our members, even better, we need your input. Therefore, we would be grateful if you share suggestions for 2009 activities with us through secretariat@dbc-moscow.ru or via the website.

We have been pleased to note that our members are continuously committed to support the DBC with sponsorships. So far **Delacour Dania** has agreed to become Main Sponsor for 2009, while **Emborg and Arla Foods** continue as supportive sponsors. Moreover, we have received positive feedback from a number of companies to support us for specific events. The sponsorships are coordinated by Niels Jensen and Christian Poul Mortensen.

So far we have already conducted the first event which consisted of a social Friday night in Wall Street Bar, where approximately 15 members participated in a nice evening consisting of food, drinks and conversation as an end of a busy working week.

In regards to future events we can already inform you that the local Director of World Bank has agreed to host an event on April 6th. In addition to this we have a couple more interesting events in April and May. Further, the date for the Midsummer Party has been fixed to be **27 June** at the Embassy Dacha, so put a mark in the calendar already now. Please find overview of all our events on the member website.

Please also find the latest News from the Embassy, including a few words on the visit of and meeting between Per Stig Møller and Andrey Lavrov.

Finally the board would like to thank all participants of the Christmas Party for their kind participation in the Lottery. The proceeds have been donated to the charity Nochlezhka in St. Pete. The Shelter spent the funds to organize a Danish style Christmas party for the homeless people living in the center along with mobile "Heated station" for the street homeless.

Your Board hope for strong participation at the events of spring 2009 and look forward to your suggestions for how we can make things even better.

Best regards

Lau Geckler
Chairman DBC Board

NEWS FROM THE ROYAL DANISH EMBASSY

Visit to Russia of Danish foreign Minister

On 26 February the Danish foreign minister Per Stig Møller paid an official visit to Russia invited by foreign minister Lavrov.

The ambassador hosted a breakfast meeting for the Minister and representatives from Danish business prior to the meeting with Mr. Lavrov.

Danish companies briefed the minister on the challenges facing the business and investment opportunities in Russia during the financial crisis. Especially was mentioned the increasing protectionism through increased tariff and technical barriers, problems in financing projects and vegetarian restriction being used to protect own local production. The minister promised to mention the concerns to Mr. Lavrov and agreed that he also was concerned about the lack of transparency and protectionism which is not in accordance with WTO, of which Russia is applying for membership.

At the luncheon meeting Mr. Lavrov confirmed the good economic and political bilateral relation. Lavrov expressed satisfaction with growth in the overall trade of 40% in 2008. Per Stig Møller informed the Russian minister that Danish companies are requesting more transparency at the Russian market and more support from Russian authorities on Danish investments. Lavrov acknowledged that there are some problems which however Russian companies also are facing. He also declared that Russia as any other country has to take care of own companies and that it takes time to reduce corruption and bureaucracy.

Specific trade issues are referred to the Danish-Russian intergovernmental Council.

Mrs. Connie Hedegaard, the Danish Minister for Climate and Energy will be paying a working visit to Moscow on 26 and 27 March 2009.

The purpose of the visit is to meet the Russian ministers involved in the international climate change negotiations taking place in the UNFCCC in order to give an outline of how Denmark's sees its role as host for COP15 and discuss how we can work together to secure that the international community reach agreement on a ambitious and effective global climate deal in Copenhagen in December 2009.

Other news

- DI - net

The DBC board have been asked for inform the members by DI that DI also have a network that they would like to promote and that have a more of a business bent to it so the info about it might be useful to DBC members as DBC still is a social club.

You can read more on the network on

<http://www.di.dk/English/Consultancy/International+Markets/Russia+Net/>

- Seminar with IØ and OGRES

The Investment Fund for Eastern and Central Europe and OGRES Bank will also like to invite the members of DBC to a seminar on investment in Russia and the board agreed to, as information to the members to post the official invitation to the seminar on DBC webpage. The seminar is scheduled to approximately end of week 23.

MEMBERS' BENEFITS:

Don't forget to take advantage of some of the benefits of being a DBC member, including use of the **DBC JOB CENTRE** and **MEMBERS' CORNER** on our website, as well offers from associated trade partners:

Save Money with rent a car at **Dansk Auto Rent**. Look at the webpage to see the discount you can get in Denmark when you rent a car.

- Obtain up to 50 percent discount on corporate purchases of **Royal Copenhagen**. For more information contact Alexander Chelnokov, Royal Copenhagen in Moscow, atc@royalcopenhagen.com.

The **DBC website** and the DBC newsletter being edited by Niels Jensen of Arla Foods and Roman Tsurkan of Delacour Dania are "living organisms" that needs input from its active members. We therefore encourage you all to pay frequent visits to the website and submit any ideas, news, case stories etc. to the two editors.

