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PRESS RELEASE

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RESULTS OF THE 2nd QUARTER OF SURVEY ON BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT INDEX

Project "Improving Business Environment in Albania"

FIAA informs its partners and the wider audience that has just completed the results of the 2nd Quarter of the Survey on Business Environment Index. This Index is quarterly monitored in the frame of project "Improvement of the Business Environment in Albania", a collaboration between FIAA and the Business Alliance of Slovakia (PAS). The project is funded by Official Assistance of the Slovak Republic.

The Index's purpose is to monitor the changes in the Business Environment of Albania through the implementation of the quarterly Surveys and to identify key trends and barriers that business is facing.

Business Environment Index is a unique tool to regularly monitor changes in business environment in Albania. It consists of three sections focused on:

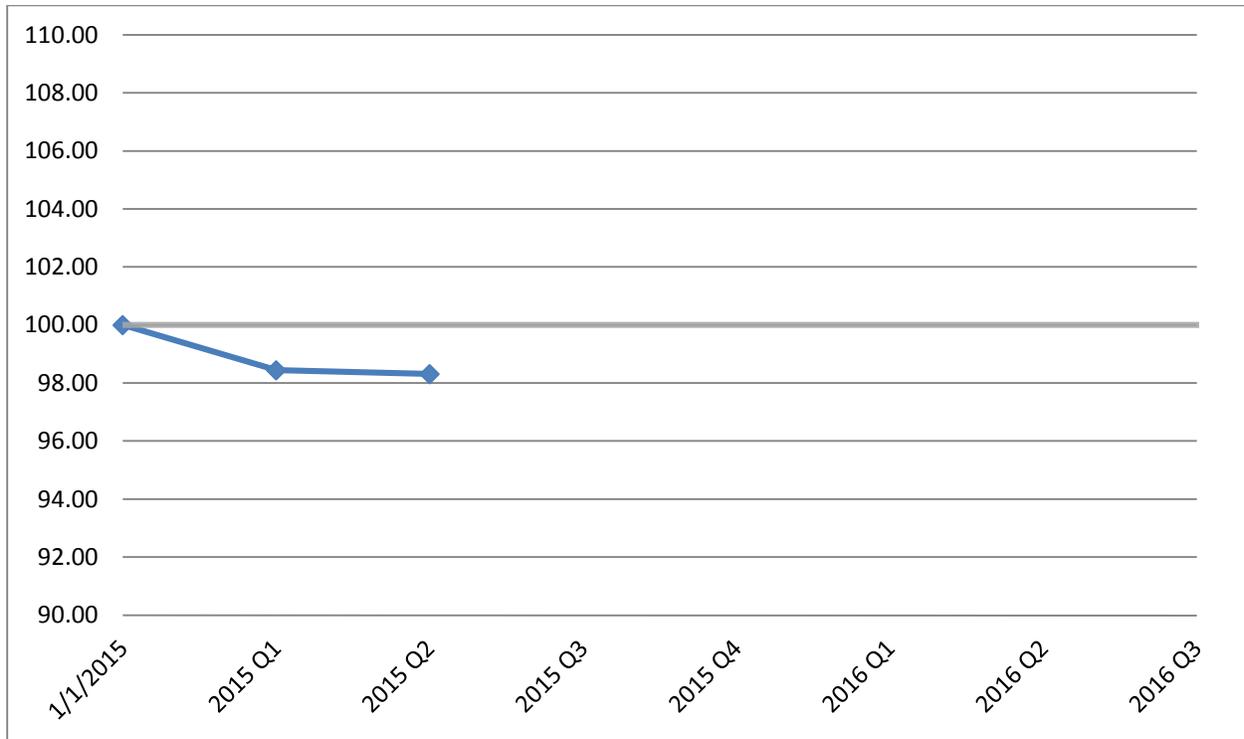
- The influence of main components of the legislative and regulatory framework on business
- The influence of other significant external macroeconomic factors on business
- The influence of our company on quality of business environment

All the three sections contain 33 parameters. About 30 companies answered to each question of the Survey by expressing their opinion over the **second quarter of 2015**. Based on the opinion of respondents the trend of the answers compared with the First Quarter of BEI, has continued to be with further negative perceptions, in particular for the following elements:

- A1. Functionality of political system in the country -2.39%
- A11. Functionality of public institutions (register courts, tax offices) -2.50%
- B2. Presence of bureaucracy -2.39%
- B3. Corruption in public institutions -3.64%
- B4. Presence of unfair competition, crime, lawlessness -2.05%
- B5. Efficiency of state economy, access to state aid -2.39%

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The below chart is the perception of the respondents on business environment index analysis (with negative values) during the Q1 –Q2 of 2015.



The Business Environment Index during the 6 months of 2015.

According to the answers of the respondents, the negative trend of the Index perceptions is closely related to the fiscal package of 2015 which was seen as not appropriate by business. Also, during April May and June 2015 there were local Elections in Albania which have slow somehow the ongoing reforms. Other important elements which effect the answers of the business is the level of corruption in administration and the law enforcements, elements which are also identified in different survey of national and international organizations in Albania.