

## Press release

### For immediate release

**30<sup>th</sup> June 2010**

### Belarus and Wales talking business

“An interest of Welsh companies and educational establishments in cooperation with the Republic of Belarus has been growing”, Honorary Consul of Wales to the Republic of Belarus, Michael Rye said today.

A business delegation of twelve people from Belarus visited Wales last week looking for interested businesses wishing to be involved in importing the following:

- Furniture (made of oak, beech, alder)
- Footwear (natural leather ladies, gents, and children)
- Heavy engineering
- Clothing (shirts, knitwear, linen clothes)
- Wood products (housing, plywood, saw-timber, veneer, chipboards, wooden EURO pallets including EPAL)
- Alcohol (Vodka, liquors, cognac) communication technology etc.

.And exporting the following:

- Alcohol (whisky and opening of representative offices)
- Footwear; accessories for footwear production
- Heat pumps

## ■ Macklepaper processing equipment

Business partners are also needed for cooperation and investment activities between Belarusian and Welsh companies with the assistance of Belarusian Chamber of Commerce and industry and South Wales Chamber of Commerce.

Whilst Belarus today is an industrial European country with 44% of its export aimed at European Union countries, the country has a developed infrastructure, highly qualified and competitive labour power and a favourable geographical position.

Trade turnover with the UK exceeds one billion US dollars and there are 135 enterprises in Belarus with British funding and a huge number of British companies showing growing interest in starting their business in Belarus.

Graham Morgan, Director of the South Wales Chamber of Commerce (SWCC), signed an agreement last week with the General Director of the Mogilev Branch for the Belarusian Chamber of Commerce and industry at a breakfast event hosted by HSBC.

Graham Morgan, Director of the South Wales Chamber of Commerce, said: “The agreement signifies the developing international relationship between the two Chambers of Commerce and how they can benefit from the expanding business connections each chamber has.

“This year I have had the opportunity to meet with a number of overseas organisations that have included: an Ambassador for Albania, a Consular for Belorussia, a representative from the Spanish Chamber of

Commerce and representatives from Hong Kong to create an awareness of the importance of trading internationally.

“We are due to launch a new page through out SWCC website entitled the International Trade Gateway, which will provide businesses in Wales with a variety of important contacts. It is contacts, such as the ones made with the delegates from Belarus, which will provide businesses with the opportunity to start making the connections to trade internationally.”

Ends

### Notes for editors

Photo: Left to right – Graham Morgan, Director of the South Wales Chamber of Commerce and Henadz Chorny, General Director of the Mogilev Branch for the Belarusian Chamber of Commerce and industry.

The South Wales Chamber of Commerce is the ultimate business network in South Wales and now incorporates the West Wales Chamber of Commerce. The chamber exists to provide a regional voice and offer support to businesses pan South Wales.

Since merging with the West Wales Chamber of Commerce, the South Wales Chamber of Commerce now represents over 1000 businesses and 100,000 employees.

For more press information pleased contact Laurian Corner at the South Wales Chamber on 01633 242715 or [laurian.corner@southwaleschamber.co.uk](mailto:laurian.corner@southwaleschamber.co.uk)