Newsletter, 1-9/2018



A NEW MINISTRY OF FINANCE LEADERSHIP

Andrej Bertoncelj, Ph.D.

The minister of finance Andrej Bertoncelj holds a Ph.D. in Finance. He was appointed to the position Minister of Finance 13th of September 2018. Previously, he was a member of the Management Board of the Slovenian Sovereign Holding, responsible for the management, restructuring and financial governance of state capital assets.

The minister is an internationally seasoned financial expert, with a professional career spanning 25 years, including 18 years of business executive experience in upper management positions and several years working in New York City. Key positions held include, President of Lek USA, Inc., Vice President of Finance at Lek d. d. and Director of Foreign Units and Corporate Governance Advisor to the President of the Management Board at Kemofarmacija d. d.

Andrej Bertoncelj held the position of Professor of Management at the University of Primorska from 2009 until 2018, during which he authored an extensive bibliography spanning 10 books and more than 40 scientific papers published in international journals. He attended management training and research programs at Harvard University and Cambridge University.

The minister is fluent in English and German.

The Finance Minister Cabinet Members are:

Mateja Vraničar Erman

Mateja Vraničar Erman graduated from the Faculty of Law of the University of Ljubljana in 1989, and in 1997, she successfully finished her MPA studies (Master of Public Administration) at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

From 1989 to 1993, she worked at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from 1993 on at the Ministry of Finance, where she was responsible for several important activities, mainly in the organization units of the Ministry, responsible for the customs and tax systems. For example, she was responsible for the coordination and preparation of the first Slovenian Customs Act and relevant implementing regulations, which were based on the European customs system, where she acted as head of the Indirect Taxation Section and later as head of the Department for Tax and Customs Policy and Legislation in the Directorate for the System of Tax, Customs and Other Public Finance Revenues within the ministry. From April 2010 to February 2012 and from March 2013 to September 2016 she was State Secretary in the Ministry of finance, primarily responsible for the area of tax and customs systems, budget and public accounting. After the mandate she re-dedicated to professional work in the field of tax system regulations. Until the appointment as Secretary of State, she was appointed head of the general tax matters and analysis department.

In September 2016, she took over the leadership of the Ministry of Finance for two years.

13th of September 2018 she has been appointed as State Secretary, primarily responsible for the area of tax and customs systems.

Metod Dragonja

Method Dragonja is a university graduate economist. He graduated from the Faculty of Economics at the University of Ljubljana in 1978 and immediately after completing his studies, he started working in Lek d. d. Later, he led this pharmaceutical company for more than 15 years as General Director and CEO. During his leadership Lek became one of the leading pharmaceutical companies in Central and Eastern Europe, highly internationalized with a strong regional presence. Between 2005 and 2007 he led Lek's Representative Office in Moscow and was the Director for the sale of generic medicines for the Russian Federation for the generic division of Novartis. In the period from 2008 to the end of 2013, he was the director of the Nova Ljubljanska Banka branch in Moscow.

In 1996-1999 he was the Minister of Economic Affairs and from February 2014 to September 2014, he was the Minister of Economic Development and Technology. From September 2014 to July 2016, he was the State Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, responsible for the area of state-owned enterprises and The Bank Assets Management Company. The key project during this period was the Strategy for managing capital investments of the Republic of Slovenia, which was prepared under his leadership and adopted in July 2015 in the National Assembly. He watched over the implementation of the adopted strategy in cooperation with the Slovenian Sovereign Holding. From October 2016 to July 2018, he worked in 2-TDK, first as an advisor to the Director and then as General Director.

13th of September 2018 he has been appointed as State Secretary in the Ministry of Finance.

Saša Jazbec

Saša Jazbec graduated at the Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana, in 1996. Four years later she acquired masters degree at the same faculty. In the past she was working at the Ljubljana Stock Exchange, Bank of Slovenia, where she was inter alia head of risk management and a member of the working group for introducing the new currency, euro, and the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Slovenia.

In November 2013 she was appointed as Director-General for budget. From April 2017 to September 2018 she was a State Secretary for budget and public accounting.

On September 21, 2018 she has been reappointed to that function.

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