

Intervju: **Miloš Bugarin**, predsednik ■■■

## Slobodna trgovina Srbije sa zemljama CEFTA

■■■ **Srbija do kraja godine u potpuno liberalizovanom CEFTA tržištu sa oko 30 miliona potrošača. –U zemlje CEFTA Srbija investirala 1,1 milijardu evra. - Nekarinske barijere glavna prepreka za bolju razmenu u regionu-. – U oktobru ministarska konferencija CEFTA zemalja u Beogradu**

Do kraja 2010. godine Srbija postaje deo CEFTA bezcarinske, slobodne trgovinske zone sa 30 miliona potrošača, zajedno sa Albanijom, Bosnom i Hercegovinom. Slobodna trgovina biće omogućena za robu koja ima status domaćeg porekla, sa oznakom „Made in Serbia”.

Kako se obavljaju pripreme za punu primenu CEFTA sporazuma i kakav značaj ima ovaj prvi multilateralni trgovinski sporazum za Jugoistočnu Evropu, objašnjava **Miloš Bugarin**, predsednik Privredne komore Srbije.

### **Zašto je CEFTA važna i za njene članice i za druge učesnike trgovine u Jugoistočnoj Evropi?**

- To je velika šansa za domaće i strane investitore koji su otvorili domicilne kompanije u Srbiji, kao i za one koji rade u CEFTA zoni, jer će im biti omogućen povlašćen pristup tržištu od oko 30 miliona potrošača. U okviru CEFTA primenjuju se pravila i standardi Svetske trgovinske organizacije i Evropske unije. Zato CEFTA ima dvostruki značaj za zemlje koje su u ovoj zoni slobodne trgovine. Pored razvoja biznisa, za njih je to i jedna vrsta „treening kampa“ i preduslov za ulazak u Evropsku uniju. Pre ulaska u Evropsku uniju članice CEFTA su bile Bugarska, Republika, Mađarska, Rumunija, Poljska, Slovačka i Slovenija.

### **Da li je između zemalja CEFTA liberalizovana trgovina i u kojoj meri?**

- Do kraja 2010. godine ove zemlje treba da predstavljaju bescarinski prostor za slobodnu trgovinu. Srbija je počela liberalizaciju 1. januara 2007, kao i većina zemalja CEFTA. Tada je za sve zemlje u potpunosti liberalizovale trgovinu industrijskim proizvodima godine. Određen stepen zaštite ostao je samo u trgovini sa Hrvatskom kod poljoprivrednih proizvoda. Sada se pristupa dodatnoj liberalizaciji.

### **Da li strani investitori koji proizvode u Srbiji mogu da koriste povlastice CEFTA sporazuma?**

- Domaći i strani investitori mogu da ostvare beneficije koje Srbija ima po pravilima Sporazuma CEFTA 2006, ako ispune uslove da na robu stave oznaku „Made in Serbia”. To praktično znači da strani investitori u Srbiji mogu da organizuju proizvodnju robe sa oznakom „Made in Serbia” pod uslovima o priznavanju robe sa statusom domaćeg



porekla, odnosno robe proizvedene u Srbiji. Ova roba imaće bescarinski tretman na tržištu CEFTA i svim ostalim tržištima na kojima Srbija ima carinske povlastice. Uslovi kumulacije porekla omogućuju da proizvodi imaju poreklo iz Srbije iako sirovine ili poluproizvodi potiču iz zemalja CEFTA, Evropske unije, Islanda, Norveške, Švajcarske (uključujući i Lihtenštajn), ili Turske, ali pod uslovom da se te sirovine i poluproizvodi dodatno obrađuju u Srbiji, tako da je dodata količina materijala veća od količine materijala ugrađenog u drugim zemljama.

### **Ko ima pravo na bescarinsku trgovinu u okviru CEFTA?**

- Bescarinska trgovina u CEFTA zoni moguća je samo za robu koja ima status domaćeg porekla. CEFTA omogućava dijagonalnu kumulaciju, odnosno kumuliranje, sabiranje porekla robe više zemalja u regionu. To znači da se mogu koristiti sirovine, poluproizvodi i gotovi proizvodi iz različitih zemalja, pri čemu se te sirovine tretiraju kao domaća komponenta. Postoji mogućnost primene dijagonalne kumulacije porekla robe u trgovini između zemalja u regionu i celog regiona sa EU, kao i EFTA i Turskom. Dijagonalna kumulacija sa EU, EFTA i Turskom moguća je samo za one zemlje i teritorije u regionu koje sa njima imaju potpisane odgovarajuće sporazume o slobodnoj trgovini. Dijagonalna kumulacija porekla robe se nedovoljno koristi među privrednicima regiona CEFTA. Robna razmena i kumulacija porekla se pretežno odvijala na bilateralnom nivou. Odmrzavanjem prelaznog Trgovinskog sporazuma sa EU, Srbiji je od 1. februara ove godine omogućena kumulacija porekla sa komponentama iz EU za sve

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## Free Trade of Serbia with CEFTA countries

■■■ **By the end of the year Serbia on entirely liberalized CEFTA market with near 30 million consumers. – Serbia invested 1.1 billion euro in CEFTA countries. – Non-customs barriers main obstacle for better trade in the region. – In October Ministerial Conference of the CEFTA countries in Belgrade**

By the end of 2010 Serbia will become a part of the CEFTA non-customs and free trade zone with 30 million of consumers, together with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina. The free trade will be possible for the goods having domestic origin and bearing 'Made in Serbia' trademark.

Forthcoming preparations for the full implementation of the CEFTA Agreement and what significance this first multilateral trade agreement has for Southeastern Europe, explains **Milos Bugarin**, President of the Serbian Chamber of Commerce.

### **To what extent is CEFTA important for its members and other stakeholders in Southeastern Europe?**

- It is a big chance for both domestic and foreign investors starting up their domicile companies in Serbia as well as for those who are doing business in the CEFTA zone since in that way they get the preferential status on the market with 30 million consumers. The rules and standards of the World Trade Organization and European Union are being applied within the CEFTA region. This is the reason why the CEFTA is double-fold important for the countries being a part of this free trade zone. In addition to the development of a business, it is a kind of 'a training campus' and a prerequisite for entering the EU. Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Rumania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia were CEFTA members before they joined the European Union.

### **Is the trade among the CEFTA countries liberalized and to what extent?**

- By the end of 2010 these countries are supposed to become the non-customs space for free trade. Serbia has started to liberalize its trade on the 1st of January 2007 as well as a great number of then CEFTA countries. At that time the trade in the industrial products was completely liberalized whilst for the agricultural goods was kept a certain level of protection. From the mid of 2010 and onwards Serbia will have free trade in agrarian products with all CEFTA signatory-countries, except for Croatia.

### **Could foreign investors producing in Serbia use the advantages of CEFTA Agreement?**

- Both domestic and foreign investors are allowed to use

all benefits Serbia provides with in accordance to the CEFTA 2006 and if they mark their goods with Made in Serbia sign. It means that foreign investors in Serbia might organize their production of goods with benchmark Made in Serbia if they approve the goods to be of domestic origin. These goods will have non-customs treatment on the CEFTA market and on all other markets where Serbia has preferential status.

The cumulative origin of goods enables the products to be approved as the goods from Serbia although the raw materials are from CEFTA countries, European Union, Island, Norway, Switzerland (Liechtenstein included) or Turkey but only if those raw materials are additionally being worked on in such a way that a quantity of material is bigger than the quantity of material included in other countries.

### **Who has the right to the non-customs trade within the CEFTA?**

- The non-customs trade in the CEFTA region is available for the goods having the status of domestic origin. The CEFTA enables the diagonal cumulation or collecting of origin of goods from more varied countries in the region. It means that the raw material, semi-manufactured and final products from different countries might be used, whereas the raw material is treated as domestic component.

Nevertheless, there is the possibility of diagonal cumulation of origin of goods among the countries in the region and the region with the EU, EFTA and Turkey. The cumulation of origin of goods with the EU and EFTA and Turkey refers only to those countries in the region that with them signed the agreements on free trade. The diagonal cumulation of origin of goods is not sufficiently used by the businesses in the CEFTA region. The trade exchange of goods and cumulation of origin are mostly being carried out at the bilateral level. The Unfrozen Trade Agreement with the EU enabled Serbia as of 1st January this year the cumulation of origin with the components from the EU for all CEFTA signatory-countries, which is of extremely great importance for the economy of Serbia.

### **What is the trade exchange between Serbia and CEFTA like?**

- Namely, Serbia constantly realizes the trade surplus in the foreign trade exchange with the region in the whole. Recently



ПРИВРЕДНА КОМОРА СРБИЈЕ  
SERBIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CEFTA članice, što je od velikog značaja za srpsku privredu.

#### Kakva je robna razmena Srbije sa zemljama CEFTA?

- Sa regionom u celini Srbija u kontinutetu ostvaruje suficit u spoljnotrgovinskoj razmeni. Poslednjih godina, Srbija realizuje na tržištu CEFTA više od 32 posto svog ukupnog izvoza, a od ukupnog uvoza samo oko osam posto robe potiče iz zemalja CEFTA. Srbija ima deficit samo sa Hrvatskom i Moldavijom.

#### Da li srpska privreda ulaže u zemlje CEFTA i da li one ulažu u Srbiju?

- Srbija je, do sada, u CEFTA zemlje investirala preko 1,1 milijardu evra, dok je iz ovih zemalja u Srbiju uloženo preko 600 miliona evra.

#### Da li postoje prepreke u korišćenju pogodnosti CEFTA sporazuma?

- Te prepreke postoje u necarinskim barijerama, čiji je efekat često razorniji od visokih carinskih stopa. Osnovne karakteristike ovih barijera su netransparentnost. One se uvode najčešće kao pokušaj da se uravnoteži smanjen nivo zaštite, nastao snižavanjem carina. Necarinske barijere poskupljuju trgovinu i unose nestabilnost u poslovanje. Prema nekim istraživanjima, u ovom CEFTA regionu postoji više od sto raznih vrsta necarinskih barijera.

#### Koji su najčešći oblici necarinskih barijera?

- Najčešće necarinske barijere u regionu su komplikovane procedure na graničnim prelazima, veliko administriranje i neusklađenost rada carine i inspekcijских službi (sanitarnih, veterinarskih, za radiologiju), nedostatak međunarodno priznatih akreditacionih i sertifikacionih tela i nedovoljnost ovlašćenih laboratorija i institucija. Nepriznavanje sertifikata o kvalitetu je još jedna necarinska barijera, jer i dalje nisu doneti sporazumi o međusobnom priznavanju ovih dokumenata između CEFTA zemalja, pa ovu vrstu kontrole obavlja svaka zemlja za sebe. Postoji i problem neusklađenosti domaćih standarda i tehničke regulative sa međunarodnim standardima. U necarinske barijere spada i nedostatak adekvatne saobraćajne i druge infrastrukture, korupcija i krijumčarenje.

#### Kako će zemlje CEFTA sporazuma biti podstaknute da usklade svoje propise i ukinu necarinske barijere?

- U oktobru ove godine u Beogradu, u okviru CEFTA nedelje, biće održana Ministarska konferencija i Poslovni forum privrednih komora CEFTA regiona, zatim sastanak predsednika privrednih komora zemalja bivših jugoslovenskih republika, sastanak Zajedničkog ministarskog komiteta CEFTA i njegovih potkomiteta. Na ovim susretima će se razmatrati i problematika necarinskih barijera u Regionu. Privredne komore Regiona treba da nastave i intenziviraju saradnju u okviru Foruma privrednih komora. Različita dinamika harmonizacije propisa u našim zemljama ne treba da utiče na kvalitet međusobne trgovine.

Serbia has realized more than 32 percent on the CEFTA market out of its total export value. On the other hand, only eight percent imports from the CEFTA region. Serbia records the trade deficit with Croatia and Moldova.

#### Do Serbian businesses invest in the CEFTA countries and vice versa?

- For now Serbia has invested in the CEFTA region market over 1.1 billion euro whilst these countries have invested in Serbia over 600 million euro.

#### Are there certain barriers when it comes to the CEFTA Agreement enforcement?

- Non-customs barriers are the main problem and their effect is very often more devastating than high customs rates. The main feature of these non-customs barriers is non-transparency.

They are being introduced to balance the reduced level of protection caused by the reduction of the customs duties. The non-customs barriers do raise the price of the goods and make a business unstable. Some researches show that there are over one hundred various types of non-customs barriers in the CEFTA region.

#### What are the most frequent types of non-customs barriers?

- The most frequent types of the non-customs barriers are: complicated cross-border procedures, too heavy administrative work, and non-harmonization of the procedures between the customs office and inspection (sanitary, veterinary and radiology), then the lack of internationally approved accreditation and certification bodies and of authorized laboratories and institutions.

Yet another non-customs barrier is the non-approved certificates on quality among the CEFTA countries and this kind of control is being carried out by each country individually. Then, the domestic standards and technical regulations are not harmonized with the international standards. There are inappropriate transport and other infrastructure, corruption and smuggling.

#### In what way will the CEFTA countries be spurred on to harmonize their regulations and remove non-customs barriers?

- In October this year the Ministerial Conference and Business Forum will be held within the CEFTA Week, then, there will be organized the meeting of the presidents of the chambers of commerce of the ex-Yugoslavian Republics, the meeting of the CEFTA Joint Ministerial Committee and its subcommittees.

The non-customs barriers will be the main issue discussed at these meetings too. The chambers of commerce of the Region should continue to intensify the cooperation within the Forum of the chambers of commerce.

The different pace of the harmonization of the regulations in the CEFTA countries should not have any effects on the quality of the mutual trade exchange.

