## **Trade mission Russia**

With its population of 145 million people and its ability to produce 10% of the world's oil needs, there is no denying Russia's importance, a fact which has not escaped the attention of Luxembourg's business community. So Crown Prince Guillaume and the Minister for the Economy and Foreign Trade Jeannot Krecké will lead a multi-sectoral trade mission to the Republic between 11-15 April including visits to Moscow and St. Petersburg

Luxembourg's economic relationship with Russia has developed significantly in recent years. Exports of goods from the Grand Duchy have multiplied by seven since the start of the decade, reaching 138 million euros by end of 2008, and Russia supplies well over a guarter of Luxembourg's energy needs. Since the economic crisis, the Russian government has signaled an even greater enthusiasm to attract foreign investment and to use the revenue from its abundant natural resources to help diversify the economy, particularly into high tech sectors. This mixture presents enterprising foreign businesses with a significant opportunity. Moreover, the Luxembourg government has established good personal relationships with senior figures in Russian business and political spheres; connections which will be leveraged on this mission.

