

Turkey: the buzz in the 2010s

Everyone talked about 'BRIC' countries in the 2000s and some are predicting that this decade will see the emergence of the 'CIVETS': Colombia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Egypt, Turkey and South Africa. They all have large, young and growing populations with dynamic economies and one of these is on the European continent and democracy: Turkey. Hence the decision to undertake a trade mission to the country between 20-24 March organised by the Ministry of the Economy and Foreign Trade and the Chamber of Commerce.

Turkish growth averaged in excess of 7% between 2002 and 2007. A similar performance was achieved last year following a slight slowdown during the financial crisis. This success results from a series of economic reforms dating back to the 1980s. The process appears to have been firmly entrenched in voters minds as being the key to success. Turkey is now the 15th largest economy in the world and is a member of both the OECD and the G20, with work on-going for EU membership.

The main growth areas are tourism, banking, con-

struction, home appliances, electronics, textiles, oil refining, petrochemical products, food, mining, iron and steel, machine industry and automotive. The population of 71 mil-

lion provides for an important domestic consumer base, and the country is well located to trade with the Middle Eastern and Balkan markets.



Istanbul viewed over the Bosphorus Bridge

Positioning at the World Future Energy Summit in Abu Dhabi

The World Future Energy Summit is both a major conference and an influential trade fair dealing with renewable energy and other environmental industries. Held in Abu Dhabi from 17-20th January, it brought together over 25,000 visitors for 600 exhibitors from 40 countries. Luxembourg's Crown Prince Guillaume gave an opening speech to the 3,000 conference delegates during the much publicised opening ceremony. He was backed up with the presence of Minister of the Economy of Foreign Trade Jeannot Krecké.

Eight Luxembourg participants were present on the Luxembourg stand,

show-casing products and services for a wide range of uses. There were six companies: Chau de Contern, CPPE, Epuramat, Groupe Simtech, John Zink International Luxembourg and Soluxtec. There were also representatives from the Henri Tudor Public Research Centre and the University of Luxembourg to promote the country's eco-tech research agenda. The stand was also remarkable in that it was made exclusively from recyclable eco-friendly materials.



Luxembourg's stand at the World Future Energy Summit ready for business