



The
**International
Trade Association**
of Greater Chicago

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

4610 North Kenton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60630-4020 U.S.A.

Tel: 773/725-1106

info@itagc.org

Fax: 773/725-2294

THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER CHICAGO

in collaboration with:

Baker & McKenzie LLP

The U.S. Commercial Service – Chicago

The Illinois District Export Council

The Organization of Women in International Trade – Chicago Chapter

Invites you to a special breakfast briefing:

***THE EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT:
OPEN FOR BUSINESS!***

Presentation by:

Varel Freeman

First Vice President

EBRD, London

The EBRD is an international financial institution that supports projects in 29 countries from central Europe to central Asia. Investing primarily in private sector clients whose needs cannot be fully met by the market, the Bank promotes entrepreneurship and fosters transition towards open and democratic market economies.

The EBRD is the largest single investor in the region and also mobilizes significant foreign direct investment into its countries of operations. The Bank invests mainly in private enterprises, usually together with commercial partners. It provides project financing for the financial sector and the real economy, both new ventures and investments in existing companies. It also works with publicly-owned companies to support privatization, restructuring of state-owned firms and improvement of municipal services.

Varel Freeman oversees all banking operations of the EBRD. He chairs the Operations Committee which reviews all investment and loan proposals before consideration by the Board of Directors, and oversees the formulation of the Bank's strategy to effectively and efficiently promote the transition of the 27 countries where the EBRD invests. Mr. Freeman is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Bank, which is chaired by the Bank's President, and acts in his absence.

In his remarks, Mr. Freeman will address: the EBRD's response to the current economic crises; the lack of capital in the 30 markets in the region; opportunities for U.S. interests in EBRD procurements. He will also field questions regarding the most EBRD active countries – Russia, the Ukraine and Georgia – and expand on the EBRD outlook for future growth in the region.

Wednesday, November 11, 2009

BAKER & MCKENZIE LLP

130 East Randolph Street, 39th Floor, Chicago

8:00 a.m. – Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:30 a.m. – Program

9:30 a.m. – Adjourn

Members of sponsoring organizations - \$25; Non-members - \$35

Please Make Your Reservations Early: Contact the ITA/GC by **4:00 p.m., Monday, November 9**

Tel: 773/725-1106

rsvp@itagc.org

Fax: 773/725-2294

American Express, Discover, MasterCard and Visa are welcome.

A reservation is an obligation to pay: reservations not canceled 48 hours prior to the meeting will be billed.



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REGISTRATION FORM

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Please register me/us for the November 11 Breakfast program: ***The EBRD: Open for Business!***

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Please make checks payable to: **The International Trade Association of Greater Chicago**

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