



reactor by 1999. It has to be discussed at the G7 summit in Halifax. *(Reuters)*

IMF APPROVES STANDBY CREDIT

April 1995... The International Monetary Fund approved the allocation of a US\$1.5 billion standby credit to Ukraine. The credit came in the wake of Parliament's Apr. 6 approval of a 1995 budget that met IMF requirements.

The credit is to be used to support Ukraine's balance of payments. The government is free to decide how to use the credit but 50 percent is to go to support the external reserves of the National Bank - in essence, it will not be used.

"This decision resulted from the significant efforts from the side of Ukrainian leaders. Now we can negotiate as an equal with Iran and Turkmenistan," said Foreign Affairs Ministry Hennadiy Udovenko. "We hope that now Ukraine is going to have more confidence in the world and private capital will start coming to Ukraine."

Graham Justice, IMF senior representative to Ukraine, said the credit is critical in renewing confidence in the Ukrainian economy. *(IntelNews)*

BUSINESS, R&D AND ENVIRONMENT

PRIVATIZATION LIST PRESENTED AT LONDON BUSINESS CONFERENCE

KYIV, May 1995 ... Top Ukrainian officials determined to accelerate Ukraine's privatization program presented a list of 49 firms to be turned over to the private sector at a conference in London to promote investment in the country. The list included a number of sugar refineries, vast chemical plants in Dnipropetrovsk and Donetsk, and several cement and food processing plants. "We want to draw attention to key areas of industry requiring new finance," said Olexander Popov, a senior official at Ukraine's State Property Fund. "These plants can become money-making propositions if they are modernized. The Fund is prepared to examine any proposal by foreign partners. Our laws place no restrictions on the number of

shares which can be turned over to foreign investors." The two-day conference was attended by Acting Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk, First Deputy Prime Minister Viktor Pynzenyk, main author of Ukraine's reforms, and other cabinet ministers, including the ministers of finance and the economy. Valery Belko, a senior Fund representative, said privatization was likely to proceed more quickly under a new law extending President Leonid Kuchma's powers. He said plans called for 8,000 large companies to be privatized by the end of the year, along with 22,000 small businesses and 1,200 unfinished construction sites. Belko said 1,250 businesses had been turned over to the private sector since the beginning of the year, including 484 large firms. *(Reuters)*

CITIZENS JOINING PRIVATIZATION EFFORTS EN MASSE

Kyiv, May 1995... A report released by the Ukrainian State Savings Bank announced that in the first four months of 1995, more than 5 million Ukrainian citizens participated in the economic restructuring of the country through the newly issued privatization certificates. This number of participants in the certificate program represents almost half of the total number who participated in privatization in all of the previous year.

President Clinton's May 10 visit to Ukraine and subsequent meetings with President Kuchma took place in an environment of optimism and tremendous acceleration of privatization in Ukraine: direct results of the 1995 certificate program supported by US Agency for International Development (USAID). To participate in this privatization program citizens must claim their certificates from a government savings bank and invest them in one of the eight thousand state-owned enterprises being privatized over the next two years. Between 1993-1994, 8.5 million Ukrainians participated in the initial privatization program.

Between January and April of 1995, 4.1 million Ukrainians had already claimed their certificates. These statistics are particularly significant between the months of March and April when the percentage of participants doubled, demonstrating that popular momentum behind privatization and the first step of a successful transition of the Ukrainian economy is occurring. "Despite the

difficult economic climate, the people are working together to increase their living standards and move the country forward," said Yuri Yekhanurov, Chairman of The State Property Fund. "With American support, President Kuchma's leadership has produced a dramatic breakthrough in Ukrainian economic reform through mass privatization." USAID technical assistance encompasses working with the Ukrainian government to structure overall privatization efforts and educate the people about market reforms and how to take part in the process. The growing public participation and support is a measure of the success of these programs.

Already, the number of Ukrainian citizens in favor of economic reforms has risen past 60%, according to a recent study by Yankelovick Partners International. "Our research shows a strong and growing majority of support by Ukrainian people for the economic reforms," says Mike Willard, Project Director of the USAID-funded Ukrainian Market Reform Education Program.

"Through a national advertising campaign and regional grassroots efforts we're finding increased understanding and greater participation in the market reform process"

International Workshop UKRAINE MOVES TO PROTECT INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

April 1995 Ukrainian laws on copyrights and trademark correspond to international legal practice and are "not much different from American ones," according to participants at an international workshop devoted to intellectual property questions held in the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy.

The workshop was a part of an American Bar Association project on the Central and Eastern European Law Initiative (CEELI), which envisages a series of workshops for lawyers across Ukraine.

"The aim of such workshops as well as CEELI is to help the lawyers of Ukraine come together with lawyers of Central and Eastern Europe," said CEELI Resident Liaison Timothy Stock.

"We are implementing here a continuing legal program that means 'lawyers teach lawyers for the good of society,'" he added.