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**Aktor bond.** Dutch investment company Reggeborgh is expected to invest some 130-150 million euros to secure control of Greek construction company Ellaktor and to finance its subsidiary Aktor. Yesterday Reggeborgh successfully completed the issue of a corporate bond of €50 million for the intermediary financing of Aktor in the coming weeks.

### IN BRIEF

#### Jan-April primary budget deficit comes in wider than expected

**Greece's central government** posted a wider-than-expected primary budget deficit of 6.21 billion euros in the first four months of the year due to lower tax revenues, Finance Ministry data showed yesterday. The government was targeting a primary budget gap, which excludes debt-servicing costs, of 5.24 billion euros for the January-April period. "The budget had not taken into account protracted, months-long lockdowns for 2021, so the shortfall has been expected and largely limited," Deputy Finance Minister Thodoros Skylakakis told a briefing. The data for the first four months of 2021 showed total budget revenues reached 15 billion euros, 477 million euros, or 3% below the government's target. In April, tax revenues fell by an annual 8%. The government expects a primary budget shortfall of 7% of gross domestic product this year due to fiscal support extended to mitigate the economic toll of the pandemic. However, the country forecasts the deficit to come to zero next year, as state support is due to be gradually withdrawn while the economy rebounds and funds flow from a multi-billion European Union recovery package. (Reuters)

#### Forum on reforms for attracting investments, helping economy

**The 4th InvestGR Forum 2021:** Reforming the Greek Economy will take place on July 14, at the Athens Hilton, with all applicable protocols for the protection of public health in place. The forum is in its fourth year, having established itself as a trusted platform for the development of serious public debate on foreign investment in Greece. This year's event will focus on reforms to attract foreign investment and, in general, the importance of reforms for the recovery of the Greek economy. The forum aims to highlight the areas and ways in which the reforms should be implemented in order to further improve the attractiveness of Greece as an investment destination. Discussion panels will feature politicians, company CEOs, academics and experts, who will discuss issues such as Greece's attractiveness as an investment destination, sustainable development, green investments and innovation. This year, and in the framework of the cooperation between EY Greece and InvestGR Forum, the first findings of the EY research "Attractiveness Survey: Greece 2021" will be presented and analyzed. The third edition of the annual EY survey, conducted since 2019, will capture the views of the investment community about Greece, the strengths and weaknesses of the country as an investment destination, and record the country's performance in attracting foreign direct investment during the last year, as well as its course as an investment destination compared to previous years.

**Green list?** The bosses of British Airways and London's Heathrow Airport urged the UK government yesterday to open up more routes for travel and simplify the testing hurdles needed to fly. Britain lifted a ban on international movement yesterday but the government has designated only 12 countries and territories safe for quarantine-free travel on its "green list," limiting any recovery in the industry. The US, the Caribbean, France, Greece and Spain should all make it onto the green list before the summer, said the two bosses. (Reuters)

**United seats.** American carrier United Airlines said yesterday it would add more than 400 daily flights to its July schedule and increase services to reopened European destinations as easing pandemic restrictions spur summer travel demand. Summer travel bookings rose 21.4% from 2020 levels, the airline said. United added it was giving travelers more options to visit Europe by adding a fourth weekly flight to Dubrovnik as well as more seats to Athens. (Reuters)