

1. IN BRIEF

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Disability certification. Since the start of the year 130,000 people belonging to Greece's vulnerable population groups have been served through the KEPA platform, as the certification process is now done online, except for the medical examination, where long delays are observed. Kathimerini understands delays reach up to three months.

IN BRIEF

HFSF launches formal process for Alpha stake sale

The Hellenic Financial Stability Fund (HFSF) on Monday launched a formal sale process through auction for the disposal of its entire stake in the share capital of Alpha Services and Holdings SA. In an announcement, HFSF said that on October 23, 2023, it received a binding offer from UniCredit SpA for the acquisition of its entire stake in Alpha Services and Holdings SA, namely 211,138,299 common registered shares, corresponding to 8.9781% of Alpha's paid-up share capital and voting rights at a price per share of 1.33 euros. Following the assessment of the UniCredit offer by the board of HFSF, the latter has determined that the UniCredit offer is a bona fide offer in accordance with the HFSF divestment strategy. HFSF welcomes this offer, which was announced in conjunction with a broader strategic agreement between Alpha and UniCredit. In line with the founding law of the HFSF and as part of the HFSF divestment strategy, the HFSF board has resolved to announce its intention to initiate the process of disposing of the shares through a competitive sale process. The competitive process commenced on Monday morning, with offers due by 5.30 p.m. on November 10. HFSF has appointed Lazard Freres SAS, to act as its disposal adviser.

Danish offshore wind market leader comes to Athens

Northern Europe has turned its eyes to Greece for the operation of offshore wind farms, having deemed that the framework for the market has matured. Denmark's Copenhagen Offshore Partners (COP), a global leader in the offshore wind market, is opening its offices in Athens on Thursday, November 9. As it announced last week, its Greek office will be one of two COP Global Hubs, which will serve the company's 17 offices in Europe, Asia and America. On Tuesday Environment and Energy Minister Thodoros Skylakakis will signal the opening of the promising market in Greece to the investment community, presenting at a press conference the national development program for offshore wind farms drawn up by the regulator; this will include a total of 12 areas, of which six will be auctioned in the first phase of its development (until 2030). With a presence in flagship projects around the world, COP is an exclusive partner of Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP), with which Mytilineos signed a cooperation agreement for the Greek offshore wind farm market in 2021.

InvestGR forum. The 7th InvestGR Forum 2024 "Charting the Future" will take place on July 17, 2024, in the Arts Foyer of the Athens Conservatoire. Organized by Public Affairs and Networks, the InvestGR Forum: Foreign Investments in Greece, is entering its seventh year, with the primary aim of fostering dialogue and discussion among all stakeholders as to how Greece can improve its attractiveness as an investment destination. The sponsors of the forum (investgr.eu) will open the event with a presentation and analysis of the EY research "Attractiveness Survey Greece 2024," on the attractiveness of Greece as an investment destination. Prominent representatives from the worlds of business, politics, academia and the media, in Greece and abroad, will participate on panels and in presentations to offer insight into Greece as an investment destination.

Connectivity. The Southeast Europe Connectivity Forum is taking place at Thessaloniki's Macedonia Palace Hotel on Tuesday and Wednesday. Speakers will include Deputy Transport and Infrastructure Minister Christina Alexopoulou and Bulgaria's Deputy Minister of Transport and Communications Anna Mihneva Natova. To find out more, visit seconnectivity.com.