

Mr. Taoufik BACCAR, Governor of the Central Bank of Tunisia (BCT) opened on Saturday 4 July 2009 works of the regional day on partnership and investment incentives in the Governorate of Ben Arous.

On this occasion, Mr. BACCAR underlined the importance given to investment incentives, opening of the horizon for young people and creating the maximum of job opportunities.

He stated that such regional days that target an ongoing monitoring of investment, represent an opportunity to boost initiatives in the regions, suggesting even their consolidation by organizing sector-related days.

Mr. BACCAR recalled that the regional seminars on investment, held in 2008, approved for no less than 350 projects for some 380 million dinars, which helped create some 10,000 jobs.

He evoked contribution of the banking sector to regional development and stressed the 14% increase in bank financing to the economy.

He underlined Tunisia's focus on improving the banking services, notably, with respect to reducing the one-month deadline given for studying the financing projects.

The Governor underlined the importance of the presidential decisions meant to face up the fallouts of the world economic crisis and indicated that they entitled banks with more flexibility in their interventions, the target being to maintain corporate viability.

During this day, some 48 projects were approved for about 55 million dinars. These projects, to be launched in the

industrial sector (25 projects) and in services (19 projects), will create some 1,113 jobs.

Several workshops were organised in the framework of this day, to which a number of representatives of lending institutions, investment companies and support structures took part further to promoters and people holding ideas for new initiatives.