

Mr. Taoufik BACCAR, Governor of the Central Bank of Tunisia (BCT) opened on Wednesday 25 November 2009 in Jerba, works of the day of partnership and consolidation of investment organised at the initiative of the governorate of Medenine and in cooperation with a number of businesses, support structures.

Representatives of financing and investment corporates, support structures and young promoters participated in this meeting.

Mr. BACCAR stated that the role of these partnership days which represent an important mechanism for boosting investment in the regions, will be further consolidated thanks to new decisions falling in the framework of the presidential programme "together we meet the challenges".

He recalled the inalienable political willingness to promote development of the regions as per an innovative view based on the concepts of integration and complementarity between the regions.

Mr. BACCAR recalled the generalizing of the creation of investment companies and of industrial zones further to support mechanisms in the regions.

The Governor of the BCT evoked revival of the specific financing mechanisms which are meant to boost investment, recalling in this framework the decision of the Head of the State announced on 12 November speech during oath taking.

This concerns notably the increase in the ceiling of loans given by the Tunisian Bank of Solidarity (BTS) and the pursuit of granting of loans of specific financing to university graduates and professional skills.

He underlined that the establishment of a financial pole specialized in financing small and medium-sized businesses gathering the Bank to finance small and medium-sized businesses (BFPME) and the Tunisian Company of Guarantee (Sotugar) aims at consolidating the financing structures of projects and supervising young promoters.

In this partnership day, 86 bankable projects out of 104 projects were approved. This involved 45 in industry, 21 in agriculture, 12 in tourism and 8 in services. These projects, with the total cost amounting to 125 million dinars will create 1537 jobs.