



Centre, announced NBU Computerization Department Chair Anatoliy Savchenko. The Centre will service cards belonging to the domestic and international payments systems, and will be based on the existing NBU accounting Centre. (EE)

## FOREIGN AID REGISTER

*Kyiv, June 1, 1996...* Government officials started compiling the State Register of International Technical Assistance Programs and Projects in Ukraine. To aid the effort, all businesses, regardless of ownership, are being required to relay relevant information to enable recipients of international financial assistance to obtain tax breaks and other financial incentives. (InfoBank)

### **BUSINESS AND SECTORAL DEVELOPMENT**

## UKRAINIAN ASTRONAUT ON SHUTTLE-97 MISSION

*April 8, 1996...* A space flight with a Ukrainian cosmonaut on board the American Shuttle spacecraft, is scheduled for October 1997. NASA is to send the Ukrainian National Space Agency (UNSA) the final text of an agreement, stipulating the cost of the program and each country's share in it. The UNSA has selected two astronauts for the flight - Leonid Kadenyuk and Vyacheslav Meitarchan, with one of them to be chosen by NASA to take part in the space flight. A NASA delegation in March visited Kyiv to conduct preliminary work, coordinate the flight program and sign a working document on the Shuttle-97 program. The project provides for a series of scientific experiments on board the spacecraft aimed at studying the influence of space effects on the growth and reproduction of plants. During their stay in Kyiv, the American specialists started investigations on the biological part of the Shuttle-97 program. Taking part in it were also specialists from the Institute on Botany of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences.

Kadenyuk, 40, is the most probable candidate for the space flight. An air force pilot, he has undergone a complete course of flying "Buran", the Russian analogue of the U.S. space shuttle. The training of the chosen Ukrainian astronaut, and a continuous joint training of the crew, will start ten months before the scheduled flight, which is to last 16 days. (Itar-Tass)



*On the heels of a successful official state visit to Viet Nam, Ukraine's President Kuchma proceeded to Indonesia, where he attended a special luncheon hosted by PT. Prima Comexindo, Indonesia's leading trading company. The company, with extensive experience in Russia and the Central Asian Republics, has been appointed by President Suharto to represent Indonesia in all bilateral trade transactions between Ukraine and Indonesia. Prior to Kuchma's trip, the road was paved by missions in both directions, the Ukrainian side being led by Ministry of Foreign Affairs Hennadiy Udoenko. Resulting recent trade agreements include Indonesian rubber, tea, cooking oil, and pharmaceuticals against Ukrainian fertilizers, steel products, sunflower seeds and oil, as well as tractors and ships. In Jakarta, Canadian representative of Prima Comexindo Maria Surzycia opened a luncheon for President Kuchma with an address in Ukrainian. Photo, l-r: Pres. Kuchma, Ms. Surzycia, and Asghar Mehdi, Deputy CEO, Prima Comexindo.*

## SEA LAUNCH PROJECT

*April 1996...* The World Bank confirmed its readiness to finance the Ukrainian share in the International Sea Launch project for the construction of a sea-based space-rocket launching site.

The Ukrainian share is estimated at about \$100 mln. to be given in credits by two British banks.

The Sea Launch closed joint-stock company will be responsible for the construction and operation of the sea-based space-rocket launching complex, using Ukraine's Zenith booster rockets.

The cost of the project, estimated at \$600 mln., will be shared between the U.S. Boeing Company (40 percent), Norwegian Kvaerner Rosenberg (20 percent), Russia's Energiya Space-rocket Complex (25 percent) and Ukrainian Yuzhmash Production Amalgamation and Yuzhmash Design Bureau that will fund 15 percent of the project's cost.

The long-term Sea Launch program provides for 60 rocket launchings up to the year of 2010. The first launching is scheduled for the fourth quarter of 1998. (Kiev Post)

## PRIVATIZATION ON LINE

*KYIV, April 8, 1996...* The State Property Fund Analysis and Post-Privatization Support Department announced that about 31,733 Ukrainian enterprises have been privatized as of March, including 3,705 that have either completed or started the process in 1996. Dept. Chair Valentin Taraba said that, in the agricultural sector, 549 enterprises were privatized, 168 of these in January and February. In all, about 47% of these farm enterprises were privatized through buyouts, 17% from sales of shares of Joint Stock Companies, and 17% on lease-to-buy options.

(EE)

## CENTRE FOR CHILD ADOPTION COORDINATION

*April 11, 1996...* Ukrainian Law on Amendments and Additions to the Marital and Family Code of Ukraine was adopted. As a result, Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers ruled to establish a special Centre for Child Adoption Coordination. The Centre will be a separate governmental institution affiliated with the Ukrainian Ministry of Education.