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CONTACT: Harry Lepinske

Phone: [708-246-5556](tel:708-246-5556)

Email: lepinske@sbcglobal.net or info@silkroadconference.org

SILK ROAD WEEK IN ILLINOIS FOCUSES ON ECONOMIC AND ENERGY SECURITY on
May 14-18, 2012

CHICAGO, IL — With the continued theme of “Economic and Energy Security”, the “Silk Road Week in Illinois”, again will be highlighted by a series of conferences and other activities scheduled throughout the week of May 14-18, 2012, at venues located throughout the state.

Representatives of business, government and academia will join together to share their professional experience to help both economic and energy security throughout the Silk Road region, extending from Turkey to China. The region covers all of the former Central Asian Soviet Republics.

The week will begin on Monday, May 14, at East-West University, 816 S. Michigan Ave., in Chicago, with an intensive program focusing on “Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development,” which is the backbone for the expansion needed to help these economies. A Plenary Session is scheduled that afternoon featuring presenters discussing “How Can Central Asia Republics Become Emerging Markets?”; “Corporate Governance Best Practices-From Beijing to Istanbul”; “Financial Aspects in Energy”; and “Challenges of Privatization and Economic Development”.

The “first-time ever” “Central Asian Chambers of Commerce Mini-Summit” is scheduled all day on Tuesday, May 15, at the Illinois Institute of Technology Kent School of Law Auditorium, 565 W Adams St., in Chicago. Countries already confirmed are Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Pakistan, Turkey, and Uzbekistan.

On May 16, 17, and 18, various field trips, seminars, and discussion sessions will cover various business, trade, and investments aspects for the Central Asian region. Venues will be located throughout the state of Illinois. Organizations from other parts of the U.S. and offshore have offered support for this historic event.

Organized by the Central Asian Productivity Research Center, it is sponsored by The World Trade Center- Illinois, Turkish-American Chamber of Commerce and Industry-Midwest, Northern Illinois University’s College of Business, Illinois Institute of Technology, East-West University, and Hacettepe University’s Department of Business Administration, in Ankara, Turkey.

It is supported by the International Trade Association of Greater Chicago, American Southeast Europe Chamber of Commerce, the Pakistan Club of the Booth School of Business at the University of Chicago, the “Turkish Review”, the “Global Business Advisor Magazine”, and the “Asia Times Online.”

For conference, registration, exhibit information and sponsorship opportunities phone: [708-246-5556](tel:708-246-5556), or e-mail: lepinske@sbcglobal.net and info@silkroadconference.org.

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