

Belgrade, March 23, 2021

## Press Release

### JOINT-VISIT OF THE JAPANESE AND FRENCH AMBASSADORS AND BELGRADE DEPUTY MAYOR

Beo Čista Energija is pleased to have received the visit of the Ambassador of Japan, H.E. Mr. Takahiko Katsumata, the Ambassador of France, H.E. Mr. Jean-Louis Falconi and Mr. Goran Vesić, Deputy Mayor of City of Belgrade at Vinča construction site.

The new Vinča waste management center represents a long-term waste management solution and a signature project of Serbia-Japan-France partnership in Belgrade.

The ambassadors, Deputy Mayor and the management of Beo Čista Energija toured the new sanitary landfill, the leachate treatment facility and the construction and demolition waste recycling unit. The Ambassadors and Deputy Mayor assured themselves that all parts of the project necessary for the commencement of the operation are reaching into the final phase and in a few months, municipal waste from the entire Belgrade will be disposed into the new sanitary landfill.

Once the new sanitary landfill is put into operation, pollution from newly generated and delivered waste will be controlled and treated and the long-planned works for existing dumpsite closure, which has been a source of various environmental pollution for several decades, will commence.

Beo Čista Energija also presented to the distinguished visitors the construction progress of the Energy-from-Waste plant, which is scheduled for completion in 2022. With this new plant, municipal waste can be converted into energy, as a substitute of fossil fuel, for households in Belgrade.

#### **Jean-Louis Falconi, French Ambassador stated on this occasion:**

*This project, associating French, Japanese and Serbian partners, is of particular importance for Belgrade and Serbia, thanks to its very positive impact on the environment and to the recovery of waste for the production of heat and electricity with the highest international standards. The "Public Private Partnership" economic scheme, one of the first of its magnitude in Serbia, may also serve as a model for other environmental projects in Serbia and the Western Balkans.*

#### **Takahiko Katsumata, Japanese Ambassador stated on this occasion:**

*The Belgrade Waste Management PPP project is significant for environmental protection and energy production, and is in line with the "Western Balkans Cooperation Initiative" launched by Prime Minister Abe in 2018, with the aim to support socio-economic reforms in the Western Balkans, including Serbia, toward EU accession. We hope that Japan, France and Serbia and*

*other partners will continue to work together to ensure the smooth implementation of this project.*

**Goran Vesić, Belgrade Deputy Mayor, stated:**

*This project is one of the most important for the City of Belgrade because it will significantly reduce environmental pollution with the very beginning of providing waste treatment and disposal services as per environmental standards. The opening of the new landfill will create the conditions to rehabilitate and close the existing landfill in Vinca established over 40 years ago, which is one of the largest unregulated landfills in Europe and among the largest in the world. By solving this decades-long issue, we show our commitment to finally tackle with environmental issues as other developed European countries. This project will result in completely new method of waste processing to be applied in Belgrade. Its completion will create several hundreds of new jobs.*

**Management of Beo Čista Energija stated on this occasion:**

*Beo Čista Energija is honored to work for this symbolic collaboration to solve one of the most pressing environmental issues in Serbia. Despite many aggravating circumstances that have come with the corona virus pandemic, we are pleased to be approaching the commencement of the new landfill operation, which will also be the first big step towards reducing the negative environmental impact of the current dumpsite. By applying the stringent EU and international environmental standards and latest technology, together with numerous experienced project participants and partners, we strive to make this project an example of good practice and be recognized as an outstanding contribution to improving the living conditions of Belgrade citizens. Greenhouse gas emissions will be significantly reduced, and by producing energy from waste and landfill gas from the new and existing landfills as a substitute of natural gas or fossil fuels, the Vinca PPP project is estimated to reduce emissions of 250,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per year.*

Press Contacts:

BEO ČISTA ENERGIJA	Jelena Jolić	+381 668844242	<a href="mailto:j.jolic@bcenergy.rs">j.jolic@bcenergy.rs</a>
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**About Beo Čista Energija d.o.o.**

*Beo Čista Energija d.o.o. formed by Suez (France), Itochu Corporation (Japan) and Marguerite signed the Public-Private Partnership agreement with the City of Belgrade in September 2017 for providing services for treatment and disposal of communal and construction waste over 25 years period. New facilities under construction include a 103 MW Energy-from-Waste plant processing communal waste and producing electrical power and thermal energy as substitute of fossil fuel, an engineered landfill with biogas recovery and leachate treatment and a demolition waste recycling unit that will provide materials for roads and other construction works. The Company is also supported with non-recourse credit facility by International Finance Corporation (IFC), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Development Bank of Austria (OeEB)*

**About SUEZ**

*Since the end of the 19th century, SUEZ has built expertise aimed at helping people to constantly improve their quality of life by protecting their health and supporting economic growth. With an active presence on five continents, SUEZ and its 90,000 employees strive to preserve our environment's natural capital: water, soil, and air. SUEZ provides innovative and resilient solutions in water management, waste recovery, site remediation and air treatment, optimizing municipalities' and industries' resource management through "smart" cities and improving their environmental and economic performance. The Group delivers sanitation services to 64 million people and produces 7.1 billion m<sup>3</sup> of drinking water. SUEZ is also a contributor to economic growth, with more than 200,000 jobs created directly and indirectly on an annual basis, and a provider of new resources, with 4.2 million tons of secondary raw materials produced. By 2030, the Group is targeting 100% sustainable solutions, with a positive impact on our environment, health, and climate. SUEZ generated total revenue of €18.0 billion in 2019.*

**About ITOCHU**

*ITOCHU Corporation, established in 1858, having its headquarters in Tokyo and Osaka with approximately 110 bases in 63 countries (including Serbia) is a leading Japanese trading and investment conglomerate, engaging in domestic trading, import/export, and overseas trading of various products such as textile, machinery, metals, minerals, energy, chemicals, food, general products, realty, information and communications technology, and finance, as well as business investment in Japan and overseas. ITOCHU generated total revenues of 101 billion USD and Net profit was 5.14 billion USD with total assets of 100 billion USD in Japanese fiscal year ending 31 March 2020.*

**About MARGUERITE**

*Marguerite, established in 2010 with offices in Luxembourg and Paris, is an alternative investment fund manager licensed in Luxembourg.*

*It is independently owned by its partners and manages three investment funds:*

*Marguerite Fund, a EUR 710m infrastructure fund raised in 2010 and now fully invested across 20 investments.*

*Marguerite Pantheon SCSp, an investment vehicle owning stakes in renewables and transport assets in Europe.*

*Marguerite II SCSp, a EUR 745m infrastructure fund raised in 2017 with commitments from EIB, KfW, CDC, CDP, BGK, and ICO.*