E B L A S

European Banking License Advisory Services

- E B L A S is a recently established association that focuses on assisting non European banks to **obtaining a banking license** in the European Union. The three Belgian founding members, each having an extensive experience and a very specific background in the banking world and form an all issue covering team that guarantees its clients professionalism and expertise.

- Composed of a former Director of the Belgian central bank, a former CEO of a bank and a present CFO of a credit institution, E B L A S is able to handle swiftly a difficult exercise in a **cost effective** manner.

- An involvement of E B L A S enables :
  - **Direct operational contacts** with high officials of the banking authorities
  - Assistance in drafting a "European" 5 year **business plan**
  - Full conformity with legal and **compliance** obligations

The E B L A S team :

Luc A.Van der Veken

- Director of the National Bank of Belgium, Main Branch Antwerp
- Senior Officer International Monetary Fund Washington DC
- Director Ernst & Young Belgium
- Senior Advisor Belgian Financial Post
- Consultant UNESCO Paris
- Interim General Manager PKF Management Consultants

Carl Holsters

- Board member of companies
- Strategic Consultant
- Member of the Executive Committee of the Belgian Post Group
- Chief Executive Officer of AXA Bank Belgium
- General Manager of Anhyp savings bank NV
- Various functions at Citibank/Citicorp:
  Athens, London, Milan, Brussels

Gustave Miroir

- CFO of Krefima NV, an Antwerp based provider of consumer and mortgage loans
- Exec-Com member of The Belgian Post Bank
- Exec-Com member of van Lanschot Bankiers Belgium
- Treasurer and controller at AXA Bank Belgium

Why a license overseas?

- The Arab spring causes major shocks and instability in the banking scene of these countries
- Clients turn to **European banks** to place their dollar and euro deposit.
- Even after return to calm and stability, those clients do not necessarily return to their home bank
- The momentum could be there to consider a **Disaster Recovery Site** in Europe
- Once a presence is established in the Eurozone, life is less complicated : being present in Brussels for instance facilitates banking in Paris, London and Frankfurt

Why Belgium and Brussels?

For smaller and midsize banks, EBLAS recommends **Brussels** that has interesting advantages over the old financial places like London, Paris, Frankfurt and Zürich.

- Brussels is the European capital and home of the European Commission
- At the crossroads of Germanic and Romanic Europe, with a multicultural environment and with French, English and German as widely spoken and accepted languages
- Property and renting prices are still at affordable rates
- Belgium has a well regulated banking market, **neutral** to Anglo-Saxon and Continental European systems
- Thanks to excellent air and train communications, “at walking distance” from other hubs like London, Luxemburg, Amsterdam, Frankfurt and Paris

Why E B L A S ?

The team EBLAS has a core team of managers with **solid experience** in the banking sector. They also have a wide network of local and international contacts in the various areas that require attention in the process of setting up a bank.

- **Access** : a direct access to the regulator for depositing and defending the banking license application
- **Know-how** : having acquired know-how through its exercise for other players in the market
- **Network** : EBLAS can help in bringing together other parties that are required in the process.
- Combining strengths to get the clients a **full operational banking license** : the EBLAS team can take care of all aspects : banking license application, human resource issues, banking IT, real estate…The whole process takes place in full cooperation and under close supervision of the client

E B L A S

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