|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

Press Release

**Dentons strengthens market-leading position in Central Asia
with the expansion of the Tashkent office**

**5 July 2017** – Dentons, the world’s largest law firm, has announced the expansion of its office in Tashkent, Uzbekistan through a combination with highly ranked Uzbek firm Avent Advokat. Eldor Mannopov, the founder and managing partner of Avent Advokat, has joined the Firm along with a team of nine lawyers. The move, which comes shortly after Dentons’ entry into Georgia, further strengthens the Firm’s market leadership in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and Central Asia.

**Aigoul Kenjebayeva,** Central Asia Regional Managing Partner, commented, “Dentons’ Tashkent office has been operating successfully on the Uzbekistan market for almost 20 years, largely thanks to the professionalism of Counsel Mouborak Kambarova. By joining forces with Avent Advokat, this office will become one of the top legal practices and the undisputed leader in Uzbekistan. This will allow us to support our clients’ growing needs across the region better.”

“The recently elected Uzbek leaders have implemented a wide and ambitious program to eradicate corruption and create a more favorable environment for businesses and investors. These reforms are giving impetus to foreign investment, and a number of our multinational clients are now seeking quality legal advice in that emerging market,” said **Tomasz Dąbrowski**, Chief Executive Officer of Dentons Europe.

**Eldor Mannopov** has been appointed Uzbekistan Managing Partner. A highly ranked lawyer in business law, he focuses on international trade, arbitration, M&A, tax, litigation and compliance and is especially respected as a market-leader lawyer specializing in construction matters. He is also well known for his experience working with Chinese and other Asian clients.

Eldor Mannopov commented, “We are excited to join the world’s largest law firm. We look forward to collaborating actively with our colleagues from across Central Asia and around the globe with world-class client service and value.”

The Tashkent office provides full service business law advice in energy, banking and finance, corporate, M&A, infrastructure and PPP, technology and construction. The team serves clients in English, Russian, Uzbek and Turkish.

“We have been exploring ways to strengthen our current operations in Tashkent, and so we are delighted to welcome one of Uzbekistan’s top legal teams to our Firm. With the addition of the new team, we will be able to offer our clients a wide range of quality services on both local and foreign law in Uzbekistan,” remarked **Evan Lazar**, Chairman of the Board of Dentons Europe.

Dentons is the only global law firm which, in addition to its vast collaboration of offices worldwide, is able to offer full coverage services in Central Asia and the neighboring countries, particularly in Uzbekistan, Russia, Turkey, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and Georgia, and via associated firms in Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.

\*\*\*

**About Dentons**

Dentons is the world's largest law firm,\* delivering quality and value to clients around the globe. Dentons is a leader on the Acritas Global Elite Brand Index, a BTI Client Service 30 Award winner and recognized by prominent business and legal publications for its innovations in client service, including founding Nextlaw Labs and the Nextlaw Global Referral Network. Dentons provides legal services to Russian and foreign companies, banks and other financial institutions, private equity funds, state enterprises and non-profits. [www.dentons.com](http://www.dentons.com/)

\* 2016 The American Lawyer – Ranking of 100 international law firms by number of lawyers.