**MIPIM 2023 – press release**

**The three largest Czech cities (Prague, Brno and Ostrava) and the Moravian-Silesian Region will give a joint presentation at MIPIM 2023 in Cannes**

Ostrava will be participating in the Czech Cities & Regions exhibition alongside three partners: the Moravian-Silesian Region, Prague and Brno. This year’s MIPIM will be held in the French city of Cannes from 14 to 17 March. International investors and developers will learn about a diverse range of exciting potential projects, both in Ostrava itself and on City-owned land at the Mošnov Strategic Industrial Zone.

**Ostrava’s Mayor** **Tomáš Macura** summed up the City’s strategy: “*We are following in the footsteps of the joint presentations of cities and regions which have proved so successful in previous years. We are delighted that Ostrava is the main organizer of this year’s MIPIM presentation. We have recently been undergoing a transformation into a modern city with top-quality architecture, improved public spaces and a healthier environment. This process has been greatly assisted by our urban planning process, which involves substantial input from the city’s people. Our current strategy is not to sell off land at all costs, but to prepare and offer sites with strong potential for future development. This enables us to offer investors attractive locations for a diverse range of exciting, high-quality projects.”*

Ostrava recently began preparations for its new strategic plan covering the period 2024-2030, which will build on the successes of the current strategy for 2017-2023 (known under the brand name fajnOVA). The current plan has given rise to a range of new buildings and other projects that have brought tangible improvements in Ostrava’s quality of life. These include the University of Ostrava’s new city centre campus for students of art and sport, opened just a few days ago, or the PLATO contemporary art gallery, which has found its new home in the revitalized historic former slaughterhouse complex. The historic Grossmann villa, a listed cultural monument dating from the 1920s, is undergoing a complete renovation, and Ostrava’s international profile is set to be raised further by its bold new concert hall designed by the world-renowned architect Steven Holl.

At this year’s MIPIM, Ostrava will be offering several sites for residential developments and services (on Českobratrská, Polská, Plzeňská and Opavská Streets). The City will also be presenting development areas which are being created in conjunction with private investors. Chief among these is the planned new “Pod Žofinkou” district that will be created to link Lower Vítkovice with the city centre. This strategic location is ideal for a brand-new urban district with natural parkland, direct access to the riverbank, and a new city boulevard. Industrial real estate offered by the City includes land at the Mošnov Strategic Industrial Zone, directly next to Ostrava’s international airport, plus a nearby administrative centre with the potential for development projects to create offices, services or a hotel.

Ostrava’s excellent business environment, as well as the City’s support and encouragement of new investments, has attracted numerous investors. Previous years of MIPIM have given rise to several key partnerships between the City and private investors – such as the developer LinkCity, which is working with the City on the flagship Rezidence Stodolní project. Other examples of successful partnerships include the almost-complete Organica office complex (with the developer Contera), which has been built on a former brownfield site at Karolina. The developer Concens has built the Ostrava Airport Multimodal Park in Mošnov, and new enterprise zones have been created in Hrušov (Contera) and Vítkovice (P3 Logistic Parks). Ostrava’s strong investment potential has been recognized by fDi Intelligence, which recently ranked the city among Europe’s top ten “cities of the future”.

The Moravian-Silesian Region will also be participating in the joint presentation at MIPIM, offering a number of attractive locations and projects for residential, commercial or industrial sites. These range from conventional developments to visionary projects.

**The Regional President Ivo Vondrák** explained: *“The Region is successfully continuing its process of dynamic economic transformation, and I’m confident that we are gradually regaining our status as one of the main development poles of the Czech Republic. We are working intensively on strategic projects which will have a major impact on our region’s future prosperity and will further stimulate the development of investment opportunities here. At MIPIM we will be presenting our region and its vision, and we will be discussing options for cooperation with potential investors. We are keen to attract strong players who will become actively involved in the region’s development in the form of development projects – and we are even prepared to support some investment projects with funding from the EU’s Just Transition Fund. We will be showcasing a number of highly attractive sites and projects from across the entire region. I’m confident that investors will be impressed by the opportunities we are offering for residential and mixed-use developments, as well as attractive sites for light manufacturing and logistics. I view MIPIM as a great opportunity, which in the near future could help generate substantial positive impacts on the lives of our region’s people, its economy, and our environment.”*

The post-mining landscape of the Karviná area is a key location for the Moravian-Silesian Region’s transformation, offering huge potential for future developments. Covering an area of 60 km² between the cities of Karviná, Havířov and Orlová, the area was formerly the site of extensive coal mining and industrial activities. The POHO2030 programme is gradually achieving its goal of breathing new life into this landscape and opening it up to people. Former mine sites will provide a new impulse for business, stimulating economic development. The MIPIM presentation will showcase the projects that are transforming the former Jan Karel and Lazy mines into modern industrial parks with new energy technologies and smart solutions. The **Eden Silesia** and **POHO Park Gabriela** projects will bring new infrastructure for education, research and leisure activities, creating destinations where people will go to learn, relax and enjoy themselves.

Another partner at the MIPIM exhibition, the Czech capital Prague, will present its **Metropolitan Plan**, which has been drawn up by the Prague Institute of Planning and Development. The document will replace the existing urban plan dating from 1999. An interactive app will explain to visitors the key rules and principles governing urban planning in the capital. Projects presented at MIPIM will include the transformation of several parts of the city (Palmovka, Nové Dvory and Dolní Počernice) to create revitalized urban districts with affordable municipally-owned rental housing, high-quality architecture and attractive public spaces.

**Prague’s Mayor Bohuslav Svoboda** commented on the plans: *“Prague is a unique location in the heart of Central Europe, where tradition and innovation come together. In the upcoming period we will continue to support the development of brownfield sites and vacant land within the city limits in order to provide much-needed municipally-owned rental housing as well as creating new urban districts that Prague’s people will be rightly proud of. It is also crucial for us to support innovative approaches and technologies in the field of sustainable construction.”*

**The Mayor Brno Markéta Vaňková** summarized the City’s participation at MIPIM: *“In recent years, Brno has become a forward-looking hub that actively supports innovative businesses, applied research, talent management and the popularization of science. At MIPIM we will be presenting three key projects which will drive the city’s future development.”*

The first of these projects is the **Špitálka smart district**, which will be created close to the historic city centre featuring modern technologies and innovative approaches. At MIPIM, the City of Brno will be seeking a strategic partner to implement the project.

Another important project in Brno is the **New** **Trnitá district**, which will include the city’s new central railway station, connected to the historic city centre by an impressive boulevard. The site (covering an area of 140 ha) will be transformed into a new urban district with residential developments, employers and leisure amenities, including large areas of public space designed to help the city adapt sustainably to climate change.

The third innovative project to be presented at MIPIM is the municipally owned **Technology Park Brno**, a campus-style business park located close to the city’s Technical University and a range of research centres – offering its clients unique benefits in the form of access to talented graduates and opportunities for collaboration with research and development institutions. The MIPIM presentation will seek to attract new tenants for state-of-the-art offices and multipurpose facilities for research and light industrial production.

Mayor Markéta Vaňková added: *“Our cooperation with the Technology Park is helping us to implement the ‘urban lab’ concept – a space for the development of innovative technologies and new solutions. In Brno we are skilled at harnessing the creativity and fresh thinking of students to help us in our development plans – involving the generation of the future in driving our city’s progress. At the Technology Park, students will be able to design specific innovative and smart solutions, which we will test in real conditions and implement if they prove successful.”*

MIPIM is one of the world’s largest events of its type, and it offers a platform for cities and regions to meet and set up contacts with each other and with investors from the private sector. The general partner of the Czech Cities & Regions exhibition is the construction company HSF System a.s. Other partners are AFI Europe Czech Republic s.r.o., Trammell Crow Company and Skanska komerční development. Co-exhibitors include P3 Logistic Parks s.r.o., CTP Invest, spol. s r.o., Panattoni Czech Republic Development s.r.o., GLP Czech Republic Management s.r.o., the law firm PRK Partners s.r.o. and Casua spol. s.r.o.

The impressive design of this year’s exhibition, covering a total area of 250 m2, is the work of the JA ARCHITEKTI studio. The exhibition’s shapes and materials combine minimalism with solidity, keeping pace with modern architectural trends and giving the presentation a powerful authenticity.

**The official presentation of the cities of Prague, Brno and Ostrava, the Moravian-Silesian Region and their partners will take place on Wednesday 15 March 2023 from 3 p.m.**