## NEWS JANUARY 26, 2017

## LUKOIL SUPPORT TO THE CONCERT OF MARIINSKY THEATRE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

On the occasion of the Mariinsky Theatre Symphony Orchestra concert led by the currently world's greatest conductor Valery Gergiev, held at the Russian House, the most important musical event of the year in Serbia was announced at a press conference.

The Director of the Russian House in Belgrade Ms. Nadezhda Kuschenkova pointed out that Valery Gergiev is one of the true musical symbols of Russia, who devoted his entire life not only to the development and protection of Russian classical music culture, but also to promoting the values of classical music worldwide. He has received numerous awards, including the UNESCO Prize, and has been ranked among the Top 100 Most Influential People in the category of culture and art. Having mentioned that the Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra holds 760 concerts per season in more than 30 countries, Ms. Kuschenkova emphasized that the Belgrade concert would not be possible without the support of the City of Belgrade, the Russian Embassy, as well as the companies who have shown their willingness to support the projects of culture, proven to be the reliable partners and patrons at all times, such as LUKOIL and NIS.

The Director of cultural activities of the Sava Centar, Mr. Vuk Žugić expressed his gratitude to all participants in the organization as well as the patrons of this great event scheduled for 31st January, in our biggest Concert Hall, pointing out that is a great honour to have an artist of such stature decide to depart from his plans, despite of having his performances planned five years in advance, in order to appear before the Serbian audience.

Deputy City Secretary for Culture, Mr. Milan Lazović addressed the journalists on behalf of the city government. As a person that has been engaged in the field of culture for many years, he stressed that the announcement of this event of the year has been too modest, considering the brilliance of Mr. Gergiev as an artist, manager and a person. He asserted that the City of Belgrade is ready to continue to support the cultural events.