



Association
of European
Businesses

ANNUAL REPORT

2017



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Dr. Thomas Staertzel
Chairman of the Board

DEAR READERS,

The AEB is the main representation of foreign investors in Russia being the largest and most influential foreign business association in the country. Due to long-standing contacts with the European authorities, the AEB manages to strengthen economic ties between Russia and the EU.

In 2017, the AEB executed work in such areas as import substitution, localisation, parallel imports, labelling of goods with special marks, waste management, consumer protection legislation, migration, taxation, insurance, banking, technical regulation, conformity assessment, market surveillance, customs issues and other topics suggested by member companies.

Likewise, the AEB continued preparatory work for the registration of the AEB Arbitration Court (AEB AC) in accordance with the new legislation. The AEB AC is supposed to act as an independent permanent arbitration institution and serve as a dispute resolution mechanism for both AEB member and non-member companies willing to use the AEB Arbitration Court as an alternative to conventional litigation.

The AEB appreciates its working relations with the media. We have broad coverage of the most significant AEB events by the federal and regional information agencies. Currently, AEB activities are covered by both Russian (Interfax, TASS, RIA Novosti, RT, etc.) and foreign (Associated Press, BBC, Euronews, Thomson Reuters, Al Jazeera, etc.) press.



Dr. Frank Schauff
Chief Executive Officer

We proceeded with production of publications, having printed in 2017 "Business Quarterly" magazines, "How to invest in Russia" guide, "Real Estate Monitors", "Russia's HR sector: surveys, analyses, facts" journal, "European Business in Russia: Position Paper 2018", Annual Report 2016, and "Report on AEB Lobbying Activities". The AEB flagship publication—"Business Quarterly"—covered the topics of safety, health and environment; regional development; consumer market trends; hospitality sector in Russia. Traditionally, the magazines were widely distributed in business centres, embassies, hotels, restaurants and airports of Moscow.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the members of the Board, the Council of National Representation, the Auditing Commission and the Committees Chairpersons for their continuing support and trust, for their substantial contribution to promoting the interests of AEB member companies, as well as for their efforts aimed at fostering economic ties between Russia, the European Union and the Eurasian Economic Union. Through our Committees, Subcommittees and Working Groups, the AEB strives to intensify its work for the benefit of European businesses operating in the Russian market.

This Annual Report will summarise the activities the AEB managed to implement in 2017. To be more specific, we had a number of top-level briefings, meetings and presentations. We also organised dozens of open events, conferences and round tables. The AEB representatives participated in practically all large forums held in Russia.

We genuinely hope that the AEB achievements will enhance the potential of member companies in representing their stance to further develop their businesses in Russia.

THE ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN BUSINESSES (AEB)

- was created in 1995 by a number of companies operating in the Russian market, ambassadors of EU member countries and the head of the European Commission's Representative Office in the Russian Federation;
- main representation of the foreign investors in Russia, from small-size newcomers to major multinational corporations. The Association also includes a number of key Russian, American, Japanese and other companies;
- is a unique organisation developing cooperation between Russian and European business circles. The AEB mission is to improve the business and investment climate in Russia in the interests of its member companies and promote a favourable image of Russia abroad to improve the business development conditions inside the country and attract foreign investors;
- annually organises 100+ conferences, seminars, briefings and roundtable discussions dedicated to vital aspects of running a business in Russia. Regular speakers at the Association's Dialogue with European Business include Ministers of the Russian Government, Members of the State Duma of the Russian Federation, heads of key economy agencies and organisations, heads of administrations of Russian regions, official representatives of international financial organisations, independent experts and leading European and Russian businessmen.

Committees. Committees are the backbone of the AEB. AEB members promote their interests via participation in various Committees. There are currently over 60 Committees, Subcommittees and Working Groups representing companies from various industries.

Lobbying. The Association promotes its members' interests by closely cooperating with the EU authorities and holding regular consultations with relevant officials. The European Commission has regularly consulted with the Association with regard to financial and commercial relations with the Russian Federation. The multi-level structure of the bilateral relations strengthens the role of the European business community. AEB's lobbying is based on the maximum transparency, high professionalism and a mechanism of reacting to new challenges which has been adjusted for many years.

Consulting. The Association engages European and Russian experts to consult Russian officials and member companies on legal, financial and economic matters. In particular, practical support is offered in safe and transparent investment, and issues of human resources and corporate management are discussed.

The AEB has two regional branches, in Krasnodar and St. Petersburg.

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MEDIA RELATIONS

The number of media requests remained high in 2017. AEB press contacts include Russian federal information agencies (Kommersant, Vedomosti, RBC, Interfax, TASS, RIA Novosti, Izvestia, 1 Channel, TV Channel Russia 24, TV Channel Russia 2, RBCTV, TV Channel Russia Today, NTV, 5 Channel, Ren-TV, etc.); regional media, specifically, the North-Western region press contacts in St. Petersburg, and agencies from the Southern and North Caucasus regions; international media such as: Associated Press, Bloomberg, BBC, BILD-Zeitung, De Tijd, the Economist, the Financial Times, Deutsche Welle, DieWelt, DWN, El Mundo, El Pais, Euronews, Europa Press, La Tribune, Le Figaro, Le Monde, Les Echos, Handelsblatt, RFI, Reuters, Wirtschaftsblatt (Autriche), YLE.

Press conferences, briefings and meetings. In 2017, the AEB managed to organise a number of high-level events, such as: the annual Automobile Manufacturers Committee press conference (12 January 2017); meeting with Lev Kuznetsov, Minister of North Caucasus Affairs of the Russian Federation (17 January 2017); meeting with Vladimir Bulavin, Head of the Federal Customs Service of the Russian Federation (2 February 2017); briefing by Grigory Ivliev, Head of the Federal Service for Intellectual Property (10 February 2017); briefing by Igor Artemiev, Head of the Federal Antimonopoly Service of the Russian Federation (6 March 2017); meeting with Alexey Repik, Ombudsman on foreign investors' rights protection (13 March 2017); briefing by Andrey Chibis, Deputy Minister of Construction, Housing and Utilities of the Russian Federation (25 May 2017); briefing by Nikolay Gulayev, Minister for Sport and Tourism of Moscow (14 June 2017); briefing by Mukai Kadyrkulov, Minister of Customs Cooperation of the Eurasian Economic Commission (4 July 2017); briefing by Sergey Lavrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (31 October 2017); briefing by Boris Titov, Presidential Commissioner for Entrepreneurs' Rights (5 December 2017); meeting with Maxim Oreshkin, Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation (20 December 2017); meeting with Olga Rukhullaeva, Deputy Minister of North Caucasus Affairs of the Russian Federation (26 December 2017).

Press releases. In 2017, the AEB Marketing, PR and Communications Department issued a number of press releases, including monthly press releases related to sales of new passenger cars and light commercial vehicles in Russia; quarterly press releases on sales of new construction equipment; the results of the annual AEB-GfK Rus survey "Strategies and prospects for

European companies in Russia"; messages about AEB lobbying activities, initiatives and briefings.

In 2017, the AEB was mentioned in the media 17,121 times (of which 10,961 quotes were in the federal press; 4,910—in the regional sources, and 1,250—in the foreign media).¹

AEB Corporate Social Responsibility

The AEB has been supporting the Tagansky Children's Fund throughout 2017.

Online activities

In 2017, the AEB moved to a new mass mailing platform which significantly improved the visual perception of the messages. The fresh graphic format of AEB emails has now brought more comfort to recipients of the mailings in terms of reading.

The AEB Facebook page turned into a powerful communications tool with our members, partners and a wider audience. All recent updates on the AEB most important events are posted on a regular basis.

The online version of the Membership Directory was launched last year at the AEB website. It has become much easier to find relevant information about member companies via the corresponding categories.

Publications

The AEB continued to produce its official Business Quarterly magazine with a print run of 16,000 copies. It contains various business-related articles, AEB Committees updates, news from member companies and information about AEB new members. Four quarterly "Real Estate Monitor" surveys were released last year (two in a print form and two as online versions). The publications provide analysis of the capital, retail, office, warehouse, hospitality and housing markets in Moscow and St. Petersburg. Traditionally, the Position Paper came off the press in late 2017. The edition accumulates views and concerns provided by the AEB Committees, Subcommittees and Working Groups with regard to the most pressing challenges that European companies have to encounter while conducting business in Russia.

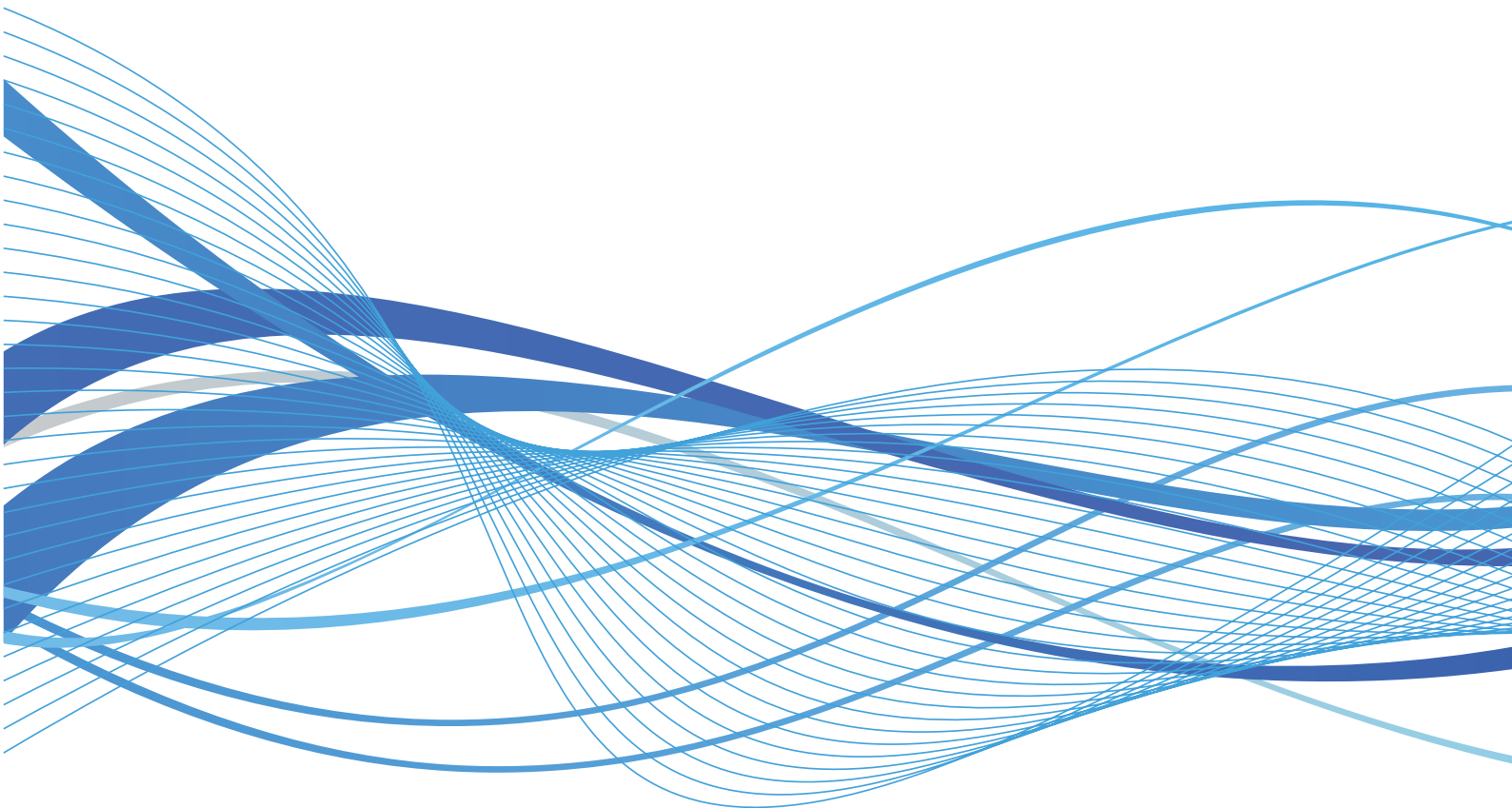
The annual "Russia's HR sector: surveys, analyses, facts" magazine was published for the fourth time. As usual, it overviews labour market trends and addresses the most relevant challenges that HR specialists have to face.

Finally, the production of the "How to invest in Russia" guide was resumed after a three-year break. The magazine covers business, financial, legal, corporate, tax and many other aspects of investment.

¹ According to Interfax-SCAN

Open Events

January-December
2017



Selected AEB Open Events 2017

- AMC Press Conference **12.01**
- Meeting with Lev Kuznetsov, Minister of North Caucasus Affairs of the Russian Federation **17.01**
- Annual Strategy Meeting **26.01**
- British Euroreception **31.01**
- Open event "Promises and pitfalls of the year ahead" **31.01**
- Briefing by Gabriel Di Bella, Resident Representative of the International Monetary Fund in Russia **02.02**
- Meeting with Vladimir Bulavin, Head of the Federal Customs Service of Russia **02.02**
- Open event "Meet the Media: Meeting with Vedomosti Business Daily" **06.02**
- Open event "It's all about money: Financial outlook 2017—update for successful business" **09.02**
- Briefing by Grigory Ivliev, Head of the Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) **10.02**
- The AEB 4th round of "Talks on the Russian economy" **16.02**
- Round Table "Interaction of business, government and society in the formation of strategy of social-economic development of the Krasnodar region" **17.02**
- AEB and EEC Business Mission to Germany **20-22.02**
- Business meeting "Beneficial owner of income—practical aspects" **01.03**
- Round Table "Pre-trial dispute resolution procedure: overview and practices" **03.03**
- Briefing by Igor Artemiev, Head of the Federal Antimonopoly Service of Russia **06.03**
- The World Bank presentation **07.03**
- Meeting with Alexey Repik, Ombudsman on foreign investors' rights protection **13.03**
- The AEB 14th HR Conference "Effective HR: to a brighter future" **14.03**
- The AEB XIII Annual Customs Conference **16.03**
- Open event "Legal and regulatory results of 2016 and perspectives for 2017" **16.03**
- AEB Board mission to Brussels **22-24.03**
- Speed Dating on Energy Efficiency **24.03**
- Meeting "Topical issues of labor protection: concerns of foreign companies in Russia" **28.03**
- The 3rd International Automotive Forum in Tatarstan (TIAF 2017) **29-31.03**
- Open event "Law applicability in migration" **04.04**
- The VIII Northern Dimension Forum **06.04**
- Round Table "Matters of ecologic responsibility in agriculture" **14.04**
- Annual General Meeting **20.04**
- "Experience in the development of human capital: the impact to the investment attractiveness of the Krasnodar region" **18.05**
- AEB Benelux Breakfast Meeting **22.05**
- Presentation of the investment potential of the North Caucasus Regions **22.05**
- Presentation of results of the AEB-GfK Rus survey "Strategies and Prospects for European companies in Russia" **23.05**
- The AEB XIV Flagship Conference "Russia in the new environment: Is sustainable growth possible?" **24.05**
- Briefing by Andrey Chibis, Deputy Minister of Construction, Housing and Utilities of Russia **25.05**
- Open event "Corporate social responsibility: HR and legal aspects and best practices" **30.05**
- Presentation of the investment potential of the Chuvash Republic **30.05**
- Workshop "Prevention of losses due to abuse, corruption and fraud schemes" **31.05**
- Open event "Localisation opportunities for European companies" **09.06**
- Briefing by Nikolay Gulayev, Minister for Sport and Tourism of Moscow **14.06**
- Round Table "Machine building market trends in Russia (first half of 2017)" **15.06**
- Open event "Practical aspects of labour legislation in the area of labour contracts and personal data" **21.06**
- Polish EuroReception **21.06**
- Round Table "'Green Finance' for Energy Efficiency: Opportunities in Russia" **22.06**
- Annual conference "Intellectual property rights: recent trends, court practices, problems and solutions" **22.06**
- Briefing by Apurva Sanghi, the World Bank Lead Economist for the Russian Federation **23.06**
- Briefing by Mukai Kadyrkulov, Minister of Customs Cooperation of the Eurasian Economic Commission **04.07**

- Open event "Prevention of violations of the competition legislation: notices from FAS Russia, corporate compliance system, release from liability" **06.07**
- AEB Summer cocktail **26.07**
- 8th International Moscow Automotive Forum (IMAF 2017) **22.08**
- COMTRANS 2017 Exhibition and Moscow Commercial Vehicle Summit **05.09**
- Conference "Consumer protection on the Russian insurance market – impact of the recent developments in the EU" **14.09**
- Open event "Insights to innovations and technologies in modern agriculture in Russia" **20.09**
- "Digitising industry: chance for small and medium-sized businesses in Russia" **26.09**
- AEB Real Estate Day **27.09**
- AEB Nordic Breakfast Meeting **04.10**
- AEB Day in St. Petersburg **11.10**
- Conference "Tax planning: new boundaries" **27.10**
- Briefing by Sergey Lavrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation **31.10**
- Presentation of the investment potential of the Tula region **10.11**
- Open meeting "To ICO, or Not to ICO, That is the Question" **16.11**
- Presentation by Andreas Matthä, CEO of ÖBB-Holding AG (Austrian Federal Railways) **16.11**
- Round Table "Current trends in the design of the industrial projects" **21.11**
- Open event "Structuring of the HQS foreign employees' remuneration: migration, labour, and taxation aspects" **22.11**
- Round Table "Waste collection and processing: practical experience" **30.11**
- Open event "Developing Internal Communications in a Company" **04.12**
- X Annual Migration Conference "Migration law and practice" **05.12**
- Briefing by Boris Titov, Presidential Commissioner for Entrepreneurs' Rights **05.12**
- Business meeting "Trends in employee benefits: corporate pensions, digital solutions and other benefits for personnel" **06.12**
- Open meeting "Crisis Communications" **12.12**
- Presentation of the Krasnoyarsk region **14.12**
- Annual conference "Development of the Russian tax system: results of 2017 and perspectives" **19.12**
- Meeting with Maxim Oreshkin, Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation **20.12**
- Meeting with Olga Rukhullaeva, Deputy Minister of North Caucasus Affairs of the Russian Federation **26.12**

12.01: AMC PRESS CONFERENCE



26.01: ANNUAL STRATEGY MEETING



31.01: BRITISH EURORECEPTION



10.02: BRIEFING BY GRIGORY IVLIEV, Head of the Federal Service for Intellectual Property



16.02: "TALKS ON THE RUSSIAN ECONOMY"



06.03: BRIEFING BY IGOR ARTEMIEV, Head of the Federal Antimonopoly Service of the Russian Federation



14.03: "EFFECTIVE HR: TO A BRIGHTER FUTURE"



16.03: XIII ANNUAL CUSTOMS CONFERENCE



22.03: AEB BOARD MISSION TO BRUSSELS



24.03: SPEED DATING ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY



06.04: VIII NORTHERN DIMENSION FORUM



20.04: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



22.05: BENELUX BREAKFAST MEETING



22.05: PRESENTATION OF THE INVESTMENT POTENTIAL OF THE NORTH CAUCASUS REGIONS



23.05: SURVEY "STRATEGIES AND PROSPECTS FOR EUROPEAN COMPANIES IN RUSSIA": PRESENTATION OF RESULTS



24.05: AEB FLAGSHIP CONFERENCE "RUSSIA IN THE NEW ENVIRONMENT: IS SUSTAINABLE GROWTH POSSIBLE?"



25.05: BRIEFING BY ANDREY CHIBIS, Deputy Minister of Construction, Housing and Utilities of the Russian Federation



30.05: PRESENTATION OF THE INVESTMENT POTENTIAL OF THE CHUVASH REPUBLIC



09.06: "LOCALISATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR EUROPEAN COMPANIES"



14.06: BRIEFING BY NIKOLAY GULAYEV, Minister for Sport and Tourism of Moscow



21.06: POLISH EURORECEPTION



22.06: "INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS: RECENT TRENDS, COURT PRACTICES, PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS"



23.06: BRIEFING BY APURVA SANGHI, the World Bank Lead Economist for the Russian Federation



04.07: BRIEFING BY MUKAI KADYRKULOV, Minister of Customs Cooperation of the Eurasian Economic Commission



27.09: AEB REAL ESTATE DAY



04.10: AEB NORDIC BREAKFAST MEETING



11.10: AEB DAY IN ST. PETERSBURG



31.10: BRIEFING BY SERGEY LAVROV, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation



10.11: PRESENTATION OF THE INVESTMENT POTENTIAL OF THE TULA REGION



16.11: PRESENTATION BY ANDREAS MATTHÄ,

CEO of ÖBB-Holding AG (Austrian Federal Railways)



05.12: X ANNUAL MIGRATION CONFERENCE "MIGRATION LAW AND PRACTICE"



05.12: BRIEFING BY BORIS TITOV,

Presidential Commissioner for Entrepreneurs' Rights



14.12: PRESENTATION OF THE KRASNOYARSK REGION

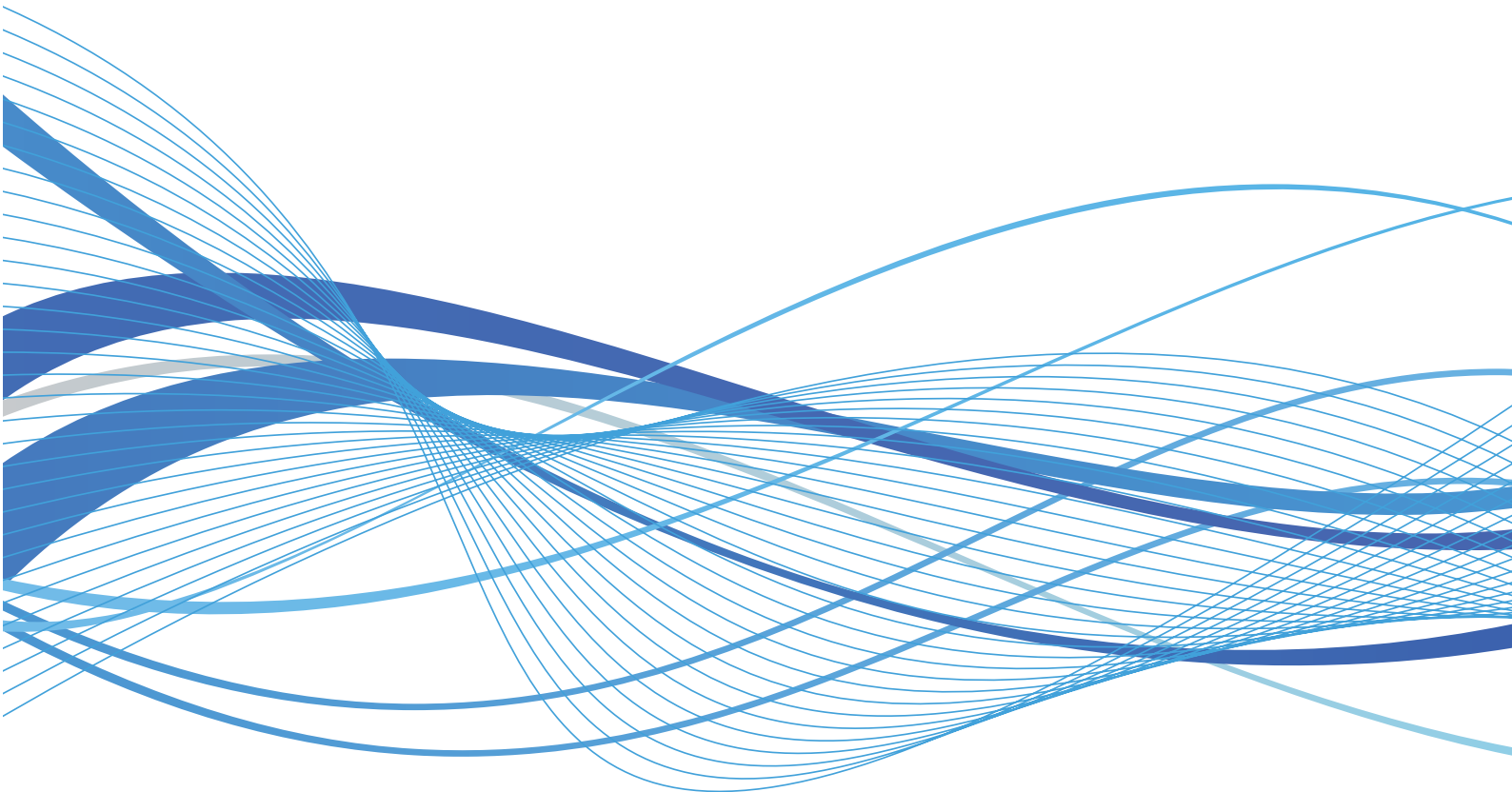


20.12: MEETING WITH MAXIM ORESHKIN, Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation



Committee Reports

2017



AGRIBUSINESS COMMITTEE

AIMS	To promote the interests of AEB member companies specialising in the agribusiness sector through governmental liaison and lobbying activities.	
CHAIRPERSON	Dirk Seelig , Sales Director, Deputy General Director, CLAAS Vostok	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	CLAAS; CNH Industrial Russia LLC; John Deere Rus; John Deere Agricultural Holdings Inc.	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	3	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	Agribusiness Committee representatives meeting with VDMA representatives on strategy and co-operation	18 May 2017
	Joint open event with VDMA (German Association of Machine building companies) "Insights to innovations and technologies in the modern Russian agriculture"	20 September 2017
	AEB external events	
	Round table with participation of the Agribusiness Committee Chairman at the Eurasian Economic Commission on agricultural issues	30 March 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The main issue of interest for the Agribusiness Committee is localisation in Russia and, specifically, "spezinvestkontrakt", i.e. SPIC. The other target issues for lobbying are amendments to Technical Regulation for tractors 031/2012 and introduction and implementation of electronic passports for self-propelled vehicles, as well as disposal fee.

The open event "Insights to innovations and technologies in the modern Russian agriculture" organised jointly with VDMA Association on 20 September 2017, brought together such high-level governmental authorities, as Pavel Burak, Deputy Director of the Department for plants, crop protection of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natalia Zudina, Deputy Director of "Rosagroleasing", and prominent business community representatives such as Sergey Lupekhin, Head of Potato Alliance, and other industrial alliances.

AIRLINE COMMITTEE

AIMS	To represent and lobby interests of international airlines in Russia.	
CHAIRPERSON	Eric Louveau , General Manager, Air France-KLM	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Air France; Delta Airlines; KLM.	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	3	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB external events	Date
	Meeting with representatives of the Department for transportation regulation and the Department of international economic cooperation of the Federal Antimonopoly Service (FAS Russia)	20 March 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

In 2017, the AEB Airline Committee was lobbying the issue of non-discrimination in airport tariffs for international air carriers and Russian airlines. This issue was addressed at meetings with representatives of the Department for transportation regulation of the Federal Antimonopoly Service (FAS Russia), as well as in official appeal to the Ministry of Transport.

Another important issue was inclusion of Airline Committee experts to activities under the “road map” for civic aviation developed by the European Economic Commission in June 2017.

AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURERS COMMITTEE

<p>AIMS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To unite and represent common interests of its members – automobile importers/manufacturers of global automobile producers, which guide business activities in the Russian Federation (producing in and/or importing). • To create conditions for development of civilized automotive market; set and observe common and fair business rules for automotive companies officially operating in Russia and leverage inter-company cooperation and constructive partnership. • The AMC concentrates on the most important and urgent issues of the automotive business which affect its members, developing appropriate responses, lobbying to ensure that member interests are represented and dealing with the Russian governmental authorities, public institutions, local and international automotive associations and the mass media. 	
<p>CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Joerg Schreiber, President and Managing Director, Mazda Motor Rus</p>	
<p>AEB MEMBER COMPANIES</p>	<p>JSC "AVTOVAZ"; BMW Rusland Trading OOO; CHERY AUTOMOBILE RUS CJSC; FCA Russia AO; Ford Sollers Holding LLC; GAZ Group LLC; General Motors CIS LLC; Honda Motor RUS LLC; Honda R&D Europe (UK) Ltd.; Hyundai Motor CIS LLC; Jaguar Land Rover LLC; Kia Motors RUS LLC; Mazda Motor RUS LLC; Mercedes-Benz Russia AO; Mercury Auto (Ferrari/Maserati); MMC Rus LLC; Mitsubishi Motors Rus LLC; Nissan Manufacturing RUS OOO; Peugeot Citroën Rus OOO; Porsche Rusland OOO; Renault Russia ZAO; SOLLERS OAO; Subaru Motor LLC; SUZUKI MOTOR RUS LLC; Toyota Motor OOO; VOLKSWAGEN Group Rus OOO (Audi / Bentley / Lamborghini / Škoda / Volkswagen / Volkswagen NFZ); Volvo Cars LLC.</p>	
<p>NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS</p>	<p>43</p>	
<p>AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED</p>	<p>AEB events</p>	<p>Date</p>
	<p>AMC Annual Press Conference "Review 2016" (~ 200 participants)</p>	<p>12 January 2017</p>
	<p>AEB external events</p>	
	<p>UN EEC 29th Working Group meetings – AEB AMC permanent participation at the work of the Working group on the UN rules related to vehicles equipped with the emergency response systems</p>	<p>Quarterly</p>
	<p>Meetings at the Eurasian Economic Commission regarding the introduction of electronic passports for vehicles (EPTS) – AMC and CVC representatives are official members of the EEC Working Group</p>	<p>Regularly</p>
<p>87th Geneva International Motor Show, OICA Exhibition Committee meeting</p>	<p>7-9 March 2017</p>	

AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	20 th Annual International Russian Automotive Forum – RAF 2017	15-16 March 2017
	ROAD Convention	12 April 2017
	Annual meeting with the ACEA (Brussels, Belgium)	19 June 2017
	IMAF	22 August 2017
	Comtrans Summit	5 September 2017
	67 th IAA Cars (Frankfurt, Germany) – Opening Ceremony	14 September 2017
	OICA General assembly meeting	11-14 October 2017
	Conference: Rosavtodealer	19 October 2017
	Connected car Summit	21 November 2017
	Round Table discussion on professional education/ standards	28 November
	101 st International Scientific-Technical Conference of the Association of Automobile Engineers: Technical Regulations of Automotive Vehicles (AAI, NICIAMT)	6 December 2017
	Round Table: Avtonet 2.0 at the Transport Week	7 December 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The year 2017 was the 20th year of AMC operations within the AEB.

For 11 years the Committee has continued running for its members an online sales data exchange system, which remained almost the only up-to-date and reliable source of statistics of sales of passenger cars (PC) and light commercial vehicles (LCV) in Russia. Following a well-established tradition, results of the year 2016 and a forecast for 2017 were opened to the media at the AMC annual press conference which also provided the press with an opportunity to interact with heads of the automobile companies, with regard to very important issues related to the automotive industry.

Since inauguration of the Code of Conduct in 2013, the members continued implementation of its provisions in practice. During the passed year the AMC and ROAD negotiated good practices of official dealers' and agreed to develop a common document integrating both the Dealers' good practices and the Code of Conduct aiming at improving the business dialogue on the automotive market in Russia.

Technical Regulations of the Customs Union, TR CU 018/2011, "On the Safety of Wheeled Vehicles" which entered into force on 01.01.2015 remained on the Agenda of the Committee throughout the year 2017. The Committee closely worked with the government authorities over the improvement of motor vehicles certification system. In particular, the Committee actively participated in Round Table discussions with Rosstandart, Minpromtorg, AO GLONASS and Certification bodies addressing all important issues of the practical application of the TR CU 018/2011, "On the Safety of Wheeled Vehicles". Replacement of the national standards on ERA-GLONASS by the interstate standards will remain on the Agenda of the Committee along with the changes in the Roll-over GOST.

The great part of the efforts of the Automobile manufacturers committee was dedicated to the planned introduction of the digital passports of wheeled vehicles from 1 July 2018. The Committee became a platform where discussions about the respective legislation development between the manufacturers/distributors, Ministry of Industry and Trade and AO Electronny passport were held. AMC representatives became members of the respective working group established at the Eurasian Economic Commission. Still there remain a lot of open technical and legal issues which require special attention and will be monitored in 2018.

After 3 years of consecutive decrease, the automotive market demonstrated certain signs of recovery. But the hope for the fast growth became not so certain by the end of the year due to significant fiscal burden the manufacturers/distributors will have to take over due to excise and disposal fee increase. The Committee looks at these issues too.

One of other very important topics on the Committee's agenda was changes of the Law on OSAGO in close cooperation with ROAD (Russian Association of Auto Dealerships) and insurance community represented by individual companies and RSA (Russian Association of Motor Insurers).

Throughout the year the Committee representatives actively participated in other important events, where they spoke on behalf of the AMC, such as the Russian Automotive Forum organised by Adam Smith Conferences, "Rosavto-dealer-2017", the 101st International Scientific-Technical Conference of the Association of Automobile Engineers "Technical Regulation of the Automotive Vehicles" and others.

Other topics on the AMC agenda in 2017 were:

- extension of 0% duties on the electric vehicles;
- infrastructure and incentives for electric, automated vehicles development;
- spare parts EAC labelling;
- luxury tax rate decrease.

Throughout the year the AMC published monthly press-releases on car sales statistics that are widely used by all automotive and business media in Russia and outside the country. Press coverage of issues addressed by the AMC and its activities in general further increased in 2017.

AMC representatives participate in the work of the UN EC Working Group on development of the UN rules on a permanent basis.

The Committee continued strengthening its contacts with the national and international automotive associations: ACEA (European Automobile Manufacturers Association), OAR (Association of Russian Automakers), OICA (International Organisation of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers), ROAD, VDA (German Association of the Automotive Industry), as well as with the local authorities and industry officials.

AUTOMOTIVE COMPONENTS COMMITTEE

AIMS	To unite and lobby for the joint interests of the AEB members in the automotive supplier sector, facilitating meetings with officials, industrial associations and Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), supporting networking and exchange of contacts within the industry and helping companies establish working contacts with car plants.	
CHAIRPERSON	Andrey Kossov , Commercial Manager Russia, Johnson Matthey	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Atlas Copco; BASF; Benteler; Cesar Satellite; Continental Automotive Systems Rus; "Delphi Samara"; Deloitte; DLA Piper; Dow Corning; DSM Group; DuPont Science and Technologies; FAURECIA Automotive Development; EY; GAZ Group; Gestamp Russia; GKN Automotive International GmbH; Henkel; ISG support-GUS GmbH; Johnson Controls Autobatterie GmbH; Johnson Matthey; KPMG; PwC; PPG Industries; Robert Bosch, Russian Automotive Components Limited; Sandvik; Solvay S.A., Volvo Group.	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	4	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB external events	Date
	III International Automotive Forum "TIAF 2017 supported by Automechanika" in Kazan	29-31 March 2017
	International Moscow Automotive Forum IMAF 2017 in Moscow	22-23 August 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The Committee's key functions remain unchanged and include the determination of common tasks and problems for the Committee member companies, based on which the priorities for the current activities of the Committee should be developed and formulated. Receiving state support for foreign investors also remains an important issue; full access to the existing instruments for supporting and developing the auto parts sector: further development of the localisation of auto parts, coordinated actions aimed at developing the localisation of automobiles, together with the Automobile Manufacturers Committee; the application of competitive, efficient, and ecologically safe technologies and know-how; participation in the formation of Automotive Strategy 2025; export potentials and support for autocomponents producers; the protection of intellectual property; coverage in the legislative and economic spheres, trade fairs, and other spheres linked to the operating activity of the Committee members.

The Committee participated in the following important events:

20th Russian Automotive Forum, organised by Adam Smith Conferences	15-16 March 2017
ASM Holding autocomponents conference	26 April 2017
Business breakfast "Automotive Market Trends in Russia" by GFK	8 June 2017
Annual meeting with ACEA (Brussels, Belgium)	19 June 2017
IV Eurasian Economic Congress	6 December 2017
Ecotech 2017	13 December 2017

BANKING COMMITTEE

AIMS	<p>The Banking Committee brings together representatives of international banks and other financial institutions and combines their efforts in order to effectively represent their interests in the Russian market and promote a favourable climate for the operation of international banks in Russia. The Committee aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide a level playing field between local and foreign operators; • provide direct technical policy advice to European and Russian government officials.
CHAIRPERSON	Mikhail Chaikin , CEO, ING Wholesale Banking in Russia
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON	Stuart Lawson , Senior Advisor, EY
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	American Express Bank; Banca Intesa; Bank Credit Suisse (Moscow); BMW Bank OOO; BNP Paribas; Center-invest Bank; Citibank AO; Commerzbank (Eurasija) AO; Credit Agricole CIB AO; Danske Bank Russia; DEG Representative Office Russian Federation; Deutsche Bank Ltd.; European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD); HELLENIC BANK PLC; HSBC Bank (RR) OOO; ING Wholesale Banking in Russia; KfW IPEX-Bank Representative Office; Mercedes-Benz Financial Services Rus OOO / Mercedes-Benz Bank Rus OOO / Mercedes-Benz Capital Rus OO; Natixis Bank JSC; Nordea Bank; OTP Bank JSC; Raiffeisenbank AO; Rosbank; Touch Bank, part of OTP Group; UBS Bank, OOO; UniCredit Bank AO; VISA.
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	9

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

In 2017, the Committee continued its cooperation with its key partners, namely:

- the Committee continued to collaborate with the regulator – the Central Bank of the Russian Federation. The Committee sent a number of letters with comments and proposals on banking regulation and requests for clarifications to the Central Bank (closure of deposit accounts, tax and customs bank guarantees, anti-money laundering legislation, etc.). On 26 January 2017, the Committee held a meeting with representatives of the Banking Supervision Department of the Central Bank, regarding tax and customs bank guarantees;
- the Committee communicated and sent requests on issues related to banking regulation to the Government, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Economic Development, as well as to the Russian Supreme Court, Federal Financial Monitoring Service, Federal Notary Chamber and Federal Bailiff Service;
- the Committee collaborated with the State Duma, in particular, with the Committee for Financial Market.

In 2017, the Committee worked in the following key areas: problems in procedural legislation; tax and customs bank guarantees; issues related to anti-money laundering (AML), compliance and internal control; closure of deposit accounts; restrictions to foreign banks (requirements to credit organisations working with strategic companies); issues related to enforcement proceedings; cancellation of power of attorney; etc.

Furthermore, the group of CEO-level representatives of the Committee's member banks held over 10 informal meetings and consultations to discuss developments and activities in the banking industry, including a meeting with Anatoly Aksakov, Chair of the State Duma's Committee for Financial Market.

In addition, the Committee members and coordinator participated in a number of meetings held by the Working Group on Financial Institutions and Capital Markets of the Foreign Investments Advisory Council (FIAC) and continued to collaborate with it.

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES PRODUCERS COMMITTEE

AIMS	To support the joint interests of Committee members and increase the power of its members above the sum of their individual powers, lobbying for active involvement in all decision making processes affecting commercial vehicles industry, promoting free trade and supporting a fair and reliable business environment, contributing to the prosperous and sustainable growth of the Russian economy.	
CHAIRPERSON	Andrey Chursin , CEO, Scania Service	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Chrysler Russia; DAIMLER KAMAZ RUS; Ford Motor Company; HINO Motor Rus; Iveco Russia; Isuzu Rus; GAZ Group; MAN Truck & Bus RUS; Mercedes-Benz Rus; Nissan Motor Rus; Peugeot Citroen Rus; Renault Russia; Scania Rus; Sollers; Volkswagen Group Rus; Volvo Vostok.	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	9	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB external events	Date
	III International Automotive Forum "TIAF 2017 supported by Automechanika" in Kazan	29-31 March 2017
	International Moscow Automotive Forum IMAF 2017 in Moscow	22-23 August 2017
	Moscow Commercial Vehicle Summit	5-6 September 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The Commercial Vehicles Committee (CVC) was founded at the end of 2008 as a spin-off of the Automobile Manufacturers Committee (AMC) in order to focus on specific needs of the commercial vehicles manufacturers in the Russian Federation.

Main issues discussed within the committee in 2017:

Automotive strategy 2025

On 18 January 2016, the President of the Russian Federation charged the Government to work out a strategy for the development of the automotive industry and automotive components production for the period up to 2025. Work in this area was carried out in spring and summer of 2016, but the AEB member companies were involved in it irregularly. The Committee made its efforts to consider efficient market (real competition, transparent and predictable "rules of the game") as one of the criteria for successful implementation of the strategy.

Export

In 2015, the government of the Russian Federation announced that a higher export was among the top priorities for overcoming automotive overcapacity inside the country.

By the government Order of 31 August 2017 No. 1877, the "Strategy for the Development of Export of Automobile Industry Products until 2025" was approved.

Determination of the Country of Origin and Classification of Industrial Products as the Products Manufactured in the Russian Federation

In 2017, the government of the Russian Federation continued to improve regulatory acts governing the rules and criteria for classifying products of the automotive industry, special machinery and other industrial products as products manufactured in the Russian Federation, as well as criteria for access to public procurement for the above products.

Introduction of the Electronic Passport system (EPTS)

Committee members are actively participating in work on the introduction of the system of electronic passports (EPTS) and, in coordination with all project participants, are gradually implementing measures aimed at a full transition to the issue of EPTS, both during the release of local vehicles and importation of vehicles to the territory of the Customs Union.

Revision of disposal fee

The indexation of disposal fee by average 17,67% is expected for commercial vehicles. But for some types of vehicles the disposal fee will be increased significantly: for tractors by 40%, for LCV (2,5-3,5 t) – 112%. The Committee expressed deep concern by the proposed indexation. Sharp and unplanned increase of disposal fee will have negative impact on the market and nullify the growth trend that is seen this year after several consecutive years of market fall.

The Committee participated in the following important events:

20th Russian Automotive Forum, organised by Adam Smith Conferences	15-16 March 2017
ASM Holding Autocomponents Conference	26 April 2017
Business breakfast "Automotive Market Trends in Russia" by GFK	8 June 2017
Annual meeting with ACEA (Brussels, Belgium)	19 June 2017
IV Eurasian Economic Congress	6 December 2017

COMPLIANCE & ETHICS COMMITTEE

<p>AIMS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To serve as a place where professionals from AEB members and different external stakeholders (incl. state bodies) can share and promote best practices via informational briefings, seminars, reports, regular compliance cases updates. • The key tasks are to assist AEB members: i) to comply with their obligations under the international and local requirements in compliance area; ii) to facilitate, promote, monitor and aim to secure the implementation of the best compliance programme and policies; iii) to foster the international understanding of applicable laws, including but not limited to laws addressing corruption, bribery, trade controls, and fair competition. Areas of interest include business ethics, regulatory issues, internal controls, governance and risk assessment and mitigation. 	
<p>CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Anton Subbot, Partner, Baker McKenzie</p>	
<p>DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Elena Zheltovskaya, Compliance Director, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LLC</p>	
<p>AEB MEMBER COMPANIES</p>	<p>ABB Russia; AIG Insurance Company, CJSC; Air France; Akzo Nobel N.V.; ALD Automative LLC; ALRUD Law Firm; Astra Zeneca Pharmaceuticals LLC; Baker McKenzie CIS Ltd.; Bauke van der Meer Tax and Legal Services (CIS) B.V.; BECO; BEITEN BURKHARDT Moscow; Boehringer Ingelheim; Capital Legal Services LLC; CARDIF Insurance company; Caterpillar Eurasia LLC; Centerinvest Bank; Continental Tires RUS OOO; Control Risks; Credit Agricole CIB LLC; Creditreform RUS LLC; CRH; DE Lage Landen Leasing; Danone; Dentons; DHL Express; ECOTEAM LLC; Egorov, Puginsky, Afanasiev & Partners; EY; Ford Sollers Holding LLC; General Motors Russia & CIS LLC; HSBC Bank OOO; John Deere Rus LLC; LANXESS LLC; Legrand Group; Mannheimer Swartling; M.Video; Man Truck & Bus RUS LLC; Mercedes-Benz Financial Services Rus OOO; Mercedes-Benz Russia; Norton Rose Fulbright (Central Europe) LLP; Novo Nordisk A/S; Oriflame; Pepeliaev Group, LLC; Philips LLC; Porsche Russland; PSA Peugeot Citroen; Raiffeisen Leasing; Repsol Exploration S.A.; RH PARTNERS; Risk Advisory Group Plc.; Rockwool; Roedl & Partner; Scania-Rus LLC; Schneider Electric; Siemens LLC; SOCIETE GENERALE Strakhovanie Zhizni LLC; Sollers PJSC; Thomson Reuters; Tinkoff Online Insurance, JSC; Total E&P Russia; United Technologies International Operations, Inc.; Urus Advisory Ltd.; Vaillant Group Rus LLC; Zetta Insurance Company Ltd.; Zurich Reliable Insurance, JSC.</p>	
<p>NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS</p>	<p>5</p>	
<p>AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED</p>	<p>AEB events</p>	<p>Date</p>
	<p>"Prevention of violations of the competition legislation notices from FAS Russia, corporate compliance system, release from liability"</p>	<p>6 July 2017</p>

AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	Meeting with Alexey Konov, Anti-Corruption Research and Education Center of the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration: "Managing conflicts of interest in the private sector"	28 November 2017
	AEB external events	
	VI Annual International Compliance ICA Conference "Compliance management systems: accordance confirming"	28 February 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

On 28 February 2017, Anton Subbot, Chairman of the AEB Compliance & Ethics Committee, Partner, Baker McKenzie, took part in the VI Annual International Compliance ICA Conference "Compliance management systems: accordance confirming". In 2017, the AEB was an informational partner of the Conference which aimed at discussing the unification of approaches of international organisations and government agencies to compliance regulation and supervision, and ranking the liability subject to presence or absence of compliance management systems. In the address, Anton Subbot presented the AEB Compliance & Ethics Committee, its goals, activities and plans.

On 29 May 2017, the AEB Compliance & Ethics and SHES Committees held a workshop: "Prevention of losses due to abuse, corruption and fraud schemes: resource support for the compliance departments and effective approaches to dealing with information resources".

On 6 July 2017, the AEB Compliance & Ethics Committee had its open event: "Prevention of violations of the competition legislation notices from FAS Russia, corporate compliance system, release from liability". The event aimed to bring together high-level officials from FAS Russia and business community representatives who would discuss various types of notices from FAS Russia to companies, compliance issues and ways to be released from liability by FAS Russia.

On 3 October 2017, the AEB Compliance & Ethics and Legal Committees held the joint open event "New US sanctions: risks and challenges for the European businesses". The event provided a platform for discussing the following topics: legal aspects of sanctions, legal consequences of US and EU sanctions for intellectual property transactions in Russia, impact on current business processes under sanctions. It was moderated by Mikhail Akim, Chairperson of the AEB Working Group on Modernisation & Innovations, Vice President ABB Russia.

On 28 November 2017, the AEB Compliance & Ethics had the open meeting with Alexey Konov, Anti-Corruption Research and Education Centre of the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration, entitled "Managing conflicts of interest in the private sector".

CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE

AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The AEB Construction Equipment Committee serves as a platform for foreign manufacturers of construction equipment to discuss common issues and opportunities and acts, where appropriate, as a representative of its member companies on common industry concerns. • The Committee works to promote safety, good business practice and sustainability.
CHAIRPERSON	Andrey Komov , Managing Director, Volvo Construction Equipment Russia & CIS, Volvo Vostok
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Atlas Copco; Caterpillar Eurasia; CNH Industrial (Russia) Commercial Operations; Doosan Infracore Co.; Hitachi Construction Machinery Eurasia Sales; Hyundai Heavy Industries, JCB; John Deere Agricultural Holdings; Komatsu CIS; Liebherr-Russland; Volvo Vostok.
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	9

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The Construction Equipment Committee (CEC) was established in February 2008 to unite and represent the interests of the CE industry players in Russia.

Retail sales statistics are considered as crucial data by all CE manufacturers. The AEB Construction Equipment Committee's statistics programme has proven its efficiency since its inception in 2008. Today, such companies as Bell Equipment, Caterpillar, Chetra, CNH, Doosan, Hitachi, Hyundai Heavy Industries, JCB, John Deere, Komatsu, Kraneks, Liebherr, RM-Terex, Volvo are highly satisfied with the results of the programme. The reports are available within the Russian Federation at both the federal and regional levels. It is also worth mentioning that the Committee also started reporting on Kazakhstan in January 2014.

Main issues discussed within the Committee in 2017:

Disposal Fee

Being environmentally responsible companies, AEB members, manufacturers of construction equipment are aware of their responsibility for collecting and processing of goods that have lost their consumer properties. The Committee members are not against the disposal fee but consider that the Government's Decree No. 81 "On the utilisation fee in respect of self-propelled machines and (or) trailers" was introduced with high disproportions. The draft Decree with the indexation of disposal fee by 15% was published. Most affected – backhoe loaders. Proposals of amendments were sent to Minpromtorg.

Localisation

The Committee took active part and worked with the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation to amend the Decree No. 719 "On approval of the criteria for classifying of industrial production to products which have no analogues produced in the territory of the Russian Federation, as well as the criteria for classifying industrial production to products produced in the territory of the Russian Federation". The work will be continued to allow optimal localisation

levels in business operations, which are subject to the efficiency of capital investment and market conditions. As part of it, a working group within the Federal Antimonopoly Service will be created to analyse D719.

The Committee cooperates with other national construction equipment industry associations. In 2009, the AEB CEC became a member of the Committee for European Construction Equipment (CECE) and participates annually in the CECE meetings. In April 2013, AEB CEC and KOCEMA (Korea Construction Equipment Association) signed the Memorandum of Understanding.

The Committee participated in the following industry events:

CTT powered by Bauma, Moscow	30 May-3 June 2017
CECE Summit, Brussels	11-12 October 2017

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY & BUILDING MATERIAL SUPPLIERS COMMITTEE

AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Platform for communication between the members of the Committee. • Representation of European companies for construction and building material suppliers in Russia (in private, governmental and non-governmental organisations). • Communication within and outside the committee on general and specific questions.
CHAIRPERSON	Vitaly Bogachenko , Corporate Affairs Director, SAINT-GOBAIN CIS
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON	Nikolay Troitsky , General Director, Wienerberger
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Ariston Thermo Rus; ARKEMA SA; BASF; Bayer JSC; Bekaert N.V., CRH; Dow Europe GmbH Representation office; DuPont Science and Technologies; Freudenberg Performance Materials Group; HeidelbergCement Rus; Henkel Rus OOO; Kerama Marazzi; Knauf Group CIS (OOO Knauf Gips); LafargeHolcim; Legrand Group; LINDNER; ROCA; Rockwool; Ruukki Construction; Saint-Gobain CIS; Siemens LLC; Uponor; Wienerberger; YIT.
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	9

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

AEB Construction Industry & Building Material Suppliers Committee represents, within the AEB, a variety of businesses with very heterogeneous industrial and commercial backgrounds and with a diversity of interests but with the Construction Materials as a common bound. This Committee was established in 2010 in the belief that there are many matters that need to be monitored and shared and initially it has been mostly addressed to producers of Building Materials.

In 2017, the Committee's efforts concentrated on building a common position on the following issues:

- acoustic comfort standards in residential and commercial buildings;
- technical standards and regulations;
- support for enterprises that collect and recycle used glass;
- energy efficiency in construction;
- product certification and counterfeited products;
- transparency and reliability of the information referred to construction materials;
- vocational education and training centers;
- criteria for classifying objects that have a negative impact on the environment;
- gas supply in Russia.

During 2017, the Construction Industry & Building Material Suppliers Committee held several joint events with the AEB Energy Efficiency Committee:

- Meeting with Vasily Osmakov, Russian Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade – 1 March 2017;
- Energy Efficiency Speed Dating – 24 March 2017;
- Briefing by Andrey Chibis, Russian Deputy Minister of Construction, Housing and Utilities – 25 May 2017.

Committee members strongly believe that a dialogue between the experts with different backgrounds on the one side, and the Government officials on the other side, could bring benefit to the Russian construction practice.

In 2017, the Heating Systems Manufacturers, the Working Group of the Committee continued to conduct its sales statistics.

CROP PROTECTION COMMITTEE

AIMS	To establish a consolidated position on key issues affecting the industry and to lobby for CPC interests by interacting with the Russian governmental authorities, public institutions and business associations.
CHAIRPERSON	Yves Picquet , Country Division Head CIS & Ukraine, Bayer
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON	Anton Basov , Crop Protection Country Leader, Russia, DuPont Science and Technologies
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	ADAMA; BASF; Bayer; DuPont Science and Technologies; Syngenta.
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	5

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

Input of international CPP companies into the Russian agriculture and CPC attempts to provide equal conditions for developing business in Russia

Cooperation with the Department of Agribusiness of the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) continues. A consolidated presentation "Innovative technologies for increasing of pesticide efficacy and safety" on behalf of the Crop Protection Committee was made by the Committee Chairperson Yves Picquet at the Round Table "Innovation technologies in crop production as a factor of increasing efficiency of agriculture of EAEU member states" organised by EEC Department of Agribusiness on 30 March 2017.

Meeting with the Head of the Department of Plant Growing, Mechanization, Chemicalization and Crop Protection of the Ministry of Agriculture P. Chekmarev was held on May 26 on the development and prospects of CPP industry in Russia. CPC presented its consolidated position on commitment to the Russian agriculture and long-terms plans of localisation CPP production.

CPP members participated with a consolidated position on the issues of innovative technologies brought by international companies to the Russian agricultural producers, providing fair competition on the CPP Russian market and localisation of CPP production at the Round Table "Import substitution in agro-technologies in conditions of competition with foreign producers" held in Krasnodar on 28 November 2017 in the framework of All-Russian Agricultural Exhibition YugAgro-2017.

Anti-counterfeit activities

CPP Committee representatives were included in the Expert Council under the State Commission on Combating Illegal Turnover of Industrial Products, which started working in June 2017.

CPC Anti-counterfeit Working Group members continue to participate in the International Anti-counterfeit Forum. In 2017, the Forum was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. A consolidated presentation "Combating counterfeit CPP as one of factors for ensuring food security" was made in the section "Food Security" on 14 September 2017.

Container Management Scheme

LLC ECOPOLE organised by AEB and the Russian Union of CPP manufacturers in 2016 to manage and to control properly organised process of CPP waste containers collection and recycling provided 930 tons of collected and recycled containers in the Central and Southern Federal Districts in 2017.

Two Memorandums were signed:

- Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between the AEB and the Federal State Budgetary Institution "Russian Agricultural Centre" at the 19 Russian Agricultural Exhibition "Golden Autumn" on 5 October 2017. It establishes a partnership aimed at ecological handling of pesticides and preventing counterfeit seeds and pesticides from entering the Russian market in order to ensure food safety and to protect the environment.
- The Memorandum of Cooperation between the AEB and the Association of Law Enforcement Officials and Special Services (ARPO) was signed at the press-conference dedicated to the results of the International Forum "Anti-counterfeit" on 5 December 2017. It aims to encourage the development of effective measures for excluding counterfeit products from Russia and the Eurasian Economic Union.

CUSTOMS & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To lobby on the concerns of member companies through dialogue with the Federal Customs Service and other governmental bodies of the Russian Federation and to promote the application of industry standards in accordance with the best international business practices and trade facilitation principles. • To provide AEB members with quality information on developments in customs regulations and facilitate focused business networking. 	
CHAIRPERSON	Dmitry Cheltsov , General Delegate, IRU Permanent Delegation to Eurasia	
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSONS	Wilhelmina Shavshina , Legal and Business Development Director, Head of International Trade Practice, PhD, DLA Piper; Sergei Gusev , Customs Manager & Technical Regulation Advisor, Electrolux	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Arivist; Arkema; Atlas Copco; BLG Logistics Solutions; BAT; Bayer; Bonduelle; BSH Bytowyje Pribory; Cargill; CMS; Danone Russia; Delphi Samara JV; Deloitte; Dentons; DHL Express; DHL Global Forwarding; DLA Piper; DPD in Russia; DuPont; EY; Electrolux; GE; Gide Loyrette Nouel; GOLTSBLAT BLP; Groupe SEB Vostok; FordSollers; Ferrero; FM Logistic; Harley Davidson; IKEA; IRU; Itella; Jaguar Land Rover; JURALINK; JTI; JETRO; Knauf International; KPMG; Lamberti; Leroy Merlin; MAN; LIEBHERR-RUSSLAND; Michelin; Nawinia; Nestle; Nike; Nissan Manufacturing RUS; Noerr; OBI; Pepeliaev Group; PwC; Parkline Logistics; PSA Group; Philips; Philip Morris; Profile-Euro; Renault Russia; Roca; Saint-Gobain; Scania; Schneider Electric; Shell; Siemens; TNT; Toyota; TABLOGIX; VOLKSWAGEN Group Rus; Volvo Vostok NAO; UPS GF; Whirlpool RUS; Zentis.	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	11	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	Meeting with V.I. Bulavin, Head of the Federal Customs Service of Russia	2 February 2017
	Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) and AEB Delegations' Visit to DHL Hub in Leipzig, Germany. EEC delegation was headed by Mukai Asanovich Kadyrkulov, Member of the Board – Minister for Customs Cooperation, Eurasian Economic Commission	21 February 2017
	The AEB XIII Annual Customs Conference supported by the Federal Customs Service of Russia	16 March 2017
	The VIII Northern Dimension Forum "Transport and Logistics Round Table 'New technologies in transport and logistics'"	6 April 2017

AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	Joint event between Lithuanian transport, logistics and stevedore companies and experts of the AEB Customs & Transport Committee	16 April 2017
	Round table with representatives of the Federal Customs Service on risk management system	22 June 2017
	Briefing by M.A. Kadyrkulov, Member of the Board, Minister for Customs Cooperation, Eurasian Economic Commission	4 July 2017
	AEB Day in St. Petersburg Joint meeting of the AEB Customs & Transport Committee, Subcommittee on Customs, Transport and Logistics of the AEB North-Western Regional Committee with representatives of the North-Western Customs Directorate	11 October 2017
	Presentation by Andreas Matthä, CEO of the ÖBB Holding AG (Austrian Federal Railways)	16 November 2017
	AEB Customs & Transport Committee meeting with the customs attachés of the European Union member states	24 November 2017
	AEB external events	
	Federal Customs Service open meeting with participation of the AEB Customs & Transport Committee experts concerning the specifics on importing goods during Confederation Cup 2017 and FIFA 2018	7 March 2017
	RSPP Customs Conference	14 March 2017
	Sitan of Ombudsman on customs issues	21 March 2017
	Intergovernmental meetings of the EAEU state members concerning amendments to the EAEU Customs Code related to the authorized economic operator regulation	29 March 2017
	Expert-Advisory Council of the Federal Customs Service (on a quarterly basis)	31 March 2017 31 June 2017 29 September 2017 18 December 2017
	Federal Customs Service public consultations headed by M.A. Abyzov, Minister of Open Government; V.I. Bulavin, Head of the Federal Customs Service, R.V. Davydov, First Deputy Head of the Federal Customs Service	31 May 2017 30 August 2017

AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	Round tables discussions on the improvement and optimisation of the Russian customs legislation and administration with participation of the big four business associations, Public Council of the Federal Customs Service, headed by A.A. Mor-dashov, Severstal	20 June 2017 31 August 2017 22 September 2017 25 October 2017 27 November 2017 20 December 2017
	Eurasian Economic Commission business dialogue	23 March 2017 29 June 2017 22 September 2017 7 December 2017
	Joint meeting with RSPP regarding the amend-ments to the draft law on customs regulation	19 May 2017
	Intergovernmental meetings of the EAEU state members concerning amendments to the EAEU Customs Code related to goods declaration procedure	8-9 June 2017
	Intergovernmental meetings of the EAEU state members concerning amendments to the EAEU Customs Code related to the goods release prior to declaration submission	10-11 August 2017
	Series of Meetings with the Ministry of Finance, Federal Customs Service on the draft Federal Law on Customs Regulation	September 2017
	XVIII International Customs Exhibition	25-26 October 2017
	Kommersant Customs Forum	3 November 2017
	Meeting with the Ministry of Economic Develop-ment concerning the CTC amendments to the draft law on freight forwarding operations	30 November 2017
	IV Eurasian Economic Congress	6 December 2017
	EEC Meetings with business associations on the EEC decisions on Customs Declaration of Goods	8-9 December 2017
	Press Conference of R.V. Davydov, First Deputy Head of the Federal Customs Service	19 December 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

Experts at the Customs & Transport Committee analyse existing documents which regulate customs and transport activities on an ongoing basis, as well as drafts of new regulatory documents. Based on the analysis, the Committee develops risk management recommendations for businesses and prepares proposals for amending existing laws, as well as amendments to drafts of regulatory documents. The Committee acts as an intermediary in a constructive dialogue between the regulatory bodies and the business community on issues related to customs and transport in order to increase the effectiveness of government control in the aforementioned spheres and to improve the business environment.

On 2 February 2017, Frank Schauff, AEB CEO, and Dmitry Cheltsov, AEB Customs & Transport Committee Chairperson, met with Vladimir Bulavin, Head of the Federal Customs Service, Ruslan Davydov, Deputy Head of Federal Customs Service. It should be mentioned that the AEB was the first business organisation with which Mr. Bulavin was met as a newly appointed Head of the FCS of Russia.

As a follow-up of the meeting, Dmitry Cheltsov, AEB CTC Chairperson, was officially included to the Expert Advisory Council on customs regulation and customs policy of the Federal Customs Service by the order of Mr. Bulavin, Head of the Federal Customs Service.

On 20-22 February 2017, a joint delegation of the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) and the Association of European Businesses headed by Mukai Kadyrkulov, Minister for Customs Cooperation, EEC, and Frank Schauff, AEB CEO, held a Business Mission to Germany to learn express shipments operational processes and latest technologies and have better understanding of logistics and transport procedures, as well as regulations and customs processing simplifications for express-carriers in Germany.

On 16 March 2017, the AEB Customs & Transport Committee held its XIII Annual Customs Conference.

On 19 April 2017, the AEB Transport & Customs Committee by the initiative of the Lithuanian Embassy held a joint event between Lithuanian transport, logistics and stevedore companies and the experts of the AEB Committee which was aimed to share the best practices on foreign trade activities in general, including customs regulation, customs transit and international transportation in Russia.

On 31 May 2017, the AEB Customs & Transport Committee experts took part in the public discussion of the results of the law enforcement practice of the Federal Customs Service of Russia for the first quarter of 2017, which was held as part of the activities of the priority programme "Reform of Control and Supervisory Activities in the FCS of Russia". Vladimir Bulavin, Head of the FCS of Russia, opened this public discussion, which was organised at the federal level for the first time.

On 22 June 2017, the AEB CTC organised a round table with participation of the official representatives of the Analytic Department, Federal Customs Service to discuss the most important issues of the AEB member companies related to the risk management system, customs value and FCS rating system of foreign trade participants.

On 4 July 2017, Mukai Kadyrkulov, Minister for Customs Cooperation, EEC, had a briefing organised by the AEB CTC.

On 11 October 2017, as part of the event AEB Day in St. Petersburg, a joint meeting of the AEB federal and regional committees on transport and customs was held at the Corinthia Hotel St. Petersburg.

On 25-26 October 2017, Dmitry Cheltsov, AEB CTC Chairperson, IRU, Wilhelmina Shavshina, AEB CTC Co-Chairperson, DLA Piper, and AEB CTC members took part at the XVIII International Customs Exhibition and the largest Customs Forum on the Eurasian space.

On 16 November 2017, the AEB CTC organised a presentation by Andreas Matthä, CEO of ÖBB-Holding AG (Austrian Federal Railways).

On 24 November 2017, the AEB CTC experts met with the customs attachés of the European Union member states, which was organised by the Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania.

ENERGY COMMITTEE

AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support EU-Russia cooperation in the energy sector, in particular, through the activities undertaken by the EU-Russia Energy Dialogue and the EU-Russia Industrialists' Round Table. • To provide a forum for AEB companies involved in the Russian energy sector to discuss and address matters of common interest. • To maintain relations with the parties directly involved in the Russian energy sector. 	
CHAIRPERSON	Igor Ignatiev , Deputy Country Chair of Shell in Russia, Shell Exploration & Production Services (RF) B.V.	
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON	Dmitry Ermilichev , Director for Public and Governmental Relations, Unipro	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	BP Russia; Chevron Neftegaz Inc.; Electricite de France; Enel Russia; Eni S.p.A; ENGIE; Fortum; Gasunie; MOL Plc; OMV; Repsol Exploracion S.A.; Statoil ASA Russia; Shell E&P Services (RF) B.V.; Total E&P Russie; Uniper Global Commodities SE; Unipro; VNG - Verbundnetz Gas AG.	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	10 The CEOs also held their traditional breakfasts on 3 March 2017 (speaker K.von Oldenburg, VNG); 30 June 2017 (speaker E. Waerness, Statoil).	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED (participation in open sessions was exclusively on invitations)	AEB events	Date
	Meeting with P. Zavalny, Chairman of the Russian State Duma Energy Committee	7 March 2017
	"Perspectives of Energy Cooperation with Russia in Light of the New American Administration Policy" by M. Krutikhin, RusEnergy	31 March 2017
	"The Presidential Elections in France – Current State and Further", by Ph. Pegorier, Member of the AEB Board, President, Alstom Russia	26 May 2017
	"CAATSA: Developments in the US Sanctions Regime Imposed Against Russia", by V. Efimov, Partner, Baker McKenzie	27 October 2017
	AEB external events	
	Russian Energy Week, Panel Discussion "Cooperation Between Russia and Europe: the Path to a Global Rise in Energy Efficiency"	4 October 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The AEB Energy Committee stands as an interface on business opportunities and issues of concern to European energy companies operating in the Russian Federation. Therefore, the Committee sustains and develops its links to relevant state authorities in Russia, such as the Russian State Duma, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Economic Development. The Committee also acts as an interface between the European energy business and Russian companies, such as Gazprom and others.

The AEB Energy Committee sustains its traditional cooperation with bilateral and multilateral entities in Russia, such as the International Business Congress (IBC), Petroleum Advisory Forum (PAF), Foreign Investment Advisory Council (FIAC), promoting active interaction on business-to-business and business-to-government levels. The AEB Energy Committee supports the AEB's position as an official partner of the annual Russian Petroleum and Gas Congress (RPGC) in Moscow and other events supported by the AEB through participation in its Programme Committee, delegating its members as chairmen and speakers to RPGC. The Committee's activities are focused on energy policy strategic issues, investment climate, energy market conditions, and environmental protection issues, including global climate changes.

This year was marked by intense developing and enhancing of the working relations with the Russian State Duma Energy Committee started by the meeting with its Chairman, P. Zavalny. During the year the Committee members were regularly invited to the hearings and Round Tables organised by the State Duma Energy Committee.

One of the important sources of information and influence tools for the Committee is its regular Position Paper, which is a highly professional status document reflecting the views and approaches of the European companies towards the obstacles to making business in Russia and proposing real solutions. The Position Paper is widely distributed among petroleum and energy sector stakeholders both in Russia and abroad, including the EU headquarters in Brussels.

The Committee advocates that EU-Russia relations on energy matters should be based on stability in strategic perspective, mutual advantage and delivery of commitments. Such relations must include a balanced and transparent approach to the security and diversity of energy supply and demand, commercial attractiveness and reciprocity.

Committee members participated in several major events:

International Investment Forum in Sochi	(February 2017)
RSPP Business week in Moscow	(March 2017)
Krasnoyarsk Economic Forum	(April 2017)
St. Petersburg International Economic Forum	(June 2017)
Innoprom Industrial Exhibition and Forum in Ekaterinburg	(July 2017)
Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok	(September 2017)
St. Petersburg International Gas Forum	(October 2017)
FIAC annual plenary session chaired by PM Medvedev	(October 2017)
VTB Investment Forum "Russia Calling" in Moscow	(October 2017)
Open Innovations Forum in Moscow	(October 2017)
Russian Energy Week, Moscow	(October 2017)

(which was one of the major events of this year. The panel session "Cooperation between Russia and Europe: the path to a global rise in energy efficiency" organised by the AEB was moderated by J. de Boissesson (Total), one of the speakers was T. Kydland (Statoil Russia)).

ENERGY EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE

AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase energy efficiency (EE) business opportunities for AEB members, thereby contributing to sustainable EE development in Russia. • To formulate and promote the AEB position on EE in Russia. • To inform and educate AEB members about EE developments in Russia. 	
CHAIRPERSON	Bashir Chalabi , Head of Regulatory Affairs, PBN Hill+Knowlton Strategies	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	ABB; AERECO; Baker McKenzie; BASF; Bayer; BP; BSH Group; CMS Russia; Deloitte; ECOTEAM; Electricite de France; ENGIE; Ernst & Young (CIS) B.V.; ESYLUX GmbH; Gasunie; GE; IKEA; Legrand; Lighthouse Group; Noerr; PBN Hill+Knowlton Strategies; Saint-Gobain; Schneider Electric; Siemens; Statoil ASA Russia; Tebodin; Total E&P Russia; Unipro; Uponor; Vitus Bering Management Ltd.	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	4	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	III Speed Dating, jointly with the AEB Construction Industry & Building Materials Suppliers Committee	24 March 2017
	Briefing by A.V. Chibis, Deputy Minister of Construction, Housing and Utilities of the Russian Federation, jointly with the AEB Construction Industry & Building Materials Suppliers Committee	25 May 2017
	"Green Finance for Energy Efficiency: Opportunities in Russia"	22 June 2017
	AEB external events	
	Russian Energy Week, Panel Discussion "Cooperation between Russia and Europe: the Path to a Global Rise in Energy Efficiency"	4 October 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

In 2017, the Energy Efficiency Committee was focusing on four major work directions outlined in its annual Position Paper: coordination in the EE sphere; communication and PR on EE; technology transfer challenges; EE potential general assessment.

To keep the members informed of the recent developments in the field, the Committee hosted and co-hosted a series of policy briefings by the representatives of government bodies, incl. the following:

- Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade V. Osmakov;
- Deputy Minister of Construction, Housing and Utilities A. Chibis;
- Head of Section at the Ministry of Economic Development M. Nikitina.

The third "edition" of Speed Dating was presented to the AEB members which allowed the AEB members companies within a 10-minutes format to get acquainted with the solutions and ways to solve their Energy Efficiency burden and be connected to the leading Russia operating western companies on Energy Efficiency from ESCO (financing) and project management to material and building suppliers.

The Committee was also closely cooperating with the Energy Ministry in organisation of panel discussion "Cooperation between Russia and Europe: the Path to a Global Rise in Energy Efficiency" at the Russian Energy Week. Speakers of the panel, representing the Committee, included A. Conan, Legrand; M. Gutbord, Baker McKenzie; B. Chalabi, PBN Hill & Knowlton Strategies.

The Committee's speakers were featured at some of the top energy efficiency-related events, including:

- the State Duma hearings "Legal support of the state policy in the energy saving and enhancing of energy efficiency";
- TASS press conference on energy efficient lighting solutions;
- "Green Energy & Waste Recycling" Forum (Astana EXPO-supported event).

FINANCE & INVESTMENTS COMMITTEE

<p>AIMS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assist in and contribute to the ongoing improvement of Russia’s investment climate by integrating information and discussions related to critical finance issues of prime importance for foreign companies working in Russia. • To serve as a forum for discussion and lobbying, as well as a platform for the exchange of information and ideas concerning finance and investments issues.
<p>CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Stuart Lawson, Senior Advisor, EY</p>
<p>AEB MEMBER COMPANIES</p>	<p>ABB; ALD Automotive LLC; ALRUD Law Firm; American Express Bank; American Institute of Business and Economics; Antal; Arval; Auto Partners; Baker Botts L.L.P.; BEITEN BURKHARDT Moscow; BUREAU VERITAS RUS JSC; Caterpillar Eurasia LLC; Chadbourne & Parke LLP; Citibank AO; Cornerstone LLC; Credendo – Ingosstrakh Credit Insurance LLC; De Lage Landen Leasing; Debevoise and Plimpton LLP; Deloitte CIS; Dentons; Drees & Sommer Project Management and Building Technologies; Egorov Puginsky Afanasiev & Partners (EPAM); Euler Hermes; European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD); Eversheds Sutherland; Experian; EY; FCA Russia AO; Gerald Sakuler (individual member); HeidelbergCement Rus; Hino Motors Sales, LLC; HOGAN LOVELLS (CIS); HSBC Bank (RR) OOO; IBFS Europe GmbH; IKB Leasing AO; Inchcape Holding LLC; ING Wholesale Banking in Russia; Intermark Auto; INVESTMENT COMPANY IC RUSS-INVEST; John Deere Rus, LLC; Knauf Group CIS (OOO Knauf Gips); KPMG AO; LeasePlan Rus; LegaLife Law Firm; Legrand Group; LEROY MERLIN Russia; Liniya Prava Law Firm; MAI Insurance Brokers; MAN Truck & Bus RUS LLC; Mannheimer Swartling Ryssland Advokataktiebolag; Mazars; Mercedes-Benz Financial Services Rus OOO / Mercedes-Benz Bank Rus OOO / Mercedes-Benz Capital Rus OO; Mercedes-Benz Russia; Messe Frankfurt Rus Ltd.; Mitsubishi Corporation (Russia) LLC; MosFirst LLC; Most Service; Natixis Bank JSC; NOBLE HOUSE Group Russia; Noerr OOO; Norton Rose Fulbright (Central Europe) LLP; OTP Bank JSC; Pepeliaev Group, LLC; PSA Group (Peugeot Citroën Rus); PwC; Raiffeisen-Leasing; Raiffeisenbank AO; RH PARTNERS; Rödl & Partner; Rosbank; Rosbank Leasing; Sanofi Russia; Scania-Rus LLC; Schneider Electric; SCHNEIDER GROUP; Solvay S.A.; Sponda Russia; SSI SCHÄFER; TMF Group; UniCredit Bank AO; Urus Advisory Ltd.; Vaillant Group Rus LLC; VEGAS LEX Advocate Bureau; Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.; VISA; Volkswagen Group Finanz LLC; Volvo Cars LLC; Volvo Vostok NAO; WELBI; YIT; ZURICH RELIABLE INSURANCE, JSC.</p>
<p>NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS</p>	<p>7</p>

AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	Open event "Promises and pitfalls of the year ahead"	31 January 2017
	Presentation of the report of the World Bank "Systematic country diagnostic for the Russian Federation: pathways to inclusive growth"	7 March 2017
	Presentation of the results of the AEB annual survey "Strategies and prospects for European companies in Russia" in Moscow	23 May 2017
	Open event "Localisation opportunities for European companies"	9 June 2017
	Briefing by B.Y. Titov, Presidential Commissioner for Entrepreneurs' Rights	5 December 2017
	AEB external events	
	Session "Economic development in Russia in 2017 and potential of non-resource exports: perspectives and supporting mechanisms" at the VIII Northern Dimension Forum	6 April 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

One of the Committee's key projects in 2017 was the tenth annual survey "Strategies and prospects for European companies in Russia". The survey has become a highly valuable source of first-hand information that provides an overview of the investment potential and opportunities in Russia and highlights the key challenges faced by AEB member companies, and the strategies adopted while doing business in Russia. The results of the survey were announced on the eve of the St. Petersburg Economic Forum: the official presentation was held on 23 May 2017 in Moscow and on 31 May 2017 in St. Petersburg. The survey and its results were well cited in the media.

Another important initiative was revitalization of the AEB "How to invest in Russia" guide after a three-year break (with the latest edition being in 2014). The publication was released on 30 November 2017 and provides updates on investment climate, tax and legal aspects, outsourcing and localisation as well as gives an inside look at investing in Russia from the companies' perspective. In addition, it features the article by the Federal Antimonopoly Service of Russia and the foreword by Maxim Oreshkin, Minister of Economic Development of Russia.

Among other key activities were the event on economy and sanctions "Promises and pitfalls of the year ahead" (31 January 2017), the presentation of the report of the World Bank "Systematic country diagnostic for the Russian Federation: pathways to inclusive growth" (7 March 2017) and the briefing by Boris Titov, Presidential Commissioner for Entrepreneurs' Rights (5 December 2017). Communication with the Office of the Presidential Commissioner for Entrepreneurs' Rights was also continued in the framework of preparation of the Annual Ombudsman report to the Russian President.

The Committee conducted a series of activities devoted to localisation issues: on 9 June 2017 the event "Localisation opportunities for European companies" was organised with participation of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Industrial Development Fund and representatives of two regions (Moscow city and Tula region); on 6 July 2017 the Committee held an open meeting on localisation with participation of all interested Committees. Furthermore, the Committee continued exchanging information with the Industrial Development Fund regarding Special Investments Contracts (SPICs) and other issues on a regular basis.

In addition to the Committee events, Stuart Lawson, Finance & Investments Committee Chairman, participated as a panellist at the session "Economic development in Russia 2017 and potential of non-resource exports: perspectives and supporting mechanisms" at the VIII Northern Dimension Forum (6 April 2017) and as a co-moderator in the briefing by Gabriel Di Bella, Resident Representative of the International Monetary Fund in the Russian Federation, "Russia: In Search of a New Growth Model" (9 November 2017).

To cover leasing issues, within the Finance & Investments Committee there is the Leasing Subcommittee chaired by Sergey Ivanov, General Director, IKB Leasing AO.

In 2017, the AEB Leasing Subcommittee discussed and worked on a number of issues related to the leasing industry. The key topics included reforming public-legal regulation of the leasing industry and creating SRO in the leasing industry, IFRS-16, etc. Furthermore, the Leasing Subcommittee started to discuss full-service automotive leasing issues within a special section (road fines; resident parking permit; enforcement proceedings and interaction with bailiffs; standards and developments in the market).

FOOD PROCESSING COMMITTEE

AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To bring together and represent the common interests of its members – food processing and ingredients’ producing companies. • To contribute to improvement of regulatory framework of the food processing industry through governmental liaison and lobbying activities. • To promote international healthy nutrition standards.
CHAIRPERSON	Marina Balabanova , Regional VP Corporate Affairs CIS, Danone
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Bonduelle; Cargill; Danone; DSM; DuPont Science & Technologies; Ferrero Russia; Herbalife Nutrition; Hortex; Nestle Rossiya; Podravka; SAF-Neva; Zeelandia; Zentis Russland.
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	5

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

In 2017, the Committee’s activities were focused on delivering the industrial position to the relevant authorities on the following issues:

- introduction of mandatory electronic veterinary certification;
- healthy lifestyle promoting policies of the Russian Ministry of Healthcare;
- regulation of food safety;
- regulation of organic food production.

In cooperation with other AEB Committees and Working Groups, the Food Processing Committee commented on governmental track & trace initiatives including labeling by control and identification marks (KIZ).

The Committee took an active part in developing the AEB concept of food market council together with the Retail Trade Committee. The Concept is aimed at intensifying self-regulation processes in the Russian consumer market. The concept was presented to the Federal Antimonopoly Service at the AEB-FAS meeting on 19 December 2017.

HEALTH & PHARMACEUTICALS COMMITTEE

AIMS	To consolidate, coordinate and protect interests of AEB member companies working in the health and pharmaceutical industry.	
CHAIRPERSON	Yury Litvishchenko , General Manager, Chiesi Pharmeceuticals LLC	
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON	Ivan Glushkov , Deputy General Director, STADA	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Angelini Pharma Rus; Astellas Pharma ZAO; Astra Zeneca Pharmaceuticals LLC; Bayer ZAO; Binder; Bionorica OOO; Boehringer Ingelheim; Chiesi Pharmaceuticals LLC; DSM Group; DuPont Science and Technologies; EGIS Pharmaceuticals PLC; Esparma GmbH; Fidia Pharma Russia; GSK; Merck LLC; Novartis Group Russia; Novo Nordisk A/S; Orion Pharma LLC; Philips LLC; Sanofi Russia; SCA HYGIENE PRODUCTS RUSSIA LLC; SERVIER; Stada CIS; Takeda Pharmaceutical.	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	10	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	Round Table "Problems of drugs provision. Accessibility of innovative drugs", VIII Northern Dimension Forum	6 April 2017
	Press conference to present the Code of Good Practice in the Pharmaceutical Industry	19 April 2016
	AEB external events	
	Yury Litvishchenko, Committee Chairman, took part in the Business breakfast with the leaders of the pharmaceutical industry: "Pharmaceutical industry – course for stabilisation"	21 February 2017
	Participation of Yury Litvishchenko, Committee Chairman, in the annual Forum: "Pharma 2017: Innovations, Investments, Forecasts"	26 October 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

In 2017, the following issues were on the radar of the Committee's activities: essential drugs pricing regulation, localisation, protection of intellectual property rights, introduction of track and trace system, OTC medicines advertising, distant selling.

Essential drugs pricing

In March 2017, the Committee held a meeting on price methodology used by FAS with Timopheyy Nizhegorodtsev, Head of the Department of social sphere and trade.

OTC medicines advertising

In June 2017, the Committee held a meeting with Andrey Kashevarov, Deputy Head of the Federal Antimonopoly Service, aimed at discussion of FAS position on medicines advertising issues. This led to establishing a dialogue between FAS and AEB Health & Pharmaceuticals Committee in order to adopt the self-regulating measures regarding advertising. The Committee engaged other pharmaceutical associations representing more than 100 major Russian and international pharmaceutical companies and initiated development of self-regulation mechanisms.

In line with the decision to adopt the self-regulating measures the Committee held in October 2017 a meeting with Sergey Vasiliev, General Director of the National Advertising Alliance, in order to enlist the support of the media industry.

General analysis of the recent FAS practice and recommendations based on this practice were developed and presented to the Federal Antimonopoly Service. The Committee in cooperation with other pharmaceutical associations agreed with FAS to consider self-regulation rules and develop a document that will be accepted by the industry and the regulatory body.

Introduction of track and trace system

In September 2017, the Committee addressed the Government and the State Duma of the Russian Federation with a request to postpone the mandatory serialization and aggregation deadlines.

In October 2017, Committee Chairman Yury Litvishchenko met with Mikhail Murashko, Head of the Federal Service for Surveillance in Healthcare (Roszdravnadzor), and discussed AEB proposals.

In November-December 2017, Committee Chairman Yury Litvishchenko and Deputy Chairman Ivan Glushkov took part in a number of meetings organised by the State Duma Healthcare Committee in order to discuss the deadlines for mandatory implementation of track and trace system.

In December 2017, the Committee held a meeting with the Federal Customs Service on the practical issues of implementation of medicines serialization and aggregation in Russia.

In November 2017, Committee Deputy Chairman Ivan Glushkov participated in the meeting with EU Delegation and Director for trade relations with Russia, ENP and CIS countries Ignacio Garcia Bercero, and discussed the topics of GMP certification and localisation.

HOME APPLIANCES MANUFACTURERS COMMITTEE

AIMS	Improvement of business environment for European companies in Russia.	
CHAIRPERSON	Bülent Ayar , BSH Bytowije Pribory	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Ariston Thermo Rus; BEKO; Brother; BSH Bytowije Pribory; Delonghi; Electrolux; Liebherr; Mitsubishi Electric; Philips; Procter & Gamble; Groupe SEB-Vostok; Whirlpool.	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	7	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB external events	Date
	Participation in the 2nd WEEE Solutions Congress (AEB speakers: R. Kokarev, AEB COO; A. Soldatov, Technical Regulation Manager, BSH Bytowije Pribory)	30 March 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

In 2017, the AEB Home Appliances Manufacturers Committee among others focused on the issues, mentioned by the members as the most important – energy efficiency labelling, technical regulations, waste management, market surveillance, restriction of hazardous substances regulations, test management and independent product testing.

In 2017, the Committee held 2 experts meetings, 4 CEOs meetings and a meeting with Paolo Falcioni, Director General of CECEC (European Committee of Domestic Equipment Manufacturers). Committee representatives participated in the 6th international ENES Forum and spoke at the 2nd WEEE Solutions Congress.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

<p>AIMS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing Russia’s HR market. • Lobbying for the members’ interests with all necessary governmental and legislative bodies. • Keeping business circles and government institutions in Russia aware of the current state of affairs in this sphere. • Developing solutions to the HR-related issues faced by foreign companies. • Promoting the exchange of experiences between foreign and Russian HR specialists. • Assisting AEB members in expanding their network and helping companies adapt, in general, to the Russian business environment.
<p>CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Michael Germershausen, Managing Director, Antal Russia</p>
<p>DEPUTY CHAIRPERSONS</p>	<p>Tatiana Baskina, Deputy Director General, Professional Community Affairs, ANCOR (Chairperson of the AEB Recruitment Subcommittee); Irina Zarina, Managing Director, CEB SHL Russia & CIS (Chairperson of the AEB Assessment, Training and Development Subcommittee); Evgeny Reyzman, Counsel, Baker McKenzie (Chairperson of the AEB Labour Law Subcommittee); Julia Borozdna, Partner, Pepeliaev Group (Deputy Chairperson of the AEB Labour Law Subcommittee); David Gilmartin, General Manager, Troika Relocations (Chairman of the AEB Relocation Subcommittee)</p>
<p>AEB MEMBER COMPANIES</p>	<p>AB Services; ABB; ABBYY LS; Accenture; AIG Insurance Company, CJSC; Allianz IC OJSC; ALRUD Law Firm; Alstom Russia Ltd; AMADEUS IT GROUP; American Institute of Business and Economics; ANCOR; Antal Russia; AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LLC; Atlas Copco, CJSC; Avon Beauty Products Company, LLC; Awara Law; Baker McKenzie; Bayer ZAO; BearingPoint OOO; BEITEN BURKHARDT Moscow; Benteler Automotive LLC; BMW Group Russia; BNP Paribas; Boehringer Ingelheim; Bonduelle-Kuban LLC; BP; British American Tobacco Russia; Brunel CR B.V. (Brunel Energy Russia); CEB SHL Russia & CIS (Business Psychologists Ltd.); Cargill LLC; CBSD/Thunderbird Russia; CHEP RUS LLC; Chevron Neftegaz Inc. – Moscow; Citibank ZAO; CMS Russia; Coleman Services UK; Cornerstone LLC; Corporate Health LLC; Deloitte; DeLonghi; Dentons; Deutsche Bank Ltd., DuPont Science and Technologies; Electricite de France (EDF Russie); E.ON SE; ECOTEAM LLC; Ericsson; European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD); Euler Hermes; Excelion Partners International Limited; EY; Ferrero Russia, CJSC; Ferronordic Machines; Foodcard; Four Seasons Hotel Moscow; Gide Loyrette Nouel; Greco JLT. Insurance Brokers JSC; GfK Rus; Henkel Rus, OOO; HSBC Bank (RR) OOO; Human Search, ZAO; IKEA; ING Commercial Banking; Intermark Relocation; IWM, John Deere Rus, LLC; JTI Marketing & Sales; Jungheinrich Lift Truck; Knauf Group CIS; OOO Knauf Gips; KPMG; Legrand Group; LEROY MERLIN Russia; L'Oreal; Lieu Commun Agency; MAI Insurance Brokers; ManpowerGroup; Marriott; Mazars; Mazda Motor Rus OOO; Mercedes-Benz Russia; Michelin; Mitsubishi Corporation (Russia) LLC;</p>

AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Morgan Lewis; Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO; Move One INC; Nestle Rossiya LLC; Nissan Manufacturing RUS; NOBLE HOUSE Group Russia; Noerr OOO; Nordea Bank; Norton Rose Fulbright (Central Europe) LLP; Novo Nordisk A/S; OBI Russia; Orange Business Services; Oriflame; Orion Pharma LLC; Pepeliaev Group, LLC; Performance Partners; Philips LLC; PSA Group (Peugeot Citroën Rus); PwC; Raiffeisen Pension Fund; Raytheon; Renault Russia; Renaissance Moscow Monarch Centre Hotel; Repsol Exploracion S.A.; RH PARTNERS; Richemont; Rockwool; Robert Bosch OOO; Rödl & Partner; SAFMAR NPF AO; Sandvik LLC; Sanofi Russia; Santa Fe Relocation Services; Schneider Electric; SCHNEIDER GROUP; Sergey Frank International; Siemens LLC; Soglasie Insurance Company LLC; Shell Exploration and Production Services (RF) B.V.; Siemens LLC; Specta AG; Statoil ASA; Syngenta OOO; ThyssenKrupp AG Representative Office RF; TMF Group; Total E&P Russie; Toyota Motor OOO; Troika Relocations; TSAR VOYAGES; UBS Bank; Vaillant Group Rus LLC; Visa Delight; Vitus Bering Management Ltd., VOLKSWAGEN Group Rus OOO; Volvo Cars LLC; YOKOHAMA RUSSIA LLC.	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	6	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	14th AEB HR Conference "Effective HR: to a Brighter Future"	14 March 2017
	AEB Open Event "Learning by Doing: Real Life Cases"	20 June 2017
	AEB Open Event "Employer Branding in the Hospitality Industry" (jointly organised with the AEB Hotels & Tourism Working Group)	15 November 2017
	AEB Open Event "Structuring of the Foreign Employees' Remuneration System: Migration, Labour and Taxation Aspects" (jointly organised with the AEB Migration Committee and the AEB Taxation Committee)	22 November 2017
	AEB Open Event "Developing Internal Communications in a Company" (jointly organised with the AEB PR & Communications Committee)	4 December 2017
	AEB external events	
	Meeting of the AEB HR Committee with the State Labour Inspection in the city of Moscow (organised by the Labour Law Subcommittee)	14 April 2017
	Meeting of the AEB HR Committee with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Russia, Department for payroll, labour relations and social partnership (organised by the Labour Law Subcommittee)	16 May 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The Human Resources (HR) Committee was established in 1995. At the present, there are five Subcommittees: Assessment, Training & Development Subcommittee, Compensation & Benefits Subcommittee, Labour Law Subcommittee, Recruitment Subcommittee, and Relocation Subcommittee.

The Committee as a whole is committed to: developing Russia's HR market; lobbying for the members' interests with all necessary governmental and legislative bodies; keeping business circles and government institutions in Russia aware of the current state of affairs in this sphere; developing solutions to the HR-related issues faced by foreign companies; promoting the exchange of experiences between foreign and Russian HR specialists; assisting AEB members in expanding their network and helping companies adapt, in general, to the Russian business environment.

The Committee keeps abreast of changes in the Russian labour market, including those influenced by the global economic situation, demographic trends, as well as amendments and additions to the country's legislation. Furthermore, the Committee works hard to contribute to the establishment and further application of the best international HR practices and standards in Russia.

On 14 March 2017, the AEB HR Committee held its 14th Annual HR Conference "Effective HR: to a Brighter Future". The programme of the conference was focused on the practices applied by leading companies in the following sectors: compensations & benefits, recruitment, assessment, training & development, and labour law. The discussion in parallel sessions was focused on the following topics: "Management of HR operational costs: keeping pace with the times" (session prepared by the AEB Compensation & Benefits Subcommittee), "Robots are on the march" (session prepared by the AEB Recruitment Subcommittee), "Adult learning and creating educational environment" (session prepared by the Assessment, Training & Development Subcommittee), "The dangers we avoided in 2016 and hopes for 2017". The CEO panel discussion entitled "The relation between CEO and HR – a challenge or an opportunity?" was a special session, opening the conference. The panelists shared with the audience their vision on management and the decision-making process in current market conditions.

On 14 April 2017, the AEB HR Committee organised a meeting with the State Labour Inspection in the City of Moscow. At the meeting, the following issues of the AEB member companies' concern were addressed to the authority's representatives: policy and practice applied by the State Labour Inspection in the City of Moscow with regard to planned and unscheduled inspections of legal entities and individual entrepreneurs during 2017 in line with the implementation of the Federal law No. 116; policy implemented with regard to the legislation on professional standards and the criteria for its mandatory application in practice; main reasons taken into account toward recruiting agencies and their accreditation suspension and license revocation in 2017; position of the State Labour Inspection in the City of Moscow on the payment of bonuses to dismissed employees after the date of dismissal; legality of electronic document circulation and electronic-digital signatures; policy applied in terms of labour safety and health and the categories of employees to undergo mandatory trainings in this respect, etc.

On 26 June 2017, the AEB HR Committee held its open event "Learning by Doing: Real Life Cases", organised by the AEB Assessment, Training & Development Subcommittee. At the beginning the participants discussed global best practices on learning by doing, and a business case on learning & development through edutainment. The second part of the event was devoted to cybersecurity issues. The experts from Kaspersky Lab conducted a business simulation on cybersecurity for non-experts.

On 11 October 2017, the AEB HR Committee and the AEB Migration Committee held a joint Committees' meeting within the AEB Day in St. Petersburg. The meeting served as a platform for discussing the most topical issues in the branch. The speakers delivered the presentations devoted to current trends on labour market and the AEB HR Committee's, key changes and recent trends in Russian labour law, agenda and future prospects of the AEB Migration Committee and status of the draft law on secondment, specifics of permits registration in Moscow and migration registration of foreign citizens and Russian citizens during the 2018 World Cup, practical aspects related to administrative risks of foreign citizens and their employers. The Committees confirmed mutual interest in future cooperation.

On 15 November 2017, the AEB HR Committee together with the AEB Hotels & Tourism Working Group held a joint open event entitled "Employer Branding in the Hospitality Industry". The event was designed to highlight the benefits and opportunities which exist in the hospitality industry and, in particular, in the hotel industry in Moscow. The event provided a platform for discussing the most topical challenges faced by hospitality industry as regards HR sector, and possible responses to these challenges. The participants of the event had a possibility to learn about performance and talent management in the hotel business, efficient tools of employees' engagement, retention, and career development, how to attract and select candidates in high volume recruitment.

On 22 November 2017, the AEB HR Committee together with the AEB Migration Committee and the AEB Taxation Committee held a joint open event entitled "Structuring of the HQS foreign employees' remuneration: migration, labour, and taxation aspects". The event was aimed to discuss the main concerns that companies face in terms of remuneration structuring of expatriate employees working in Russia. The following issues were addressed by the speakers: employer's vision on the salary structuring of foreign employees (HQS) and the complexity and conflict of certain provisions of the relevant Russian legislation, HQS salary taxation requirements: theory and practical issues, complex situations related to HQS caused by additional payments to be paid by company to reach salary level required by law, related corporate tax risks, possible income tax exemptions and benefits while planning the expenses and compensation payments due to HQS: court practice. As the result of the discussion it was agreed to set up a working group consisting of relevant committees' representatives in order to elaborate the recommendations on how to accommodate the conflicts in migration, taxation, and labour requirements. The recommendations elaborated by the AEB members will be further addressed to respective Russian authorities for further discussion and possible implementation.

On 4 December 2017, the AEB HR Committee held its open event entitled "Developing Internal Communications in a Company". The event was jointly organised by the AEB Recruitment Subcommittee and the AEB PR & Communications Committee. The event provided the opportunity to discuss what is the internal communications profession about, what are the requirements towards the internal communications professional and, finally, whether internal communications belong to HR or PR competence. The event finalized with a panel session "Internal Communications: Requirements, Specifics, 'Big Data vs. Small Data'", where the market leaders in recruitment and consulting shared with the data on qualified candidates' supply and demand, competencies required for internal communications professionals. All findings were supported by the real practice cases.

On 27 December 2017, the AEB HR Committee released the fourth edition of its publication "Russia's HR Sector: Surveys, Analyses, Facts". The publication provides readers with the AEB member companies' surveys, overviews and reports devoted to HR-related topics on recruitment, labour law, compensation and benefits, relocation, assessment, training and development, medical insurance and any other HR-related services. The current edition provides an overview of labour market trends in 2017 in terms of job search, salary expectations and remuneration. Flexible forms of employment with a focus on employees' rights and responsibilities are analysed from a legal perspective. Several significant aspects of the new rules of the Code of Administrative Court Procedure are precisely articulated. A case of corporate meal service as well as medical insurance solutions are provided as an example of attractive employee benefits packages. Finally, experience to apply digital programmes for staff training and development of skills is shared.

In 2017, the AEB HR Committee continued the lobbying activities in line with the AEB proposals for flexible regulation of working hours (amendments to the article No. 103 "Shift Work" of the Russian Labour Code). In this respect the dialogue with the Russian Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Department of Payroll, Labour Relations and Social Protection, in collaboration with the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (RSPP), was continued.

INSURANCE & PENSIONS COMMITTEE

AIMS	To level the playing field between local and foreign operators in the insurance and pensions sectors, and to provide direct technical policy advice to European and Russian government officials.	
CHAIRPERSON	Alexander Lorenz , Chairman of the Advisory Council, SAFMAR NPF AO	
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON	Vladimir Sukhinin , CEO Advisor, CARDIF Insurance Company Limited Liability Company	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	AIG Insurance Company, CJSC; Allianz IC OJSC; CARDIF Insurance company Limited Liability Company; Chubb Insurance Company, LLC; CMS Russia; Credendo – Ingosstrakh Credit Insurance LLC; Euler Hermes; EY; General Reinsurance AG; Greco JLT. Insurance Brokers JSC; MAI Insurance Brokers; MetLife JSC; Norton Rose Fulbright (Central Europe) LLP; SAFMAR NPF AO; SCOR Moscow Representative Office; SOCIETE GENERALE Strakhovanie Zhizni LLC; Tinkoff Online Insurance, JSC; VSK Insurance Joint Stock Company; WELBI; Zetta Insurance Company Ltd.; ZURICH RELIABLE INSURANCE, JSC.	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	9	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	Business meeting "Reinsurance regulation in Russia: changes following Federal Law No. 363 – FZ dated 03.07.2016"	28 March 2017
	Conference "Consumer protection on the Russian insurance market – impact of the recent developments in the EU"	14 September 2017
	Business meeting "Trends in employee benefits: corporate pensions, digital solutions and other benefits for personnel"	6 December 2017
	AEB external events	
	The Central Bank strategic session "The future of the insurance market"	25 May 2017
	Session "Insurance market growth drivers" at the XXVI International Financial Congress 2017	13 July 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

In 2017, the Committee continued to develop cooperation with key state partners.

- The Committee strengthened its collaboration with the regulator – the Central Bank (in particular, with the Insurance Market Department at the Central Bank). The Committee regularly provided comments and proposals to improve insurance regulation and sent a number of requests for clarifications on insurance issues to the regulator. Vladimir Sukhinin, Deputy Committee Chairman, and Committee members regularly took part in the meetings and activities of the Central Bank's Expert Council on Insurance. Representatives of the Insurance Market Department and Service for Consumer Protection and Financial Inclusion of the Central Bank took part in the Committee events. In May 2017, Alexander Lorenz, Committee Chairman, participated in the Central Bank strategic session "The future of the insurance market".
- The Committee continued its dialogue with the Ministry of Finance, which usually reacts positively to proposals made by the Committee, in particular to the issues on the legislation of foreign insurers (reinsurers) in the Russian Federation in accordance with WTO obligations and on the Russian National Reinsurance Company. On 20 December 2017, the Committee held a meeting with Vera Balakireva, Deputy Director of Department for Financial Policy at the Russian Ministry of Finance, regarding the legislation on branches of foreign insurers (reinsurers) in accordance with WTO.
- The Committee continued to liaise with the Federal Antimonopoly Service (FAS). Several Committee representatives are members of the Expert Council on the Protection of Competition in the Financial Services Market (section on the insurance services market) under the FAS Russia.
- The Committee continued its dialogue with the State Duma Committee on Financial Markets and provided comments and proposals on draft laws related to insurance.
- The Committee liaised with the Ministry of Economic Development (primarily through the procedure of the regulatory impact assessment of legal acts related to insurance).
- The Committee interacted with and sent its proposals to the Office of Presidential Commissioner for Entrepreneurs' Rights Protection in the framework of preparation of the Annual Ombudsman report to the Russian President.

In addition to the above, the Committee cooperated with other stakeholders at the Russian insurance market (All-Russian Insurance Association, Russian National Reinsurance Company, Russian Supreme Court, Russian Association of Motor Insurers, Higher School of Economics, Social Insurance Fund, etc.).

On 13 July 2017, Frank Schauff, AEB CEO, made the presentation "Insurance market in Russia: opportunities and challenges from the point of view of foreign insurers" at the Round Table "Insurance market growth drivers" in the framework of the International Financial Congress-2017.

On 6 December 2017, the Committee held the business meeting "Trends in employee benefits: corporate pensions, digital solutions and other benefits for personnel". The event-goers were updated on trends in the corporate pensions market and corporate pension programmes, as well as in digital solutions and other employee benefits and compensations.

In 2016, the AEB (represented by the Committee) joined the International Insurance Law Association/Association Internationale de Droit des Assurances (AIDA) as the Russian National Chapter. In 2017, within this framework the Committee held two events, namely: the business meeting "Reinsurance regulation in Russia: changes following Federal Law N363 – FZ dated 03.07.2016" on 28 March 2017 and the conference "Consumer protection on the Russian insurance market – impact of the recent developments in the EU" with participation of international experts on 14 September 2017.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COMMITTEE

<p>AIMS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To monitor changes in IP legislation of the Eurasian Economic Union and to monitor these changes on the national level in Russia. • To protect the rights of IP right owners and other fair market players and to prevent unauthorised use of intellectual property. • To monitor the application of the Procedural Codes in respect of the IP-related issues. • To provide legal support services (informational briefings and seminars, regular legislative updates) for AEB members on IP related issues. • To undertake expert review of draft AEB letters and policy papers on existing and proposed Russian and Eurasian intellectual property legislation: copyright, patents, trademarks, industrial design rights, utility models, geographical indication, trade secrets, related rights, trade names. • To undertake expert review of court practice and also to conduct comparative analysis of court practice in Russia and in the European Union. • To provide a forum for the exchange of information, analysis, and views between AEB members on new developments in Russian and Eurasian laws and legal practice in the area of intellectual property.
<p>CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Anton Bankovskiy, Partner, CMS Legal</p>
<p>DEPUTY CHAIRPERSONS</p>	<p>Tatiana Sazonova, Head of Department of Intellectual Property & Standards, Philips LLC; Ekaterina Tilling, Senior Partner, Tilling Peters LLC</p>
<p>AEB MEMBER COMPANIES</p>	<p>Alinga Consulting; Allen & Overy Legal Services; ALPE consulting OOO; ALRUD Law Firm; Andrey Gorodissky and Partners Law Firm; AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LLC; Atlas Copco, JSC; Baker Botts LLP; Baker McKenzie CIS Ltd.; BASF; Bayer ZAO; BECO; BEITEN BURKHARDT Moscow; BMW Group Russia; Bonduelle-Kuban LLC; Caterpillar Eurasia LLC; Borenius Russia LTD; CMS Russia; Continental Tires RUS OOO; Credit Agricole CIB AO; Delonghi; Dentons; DLA Piper; DuPont Science and Technologies; Egorov Puginsky Afanasiev & Partners (EPA&P); Electrolux; Esparma GmbH; EY; Ford Sollers Holding LLC; General Motors Russia & CIS LLC; Goltsblat BLP; Google; Grayling Eurasia OOO; Hannes Snellman; Hogan Lovells CIS; IKEA Centers Russia; Industry Round table for cooperation with the EU, Non-profit partnership; JETRO; Kia Motors RUS, LLC; L'Oreal; Mannheimer Swartling; Mazars; Mercedes-Benz Russia ZAO; Michelin; M.Video; Nissan Manufacturing RUS; Noerr OOO; Pepeliaev Group; Peterka & Partners LLC; Philip Morris Sales and Marketing; Philips LLC; Porsche Russland; Procter & Gamble; PwC; Renault Russia; Roedl & Partner; Rouse & Co. International (UK) Ltd.; Russia Today; Sanofi Russia; Schneider Electric; Shevyrev and Partners, Bureau of attorneys; Siemens LLC; Syngenta OOO; Tilling Peters LLC; Toyota Motor, OOO; VEGAS LEX Advocate Bureau; Vlasta-Consulting LLC; Volkswagen Group Rus OOO.</p>
<p>NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS</p>	<p>4</p>

	AEB events	Date
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	Briefing by the Head of the Russian Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) G.P. Ivliev	10 February 2017
	Annual Conference of the AEB Intellectual Property Committee: "Intellectual Property Rights: recent trends, court practices, problems and solutions"	22 June 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

On 10 February 2017, the AEB Intellectual Property Committee organised a briefing by the Head of the Russian Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) Grigory Ivliev titled "Federal Service for Intellectual Property: current practice and prospective". The meeting was moderated by Frank Schauff, AEB CEO, and Anton Bankovskiy, Chairman of the AEB Intellectual Property Committee. At the meeting, such issues were raised as the main directions of the governmental policy in the area of intellectual property in 2017 and the role of Rospatent in this process; the plans of Rospatent to expand the list and methods of providing public services with the use of the Internet; recent initiatives of the Agency on the procedure of opposition; the institutes of preliminary application and licensing of applications. Topics of mutual interests and future cooperation were also discussed.

On 3 March 2017, the AEB Intellectual Property and AEB Legal Committees held a joint Round Table "Pre-trial dispute resolution procedure: Overview and Practices". The event was chaired by Anton Bankovskiy, Chairman of the Intellectual Property Committee, Partner, CMS, Russia, and the welcome speech was delivered by the AEB Legal Committee Chairman Alexander Kozhukhov, Legal Counsel, Siemens. The Round Table aimed at introducing into the recent legislative changes in the Arbitration Procedure Code including the mandatory pre-trial procedure; it provided an overview of the court practice, with an emphasis upon the application of pre-trial procedure in the sphere of intellectual property.

On 22 June 2017, the AEB Intellectual Property Committee held its annual conference entitled "Intellectual property rights: recent trends, court practices, problems and solutions". As always the Delegation of the European Union to Russia hosted the event. The Annual IP conference serves as a valuable platform for experts in intellectual property issues. It provides opportunities for its participants to learn about the most important issues in IPR protection through direct communication with representatives of the regulatory authorities, courts and leading law firms, and creates a discussion network. The event was moderated by Anton Bankovskiy, Chairman of the AEB IP Committee, Partner, CMS Russia. Ruslan Kokarev, AEB COO, and Luis Portero, Head of the Economic and Trade Section, Delegation of the EU to Russia, welcomed the participants. Speakers from Russian authorities (Rospatent, Federal Antimonopoly Service, Court for Intellectual Property Rights) and the Eurasian Economic Commission provided up-to-date information on a number of topics, just to mention the development of the Eurasian trademark system, introduction of the opposition system when considering applications for trademarks and others. Experts of the AEB IP Committee spoke about court practice on parallel import and license agreements, IP issues related to M&A deals and Big Data, special restrictions in the field of intellectual property and advertising in the legislation of the World Cup 2018.

On 22 November 2017, due to requests from our member companies, the AEB arranged a working meeting on measures to eliminate counterfeit products with Eduard Fedosov, Director General of the Association for Law Enforcement and Special Service Officials (ARPO).

IT & TELECOM COMMITTEE

AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote the interests of AEB member companies in IT and Telecom through governmental liaison and information exchange. • To assist AEB members on changes, best practices, legal and regulatory issues in IT and Telecom. 	
CHAIRPERSON	Edgars Puzo , CEO, Atos Russia	
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSONS	Andrey Sorokin , Director, Carriers and Government Relations Russia & CIS, Detecon International GmbH; Gleb Vershinin , GR Director, SAP C.I.S.	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	ABB; Accenture; ALP Group; ALPE consulting; ALRUD Law Firm; AMADEUS IT Group; Antal Russia; Atos; Baker & McKenzie; Bayer: Beiten Burkhardt; Brother; Capital Legal Services; CMS Russia; Coleman Services UK; Deloitte; Detecon Consulting; Egorov Puginsky Afanasiev & Partners; EY; General Electric; Google Russia; JTI; Liniya Prava Law Firm; Morgan Lewis; Noerr; Nokia Solutions & Networks; Orange Business Services; PwC; Pepeliaev Group; Philips; SCHNEIDER GROUP; SAP C.I.S; Siemens LLC; TeliaSonera International Carrier; Tieto; Tilling Peters LLC, VimpelCom PJSC (Beeline).	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	6	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	Internet of Things – the Main Element of Safe & Efficient Ecosystem for Life	22 March 2017
	“To ICO, or not to ICO, That is the Question”	16 November 2017
	AEB external events	
	SPIEF 2017, AEB IT & Telecom Committee member (SAP CIS), meeting with Deputy Prime Minister A.V. Dvorkovich and Minister N.A. Nikiforov: EU-Russia cooperation in the field of Digital Economy	1 June 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The purpose of the Committee's work is to create the right conditions for cooperation and joint development of digital technologies between Russia and the EU, followed by the mutual promotion of projects on the global markets; to combine EU and Russian capabilities to achieve synergies through enhanced technological cooperation. The main Committee proposals were made in its Position Paper:

- to harmonise the regulatory environment on the principle of reciprocity;
- to develop, implement and promote joint products;

- to let the professional international business community make suggestions as to how relevant modern digital economy concepts (e.g. Big Data, the Internet of Things, etc.) ought to be regulated. This would be done by encouraging experts from international associations and professional unions to participate in the activities of working teams and expert boards of the legislative and executive bodies;
- to develop a balanced approach to the allocation of costs between business and the government with respect to the implementation of the "Yarovaya law";
- to analyse possible effects and potential impact of the coming into force 01.01.18 CII Law (Critical Information Infrastructure);
- to analyse the impact of the European Data Protection Regulation on Russian companies and possible conflicts between European and Russian law.

The AEB and its IT & Telecom Committee have become partners of the project "Digital House" initiated by Roskomnadzor in 2016 in the framework of the realization of the "Strategy for institutional development and public activities in respect the protection of rights of personal data subjects to 2020" – the Committee member V. Perevalov (Baker McKenzie) joined the WG on regulation.

The Committee continued its contacts on the regular basis with the key Russian government stakeholders, authorities and business circles: the Committee Chairman Edgars Puzo became a member of the newly created RSPP Committee on Digital Economy.

LEGAL COMMITTEE

<p style="text-align: center;">AIMS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide legal support services (informational briefings and seminars, legislation updates) to AEB members. • To participate in Russian legislation proceedings in the interest of the AEB members. • To promote the exchange of companies' practical experience related to different legal aspects of legislation development in Russia and EU countries. • To provide a forum for the exchange of information, analysis, and views between AEB members on new developments in Russian law and legal practice. • To prepare recommendations for Russian legislation, i.e. motivate implementation and application of existing international standards. • To participate in the Russian legislation procedure by presenting international experience, and lobbying for AEB members' interests and holding open discussions, sharing AEB members' practice with the Russian authorities.
<p style="text-align: center;">CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Alexander Kozhukhov, Legal Counsel, Siemens</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">DEPUTY CHAIRPERSONS</p>	<p>Sergey Krokhaliev, Partner, Baker McKenzie; Yulia Labutina, Head of Legal and Compliance, Atos</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">AEB MEMBER COMPANIES</p>	<p>ABB Russia; Advocates Bureau Yug; Akzo Nobel N.V.; ALD Automative LLC; Alinga Consulting Group; Allen & Overy Legal Services; ALRUD Law Firm; Andrey Gorodissky and Partners Law Firm; Astra Zeneca Pharmaceuticals LLC; Atlas Copco, JSC; Attorneys at Law Borenium Russia Ltd.; Atos; Auchan Russia; Baker McKenzie; Baker Botts L.L.P.; BASF; BearingPoint OOO; BECO; BEITEN BURKHARDT Moscow; BMW Group Russia; BP; Capital Legal Services LLC; Carnelutti Russia; Caterpillar Eurasia LLC; Clifford Chance; CMS Russia; Coleman Services UK; Danone Russia; Danske Bank Russia; Deloitte CIS; Dentons; DLA Piper; DuPont Science & Technologies; EkoNiva-Technika Holding, LLC (part of EkoNiva group); ECOTEAM LLC; Egorov, Puginsky, Afanasiev & Partners; Eversheds Sutherland; EY; Ford Sollers Holding LLC; FORTUM OYJ; General Motors Russia & CIS LLC; Gide Loyrette Nouel; Goltsblat BLP; Groupe Seb-Vostok ZAO; HeidelbergCement RUS; Henkel Rus OOO; HSBC Bank OOO; IKEA Shopping Centers; Jungheinrich Lift Truck LLC; JURALINK; Kia Motors Rus, LLC; KPMG; LegalLife Law Firm; Legrand Group; L'Oreal; Mannheimer Swartling; Mazars; Merck LLC; MetLife JSC; MOL-Russ LLC; M.Video; Nissan Manufacturing RUS; Noerr OOO; Nokia; Nordea Bank; Norton Rose Fulbright (Central Europe) LLP; NOBLE HOUSE Group Russia; Novo Nordisk A/S; Orange Business Services; Oriflame; Orrick (CIS) LLC; Pepeliaev Group, LLC; Philip Morris Sales and Marketing; Philips LLC; Porsche Russland; PPG Industries LLC; Procter&Gamble; PSA Group (Peugeot Citroen Rus); PwC; Renault Russia; Repsol Exploration S.A.; Robert Bosch OOO; Roedel & Partner; Rouse & Co. International (UK) Ltd; Sanofi Russia; Scania-Rus LLC; Schulze, Brutyan and Partners LLC; Secretan Troyanov Schaer S. A.; Shell Exploration and Production Services (RF) B.V.; Shevyrev & Partners, Bureau of attorneys; Siemens LLC; SOCIETE GENERALE Strakhovanie Zhizni LLC; Sollers PJSC; Stada CIS; Syngenta OOO; Tilling Peters LLC; Thomson Reuters; Tinkoff Online Insurance, JSC; TMF Group; Toyota Motor, OOO; United Technologies International Operations, Inc; Vaillant Group Rus LLC; VEGAS LEX Advocate Bureau; Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.; VISA; Volkswagen Group Rus; Volvo Cars LLC; WELBI; Zetta Insurance Company Ltd.; Zurich Reliable Insurance, JSC.</p>

NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	5	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	Briefing by the Head of the Federal Antimonopoly Service I.Y. Artemiev entitled "Federal Antimonopoly Service: current practice and prospective"	6 March 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

On 6 March 2017, the AEB hosted a briefing by the Head of the Federal Antimonopoly Service Igor Artemiev entitled "Federal Antimonopoly Service: current practice and prospective". The event was co-chaired by Frank Schauff, AEB CEO, and Alexander Kozhukhov, Chairman of the AEB Legal Committee. Igor Artemiev answered a number of questions of importance for AEB member companies. As usual, these questions touched on important topics regarding the regulation of the pharmaceutical and medical device industries. In his speech, Igor Artemiev pointed out that the principle of the limitation of access to state procurement for foreign producers should be abolished, and instead preferences for local producers should be introduced. Other issues covered by Mr. Artemiev's answers included: state procurement according to FL-223, retail, oil and gas industries, regulation of the construction and building materials industry, insurance market, unfair competition and compulsory licensing, localisation and import substitution, environmental regulations, and so on.

On 3 March 2017, the AEB Intellectual Property and AEB Legal Committees held a joint Round Table "Pre-trial dispute resolution procedure: overview and practices". The event was chaired by Anton Bankovskiy, Chairman of the Intellectual Property Committee, Partner, CMS Russia, and the welcome speech was delivered by the AEB Legal Committee Chairman Alexander Kozhukhov, Legal Counsel, Siemens. The Round Table aimed at introducing into the recent legislative changes in the Arbitration Procedure Code including the mandatory pre-trial procedure; it provided an overview of the court practice, with an emphasis upon the application of pre-trial procedure in the sphere of intellectual property.

On 3 October 2017, the AEB Compliance & Ethics and Legal Committees held the joint open event "New US sanctions: risks and challenges for the European businesses". The event provided a platform for discussing the following topics: legal aspects of sanctions, legal consequences of US and EU sanctions for intellectual property transactions in Russia, impact on current business processes under sanctions. It was moderated by Mikhail Akim, Chairperson of the AEB Working Group on Modernisation & Innovations, Vice President ABB Russia.

MACHINE BUILDING & ENGINEERING COMMITTEE

<p>AIMS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To take part in governmental policy-making, in the areas related to the power and machine building industries, in an attempt to create clear rules to promote the development of a market where all participants have equal rights. • To initiate changes in environmental legislation, taking into account the stringent environmental requirements of consumers, resulting in a better performance of power stations and implementation of new technologies. • To render support to the Committee member companies operating in Russia. • To monitor the development of the machine building market in Russia. • To facilitate the exchange of information and international experience in the field of machine building, which can subsequently be applied to the Russian environment. 	
<p>CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Philippe Pegorier, President, Alstom Russia</p>	
<p>DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Mikhail Turundaev, Business Development, Schneider Electric</p>	
<p>AEB MEMBER COMPANIES</p>	<p>ABB; Alstom Russia; Atlas Copco, JSC; BEITEN BURKHARDT; Caterpillar Eurasia LLC; Deloitte; DLA Piper; Dow Europe; ECOTEAM; Faiveley Transport; GE Russia/CIS; GOLTSBLAT BLP; John Deere Rus, LLC; LegaLife Law Firm; Mitsubishi Electric; PwC; Pepeliaev Group, LLC; Phoenix Contact RUS OOO; Radius Group; Robert Bosch OOO; Schneider Electric; Siemens; TABLOGIX; Technology Company Schlumberger LLC; Tebodin Eastern Europe; THOST Russia Project Management, VEGAS LEX Advocate Bureau.</p>	
<p>NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS</p>	<p>6</p>	
<p>AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED</p>	<p>AEB events</p>	<p>Date</p>
	<p>INNOPROM 2017 (Ekaterinburg) "Smart Manufacturing – Global Approach", Session "Transport Machine Building Searching for Compromise. Modernization. Localization. Specialization", jointly with the AEB Working Group on Modernisation & Innovations</p>	<p>10-13 July 2017</p>

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The AEB Machine Building & Engineering Committee in its activities tries to keep a balance between topics and issues common to representatives of other "neighbour" branches such as automobile construction, autocomponents, construction equipment, technical regulation and standardisation, trying to act in synergy with other AEB Committees. In 2017, the Committee continued to monitor the development of the Russian machine building market having organised regular open events tackling the most important from the Committee's point of view issues such as localisation; import substitution; infrastructure; customs clearance; innovations; human resources and professional education; standardisation and certification; SPICs – generally speaking, foreign investment in Russian production capacities. A traditional Round Table on the trends of the Russian Machine Building Sector in Russia was organised, jointly with the AEB CEC Committee. In November the Committee gathered as usual the specialists in engineering having analysed the current trends in the design of the industrial projects, jointly with the AEB Real Estate Committee.

The year 2017 was marked by further strengthening and developing of working relations with the RZD.

The Committee Chairman Philippe Pegorier participated in the 12-th International Rail Business Forum "1520 Strategic Partnership (Sochi, 6-8 June 2017); the Committee members participated in EXPO 1520 (Schcherbinka, 30 August-2 September 2017).

The Committee representatives actively participated in:

- St. Petersburg Economic Forum (June 2017);
- Innoprom (July 2017);
- Eastern Economic Forum (September 2017);
- Russian Energy Week – Panel session organised by the AEB, where Ph. Pegorier, Alstom Russia, and J. Vanderplaetse, Schneider Electric, participated as speakers (October 2017);
- St. Petersburg Gas International Forum (October 2017);
- III Congress of Railway Constructors (December 2017).

The Committee Chairman Philippe Pegorier is a member of the Consultative Council of the Agency of Technological Development, of the Strategic Council of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, of the Committee for Industrial Policy of the RSPP.

MIGRATION COMMITTEE

<p>AIMS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To monitor immigration legislation and practice developments in the Russian Federation. • To promote the exchange of companies' practical experience related to the immigration issues in the Russian and the European Union (EU) countries. • To promote information exchange regarding different international practices/policies and their relevance to Russia. • To build a strong relationship with various immigration and labour authorities to lobby immigration related issues and hold open discussions and share information with AEB member companies. • To identify the most problematic issues in immigration area that AEB member companies face; address these issues through further discussions with the authorities and resolve them. • To keep the AEB member companies updated on all immigration related activities so as to avoid possible immigration related risks and promote effective business planning. • To organise meetings/round tables/joint events, involving the participation of the Russian state immigration and labour authorities. • Support to one-window process of documents submission for AEB members.
<p>CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Ludmila Shiryayeva, Executive Director, Tax and Legal Services, EY</p>
<p>DEPUTY CHAIRPERSONS</p>	<p>Alexey Filipenkov, Partner, Visa Delight; Andrey Slepov, Partner, BEITEN BURKHARDT; Maxim Novikov, Senior Manager, KPMG</p>
<p>AEB MEMBER COMPANIES</p>	<p>Accenture; Alinga Consulting and Audit; Allen & Overy Legal Services; ALRUD Law Firm; Alstom Russia Ltd.; Andrey Goroditsky & Partners; Ararat Park Hyatt Moscow; Baker & McKenzie CIS Ltd.; BAT; BDO; BP; Bayer AG; BEITEN BURKHARDT; Cargill LLC; Continental Tires RUS LLC; CMS Russia; CREDIT SWISS; Daimler Chrysler AG; Danone Russia; Deloitte; DLA Piper; DuPont Science & Technologies; Enel Russia; EY; Gasunie; Gide Loyrette Nouel; Goltsblat BLP; HeidelbergCement Rus; IKEA; Intermark Relocation; Korean Airlines; KPMG; LEROY MERLIN Russia; Linklaters CIS; Liniya Prava Law Firm; L'Oreal; MANNHEIMER SWARTLING; Mazars; Mercedes-Benz Russia; Michelin; Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO; Move One INC; Nissan Manufacturing RUS; NOERR; Orrick (CIS) LLC; Oriflame; Pepeliaev Group; Philip Morris Sales & Marketing; PwC; Repsol Exploracion S.A.; Robert Bosch OOO; ROSBANK; Salans; Scania-Rus LLC; SCHNEIDER GROUP; Secretan Troyanov Schaer S.A.; Siemens LLC; Shell Exploration and Production Services (RF) B.V.; Technology Company Schlumberger LLC; Telenor; THOST Russia Projektmanagement OOO; TF-Group; Total E&P Russie; Total Vostok; Troika Relocations Ltd.; Unicredit Bank; Visa Delight; Volvo Vostok, ZAO; Welcome Abroad Relocations.</p>

NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	6	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	Event title	Date
	"Law applicability in migration" with the participation of D. Demidenko, Deputy Head of the General Migration Directorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, and other official representatives of the General Migration Directorate	4 April 2017
	Round table with participation of representatives of the Moscow Migration Directorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (Sakharovo Migration Centre issues)	21 June 2017
	Meetings with V.I. Ivanov, Deputy Head of Moscow Migration Directorate of the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs, regarding the work visas for HQS	15 June 2017 10 August 2017 5 October 2017
	AEB Day in St. Petersburg. Joint meeting of the AEB Migration Committee, AEB HR Committee, and Subcommittee on HR and Migration of the AEB North-Western Regional Committee	11 October 2017
	Joint event of the AEB Migration Committee, AEB HR Committee and AEB Taxation Committee on "Structuring of the HQS foreign employees' remuneration: migration, labour, and taxation aspects", initiated by the AEB Migration Committee	22 October 2017
	AEB X Annual Migration Conference	5 December 2017
	Joint Event of the AEB Migration Committee and EU Delegation with participation of the heads of EU diplomatic missions	12 December 2017
	AEB external events	
	Russian Chamber of Commerce round table with participation of AEB Migration Committee's experts on migration registration. Follow-up of the Confederations Cup 2017.	29 June 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

Currently the AEB Migration Committee consists of representatives from more than 60 companies.

During 2017, the AEB Migration Committee used to conduct regular Committee meetings and three open events. Once a year, the Committee holds its Migration Committee Conference with more than 100 participants. Various state authorities participate in the meetings: MVD, Moscow Department of Labour and Employment, Russian Ministry of Education and Science, Russian Chamber of Commerce, and the Higher School of Economics.

On 4 April 2017, the AEB Migration Committee held an open event: "Law applicability in migration" with the participation of Dmitry Demidenko, Deputy Head of the General Migration Directorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, and other official representatives of the General Migration Directorate.

On 21 June 2017, the AEB Migration Committee organised a round table discussion with representatives of the Moscow Migration Directorate of the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs.

On 22 November 2017, the AEB Migration Committee, AEB HR Committee and the AEB Taxation Committee held an open joint event "Structuring of the HQS foreign employees' remuneration: migration, labour, and taxation aspects".

On 5 December 2017, the AEB Migration Committee held its X Annual Migration Conference titled "Migration law and practice" with participation of the representatives of the General Migration Directorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation and representatives of the Moscow Migration Directorate of MVD of Russia.

On 12 December 2017, the AEB Migration Committee met with EU Diplomatic missions, Consulates' representatives to discuss the most actual issues related to migration law and practice.

NORTH-WESTERN REGIONAL COMMITTEE

<p>AIMS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve the business environment for its European member companies in Russia. • To increase the transparency and development of honest business opportunities in the region. • To facilitate cooperation with local and federal authorities in order to solve the problems or to benefit member companies and/or their business sectors. • To provide platforms, such as Subcommittees or Working Groups, to resolve members' business problems. • To organise events and other meeting opportunities for networking purposes. • To cooperate with consulates and other bodies of European Union in the region. • To cooperate with other business associations. • To provide quality information for the needs of member companies.
<p>CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Andreas Bitzi, Partner, Director of St. Petersburg Branch, SCHNEIDER GROUP</p>
<p>DEPUTY CHAIRPERSONS</p>	<p>Elena Novoselova, Head of Regional Development, Coleman Services UK; Anton Rassadin, Government Affairs, BSH Group</p>
<p>AEB MEMBER COMPANIES</p>	<p>Accountor Russia; Air France; Allianz IC OJCS; Alinga Consulting Group; ALP Group; Alstom Russia Ltd; Ancor; Antal; Ariston Thermo Rus; Arivist; Baker McKenzie; Beiten Burkhardt; Belmont Grand Hotel Europe; Bonava; BORENIUS RUSSIA; British American Tobacco Russia; BSH Bytowyje Pribory OOO; Bureau Veritas; Business Psychologists; Capital Legal Services; Castrén & Shellman International Ltd.; Citibank AO; Coleman Services; Commerzbank (Eurasija) AO; Credit Agricole CIB AO; Danske Bank Russia; Deloitte CIS; Dentons; Deutsche Lufthansa AG; DHL Express; DLA Piper Rus Limited LLC Branch in St. Petersburg; Dow Europe GmbH; DPD in Russia; Drees & Sommer Project Management and Building Technologies; East Office of Finnish Industries; Egorov Puginsky Afanasiev & Partners; EKE Group; ERGO Insurance Company; EY; Finnish-Russian Chamber of Commerce; Finnvera Plc; Finpro, Finland Trade Center; Ford Sollers Holding LLC; Galitzine Consulting; General Motors Russia & CIS LLC; Gestamp Russia; GfK; GoingRussia; GROUPE SEB-VOSTOK ZAO; Hannes Snellman; HeidelbergCement Rus; HELLENIC BANK PLC; Human Search, OOO; Hyundai Motor CIS; IKEA DOM LLC; International Hotel Investments (Benelux) B.V. (Corinthia Hotel); Intermark Relocation; INTERPONT; Italcantieri; Itella, OOO; JETRO; Johnson Controls Autobatterie RUS; JTI Russia; Jungheinrich Lift Truck; Juralink G-nius; KOTRA; KPMG AO; Legrand Group; Lenta LLC; Mankiewicz Gebr. & Co.; Manpower Group Russia&CIS; Mikenopa Eastern Europe a.s.; Most Services; Move One INC; Nissan Manufacturing Rus; Nokian Tyres Ltd.; NORD OUTSOURCING LLC; Nordea bank; OY M. RAUANHEIMO AB; Pepeliaev Group LLC; Philip Morris Sales & Marketing; Port Hamburg Marketing; PRYSMIAN RUS LLC; PwC; Raiffeisenbank AO; Raiffeisen-Leasing; ROCA; Rockwool; Rödl & Partner; Saint-Gobain CIS; SAF-NEVA; Scania-Rus LLC; SCHNEIDER GROUP; Siemens LLC; Skaala OOO; Sokotel LLC; Spectrum Holding; Stockholm School of Economics in Russia; Tebodin Eastern Europe B.V; Tekes - Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation; TMF-Group; Uponor; VOLKSWAGEN Group Rus OOO; Vostok Consulting Oy; VSK Insurance Joint Stock Company; Wienerberger; YE International JSC; YIT.</p>

NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	13	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	Annual briefing of IMF	2 February 2017
	Financial Outlook 2017 – Update for Successful Business	9 February 2017
	Legal and Regulatory Results of 2016 and perspectives for 2017	16 March 2017
	Briefing of Migration authorities	23 March 2017
	Round Table with participation of NW Customs authorities	27 March 2017
	Meeting with Labour Inspection representatives	28 March 2017
	Best industrial investments practices of foreign companies in Russia	30 March 2017
	AEB NWRC General Meeting in St. Petersburg	5 April 2017
	Briefing of the Vice-Governor of St. Petersburg on Industrial Policy and Innovations	5 April 2017
	Corporate social responsibility: HR and legal aspects and best practices	30 May 2017
	Presentation of AEB Annual Survey's results "Strategies and prospects for European companies in Russia"	31 May 2017
	Practical issues of labor legislation in terms of labour contracts and personal data	21 June 2017
	AEB Day in St. Petersburg	11 October 2017
	Main Trends in E-Commerce in Russia	23 November 2017
Round table with the Investment Team of the Administration of the Leningrad region	8 December 2017	

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The North-Western Regional Committee strives to offer its members the services and information equal to those AEB offers in Moscow.

From more than 200 AEB members, represented in the North-Western region, about 110 companies demonstrated activity in 2017 by regularly participating in the work of the Committee and the Subcommittees.

Year 2017 was marked by several notional open events and business meetings held by the Committee and its Subcommittees. The most outstanding news was signing of the cooperation agreement between AEB and the Leningrad region,

under which AEB (in particular, AEB NWRC) will be implementing joint activities with the government of the Leningrad region, aimed at improving of the investment climate and regulatory assessment in the region.

The AEB NWRC initiated and continues implementing annual surveys among its members on their satisfaction with the investment climate in the Leningrad region and in St. Petersburg, as well as with the role of the city and regional administrations in developing better investment conditions for the business.

During the year 2017 the management of the AEB met with the representatives of the St. Petersburg State University (SPbGU) to discuss possible cooperation opportunities. Based on the results of the meeting the AEB developed a letter to the Rector of the SPbGU covering the main proposals in cooperation between the AEB and the SPbGU.

There were important meetings with the North-Western Customs authorities, Labour Inspection of St. Petersburg, Migration authorities, etc.

The Committee raised and discussed with responsible authorities such problems as:

- improvement of investment climate in the region;
- application of TIR and customs procedure of customs transit transfer;
- parallel imports;
- draft Customs Code of EAEU;
- application of customs laws;
- use of information technology for customs declaration;
- practice of working with the authorized economic operators in the North-West of Russia;
- practice of provision by NWCA of preliminary decisions on classification of goods under HS EAEC;
- issues of the customs value and other issues of customs administration;
- production localisation issues;
- labour inspection audit;
- attracting, onboarding and retaining employees;
- talent management;
- professional standards;
- business and education;
- outstaffing and outsourcing;
- challenges and forecasts in construction industry of the North-Western region of Russia;
- current situation in the market of building materials;
- e-commerce development in Russia.

In 2017, the AEB NWRC continued to actively participate in the regular meetings of the Investment Councils of the Leningrad region and in the Advisory Committee under the Regional Customs Authorities (SZTU). In November the AEB NWRC participated in the annual Conference organised by the Government of the Leningrad region on Regulator Assessment Impact.

General Consulates in St. Petersburg and European Union Delegation to the Russian Federation consider the AEB North-Western Regional Committee as an adviser and reliable partner for the European companies in the North-Western region. In 2017, the AEB continued fostering cooperation with the EU countries consulates in St. Petersburg through meetings with EU delegation representatives, meetings with the consuls general and commercial staff, organisation of events in cooperation with the consulates, presentations of AEB's federal and regional activities during business breakfasts at the consulates, meetings with the national representative companies and potential members.

PRODUCT CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To identify and act on the major problems identified in the field of technical regulation, product conformity assessment and standardization. • To act as a specific link with European Commission representatives in charge of the EU-Russia Regulatory Dialogue. • To contribute to approximation of the technical regulation between Russia and EU.
CHAIRPERSON	Alexey Soldatov , Technical Regulation Manager, BSH Bytowije Pribory
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON	Elena Kirillova , Head of technical translation and certification department, Legrand Group
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	ABB; BASF; Bonduelle-Kuban LLC; BSH Bytowije Pribory OOO; BUREAU VERITAS RUS JSC; Caterpillar Eurasia LLC; Continental Tires RUS OOO; Danone Russia; DLA Piper; Doosan Infracore Co. Representative Office in Russia; Dow Europe GmbH Representation office; DuPont Science and Technologies; Electrolux; Ferrero Russia, CJSC; FM Logistic; GE (General Electric International (Benelux) B.V.); GROUPE SEB-VOSTOK ZAO; Hempel AO; Henkel Rus OOO; Hino Motors Sales, LLC; Hitachi Construction Machinery Eurasia Limited Liability Company; IKEA Centres Russia; Imperial Tobacco Sales and Marketing; JCB Sales Limited; JETRO; John Deere Rus, LLC; Komatsu CIS, LLC; L'Oreal; Legrand Group; Merck LLC; Michelin; Nestle Rossiya LLC; Nike; Noerr OOO; Nokia; Nokian Tyres Ltd; Oriflame; PBN Hill+Knowlton Strategies; Philip Morris Sales and Marketing; Philips LLC; Procter & Gamble; Rockwool; Scania-Rus LLC; Schneider Electric; SCHNEIDER GROUP; SECRETAN TROYANOV SCHAER S.A.; Solvay S.A.; VEGAS LEX Advocate Bureau; Volvo Cars LLC; Yamaha Motor CIS LLC.
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	7

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

In June 2012, the AEB Technical Regulation and Standardization Task Force became the Product Conformity Assessment Committee (PCAC). The Committee works in close cooperation with the Eurasian Economic Commission, Committee for technical regulation, standardization and conformity assessment of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (RSPP) and with the Delegation of the European Union to Russia and Directorate General for Enterprise and Industry of the European Commission.

In 2017, the Committee continued to focus on the issues of Standardisation, Accreditation, Conformity Assessment, Market Surveillance, as well as the harmonisation of industrial technical regulations of the Customs Union, representing maximum interest for the business, with the corresponding European documents.

On 30 March 2017, Committee members held a meeting with Arman Shakkaliev, Head of the technical regulation and accreditation department of the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC). The meeting participants discussed problems related to technical regulations of the Customs Union and EAEU and issues, such as non-recognition of production audit results produced in third countries, status of the 1958 Geneva agreement, and many others.

On 4 July 2017, Committee members participated in the EEC meeting on the discussion of the EEC draft acts, regulating issues of chemicals and mixtures in the EAUE. At the end of July 2017, the AEB established the Working Group on the Regulation of Chemical Products.

On 7 December 2017, Committee members participated in XVII Business Dialogue with representatives of business communities of the EAEU member states.

The AEB Product Conformity Assessment Committee members will continue to collect the major problems identified in the field of Technical Regulation and Standardization, especially in the frame of the EAEU.

PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

<p>AIMS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Public Relations & Communications Committee was established in 2008, having brought together experts from European businesses and consultancies to discuss current issues and exchange information and advice on the best PR practices in Russia. • The Committee started its activities in a global economic crisis environment that created serious challenges for business across many industries. • Therefore, one of the primary goals was contributing to the effective management of AEB member enterprises' reputational risk, by providing advice and information regarding crisis communication techniques.
<p>CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Igor Reichlin, Managing Partner, Reichlin & Partners LLC</p>
<p>DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Marina Tatarskaya, PR Director, Ferrero Russia CJSC</p>
<p>AEB MEMBER COMPANIES</p>	<p>ABB; AB Services; Alfa Laval; Allianz IC OJSC; ALRUD Law Firm; ANCOR; Antal Russia; Ararat Park Hyatt Moscow; Arval; Atlas Copco, CJSC; Avon Beauty Products Company, LLC; Axel Springer Russia ZAO; BASF; Baker McKenzie; Bayer ZAO; BEITEN BURKHARDT Moscow; Benteler Automotive LLC; BNP Paribas; Boehringer Ingelheim; Bosch; BP; British American Tobacco Russia; BSH Bytowaja technika Ltd; Caterpillar Eurasia LLC; Chadbourne & Parke LLP; Coleman Services UK; Cornerstone LLC; Corporate Health LLC; Covestro LLC; CRH; Danone Russia; Delphi Samara JV JSC; Deloitte; Debevoise and Plimpton LLP; Dentons; Deutsche Bank Ltd; DHL Express; DuPont Science & Technologies; EGO Translating Company; Ericsson; EY; Euler Hermes; Experian; FENICE RUS LLC; Ferrero Russia, CJSC; Gasunie; Gide Loyrette Nouel; GOLTSBLAT BLP; Grayling; Haldor Topsoe ZAO; Hotel Baltschug Kempinski Moscow / Baltschug Ltd.; IKEA Shopping Centres Russia; ING Wholesale Banking in Russia; InterContinental Moscow Tverskaya Hotel; Intermark Relocation; International Road Transport Union; Intercomp; Iveco Russia LLC; John Deere Rus, LLC; Kesarev Consulting; KPMG; LEROY MERLIN Russia; Lieu Commun Agency; Mannheimer Swartling Ryssland Advokataktiebolag; ManpowerGroup Russia & CIS; Marriott Moscow Hotels; Mazars; Messe Frankfurt Rus Ltd.; MetLife Alico; Merck LLC; Mercuri International; METRO GROUP; Metropol Hotel Moscow/ LLC "MC "Okhotny Ryad"; Morgan Lewis; Navien RUS LLC; Nestle Rossiya LLC; Noerr OOO; Norton Rose Fulbright (Central Europe) LLP; Novo Nordisk A/S; Oriflame; Pepeliaev Group LLC; Philip Morris Sales & Marketing; Philips; PBN Hill+Knowlton Strategies; Procter & Gamble; Publicity; PwC; Radisson Royal Hotel; Raiffeisenbank ZAO; Raiffeisen-Leasing; Renaissance Moscow Monarch Centre Hotel; Reputation Management LLC; Repsol Exploracion S.A.; Rödl & Partner; Saint-Gobain CIS; Sanofi Russia; SCHNEIDER GROUP; SERVIER; Shell Exploration and Production Services (RF) B.V.; Siemens LLC; SOCIETE GENERALE Strakhovanie Zhizni LLC; Stada CIS; Swisotel Krasnye Holmy Moscow; TABLOGIX; Tebodin Eastern Europe; Thomson Reuters; TMF Group; Total E&P Russie; TSAR VOYAGES; VEGAS LEX Advocate Bureau; VOLKSWAGEN Group Rus OOO; ZURICH RELIABLE INSURANCE, JSC; United Technologies International Operations Inc; Whirlpool CIS; YIT.</p>
<p>NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS</p>	<p>4</p>

	AEB events	Date
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB Open Event "Meet the Media: Meeting with Vedomosti Business Daily"	26 September 2017
	AEB Open Event "Developing Internal Communications in a Company" (jointly organised with the AEB HR Committee)	4 December 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

In recent years, the PR & Communications Committee has organised a number of events for AEB member companies in order to assist them in communicating during the economic downturn. The events attended by the representatives of AEB member companies and guest companies, included workshops on communications crisis management, reputation management, and the traditional and social media.

On 6 February 2017, the AEB PR & Communications Committee held its open event entitled "Meet the Media: Meeting with Vedomosti Business Daily". The event provided a platform for discussing editorial and advertising processes in the business daily and latest developments in media business related to digitalization processes and increased importance of social media. The speakers also shared their vision of the possibilities for cooperation between media and businesses.

On 30 March 2017, the AEB PR & Communications Committee held its open meeting entitled "Profession - Heart Surgeon: Cost of Reputation". The meeting provided to its participants the opportunity for an exclusive preview of a documentary film "Heart: 40 Years Later" and a discussion with the award-winning film director Mr. Evgeny Golyonkin. Forty years ago, a ground-breaking documentary film "The Heart" about cardiac surgeons, written by Golyonkin's teacher Leonid Gurevich and directed by Leo Bakradze, appeared on the Soviet screens. Perhaps, for the first time in film history, surgeons spoke out about the price of human life, talked about their experiences caused by the patient's death, the imperfection of medicine, the lack of knowledge and responsibility of doctors. Since then, medicine has made incredible leaps, but moral problems that doctors grapple with have remained the same. Heart surgeons still put their reputation on the line every time they enter an operation room. "You cannot get used to death" (this is the leitmotif of the films). The new film brings to the public the same attention to the truth as its predecessor. "Heart: 40 Years Later" took the first prize at last year's national film festival "A Window to Europe-2016".

On 4 December 2017, the AEB PR & Communications Committee held its open event entitled "Developing Internal Communications in a Company", jointly organised with the AEB HR Committee. The event provided the opportunity to discuss what is the internal communications profession about, what are the requirements towards the internal communications professional and, finally, whether internal communications belong to HR or PR competence. The event finalised with a panel session "Internal Communications: Requirements, Specifics, "Big Data vs. Small Data", where the market leaders in recruitment and consulting shared the data on qualified candidates' supply and demand, competencies required for internal communications professionals. All findings were supported by the real practice cases.

On 12 December, 2017 the AEB PR & Communications Committee held its open meeting entitled "Crisis Communications". The programme of the meeting was designed to present the crisis communications highlights and to discuss the points of view by Russian and European businesses, as well as the classification of crisis situations. The speakers put a special emphasis on the role of PR professionals in management, neutralization and prevention of the crisis situations which might cause a negative impact on business operations.

REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To facilitate the exchange of information regarding real estate and development issues in Russia. • To influence existing procedures in order to increase the attractiveness of foreign investment. • To establish a "bridge" between the AEB, the Moscow Government, the State Duma and other relevant governmental bodies. 	
CHAIRPERSON	Filippo Baldisserotto , General Director, Stupino 1 Industrial Park	
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON	Antonio Linares , Managing Director, Roca	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	ABB; AERECO S.A. (FRANCE) - Representative Office in Russian Federation; Allianz IC OJSC; ALPE consulting OOO; ALRUD Law Firm; Arup; Bank Credit Suisse (Moscow); BEITEN BURKHARDT Moscow; BNP Paribas; Borenium Russia; BUREAU VERITAS RUS JSC; CMS Russia; Crocus International; Debevoise and Plimpton LLP; Drees & Sommer Management and Building Technologies; Deloitte CIS; Dentons; DLA Piper; DuPont Science and Technologies; Egorov Puginsky Afanasiev & Partners (EPAM); EY; Gerald Sakuler; Gide Loyrette Nouel; GOLTSBLAT BLP; Hannes Snellman; IKEA Centres Russia; Immochan; Intermark Relocation; Italcantieri; KPMG AO; LINDNER; Mazars; METRO AG (Germany) Representative office; Noerr OOO; Orange Business Services; PBN Hill+Knowlton Strategies; Pepeliaev Group, LLC; Porsche Russland; PwC; Radius Group; Repsol Exploracion S.A.; Rödl & Partner; Ruukki Construction; Saint-Gobain CIS; SCHNEIDER GROUP; Special economic zone "STUPINO QUADRAT"; Spectrum holding Ltd; Sponda Russia; Stupino 1 Industrial Park; TMF Group; VEGAS LEX Advocate Bureau; YIT.	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	5	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	"State registration and cadastral valuation of real estate as of 2017"	30 March 2017
	"AEB Networking Event"	22 June 2017
	"AEB Real Estate Day 2017"	27 September 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The AEB Real Estate Committee was founded in 2003 and brings together real estate professionals from a variety of areas including developers, financiers, consultants, project and facilities managers, and other service providers.

The Real Estate Committee has three primary objectives around which its activities are structured: to facilitate the exchange of information regarding real estate and development issues in Russia; to influence existing procedures in order to increase the attractiveness of foreign and domestic investment; and to establish a "bridge" between the AEB, the Moscow Government, the State Duma and other relevant governmental bodies.

During 2017 Committee members organised several major events:

- State Registration and Cadastral Valuation of real estate in 2017;
- Networking event;
- Annual Conference "Real Estate Day 2017";
- Round Table "Current trends in the design of the industrial projects" together with the AEB Machine Building & Engineering Committee.

Throughout the year, the Committee together with the AEB North-Western Regional Committee continued to issue its magazine – "The Real Estate Monitor" on a quarterly basis.

RETAIL TRADE COMMITTEE

AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide support to AEB member companies operating in Russian trade. • To serve as a dialogue platform for member companies and other stakeholders on appropriate topics. • To develop common industry stand on selected issues. • To lobby industry interests towards various stakeholders. • To keep member companies informed about relevant issues.
CHAIRPERSON	Alexey Grigoriev , Vice President, METRO AG
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON	Anna Meleshina , Public Relations and Government Affairs Director, Lenta LLC
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Auchan Russia; H&M Hennes & Mauritz LLC; IKEA Centres Russia; IKEA DOM LLC; Lenta LLC; LEROY MERLIN Russia; M.Video; METRO AG (Germany) Representative office; OBI Russia.
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	11

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The AEB Retail Trade Committee was established in 2010. Almost all biggest international market players are members of the Committee. The Committee deals with a number of sensitive industry issues affecting activities of foreign retailers operating on the Russian market. The issues considered during 2017 included self-regulation, trade law, FZ on labeling by KIZ, Federal law on state and municipal control, quality system, cross-border e-commerce, strategy of improving quality of food products until 2030 and others.

In 2017, Committee members had several meetings with such governmental officials and experts as:

- Igor Shuvalov, First Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation;
- Arkady Dvorkovich, Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation;
- Denis Manturov, Minister of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation;
- Viktor Evtukhov, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation;
- Irina Gekht, Deputy Chairperson of the Committee for Agrarian and Food Policy and Environmental Management of the Federation Council;
- Andrey Kashevarov, Deputy Head of the Russian Federal Antimonopoly Service;
- Timofey Nizhegorodtsev, Head of the Unit of Control of Social Sphere and Trade, Russian Federal Antimonopoly Service;
- Elena Chernyakova, Director of the Department of Information Technologies in the Field of Public and Municipal Finance Management and Information Support of the Budget Process, Russian Ministry of Finance;
- AEB member companies and AEB experts.

On 30 September 2017, Retail Trade Committee together with the Food Processing Committee prepared the third issue of the AEB Business Quarterly magazine in 2017 devoted to the trends of consumer market.

On 30 November 2017, Committee members held a meeting with Elena Chernyakova, Director of the Department of Information Technologies in the Field of Public and Municipal Finance Management and Information Support of the Budget Process, Russian Ministry of Finance.

On 19 December 2017, Frank Schauff, AEB CEO, Retail Trade and Food Processing Committee members held a meeting with Andrey Kashevarov, Deputy Head, and Timofey Nizhegorodtsev, Head of the Department for Control of Social Sphere and Trade, Federal Antimonopoly Service, on self-regulation. The AEB developed proposals for a possible mechanism for self-regulation in the country's food market, which was crowned with success – the proposed concept of the Market Council, which, within the Association, was agreed upon between both sides of the market – trade chains and suppliers.

Alexey Grigoriev, Committee Chair, participated in the following public events:

- Interstate Council of the CIS on Antitrust Policy;
- Russian Retail Week;
- Conference "Competitive environment in small and medium retail";
- Round table "Profit and Cost in the Food Chain" organised by "Delovaya Rossiya";
- 16th German-Russian Civil Society Forum "Petersburg Dialogue" in Berlin;
- Economic forums in Sochi, St. Petersburg, Vladivostok, Krasnoyarsk, Vladimir;
- Business breakfast on foreign investment at Gaidar Forum.

The AEB Retail Trade Committee members will continue to raise the industry's voice together with other AEB Committees.

SAFETY, HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT & SECURITY COMMITTEE

<p>AIMS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote international Safety, Health, Environment and Security (SHES) standards and best practices among the companies operating in Russia and enhance relevant information exchange between European and Russian business through a common platform. • To advocate Committee's position on the current state and proposed changes in the Russian SHES legislation through channels established by the AEB and in cooperation with other business associations. • To provide AEB members with regular updates on the key issues concerning the SHES sphere development and prospects. 	
<p>CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Valery Kucherov, Partner, ERM Eurasia, Moscow Branch</p>	
<p>DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Mikhail Divovich, General Director, ECOTEAM</p>	
<p>AEB MEMBER COMPANIES</p>	<p>ABB; ALRUD Law Firm; Alstom; Avon Beauty Products Company, LLC; Awara; BASF; BEITEN BURKHARDT Moscow; BP; Boehringer Ingelheim LLC, Control Risks; Corporate Counselling Services Sarl; Corporate Health LLC; Creditreform RUS; CRH; Deloitte; Deutsche Bank Ltd.; DHL Express; DuPont Science and Technologies; E.ON SE; ECOTEAM LLC; Egorov Puginsky Afanasiev & Partners (EPAM); Elite Security GmbH; Enel Russia OJSC; ERM (Environmental Resources Management); FENICE RUS LLC; Fircroft; GRATA Law Firm; Guard-R; HeidelbergCement RUS; IKEA Shopping Centres Russia; International Road Transport Union, Permanent Delegation to Eurasia; International SOS; John Deere Rus, LLC; Komatsu CIS; Linklaters CIS; Manpower Group; Michelin; MIG Business Security Strategies; Noerr OOO; Nokia Solutions and Networks; Norton Rose Fulbright (Central Europe) LLP; Novartis Group; Orange Business Services; Orion Pharma LLC; Pepeliaev Group, LLC; PwC; Repsol Exploracion S.A.; RichartsMeyer; Risk Advisory Group Plc.; Robert Bosch; Rockwool; Saint-Gobain CIS; Sanofi Russia; Schneider Electric; SGS Vostok Limited; Shell Exploration and Production Services (RF) B.V.; Statoil ASA; TNT Express Worldwide (CIS) Ltd.; Toyota Motor, OOO; VISA; Wienerberger.</p>	
<p>NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS</p>	<p>14</p>	
<p>AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED</p>	<p>AEB events</p>	<p>Date</p>
	<p>Best practices in H&S sphere in Russia</p>	<p>17 March 2017</p>
	<p>Round Table within Russian Health and Safety Week 2017: "European companies H&S best practices"</p>	<p>12 April 2017</p>
	<p>Prevention of losses due to abuse, corruption and fraud schemes: resource support for the compliance departments and effective approaches to dealing with information resources</p>	<p>29 May 2017</p>

AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	Complex protection of creditor's interests in bankruptcy proceedings. Asset tracing and recovery	29 November 2017
	Waste collection and processing: practical experience	30 November 2017
	HSE risk management in Russia: opportunities and challenges	7 December 2017
	Workshop with the participation of the representatives of Rosprirodnadzor (the Federal Supervisory Natural Resources Management Service)	15 December 2017
	AEB external events	
	Environmental SC Chairman participated in the Conference "Building materials in Russia"	25 January 2017
	Committee Chairman took part in VIII Northern Dimension Forum (St. Petersburg), Session: "Ecology and Cleantech"	6 April 2017
	Committee members took part in the Conference organised by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment – "Ecotech"	13 December 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The Committee is composed of a number of companies specializing in various areas such as environmental protection, health & safety, security & risk management. The Committee is divided into 4 subsections – Security Subcommittee, Environmental Subcommittee, Health & Safety Subcommittee and Climate Policy Working Group.

2017 was declared to be the year of Ecology in Russia, and the Committee started the year with publication of the Business Quarterly magazine on SHES issues.

In 2017, all Subcommittees were proactive and organised 7 open events. The Environmental Subcommittee held a conference on waste collection and processing and a workshop with the participation of the representatives of Rosprirodnadzor (the Federal Supervisory Natural Resources Management Service). The representatives of the State Duma Environmental Committee joined the Subcommittee's working meetings. The Security Subcommittee organised 2 open events on prevention of losses due to abuse and bankruptcy issues. The Health & Safety Subcommittee held a workshop on best H&S practice sharing; a Round Table within the Russian Health and Safety Week 2017: "European companies H&S best practices" and an open meeting with Igor Bukhtyarov, Director of the Russian Research Institute of Occupational Health. The Committee's annual activities were summed up at the Conference "HSE risk management in Russia: opportunities and challenges".

The Committee actively worked on enhancing cross-committees activities, for example in January-March 2017 the Committee held two meetings with the AEB Energy and Energy Efficiency Committees on the Climate Policy WG 2017 agenda.

In 2017, the Committee initiated a number of lobbying letters on issues that were of special importance for its members, including employees medical checks legislation and emissions monitoring and accounting.

SEED COMMITTEE

AIMS	To represent and lobby for the interests of the member companies based on a consolidated position on the key issues of selection and seed growing through interaction with government bodies, public organisations, branch associations and unions to create and support a favourable climate for business development.
CHAIRPERSON	Vladimir Druzhina , Head of Corn & Oil Crops East Europe, KWS
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON	Denis Zhuravskiy , Head of GR Russia, Syngenta
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Bayer; KWS; Limagrain; Monsanto; Pioneer Hi-Bred Rus; Syngenta.
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	6

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The working meeting of the Deputy Head of FAS A.G. Tsyganov with the heads of Committee member companies was held on 10 February. The issues related to the dependence of the Russian seed production on foreign selection material were discussed at the meeting.

Cooperation with the Department of Agribusiness of the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) continues. Consolidated presentation on behalf of the Committee "Modern breeding and seed-growing achievements for agroproduction needs within EAEU countries" was made by the Committee Chairperson V. Druzhina at the Round Table "Innovation technologies in crop production as a factor of increasing efficiency of agriculture of EAEU member states", which was organised by EEC Department of Agribusiness on 30 March.

The second time Bayer and KWS organised the Round Table "Innovative achievements in selection, seed production and plant protection" in the framework of Days of European Agrotechnologies in KWS Seed Test Station in Lipetskiy region on 29 June. In the consolidated presentation on behalf of the Committee the attention was focused on protection of seed breeders' IP rights, combatting counterfeit seeds and CPP and localisation.

The Agro-Industrial Forum-Exhibition "All-Russian Field Day-2017" was held in the Republic of Tatarstan on the territory of the experimental base of the Tatarstan Research Institute of Agriculture on 5-7 July. Committee members participated actively in the open events, working meetings and negotiations on selection and seed production issues.

The Round Table "Improvement of state crop variety trial system for timely provision of agricultural producers with high-quality seed material" was organised by the Committee together with the State Commission for Selection Achievements Test and Protection at the 19 Russian Agricultural Exhibition "Golden Autumn" on 6 October in the framework of Memorandum of Cooperation.

The Committee Chairperson V. Druzhina presented the Committee consolidated position on seed production localisation in Russia at the Round Table "Import substitution in agro-technologies in conditions of competition with foreign producers" held in Krasnodar on 28 November in the framework of All-Russian Exhibition YugAgro-2017.

SMALL & MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES COMMITTEE

AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of contacts between SMEs and large international corporations within the AEB. • Development and introduction of communication systems between AEB members for raising specific issues for discussion by the Committee and the preparation of recommendations to address those problems. • Effective lobbying for the interests of small businesses with Russian governmental and public organisations. 	
CHAIRPERSON	Orlin Efremov , Managing Partner, Performance Partners LLC	
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON	Alex Medlock , Managing Director, AB Services	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	<p>AB Services; ABBYY LS; Alinga Consulting; ALPE Consulting; ALRUD Law Firm; Antal Russia; Arivist; Banca Intesa; Brother LLC; Center-invest Bank; Citibank ZAO; Cornerstone LLC; Corporate Health LLC; Credendo – Ingosstrakh Credit Insurance LLC; Dentons; Deutsche Lufthansa AG; DHL Express; DoubleTree by Hilton Moscow – Marina; EY; Foodcard; HRG Russia; INVESTMENT COMPANY IC RUSS-INVEST; Intermark Relocation; IWM; Lieu Commun Group; Marsh insurance brokers ZAO; Mazars; Messe Frankfurt RUS Ltd.; Move One INC; NOBLE HOUSE Group Russia; Nordea Bank; Performance Partners LLC; Publicity Consulting Group; Rödl & Partner; Oriflame; PwC; Raiffeisenbank AO; Raiffeisen-Leasing; Renaissance Moscow Hotel Monarch Centre; RH PARTNERS; TNT; Qmatic AB; SCHNEIDER GROUP; SECRETAN TROYANOV SCHAER S.A.; Stupino 1 Industrial Park; TABLOGIX; TMF Group; Troika Relocations Ltd.; TSAR VOYAGES; Volvo Cars LLC; VSK Insurance JSC.</p>	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	6	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	Round Table "Russia-Europe: Cooperation Without Frontiers" organised by the AEB SME Committee within the 10th Annual B2B Forum "Russia-Europe: Cooperation Without Frontiers"	29 June 2017
	AEB Open Event "Digitising Industry: Chance for Small and Medium-Sized Businesses in Russia"	26 September 2017
	AEB external events	
AEB Supported Event "AmCham Business Fair 2017"	17 November 2017	

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

Founded in March 2011, the Small & Medium-Sized Enterprise (SME) Committee unites and represents the common interests of its member companies. The Committee aims to identify the specific needs of small and medium-sized European businesses operating on the Russian market and promote fair business rules by leveraging ethical and efficient inter-company cooperation and information exchange. The ultimate aim is to improve conditions for SMEs' activities in Russia so they can act as a driving force for modernisation.

We believe that it is necessary to take additional steps to further address the issues outlined above, and our future efforts should be directed towards the:

- development of contacts between SMEs and large international corporations within the AEB;
- development and introduction of communication systems between AEB members for raising specific issues for discussion by the Committee and the preparation of recommendations to address the problems;
- effective lobbying for the interests of small businesses in Russian government and public organisations.

In 2017, the AEB Small & Medium-Sized Enterprises Committee contributed to the AEB supported event – Business Fair 2017 organised by the American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham), held on 17 November 2017. The event was organised in a format of pre-arranged one-on-one short meetings and was attended by suppliers, service providers and top managers of large international companies.

On 26 September 2017, the AEB Small & Medium-Sized Enterprises Committee held its open event entitled "Digitising Industry: Chance for Small and Medium-Sized Businesses in Russia". The digitalization changes our society and represents one of the biggest challenges for the economy. Nevertheless a broad majority of small and medium sized companies have rather passive than active attitude towards upcoming possibilities. The event provided a platform for discussion on the following topics: digital transformation as the key factor for survival of SMEs under the reduction in demand and investment, integrated cloud business applications for supply chain and logistics management, and other digital solutions for SMEs.

On 29 June 2017, the AEB Small & Medium-Sized Enterprises Committee held a Round Table entitled "European SMEs in Russia. Doing Business in Russia" within the 10th Annual B2B Forum "Russia-Europe: Cooperation Without Frontiers". The Forum was organised within the Long-Term Integrated Business Partnership Matchmaking Programme "Russia-Europe: Cooperation without Frontiers" operated by the Moscow Entrepreneurs Association since 2009. The global objective of the Programme is to provide technical assistance to Russian and European SMEs in terms of inclusive and sustainable industrialization and generating full and productive employment and decent work at the SMEs level.

The AEB Small & Medium-Sized Enterprises Committee took part in the preparations for the AEB supported event "Business Fair 2017" held by the American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham) on 17 November 2017. The event was organised in a format of pre-arranged one-on-one short meetings and was attended by suppliers, service providers and top managers of large international companies.

SOUTHERN REGIONAL COMMITTEE

AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting, strengthening of business reputation of the AEB in the region. • Interaction with authorities. • Interaction with key non-governmental partners. • Creating an effective platform for business communication. 	
CHAIRPERSON	Oleg Zharko , Regional Corporate Affairs Director, Danone Russia	
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSONS	Ralf Bendisch , General director, CLAAS; Igor Brener , Client HR Manager, Cargill Russia & Ukraine; Lubov Popova , Member of the Directors Board and General Director, Gubsky kirpichniy zavod	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	ABB; Advocates Bureau Yug; Allianz IC OJSC; ANCOR; Atos; Banca Inteza; Bayer ZAO; BONDUELLE Kuban; Cargill; Center-invest Bank; CLAAS OOO; Danone Russia; DPD in Russia; Ergo Insurance Company; EY; Gubskiy kirpichniy zavod; IKEA Shopping Centres Russia (MEGA Adygea-Kuban shopping mall); Knauf South sales direction – regional office of Knauf Gips Ltd. (Krasnodar); KPMG; KrasnodarEXPO (Part of The ITE LLC Moscow); KWS RUS LLC; Legrand Group; Limagrain RU LLC; Liniya Prava Law Firm; Monsanto Rus LLC; Nestle Kuban LLC; OTP Bank; Philip MorrisKuban OAO; Philips LLC; PwC; Raiffeisenbank AO; Rosbank; Saint-Gobain CIS; Schneider Electric; Siemens LLC; Syngenta OOO; Tebodin Eastern Europe B.V.; UniCredit Bank AO; VEGAS LEX Advocate Bureau; VimpelCom PJSC (Beeline); VLI Vostok; Volvo Cars LLC; VSK IOJSC; YIT Construction.	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	Committee meetings – 2 Steering Group meetings – 5 HR Subcommittee meetings – 4	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	Round Table "Organisation of safe work of contractor organisations"	14 June 2017
	Round Table "Food safety"	22 September 2017
	Annual Reception AEB SRC	25 October 2017
	Round Table on HR issues: digital technologies	9 November 2017
	AEB external events	
	Co-organising and participation in the Meeting of the Regional Foreign Investment Advisory Council under the Governor of the Krasnodar region	19 January 2017

AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	Round Table "Interaction of business, government and society in the formation of strategy of social-economic development of the region"	17 February 2017
	Participation in the business programme at the stand of the Krasnodar region in the frame of Sochi Invest Forum 2017	27 February 2017
	Round Table "Issues of environmental liability in the field of agro-industry"	14 April 2017
	HR-conference "Experience in the development of human capital: the impact to the investment attractiveness of the Krasnodar region"	18 May 2017
	Co-organising of the Working group "Economy: Russia and Germany – building the future together" in the frame of XIV Conference of partner cities of Russia and Germany "Establishing contacts – initiating projects – building trust: impulses for the development of German-Russian relations" included 2 panel discussions: "Russian-German cooperation: crisis or new growth prospects?"; "German business in Russia: success and prospects for development"	29 June 2017
	Co-organising and participation in the Meeting of Regional Foreign Investment Advisory Council under the Governor of the Krasnodar region	1 August 2017
	Round Table: Strategy of innovation as a factor of investment attractiveness of the region	9 November 2017
	Conference: Social Corporate Partnership. Corporate Volunteering: Regional Practices and the Vector of Development	7 December 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The Committee was created in 2003 to ensure that investors are able to utilize the investment opportunities in the region to their fullest potential. Currently the Committee unites 44 companies: leading foreign investors and international banks that have affiliates operating in the Krasnodar, Rostov-on-Don, Stavropol regions and Adygei Republic.

In 2017, the companies (members of the AEB Southern Regional Committee) actively participated in working out of the development strategy of the Krasnodar region 2030 and took an active part in the work of the Regional Foreign Investments Advisory Council under the Governor of the Krasnodar region. 14 companies out of 16 are included in the composition of the Advisory Council are AEB members. The coordinator of working with foreign investors and leaders of the Advisory Council working groups are the representatives of the AEB member companies.

Representatives of the AEB Southern Regional Committee member companies:

- members of the Regional Foreign Investments Advisory Council under the Governor of the Krasnodar region;
- members of the Council on Improvement of Investment Climate under the Governor of the Krasnodar region;
- members of the Regional Expert Group "Agencies of Strategic Initiatives" on Implementation of Investment Standards in the Krasnodar region;
- members of the Council on Industrial Policy under the Governor of the Krasnodar region;
- members of the Expert Committee of the Legislative Assembly of the Krasnodar region.

The Southern Regional Committee continued activities in the field of HR issues, strengthening of collaboration with universities through the support by the AEB member companies of the Business Schools of the Kuban State Technological and Kuban State Agrarian Universities.

In summary, the Southern Regional Committee has become recognised as a leading representative of international companies and investors in the region with high business reputation.

TAXATION COMMITTEE

AIMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To monitor development of tax system in Russia. • To inform AEB members on important changes to the tax legislation and tax practice. • To organise regular meetings, open events and conferences for European and Russian companies. • To present the leading international practices in the taxation sphere in Russia. • To formulate and present the AEB position on taxation issues. • To cooperate with relevant governmental bodies on tax issues and tax administration. 	
CHAIRPERSON	Alina Lavrentieva , Partner, PwC	
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON	Vadim Zaripov , Head of Analytical Department, Pepeliaev Group LLC	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	<p>AGRANA Fruit Moscow Region; Akzo Nobel N.V.; Alinga Consulting Group; Alkor and Co; Alrud; Andrey Gorodissky And Partners Law Firm; AstraZeneca Ltd.; Auchan; Baker Botts LLP.; Baker McKenzie CIS Ltd.; Bauke van der Meer; BEITEN BURKHARDT; Boehringer Ingelheim Pharma GmbH; Boiron; BMW Russland Trading OOO; British American Tobacco Russia; Clifford Chance; CMS Russia; Continental Tires RUS; Debevoise and Plimpton; Deloitte; Delonghi; Dentons; Dewey & Le-Boeuf; DHL Express; DLA Piper; DuPont Science & Technologies LLC; Ernst & Young (CIS) B.V.; Egorov, Puginsky, Afanasiev& Partners; Ferrero; Gide Loyrette Nouel; GOLTSBLAT BLP; HSBC; IKB Leasing; IKEA; KIAP; KPMG; L'Oreal; Mazars; Mercedes-Benz Financial Services; Messe Frankfurt Rus OOO; Metro Cash & Carry; M.Video; Nissan Manufacturing; NORD OUTSOURCING; Noerr; OBI Russia; Pavia & Ansaldo; Pepeliaev Group; PwC; Procter & Gamble; Rödl& Partner; Sanofi; Schneider Group; Shell; YUST; Zentis Russland.</p>	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	8	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	Beneficial owner of income – practical aspects	1 March 2017
	Development of the Russian Tax System: results of the first half of 2017 and perspectives	28 June 2017
	Tax planning: new boundaries	27 October 2017
	Development of the Russian Tax System: results of 2017 and perspectives	19 December 2017

AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB external events	
	Preparation of the AEB's position on the development of the tax system for Frank Schauff's speech at the session "Adjusting the Tax System: Goals and Parameters" of the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum	2 June 2017
	Preparation of the AEB's position on the development of the tax system for Frank Schauff's speech at the session "Tax Policy – Opportunities and Alternatives" of the Moscow Financial Forum	8 September 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The Taxation Committee deals with the most up-to-date taxation issues introduced by the Russian Government and proactively develops solutions in close cooperation with the Ministry of Finance and the Federal Tax Service.

In 2017, the Taxation Committee held 8 working meetings and 4 business events, which were of great value to the European and Russian executives. The representatives of the Russian Ministry of Finance and Federal Tax Service, with whom the Committee has developed long-standing cooperative relationships, were invited to speak at meetings and events. Alexey Overchuk, Deputy Head of the Federal Tax Service, took part in the Annual Conference on 19 December 2017 and discussed international taxation issues with the Committee members. In cooperation with the AEB Migration and HR Committees, Taxation Committee held an open event dedicated to foreign employees' remuneration system.

The Committee was actively involved in preparation of the AEB's position on the development of the tax system for AEB CEO Frank Schauff's speeches at the session "Adjusting the Tax System: Goals and Parameters" of the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum 2017 and "Tax Policy – Opportunities and Alternatives" of the Moscow Financial Forum. The Committee also participated in the RSPP's project – "Corporate Taxation Award".

The Committee identified taxation issues that were of a great concern for international companies – VAT on e-commerce, amendments to the legislation on audit secrecy, economic justification of expenses for taxation and tax control purposes, movable property taxation, to name just a few, and addressed them to the state authorities.

TIRE PRODUCERS COMMITTEE

AIMS	To deal with all issues relevant to the industry and represent the interests of its members in relation to Russian and European authorities.	
CHAIRPERSON	Jaron Wiedmaier , General Director, Continental Tires Rus	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Continental Tires Rus; Michelin; Nokian Tyres; Pirelli Tyre Russia; Yokohama Russia.	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	1	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	Participation in the event "Waste Management: the new Russian waste legislation and its practical steps" (together with AEB Committees)	30 November 2017
	AEB external events	
	III International Automotive Forum "TIAF 2017 supported by Automechanika" in Kazan	29-31 March 2017
	International Moscow Automotive Forum IMAF 2017 in Moscow	22-23 August 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

On 13 November 2013, the Tire Producers Working Group was transformed to a separate Tire Producers Committee.

Current situation with the tires labeling in the EAEU states

Currently, at the level of the EAEU and the Russian Federation, there is discussion on the further introduction of a system for labeling goods that has proven to be successful based on the example of the control of fur products turnover. Alternatively, the possibility of labeling tires for the prevention of counterfeit products and illegal import (for example, without paying all taxes and fees) of tires produced in other countries is considered.

Current situation with the TR EAEU "On chemical products safety"

In mid-2017, the Technical Regulations of the Customs Union were published; they prescribe a number of procedures for the identification, notification and registration of chemicals and mixtures that are applied in the territory of the Customs Union. Due to the fact that the Technical Regulations do not contain clear procedures for the implementation by the producers and importers of the prescribed actions, the introduction of the Technical Regulations into effect was postponed until mid-2021. During this period, procedures and methods for the implementation of the requirements of the Technical Regulations should be developed.

The obligation to conduct the state environmental expertise of organisations disposing of tires and already having a license for this activity, in certain cases

Published by Rosprirodnadzor (the Federal Service for Supervision of Natural Resource Usage), the recommended act of tire disposal requires the specification of the findings on the state environmental expertise for the technology in cases determined by Federal Law No. 174-FL dated November 23, 1995 "On Environmental Expertise".

According to clause 5 of Art. 11 of 174-FL dated November 23, 1995 "On Environmental Expertise", the object of state environmental expertise are "draft technical documentation for new machinery, technology, the use of which may have an impact on the environment, as well as technical documentation for new substances that may get into the environment". This requirement applies to the technologies that appeared after 1995.

Situation with increase in the tire disposal standards

In 2016-2017, some of the toughest standards among the products included in the list of goods subject to disposal after the loss of their consumer properties were established for tires at 15% and 20%, respectively. At the same time, in 2017 most tire manufacturers opted for the independent fulfillment of responsibility for ensuring the disposal of waste from the use of goods. At the same time, Committee members are forced to note that it takes some time to increase, above all, the percentage of waste collection, and to increase the level of waste products sales, as well as to make changes in its regulation based on practical experience.

20th Russian Automotive Forum, organised by Adam Smith Conferences	15-16 March 2017
ASM Holding Autocomponents Conference	26 April 2017
Business breakfast "Automotive Market Trends in Russia" by GFK	8 June 2017
Annual meeting with ACEA (Brussels, Belgium)	19 June 2017
IV Eurasian Economic Congress	6 December 2017

COATINGS INDUSTRY WORKING GROUP

AIMS	To represent and lobby interests of coatings industry companies in Russia.	
CHAIRPERSON	Peter de Groot , General Director, AO "Hempel".	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Akzo Nobel N.V.; Allnex Belgorod LLC; Covestro LLC; Dow Europe GmbH Representation Office; DSM; Hempel; Lamberti Rus; PPG; Resinex; Solvay.	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	2	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	WG meeting with "Centrlak" Association on localisation and cooperation	11 July 2017
	AEB external events	
	Meeting with A. Orlov, Deputy Director of the Chemical Department at the Ministry of Industry and Trade, on localisation for coatings industry	27 March 2017
	Business Breakfast with participation of the Coatings Industry WG companies	19 April 2017
	Round table on localisation organised by the Chemical Department of the Ministry of Industry and Trade	25 October 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The main issue of interest for the Coatings Industry WG is localisation in Russia and its specific requirements imposed by Minpromtorg. In order to clarify this issue, the WG organised a number of meetings with Ministry of Industry and Trade officials, as well as "Centrlak" Association, which represents Russian producers of coatings materials.

Combatting and elimination of counterfeit products is also an issue of interest to the WG companies.

HOTELS & TOURISM WORKING GROUP

AIMS	To consolidate, coordinate and lobby for the interests of AEB member companies working in the tourism and hotel industries; to exchange information on best practices and the challenges for business on the Moscow hotels market.	
CHAIRPERSON	Armin Eberhard , General Manager, Renaissance Moscow Monarch Centre Hotel	
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Ararat Park Hyatt Moscow; Azimut Moscow Olympic Hotel; AZIMUT Hotel Smolenskaya Moscow; Baltshug Kempinski Hotel Moscow; Four Seasons; Hilton Moscow Leningradskaya Hotel; Hilton Garden Inn New Riga; Ibis Moscow Paveletskaya Hotel; Intercontinental Moscow Tverskaya Hotel; Marriot Arbat Moscow Hotel; Mercure Arbat Moscow Hotel; Mercure Moscow Paveletskaya; Metropol Moscow Hotel; Novotel Moscow City Hotel; Radisson Royal Hotel; Renaissance Moscow Monarch Centre Hotel; Sheraton Moscow Sheremetyevo Airport; Swissotel.	
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	6	
AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB events	Date
	AEB Day in St. Petersburg Joint meeting of the AEB Hotels & Tourism Working Group and North-Western Regional Committee	11 April 2017
	Briefing by N. Gulayev, Minister for Sport and Tourism of Moscow	14 June 2017
	Employer Branding in the Hospitality Industry	15 November 2017
	AEB external events	
VI International Exhibition "Hotel Expo 2017. Business Forum of hospitality industry development in Moscow"	10 October 2017	

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The Hotels & Tourism Working Group continued with its productive and informative series of monthly meetings of hotels in the city, exchanging experience and tackling administrative and market-driven challenges. The key meeting was the pre-FIFA Confederations Cup gathering of Moscow administrative and security departments to clarify final arrangements for the event, ironing out questions about immigration, security handling and transport in the city.

The Working Group continues to offer the government the opportunity to share and discuss, ready to embrace electronic registration in testing with the MVD as a uniformed standard of operations and pushes for transparency and meaningful regulation and integration of the city's large hospitality industry within the planning of Moscow's urban development for its residents and guests.

On 14 June 2017, the AEB Hotels & Tourism Working Group held a briefing by Mr. Nikolay Gulayev, Minister for Sport and Tourism of Moscow, together with high ranking representatives from the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, Moscow Security Department and Rospotrebnadzor at the Renaissance Moscow Monarch Centre Hotel.

The briefing was focused on the main directives in security, transport infrastructure, logistics, sanitary migration and marketing issues during the Confederations Cup 2017 and FIFA 2018.

The event was chaired by Mr. Armin Eberhard, AEB H&T WG Chairperson, General Manager of the Renaissance Moscow Monarch Centre Hotel, and Mr. Konstantin Goryainov, Deputy Minister for Sport and Tourism of Moscow.

Mr. Gulyaev opened the event with a welcoming speech and confirmed that the Moscow Government was open for co-operation and support of hospitality business. Therefore, based on the AEB H&T WG questions sent prior to the meeting, the Moscow Government invited the representatives of other governmental bodies for a dialogue.

Mr. Armin Eberhard raised the most important questions on behalf of the WG members concerning the security cordon strategy; blocking the city center for period of games, parades and other festivities; migration registration and Rospotrebnadzor requirements.

Ms. Elena Andreeva, Head of Rospotrebnadzor of Moscow, informed about inspection plan and sanitary standards for the hotels which accommodate the football teams.

Mr. Vladimir Ivanov, Deputy Head of Moscow Migration Department of MVD of Russia, briefed on migration registration of Moscow guests, fans, and foreign citizens in hotels during CC 2017 and FIFA 2018, and cooperation between MVD and hotels for this period.

Mr. Alexander Kononets, Deputy Head of Moscow Security Department, informed about Moscow transport infrastructure, security, city centre closure for the period of games.

On 15 November 2017, the AEB Hotels & Tourism Working Group and the AEB Human Resources Committee held a joint open event entitled "Employer Branding in the Hospitality Industry".

The event was designed to highlight the benefits and opportunities which exist in the hospitality industry and, in particular, the hotel industry in Moscow.

The event provided a platform for discussing the most topical challenges faced by hospitality industry as regards HR sector, and possible responses to these challenges.

The participants of the event had a possibility to learn about the hospitality performance management process, selecting development activities on and off the job, what is important for any successful relationship in the hospitality, HR brand external & internal promotion through social networks, efficient tools of employees engagement and retention.

The presentations were delivered by Anna Kireeva, Area HR Director, Eastern Europe, the Rezidor Hotel Group; Andrey Goroshnikov, Director of Learning and Development Department, Radisson Royal Hotel Moscow; Denis Chuev, Recruiter and TakeCare Champion, Moscow Marriott Hotel Novy Arbat; Evgenia Mardenskaya, Director of Human Resources, Moscow Marriott Novy Arbat; Anton Lovtakov, Assistant Director of Human Resources, Four Seasons; Yulia Litvinenko, Assessment and Career Development Consultant, CASE HR Consulting, ANCOR.

NON-FOOD FMCG WORKING GROUP

AIMS	To provide aligned position of non-FMCG manufacturers to relevant stakeholders on the most important industrial issues and topics.
CHAIRPERSON	Sergey Bykovskikh , President, Henkel Russia
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Avon, Henkel, L'Oreal, Oriflame, Procter & Gamble.
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	2

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

The Non-food FMCG Working Group was established by the decision of the AEB Board in July 2017 following the initiative of AEB member companies operating in home care and cosmetics industry.

In 2017, the Working Group's activities were focused on formulating its strategic agenda, aligning the WG members' positions and establishing contacts with relevant authorities, e.g. with the Russian Ministry of Industry and Trade on import substitution of raw materials, components and packaging, and with the Russian Ministry of Finance on regulation of alcohol-containing perfumes and cosmetics.

TOBACCO PRODUCTS WORKING GROUP

AIMS	To provide aligned position of non-FMCG manufacturers to relevant stakeholders on the most important industrial issues and topics.
CHAIRPERSON	Sergey Kiselev , Vice President for Corporate Affairs and Communications, JTI Russia
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	British American Tobacco Russia; Imperial Tobacco Sales and Marketing; JTI Russia; Philip Morris Sales & Marketing.
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	6

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

In 2017, the WG activities were focused on aligning and presenting to relevant stakeholders the WG's position on the following issues:

- new draft concept of tobacco control for 2017-2022 developed by the Ministry of Healthcare;
- excise policy;
- countering illicit trade;
- maximum retail price (MRP) notification procedure;
- potential ban on retail sales below MRP and minimum retail sales price regulation;
- introduction of track and trace system;
- regulation of electronic nicotine and non-nicotine delivery systems.

WORKING GROUP ON MODERNISATION & INNOVATIONS

<p>AIMS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assist companies involved in research and development in Russia. • To represent the interests of the R&D community and executives in this sphere. • To develop recommendations for regulations and the legal framework in order to improve conditions for the activities of foreign interests. • To exchange information between companies on modernisation and innovative trends in Russia, various international practices and political methods and their application in Russian conditions. • To share experience in the sphere of collaboration with Russian innovation and educational centres, intellectual property, commercialization of innovation, and production of prototypes. • To attract sources of innovation and human resources, including the identification of opportunities to raise capital through Russian and foreign channels of financing. 	
<p>CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Michael Akim, Vice-President, ABB Russia</p>	
<p>DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON</p>	<p>Aage V. Nielsen, Managing Director & Senior Partner, Vitus Bering Management Ltd.</p>	
<p>AEB MEMBER COMPANIES</p>	<p>ABB, American Institute of Business and Economics, Atlas Copco JSC, BearingPoint OOO, Caterpillar Eurasia LLC, Credendo – Ingosstrakh Credit Insurance LLC, DELCREDA, Deloitte CIS, Detecon International GmbH, Dow Europe GmbH Representation office, DuPont Science and Technologies, EDF Russie, Enel Russia, ERGO Insurance Company, Eversheds Sutherland, EY, Ferrero Russia CJSC, Ford Sollers Holding LLC, Gasunie, GE (General Electric International (Benelux) B.V.), Gorodissky & Partners, IKB Leasing AO, Johnson Matthey PLC, Legrand Group, Liniya Prava Law Firm, Merck, Nokia, PBN Hill+Knowlton Strategies, Philips LLC, PwC, Saint-Gobain CIS, Schneider Electric, SCHNEIDER GROUP, Siemens, Solvay S.A., TABLOGIX, Tekes – the Finnish Funding Agency for Innovation, TMF Group, United Technologies International Operations, Inc., Representative Office, Vitus Bering Management Ltd.</p>	
<p>NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS</p>	<p>5</p>	
<p>AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED</p>	<p>AEB events</p>	<p>Date</p>
	<p>Open Committee meeting: briefing with A. Shadrin, Director of the Department of Strategic Projects and Innovations, Russian Ministry of Economic Development</p>	<p>14 July 2017</p>

AEB OPEN EVENTS ORGANISED	AEB external events	
	AEB session: "IoT. What is needed to improve production efficiency?" at the Open Innovations Forum	16 October 2017
	AEB session on trends in cooperation of Russian universities and international businesses at the VuzPromExpo exhibition	13 December 2017

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

On 11 July 2017, during the Innoprom 2017, the AEB Machine Building Committee and the Working Group on Modernisation & Innovations co-organised the session titled "Transport machine building in search of compromise. Modernization. Localization. Specialization". Michael Akim, Chairman of the AEB Working Group on Modernisation & Innovations, Vice-President of ABB Russia, moderated the session.

The panel of speakers included Philippe Pegorier, AEB Board Member, President, Alstom Transport; Eiichi Makino, Automotive Parts Localization Director, AVTOVAZ-Renault-Nissan Purchasing Organization; Johan Vanderplaetse, Senior Vice-President of Schneider Electric; Valentin Gapanovich, President, Association of Railway Equipment Manufacturers; Thierry Lassus, Head of ABB Railway Infrastructure and E-Bus Initiative, ABB Switzerland; Vladimir Maltsev, Eurasian Economic Commission. The experts talked about trends of transport machine building industry development in Russia and the EAEU and its localisation aspect.

On 14 July 2017, the AEB Working Group on Modernisation & Innovations held the open meeting with Artyom Shadrin, Director of the Department for Strategic Development and Innovations of the Russian Ministry of Economic Development. Mr. Shadrin briefed the AEB members on innovation related activities of the Ministry, including cluster policy, support on Russian "gazelles", coordination of innovation strategies of state-owned companies, etc.

On 16 October 2017, the Working Group co-organised the session at the Open Innovations Forum in Skolkovo Technopark. The event titled "IoT. What is needed to improve production efficiency?" was moderated by the Chairman of the AEB Working Group on Modernisation & Innovations, Vice-president at ABB Russia Michael Akim.

Among the speakers were First Deputy Chairman of AEB Board, CFO at Siemens Russia Alexander Liberov; General Director of NPO Avtomatiki Andrey Misyura, CTO at Airbus Axel Flaig; Chairman of the Board of Directors of JSC Rotec Mikhail Lifshitz, Chairman & VP for Government Relations at Honeywell Russia Leonid Sorokin and others. The discussion participants talked about key business models of the industrial Internet, progress of the development of industrial Internet in Russia and the main obstacles to embracing industrial Internet in Russia and abroad.

On 9 November 2017, the Working Group held the open meeting with Maxim Shereikin, General Director of the Agency of Technological Development. Mr. Shereikin made the presentation of the projects implemented by the Agency, which was created by the Russian Government decree in order to facilitate technology transfer to Russia and modernisation of Russian enterprises.

The meeting resulted in the Agency's cooperation proposal to the AEB, which includes:

- search for technology vendor among AEB participants according to ATD request;
- promotion of partner technologies through ATD technology marketplace;
- joint events.

The AEB members expressed their interest in such cooperation. Thus, the AEB will consider the possibility to conclude a framework cooperation agreement to the Agency.

On 13 December 2017, the Working Group held the session at the national exhibition VuzPromExpo devoted to the trends in cooperation of Russian universities and international businesses. The speakers at the event were: Artyom Shadrin, Director of the Department of Strategic Projects and Innovations, Russian Ministry of Economic Development; Ekaterina Babeliuk, Vice-Rector of St. Petersburg State University; Mikhail Filonov, Vice-Rector of National University of Technology and Science MISIS; Alexander Popov, Baltic State University; Richard Burger, Research & Innovation Counsellor, Delegation of the European Union to Russia; Ivan Glushkov, Deputy General Director, Stada CIS; Emanuele Volpe, Innovations Manager, Enel Russia, and Galina Burova, General Manager of Nokia Training Centre. The session was moderated by the Chairman of the AEB Working Group on Modernisation & Innovations, Vice-President at ABB Russia Michael Akim.

Among other things, the participants discussed barriers to cooperation of businesses and universities, including tax risks related to internships and difficulties in implementation of projects under the Russian Government Decree No. 218, and decided to take actions aimed at overcoming these obstacles.

WORKING GROUP ON THE REGULATION OF CHEMICAL PRODUCTS

AIM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of the establishment of the Working Group is to harmonize EU and EAEU regulation on the safety of chemical products, so that to escape additional barriers for European manufacturers doing business in Russia. TR EAEU 041/2017 "On the safety of chemical products" (adopted by the EEC Decision No.19 on 3 March 2017, hereinafter the TR EAEU) and the main problems related to it.
CHAIRPERSON	Christoph Roehrig , Vice President Market Area Russia & CIS; Managing Director OOO BASF
AEB MEMBER COMPANIES	Akzo Nobel N.V.; Avon Beauty Products Company; BASF; Caterpillar; Continental Tires LLC; Dow Europe; Dupont Science and Technologies LLC; Evonik Industries; Hempel; Henkel Rus; JTI; LANXESS OOO; KNAUF; Merck LLC; Michelin; PPG Industries; Procter & Gamble; Rockwool; Solvay; Wabtec Corporation.
NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS	2

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES, 2017

On the first meeting in July, Elena Rybakova, Michelin, and Irina Kartashova, Procter&Gamble, briefed all the participants about the TR EAEU 041/2017 "On the safety of chemical products" (adopted by the EEC Decision No. 19 on 3 March 2017, hereinafter the TR EAEU) and the main problems related to it. It was discussion about the transitional period, register of chemical products, terms and definitions, confidentiality of information and conformity assessment procedures.

The AEB Working Group on the Regulation of Chemical Products elected Christoph Roehrig, BASF, as a Chairman at its first official meeting after the AEB Board Meeting in September where the establishment of the Working Group on the Regulation of Chemical Products was approved.

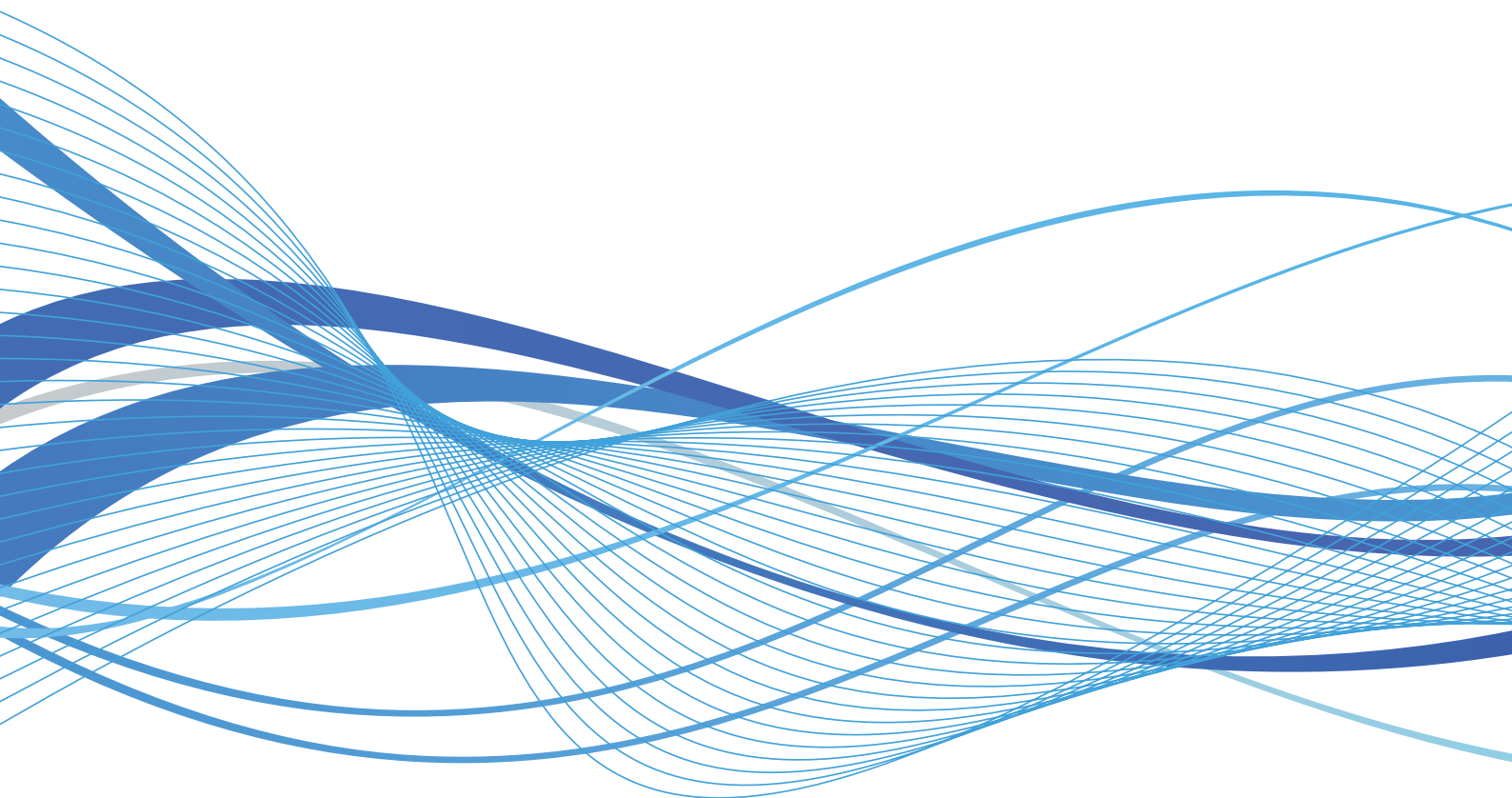
The purpose of the establishment of the Working Group is to harmonize EU and EAEU regulation on the safety of chemical products, so that to escape additional barriers for European manufacturers doing business in Russia.

Working Group Activities:

- AEB position was sent to the EEC, Minpromtorg of Russia and Rosstandart on 10 March 2017;
- participation of AEB representatives in the EEC meeting (4 July) on approval of the procedure for the establishment and maintenance of the register of chemical substances and mixtures;
- AEB letter to Minpromtorg of Russia (5 July) asking to include AEB representatives to working groups that would be established within the Ministry and the EEC;
- participation of AEB representatives in the EEC meeting (5 September) on approval of the procedure for the establishment and maintenance of the register of chemical substances and mixtures;
- participation of AEB representatives in the Round Table on "Regulations on Chemical Products in the Commonwealth of Independent States";
- AEB letter to Minpromtorg of Russia and EEC (5 December) asking to include the AEB WG members into the inter-state expert WG at the EEC;
- AEB position on the main areas of concern addressed to EEC, Minpromtorg, CEFIC (25 December).

Financial Statements & Membership Statistics

2017



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Consolidated statement of financial position as of December 31, 2017

	December 31, 2017 (in EUR'000)	December 31, 2016 (in EUR'000)
ASSETS		
Non-Current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment	46	35
Intangible assets	28	47
Investments in associates	42	–
Deferred tax assets	7	4
Total Non-Current Assets	123	86
Current Assets		
Other assets	25	43
Trade accounts receivable	27	23
Prepayments	64	73
Other debtors	46	42
Investments in short-term deposits	–	1 400
Cash and cash equivalents	3 062	1 677
Total Current Assets	3 224	3 258
Total Assets	3 347	3 344
Liabilities and unreserved fund balance		
Unreserved fund balance	1 704	1 505
Current liabilities		
Prepaid membership fees	1 436	1 563
Trade payables	57	109
Provisions	114	93
Other liabilities	36	74
Total current liabilities	1 643	1 839
Total liabilities and unreserved fund balance	3 347	3 344

Consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended December 31, 2017

	Year ended December 31, 2017 (in EUR'000)	Year ended December 31, 2016 (in EUR'000)
Membership fees	2 321	2 384
Events	195	195
Projects	361	342
Publications	14	10
Other revenues	150	59
Total revenues	3 041	2 990
Operating expenditures, net	(2 844)	(2 562)
Operating profit	197	428
Share of profit of associates	47	(3)
Profit before income tax	244	425
Income tax expense	(60)	(32)
Net profit for the year	184	393
Other comprehensive income/(loss) for the year	130	(424)
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year	314	(31)

Consolidated statement of changes in unreserved fund balance for the year ended December 31, 2017

	December 31, 2016 (in EUR'000)	Prior year profit/ (loss) (in EUR'000)	Current year profit/ (loss) (in EUR'000)	Foreign cur- rency transla- tion reserve (in EUR'000)	December 31, 2017 (in EUR'000)
Unreserved fund balance	1 195	(31)	–	341	1 505
Total comprehensive income/ (loss)	310	31	314	(456)	199
Including:					
Net profit/(loss)	(31)	31	314	–	314
Foreign currency translation differences	341	–	–	(456)	(115)
Unreserved fund balance	1 505	–	314	(115)	1 704

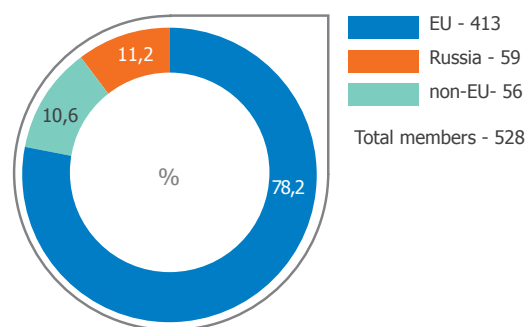
MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Members Paid for 2017 Sorted by Country

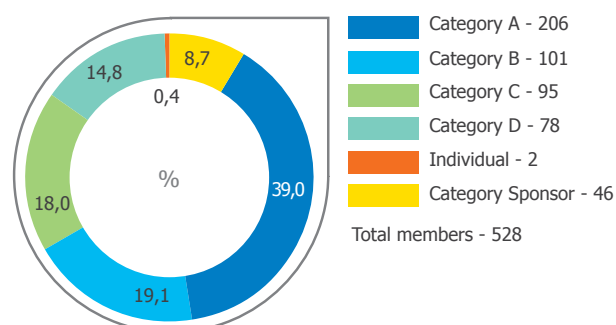
Country EU/EFTA	Total Quantity
Austria	13
Belgium	8
Bulgaria	1
Croatia	1
Cyprus	8
Czech Republic	1
Denmark	10
Finland	31
France	59
Germany	96
Hungary	7
Ireland	4
Italy	23
Luxembourg	1
Malta	1
Netherlands	39
Norway	1
Poland	1
Slovakia	2
Spain	7
Sweden	21
Switzerland	21
UK	56
Total: 412	

Country Non-EU/EFTA	Total Quantity
Australia	2
Canada	1
China	1
Israel	1
Japan	13
Republic of Korea	8
Russia	60
Singapore	1
Turkey	1
USA	28
Total 116	

AEB Members by Country, 2017



AEB Members by Category, 2017



AEB SPONSORS 2018

Allianz IC OJSC	Merck LLC
Atos	Messe Frankfurt Rus
Bank Credit Suisse (Moscow)	MetLife
BP	METRO AG
BSH Russia	Michelin
Cargill Enterprises Inc.	Novartis Group
CHEP Rus	OBI Russia
Clifford Chance	Oriflame
Continental Tires RUS LLC	Philips Lighting
Crocus International	Porsche Russland
Deloitte	Procter & Gamble
DuPont Science & Technologies	PwC
Enel Russia OJSC	Raiffeisenbank AO
ENGIE	ROCA
Eni S.p.A	Shell Exploration & Production Services (RF) B.V.
EY	SOGAZ Insurance Group
FAURECIA Automotive Development LLC	Statoil Russia AS
GE (General Electric International (Benelux) B.V.)	Total E&P Russie
HeidelbergCement	Unipro PJSC
ING Wholesale Banking in Russia	VimpelCom PJSC (Beeline)
John Deere Rus, LLC	Volkswagen Group Rus OOO
KPMG	YIT
ManpowerGroup	YOKOHAMA RUSSIA LLC
Mercedes-Benz Russia	



Insurance and Pensions
Banking Machine Building
Human Resources Insurance and Pensions
Banking Machine Building
& Engineering
Human Resources
Connective. Health and Pharmaceuticals
Health and Pharmaceuticals
Finance and Investments
IT and Telecom
Effective.
Commercial Vehicle Producers
Energy Agribusiness
Intellectual Property
Home Appliance **Taxation**
Informative.
Real Estate Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises
Real Estate Migration
Home Appliance
Construction Equipment
Home Appliance
Construction Equipment

WE HAVE BEEN SUPPORTING
EUROPEAN COMPANIES IN RUSSIA SINCE 1995

