



The AEB Monthly



Dear Readers,

Welcome to the May 2013 edition of the AEB
Newsletter!

Before the May holidays take their toll we would like to summarize what was done last month. The spring business season, which is almost over, was marked by some interesting developments. The discussion on the parallel imports draft law has been intensified recently, and the AEB puts a lot of efforts to ensure that the voice of European businesses is heard at a high level.

In April the AEB event schedule was very busy. On 4 April, 2013 the 4th Northern Dimension Forum took place in St. Petersburg. This event brought together high-level speakers and provided more than 300 attendants with an opportunity to discuss the key economic and business issues which are important to the North-Western region. On the 18th the most important event of the year, the Annual General Meeting, was held. More than 300 representatives of AEB member companies attended and exercised their right to vote. On 25 April, 2013 the AEB organized a briefing by Igor Artemiev, Head of the RF Federal Antimonopoly Service, who traditionally gave presentation on current state of affairs in the antimonopoly legislation sphere.

Also the AEB's major publications, such as the AEB Business Quarterly magazine, the Position Paper and the Annual Report 2012, were released in April.

The AEB will continue working to represent the interests of European businesses in Russia at the highest possible level.

Sincerely yours,
Frank Schauff, CEO
Association of European Businesses

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Major AEB Lobbying Activities in April 2013

- **Draft law on outstaffing.** The 2nd hearing of the **draft law on outstaffing** took place in the State Duma on April 26, 2013. Although the adopted draft law includes some provisions regulating secondment and there is no complete ban, its use is limited and still needs to be improved. AEB continues its intensive dialogue with the Ministry of Economic Development (MED), Ministry of Labour, the State Duma and is going to provide concrete proposals before the 3rd reading which is likely to take place during this spring session.
- **Parallel imports draft law.** The AEB addressed the RF President and RF Prime Minister with regard to the preliminary decision by the RF Government on the liberalization of **parallel imports**, highlighting the possible risks of such a decision, the most serious of which might be a decrease in further investment in the Russian economy.
- **Draft Customs Union model law.** The AEB participated in an international conference organized by the Eurasian Economic Commission on a draft Customs Union model law on protection of competition, where we once again we presented our position on parallel imports.
- **Seasonal restrictions for heavy trucks over 12 tons.** The Regulation introducing these restrictions was not supported by the Ministry of Economic Development (MED), was not registered by the Ministry of Justice and was not introduced.
- **Waste Management law.** The 2nd reading of the Waste Management law has been postponed. However, the RF President held a meeting on waste management at which it was preliminarily decided to analyse the possibility of establishing an extra-budgetary state fund to collect fees. The question on the mechanism of implementation of producer's responsibility remains open. The AEB is in close contact with the State Duma, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Ecology and other state bodies involved in the legislative process, and stands for an industrial approach to recycling.

Other activities:

- Negotiations with the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the State Duma and other state bodies on changes to legislation on **disposal fees**;
- Monitoring the **Reform of the Civil Code**;
- Dialogue with the Ministry of Finance and the MED on the **reform of insurance legislation** (e.g. a draft law on foreign insurers);
- Dialogue with the Eurasian Economic Commission, the State Duma and the Federal Customs Service regarding changes to **customs legislation**;
- Consultation with the MED and the State Duma on a **draft law on public private partnerships**.

The new Position Paper is released.
Please click [here](#) to read!



We will keep you updated about recent developments!

For more details please contact **Maya Limonnikova, AEB Legal Advisor** at maya.limonnikova@aebrus.ru

Upcoming AEB Events

Date	Title	Venue	Time
16 May, 2013	HR Conference: 10 years of HR in Russia: Achievements & prospects	Moscow, Marriott Grand Hotel	9.30-17.30
22 May, 2013	10th Flagship Conference: Russia: What strategy in a changing world?	Moscow, Marriott Grand Hotel	9.00-14.30
24 May, 2013	IP Annual Conference: Intellectual Property Rights: recent trends, court practices? Problems and solutions	EU Delegation Conference Room	9.00-15.00
31 May, 2013	Briefing by Dmitry Yalov, the Vice-Governor of Leningrad Oblast	St. Petersburg, TBC	10:00-12:00

For more information please visit [AEB website](#)

AEB Training Programmes

Date	Title	Provider	Venue	Time
29 May, 2013	Improving own and team effectiveness (MBTI®)	Ernst&Young	St.Petersburg, TBC	09:30-16:30
31 May, 2013	Proactive Telephone Selling	WORK SERVICE	Moscow, AEB Conference Center	9.30-16.30

For more information please visit [our website](#) or consult Elena Khlebnikova, AEB Training Programs Manager, at elena.khlebnikova@aebrus.ru

Briefing by Michail Zadornov

On 28 March 2013, the AEB held a briefing by Mikhail Zadornov, President and Chairman of the Board of VTB 24, entitled “**Status and perspectives of the retail banking sector in Russia**”. The briefing was co-chaired by Frank Schauff, the AEB CEO and Joerg Bongartz, Chairman of the AEB Banking Committee, Deutsche Bank. The event brought together about 80 participants and numerous representatives of mass media.



The Fourth Northern Dimension Forum

On 4 April 2013, the Fourth Northern Dimension Forum was held in St. Petersburg, with more than 350 delegates attending. The Forum was traditionally organized by the Northern Dimension Business Council and the Association of European Businesses.

This year's Forum was devoted to important issues associated with deepening trade and economic cooperation, and moving from predominantly trade activity to investment in various sectors of the national economies within the Northern Dimension area. Special attention was paid to the regions of the RF North-Western Federal District and neighbouring European regions as well as following industries: *Electric Power and Energy Efficiency, Ecology and Cleantech, Vocational Education and Training, Transport and Logistics, Health and Pharmaceuticals, Wood Processing Industry, Creative industries, Engineering and Automotive Components.*



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Trends and Prospects of Pensions System in Russia

On 9 April 2013, the AEB held an open event “**Trends and Prospects for the Pensions System in Russia**”. The event was moderated by Alexander Lorenz, Chairman of the AEB Insurance & Pensions Committee, Raiffeisen Pension Fund. The audience was given a comprehensive update on pension reform and the market, as well as an analysis of the likely future of the pension system in Russia. The event also made possible exchanges of experience in the practical implementation of different pension solutions.



L-R: Alexander Lorenz, Chairman of AEB Insurance&Pensions Committee, Chairman of the Council, Raiffeisen Pension Fund; Olga Trubach, Pensions Business Development Manager, ZAO "ALICO Insurance Company"; Arkady Nedbai, President, NPF "Allianz"; Leonid Zubarev, Senior Partner, CMS Russia

The event was kindly sponsored
by **Raiffeisen Pension Fund**.



Annual General Meeting



On 18 April 2013, the AEB hosted its Annual General Meeting. Most AEB members and distinguished guests participated. Attendees were greeted by Reiner Hartmann, AEB Board Chairman, Fernando Valenzuela, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the RF, and Tatyana Valovaya, Member of the Board, Minister for Macroeconomics and Principle Directions of Integration, Eurasian Economic Commission.

Reports on the achievements and results of 2012 were delivered by Frank Schauff, AEB CEO, Donald Scott, Chairman of the Council of National Representation, Marco Koschier, Chairman of the Auditing Commission, and Gerald Sakuler, Deputy Chairman of the AEB Board. The 2012 Annual Report, 2012 Financial Report, and 2014 Budget were presented and approved.

The Association is pleased to announce the re-election of Frank Schauff as the AEB Chief Executive Officer and the election of René Pischel, European Space Agency, as an additional AEB Auditing Commission member.

The meeting was followed by Grand Reception.
The AEB thanks the sponsors of the reception.

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Briefing by Igor Artemiev

On April 25, 2013 the AEB held a briefing by Igor Artemiev, Head of the RF Federal Antimonopoly Service. The meeting was co-chaired by Frank Schauff, AEB CEO, and Alex Stoljarskij, Beiten Burkhardt, Chairman of the AEB Legal Committee.

The issues discussed included: current practice after the implementation of 3rd antimonopoly package, further changes to the competition law (exclusion of notifications in merger control etc.), Strategic Sectors Law (FL-57), parallel import issue, current practice under 223-FZ (procurement of the state-controlled companies) and its further development, advertising law (financial services advertising: current FAS practice).



L-R: Ole-Bjorn Sjulstad, General Director, Telenor Russia AS; Alex Stoljarskij, Beiten Burkhardt, Chairman of the AEB Legal Committee; Igor Artemiev, Head of the FAS; Natalia Khanjenkova, Managing Director, EBRD; Frank Schauff, AEB CEO.

The Association of European Businesses highly appreciates the fact that Mr. Artemiev and his colleagues hold up the tradition of regular meetings with representatives of European companies in Russia.

Regional Events

Meeting with Vice-Governor of Leningrad Oblast

On 3 April 2013, the AEB CEO, Frank Schauff, and the Chairman of the AEB North-Western Regional Committee, Timo Mikkonen, had a business meeting with Dmitry Yalov, the Vice-Governor of Leningrad Oblast, Chairman of the Committee on Economic Development and Investment. During the meeting the main directions of the AEB's activities in the North-Western Region were discussed. In particular, membership of the AEB in the Investment Council under the Governor of the Oblast was discussed and a preliminary agreement reached.

Meeting with European Delegation

On 3 April 2013, during a regular meeting of the EU Delegation (consuls and attaches) in St.Petersburg, the Chairman of the AEB North-Western Regional Committee, Timo Mikkonen, presented the current activities of the AEB at the federal level and, in particular, in the North-Western region. Also, as a guest speaker, the Head of the Investment Committee of St. Petersburg, Irina Babyuk, presented the work of the Investment Council under the Governor of St. Petersburg and explained the main directions of the future investment policy of the city.

Construction Equipment Committee

On 22 April 2013, the AEB Construction Equipment Committee held an open event **“Construction Equipment Industry in Russia: Prospects and Developments in the Current Economic Realities”**.

Participants of the event included foreign and Russian construction equipment manufacturers, Russian mineral and chemical, construction equipment and builders associations, the Head of the Automobile and Agricultural Engineering Department of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Timur Mikaya, as well as the press.

The event focused on topical issues of the industry: market overview, its investment attractiveness and the latest legislative changes.



The participants had an opportunity to learn about activities of the Committee in 2012, its statistics programme and to discuss localization experience and the impact of introduction of the disposal fee on producers and consumers of construction equipment.

Event presentation is available [here](#).

Health and Pharmaceuticals Committee

On 4 April 2013, the Health and Pharmaceuticals Committee held a Round Table on “**Treatment Standards and Modernization of the Drug Provision System**” as part of the 4th Northern Dimension Forum in St. Petersburg. The event was co-chaired by Sergey Smirnov, Chairman of the Health and Pharmaceuticals Committee, and Alexander Borisov, General Director of NTFF Polysan.

The lively discussion included such topics as treatment standards and economic aspects of the healthcare system; treatment standards and drugs lists in the state procurement system at the federal and regional levels; experience of regional healthcare authorities in the field of treatment standards - to name but a few.



Guests at the Round Table



Mikhail Kasatkin, Deputy Chairperson of the Healthcare Committee of the Government of St. Petersburg and Sergei Smirnov, Chairman of the AEB Health and Pharmaceuticals Committee, Vice President of Novo Nordisk



Alexander Khadjidis, Chief Clinical Pharmacologist of the Healthcare Committee of the Government of St. Petersburg

Real Estate Committee

On 25 April, 2013 the AEB Real Estate Committee held an open event titled “**Green Building: from Theory to Practice**”. The welcome speech was made by Christophe Vicic, COO of Jones Lang LaSalle, Chairman of the AEB Real Estate Committee and Jeroen Ketting, General Director of Lighthouse Group, AEB Energy Efficiency Committee Chairman, AEB Board member.



L-R: David Simons, Managing Director, Radius Group; Gerald Sakuler, Deputy Chairman of the AEB Board; Anna Minayeva, Lawyer, Beiten Burkhardt; Christophe Vicic, COO, Jones Lang LaSalle, Chairman of the AEB Real Estate Committee; Jeroen Ketting, General Director of Lighthouse Group, AEB Energy Efficiency Committee Chairman, AEB Board member; Maxim Kobert, KdAI Board Member; Ksenia Agapova, Sustainability Manager, Jones Lang LaSalle; Victor Verma, General Manager, YIT Elmek LLC, AEB REC Project Management & Ancillary Services Working Group Chairman; Rashid Ismailov, Director, Green Standard Center, RF Ministry of Natural Resources; Mark Pollitt, Head of Office Agency, Cushman & Wakefield, AEB REC Industry sub-sectors Working Group Chairman; Dmitry Yuryev, Design and Pricing Director, Ruukki Rus LLC.

The AEB kindly thanks sponsors of the event for their support.

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Safety, Health, Environment and Security Committee

On 23 April 2013, the AEB's SHEs Committee organized an open event, **“Corporate Social Responsibility: incentives or obligations?”** The event provided the audience with an opportunity to receive first-hand information on the challenges and opportunities as well as best practice in the CSR sphere in Russia. High-profile speakers representing both international and Russian companies shared their extensive experience in the CSR sphere. Event presentation is available [here](#).



L-R: Alexandr Barkhatov, Financial Corporation “Uralsib”; Natalia Poppel, OJSC “Severstal”; Alexey Akulov, Vneshekonombank



L-R: Irina Shubina, Deputy Head of Communications, “Total E&P”; Sergey Bourtsev, Managing Director, ERM Eurasia Ltd.; Alex Stoljarskij, AEB Legal Cfo Chairman, Senior Associate, BEITEN BURKHARDT; Igor Reichlin, AEB PR& Communications Chairman, General Director “Reichlin & Partners” LLC; Frank Schauff, AEB CEO

Silver sponsor of the event:



South-Regional Committee

Rostov territorial Subcommittee (part of the AEB South Regional Committee) held the round table **"Financial mechanisms of apartment building repairs"** jointly with the Commission for the Economic Development, Entrepreneurship and Innovations of the Rostov Region's Public Chamber. The event took place on March 13, 2013.

The Round Table was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Economy of the Rostov Region, the Commission for the Economic Development, Entrepreneurship and Innovations of the Rostov Region's Public Chamber, the Commission on issues of Local Self-government, Housing Policy, and the problems of Housing and Community Services.

The issues discussed included: new major repairs system, sources of financing and mechanisms of state support, crediting of housing and communal services – to name but a few.



Vasily Visokov, Center-Invest Bank, Chairman of the Rostov territorial subcommittee



Audience at the event

The AEB Welcomes New Members:

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