

2010/SOM1/CPLG/024

Agenda Item: 8

Competition Legislation Development in Russia

Purpose: Information Submitted by: Russia



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FEDERAL ANTIMONOPOLY SERVICE

Competition legislation development in Russia

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Functions of the FAS Russia

Control over observance of competition legislation:



- Suppression of abuse of dominance;
- Fight against cartels;
- Suppression of anti-competitive actions of the state authorities (including state preferences);
- Provision of observance of sector legislation (forest, land, living, water, on natural resources);
- Merger control.

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Functions of the FAS Russia

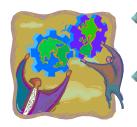


- Control of the activity of natural monopolies -
 - Antimonopoly regulation of natural monopolies (including issues of non-discriminatory access);
 - Provision of pro-competitive character of reformation of natural monopolies sector.
- Prevention of unfair competition;
- Control of the legislation in advertizing.

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Functions of the FAS Russia



- Control over foreign investments in the economic entities having strategic value to the state security and state defence;
- Provision of observance of the competition legislation when exercising state regulation of foreign economic activity.

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Functions of the FAS Russia

Control over observance of public procurement legislation



Saving of the budges funds made up:

2006 - 107 bln. rubles

2007 - 168 bln. rubles

2008 - 260 bln. rubles

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Improvement of competition legislation

The second antimonopoly package of laws:



- Federal Law № 164-FZ "On Introducing Amendments to the Federal Law "On Protection of Competition" and some other legal acts of the Russian Federation";
- Federal Law № 216-FZ "On Introducing Amendments to the Article 178 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation"
- Federal Law №160-FZ "On Introducing Amendments to the Code of the Russian Federation on Administrative Violations and certain legal acts of the Russian Federation"

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Improvement of competition legislation

The notions were specified:



- A possibility to recognize the company dominant even if its market share is less than 35 %.
- Significant changes in notions "monopolistically high" and "monopolistically low" price of goods.

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Improvement of competition legislation

Anti-cartel tools were strengthened:



- Powers of the competition authority under conducting inspections of economic entities were extended.
- Provisions of the "leniency program' were specified.
- Criminal liability for cartel activity (maximum punishments is 7 years of imprisonment) was introduced.
- Vertical agreements were exempted from the per se prohibition.
- Block exemptions were introduced.

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Improvement of competition legislation

Strengthening of control over state and local authorities:



- The FAS Russia received a right to appeal to courts acts of the legislative bodies of the subjects of the Russian Federation, envisaging unjustifiable granting of preferences;
- Sale of the public property is now possible only through tenders;
- Disqualification as a measure of administrative liability for state and municipal officials (up to 3 years) was introduced.

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Improvement of competition legislation

Principles of merger control were renewed



- The post-merger notification of transactions within one group of persons united under the "structural" criteria was introduced;
- Requirement on disclosure of information on final beneficiaries of transaction was set;
- A right of the competition authority to issue instructions on sale of the certain scope of production at commodity exchange was set forth under clearance of transaction.

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Improvement of the competition legislation

Thresholds of assets of organization were increased for the purposes of merger control –



Preliminary approval of transaction by competition authority is needed if the aggregate value of assets of buyer exceeds 7 bln. rubles (before – 3 bln. rubles) or turnover of such person exceeds 10 bln. rubles (before – 6 bln. rubles).

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THANK YOU FOR ATTENTION!

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