

## Press Release

26 July 2016

### **GOLTSBLAT BLP ADVISES AFG NATIONAL ON RAISING INVESTMENT FROM THE RDIF AND MIDDLE EAST FUNDS**

**Goltsblat BLP**, the Russian practice of the international law firm **Berwin Leighton Paisner (BLP)**, is providing advice and legal support to AFG National on raising up to RUB 9 bn from the Russian Direct Investment Fund and a number of Middle East investment funds. AFG National is a leader on the Russian agricultural product market.

The **Goltsblat BLP** project team is led by Partner and Head of Corporate **Anton Sitnikov** and Partner **Anton Panchenkov**. Also on the team are Senior Associate **Nikolay Kholshev** and Associate **Dmitry Sheludyaev**.

The **Goltsblat BLP Corporate / M&A Practice** is the firm's key workstream and one of the biggest specialist teams in Russia. The global **Corporate Practice** consists of more than **230** lawyers, most of them based in London and Moscow, with others at **BLP** offices in Abu Dhabi, Beijing, Berlin, Brussels, Dubai, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Paris and Singapore. The Goltsblat BLP Corporate Practice, one of the biggest in Russia, brings together a team of highly qualified experts with extensive experience in handling international project transactions of any scope and complexity.

#### **Goltsblat BLP summary**

Goltsblat BLP is the Russian practice of Berwin Leighton Paisner (BLP), a leading international law firm headquartered in London, with its offices operating in major commercial and financial centres throughout the world – Moscow, Abu Dhabi, Beijing, Berlin, Brussels, Dubai, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Paris, Singapore, Tel Aviv and Yangon.

As many as 100 lawyers qualified in Russian, English and US law are based in Goltsblat BLP's office in Moscow, with lawyers in BLP's international offices numbering over 1000.

Goltsblat BLP's international team provides transactional support for inbound and outbound investments by Russian and international clients, offers legal support for corporate, M&A, real estate and banking and finance transactions, dispute resolution, infrastructure and other complex projects and represents its clients on multi-jurisdiction matters.

Among Goltsblat BLP's clients are over 1300 companies, including major multinational investors operating in Russia (including 37 Fortune 500 clients), Russian and international banks and financial institutions and Russian industry-leading companies.

Goltsblat BLP is the winner of 25 national and international awards over the past five years, including:

Russia Law Firm of the Year – Chambers Europe Awards 2015 and shortlisted for 2016;

International Law Firm of the Year – The Lawyer European Awards 2014 and shortlisted in 2015; Legal Business Awards 2010 / Legal 500 and shortlisted in 2015, 2016;

Client Service Law Firm of the Year – Chambers Europe Awards 2014 and 2010;

A Top-3 major international law firm in Russia for two years in a row (2015 and 2016) – the national ranking by the prestigious Russian business publication Kommersant;

A Top-3 international law firm in Russia by income and by income per lawyer – Pravo.ru 2015 national ranking.

Full Service Law Firm of the Year – Annual ACQ Country Awards 2011;

Law Firm of the Year for Russia – Finance Monthly Law Awards 2011;

Innovation in International Expansion – Financial Times Innovative Lawyer Awards 2011 (shortlisted);

Best Law Firm in Russia – ILO Client Choice Awards 2010.

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