



Post-release
21 February 2018

AEB signed the Declaration of recognition and support of the Charter of the good faith foreign trade participants at the 14th Annual Customs Conference

On February 21, 2018, the 14th annual AEB conference "Customs and Business: 10 Steps Toward Each Other" was held in the Tchaikovsky hall of the Four Seasons Moscow Hotel.

Dmitry Cheltsov, the Chairman of the AEB Customs and Transport Committee and Head of the Eurasian Representative Office of IRU, moderated the Plenary Session.

"The AEB Transport and Customs Committee has been actively cooperating with the Federal Customs Service for years. We engage in productive dialog, propose specific solutions, and promote the initiatives of the Russian Federal Customs Service aimed at developing the customs administration system, improving investment attractiveness, and creating favorable conditions for the business activities of conscientious foreign trade participants as long as an appropriate level of customs control is ensured," Mr. Cheltsov said.

Frank Schauff, CEO of the Association of European Businesses, gave a welcome speech for the conference participants. He said that the AEB supports the initiatives of the Federal Customs Service aimed at reducing the administrative burden of businesses and lifting trade barriers.

Vladimir Bulavin, Head of the Russian Federal Customs Service; Timur Maksimov, Deputy Head of the Russian Federal Customs Service; and Leonid Lozbenko, Head of the Public Council of the Russian Federal Customs Service also spoke at the Plenary Session.

After the session, Frank Schauff, CEO of the Association of European Businesses, signed the Declaration of recognition and support of the Charter of the good faith foreign trade participants.

Vladimir Bulavin, Head of the Federal Customs Service, noted that the signing of the Declaration was a solid step towards closer cooperation between the Federal Customs Service and businesses.

"Today the representatives of European companies operating in Russia showed their support for the ideas of the Charter. The efforts of the Federal Customs Service aimed at reforming customs procedures have found support in the leading associations of the business community. The consolidation of foreign trade participants around the Charter contributes to the cleanup of foreign trade from corrupt players and the reduction of potential for conflicts within the foreign trade field", - said Vladimir Bulavin.

Frank Schauff pointed out that, by signing the Declaration, the AEB is acknowledging the need for initiatives and measures aimed at implementing anti-corruption programs and conscientiously engaging in foreign trade.

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"We hope that the customs authorities, in turn, are considering the possibility of further simplifying customs control measures and increasing their efficiency for the foreign trade participants that have signed the Charter," the AEB CEO added.

The Heads of the Federal Customs Service and the AEB concurred that the signing of the Charter by AEB companies is a good opportunity for them to demonstrate their support of the efforts of the Federal Customs Service and foreign trade participants aimed at creating favorable conditions for foreign trade and its sustainable development.

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