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Press release

Regarding the Federal Antimonopoly Service's initiative to regulate the automotive market

In November of 2011 the Federal Antimonopoly Service announced its concerns with regard to the relationship between the automobile distributors and dealers. Today, during an open meeting at the Federal Antimonopoly Service, the Head of the service, Mr. Artemyev highlighted several observations made by the agency with regard to this issue.

Present at this meeting were auto-manufacturers, automobile distributors, dealers and journalists. The automobile industry's importance to the overall development of Russia's economy was duly noted, as was the foreign car manufacturers investment decision, with regard to localising production. Although FAS, alongside other Russian government bodies greatly values the foreign manufacturers decision to invest in Russia via localised production, Mr. Artemyev pointed out that the existing relationship between the automobile distributors and dealers has left room for improvement.

Dr. Frank Schauff, Chief Executive Officer of the Association of European Businesses (AEB) commented positively on the constructive dialogue between the Association and FAS on a number of issues and expressed his hope that discussions regarding the relationship between the automobile distributors and dealers would be thorough, comprehensive and constructive. In his statement, he indicated that the resulting decision will be very significant to other industries that function with the same structure.

The Deputy Chairman of the AEB Automotive Manufacturers Committee (AMC) Joerg Schreiber thanked Mr. Artyemyev for his invitation to participate in the working groups of the FAS Expert Council on development of competition in the sphere of sales and after sales market of passenger cars. He also pointed out that all the AMC member companies and players of the automotive market in general, recommend to avoid any rapid and radical decisions being taken. Mr. Schreiber also confirmed his willingness to continue the dialogue on further improving relations among market players, within the framework of the working groups and with the participation of specialists from the industry.

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The AMC continues its active cooperation with Russian association of automobile dealers ROAD and all interested state authorities and hopes that those participating in the discussions to follow will succeed in finding mutually acceptable methods of addressing of the situation on the automotive market in Russia.

Members of the AMC pay special attention when it comes to ensuring that the consumers have access to quality goods and services, and will not allow a decline in the safety standards of the transport vehicles made available in Russia.

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