

# Working for the future!

EBA Newsletter | Vol. I, No. 1 | 2017

## ACTIVITIES AT THE PUBLIC-PRIVATE DIALOGUE PLATFORMS

PUBLIC COUNCIL OF REVENUE POLICY
IMPROVEMENT AT THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND
REVENUE ADMINISTRATION REFORM COUNCIL AT
THE STATE REVENUE COMMITTEE

On January 20 and February 27 the European Business Association in Armenia, along with representatives from the number of NGOs and wildly known international consulting organizations involved in the Councils with advisory capacity, officials from the RA Ministry of Finance, the RA Ministry of Economic Development and Investments attended the regular sessions of the Expanded Public Councils of Revenue Policy Improvement Created by the Decree of the Minister of Finance and the Revenue Administration reform Council at the State Revenue Committee.



Ctrl + CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILS



Ctrl + CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILS



<u>Ctrl+ Click here</u> to FOLLOW UP LEGAL PROPOSALS BY
THE EBA HERE

# EBA CONTINUOUSLY WORKS ON NEW LEGAL PROPOSALS TO LOBBY THE INTERESTS OF BUSINESSES

On January 31, the EBA team had another round of the brainstorming discussions on the legal proposals to the New Tax Code and Customs regulations. The EBA's team always carries on voicing the needs of businesses in Armenia and elaborating amendments and proposals to the business-related law. On the same day, there were discussed drafts for the legal proposals, particularly, with an eye on further improvement of the investment climate in Armenia:

- ✓ Elimination the reference price method not only for those European companies that are included in the non-risky countries list, but also for the European producers throughout the world;
- ✓ Precondition of the implementation of the equal tax dividends for locals and foreigners without discriminating the last.

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# THE AMBASSADOR OF FINLAND VISITED THE EBA'S OFFICE

On February 2, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary H.E. Mrs. Arja Inkeri Makkonen visited the office of the European Business Association. During the meeting between Ambassador and the Executive Director of the EBA Diana Sarumova various topics on related business development were discussed. Particularly, they exchanged opinions on the important issues such as strengthening business ties between the business communities of two countries, the business environment development in Armenia and the integration of Finnish companies in Armenia.



# EBA TOGETHER WITH ITS PARTNERS UITE AND ALA ARE LAUNCHING NEW WHISTLEBLOWING PLATFORM FOR ELIMINATION OF BUSINESS IMPEDIMENTS



Ctrl + CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILS

THE EBA JOINTLY WITH THE UNION OF IT ENTERPRISES AND THE ARMENIAN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION IS IMPLEMENTING WHISTLEBLOWING PLATFORM IN ARMENIA

The detection of the business impediments in Armenia will be carried out easily and in a more effective way through the operation of the new platform for the whistle-blowers in the scope of "Evidence-based Advocacy for Reform" project financed by the EU through the GIZ SMEDA project. The platform provides 100% confidentiality to its users and will be used for the further analysis of problems as well as for making potential solutions on the Business Environment Improvement.

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#### INTERNATIONAL PRESS ABOUT THE EBO WWN

THE KOREA TIMES
PUBLISHED THE ARTICLE
ABOUT THE EBO WWN

On January 25, The Korea Times, one of the oldest English-language newspapers published daily in South Korea, released the article entitled as "European Business Organization to restore confidence in partnership". The EBA Armenia became the member of the European Business Organizations Worldwide Network (EBO WWN) back in 2016, during the first year after its launching in the Republic of Armenia. As it is stated in the article, "the European Business Organizations Worldwide Network includes 30 European business associations, 10,000 companies worldwide, and its aim is to promote sustainability through partnerships between the private and public sectors".



Ctrl+ Click here to READ THE WHOLE ARTICLE ON THE KOREA

Ctrl+ Click here for details THE EBA ARMENIA ATTENDED THE EBOWWN REGIONAL MEETING AT SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA IN DECEMBER 2016. CHECK OUT THE RESULTS HERE!

#### EBA'S ONGOING RESEARCH ON THE BUSINESS IMPEDIMENTS IN ARMENIA



CHECK THE PUBLISHED EXPLORATORY STUDY HERE
CONTACT US & TAKE PART IN THE ONGOING SURVEY

Starting from the last update on the impediments for business activity in Armenia in October, 2016, the European Business Association has initiated the next phase of the ongoing research to unveil the current situation in the business community, possible effects of changes implemented during last couple of months.

The EBA always aims to raise issues relevant to business development at the public- private level and to implement corresponding joint measures for overcoming those challenges. Follow up for publication of the survey being conducted currently.

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EFFECTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF ARMENIA ON VERY SPECIFIC ISSUES RELEVANT TO THE EUROPEAN AND LOCAL BUSINESSES

THE EBA MEMBERS

HAD A MEETING WITH

THE PRIME MINISTER OF ARMENIA

ON 13<sup>TH</sup> OF FEBRUARY 2017

On February 13, Members of the European Business Association had a meeting with the Prime Minister Mr. Karen Karapetyan at the Government of Republic of Armenia. Head of the EU Delegation to the Republic of Armenia Mr. Piotr Świtalski has also attended the meeting. This meeting is one of the best examples of the Public-Private Dialogue Platform, which gives an opportunity to raise important issues and get the appropriate solutions.



Ctrl+ Click here FOR MORE DETAILS & RESULTS OF THE
Ctrl+ Click here to WATCH VIDEOS AND PHOTOS OF THE



Ctrl+ Click here for more details and photos here

Ctrl+ Click to WATCH THE EVENT'S IMPORTANT

Ctrl+ Click to CHECK THE RA GOVERNMENT'S WEBSITE

# EBA HELD ITS FIRST ANNUAL JOINT MEETING ON 21 FEBRUARY 2017

On February 21, the Annual Joint Meeting of the European Business Association Armenia took place. The Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia has attended the event and had an opening speech. He emphasized importance of activity of the European and Foreign Investors in general and one more time mentioned that the Government is ready to cooperate for business environment improvement. Head of the European Union Delegation to the Republic of Armenia Mr. Piotr Switalski became an honorary president of the European Business Association according to the Board Decision.

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#### ARMENIAN MEDIA ABOUT THE EBA

# EBA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S INTERVIEW WITH THE SHABAT.AM

On February 20 one of the leading Armenian online news agencies - Shabat.am published the interview of the Executive Director of the European Business Association in Armenia Diana Sarumova. Main topic for discussion was the recent meeting of EBA members with Prime Minister and the current follow up.



#### Ctrl+ Click TO READ THE WHOLE INTERVIEW HERE

#### THE EBA NEW MEMBERS

#### WELCOME ON BOARD!



























