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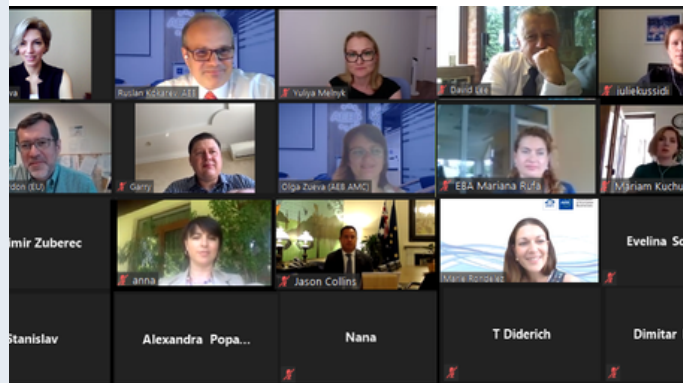
02 July, 2020

THE EUROPEAN BUSINESS ORGANIZATION WORLDWIDE NETWORK (EBO WWN) MODERATED A SPECIAL REGIONALLY-FOCUSED WEBINAR, DEDICATED TO THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON THE REGIONAL ECONOMIES AND BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT.

On 2 July, 2020 The European Business Organization World Wide Network (EBO WWN) organized a special regionally-focused webinar, dedicated to the impact of COVID-19 on the regional economies and business environment.

During the online webinar representatives from Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan Moldova, Northern Macedonia, Russia, Ukraine conducted presentation and discussed three main issues.

- How will the COVID-19 containment and mitigation affect growth, trade, and economy in each country
- What are the government strategies to help businesses
- When will market sentiments start to improve
- How can businesses brace for more Covid-19 waves.



EUROPEAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION ARMENIA

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07 July, 2020

EUROPEAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION IN ARMENIA CONDUCTED ON-LINE MEETING RELATED TO THE ECONOMIC COMPETITION IN ARMENIA

On 07 July 2020, European Business Association in Armenia conducted on-line meeting related to economic competition in Armenia. The meeting was organized for EBA members and partners joint with the State Commission for the Protection of Economic Competition in the scope of EU Project "Strengthening of EU Business in Armenia".

The opening speech was presented by Head of EU Delegation to Armenia, Ambassador, H.E. Mrs. Andrea Wiktorin and the Chairman of the State Commission for the Protection of Economic Competition of the Republic of Armenia Mr. Gegham Gevorgyan. Presentations have been conducted by Mr. Hayk Karapetyan, Member of the State Commission for the Protection of Economic Competition and Mr. Arsen Hovhannisyan, Competition law expert, lecturer of YSU Chair of Civil Law. Webinar discussion topics presented: The effect of Covid-19 on competition in markets Rules set by the law on the protection of economic competition, which must be followed in business relations Brief description of the changes in the law on the protection of economic competition. Representatives of private sector had a Q/A session and passed their concerns, questions and suggestions. Members of Commission for the Protection of Economic Competition expressed their willingness to cooperate and have this format of meetings on regular basis.



08 July, 2020

EUROPEAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION ORGANIZED AN ONLINE PPD MEETING TO PRESENT THE CHANGES IN THE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT SYSTEM AND THE AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITIES.

On 8 June, European Business Association conducted on-line awareness session to introduce changes and existing opportunities in the Public Procurement System. The meeting conducted in the scope of EU Project "Strengthening EU Business development in Armenia".

The main objective of the online meeting was to make awareness regarding updates and opportunities of the Public Procurement System and present new opportunities to companies that are not aware about changes done and have concerns related to the fair competition and information transparency (especially for foreign investors). The survey results demonstrated that majority of companies' owners/managers don't have an appropriate access to information and equal opportunities sometimes. There is also no information in English, thus related difficulties are existing for foreign investors while applying to the public tenders.

During the meeting Mr. Shahnazaryan mentioned two main changes:

- Full independence of the Public Procurement System
- Procurements under newly launched program will be carried out through a national procedure as a result of the World Bank's assessment of the system.
- Under the new project, the electronic system will not be a mono-platform but a multi-platform, which means several platforms will be available and the business itself will choose the platform to participate in the procedure.
- It was noted that non-resident entities can also participate in the tenders by registering to the electronic system, which is free. However, all information was presented only in Armenian language and document package should also be presented in Armenian.
- EBA members asked about IT tenders' opportunities which is now in fact made based on the service contract basis.
- The participants of the meeting raised their concerns, in particular, about the possibility for international organizations to participate in tenders, bank guarantees, the list of intellectual services and questions regarding other services.

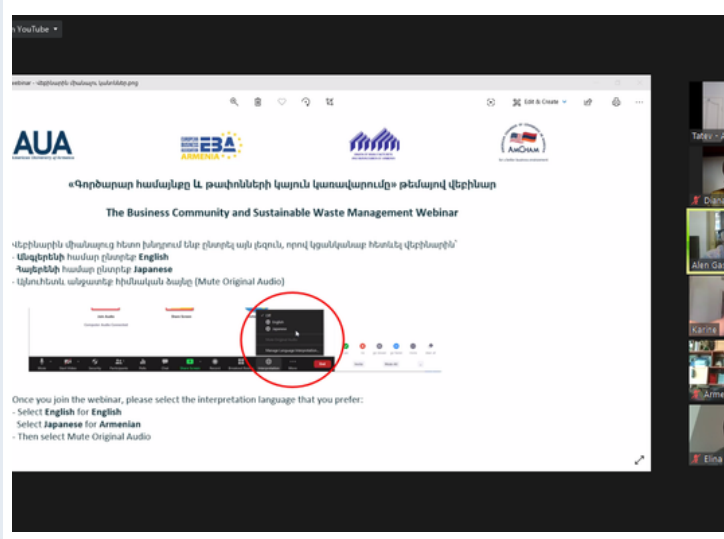
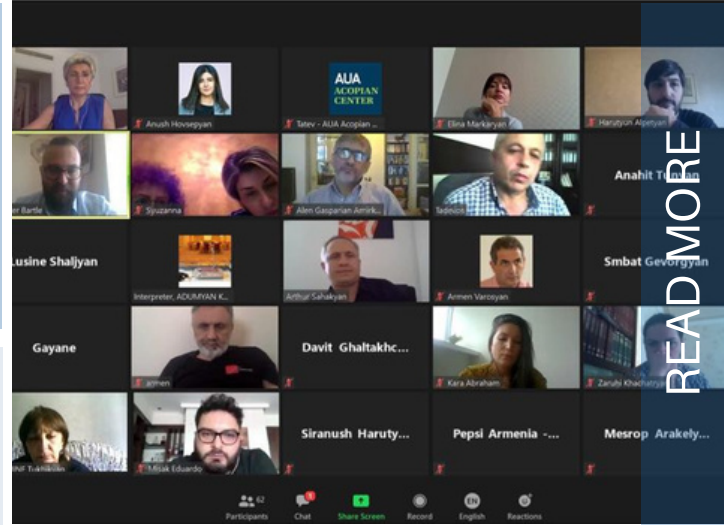


12 June, 2020

EBA ARMENIA, JOINTLY WITH AMCHAM, AUA AND UMBA ORGANIZED A MEETING RELATED TO BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT

On 12 June, a webinar on sustainable waste management took place. The webinar is part of the initiative started by AmCham’s FMCG Committee Waste Management Working Group, the aim is to raise awareness and encourage the Armenian business community to meet its environmental obligations, including the EU-Armenia Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA).

During the webinar, business chambers, industry representatives and international organizations discussed what the business community can do to promote a sustainable waste management agenda in Armenia and presented an action plan. Karine Sarkissian, the executive director of AmCham, and Alen Amirkhanian, the director of AUA Acopian Center for the Environment, gave welcome remarks. Harutyun Alpetyan, the circular economy expert at the AUA Acopian Center for the Environment, presented the RA legislation and management systems for packaging and other business waste, such as EPR, voluntary-based systems, and others. Elina Markaryan, Communication leader of EBA Member CCHBC Armenia and Alexander Babaskin, the regulatory affairs manager at BU Ukraine CCHBC, spoke about the business communities' approaches to sustainable waste management systems, the importance of raising awareness on those systems, and the Ukrainian experience. The webinar was concluded with a question and answer session. The decision was made to continue the cooperation between the business chambers, business community, and public sector.



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EBA Armenia participated in a meeting of the Expanded Council of Revenue Policy Improvement

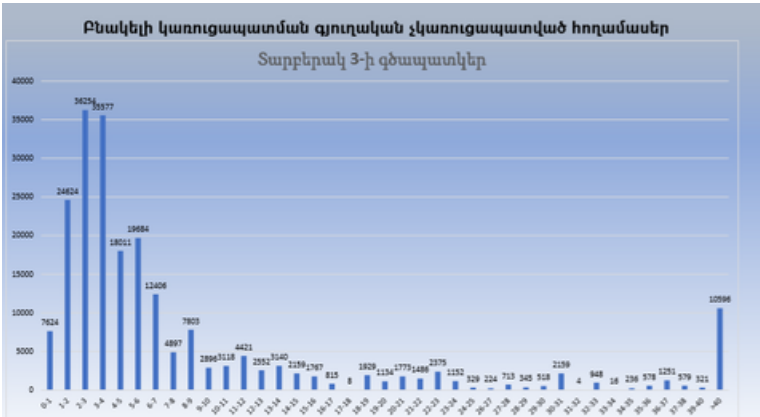


EBA Armenia participated in an online session of the Expanded Council of Revenue Policy Improvement to discuss the Proposal on the Property (real estate) Taxation System Improvement in the Republic of Armenia. During the Meeting Mr. Arman Poghosyan, Deputy Minister, presented the proposal on Property Taxation changes on apartments, houses, etc. and the best scenario preferable for the government is planned to be implemented since 2021, throughout 3 years period. After the public discussion and before the adoption, the Proposal will be discussed at the National Assembly. The Property Taxation System Improvement Project will be resolving 2 main objectives:

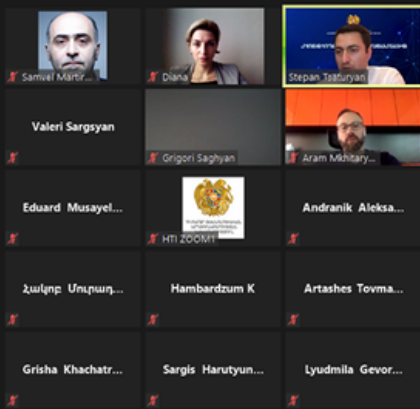
- To increase the 0.2% Property (real estate) Tax contribution to the GDP (the average is 1 %)
- To Introduce a Progressive Taxation Model vs. the Even Taxation model
- Ms. Yulia Ustyugova, IMF Resident Representative also participated in the meeting. In 2020, the Armenian Government approved the RA law "The Ministry of Finance prepared a Proposal based on the assessment. The project is planned to be implemented from January 1, 2021 and will be carried out gradually through 3 years period.

Արտադրական հողերի ընդհանուր հարկային ներուժը					
Դրույքաչափ	Գործող ընդհանուր հարկ	Նոր ընդհանուր հարկ (2024)	Նոր ընդհանուր հարկը՝ ըստ տարիների		
			2021	2022	2023
գործող՝ 1 տոկոս	49,206,033	751,290,741	187,822,685	375,645,371	563,468,056
0.25 տոկոս		187,841,034	46,960,259	93,920,517	140,880,776

Հասարակական նշանակության անշարժ գույքի ընդհանուր հարկային ներուժը						
Դրույքաչափ	Գործող ընդհանուր հարկ	Նոր ընդհանուր հարկ (2024)	Նոր ընդհանուր հարկը՝ ըստ տարիների			
			2021	2022	2023	
Տարբերակ 1	0.3 տոկոս	4,511,048,417	12,994,303,433	3,248,575,858	6,497,151,717	9,745,727,575
Տարբերակ 2	0.1 տոկոս	4,511,048,417	4,331,434,478	1,082,858,619	2,165,717,239	3,248,575,858
Տարբերակ 3	0.2 տոկոս	4,511,048,417	8,662,868,955	2,165,717,239	4,331,434,478	6,497,151,717



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25 June, 2020

EBA Members, representatives of ICT sector attended a meeting with Deputy Minister of High-Tech Industry Mr. Tsaturyan related to the Digitalization Strategy 2020-2025

On June 25, an online event was held on the topic of Armenia's digitization strategy, which aims to ensure the digital transformation of government, the economy and society, in particular by focusing on:

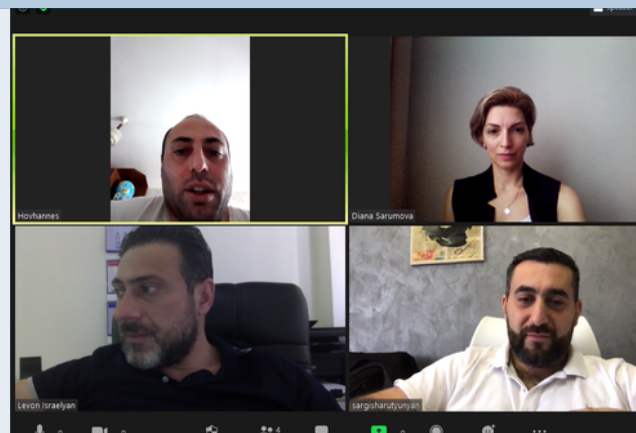
- 1) Effective, fast, transparent and data-driven public administration,
- 2) Digitization and competitiveness of the private sector of the economy through digital platforms and smart solutions,
- 3) Digital skills, ready for the economy of the future, the formation of the workforce, and the widespread use of digital solutions by the public.

Guided by the priorities adopted by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Armenia provided digitization to improve the quality of services provided by the state.

25 June, 2020

EBA MEMBERS OF ICT SECTOR HAD A FOLLOW-UP MEETING

On 25 June, EBA Armenia held a meeting with Mr. Levon Israyelyan, Director of First Outsourcing company, Mr. Hovhannes Nazaryan, Business Development and Sales Director at Intracom Armenia and Mr. Sargis Harutyunyan, Director of Softline Armenia to follow up the meeting and to discuss the further steps of EBA ICT committee. It was a small meeting with those who participated in the previous meeting.



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