



## P.S. SPILF – Arkhangelsk, July 3-4, 2014

On July 3-4, 2014, the Legal Investment Forum “Legal Aspects of Investment Climate in Russian Regions” took place in Arkhangelsk.

The Forum was organized on behalf of the Arkhangelsk Region Government and the Council of Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation with the support of the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation and the Northern (Arctic) Federal University named after M.V. Lomonosov.

The event was aimed at drawing Russian lawyer's and businessmen's attention to problems of legal regulation in the North Western region.

The event featured such speakers as **Sergey Amosov**, Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Commercial Court of the Russian Federation, **Konstantin Dobrynin**, Deputy Chairman of the Council of the Federation Committee on Constitutional Legislation, Legal and Judicial Affairs and Civil Society Development, **Valery Zinchenko**, Senior Partner Pen&Paper, **Andrey Klishas**, Chairman of the Council of the Federation Committee on Constitutional Legislation, Legal and Judicial Affairs and Civil Society Development, **Igor Orlov**, Governor of Arkhangelsk Region, **Vladimir Khvalei**, Partner, Baker & McKenzie - CIS, Limited, **Elena Kudryashova**, Rector of Northern (Arctic) Federal University named after M.V. Lomonosov, Doctor (Philosophy), Professor, **Maria Melnikova**, Adviser to the Minister of Justice of the Russian Federation, **Yury Pilipenko**, Vice-president of Federal Chamber of Lawyers of the Russian Federation, **Irina Gladysheva**, Minister of Economic Development and Competition Policy of the Arkhangelsk Region, and other distinguished speakers, partners of law firms.

Igor Orlov, Governor of Arkhangelsk Region, emphasized the significance of the Forum for the region:

*- This year the main goal of the Forum is to discuss legal issues which are typical for both Arkhangelsk region and many other regions in Russia. This includes the development of arbitration courts system, PPP, crisis management. Nowadays both the municipal and regional authorities require legal regulation, legal support with practical discussion and exchange of experiences. The Forum gives us such opportunity. It attracts more and more attendees what proves its popularity. We are looking forward to making it a traditional event and to organizing this Forum every year.*

This year the Forum in Arkhangelsk has been held under the aegis of St. Petersburg International Legal Forum.

As Valery Zinchenko, Senior Partner Pen&Paper, noted:

*- This year the Forum is held under the auspices of St. Petersburg International Legal Forum which is the largest legal forum in Russia annually bringing together thousands of lawyers. The Arkhangelsk Forum could be rather called a casual meeting where participants can socialize, express their professional opinions and pay more attention to regional issues.*

Konstantin Dobrynin, Deputy Chairman of the Council of the Federation Committee on Constitutional Legislation, Legal and Judicial Affairs and Civil Society Development, agreed:

*- The format of this Forum is less bureaucratized and aimed at the concrete target audience. For this reason, the participants can discuss special legal issues profoundly.*

The programme of the Forum included the following issues:

- **Public session of Federal Chamber of Lawyers of the Russian Federation** featuring representatives of the Russian Arbitration: “Role and Significance of Advocacy in Establishment and Development of Arbitration Courts Modern System”
- **Session of Coordination Council at the Deputy Chairman of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation for Interaction with Civic Institutions:** “Urgent Problems of Criminal Executive Law Humanization”
- **Plenary session** “Regions, Investments, Law”

Besides, 6 round tables were held:

- Problems and Tools for Increasing Legal Awareness and Legal Culture in the Regions
- Legal Problems of the Arkhangelsk Region Industrial Markets’ Activity
- Public-Private Partnership (PPP). Aspects of PPP legal regulation and implementation in Russia: is there a universal decision for infrastructure projects?
- Criminal Liability: what should businesses pay attention to?
- Labor Market Conditions for Alumni of Arkhangelsk Region Law Schools
- Crisis Management and Bankruptcy

The participants have particularly focused on criminal law at the respective round table. Alexey Grishkov, Deputy Governor of Arkhangelsk Region, stressed that *“the modern stage of the Russian statehood development, social changes in our country require the modernization of the correctional system. This reforms are aimed at humanization and democratization of the penal institutions.”*

- *As there are not only representatives of the law enforcement system, not only members of the Parliament and academics, but also representatives of public organizations, I believe we would find the right way to promote legislative initiatives in this area,* Andrey Klishas, Chairman of the Council of the Federation Committee on Constitutional Legislation, Legal and Judicial Affairs and Civil Society Development, added.

JSCo «PO «Sevmash» was the General partner of the event. JSC “SC “Zvyozdochka” acted as the Strategic partner. The Official partner was the Arkhangelsk pulp and paper plant, while the Business programme partner was Pomorsky forestry technology park. The Forum was supported by the Pen & Paper law firm, KIAP, Attorneys at Law and “Semenyako, Golubok & Partners” law office.

Besides the numerous discussion sessions, the programme of the Forum featured saturated cultural programme: city tour, tour to the “Malye Korely” Museum, excursion to Solovetsky Islands and Severodvinsk.