

ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL BANKS OF RUSSIA

(Association "Russia")



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Dear colleagues!

Association of Regional Banks of Russia (Association "Russia") was established in December, 1990 on the basis of 37 commercial banks, established on the basis of territorial offices and branches of Promstroibank USSR and its 13 regional offices.

Association "Russia" is the first federal banking union consolidating efforts of Russian banking community, building partnerships between banks and the state Government, regulatory and supervisory authorities, actively protecting legislative rights and interests of banks and providing solution of the priority issues of banking business, including the development of the regulatory framework, reducing the administrative burden from government agencies, as well as problems associated with requirements to increase equity, non-core assets, reducing risk, increasing the level of financial literacy and confidence to the banking system.

Today Association "Russia" is a leading expert and analytical center of banking community.

Members of the Association actively participate in development of the agreed position on Russian banking system problems on meetings of the Council and Association Committees, working groups and in frames of Consultative Council uniting the heads of the largest banks and Coordinating Council uniting representatives of the Association in regions.

On the Association's initiative the International Coordinating Council of banking associations of CIS countries, Central and Eastern Europe was established.

The Association "Russia" is actively involved in the development of legislative and regulatory framework, determining the conditions of credit institutions activity.

Suggestions of the Association were included into the laws on banks and banking activities, on deposit insurance and on credit reference bureaus.

Many of the Association's initiatives were included into the Strategy of the Russian banking sector development until 2015, approved by the Government of the Russian Federation. Among them: creation of conditions that involve changes in existing legislation: the development of syndicated lending, asset securitization, the formation of the housing and savings deposits, freeing banks from non-core activities, changing requirements for storage of documents in paper form and other suggestions.

The Association is a leader in organizing of public events, specialized forums, conferences, seminars, round tables and workshops on topical problems of the banking system, where the market participants play an active role.

Traditional annual events, organized by the Association became a significant events in the business life of the banking community:

Bankers meeting with the management of Central Bank of Russia;

Annual Russian Banking Conferences;

International conference-presentation of Russia and other CIS countries banks in New York;

International conferences:

"Cash circulation: models, standards, tendencies";

"Bank cards-an effective business"

International Banking Forum "Banks of Russia-XXI century", the largest Russian summit, gathering Russian and foreign bankers, held with the support and participation of the Central Bank of Russia, the World Bank and other international organizations,

The Association strategic goal is protection of banks' interests and regional banking market development that have provided rapid growth of the Association and great interest from major Russian banks and leading international organizations during the last years. In 1995 the Association was comprised of 86 members, in May 2001- 120 members, now -more than 400 members.

The Association activity is directed on attracting capital to the regions, creating partnership opportunities for major and regional banks, regional banking market development.

The work under the Cooperation agreement between the Association and IFC is being continued. It is aimed on support of regional banks in risk management and loan portfolios management improving, and on the development and application of mechanisms of refinancing and working with toxic assets.

The Association strong side is that its activity always corresponds to the opinion of its members. It will use all statutory federal level possibilities to promote the interests of its members in Moscow and regions.

Today the Association and its members are in line with the government policy, aimed at the participation of banking sector in expanding the availability of financial services to the population and the development of public-private partnership. It will improve the socio-economic situation and will promote attracting investments into projects of great social importance.

The Association plays a great role, as a coordinator of relationships between its members and the public authorities in order to modernize Russian banking system, and it actively participates in the formation of the international financial center and in the innovative development of Russian economy as well as in the introduction of modern banking technologies in the field of risk management.

Chairman of the Board of the Association

Alexander Murychev

Executive Vice-President of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs

President of the Association

Anatoly Aksakov

Member of the Russian Parliament