

## REVIEW OF THE ECONOMIC LEGISLATION IN FEBRUARY 2013<sup>1</sup>

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*In February, Article 212 of Part 1 of the Civil Code of the Russian Federation on associations and (unions) was revised and amendments to the legislation on the subsistence level in the Russian Federation were introduced.*

### I. Federal Laws of the Russian Federation

Federal Law No. 8-FZ of February 11, 2013 on AMENDMENT OF PART 1 OF THE CIVIL CODE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND FEDERAL LAW ON NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS

According to amendments, associations (unions) can be established not only by commercial and non-profit organizations, but people, as well as jointly by legal entities and individuals.

A definition was given to an association (union) which is recognized as an assembly of legal entities or individuals based on a voluntary or – in some cases established by the law – mandatory membership and established for representation and upholding of common interests including professional ones and achievement of non-profit goals which are valuable to the community and do not contradict the law.

Established in the form of incorporation of associations (unions) are, in particular, associations of legal entities or individuals with the goal to coordinate their entrepreneurial activities and represent and protect their common property interests, professional associations of individuals which do not pursue the goal to protect labor rights and interests of their members, professional associations of individuals regardless of the fact whether they have or not labor relations with employers (associations of lawyers, notaries, people of creative walks of life and other) and associations of self-regulating entities.

It is established that the number of founders of an association (union) should be at least five. It is to be stated that laws which determine the specifics of the legal status of associations (unions) of some types may set other requirements to the minimum number of founders of such associations (unions).

The law provides for the specifics of management of an association (union), regulations as regards founders and the articles of association as well as the rights and obligations of a member of the association (union).

Article 12 on rights and obligations of members of associations and unions of Federal Law on Non-Profit Organizations has become null and void.

Founding documents of associations (unions) established before the Federal Law in question came into effect are to be brought in compliance with the norms of Part I of the Civil Code of the Russian Federation (in the wording of the Federal law) at the first amendment of founding documents of such associations (unions).

### II. Resolutions of the Government of the Russian Federation

Resolution No.56 of January 29, 2013 ON APPROVAL OF THE RULES OF CALCULATION OF THE VALUE OF THE SUBSISTENCE LEVEL PER CAPITA AND BY THE MAIN SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS OF THE POPULATION IN GENERAL IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

The rules of calculation of the value of the subsistence level in general in Russia have been developed with taking into account the new approach to formation of the consumer goods basket.

From January 1, 2013, the Federal Law on the Subsistence Level in the Russian Federation as amended came into effect; the above law specifies the definition of the consumer goods basket and

<sup>1</sup> The review was prepared with assistance of the Konsultant-Plus legal system.

adjusts the procedure for formation of it both by the main social and demographic groups in general in Russia and constituent entities of the Russian Federation, in particular.

In pursuance of the legislation, the Government of the Russian Federation has approved the procedure for determination of:

- the cost of the consumer goods basket for the main social and demographic groups of the population (it includes the cost of food, non-foods and services);
- expenses related to mandatory payments and duties (they are determined for the working population only);
- values of the subsistence level both for the main social and demographic groups of the population and per capita (as regards the working population they include the cost of the consumer goods basket and expenses related to mandatory payments, while in case of pensioners and children, only the cost of the consumer goods basket).

The minimum package of food products has been set; it includes bread products, potatoes, fruits and vegetables, confectionery products, meat, fish products and other. Also, the procedure has been established for calculation of the cost of non-food products and services (now the calculation will be carried out on the basis of the percentage ratio of the food package and the cost of both non-food products and services will amount to 50% each of the cost of food products). ●