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Legislative initiatives

Russian Finance Ministry develops draft law granting tax authorities access to data and records constituting audit secrets

The Russian Ministry of Finance has prepared a draft law that proposes granting tax authorities access to data and documents constituting audit secrets.

In particular, The draft law will entitle tax authorities to demand tax accrual (payment) documents received in the process of an audit from audit firms and individual auditors. These documents can be claimed provided they haven't been submitted by taxpayer itself.

It is expected that the documents would be requested based on the decision of the head (deputy head) of a superior tax authority or with the head (deputy head) of the Federal Tax Service, or based on a request from an authorised agency of a foreign state in the instances provided for by Russia's international treaties.

If adopted, the law will come into force on 1 January 2018.

[Federal Portal for Legal Regulations](#)

Russian Ministry of Agriculture develops draft concept for viticulture and winemaking development in Russia for the period of 2016-2025

The Russian Ministry of Agriculture has prepared a draft concept for the development of viticulture and winemaking for 2016-2020 and the planning period up to 2025, focusing on the following areas:

- Boosting industry export potential and enhancing its international competitiveness;

- Fostering the expansion of smaller wineries and vineyards (farms);
- Decreasing dependence on imports; cutting the market share of poor-quality products;
- Expanding state support by increasing subsidies for vineyard establishment and cultivation and introducing new subsidies aimed at improving production efficiency. This includes, for instance, the reimbursement of 30 percent of expenses on the installation of vineyard irrigation systems as well as other technological improvements in the sector.

The Concept also contains a financial model for viticulture and winemaking.

[RBCdaily](#)

Media review

Outlook for remote identity verification in banking

The Central Bank of Russia, the Russian Ministry of Telecoms and Mass Communications and the Russia's Federal Service for Financial Monitoring have conceptually agreed on the approaches towards the development of remote customer identity verification mechanisms, with the Unified Identification and Authentication System (UIAS) to become a component of such mechanisms.

The first instance of customer identification is expected to remain an in-person process, with the customer being obliged to be present in a bank in accordance with the applicable policies.

Following identification, the customer data will be entered into a single database that will serve as a central data-storage facility.

UIAS will exchange information with other federal databases adjusting the data as received.

Plans call for the further enhancement of UIAS with a biometric verification mechanism.

Prior to its full deployment, pilot testing of the system will be run by several banks.

[Official website of the Central Bank of Russia](#)

Development of blockchain project for shareholder registrars launched

VTB Group has begun working on a project aimed at unifying the operations of the entire shareholder registrar market.

The project will be based on blockchain technology and is expected to enable registrars to keep registries of each others' shareholders.

[Kommersant](#)

We hope you will find the information in this edition interesting and helpful. Our specialists are ready to answer any questions you may have on the issues covered in this edition.

Sincerely,

Deloitte CIS partners

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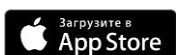


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TaxSmart app



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