

RESOLUTION
following the Third Forum on Small Business of the SCO and BRICS Regions

September 28-29, 2017
Ufa, Republic of Bashkortostan, Russia

On September 28-29, 2017, Ufa hosted a discussion on the development of the small and medium-sized enterprises of the SCO and BRICS regions. The First and Second Forums took place in 2015 and 2016 and proved their relevance and efficiency. Every year, the capital of the Republic of Bashkortostan attracts increasingly more participants from all over the world.

In 2017, the forum gathered over 1,400 delegates from 13 countries of the world. Its participants, including the representatives of business associations, small and medium-sized business of Russia and foreign countries, authorities, expert community, Russian Export Center, Russian Franchising Association, Russian Youth Union, as well as official international and regional delegations, SCO and BRICS representatives, have discussed major topics of developing small and medium enterprises. Besides, the forum organized an exhibition, consultations offered by entrepreneurship development institutions, a fair of projects, a contacts exchange, master-classes for export-oriented companies, Success Navigator quest.

Two plenary sessions and seven specialized platforms have arranged a discussion of today's most relevant issues: the role of small business in the development of the SCO and BRICS countries, regional small and medium enterprises, export-oriented entrepreneurship, state and non-state measures of business support, youth entrepreneurship, barrier-free cooperation in the SCO and BRICS, franchising, digital economy.

Over 200 meetings took place and nine agreements were signed.

The forum grew into a unique platform for all-round discussion of the development of the small and medium-sized business development from the viewpoint of domestic policies of the SCO and BRICS members and international relationships at the nation-to-nation level, businesses, public organizations and associations. Experts and participants have discussed specific tools of intensifying interregional and international cooperation within the SCO and BRICS, introduction of digital economy in the activity of SME, all-round support to SME, and the development of export activities.

As a follow-up to the Third Forum on Small Business of the SCO and BRICS Regions, the participants have produced the following suggestions:

In the sphere of barrier-free cooperation in the SCO and BRICS:

- To recommend the SCO and BRICS business councils to initiate the discussion of tools for removing double taxation in the SCO and BRICS states, as well as unification of the confirmation of tax residence and the establishment of electronic exchange of certificates.
- Federal Tax Service, Ministry of Economic Development of Russia (Russian Trade Delegations), Russian Export Center are advised to discuss within special work groups in the

SCO and BRICS the possibility of organizing the discussion of tax preferences and simplified taxation schemes for exporting small businesses.

- Federal Tax Service and the Russian Ministry of Trade and Industry are advised to take part in the Forum on Small Business of the SCO and BRICS Regions.
- Russian Export Center and Russian exporters are advised to put forward suggestions on harmonizing trade modes in the SCO and BRICS.
- Russian Export Center is advised to initiate the participation of export support centers of the SCO and BRICS states in the Forum on Small Business of the SCO and BRICS Regions in 2018.
- To introduce a suggestion to BRICS Business Council to find and remove administrative barriers.

In the sphere of supporting small and medium enterprises:

- The Russian executive authorities together with the SME support institutes are advised to design a single point of entrance for the small and medium enterprises which would contain the most complete information on supporting business.
- Russian Ministry of Economic Development together with Russian Franchising Association is advised to design preferential terms for franchising companies.
- Russian Ministry of Economic Development is advised to increase the number of services rendered under the program of easy-term loans to small business.
- Federal Tax Service is advised to strengthen control over compliance with financial liabilities of state corporations to small businesses.
- Russian Executive Authorities are advised to design the general system of supporting cooperatives, as well as the means of promoting cooperation.

In the sphere of developing digital economy:

- Russian Executive Authorities are advised to use the system of e-services for interacting with business and between its bodies.
- Russian Executive Authorities and SME supporting institutes are advised to design a state program of training entrepreneurs to reconstruct business processes depending on the business environment.

In the sphere of developing youth entrepreneurship:

- The SCO and BRICS business councils are advised to consider the possibility of attracting young entrepreneurs to the activity of the organization.
- To recommend to consider the Russian-Chinese student business incubator as an example of one of the most successful international practices of student exchange in the SCO and BRICS.
- Russian Youth Union is advised to support the Youth business incubator in the SCO and to establish the BRICS Youth business incubator in Russia in 2018.
- Russian executive authorities are advised to consider the possibility of organizing the centers of support of youth entrepreneurship in federal universities.

- Russian executive authorities are advised to design additional measures of supporting youth entrepreneurship.

In the sphere of developing a single franchising market:

- SCO and BRICS Business associations are advised to continue updating the electronic catalogue of franchises from the SCO and BRICS countries.
- Russian Franchising Association is advised to set up the centers of supporting franchising and to start cooperation with the regional authorities in the sphere of economic development on the measures of supporting franchising companies.
- Russian Ministry of Economic Development is advised to design additional programs of supporting small business in the sphere of social franchising.
- Russian Ministry of Economic Development together with the banking organizations is advised to offer additional easy-term loans to franchising companies.
- Russian Ministry of Economic Development is advised to add a section on franchising into the educational platform of the ministry.

In the sphere of export development:

- Russian Export Center together with the regional export support centers is advised to set up systematic marketing surveys of foreign markets to find out the prospects of sales of domestic products and to consider the possibility of creating a single analytical center.
- Russian Export Center together with the regional export support centers is advised to create a catalogue of successful export projects.
- Russian Ministry of Economic Development is advised to design a single methodology of defining non-raw material, non-energy, and raw material export.
- Russian Export Center together with the SCO and BRICS Office in Ufa is advised to design and disseminate (with the help of the SCO Business Council Secretariat) the training program of the Export School in the SCO and BRICS.
- Russian Export Center together with the Association of Electronic Platforms is advised to consider the possibility of establishing a single electronic platform in the SCO and BRICS.

In order to implement the Resolution of the Forum and to ensure its successful future:

- The Forum’s Organizing Committee should establish a working group to help implement the resolution, to collect, analyze, and systematize information and the events on each sphere above by attracting the representatives of public organizations, including the all-Russia non-governmental organization Business Russia, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation, and other involved parties; to systematically publish interim reports concerning the implementation of the resolution decisions for the participants of the Forum and the representatives of the small and medium-sized business.

To hold the Fourth Forum on Small Business of the SCO and BRICS Regions in Ufa in Autumn 2018.