

**Agreement**  
**on cooperation in the field of competition policy**  
**between the Federal Antimonopoly Service (Russian Federation)**  
**and the People’s Power Ministry for Light Industries and Trade of the**  
**Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

Federal Antimonopoly Service (FAS Russia) and Ministry for Production and Commerce of the Republic of Venezuela, hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”,

expressing the wish to promote cooperation in the field of competition policy,

aiming at creation of favorable conditions for development of bilateral relations,

based on principles of equality and mutual benefit,

taking into consideration the key role of competition in economic development of both countries,

have agreed as follows:

**Article 1**

The Parties shall promote and strengthen cooperation in the field of competition policy in compliance with the legislation of the Parties.

**Article 2**

Cooperation between the Parties shall be promoted in the basic directions as follows:

- improvement of legal foundations of competition policy of the Parties;

- exchanging experience in the field of conducting investigations relevant to violations of competition legislation;
- creation of favorable conditions for efficient work of commodity markets of the Parties;
- development of scientific and methodological basis for competition law research.

### **Article 3**

The basic forms of cooperation between the Parties in the sphere of competition policy are the following:

interchange of legislative acts, informational, methodological and other materials between the Parties ;

holding meetings at different levels of representatives of the Parties;

providing methodical assistance, interchange of research results, consultation assistance when developing methodology base for conducting researches, as well as evaluation of competition state at different commodity markets of the Parties;

attracting specialists of the other Party to take part in training process and probations aimed at experience exchange ;

holding bilateral symposium, conferences and seminars;

experience exchange on the issues of integration processes participation;

holding consultation meetings.

### **Article 4**

In case of necessity the Parties grant to each other information and consulting assistance, which may be needed for fulfillment the tasks of antimonopoly policy and competition development, determined by the law of the Parties.

Delivery of information is performed at the basis of inquiry of one of the Parties, which should contain the aim of using the information, context of the case with an addition of relative documents. A Party on its own initiative or according to the inquiry of the other Party performs the delivery of information on actions contradicting legislation of the Parties and demanding taking measures on providing the observance of competition law at commodity markets of the Parties. The Parties commit themselves to use the information only with the aim stipulated in the inquiry.

Information inquired should be delivered in terms coordinated by the Parties, but not later than 45 days since the day of getting the inquiry. The inquired Party should inform the other Party about any delay, which may entail non-compliance of the period specified.

A Party, received the information should provide the regime of protection of confidential information in accordance with national law and upon request of the Party.

## **Article 5**

A Party sending representatives for participating in mutually organized events, including in bilateral and multilateral consultations, symposium, conferences and seminars, bear costs on transportation, accommodation and meals of its participants.

## **Article 6**

Disputes, relating to interpretation and application of the present Agreement shall be solved by negotiations between the Parties.

### **Article 7**

The Agreement will not affect the right and obligation of the Parties relating to other international agreements, where Russian Federation and Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela are participating.

### **Article 8**

The present Agreement is coming into force from the date of its signature and will be effective before expiration of 6 months from the date of getting by either Party a written notification from the other Party on its intention to terminate the Agreement.

Termination of the present Agreement will not affect programs and projects started in the framework of this Agreement

The Agreement is signed in Karakas on “26” November , 2008 in two copies, each in Russian, Spanish and English, all three texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For The Federal Antimonopoly Service	For the People’s Power Ministry for Light Industries and Trade of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela