

Mandates of anti-corruption authorities of the Russian Federation

The organizational base for corruption counteraction in the Russian Federation is prescribed by the Federal law of 25 December 2008 № 273-FZ «On combating corruption», which is a fundamental instrument in the system of normative legal acts in the above mentioned sphere and contains a definition of the major notions – «corruption» and «corruption counteraction». Article 5 of the Federal law determines the sphere of competence (mandates) of the state authorities in this field.

The Federal law «On combating corruption» also envisages that in order to ensure coordination of activities of federal executive bodies, executive bodies of the subjects of the Russian Federation and local authorities aimed at implementation of the state policy in the field of corruption counteraction agencies composed of representatives of federal bodies of state power, bodies of state power of the subjects of the Russian Federation and other persons can be formed by the decision of the President of the Russian Federation.

In conformity with the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation of 19 May 2008 № 815 «On anti-corruption measures» an Anti-Corruption Council under the President of the Russian Federation was established, the main tasks of which are as follows:

formulation of proposals to the President of the Russian Federation concerning development and realization of anti-corruption state policy;

coordination of activities of federal executive authorities, executive authorities of the subjects of the Russian Federation and local authorities of municipal formations on realization of anti-corruption state policy;

control over realization of measures specified by National anti-corruption plan.

For the purpose of resolving current issues of the Council's activities a Presidium of the Anti-Corruption Council under the President of the Russian Federation was set up in accordance with the above mentioned Decree. The President of the Council's Presidium is the Chief of the Presidential Administration of Russia.

The prosecution bodies counteract corruption in line with the provisions of the Federal law of 17 January 1992 № 2202-1 «On the Prosecution service of the Russian Federation». In particular, the Prosecutor-General of the Russian Federation and public prosecutors subject to him coordinate within their authorities the activities of bodies of internal affairs of the Russian Federation, bodies of the

Federal Security Service, Customs bodies of the Russian Federation aimed at corruption counteraction stipulated by federal laws.

Moreover for the purpose of realization of provisions of article 6 of the United Nations Convention against corruption and taking into account that corruption manifestations can be observed in different spheres of activities of a particular state or society a specialized unit was set up in August 2007 within the Prosecutor's Office of the Russian Federation to supervise over execution of legislation on corruption counteraction. Similar units were established in all subjects of the Russian Federation.

The unit is comprised of the division for supervision over execution of federal legislation, the division for supervision over criminal proceedings, investigation and search operations and ensuring participation of prosecutors in criminal trials, as well as the organizational analytical division.

The main areas of activities of these divisions can be divided into following groups:

- identification of corruption's manifestations and conduct of relevant inspections;

- supervision over execution of procedural criminal legislation in the course of investigation of criminal cases on corruption;

- maintenance of prosecution in the course of judicial proceedings on criminal cases;

- monitoring and analysis of the process of execution of legislation on combating corruption and working out of proposals for its improvement;

- participation in international cooperation with anti-corruption and other structures of other states.

The issues relating to corruption counteraction are being actively addressed on the level of the subjects of the Russian Federation: the laws on combating corruption were adopted, special units on corruption counteraction are being set up within the structures of executive bodies, comprehensive anti-corruption programmes are being elaborated. State authorities at regional level comprise commissions on ensuring compliance of civil servants conduct in office with the requirements and on settlement of conflict of interest, as well as councils for addressing corruption issues.