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# Businessmen Inspired But A Little Frightened

By Ara Martirosian  
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They urged PM Tigran Sargsian to continue the amendments. Representatives of the Armenian business circles met with Prime Minister Tigran Sargsian on May 15 in the government to discuss the strategy coming from the government business assistance program.

The Prime Minister announced that the government intends to form the best business environment based on international standards and with that oppose those competitive restrictions that are available in our country compared with others.

As many businesses are more expensive here than in the region, formation of the best business environment will contribute to the thing that conducting business in Armenia will be more profitable than in neighboring countries, said the PM.

Tigran Sargsian mainly touched upon the government goals of improvement of taxation system. The PM highlighted the businessmen's support for the amendments in taxation system.

President of the Union of Armenian Manufacturers and Businessmen Arsen Ghazarian mentioned that the business society is really inspired with the steps taken by the government, but it is a little frightened whether those steps will be temporary or continuous.

"If it goes on several months, the businessmen will really believe in it", he said adding that amendments in the Customs are approaching to the taxation field.

President of the "Merchants of Armenia" Tsolak Gevorgian in the name of the representatives of small business also welcomed the government steps directed to the improvement of business environment.

President of DCA company, NA MP Gagik Abrahamian assured that the ice is broken and it is seen and heard by the businessmen every day.

Issues of privileges in the sphere of information technologies, decrease of taxation tariffs, division of small, middle and big businesses, etc. were raised during the meeting.

The Prime Minister mentioned that cooperation between private and public sectors will be an equal cooperation. The state should support the private sector in those spheres that are promising but need big investments and risks and it should take part of the financing and risks but only giving a guarantee that it will come off the business after.

Touching upon the questions raised by the businessmen Tigran Sargsian mentioned that a universal division of small, medium and big businesses is not available in the world. Armenia should adopt its own model studying the international experience. It will be an agreed variant between the businessmen and the government.

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