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**CUSTOMS UNION. ASPECTS OF FORMATION OF SINGLE
CUSTOMS LEGISLATION**

Annotation

This article represents the order of formation of Customs Union of Russia, Kazakhstan and Byelorussia. It includes the contents and the basic functions of Customs Union control system, formations of customs tariff policy of member countries.

The article marks out the basic stages of creation of contractual legal base of Customs Union, the purposes of its creation and also the problems of formation of single customs legislation are concretized.

Key words: Customs Union, customs tariff policy, financial legislation, customs legislation, state regulation of foreign economic activity, customs tariffs.

The first formation of Customs Union within the framework of CIS took place in 1999. On February, 26. 1999 the Contract about the Customs Union and Single Economic Space was signed. It was signed by five states: Byelorussia, Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, Tajikistan and Russia (since 2000 – Eurasian Economic Community). The goods from these countries were completely exempted from customs duties payment at their import in the territory of these countries if there was a certificate on goods origin in form of ST-1.

Then the slackening of Community promoted the creation of other regional organizations within the framework of CIS. It is Central - Asian Union (CAU) of Kazakhstan,

Uzbekistan, Kirghizia and Tajikistan; the Union state of Byelorussia and Russia; GUUAM, which consists of Georgia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and Moldova (it was created in 1997; it is also a zone of free trade). However today CAU practically stays idle because of the struggle for regional leadership between Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, Customs Union has gradually lost its importance because the members of this union have gradually fixed the customs among themselves. Uzbekistan left GUUAM. Meanwhile, the countries of GUUAM are not capable to give a pulse to multilateral cooperation independently. The union of «two» has many opponents in Byelorussia and Russia and it should still overcome many obstacles.

The members of EAEC today are Byelorussia, Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, Russia and Tajikistan. The presidents of these countries signed the Contract about establishment of EAEC on October, 10. 2000 in Astana (it came into effect on May, 30. 2001). On January, 25. 2006 Uzbekistan became the member of this organization, however in the end of 2008 the government of the country declared about the suspension of membership in EAEC. The status of observer at EAEC was given to Moldova and Ukraine (2002), Armenia (2003).

The heads of the EAEC governments approved also the plan of common efforts of the EAEU member countries on overcoming of the world financial crisis. The EAEC states at participation of Armenia signed the contract about the establishment of Anti-crisis fund of EAEC and Agreement on means control of Anti-crisis fund of the Eurasian Economic Community. The authorized capital of the fund, which is now being created, will be 10 billion dollars, with a share of Russia - 7,5 billion dollars. Means of the fund will be used for granting loans and stabilization credits to the member countries and also for financing interstate investment projects. Besides, the Concept of creation of the Center of High Technologies of EAEC and Regulations about the center were authorized. The Agreement on single approaches to application of information technologies in activity of customs services and the Agreement on single principles of information cooperation of customs services were signed.

On June, 9. 2000 in Moscow, the heads of the governments decided to create the new Customs Union at the session of Interstate Council of Eurasian Economic Community. The contract about the creation of Single customs

territory and formation of Customs Union was signed on October, 6. 2007 within the frameworks of wider economic association of former USSR member countries - EAEC. The sides of the customs union established the Commission of the Customs Union as a single permanent regulating body of the Customs Union by signing the Contract about the Commission of Customs Union from October, 6. 2007. The chairman of the Commission of Customs Union is the First vice-president of the Government of Russian Federation Igor Shuvalov. By the decision of the Commission of Customs Union №1 from February, 4. 2009 the executive secretary of the Commission of Customs Union is Sergei Glaziev.

The supreme body of Customs Union (it includes Russia, Byelorussia and Kazakhstan) is the so-called interstate Council of EAEC at a level of three, that is when the supreme body of Customs Union gathers there are two variants: at a level of prime-ministers or at a level of heads of the states.

On December, 12. 2008 in Moscow, during the Supreme State Council of the Union state there were signed the agreements concerning the functioning of Customs Union: the Agreement on conditions and mechanism of application of tariff quotas, the Protocol on single system of tariff preferences of Customs Union, the Protocol on granting tariff privileges, the Agreement on the order of customs registration and customs control in the member countries of Customs Union, etc.

On November, 27. 2009 in Minsk the Interstate Council of EAEC - the supreme body of Customs Union – made the Decision on signing the Contract on the Customs Code of

The control system of Customs Union is shown in the figure 1.

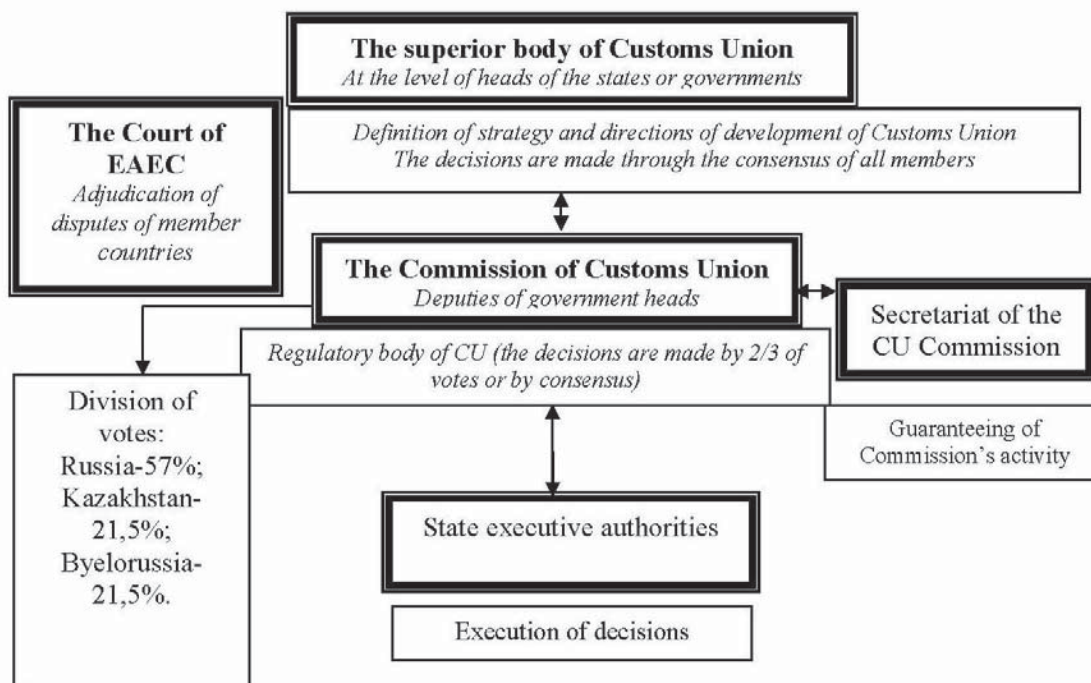


Fig. 1. The system of CU

Customs Union (№ 17). The same decision of the Commission of Customs Union generated the Special working group for preparation of the Protocol on modification and additions in the Contract about the Customs Code of Customs Union. Such document should be prepared, coordinated with the interested departments and partners of Russia on Customs Union till February, 15. 2010 so that it comes into force simultaneously with the Customs Code of Customs Union. The Ministry of Economic Development of Russian Federation coordinates the work on formation of the position of Russian side on modification and additions in the Customs Code of Customs Union up to its coming into force.

Simultaneously the Interstate Council of EAEC and the Commission of Customs Union made the Decisions on single customs tariff regulation of Customs Union of Byelorussia, Republic Kazakhstan and Russian Federation « (№ 18 and № 130), and also Decisions on single not tariff regulation of Customs Union of Byelorussia, Republic Kazakhstan and Russian Federation (№ 19 and № 132) on November, 27. 2009.

The heads of the governments of the Customs Union countries made one more essentially important decision: to stop the negotiations about the introduction into the World trading organization (WTO) one by one and do it together. In other words, Russia, Byelorussia and

Kazakhstan create the single block for conducting the negotiating process on connection to WTO. It is a large success on a way of restoration of economic unity of post Soviet space.

Having designated the basic stages of creation of Customs Union contractual legal base, we shall define the purposes of its creation:

1. The key idea of Customs Union creation is a single custom tariff (SCT) and absence of traffic walls inside the single customs territory of Customs Union. The institute of realization of single customs and trade policy is created. It is supposed that the customs on the goods from the third countries will be synchronized and the customs control will be carried out at the external border. As to the goods made in Russia, Byelorussia and Kazakhstan, they will be untaxed at all. According to the decision of Interstate Council of EAEC, the Customs Union is formed in three stages: preliminary - till January, 1. 2010, the first - till July, 1. 2010 and the second - till July, 1. 2011. Since January, 1. 2010 the Customs Union of the «Big Three» began its work within the framework of Euroasian Economic Community (EAEC) - Russia, Byelorussia and Kazakhstan, and by July, 1. 2011 all the procedures on creation of single common customs border in three countries will be completed. Thus, soon on the post Soviet space the Customs Union of Byelorussia, Kazakhstan and Russia becomes a single customs territory, inside which (from the Byelorussian-Polish border up to Kazakhstan-Chinese) all goods can move freely and untaxed. The Customs Union assumes the absence of customs house on the borders between member countries and also the

common custom tariff, which started to operate since January, 1. 2010. During the period Since January, 1. till July, 1. 2010 it is planned to start the single mechanisms of regulation of foreign trade, to put into operation the Customs Code of the Union, to finish the removal of control functions to external border of Byelorussia, to facilitate the control over the Russian - Kazakhstan border. Since July, 1. 2011 it is planned to take out the customs and other kinds of control from internal borders of Customs Union of three countries to external. The customs border will pass on external borders of three states. Citizens can drive and leave the territory of two countries free without realization of customs inspection and passport control on internal borders. Customs registration on internal borders between our states will be eliminated, that is it will not be necessary to fill in the declarations, it won't be necessary to pay any custom charges, to overcome any else traffic walls concerning the internal goods.

The calculations, which have been done by scientists of Russian Academy of Sciences on combined model of inter branch balances of the member countries of Customs Union show that the integration effect allows to overcome the tendency of slowing down the economic growth. According to the calculation of Russian Academy of Science, the total integration effect, which is measured by additional manufacture of total internal product, will be approximately 400 billion dollars till 2015. Due to the integration factor Russia will receive in addition 16,8% from the modern level of gross national product, Byelorussia - 16,1%, Kazakhstan - 14,7 %¹.

1. M. Makhlin "The Steps to the Common Market". "Russian Business Newspaper" № 719 (35) from September, 15. 2009.

2. *Creation of the locomotive of real, post Soviet, economic integration.* On the post Soviet economic space the role of nucleus should belong to «the Eurasian three» - Russia, Kazakhstan and Byelorussia - 83 % of economic potential of the USSR. The major consequence of formation of Customs Union is restoration of single economic space of the former USSR as one organism. Since January, 1. 2012 the United economic space of Russia, Byelorussia and Kazakhstan will start to operate in territory of CIS. The corresponding arrangement has been achieved by the presidents of three countries Dmitry Medvedev, Alexander Lukashenko and Noursultan Nazarbaev on December, 19. 2009 in Alma-Ata. According to this arrangement, from the beginning of 2012, the Economic Community, which possesses the one commodity market and services, with one currency, common system of legal regulation of economic activities both strategic planning and conducting the coordinated economic policy starts to operate in CIS. There is also free movement of capitals and labor force inside this association. The presidents of three countries have expressed the aspiration to form EES precisely to the fixed term.

The countries of future CIS were poorly connected with the world market. Basically (except of Russia) they exchanged production among themselves. During the long joint development in the structure of former USSR there was a deep public labor division between union republics. The long-term engineering output for each other has caused a high degree of their interconnection. Even today, according to the information of experts, the share of CIS

countries in total amount of the foreign trade turnover of Commonwealth is about 60 %. The saved community of used technologies, standards and conditions of manufacture works for inevitable integration within the frameworks of EAEC. The common energetic infrastructure, the network of petroleum and gas mains, railway and road communications, which were created in Union times, continue to function. The common for all countries of Community is also the reorganization of economics on market beginnings. So there is a powerful potential for fast economic jerk in the structure of EAEC at restoration of former economic relations and removal of unnecessary boundary obstacles and bureaucratic interdictions.

Kirghizia and Tajikistan in November, 2009 have expressed the readiness to join the organization; however the terms of joining the Customs Union are not fixed. According to the words of the First vice-premier Igor Shuvalov, the process of their joining will not be delayed but will demand the compromise settlements. The complication still consists also in the fact that Kirghizia is already the member of WTO.

3. *The speech at negotiations about membership in WTO as united front.* It would allow our countries to achieve the certain concessions, to put forward the coordinated counterclaims, to resolve questions arising during negotiations operatively and in coordination. The economics of such countries incorporated into one Customs Union as Byelorussia, Russia and Kazakhstan could negotiate for joining WTO on considerably better conditions than today. First of all, it concerns the definition of

maximum level of tariff rates of import duties, which at normal business will not raise (linkage of import custom duties) and gradual decrease of custom duties level. Thus, it is necessary to take into account that the rates of import duties, connected in the national list of tariff reduction of any country according to the most favoured nation status (article I of GATT), are applied to all the members of WTO. Besides, the base performances of the sizes of economics would be the data of 2003-2004. Today the base figures are the performances of crisis year 1996 (the falling of economy of the countries of former USSR was 36 % from performances of 1991), that is obviously unprofitable for our countries.² Byelorussia also hopes that creation of Customs Union will allow the members of EAEC to enter WTO on those favorable conditions, which are stipulated for itself by Russian Federation. One more advantage of joining WTO as one organization is the opportunity of establishment of internal - between member countries of Customs Union – customs duties, tax privileges, grants for agriculture. Russia, Kazakhstan and Byelorussia have made completely correct decision. Joining WTO individually would scotch the integration on post Soviet space. As the rules of WTO forbid to prefer one member of organization to another. In other words, if cut or cancel the tariffs for Byelorussia and Kazakhstan, it is necessary to

make the same for the third countries. But there is a loophole made for such large economic blocks as European Community, NAFTA, etc. They are not interested in destroying their mutual trade by the rules of WTO. Therefore WTO allows to join their organization «customs territories», that is economic unions of the states. «Customs territory» is considered as a unit and can be comparable to other states. In other words, if Russia cut the tariffs for Byelorussia and Kazakhstan within the framework of one customs territory, it will not be obliged by the rules of WTO to do the same for China. There is an opportunity of collective protectionism. It is when the protectionist measures are accepted simultaneously by everyone and are directed not to other members of the community but to the goods from the countries, which are behind its borders.

4. Guarantee of more reliable protection of foreign competition and creation of reliable barriers for smuggling and re-export. The economic crisis brought the negative corrective amendments also here. According to the data of Department of economic safety in 2008 it was revealed over 63 thousand crimes in the sphere of consumer market. It is on 14 % more in comparison with 2007. Only for winter of 2009 the number of crimes connected with smuggling and piracy products has grown on 82 %. From all

2. The agreement on agriculture of WTO foresees the carrying out of calculation and gradual reduce in the full cumulative size of support to agricultural sector (AMS), which is rendered on the average annually. The support in the advanced countries is on the average 20 % for each branch in regular intervals during six years; in less developed countries - on the average 13 % in regular intervals during 10 years. The value of principle for definition of AMS and export grants has the so-called representative period, in comparison with which the new standard is established.

the market of Russian light industry at best 20 % are the share of legal domestic manufacturers.³ The introduction of common custom duties concerning the third countries, creation of one customs border at external borders of three states will allow the members of Customs Union to treble the efforts on formation of effectively working system of state control over the passage of cargoes through customs border (including strategic raw material and production of double application) and completeness of customs payments.

The formation of common customs legislation, which is going great guns, is necessary for achievement of set aims. The leaders of three states have accepted a package of decisions about the start of Customs Union in the structure of «three» since January, 1. 2010r. and end of all necessary procedures till July, 1. 2011. The project of the common part of Customs Code of Customs Union (the Project on September 24. 2009) is prepared. The common mechanisms of goods declaring of, the unified kinds of customs modes and procedures are developed with the purpose of creation of the common mode of trade with the third countries. There is a formation of the single order of tariff regulation, not tariff measures of the foreign trade activity (quotas, licenses, antidumping, protective and special duties, etc.), the indirect taxation and currency regulation of the foreign trade operations with other countries, common customs statistics of external and mutual trade. There is a work on signing the agreements providing the creation of

one system of customs regulation and contracts about collection of excises and VAT at import from the third countries. The Commission of the union, which started to work in January of current year, is the basis of institutional systems. The single tariff, which consists of 11 thousand regulations that makes more than 60 % of commodity nomenclature of foreign trade activity, is authorized. The heads of the governments of three countries have determined April, 1. as a term of the statement of 100-percent list of single custom duty.

It is planned to consider the problem on the order of conducting the common commodity nomenclature of foreign trade activity of the Customs Union. It is needed the updating of the rates of import customs of single custom tariff of Customs Union concerning some goods. With the reference to the customs - tariff regulation it must be established the single order of payment, receipt and distribution of customs and other duties, taxes and tax collections, which have the equivalent action, the single rules of definition of the country of origin of the goods and also the customs cost.

The common customs territory provides the opening of internal borders of the member countries of the union for the goods and cargoes. Accordingly it also assumes the transition to the common system of declarations and standards of customs administration and control. The customs tariff, not tariff measures of economic character and customs control are not the only barriers. Also there are sanitary, phyto-sanitary,

3. According to the data from the site www.rsptlp.ru

veterinary measures and technical barriers in trade. Therefore, it is necessary to develop the single standards of import and export of goods and cargoes, which will exist in the common customs territory.

It is already possible to talk about the changes in customs policy of Russian Federation after the creation of Customs Union since 2010. From the report of the head of Federal customs service Andrey Belianinov, which was published on October, 23. 2009 on the official site of FCS, follows:

- the union Customs Code describes the financial responsibility of participants of foreign trade activity not in roubles but in euro. The changes are expected by the institute of participants of foreign trade activity - so, it is solved to abolish the institute of customs brokers, they will be replaced by customs representatives. Describing the difference between broker and representative, Andrey Belianinov indicated only financial component: the sum of its activity guaranteeing will decrease a little – from 50 million roubles up to 1 million euro;

- the institute of participants of foreign trade activity will be supplemented with the institute of the authorized economic operator, which uses the special simplifications of customs procedures. In comparison with effective Customs Code of Russian Federation by «the special simplified procedures» these operators will receive rather serious privileges: the right to store the customs goods in their own warehouses and to carry out the necessary customs procedures in the same place, the right «to output goods before submission of customs declaration with

payments» - actually the interest-free delay of payment for terms from 10 till 40 days. For reception of such status the importer will be obliged to bring the support in size of not less than 1 million euro. Such institute in Russia was offered to be created in 2008;

- the difference concerning the national legislations to the joint responsibility of the broker with importers and exporters. In Russia this rule will continue to operate, Byelorussia and Kazakhstan has the right to enforce it during one year.

The problems of formation of single customs legislation were also outlined. The main problem, which takes place in all directions of examined legislative activity, is the coordination of normative documents by the sides. For more than for one and half a decade of independence the strongly differing legislations of member countries of Customs Union were formed. The experts should do the titanic work to find the mutually acceptable compromises for formulations of regulation norms of common customs territory, which will operate in three states.

The problem is also in the fact that till now there are unmatched 5 % of customs tariffs concerning the goods, which were not made in the common customs territory. Besides, there are real risks for internal manufacturers. And this question is already actively discussed. Because with the introduction of common customs territory, Russia, Byelorussia and Kazakhstan open automatically their markets for each other. The sharpest competition is not at all between Russian Federation and Kazakhstan in

raw sector (we carry out the transit of Kazakh hydrocarbons) but between Russian Federation and Byelorussia. We compete in spheres from chemical manufacture till the production of agriculture. We are also interested in promotion of production of light industry, plus electronics, production of mechanical engineering (especially transport). Of course, within the framework of common customs space all these Byelorussia goods should pass the territory of Russian Federation free and without collection of any duty. But here there are a number of clauses from the very beginning. And conversion to such condition in reality can be delayed for many years.

In the beginning of December, 2009 Dmitry Medvedev signed the Law on ratification of special protocol, which in unusual cases allow to cut or raise the import customs fixed by the common custom tariff. On the basis of this document the sanction on applying of lower rate can be received by the member country of Customs Union «in case of sharp deficiency of the goods if it is necessary for satisfaction of socially significant needs of population or needs of manufacture development at impossibility of their satisfaction due to manufacture of these or similar goods in other member countries of Customs Union». The necessity of using of higher rate is admitted if there is the necessity of conditions for development of the branch of economy of the Customs Union member country. Also only in unusual cases.

Earlier the director of regulation department of foreign trade activity of Ministry of Economics Alexey Likhachev also warned that the Customs Commission of the union should coordinate the list of «sensitive» for each of participants of Customs Union of the goods and before that they have an opportunity to introduce the transition periods and the rates, which are distinct from the single custom tariff. For example, Kazakhstan had to make big concessions regarding the increase of the customs (their average level was twice lower in comparison with Russia), for lines of the goods the certain preferential transitive modes are kept. In particular, according to the words of Eugeny Likhachev, Kazakhstan got the right to apply the rates, which are distinct from SCT, on 400 commodity positions for the period from one and a half till four years.⁴ And for no abuses from the side of importers, the certain kinds of customs control over Kazakhstan will be kept up to the middle of 2011, though the Kazakhstan goods should get Russia and Byelorussia free. The concrete kinds of customs control should be determined by Kazakhstan.

The flexibility of the mechanism of SCT introduction consists, firstly in the fact that all decisions are accepted in common and secondly that the transition periods are foreseen for complicated questions. The single custom tariff will have some small amount of exceptions for execution of accepted obligations. For example, Russia has obligation on preparation of

4. Newspaper "Kommersant" № 199/ (4254) October, 26. 2009

Olympiad in Sochi. Kazakhstan has obligation on performance of some large investment projects with foreign participation.

To establish the single custom tariffs is half the work. In fact still it is possible to forbid the deliveries of the goods inside the Customs Union on the basis of incorrectly documents, claims in excessive subsidies given to the manufacturers, accuses of the content of harmful substances in the products, etc. It is natural that other side will consider such actions illegal. The consequence of this is the necessity of creation of supranational judicial bodies, which will consider the disputable cases.

The unresolved question is how the payments on SCT will be distributed. Analyzing the last information it is possible to draw a conclusion that there are three basic variants of its solution: the first variant is the distribution of duties on volumes of the collected payments, the second - on volumes of import, the third variant unites these two variants plus some macroeconomic performances, in particular, the volume of national gross national product. According to the majority of analysts at the application of different approaches to distribution of payments on SCT, 90 % of all the payments are due to Russian Federation. The supranational order of coordination to distribution of payments on SCT waits for its solution.

There are also problems with formation of common customs space. The customs registration between Russia and Byelorussia did not exist any more but, nevertheless, the customs control

over the Russian - Byelorussia border is kept for preventions of non-authorized redistribution of cargoes from the third countries or directed in the third countries. That is the customs house on the Russian - Byelorussia border operates only in relation to the goods of the third countries. But this control is also planned to cancel from July, 1. And at the connection of Kazakhstan to the Customs Union there are a lot of problems connected with the arrangement of rather extended border between Russian Federation and Kazakhstan. As well as with Byelorussia, since July, 1. 2010. it is planned to cancel the customs registration, that is we will not have customs registration in mutual trade but by the reason of preservation of certain preferential transient states for some Kazakhstan goods, the certain kinds of the customs control will be kept to the middle of 2011.

As to the joining WTO as united front it is possible to be convinced of the uncertainty of the given question having analyzed the corresponding events. On June, 9. 2009 Kazakhstan, Byelorussia and Russia have decided to enter WTO not individually but as the single Customs Union, which will be formed in the beginning of 2010. On June, 17. 2009 there were carried out the first «rigid» consultations of the members of Customs Union with the member countries of WTO. At the meetings a number of participants expressed the opinion that Customs Union can slow down the entering of three countries into WTO. On July, 8. the Minister of Trade of the USA Gary Lock has estimated the script of the collective entering of the countries

into WTO as «impracticable». Moreover, Lock marked that the majority of the member countries of WTO consider the same. After that Dmitry Medvedev declared that it is more logical to enter WTO individually. However in August it became known that the Customs Union decided to enter the trading club together. But already on October, 15. 2009 it became known that the members of Customs Union decided to negotiate for the entering into WTO as the separate states but in close coordination with each other. Thus, it was emphasized that the question is only about preliminary talks and that Russia, Byelorussia and Kazakhstan still enter the World Trading Organization in the structure of Customs Union and not separately.

There are legal opportunities for the entering into the organization by Customs Union. To tell the truth, not all the questions on connection the WTO are adjusted by the Customs Union, the part of them should be solved at the level of national legislation. Legally each of three member countries of customs «three» can issue the entering into WTO independently; on some questions they can conclude the bilateral agreements with the international trading club. In any case the priority is the entering of Russia, Byelorussia and Kazakhstan on equal terms and at the same time.

There are also other contradictions between the member countries of Customs Union. Here it is possible to note the negotiations on tariffs fixation and on the volumes of consumption connected with the deliveries of

Russian oil to Byelorussia. Many observers are afraid of increase of the customs on import of some goods. For example, the most sensitive position for Byelorussia is foreign cars. The matter is that allies (especially Russia) carry out the protectionist policy concerning their car industry. Duties on foreign cars are much higher in Russia than in Byelorussia. The experts of automobile market are sure that even Customs Union will not force Russia to go on reduction of duties to the level of Byelorussia. The absence of barrier for movement of goods between the countries can be shown not only in wide assortment of goods on counters but also in huge amount of «grey» import. When all the barriers will disappear, there will be the additional stream of cheap but not always qualitative goods getting to the neighbours illegally. Businessmen are afraid that the enterprises of three countries will work in the conditions of rigid competition and some of them, who didn't pass the corresponding modernization or don't satisfy the modern requirements, can not withstand this competition.

Forcing the negotiations on Customs Union, Russia made a choice for the benefit of the nearest allies, members of EAEC - Byelorussia and Kazakhstan - the countries, which possess the similar political modes and are territorially close. The Customs Union is advantageous for the manufacturers of all member countries of the agreement. Now manufacturers can sell the goods on the markets of three countries without any restrictions. The cancellation of customs border with Byelorussia will lead to the manufacture of

complex of machine-building products, which assembly is carry out in Byelorussia with the use of Russian accessories, will be much more effective and cheaper. Thereinforcing competition between the enterprises of three countries will force the manufacturers to reduce the prices as there will be a lot of new manufacturers on the market. The duties on some kinds of the goods can decrease. It can concern, for example, the oranges, bananas and pineapples (if we cut the duties to the level of Russia) or medicines, home appliances and vegetable oil (if all the allies will agree to the zero duty as in Kazakhstan). It will be also good for the purse of consumers. It will not be necessary to fill in the customs declaration and other customs documents.

Thus, the creation of Customs Union means the essential expansion of commodity markets, reduce of production costs of the goods, increase of competitiveness. The entire world goes the way of regional integration as only large

regional associations can survive in competitive struggle. The large common market is created and it is initially adapted for cooperation and the further expansion making the economy of all its participants more stable. Still necessary are the long and laborious work on the search of the trade-off decisions in overcoming the existing problems and disagreements connected with the functioning and development of Customs Union including the sphere of formation of common customs legislation. But, despite the pessimistic predictions of some analysts, the sides realize that the planned way is the only true in existing realities.

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