

[Decision of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 302 of April 17, 2001 amended the title of this Decision](#)

[See the previous text of the title](#)

**DECISION  
OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS (GOVERNMENT)  
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION  
NO. 501 OF MAY 27, 1993  
ON THE STATE INSPECTORATE ON TRADE, QUALITY OF GOODS AND PROTECTION  
OF CONSUMERS' RIGHTS OF THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
AND TRADE OF THE RUSSIAN OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION  
(with the Amendments of December 25, 1993, June 19, 1994,  
September 6, 1995, July 14, 1997, October 2, 1999, April 17, 2001)**

The Council of Ministers (Government) of the Russian Federation resolves:

[Decision of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 302 of April 17, 2001 amended Item 1 of this Decision](#)

[See the previous text of the Item](#)

1. To approve the appended [Regulations](#) for the State Inspectorate on Trade, Quality of Goods and Protection of Consumers' Rights of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of the Russian of the Russian Federation.

[Decision of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 866 of July 14, 1997 amended Item 2 of this Decision](#)

[see the previous text of the Item](#)

2. To fix the numerical strength of the bodies of the State Inspectorate on Trade, Quality of Goods and Protection of Consumers' Rights of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade of the Russian Federation at the level of 2.700 employees.

The expenses on the maintenance of the said Inspectorate shall be financed from the federal budget resources to be channelled to the state administration, and also from other sources within the framework of the legislation of the Russian Federation.

3. The Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation shall be obliged, by agreement with the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation and the interested ministries and departments, to approve the order of compensation of the expenditures incurred in the process of control purchases and selection of samples of goods by the State Inspectorate on Trade, Quality of Goods and Protection of Consumers' Rights.

4. To recognize as invalid the Decisions of the Council of Ministers of the RSFSR according to the appended [list](#).

Chairman of the Council of Ministers -  
Government of the Russian Federation

Viktor Chernomyrdin

[Decision of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 302 of April 17, 2001 amended the Regulations, approved by this Decision](#)

[See the previous text of the Regulations](#)

**REGULATIONS  
ON THE STATE INSPECTORATE OF TRADE, QUALITY OF GOODS  
AND PROTECTION OF THE CONSUMERS;**

**RIGHTS OF THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE  
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**(Approved by the [Decision](#) of the Council of Ministers - Government  
of the Russian Federation**

**No. 501 of May 27, 1993 as worded in the [Decision](#)  
of Government of the Russian Federation**

**No. 866 of July 14, 1997)**

**1.** The State Inspectorate of Trade, Quality of Goods and Protection of the Consumers' Rights of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of the Russian Federation (Gostorginspektsiya) is a state body whose main tasks include:

state control over the observance of the norms and rules of trade and public catering, the procedure for the use of prices of particular groups of goods, the quality and safety of consumer goods;

the eradication of abuses in trade and public catering and the prevention of the arrival of inferior goods in the consumers' market.

The objects of state control exercised by the Gostorginspektsiya in line with its tasks include enterprises, institutions and organizations, regardless of the forms of property and departmental subordination, and individuals who sell or produce goods and render services (hereinafter referred to as vendors and producers).

**2.** The Gostorginspektsiya shall carry on its activity on the basis of the [Constitution](#) of the Russian Federation, other legislative acts of the Russian Federation, the decrees and orders of the President of the Russian Federation, the decisions and orders of the Government of the Russian Federation, and also the present Regulations.

**3.** In its activity the Gostorginspektsiya shall cooperate with the State Committee of the Russian Federation for Standardization, Metrology and Certification, the Ministry of Public Health of the Russian Federation, the State Antimonopoly Committee of the Russian Federation and other state administrative bodies which exercise within their jurisdiction control over the compliance of the quality of goods or services with the standards and contract terms and over the observance of the legislation of the Russian Federation in the sphere of the protection of the consumers' rights.

**4.** The Gostorginspektsiya consists of the Department of the State Inspectorate of Trade, Quality of Goods and Protection of the Consumers' Rights of the Central apparatus of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of the Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as the Department of the Gostorginspektsiya) and of its subordinate territorial agencies - the administrations of the Gostorginspektsiya of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade of the Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as the territorial administrations of the Gostorginspektsiya) in the subjects of the Russian Federation.

**5.** The territorial administrations of the Gostorginspektsiya shall discharge the following basic functions:

a) check the observance of the rules of trade and of the quality of the seller's consumer goods and also the quality of the procedure's products in keeping with the procedure agreed upon with the State Committee of the Russian Federation for Standardization, Metrology and Certification;

b) exercise the statutory control over the observance of the use of prices for particular groups of goods at trade and public catering enterprises;

c) control the use of weight measuring instruments, meters, the trade, technologing and dosage equipment;

d) take measures to remove the revealed shortcomings and breaches of rules and provide publicity for the results of check;

e) stay the sales of goods (and related services) which do not conform in quality to the mandatory requirements of standards and which threaten the lives health and property of individuals;

f) coordinate their activity with that of government bodies, voluntary organizations of consumers in the sphere of the protection of the rights and interests of individuals;

g) consider in accordance with legislation the letters, applications and complaints of private

persons on the quality of goods, breaches in the work of trading enterprises, public catering enterprises and after appropriate inspections adopt decisions on them, which are obligatory for the seller or producer (if the seller, producer or customer do not agree to the adopted decision, they shall have the right to apply to a court of law or a court of arbitration in the statutory manner; in this case the effect of the relevant decisions of the Gostorginspektsiya administrations shall not be halted pending the court's decision);

h) submit the necessary information to the Gostorginspektsiya's Department within the fixed time-limits.

**6.** The Gostorginspektsiya's Department shall discharge the following basic functions:

a) organize the work of the territorial administrations of the Gostorginspektsiya and exercise control over their activity;

b) participate in the consideration of drafts of normative documents on standardization of consumer goods;

c) take part in the formulation of proposals concerning the improvement of trade rules;

d) submit in the statutory manner proposals on the laying off of goods hazardous for the lives, health and property of private persons;

e) in cases of direct control over the seller or producer discharge the same functions in respect of them as the Gostorginspektsiya's territorial administrations do;

f) analyze the information presented by the Gostorginspektsiya's territorial administrations and submit to government bodies proposals on the improvement of the quality of goods and on the upgrading the level of service for the population;

g) carry on measures to improve the standards of the professional training of the Gostorginspektsiya's personnel;

h) elaborate methodological materials, instructions and recommendation on the organization of the work of the Gostorginspektsiya's territorial administrations.

**7.** The Gostorginspektsiya shall have the right:

a) to carry on inspections with the right to have an unchecked access to trade and industrial enterprises, regardless of the forms of property and departmental subordination in keeping with the basic tasks and functions defined by the present Regulations;

b) to make control purchases of goods with the aim of ascertaining the correctness of settlements with buyers, to withdraw samples of goods for the investigation of their quality;

*[Decision of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 1104 of October 2, 1999 amended subitems "c" and "d" of Item 7 of these Regulations](#)*

*[See the previous text of the subitems](#)*

c) exercise control over the quality of goods (services), the observance of the rules of sale and of the rendering of services, and also the check of the presence with the seller of the documents confirming the conformance of the goods being realized (or the services being rendered) to the established requirements;

d) to give opinions on the quality of the certified goods or goods whose conformance has been confirmed by the conformance declaration which give rise to doubts as to their correspondence to the standards upon the requests of sellers and consumers;

e) to receive from ministries, government departments, enterprises, research institutes and laboratories, and also individuals documents describing the quality of products, the data on the producer (supplier) of goods, and also other materials necessary for the discharge of the functions of the Gostorginspektsiya;

f) to compile certificates and give precepts obligatory for sellers and producers:

on the removal of discovered breaches of trade rules technological discipline in the process of manufacturing goods;

on the withdrawal from sales of goods hazardous for the lives, health and property of private persons;

on the suspension or the introduction of special conditions of acceptance and sale of goods

produced with breaches of the requirements of normative documentation pending the elimination of shortcomings and the receipt of the Gostorginspektsiya's repeated findings;

g) to pass materials to investigation bodies for bringing to account the officials who are guilty of repeated misfeasance in trade, output and sale of products of low quality that inflict substantial damage on the interest of consumers;

h) to appear in a court of law or a court of arbitration;

i) to adopt decisions on the statutory application of penal sanctions to the maker of goods or to the seller of goods or services produced or rendered with a departure from standard requirements, and also for breaking the pricing policy during the sale of goods or services.

**8.** The producer and seller shall be obliged to give explanations concerning the results of inspections and take measures to eliminate the revealed breaches and to inform about this the Gostorginspektsiya within fixed time-limits.

**9.** The officials and specialists of the Gostorginspektsiya shall be obliged to strictly abide by the Constitution of the Russian Federation, its laws, normative enactments, the rights and law-protected interests of the seller and the producer and to preserve technological and commercial secrets.

**10.** The Gostorginspektsiya 's employees shall bear responsibility for the non-fulfilment or improper fulfilment of their duties in keeping with the current legislation of the Russian Federation.

**11.** Matters in dispute arising from the decisions and precepts of the Gostorginspektsiya's territorial administrations shall be examined by its Department during one month.

Complaints against the actions of the Department of the Gostorginspektsiya's Department and the territorial administrations shall be filed in the order established by the legislation of the Russian Federation.

**12.** Any actions by officials and private persons which prevent the discharge of the professional duties by the Gostorginspektsiya's staff involve their responsibility in the order set by the legislation of the Russian Federation.

The internal affairs bodies shall organize the practical assistance to the Gostorginspektsiya's officials in the discharge of their functions stipulated by the present Regulations, if these officials are resisted or threatened.

**13.** The Gostorginspektsiya is headed by the Chief of its Department, who is the Principal State Trade Inspector of the Russian Federation to be appointed to the post and removed from it by the Government of the Russian Federation.

The Department Chief is a member of the collegium of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade of the Russian Federation.

**14.** The Department's Chief shall:

exercise guidance of the work of the Gostorginspektsiya, organize the fulfilment of its tasks and bear personal responsibility for this;

issue orders and instructions binding on the Gostorginspektsiya's employees;

distribute in the statutory manner the total employment and the salaries fund, and also the monetary resources for the maintenance of the territorial administrations of the State Inspectorate.

**15.** The chief of the territorial administrations of the Inspectorate shall be appointed to office and released from it by the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade of the Russian Federation upon the proposal of the Chief of the Department of the State Inspectorate.

Deputy chief and the principal inspectors of the territorial administrations of the State Inspectorate shall be appointed to their posts and released from them by the Chief of the Department of the State Inspectorate. Other employees of the territorial administrations shall be appointed to their posts and released from them by the chiefs of the territorial administrations of the State Inspectorate.

**16.** The structure and the manning tables of the territorial administrations of the State Inspectorate shall be endorsed by the heads of these bodies within the maximum number of the employees hired and the salaries fund.

**17.** The Gostorginspektsiya shall be a legal entity, have bank accounts, its seal with the State Coat of Arms of the Russian Federation and its official name, and also other seals and stamps.

## List

**of the Decisions of the Council of Ministers of the RSFSR  
Which Have Become Null and Void  
(Approved by the [Decision](#) of the Council of Ministers of  
the Russian Federation No. 501 of May 27, 1993)**

**1.** The Decision of the Council of Ministers of the RSFSR No. 1068 of August 30, 1963 on Measures to Improve the Work of Commodity Expertise Bureaus (Collected Decisions of the RSFSR, No. 16, 1963, item 112).

**2.** The Decision of the Council of Ministers of the RSFSR No. 52 of February 10, 1984 on the Approval of the Regulations for the State Inspectorate of the RSFSR on Quality of Goods and Trade (Collected Decisions of the RSFSR, No. 4, 1984, item 29).

**3.** The Decision of the Council of Ministers of the RSFSR No. 183 of May 11, 1984 on the Partial Amendment of Clause 4 of the Regulations for the State Inspectorate of the RSFSR on Quality of Goods and Trade (Collected Decisions of the RSFSR, No. 10, 1984, item 77).

**4.** The Decision of the Council of Ministers of the RSFSR No. 273 of June 30, 1982 on the Partial Amendment of the Regulations for the State Inspectorate of the RSFSR on Quality of Goods and Trade (Collected Decisions of the RSFSR, No. 11, 1980, item 86).