

FEDERAL CONSTITUTIONAL LAW NO. 1-FKZ OF APRIL 28, 1995 ON THE ARBITRATION COURTS IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION (with the Amendments and Additions of July 4, 2003, March 25, 2004, July 12, 2006, April 28, 2008)

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Chapter I. General Provisions

Article 1. The Arbitration Courts in the Russian Federation

The arbitration courts in the Russian Federation are a part of the judicial system of the Russian Federation.

Article 2. Legislation on the Arbitration Courts in the Russian Federation

1. In accordance with the Constitution of the Russian Federation legislation on the arbitration courts shall come within the jurisdiction of the Russian Federation.

2. The powers and the procedure for the formation and functioning of arbitration courts in the Russian Federation shall be established by the Constitution of the Russian Federation, the Federal Constitutional Law on the Judicial System, the present Federal Constitutional Law and other federal Constitutional Laws.

The procedure in the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation shall be determined by the Constitution of the Russian Federation, the present Federal Constitutional Law, the Arbitration Procedure Code of the Russian Federation and other federal laws, adopted in conformity with them.

Article 3. The System of the Arbitration Courts in the Russian Federation

The system of the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation comprises:

- the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation;
- the federal arbitration courts of the circuits (arbitration courts of cassation);
- arbitration courts of appeal;
- the arbitration courts of the first instance in republics, territories, regions, federal cities, the arbitration courts of autonomous regions and of autonomous areas (hereinafter referred to as arbitration courts of the subjects of the Russian Federation).

Article 4. The Administration of Justice by the Arbitration Courts in the Russian Federation

The arbitration courts in the Russian Federation shall administer justice by settling economic disputes and examining other cases referred to

their jurisdiction by the Constitution of the Russian Federation, the present Federal Constitutional Law, the Arbitration Procedure Code of the Russian Federation and other federal laws adopted in conformity with them.

Article 5. The Main Tasks of the Arbitration Courts in the Russian Federation

The main tasks of the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation in the examination of cognizable disputes are as follows:

the protection of the breached or disputed rights and lawful interests of the enterprises, institutions, organizations (hereinafter referred to as the organizations) and private persons in the sphere of business and other economic activity;

the promotion of legality and of the prevention of breaches of law in the business and other economic activity.

Article 6. The Basic Principles of the Functioning of the Arbitration Courts in the Russian Federation

The activity of the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation is built on the principles of law, the independence of judges, the equality of organizations and private persons before the law and the court, adversarial proceedings, the equality of the parties, and the publicity in arbitral proceedings.

Article 7. The Binding Nature of Judicial Acts

The judicial acts that have come into legal force - awards, rulings and decisions of the arbitration courts - shall be binding on all the state bodies, local self-government bodies, other organs, organizations, officials and private persons and shall be subject to execution on the entire territory of the Russian Federation.

Article 8. The Judges of the Arbitration Courts in the Russian Federation

1. The Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall be appointed to this post by the Federal Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation on the proposal of the President of the Russian Federation.

The Deputies of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation and the other judges of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall be appointed to their posts by the Federal Council on the proposal of the President of the Russian Federation, based on the representation of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation.

2. The chairman, deputies of the chairman, the judges of the federal arbitration courts of circuits and the arbitration courts of the subjects of the Russian Federation shall be appointed to their posts in the order, prescribed by Federal Constitutional Law No. 1-FKZ of December 31, 1996

on the Judicial System of the Russian Federation and by Law of the Russian Federation No. 31321 of June 26, 1992 on the Status of Judges in the Russian Federation.

Chairmen, deputy chairmen and judges of arbitration courts of appeal shall be appointed to their offices subject to the requirements and in the procedure which are established by Federal Constitutional Law No. 1-FKZ of December 31, 1996 on the Judicial System of the Russian Federation and by Law of the Russian Federation No. 3132-1 of June 26, 1992 on the Status of Judges in the Russian Federation for chairmen, deputy chairman and judges of circuit arbitration courts.

3. No person may be nominated for appointment to the post of a judge without the consent of the corresponding qualifying board of judges.

The termination of the judge's powers shall be allowed only by decision of the corresponding qualifying board of judges.

Chapter II. The Powers and the Procedure for the Formation and Functioning of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation

Article 9. The Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation

The Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation is the supreme judicial body that settles economic disputes and other cases examined by arbitration courts, exercises judicial supervision over these court's activity in the procedural forms, provided for by the federal law, and gives explanations on the matters of judicial practice.

Article 10. The Powers of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation

1. The Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall:

1) examine in the first instance:

cases on disputing normative legal acts of the President of the Russian Federation, the Government of the Russian Federation and federal executive bodies violating the rights and legitimate interests of organizations and citizens in business and other economic activities, where consideration thereof is attributed under federal laws to the scope of authority of arbitration courts;

cases of recognition as invalid (in full or in part) of non-normative acts of the President of the Russian Federation, the Federal Council and the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Russian Federation, which are inconsistent with law and violate the rights and lawful interests of organizations and private persons;

economic disputes between the Russian Federation and its subjects and those between the subjects of the Russian Federation;

2) shall consider cases in the exercise of supervisory powers upon the verification of judicial acts of arbitration courts in the Russian Federation which have entered into legal force;

3) review the judicial acts that have come into legal force due to newly discovered circumstances;

4) apply to the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation with an inquiry about the verification of the constitutionality of the laws, referred to in the second part of Article 125 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation, and other normative acts, treaties and agreements;

apply to the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation with an inquiry about the constitutionality of the application of laws in a case under examination in any instance;

5) study and generalize the practice of applying by the arbitration courts of the laws and other normative legal acts regulating relations in the sphere of business and other economic activity, and give explanations on the matters of judicial practice;

6) elaborate proposals on the improvement of laws and other normative legal acts regulating relations in the sphere of business and other economic activity;

7) keep the judicial statistics and organize the work of their keeping in arbitration courts;

8) implement measures for creating conditions for the functioning of arbitration courts, including measures involving the personnel, organizational, material and technical and other provision of their activity;

9) settle questions following from the international treaties and agreements of the Russian Federation within its jurisdiction;

9.1) settle questions concerning the formation of permanent judgement seats of arbitration courts;

10) discharge other powers given to it by the Constitution of the Russian Federation, the present Federal Constitutional Law and other federal constitutional laws.

2. The Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall enjoy the right to initiate legislation on the matters coming within its jurisdiction.

3. On matters of the internal activity of the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation and of the mutual relations between them the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall adopt the rules of procedure which shall be binding on the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation.

Article 11. The Composition of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation

1. The Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall function as consisting of the following bodies:

the Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court;

the Presidium of the Higher Arbitration Court;

the Judicial Division for the Examination of Disputes Arising from Civil and Other Legal Relations;

the Judicial Division for the Examination of Disputes Arising from Administrative Legal Relations.

2. Other court chambers for considering individual categories of cases may be formed within the composition of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation by decision of a Plenum of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation.

Article 12. The Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation

1. The Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall settle major questions of the activity of the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation.

2. The Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall act with the participation of the Chairman and Deputies and the judges of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation.

3. The sittings of the Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation may be attended by Deputies (Members) of the Federal Council and Deputies of the State Duma, the Chairman of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation, the Chairman of the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation, the Procurator-General of the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation, and the chairmen of the arbitration courts. At the invitation of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation the sittings of the Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court may be attended by the judges of the arbitration courts, the representatives of the federal organs of State power, the organs of state power of the subjects of the Russian Federation, scientific institutions, other organizations and private persons.

Article 13. The Powers of the Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation

1. The Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall discharge the following powers:

1) examine the materials of the study and generalization of the practice of applying laws and other normative legal acts by the arbitration courts and give explanations on the matters of judicial practice;

2) settle the question of initiation of legislation;

3) settle questions of applying to the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation with inquiries about the constitutionality of laws and other normative legal acts, treaties and agreements;

4) elect the Secretary of the Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation from among the judges of the Higher Arbitration Court on the proposal of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation for a term of three years. One and the same judge may be repeatedly elected the secretary of a Plenum of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation;

5) approve the members of the Judicial Boards and the chairmen of the Judicial Panels of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation on the proposal of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation, as well as of the judges being members of the Presidium of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation;

5.1) settle questions concerning the formation of court chambers within the composition of arbitration courts for considering individual categories of cases;

6) endorse the places of the permanent stay of the federal arbitration courts of circuits in the order, prescribed by the present Federal Constitutional Law;

6.1) settle questions concerning the formation of permanent judgement seats within the composition of arbitration courts of appeal and of arbitration courts of the subjects of the Russian Federation, determine their location and appoint heads thereof from among deputy chairmen of appropriate courts;

7) confirm the judges of the federal arbitration court of a circuit, who are members of its presidium, on the proposal of the chairman of the arbitration court of the circuit;

8) confirm the judges of the arbitration court of a subject of the Russian Federation, who are members of its presidium, on the proposal of the chairman of the arbitration court of the subject of the Russian Federation;

8.1) appoint on the proposal of the chairman of an arbitration court of appeal judges of the arbitration court of appeal included into the presidium of the arbitration court of appeal;

9) approve the rules of procedure of the arbitration Courts on the proposal of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation;

10) settle other questions of the organization and functioning of the arbitration court in the Russian Federation in keeping with the present Federal Constitutional Law.

2. On matters coming within its jurisdiction the Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall adopt decisions that binding on the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation.

Article 14. The Procedure of the Work of the Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation

1. The Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall be convened by the Chairman of this Court as required, but at least twice a year.

2. The Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall be competent to settle questions, if it is attended by not less than two-thirds of its membership.

3. Decisions of the Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall be taken by a show-of-hands vote of the majority of the total number of its members who are present at the sitting.

4. The decisions of the Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall be signed by the Chairman of the Court and the Secretary of its Plenary Session.

Article 15. The Presidium of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation

1. The Presidium of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall act and consist of the Chairman, Deputies of the Chairman and the chairmen of the Judicial Panels of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation.

2. By decision of the Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation the Presidium of the Higher Arbitration Court may be supplemented by the judges of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation for a term of two years. One and the same judge may be repeatedly installed into the composition of the Presidium of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation

3. The sittings of the Presidium of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation may be attended by the Procurator-General of the Russian Federation. At the invitation of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation the sittings may be attended by the Chairman of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation, the Chairman of the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation, the Minister of Justice of the Russian Federation, the chairmen, the deputies of the chairmen, the judges of arbitration courts and other persons.

Article 16. The Powers of the Presidium of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation

The Presidium of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall:

consider in the exercise of supervisory powers cases on the verification of judicial acts of arbitration courts in the Russian Federation which have entered into legal force;

examine particular questions of judicial practice and inform the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation about the results of their consideration.

Article 17. The Procedure of the Work of the Presidium of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation

1. The Presidium of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall be convened by its Chairman of this Court as required.

2. The Presidium of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall be competent to settle questions in the presence of the majority of the Presidium members.

3. The decisions of the Presidium of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall be taken by a show-of-hands vote of the majority attendant members of the Presidium and signed by the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation. The Presidium members shall have no right to abstain from voting.

4. The working procedure of the Presidium of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation, as regards the consideration in the exercise of supervisory powers of cases concerning the verification of judicial acts of arbitration courts in the Russian Federation, which have entered into legal force, shall be determined by the Arbitration Procedure Code of the Russian Federation.

Article 18. The Judicial Divisions of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation

1. The Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall set up judicial divisions from among the judges of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation, who are confirmed by the Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation upon the proposal of its Chairman.

2. The Judicial Divisions of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall be headed by their chairmen - the Deputies of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation.

3. In case of necessity the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court shall have the right to draw by his order the judges of one judicial division to the consideration of cases by another judicial division.

4. The Judicial Divisions of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall hear cases in the first instance, study and generalize judicial practice, formulate proposals on the improvement of laws and other normative legal acts, analyze judicial statistics, and also discharge other powers, provided for by the rules of procedure of the arbitration courts.

Article 19. The Judicial Panels of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation

1. The Judicial Divisions of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall set up judicial panels from among the judges who are the members of the corresponding division.

2. The Judicial Panels shall be formed by the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation.

3. The Judicial Panels shall be headed by the chairman, confirmed by the Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian

Federation for a term of three years. One and the same judge may be repeatedly appointed to the office of the chairman of a court panel.

Article 20. The Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation

1. The Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation is a judge and discharges the procedural powers, stipulated by the Arbitration Procedure Code of the Russian Federation.

2. The Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall:

1) organize the work of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation and the systems of arbitration courts in the Russian Federation;

2) convene the Plenary Session and the Presidium of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation and chair at its sittings, and also submit for the consideration by the Plenary Session and the Presidium questions referred by the present Federal Constitutional Law to their jurisdiction;

3) exercise the general guidance of the apparatus of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation, appoint to the post and release from it the officials of the apparatus of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation;

4) distribute the duties among the Deputies of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation;

5) form the judicial panels from among the judges of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation;

6) put for discussion by the Council of Chairmen of the Arbitration Courts questions referred by the present Federal Constitutional Law to its jurisdiction;

7) represent the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation in relations with governmental, nongovernmental and other bodies;

8) discharge other powers granted to him by the present Federal Constitutional Law.

The Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall issue orders.

3. The Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall have the right to take part in the sittings of the Federal Council and the State Duma, their committees and commissions, and the Government of the Russian Federation.

Article 21. The Deputies of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation

1. The Deputies of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation are judges and discharge the procedural powers stipulated by the Arbitration Procedure Code of the Russian Federation.

2. In accordance with the distribution of duties the Deputies of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall head the Judicial Divisions and organize the work of the structural subdivisions of the apparatus of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation and the systems of the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation.

3. In the absence of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation his powers shall be discharged by the First Deputy Chairman and in the absence of the latter - one of the Deputies of the Chairman.

4. The Deputies of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall have the right to take part in the sittings of the Federal Council and the State Duma, their committees and commissions, and the Government of the Russian Federation.

Article 22. The Council of the Chairmen of the Arbitration Courts

1. The Council of the Chairmen of the Arbitration Courts consisting of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation and the chairmen of the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation shall function under the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation. The sittings of the Council shall be held as required.

2. The Council of the Chairmen of the Arbitration Courts is a consultative body that considers questions of the organizational, personnel and financial activity of the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation.

3. To enforce the decisions by the Council and Chairmen of the Arbitration Courts, the Chairman shall issue orders.

Article 23. The Scientific Advisory Council under the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation

1. The Scientific Advisory Council Under the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation for the preparation of scientifically based recommendations on the matters of the practice application of laws and other normative legal acts and of the formulation of proposals on their improvement.

2. The membership of the Scientific Advisory Council and its Statute shall be approved by the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation.

Chapter III. The Powers and the Procedure for the Formation and Functioning of the Federal Arbitration Courts in the Circuits

Article 24. The Federal Arbitration Circuit Courts

1. Federal circuit arbitration courts shall be the courts for verification in cassational proceeding of the legality of judicial acts of arbitration courts

of the subjects of the Russian Federation and of arbitration courts of appeal which have entered into legal force.

2. The following federal arbitration circuit courts function in the Russian Federation:

1) the Federal Arbitration Court of the Volga-Vyatka Circuit, which verifies the judicial acts taken by the arbitration courts of the Vladimir Region, the Ivanovo Region, the Kirov Region, the Republic of Komi, the Kostroma Region, the Republic of Marii El, the Republic of Mordovia, the Nizhny Novgorod Region, the Chuvash Republic - Chuvashia, and the Yaroslavl Region, and judicial acts of arbitration courts of appeal formed in a given judicial circuit;

2) the Federal Arbitration Court of the East Siberian Circuit, which verifies the judicial acts taken by the arbitration courts of the Republic of Buryatia, The Irkutsk Region, the Krasnoyarsk Region, the Republic of Sakha (Jakutia), the Republic of Tyva, the Republic of Khakassiya and the Chita Region, and judicial acts of arbitration courts of appeal formed in a given judicial circuit;

3) the Federal Arbitration Court of the Far-Eastern Area that verifies the judicial acts taken by the arbitration courts of the Amur Region, the Jewish Autonomous Region, the Kamchatka Territory, the Magadan Region, the Primoriye Territory, the Sakhalin Region, the Khabarovsk Territory, the Chukotka Autonomous Area, the judicial acts of the arbitration appellate courts formed in the given judicial area, and also for a period up to January 1, 2009 - the judicial acts adopted by the Arbitration Court of the Kamchatka Region;

4) the Federal Arbitration Court of the West Siberian Circuit, which verifies the judicial acts taken by the arbitration courts of the Republic of Altai, the Altai Territory, the Kemerovo Region, the Novosibirsk Region, the Omsk Region, the Tomsk Region, the Tyumen Region, the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Area - Yugra, and the Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Area, and judicial acts of arbitration courts of appeal formed in a given judicial circuit;

5) the Federal Arbitration Court of the Moscow Circuit, which verifies the judicial acts taken by the arbitration courts of the city of Moscow and the Moscow Region, and judicial acts of arbitration courts of appeal formed in a given judicial circuit;

6) the Federal Arbitration Court of the Volga Circuit, which verifies the judicial acts taken by the arbitration courts of the Astrakhan Region, the Volgograd Region, the Penza Region, the Samara Region, the Saratov Region, the Republic of Tatarstan, and the Ulyanovsk Region, and judicial acts of arbitration courts of appeal formed in a given judicial circuit;

7) the Federal Arbitration Court of the North-Western Circuit, which verifies the judicial acts taken by the arbitration courts of the Archangel Region, the Vologda Region, the Kaliningrad Region, the Republic of Karelia, the Murmansk Region, the Novgorod Region, the Pskov Region, the city of St. Petersburg and the Leningrad Region, and the Tver Region,

and judicial acts of arbitration courts of appeal formed in a given judicial circuit;

8) the Federal Arbitration Court of the North Caucasian Circuit, which verifies the judicial acts taken by the arbitration courts of the Republic of Adygeia, the Republic of Daghestan, the Republic of Ingushetia, the Republic of Kalmykia, the Karachai-Circassian Republic, the Krasnodar Territory, the Rostov Region, the Republic of North Ossetia - Alania, and the Stavropol Territory, the Chechen Republic, and judicial acts of arbitration courts of appeal formed in a given judicial circuit;

9) the Federal Arbitration Court of the Ural District carrying out the check of:

judicial acts adopted by the arbitration courts of the Republic of Bashkortostan, the Kurgan Region, Orenburg Region, Perm Territory, Sverdlovsk Region, Udmurt Republic, Chelyabinsk Region, and judicial acts of the arbitration appellate courts formed in the given judicial circuit;

judicial acts adopted by the arbitration courts of the Komi-Permyak Autonomous Area and the Perm Region - for the period until June 30, 2007;

10) the Federal Arbitration Court of the Central Circuit, which verifies the judicial acts taken by the arbitration courts of the Belgorod, the Bryansk Region, the Voronezh Region, the Kaluga Region, the Kursk Region, the Lipetsk Region, the Orel Region, the Ryazan Region, the Smolensk Region, the Tambov Region, and the Tula Region, and judicial acts of arbitration courts of appeal formed in a given judicial circuit.

3. The composition of the judicial circuits may be changed by a federal law.

Article 25. The Composition of the Federal Arbitration Court of a Circuit

1. The Federal Arbitration Circuit Court consist of:

the Presidium of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court;

the Judicial Division for the examination of disputes arising from civil and other legal relations;

the Judicial Division for the examination of disputes arising from administrative legal relations.

2. Other judicial chambers for consideration of individual categories of cases may be established within the composition of a federal arbitration circuit court by decision of the Plenum of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation.

Article 26. The Powers of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court

The Federal Arbitration Circuit Court shall:

verify in cassation instance the lawfulness of judicial acts in cases heard by the arbitration courts of the subjects of the Russian Federation and by arbitration courts of appeal;

review the judicial acts that have come into legal force due to newly-discovered circumstances;

apply to the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation with a request about the verification of the constitutionality of the law that was applied or subject to application in the case under review;

study and generalize the judicial practice;

prepare proposals on the improvement of laws and other normative legal acts;

analyze judicial statistics.

Article 27. The Presidium of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court

1. The Presidium of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court consists of the Chairman of this Court, his Deputies, the Chairman of the judicial panels and judges.

2. The judges of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court, who are members of the Presidium of this Court, shall be confirmed by the Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation on the proposal of the Chairman of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court for a term of two years. One and the same judge may be repeatedly installed into the composition of the presidium of a federal arbitration circuit court.

Article 28. The Powers of the Presidium of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court

The Presidium of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court shall:
confirm the members of the judicial divisions and the chairmen of the judicial panels of this Court upon the proposal of the Chairman of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court;

consider other questions of the Court's organization of work;

consider questions of the judicial practice.

Article 29. The Procedure of the Work of the Presidium of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court

1. The Presidium of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court shall be convened by the Chairman of this Court as required.

2. The Presidium of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court shall be competent to settle questions in the presence of a majority of the Presidium's membership.

3. The Presidium of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court shall make decisions by a show-of-hand vote of the majority attendant members of the Presidium and its Chairman shall sign them. The Presidium members shall have no right to abstain from voting.

Article 30. The Judicial Divisions of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court

1. The Federal Arbitration Circuit Court shall set up judicial divisions with their members to be confirmed by the Court's Presidium from among the judges of this Court upon the proposal of the Court's Chairman.

2. The Judicial Divisions shall be headed by their Chairmen - Deputy Chairman of the Court.

3. In case of necessity the Court's Chairman shall have the right to draw by his order the judges of one Judicial Division for consideration of cases by the other Judicial Division.

4. The Judicial Divisions of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court shall review cassation instance the legality of final judicial decisions in cases heard by the arbitration courts of the subjects of the Russian Federation and by arbitration courts of appeal, study and generalize the judicial practice, formulate proposals for the improvement of laws and other normative legal acts, analyze the judicial statistics, and also discharge other powers, stipulated by the rules of procedure of the arbitration courts.

Article 31. The Judicial Panels of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court

1. The Judicial Divisions of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court may form judicial panels from among the judges who are members of the corresponding judicial division.

2. The Judicial Panels shall be formed by the Chairman of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court.

3. The Judicial Panel shall be headed by its Chairman, confirmed by the Presidium of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court for a term of three years. One and the same judge may be repeatedly appointed to the office of the chairman of a court panel.

Article 32. The Chairman of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court

1. The Chairman of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court is a judge and discharges the procedural powers, stipulated by the Arbitration Procedure Code of the Russian Federation.

2. The Chairman of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court shall:

1) organize the work of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court;

2) distribute the duties among the Deputies of the Chairman of this Court;

3) form judicial panels from among the judges of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court;

4) convene the Presidium of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court and preside over its sittings, and also put for consideration by the Presidium questions referred by the present Federal Constitutional Law to the jurisdiction of this Court;

5) exercise general guidance of the apparatus of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court, appoint to the posts and release from them the officials of the Court's apparatus;

6) represent the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court in relations with governmental, non-governmental and other bodies;

7) discharge other powers, established by this Federal Constitutional Law.

The Chairman of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court shall issue orders.

Article 33. The Deputies of the Chairman of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court

1. The Deputies of the Chairman of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court are judges and discharge the procedural powers stipulated by the Arbitration Procedure Code of the Russian Federation.

2. In accordance with the distribution of the duties the Deputies of the Chairman of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court shall head the judicial divisions and organize the work of the Court's structural subdivisions.

3. In the absence of the Chairman of the Federal Arbitration Circuit Court his powers shall be discharged by the First Deputy Chairman and in the absence of the First Deputy, who is one of the Chairman's Deputies.

Chapter III.1. Powers, Procedure for Forming and Functioning of Arbitration Courts of Appeal

Article 33.1. Arbitration Courts of Appeal

1. Arbitration courts of appeal shall be the courts for verifying in appellate proceedings the legality and reasonableness of judicial acts of arbitration courts of the subjects of the Russian Federation issued by them in the first instance.

2. In the Russian Federation there shall function:

1) in the Volga-Vyatka Judicial Circuit:

The First Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial acts issued by the arbitration courts of the Vladimir Region, the Republic of Marii El, the Republic of Mordovia, the Nizhny Novgorod Region, the Chuvash Republic - Chuvashia;

The Second Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial acts issued by arbitration courts of the Ivanovo Region, the Kirov Region, the Republic of Komi, the Kostroma Region and the Yaroslavl Region;

2) in the East-Siberian Judicial Circuit:

The Third Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial acts issued by arbitration courts of the Krasnoyarsk Region, the Republic of Tyva and the Republic of Khakassiya;

The Forth Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial acts issued by arbitration courts of the Republic of Buryatia, the Irkutsk Region, the Republic of Sakha (Jakutia) and the Chita Region;

3) in the Far Eastern Judicial Circuit:

the Fifth Arbitration Appellate Court that verifies the judicial acts taken by the arbitration courts of the Kamchatka Territory, the Primoriye Territory, the Sakhalin Region, and also for a period up to January 1, 2009 - the judicial acts taken by the Arbitration Court of the Kamchatka Region;

The Six Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial acts issued by arbitration courts of the Amur Region, the Jewish Autonomous Region, the Magadan Region, the Khabarovsk Territory and the Chukotka Autonomous Area;

4) in the West-Siberian Judicial Circuit:

The Seventh Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial decisions issued by arbitration courts of the Republic of Altai, the Altai Territory, the Kemerovo Region, the Novosibirsk Region, and the Tomsk Region;

The Eighth Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial acts issued by arbitration courts of the Omsk Region, the Tyumen Region, the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Area - Yugra and the Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Area;

5) in the Moscow Judicial Circuit:

The Ninth Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial acts issued by the Arbitration Court of the city of Moscow;

The Tenth Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial acts issued by the Arbitration Court of the Moscow Region;

6) in the Volga Judicial Circuit:

The Eleventh Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial acts issued by arbitration courts of the Penza Region, the Samara Region, the Republic of Tatarstan (Tatarstan) and the Ulyanovsk Region;

The Twelfth Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial acts issued by arbitration courts of the Astrakhan region, the Volgograd Region and the Saratov Region;

7) in the North-Western Judicial Circuit:

The Thirteenth Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial acts issued by arbitration courts of the Kaliningrad Region, the Republic of Karelia, the Murmansk Region, the city of Saint Petersburg and the Leningrad Region;

The Fourteenth Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial acts issued by arbitration courts of the Arkhangelsk Region, the Vologda Region, the Novgorod Region, the Pskov Region and the Tver Region;

8) in the North-Caucasian Judicial Circuit:

The Fifteenth Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial acts issued by arbitration courts of the Republic of Adygeia (Adygeia), the Krasnodar Territory and the Rostov Region;

The Sixteenth Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial acts issued by arbitration courts of the Republic of Dagestan, the Republic of Ingushetia, the Kabardino-Balkar Republic, the Republic of

Kalmikia, the Karachai-Circassian Republic, the Republic of North Ossetia-Alania, the Stavropol Territory and the Chechen Republic;

9) in the Ural Judicial District:

the Seventeenth Arbitration Appellate Court carrying out the check of:

judicial acts adopted by the arbitration courts of the Perm Territory, Sverdlovsk Region, and the Udmurt Republic;

judicial acts adopted by the arbitration courts of the Komi-Permyak Autonomous Area and the Perm Region - for the period until June 30, 2007;

The Eighteenth Arbitration Court carrying out the check of the judicial acts adopted by the arbitration courts of the Republic of Bashkortostan, the Kurgan Region, the Orenburg Region, and the Chelyabinsk Region;

10) in the Central Judicial Circuit:

The Nineteenth Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial acts issued by arbitration courts of the Belgorod Region, the Voronezh Region, the Kursk Region, the Lipetsk Region, the Orel Region and the Tambov Region;

The Twentieth Arbitration Court of Appeal which verifies the judicial acts issued by arbitration courts of the Bryansk Region, the Kaluga Region, the Ryazan Region, the Smolensk Region and the Tula Region.

3. The composition of judicial circuits may be changed by federal laws.

Article 33.2. Composition of Arbitration Court of Appeal

1. An arbitration court of appeal shall be composed of the following:

the presidium of the arbitration court of appeal;

the court chamber for considering disputes arising from civil and other legal relations;

the court chamber for considering disputes arising from administrative legal relations.

2. Other judicial chambers for considering individual categories of cases, as well as permanent judgement seats situated outside the place of permanent location of an arbitration court, may be formed within the composition of the arbitration court of appeal by decision of the Plenum of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation.

Article 33.3. Powers of Arbitration Court of Appeal

An arbitration court of appeal:

1) shall verify in appellate proceedings the legality and reasonableness of judicial acts, which have not entered into legal force, with regard to the cases tried by arbitration courts of the subjects of the Russian Federation in the first instance, when reexamining a case;

2) shall review due to new discovered facts the judicial acts rendered by it which have entered into legal force;

3) shall forward an inquiry to the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation for verification of the constitutionality of the law applied or to be applied in a case tried by it in the appellate instance;

4) shall study and summarize case-law;

5) shall prepare proposals concerning the perfection of laws and other normative legal acts;

6) shall analyze judicial statistics.

Article 33.4. Presidium of Arbitration Court of Appeal

1. The Presidium of an arbitration court of appeal shall be composed of the chairman of the arbitration court of appeal, his deputies, chairmen of judicial panels and judges.

2. Judges of an arbitration court of appeal, included into the composition of the presidium of the arbitration court of appeal, shall be appointed by the Plenum of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation on the proposal of the chairman of the arbitration court of appeal for a term of two years. One and the same judge may be repeatedly installed into the composition of the presidium of an arbitration court of appeal.

Article 33.5. Authority of the Presidium of Arbitration Court of Appeal

The presidium of an arbitration court of appeal:

shall approve the appointment of members of court chambers and chairmen of judicial panels of this court on the proposal of the chairman of the arbitration court of appeal;

shall consider other matters related to organization of the court functioning;

shall consider matters related to case-law.

Article 33.6. Procedure for Functioning of the Presidium of Arbitration Court of Appeal

1. The presidium of an arbitration court of appeal shall be called as may be necessary.

2. The presidium of an arbitration court of appeal shall be authorized to resolve problems in the presence of the majority of the presidium's members.

3. Decisions of the presidium of an arbitration court of appeal shall be adopted by open majority vote of the total number of the presidium members present and shall be signed by the chairman of the arbitration court of appeal. Members of the presidium shall not be entitled to abstain from voting.

Article 33.7. Court Chambers of Arbitration Court of Appeal

1. Within an arbitration court of appeal there may be formed court chambers from among the judges of this court on the proposal of the chairman of the court which shall be endorsed by the presidium of the court.

2. Court chambers shall be headed by chairmen thereof being deputy chairmen of the court.

3. The chairman of the court shall be entitled, where necessary, to issue an order to draw judges of one judicial chamber to the consideration of cases within the composition of another court chamber.

4. Court chambers of an arbitration court of appeal shall verify in the appellate instance the legality and reasonableness of judicial acts concerning cases tried by arbitration courts of the subjects of the Russian Federation in the first instance, when re-examining a case, shall study and summarize case-law, shall consider proposals concerning the perfection of laws and other normative legal acts, shall analyze judicial statistics, as well as shall exercise other powers provided for by the regulations of arbitration courts.

Article 3.8. Judicial Panels of Arbitration Court of Appeal

1. Within an arbitration court of appeal there shall be formed judicial panels from among the judges pertaining to an appropriate court chamber and, in the absence of court chambers, from among the judges of this court.

2. Judicial panels shall be formed by the chairman of an arbitration court of appeal.

3. A judicial panel shall be headed by the chairman, appointed by the presidium of the arbitration court of appeal, for a term of three years. One and the same judge may be repeatedly appointed to the office of the chairman of a judicial panel.

Article 33.9. Chairman of Arbitration Court of Appeal

1. The chairman of an arbitration court of appeal shall be a judge exercising the procedural powers established by the Arbitration Procedure Code of the Russian Federation.

2. The chairman of an arbitration court of appeal:

1) shall organize the activities of the arbitration court of appeal;
2) shall distribute duties between deputy chairmen of the arbitration court of appeal;

3) shall form judicial panels from among the judges of the arbitration court of appeal;

4) shall call the presidium of the arbitration court of appeal and shall preside over its meetings, as well as shall propose for consideration by the

presidium the matters attributed by this Federal Constitutional Law to the scope of the presidium's authority;

5) shall carry out the general management of the personnel of the arbitration court of appeal, shall appoint to office and dismiss the court personnel;

6) shall represent the arbitration court of appeal in the relations with state, public and other bodies;

7) shall exercise other powers established by this Federal Constitutional Law.

3. The chairman of an arbitration court of appeal shall issue orders and directions.

Article 33.10. Deputy Chairmen of Arbitration Court of Appeal

1. Deputy chairmen of an arbitration court of appeal shall be judges who shall exercise the procedural powers established by the Arbitration Procedure Code of the Russian Federation.

2. Deputy chairmen of an arbitration court of appeal in compliance with the distribution of powers shall head court chambers, permanent judgement seats outside the permanent location of the arbitration court of appeal, shall organize the activities of structural subdivisions of the personnel of the arbitration court of appeal.

3. In the event of the absence of the chairman of an arbitration court of appeal his authority shall be exercised by first deputy chairman or, in the absence of first deputy chairman, of deputy chairmen.

Article 33.11. Permanent Judgement Seats of Arbitration Court of Appeal

1. For the purpose of bringing justice closer to the location or place of residence of the persons, participating in a case, who are located or reside in remote areas, as well subject to the number of cases tried by arbitration courts of appeal in remote areas, there may be formed within the composition of arbitration courts of appeal by decision of a Plenum of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation permanent judgement seats situated outside the permanent location of these courts.

2. A permanent judgement seat of an arbitration court of appeal shall be a separate subdivision of an appropriate arbitration court of appeal outside the permanent location of this court and shall exercise its authority.

Chapter IV. The Powers and the Procedure for the Formation and Functioning of the Arbitration Courts in the Subjects of the Russian Federation

Article 34. The Arbitration Courts of the Subjects of the Russian Federation

1. The arbitration courts of the Republics, territories, regions, cities of federal importance, and autonomous formations shall function in the subjects of the Russian Federation.

2. Judicial power on the territory of several subjects of the Russian Federation may be exercised by one arbitration court alone. Judicial power on the territory of one subject of the Russian Federation may be exercised by several arbitration courts.

3. The arbitration courts in the Russian Federation shall be set up by a federal law.

Article 35. The Composition of the Arbitration Court of a Subject of the Russian Federation

1. The Arbitration Court of a Subject of the Russian Federation shall have its Presidium. This Court may set up judicial divisions for the examination of disputes arising from civil and other legal relations and for the examination of disputes arising from administrative legal relations.

2. By decision of a Plenum of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation there may be formed within the composition of an arbitration court of a subject of the Russian Federation other court chambers for consideration of individual categories of cases, as well as permanent judicial panels situated outside the permanent location of the arbitration court of the subject of the Russian Federation.

Article 36. The Powers of the Arbitration Court of a Subject of the Russian Federation

The Arbitration Court of a subject of the Russian Federation shall:

1) consider in the first instance all the cases subject to the jurisdiction of the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation, except for the cases referred to the terms of reference of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation;

2) Deleted.

3) review the judicial acts that have been adopted by it and come into legal force due to the newly discovered facts;

4) apply to the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation with a request to review the constitutionality of a law, applied or subject to application in the case heard by it in any instance;

5) study and generalize the judicial practice;

6) prepare proposals for the improvement of laws and other normative legal acts;

7) analyze the judicial statistics.

Article 37. The Presidium of the Arbitration Court of a Subject of the Russian Federation

1. The Presidium of the Arbitration Court of a Subject of the Russian Federation consists of the Chairman of this Court, his Deputies, the Chairmen of the Judicial Panels and judges.

2. The judges of the Arbitration Court of a subject of the Russian Federation, who are members of the Court's Presidium, shall be confirmed by the Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation upon the proposal of the Chairman of the Arbitration Court of the subject of the Russian Federation for a term of two years. One and the same judge may be repeatedly installed into the composition of the presidium of an arbitration court of a subject of the Russian Federation.

Article 38. The Powers of the Presidium of the Arbitration Court of a Subject of the Russian Federation

The Presidium of the Arbitration Court of a subject of the Russian Federation shall:

confirm the members of the judicial divisions and the chairmen of the judicial panels of this Court upon the proposal of the Court's Chairman;
consider other questions of the organization of the Court's work;
consider questions of the judicial practice.

Article 39. The Procedure for the Work of the Presidium of the Arbitration Court of a Subject of the Russian Federation

1. The Presidium of the Arbitration Court of a subject of the Russian Federation shall be convened by the Chairman of this Court as required.

2. The Presidium of the Arbitration Court of a subject of the Russian Federation shall be competent to settle questions in the presence of a majority of the Presidium members.

3. Decisions of the Presidium of the Arbitration Court of a subject of the Russian Federation shall be taken by a show-of-hands vote of the majority attendant members of the Presidium and signed by the Chairman of this Court. The Presidium members shall have no right to abstain from voting.

Article 40. The Judicial Divisions of the Arbitration Court of a Subject of the Russian Federation

1. The Arbitration Court of a subject of the Russian Federation may set up judicial divisions with their members to be confirmed by the Court's Presidium from among the judges of this Court upon the proposal of the Court's Chairman.

2. The Judicial Divisions shall be headed by their chairmen - the deputies of the chairman of the Court.

3. In case of necessity the Court's Chairman shall have the right to draw by his order the judges of one judicial division for the consideration of cases by the other judicial division.

4. The Judicial Divisions of the Arbitration Court of a subject of the Russian Federation shall examine in the first instance all the cases which are subject to the jurisdiction of the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation with the exception of cases coming under the jurisdiction of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation, study and generalize the judicial practice, formulate proposals for the improvement of laws and other normative legal acts, analyze judicial statistics, and also discharge other duties, provided for by the rules of procedure of the arbitration courts.

Article 41. The Judicial Panels of the Arbitration Court of a Subject of the Russian Federation

1. The Arbitration Court of a subject of the Russian Federation shall form judicial panels from among the judges who are members of the corresponding judicial division and in the absence of judicial divisions - from among the judges of this Court.

2. Judicial panels shall be formed by the Chairman of the Arbitration Court of a subject of the Russian Federation.

3. The judicial panel shall be headed by its chairman to be approved by the Presidium of the Arbitration Court of a subject of the Russian Federation for a term of three years. One and the same judge may be repeatedly appointed to the office of the chairman of a judicial panel.

Article 42. The Chairman of the Arbitration Court of a Subject of the Russian Federation

1. The Chairman of the arbitration court of a subject of the Russian Federation is a judge and discharges the procedural powers, stipulated by the Arbitration Procedure Code of the Russian Federation.

2. The Chairman of the Arbitration Court of a subject of the Russian Federation shall:

1) organize the work of the Arbitration Court of the subject of the Russian Federation;

2) distribute the duties among his Deputies;

3) form judicial panels;

4) convene the Presidium of the Arbitration Court of the subject of the Russian Federation and preside over its sittings, and also put for consideration by the Presidium questions, referred by the present Federal Constitutional Law to the jurisdiction of the Presidium;

5) exercise general guidance of the apparatus of the Arbitration Court of the subject of the Russian Federation, appoint to the posts and release from them the employees of the Court;

6) represent the Arbitration Court of the subject of the Russian Federation in its relations with governmental, non-governmental and other bodies;

7) exercise other duties, specified by the present Federal Constitutional Law.

The Chairman of the Arbitration Court of the subject of the Russian Federation shall issue orders.

3. The Chairman of the Arbitration Court of the subject of the Russian Federation shall have the right to take part in the sittings of the organs of state power of the corresponding subject of the Russian Federation.

Article 43. The Deputies of the Chairman of the Arbitration Court of a Subject of the Russian Federation

1. The Deputies of the Chairman of the Arbitration Court of a subject of the Russian Federation are judges and shall have the procedural power stipulated by the Arbitration Procedure Code of the Russian Federation.

2. In accordance with the distribution of their duties, the Deputies (of the Chairman of the Arbitration Court of a subject of the Russian Federation) shall head the judicial divisions and organize the work of the structural subdivisions of the Arbitration Court.

3. The powers of the Chairman of the Arbitration Court of a subject of the Russian Federation shall be discharged by the First Deputy Chairman and in the absence of the First Deputy - one of the Deputies of the Chairman in the Chairman's absence.

Article 43.1. Permanent Judgement Seats of Arbitration Court of a Subject of the Russian Federation

1. For the purpose of bringing justice closer to the location or place of residence of the persons, participating in a case, who are located or reside in remote areas, as well subject to the number of cases tried by arbitration courts of the subjects of the Russian Federation in remote areas, there may be formed within the composition of arbitration courts of the subjects of the Russian Federation by decision of a Plenum of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation permanent judgement seats situated outside the permanent location of these courts.

2. A permanent judgement seat of an arbitration court of a subject of the Russian Federation shall be a separate subdivision of the appropriate arbitration court of the subject of the Russian Federation outside the permanent location of this court and shall exercise its authority.

Chapter V. Concluding Provisions

Article 44. The Organizational Support for the Functioning of the Arbitration Courts in the Russian Federation

1. The organizational support for the functioning of the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation shall be provided by the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation.

2. The Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall select and train candidates for judges, organize the work of advance training of judges and employees of the arbitration courts, finance these courts and

exercise control over the spending of financial resources assigned to the arbitration courts.

3. The federal executive bodies and the executive bodies of the subjects of the Russian Federation shall be obliged to render assistance to the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation in the organizational support for the functioning of the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation.

4. The material and technical supply and the provision of offices for the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation, and also the medical, housing, social and everyday services of the judges and employees of the arbitration courts shall be effected by the corresponding local executive body of the arbitration court from the federal budget resources.

Article 45. The Apparatus of the Arbitration Court

1. The functioning of the arbitration court shall be provided by the apparatus of this court, headed by the head of the apparatus - by the administrator of an appropriate arbitration court (hereinafter referred to as the administrator of an arbitration court).

The administrator of an arbitration court shall head the apparatus of the arbitration court, shall organize the functioning of the apparatus with regard to handling cases in the arbitration court, shall arrange the work aimed at ensuring the enforcement of judicial acts of arbitration courts, as well as shall exercise other functions related to ensuring the activities of the arbitration court determined by the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation.

2. The apparatus of the arbitration court shall:

1) organize the preliminary prejudicial reception of persons participating in a case;

2) accept and issue documents, certify the copies of documents of the arbitration court, circulate and hand over documents, verify the payment of the state duty, legal costs, subject to the placement on the deposit account of the arbitration court, and also arbitration fines;

3) assist judges in preparing cases for the examination in judicial sittings;

4) keep the record of the movement of cases and the time-limits of their passage in the arbitration court and provide storage for files and documents;

5) study and generalize the judicial practice;

6) prepare proposals for the improvement of laws and other normative legal acts and carry on its information reference work;

7) keep the statistical record in the sphere of the activity of the arbitration court;

8) effect the material and technical provision of the arbitration court and the socio-domestic services of the judges and employees of the arbitration court.

3. The employees of the arbitration court are employed in the federal state service. The rights and duties, the responsibility of the arbitration court employees and the terms of undergoing the state service shall be established by laws and other normative legal acts on the federal state service.

Article 46. The Financing of the Arbitration Courts

1. The arbitration courts shall be financed from the federal budget resources and shall afford the full and independent administration of justice in keeping with the federal law.

2. The expenses on the maintenance of the arbitration courts shall be provided for by a separate line in the federal budget.

3. The amount of the expenses incurred on the maintenance of the federal arbitration circuit courts and the arbitration courts of the subjects of the Russian Federation shall be established by the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation with due account of the opinion of the Council of the Chairmen of the Arbitration Courts.

Article 47. The Numerical Strength, Structure and Personnel Arrangements of the Arbitration Courts

1. The total number of the judges and employees of the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation, including the judges and employees of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall be determined by the federal law.

2. The number of the judges and employees of the federal arbitration circuit courts and the arbitration courts of the subjects of the Russian Federation shall be determined by the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation within the total numerical strength of the judges and employees of the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation.

3. The structure and personnel arrangements of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall be approved by the Chairman of this Court.

4. The structure and personnel arrangements of the federal arbitration circuit court and the arbitration court of a subject of the Russian Federation shall be endorsed by the Chairman of the corresponding arbitration court.

Article 48. International Relations

Arbitration courts shall maintain international relations in the statutory order.

Article 49. The Press Organ

The Vestnik (Herald) of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation is the press organ of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation.

Article 50. The Seal of the Arbitration Court

The arbitration court is a legal entity and has its seal with its own name and image of the State Emblem of the Russian Federation.

Article 51. The Symbols of the Judicial Power of the Arbitration Court

1. The State Flag of the Russian Federation shall be hoisted on the building occupied by the arbitration court.

2. The State Emblem and the State Flag of the Russian Federation shall be kept in the hall of sittings of the arbitration court.

3. The arbitration court judges shall administer justice in cloaks.

Article 52. The Location of Arbitration Courts

1. The city of Moscow, the capital of the Russian Federation, shall be the permanent seat of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation.

2. The permanent seat of the federal arbitration circuit court shall be determined by the Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation upon the proposal of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation, agreed upon with the executive bodies of the subjects of the Russian Federation, located on the territory of the relevant judicial circuit, and in case of disagreement between the participants in the dispute - upon the proposal of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation.

2.1. The permanent location of an arbitration court of appeal shall be determined by a Plenum of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation on the proposal of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation. The Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall officially notify on the permanent location of an arbitration court of appeal.

3. The administrative centre of the corresponding subject of the Russian Federation shall be the permanent seat of the arbitration of the subject of the Russian Federation.

3.1. The location of a permanent judgement seat of an arbitration court shall be determined by a Plenum of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation on the proposal of the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation. The Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall officially notify on the location of a permanent judgement seat of an arbitration court.

4. The arbitration court judges reside in the place of the permanent location of the relevant of the arbitration court or at the location of a permanent judgement seat of the arbitration court.

Chapter VI. Transitional Provisions

1. The Plenary Session of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall be instructed to determine the placed of the permanent location of the federal arbitration circuit courts within three months after the enforcement of the present Federal Constitutional Law.

2. The Division of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation for the Verification by Way of Supervision of the Lawfulness and Justification of Decisions which have been taken by arbitration courts and legally enforced shall be valid until the time of the complete examination of all the protests lodged to it before the entry into force of the present Federal Constitutional Law.

3. The arbitration courts of Republics shall consider in keeping with the earlier granted powers the received notices about protests and the protests lodged to it before the entry into force of this Federal Constitutional Law.

4. The judges of all the arbitration courts, elected (appointed) to their posts before the entry into force of this Federal Constitutional Law, shall retain the powers of the judge before the expiration of the period of time for which they have been elected or appointed.

The chairmen of the judicial divisions of all the arbitration courts, who acted before the entry into force of this Federal Constitutional Law, shall retain the powers of the judge of the corresponding court before the expiration of the period of time for which they have been elected.

5. The Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation shall be obliged to submit in the statutory manner to the President of the Russian Federation the candidatures for the appointment to the posts of the chairmen, deputy chairmen and judges of the federal arbitration circuit courts.

Pending the formation of a qualifying division of the federal arbitration circuit court the opinions on the possible appointment by the President of the Russian Federation to the posts of the chairman, deputy chairman and the judges of the federal arbitration circuit court shall be submitted to the Chairman of the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation by the Section of the Arbitration Courts of the Higher Qualifying Division of the Judges of the Russian Federation.

6. Federal arbitration circuit courts, envisaged by Article 24 of this Federal Constitutional Law, shall be formed before January 1, 1996.

In 1995, the total number of the employees of the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation shall be increased by 500 people and in 1996 the total number of the judges of the arbitration courts in the Russian Federation shall also be increased by 500 people.

The Government of the Russian Federation shall be instructed to provide in the drafts of the budgets for 1995 and 1996 for the appropriation to the Higher Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation of additional monetary resources on the maintenance of the arbitration courts,

proceeding from the increased number of judges by 500 people and the increased number of the arbitration court employees by 500 people.

Chapter VII. The Enforcement of the Present Federal Constitutional Law

1. The Federal Constitutional Law shall come into force starting January 1, 1995.

2. The following legislative acts shall be deemed invalid after the entry of this Federal Constitutional Law into force:

The RSFSR Law of July 4, 1991 on the Arbitration Courts (Gazette of the Congress of People's Deputies of the RSFSR and the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR, No. 30, 1991, item 1013; Gazette of the Congress of People's Deputies of the Russian Federation and the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, No. 34, 1992, item 1965; No. 32, 1993, item 1236); the Resolution of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet No. 1544-I of July 4, 1991 on the enforcement of the RSFSR Law on the Arbitration Courts (Gazette of the Congress of People's Deputies of the RSFSR and the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR, No. 30, 1991, item 1014).

President of the Russian Federation

Boris Yeltsin

Moscow, the Kremlin