TRADE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS AND CHINA

Торгово-экономические отношения Республики Беларусь и Китая

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The main objective of the external economic policy of the Republic of Belarus is to ensure the growth of foreign exchange earnings through the increase in volumes of export of products and services of the Belarusian enterprises and organizations. The solution of this task is connected with the maximum use of the foreign trade capacity of our country in the relations with the foreign states. One of the perspective trade partners of Belarus is the Republic of China.

The history of the Chinese-Belarusian trade and economic cooperation has begun with the creation of the Belarusian-Chinese commission on trade and economic cooperation on September 16, 1994. It was based on the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Belarus and the Government of the Republic of China on trade and economic cooperation on January 10, 1992, that demonstrated formation of the work of bilateral consultations. The declaration of independence of Belarus, difficult economic situation and remoteness of two countries from each other did not promote active bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

Nevertheless, high quality of human capital, low cost of labor, the effective system of training of qualified personnel, existence of large renewable reserves of fresh water, potassium salts, forest resources are competitive advantages of Belarus. China, in turn, has the huge consumer market, the largest supplies of foreign currency, etc. that creates possibility of development of mutually beneficial bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

The structure of trade of these countries at the initial stage demonstrated narrow specialization from the Belarusian side, especially in export. Belarus exported products of mechanical, electronic, chemical industry and other hi-tech products to China, and imported products of textile industry and food from China. The reason of the export increase from Belarus to China was the development of industrialization and demand for industrial output in China. In process of strengthening of the bilateral political relations and improvement of situation in national economy of Belarus, trade and economic cooperation of two countries began to develop rather quickly.

In March 2004, the Belarusian-Chinese commission on trade and economic cooperation approved the Program of enhancing cooperation of the Republic of China for 2004-2008. Its realization allowed to increase commodity turnover almost twice. And by 2006 commodity turnover between two countries had been nearly \$ 1 billion.

At the beginning of 2009, economic growth of Belarus significantly decreased because of global financial crisis. At that time, the lack of funds and the products accumulated in warehouses were the main problem of Belarus. For the solution of these problems, Belarus was interested in the credits and investments. At the same time, China was interested in granting the loan in exchange of the market. Therefore, trade and economic relations between China and Belarus considerably improved and in 2015 China took the second place among importing partner of Belarus. Commodity turnover between the countries is growing from year to year: in 2017, trade with China has exceeded \$3 billion.

In spite of the fact that now the commodity structure of two countries is rather simple, scientific and technical contents is low and there is an increase in active balance of China in commodity trade with Belarus, there exists potential of development of bilateral economic cooperation.

Also within interstate Chinese-Belarusian cooperation and the signed relevant intergovernmental documents, construction of the industrial park "Great Stone", which will increase investment attractiveness of Belarus, is conducted. The Great Stone is a territorial entity with the area of 91.5 km² with a special legal status conducive to doing business. The park is located in 25 km from Minsk in unique natural complex and in close proximity to the international airport, railway tracks, transnational automobile highway Berlin-Moscow.

For Belarus, it is extremely important to take into account as soon as possible in the development and filling with real content of a truly strategic partnership with China, improving mutually beneficial commercial interaction, the fact that the leadership of China at the present stage officially announced the transition from a large nation to a powerful force in science and technology, and in the already approved development plan until 2030, energy, life and the environment are considered strategically important. It is here that the existing Belarusian developments can be useful, as well as the urgent initiation of joint projects, allowing more quickly to enter with qualitatively new products on much wider international markets.

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THE SYSTEM OF ELECTRONIC DECLARATION IN BELARUSSIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Система электронного декларирования в белорусской таможне

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Customs declaration is a document (in electronic or paper form), that lists the information about goods and items which are being moved through the customs border of the country. Authorized official can get the data about sender and recipient of this item, the country where it was produced, company-producer, its price, weight, information about customs procedures, which are applied for this item, transport data and other required information realization customs policy of the country. At the same time the data which must be comprised in declaration is limited by information used for carrying out functions, that are related to competence of customs service.

There are 4 types of customs declaration, which are used by our customs service:

- goods declaration
- transit customs declaration
- passenger declaration
- declaration for vehicle

There are 4 more existing types of cargo declarations, which are used under certain customs regimes – import, export declaration, declaration-commitment and declaration of free economic zone.

Infilling rules of customs declaration are assigned by operative legislation.

We live in the world, where the role of information technology is significant. Almost all spheres of our life are connected with new technologies. Customs service is not an exception. Using the actual trend of reshaping the usual paper documents in the electronic version the authorities of customs simplifying paperwork, as well as improving the quality and accessibility of information and