

STATEMENT OF THE CO-CHAIRS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 'EU-RUSSIA: PARTNERSHIP FOR MODERNISATION IN WASTE MANAGEMENT'.

The international conference 'EU-Russia: Partnership for Modernisation in Waste Management' was organised by DG Environment of the European Commission and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation.

The EU-Russia Partnership for Modernisation plays a key role in promoting efficient economic development and modernisation.

Innovative economic development requires efficient management of natural resources and environmental safety. Attention must be paid to improving legal framework for management of priority types of waste that encourages organisations to implement cleaner technologies through development of a system of market incentives.

Recognising the importance of co-operation between the EU and its Member States and Russia we are working to stimulate business to establish new partnerships and to strengthen their joint activity in this area.

Volumes of waste are growing and at the same time waste is a source of secondary materials, which provides the basis for developing waste reduction and processing sector in the Russian Federation, as well as for attracting investment and creating new jobs. Existing technologies allow the extraction of energy, fuel and secondary raw materials from waste and efficient treatment of waste water. Efficient economic management and application of economic incentives reduces costs for the economy, but also offers significant profits in the sphere of waste management.

The conference provided a platform for dialogue between policy-makers, representatives of Russian and foreign businesses, as well as other international partners. There was an open exchange of ideas and experience on collection and disposal of waste, on modern technologies and new research, and on developing an integrated system of waste management.

Taking into account Conference results as well as interest expressed by the participants in terms of further co-operation, it is reasonable to consider running similar events on a regular basis.

To continue the dialogue, the parties decided to create an Advisory Council on the collaboration in the waste management area, which will develop joint interaction policy in this field and co-ordinate activities of expert and scientific groups, as well as a council of partners with participation of regional bodies, One of the tasks of these groups will be to promote a package of joint projects in the area of waste management.

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From the Russian Side

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