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RESULTS OF THE ST. PETERSBURG ECOLOGICAL WEEK

POST PRESS-RELEASE

On March 17-25 St. Petersburg hosted the “St. Petersburg Ecological Week”, a unique in topics content and presence of participants international event, devoted to the discussion of the matters of environmental protection and rational nature management.

The major events of the Week were: **the II International conference “St. Petersburg – the marine capital of Russia. Ecology” (March 17-18), the international ecological forum “Day of the Baltic Sea” (March 21-23) and the international ecological forum “Ecology of Big City” (March 21-25).**

The events of the “St. Petersburg Ecological Week” were attended by over 5.000 specialists from 25 countries.

On March 15, prior to the “St. Petersburg Ecological Week” the museum “Universe of Water” of the “Vodokanal of St. Petersburg” presented the exhibition of the Baltic painters “The sea unites the countries that it separates”. The exhibition will last till April 15, 2011.

The II international conference “St. Petersburg – the marine capital of Russia. Ecology” held within the “United Russia” party project was attended by over 400 experts from 35 regions of Russia and 20 countries. The result of this conference will become the resolution which will integrate all participants’ proposals aimed at the development of the Russian ecological legislation and the development of measures for marine and river environment safety in Russia.

On March 21 the congress-hall of JSC “Lenexpo” hosted the Plenary session of the “St. Petersburg Ecological Week” – “National program for realization of the HELCOM operation plan in the Baltic Sea area”, which united the events of the XII international ecological forum “Day of the Baltic Sea” and the international ecological forum “Ecology of Big City”. It was devoted to four primary topics: sewage waters treatment, agriculture, biological diversity and hazardous substances. The panel session was organized in the form of discussion and assembled the ecological experts of the highest ranks.

On the same day, the **international ecological forum “Day of the Baltic Sea”** welcomed its participants. It was organized by the StPb Public organization “Ecology and Business” and the Commission for the marine environment protection in the Baltic region (HELKOM) under the auspice of the Ministry of Nature of the Russian Federation. The forum played an important role as the public consultations concerning the priority problems of the Baltic Sea, and where all participants could receive complete information on the problems and elements of cooperation. The forum was participated by 633 delegates from 12 countries (Russia, Belorussia, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Latvia, Poland, Finland, France, Switzerland, Sweden and Estonia). During the round-table discussions the experts could consider the most relevant problems and initiatives, realized in the Baltic region.

The XI International Ecological Forum “Ecology of Big City” successfully finished in “Lenexpo”. This year Forum became the largest one among already held editions. The Forum united four specialized exhibitions: “Waste management: technologies and equipment”, “Water treatment”, “Air protection”, “Environmental services and equipment”, 18 events of the business program 5 visits to the industrial sites of St. Petersburg and the Leningrad region. On the total exhibition space of 5.000 sq.m. 182 companies from 14 countries (Russia, Germany, France, Greece, Austria, Finland, Poland, Czechia, Italy, Estonia, and Ukraine) presented their innovative products and services in the spheres of waste recycling, sewage-water treatment, water supply and disposal, dust and gas prevention at the industrial sites, as well as installations and systems of ecological control, and services in ecological auditing, consulting, etc.

This year the exhibition section was added with specialized expositions: “Recycling Expo” – technologies for recycling and industrial reuse of secondary raw materials, and “Ecological culture and education” – exposition of educational institutions, research centers and public ecological organizations.

The business section of the Forum was opened by the panel discussion “Modern megacity: technologies for ecology”, devoted to the discussion of the best up-to-date technologies in waste-management, ecological safety of water and air in big cities. The panel discussion was held with the participation of the representatives of the city administrations from Greater Mumbai (India) and Rio-de-Janeiro (Brazil). It was also participated by the city administration of Lahti (Finland), the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Sector, the Information Bureau of the Northern Countries Ministry Council, the administration of the Beijing municipal research institute of environmental protection, the governmental delegation from the Krasnoyarsk region, representatives from the Tatarstan Republic, the Nizhegorodsky region, etc.

Special attention of visitors was attracted by the conference “Domestic and industrial wastes management: Russian and international experience”, the round-table discussion “Sanitary purification system of St. Petersburg”, “Ecological educational and training”, “Problems of execution of the environmental legislation by legal entities and individuals”, and “Energy efficiency in housing sector”.

Exhibitions and events of the Forum business program were attended by over 3500 specialists from 21 countries (Russia, Austria, Belorussia, Brazil, Germany, India, Italy, China, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland, the USA, Ukraine, Finland, France, Czechia, Sweden, Estonia, Ethiopia, South Africa) and 73 Russian cities.

During the “Ecomobile” action held in “Lenexpo” (March 21-24) and organized by the St. Petersburg Committee for Nature Management, Environmental Protection and Ecological Safety Provision the ecologically conscientious citizen of St. Petersburg could return any hazardous wastes for recycling: fluorescent lamps, mercury thermometers, batteries, accumulators, energy-efficient lamps, out-of-date medicines, etc.

The organizer believe that in the future such integration of efforts of the governmental authorities, representatives of business and scientific societies in organization of the “St. Petersburg Ecological Week” will support the creation of favourable conditions for working experience exchange between the regional and international ecological societies with the purpose of finding the solutions for ecological problems, as well as the development of the St. Petersburg image as the ecological capital of Russia.

Contact information:

II International conference of the “United Russia” party project – “St. Petersburg – the marine capital of Russia. Ecology”

Detailed information is available at: www.global-port.ru, or by phone: + 7 (812) 327 93 70

The International Ecological Forum “Day of the Baltic Sea”. Detailed information is available at: http://www.helcom.ru/baltic_sea_day, or by phone: + 7 (812) 431 11 67

The International Ecological Forum “ECOLOGY OF BIG CITY”, the International industrial exhibition and trade-fair “Waste management: technologies and equipment”, and the exhibitions: “Water treatment, “Air protection, “Environmental services and equipment”. Detailed information is available at: www.ecology.lenexpo.ru, or by phone: + 7 (812) 321 26 29

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