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THE ITPO'S PRIORITIES FOR 2020 WERE DISCUSSED IN VIENNA

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR, A MEETING OF THE HEADS OF THE UNIDO WORLDWIDE OFFICE NETWORK (ITPOS) TOOK PLACE IN VIENNA.

ITPO COORDINATOR MR. GONG MARKED THE SIGNIFICANT EVENTS THAT THE NETWORK FACILITATED AND PARTICIPATED DURING THE YEAR. ITPOS WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN FACILITATING THE SIGNING OF JOINT DECLARATION WITH ROSATOM (ITPO RUSSIA), MOU WITH NEC (ITPO JAPAN) AND MOU WITH SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY (ITPO SHANGHAI). SUCCESSFUL INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS AND CONFERENCES ORGANIZED, ATTENDED AND PARTICIPATED BY THE NETWORK WERE INTERNATIONAL AWARD 2019 INNOVATIVE IDEAS & TECHNOLOGIES IN AGRIBUSINESS (ITPO ITALY), GMIS-2019 IN YEKATERBURG, RUSSIA WHERE THE DIRECTOR GENERAL INTRODUCED INVESTMENT PROMOTION 4.0 (ITPO RUSSIA), WORLD ENTREPRENEURS INVESTMENT FORUM (ITPO BAHRAIN), AGRITECHNICA (ITPO GERMANY). CONTINUOUS WORK ON THE EXTENSION OF ITPO NIGERIA AND ESTABLISHING ITPOS IN HUNGARY AND MALAYSIA.

THE NETWORK'S PRIORITIES FOR 2020 WERE INTRODUCED AND DISCUSSED TO ENSURE THAT IMPLEMENTATION ARE FULLY ALIGNED WITH THE MANDATE OF THE DIVISION.

15-17 JANUARY, VIENNA

ITPO HEADS MEETING

At the beginning of the year, a meeting of the Heads of the UNIDO Worldwide Office Network (ITPOs) took place in Vienna.

The director of the UNIDO Centre in the Russian Federation (ITPO Russia), Sergey Korotkov, took part in working meetings at which the results of the work of offices for 2019 were summarized and priorities for 2020 were worked out.



The Network's priorities for 2020 were introduced and the Coordinator emphasized the importance of strengthening the Network. ITPOs should not only deal with investment promotion but also with technology promotion.

MOSCOW, JANUARY 20-23

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY (UNU) AND UNEP E-WASTE STATISTICS TRAINING

The UN Information Centre hosted training under the UNU Sustainable Cycles (SCYCLE) and UNEP programs with the assistance of the German Federal Environment Agency (FAO/HG), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the International Solid Waste Association (MATO).

The purpose of the training was to increase the capacity to collect e-waste in the CIS countries, assist countries in compiling statistics on e-waste at the international level, familiarize themselves with the methods of collecting statistics on e-waste, exchange experience, knowledge and tasks, as well as increase the level of coordination at the national level.

The training was based on the specialized EEE Put On the Market Tool software and the E-waste Generated Tool.

Representatives of the Federal State Statistics Service, the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Russia, and participants from the CIS countries took part in the training. From the UNIDO Centre National Expert Svetlana Erkenova took part in the training.

MOSCOW, JANUARY 22

MEETING AT KASPERSKY LAB

A joint meeting was held at Kaspersky Lab JSC with representatives of the UNIDO Centre and the NGO Adaptive Industrial Technologies LLC. During the meeting issues of improving literacy in digital technology and cybersecurity at enterprises were discussed, as well as the possibility of launching an online course on cybersecurity of industrial facilities with the assistance of the UNIDO Centre in the Russian Federation.

MOSCOW, JANUARY 24

MEETING IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

A meeting was held at the Department of Metallurgy and Materials of the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Russia on international cooperation in the safe use of chrysotile asbestos.

The meeting was attended by the Director of the UNIDO Centre in the Russian Federation Sergey

Korotkov and UNIDO national expert Philipp Oganov.

Chrysotile asbestos (chrysotile) is a type of fine-fiber minerals from the class of silicates, which in nature form aggregates consisting of the finest flexible fibers. It is used in various fields, for example, in construction, automotive industry and rocket science.

Russia together with Brazil, China and Kazakhstan produces more than 99% of the world's asbestos. Improving countries for chrysotile are as well India, Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

However, WHO is urging countries to abandon chrysotile production due to the negative health effects.

The Ministry of Natural Resources considered the issue of conducting an independent study on the safety of extraction and use of chrysotile absest on an industrial scale with the support of the UNIDO Centre in the Russian Federation.



MOSCOW, JANUARY 24

UN INFORMATION CENTRE DISCUSSED UN CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

On January 24, the UN Information Centre hosted a meeting with Alexander Shestakov, Director of the Department of Science, Society and Sustainable Future Secretariat of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity.

During the meeting the challenges facing humanity on the path to biodiversity conservation were discussed, where the most vulnerable areas, in particular, are agro-industry, climate change, biological diversity and ecosystems of the oceans.

A 2019 report from the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) highlighted alarming conclusion that nature is currently deteriorating at an unprecedented rate. Since 1990, deforestation has led to the loss of more than 290 million hectares of forest land. One million plant and animal species are threatened with extinction, and over 90% of marine fish stocks are overfished or reduced.

The consequences for people around the world will be the worst. According to some estimates, current negative trends in biodiversity and ecosystems undermine progress in meeting 80 percent of the goals set in relation to the implementation of the sustainable development goals. One of the most serious ones is the preservation of agricultural crops, the reduction of harmful emissions into the atmosphere and the protection of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.



Scientists predict that by 2050 there will be more debris than fish now. Every year, thousands of sea turtles, birds, dolphins, and whales die when they become entangled in plastic waste or swallowed. It takes about a thousand years to completely decompose a bag, so now every piece of plastic ever produced on Earth exists in nature. Reducing the use of household plastic, as well as technology for its processing, are the most important topics of the next decade.

In the field of agricultural sectors, emphasis should also be placed on the gradual abandonment of chemical fertilizers in favor of organic ones, since biofertilizers make it possible to solve the nutrition problem of a growing world population, without harming the environment.

Compliance with countries' commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions could weaken global warming. However, in this case it can be at least 3 degrees Celsius.

The United Nations has published a draft Convention on Biodiversity, which provides 20 goals for the next 10 years until 2030. Among them: reducing the use of plastic, helping mitigate the effects of climate change, providing clean water to the maximum number of people, increasing the number of green spaces. Achieving these goals requires immediate action at the level of governments of all countries.

Sergey Korotkov took part in the Congress as a member of the Presidium and supported the tasks highlighted at the agenda.

MOSCOW, JANUARY 31

II ALL-RUSSIAN CONGRESS OF ENTERPRISES EMPLOYED IN THE FIELD OF MANUFACTURING WASTE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

At the end of January, the II All-Russian Congress of enterprises engaged in the field of waste management of production and consumption was held in Moscow.

The event was organized by the ECORECYCLING Interregional Industrial Corporation and the OPORA RUSSIA All-Russian Public Organization of SMEs.

During the Congress issues such as achieving indicators set by the National Ecology Project and improving the efficiency of facilities for waste management were discussed, as well as compiling recommendations for federal executive bodies from organizations operating in the field of waste management.

The Congress was attended by representatives of legislative and executive bodies of state power at the federal and regional levels, representatives of enterprises engaged in the field of waste management of production and consumption, educational, scientific and public organizations.