SYNOPSIS ON THE TOPIC
Climate Change

Change in weather patterns including a rise in average global temperatures, imbalances in natural systems due to the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

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RESEARCH

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- Economic Inequality

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RESEARCH

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- Climate Change
- The National Project “Ecology”
- Environment
- Natural Disasters

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ST. PETERSBURG INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC FORUM 2019

Are Global Climate Challenges Restricting or Driving Development?

6 June 2019  15:00—16:15

Moderator

Anatoliy Chubais
President, Association for the Development of Renewable Energy (ADRE); Chairman of the Executive Board, RUSNANO Corporation

KEY CONCLUSIONS

Global warming is a pressing issue on a global scale

For the world at large, the issue of global warming is more pressing than fundamentalist terrorism, the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and uncontrollable migration. [...] Global warming is also more serious and dangerous because, unlike all of the problems I just mentioned, it affects each and every one of us — Anatoliy Chubais, President, Association for the Development of Renewable Energy (ADRE); Chairman of the Executive Board, RUSNANO Corporation.

Natural disasters have grown not only in impact, but also in frequency over the last 50 years. The causes of these environmental disasters are complex, but nobody in the scientific world today questions that they are directly related to global warming — Mirjana Spoljaric Egger, Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, United Nations Development Programme.

Anthropogenic load is the main factor behind climate change

The intergovernmental Climate Change Expert Group has determined with a certainty of 95.5%, that climate change is the result of anthropogenic load — Ruslan Edelgeriyev, Advisor to the President of the Russian Federation; Special Presidential Representative on Climate Issues.

Over the last 150 to 200 years, the use of hydrocarbon fuels has led to CO2 emissions. What is important is that this is not a side effect, it is a direct product of the use of any type of hydrocarbon fuel — Anatoliy Chubais, President, Association for the Development of Renewable Energy (ADRE); Chairman of
International cooperation is needed to fight climate change

The official state position is as follows: at a recent meeting, the President stated that Russia will do everything in its power in order to ratify the Paris agreement in the near future — Ruslan Edelgeriyev, Advisor to the President of the Russian Federation; Special Presidential Representative on Climate Issues.

The Arctic — The ‘Weather Kitchen’

9 April 2019  16:30—18:00

Moderator
Vladimir Kattsov
Director, Voeikov Main Geophysical Observatory of the Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environment Monitoring

KEY CONCLUSIONS

The Arctic needs care

Based on Agenda 2030, we need to develop the Arctic, while this development needs to keep the ecosystem intact. We need to treat the environment with utmost care. As experts, we must make sure it never turns into a political agenda and stays on track of climate and environmental protection — Ruslan Edelgeriyev, Advisor to the President of the Russian Federation; Special Presidential Representative on Climate Issues.

Adaptation is an absolute priority for the Arctic, which is the region that emits less than 1% of greenhouse gases and yet is more vulnerable to climate change — Boris Porfiriev, Director, Institute of Economic Forecasting, Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS).

The Arctic belongs to those regions of the Earth that are most vulnerable to climate change. The Arctic is not just an indicator, but a factor of global climate change. It is another factor that impacts extreme weather conditions outside of the Arctic region — Vladimir Kattsov, Director, Voeikov Main Geophysical Observatory of the Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environment Monitoring.

When we address adaptation of Arctic ecosystems, we call them fragile and vulnerable, because these ecosystems
demonstrate a low adaptation potential, especially when it comes to those fast changes that are taking place — Anna Romanovskaya, Director, Yu.A. Izrael Institute of Global Climate and Ecology of the Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environment Monitoring.

Arctic research requires a comprehensive scientific approach

The Arctic is an exceptionally complicated region and a difficult target for observation, research, physical and mathematical modelling and forecasting — Vladimir Kattsov, Director, Voeikov Main Geophysical Observatory of the Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environment Monitoring.

I would like to stress out the important fundamental contribution that science has made in order to make this regime credible — Patricia Espinosa Cantellano, Executive Secretary, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Our task is to track all the changes in all areas of the Arctic zone. That is why the Russian Hydrometeorological Research Center has been monitoring the hydrometeorological situation and protecting the environment and everything environment-related. And they will continue this effort. <...> As of today, approximately 85–90% of the Arctic research is done by the Russian Hydrometeorological Research Center — Maxim Yakovenko, Head, Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring.

Climate change impacts the Arctic economy

By the end of the 21st century, the moderate human impact scenario the will make the Northern Sea Route from Western Europe to Southeast Asia more cost effective than the route involving the Suez Canal, even in winter time — Igor Mokhov, Scientific Leader, Federal State Budgetary Institution of Science A.M. Obukhov Institute of Atmospheric Physics of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

'ARCTIC: TERRITORY OF DIALOGUE' INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC FORUM 2019

Future Arctic: Sustainable Solutions

9 April 2019 10:00–11:30

Moderator

Alistair Clark
Managing Director of the Environment and Sustainability Department, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
KEY CONCLUSIONS

The Arctic is a vital region for Russia’s development and international collaboration

The Russian Arctic has always been a cornerstone for the country and a place to apply best practices. After decades of development, every step in the Arctic is still underpinned with innovation. Science is moving ahead of production. <...> We have committed to implementing the decree issued by President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin to make the Northern Sea Route a competitive global transit artery, and increase the volume of goods transported to 80 million tonnes by 2025 – Dmitry Kobylkin, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation.

Russia has long been systemically developing the Arctic through establishing transport corridors. At the time of the Soviet Union, cargo volumes transported along the Northern Sea Route reached a peak of 7 million tonnes. <...> Last year, the figure was more than 20 million tonnes – Igor Tonkovidov, Executive Vice President, Chief Technical Officer, Sovcomflot.

The Arctic has always been a region of peace, dialogue, and preserving traditions. Today, there are many tools at our disposal to engage in dialogue. In light of climate change, collaboration is of foremost importance – Grigory Ledkov, President, Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia, and the Far East (RAIPON).

Environmental protection is a crucial prerequisite to developing the Arctic

Emission reductions also bring health benefits – Hannele Pokka, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Finland; Chair of the Northern Forum (2001–2005).

In 2017, the Arctic states adopted a collective goal to reduce black carbon emissions by 25–33%. Reaching this goal is an essential task for all Arctic states. Research indicates that 40% of the black carbon in the Arctic comes from flaring. Reducing flaring is therefore a key priority, and the World Bank’s Zero Routing Flaring by 2030 initiative is endorsed by all oil-producing Arctic states – Roy Angelvik, State Secretary for the Minister of Trade, Industry, and Fisheries of the Kingdom of Norway.
### Speakers and experts

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<td>Agneta Rising</td>
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<td>Mirjana Spoljarić Egger</td>
<td>Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, United Nations Development Programme</td>
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<td>Elena Tarasenko</td>
<td>Deputy Chairperson of the National Commission on Women, Family and Demographic Policy attached to the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan</td>
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<td>Roman Vilfand</td>
<td>Scientific Leader, Hydrometeorological Research Center of the Russian Federation</td>
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