

## **Russian Federation Position Paper**

*Example used in Model United Nations of Alaska 2015.*

As the Representatives of the Russian Federation, we are immensely interested in thoroughly discussing the topic of отходы (waste). Our nation, lead by President Vladimir Putin, has made it a priority to properly manage waste. Our tireless efforts with the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP), the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Atomic and Energy Agency (IAEA), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) are a token of our commitment to improving world waste standards and ensuring safe and secure development by cooperating with the United Nations Security Council.

The Russian Federation encourages all states to continually take steps towards a more sustainable green economy and planet. Russia leads the globe as one of the top five highest ranked states for waste management; therefore, we are greatly interested in sharing our wealth of knowledge with the rest of the world. We take a special interest in the exploration and preservation of the Arctic in order to support our persistent efforts towards a greener state. We will continue to create new programs, exemplified by our national scoping studies, that identify our country's needs and vast potential for transformation towards a greener economy.

We urge foreign leaders to take a more vested interest in the long term global impacts caused by the use of nuclear energy and possible health concerns, such as those seen in Fukushima, Japan. The leaking of radioactive waste has adversely affected Russia environmentally, commercially, and politically. We remain supportive of our friends in Japan who face the potential ill health effects caused by long term exposure to radiation.<sup>[1]</sup> This situation all too closely mirrors our own struggles with the Chernobyl disaster and subsequent loss of life, due to both physical and psychological factors, that resulted thereafter. Therefore, Russia strives to increase global research into the effects of nuclear waste on human health and the technology needed to clean up affected areas.

Nuclear waste is a global issue and all countries with nuclear capability will benefit from scientific research into this matter. As such, we firmly request the cooperation of the United Nations in dealing with this grave issue before further disasters occur. The Russian Federation is committed to safely researching and developing the tremendous capabilities of nuclear energy. We are moving steadily forward with plans of expanding the role of nuclear energy in our country, including the development of new reactor technology. Progressing beyond the minor errors of the past, the efficiency of nuclear technology in Russia has increased dramatically since the mid-1990s. Over 20 nuclear power reactors are confirmed or planned for energy exportation. The Russian Federation is continually striving to develop safer and more effective ways of disposing nuclear waste. The Russian Federation envisions nuclear power providing 45-50% of

our country's electricity demands by 2050, with that number rising to 70-80% by the end of the century. [2]

The Russian Federation is committed to advancing industrial development that results in economic growth and prosperity for our people. Supporting projects, policies, and technologies that reduce energy costs, eliminate regulatory burdens, and save taxpayers money are our key priorities. Russia holds the largest natural gas reserves in the world, and, in 2013, was ranked third in terms of global oil production.[3] Given our abundance of natural resources, we are in a prime position to supply the Eurasian region with affordable energy that has been developed and produced in the most environmentally sound of ways. In 2013, we established a partnership with UNIDO to advance environmentally sustainable solutions to enhance global economic development. Last year, in conjunction with UNIDO, the Russian Federation provided funding for a fisheries and marine training institute in Sierra Leone. The institute is enhancing and contributing to the growth of Sierra Leone's fishing industry, creating new jobs, increasing total fish yield, and helps to combat the illegal fishing industry. Looking towards the future, the Russian Federation is excited to strengthen and expand our partnership with UNIDO to foster economic growth with our allies around the world.

Due to growing political instability in surrounding Middle Eastern countries, the Russian Federation is striving to cooperate with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), in order to assist with the mass influx of refugees seeking asylum. The conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic has impacted Eastern regions of the Russian Federation, placing considerable pressure on our country's ability to secure and defend our people. In addition to Syrian refugees, thousands of displaced Ukrainians are entering our nation. Given these unique challenges, we seek to strengthen our national asylum systems, prevent and reduce the problem of statelessness for refugees, and further develop partnerships with governments and other stakeholder on refugee protection and mixed migration.

The Russian Federation, as a founding member of the United Nations, has always upheld the values, stability, and unity brought forth by the UN. We firmly believe that these global goals can be achieved by all nations through primary discourse and secondary action, and we believe that our position in the Security Council allows us to propagate and maintain these objectives. The Russian Federation wishes to help set standards concerning the topic of waste in every definition of the term. One major concern for our delegation is the waste of economic and resource-related opportunities, which is why we believe an in-depth scrutinization of OPEC and global oil production is a necessary mission for Security Council to take on. We believe that discussion on these issues will be beneficial to the international community, and can help clarify the motivations and aspirations of all involved.

We are looking forward to cooperating with similarly responsible nations from around the world to work towards a safer and waste-free global community.