

Conclusion on the Results of the EU-Russia Project Workshop (Novocherkassk, 31 May 2010)

The development of the Russian-European technological cooperation plays a decisive role in the success of the Partnership for Modernization. Together with the formation of general terms for development of such cooperation envisaged in the Recommendations of the IRT for the 2010 EU-Russia Spring Summit, it is necessary to take practical measures to support some specific projects, which are implemented by the common effort of Russian and European companies. The participants of the Eu-Russia Project Workshop are calling to develop a common programme of activities in the area of harmonization of technical standards, the development of mechanisms for public-private partnerships and the support of the projects in key areas of mutual concern.

1. Harmonization of technical standards in Russia and the European Union is an important precondition for effective technological cooperation. Development of the Russian system of technical regulation on the basis of European technical standards will promote modernization and increased competitiveness of the Russian economy through the adaptation of primary European technologies and the common development of innovative technological solutions. The IRT can undertake a duty to combine the efforts of Russian and European companies in the area of developing new technical standards. The first step will be the organisation of the Russian-European Forum on technical regulation in September 2010.

2. PPP are the most promising instruments of support for projects of technological cooperation in the areas requiring considerable amounts of long-term capital investments. Contracts of life-time cycle (CLT) are an innovation for the Russian law on PPP. Construction of the high-speed highway "Moscow–St. Petersburg" on the basis of the CLT should provide a basis for using the given form of PPP in Russia.

3. Energy saving and the development of up-to-date transport infrastructure are the key areas for cooperation between the Russian and European companies, whose support will help to achieve systematic effects on the modernization of the Russian economy. It is useful to form a range of the most important projects of cooperation in the given spheres, whose performance will be subject to regular reporting at Russia-EU summits.

Given the strategic aims of the Partnership for Modernization, the Workshop participants express the conviction that the proposed forms of support to the Russian-European technological cooperation will promote the innovative cooperation of the Russian economy.