IX INTERNATIONAL FORUM

ARCTIC
TODAY AND THE FUTURE

PROJECT

PROGRAMME OF THE FORUM

ST. PETERSBURG
December 5–7, 2019
www.forumarctic.com
**FIRST DAY. December 5, 2019**

**PLENARY SESSION 1 «New horizons of state policy in the Arctic»**

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## SECOND DAY. December 6, 2019

### PLENARY SESSION 2. «Regions as key participants in the development of the Arctic zone of the RF»

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## THIRD DAY. December 7, 2019

Cultural programme
New horizons of state policy in the Arctic

PLENARY SESSION

The integrated development of the Arctic macroregion is one of the key areas of Russian state policy.

Over the past decade, the strategic foundations for the development of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation have been formulated. A coordinating government body - the State Commission for the Development of the Arctic - has been formed. Projects for the industrial development of natural resources have been launched and are being successfully implemented; transport and social infrastructure are developing. The Ministry of the Russian Federation for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic, that implements state development programs in the Arctic, has appeared.

The future of the Arctic zone of Russia depends on the effective implementation of the key tasks of state policy in the region:

- the formation of mechanisms to attract investment and support Arctic projects that take into account the needs of the Russian Arctic regions, systematic companies and contribute to the development of macroregion infrastructure;
- integrated development of the Northern Sea Route as a national transport highway, provided with an appropriate cargo base;
- improving living standards and creating comfortable conditions for living in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation through effective social policies and implementation of national projects.
- For the practical implementation of these tasks it is necessary to develop a broad dialogue and directed interaction between all levels and segments of state power and society.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:
- State policy in the Arctic and improvement of the regulatory framework
- Creating good conditions for investing and doing business in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation
- Implementation of national projects in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation
- Mechanisms for improving the quality of life in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation
Conference «Northern Sea Route»

The Northern Sea Route is the most important transport communication in the Russian Arctic and the shortest sea route from Europe to Asia. The President and the Government set ambitious goals determined the future of the NSR for years to come. The President’s Decree «On National Goals and Strategic Tasks of the development of the Russian Federation for the period until 2024» implies an increase in the NSR cargo flow to 80 million tons.

In accordance with the Presidential Decree, the Northern Sea Route federal project was included in the Comprehensive Plan for the Modernization and Expansion of the Main Infrastructure. Rosatom State Corporation received the status of a single operator and now they are developing a project for the development of the infrastructure of the Northern Sea Route. The Ministry of Natural Resources of Russia has developed a comprehensive plan representing the mineral resources and logistics potential of the Arctic.

Nevertheless, a whole series of key issues is on the agenda. How exactly the tasks set by the President are being accomplished, how the interests of the federal government, regions, the needs of the business community represented by industrial, mining and transport companies will be taken into account and how effective cooperation will be built between interested parties?

The most important issue for the development of cargo transportation via the NSR is to ensure the safety of navigation in extreme Arctic conditions: the development of a global marine communications system, emergency and navigational and hydro-graphic support, and the provision of icebreaker assistance.

Part 1. PANEL SESSION  
Development of infrastructure and cargo transportation  
December 5, 2019  
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- How to ensure cargo flow through the NSR up to 80 million tons?
- What infrastructure is needed for the Northern Sea Route and how to create it?
- What conditions are needed to attract investment in the development of the NSR?
- How to harmonize the development of the Northern Sea Route and coastal areas?
- What are the prospects for the NSR as an international transport corridor?

Part 2. PANEL SESSION  
Quality assurance and shipping safety  
December 5, 2019  
2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- When will the year-round use of the NSR be ensured?
- How to increase the efficiency of icebreaker assistance?
- How to improve the quality of shipping in the Arctic?
- What will be done for emergency and navigational and hydro-graphic support of the NSR?
- What technologies are needed to ensure the safety of shipping in the Arctic?
- Hydrometeorological support for navigation
Geological exploration: interaction between the state and business in order to maintain Russia's dominance in mining in the Arctic

WORKING SESSION

Given the increased attention of foreign states and international corporations to the mineral resources of the Arctic, maintaining the leading position of Russia in the polar region is possible only in case of activation of geological exploration.

It is necessary to expand the capabilities of the state program «Reproduction and use of natural resources», the formation of regulatory mechanisms for the use of public-private partnership, increasing the investment attractiveness of the geological study of Arctic subsoil.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- Key prospective areas for geological exploration in the Arctic
- State policy in the field of increasing the geological exploration of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation
- Mechanisms for increasing the investment attractiveness of the geological study of the Arctic subsoil
- Forms of interaction between key mining companies and the state in the field of geological exploration
- Innovative technology and equipment for geological exploration in the Arctic

Key points of growth in the quality of life: the development of the Arctic municipalities

ROUND TABLE

The development of Arctic rural and urban settlements is a key condition not only for the development, but also for the sustainable consolidation of the state in the Arctic. In order to achieve this, a number of problems have to be solved: the Arctic municipalities are extremely heterogeneous, removed from the main industrial centers and dependent on the supply of essential goods from other regions of the country. The population in the Arctic is faced with the deterioration of housing and communal services, social, transport and energy infrastructure, staff shortage and population outflow.

The participants of the round table will try to answer the question of how to combine the efforts of state, regional and local authorities, as well as business and what needs to be done to create a comfortable living environment in the Arctic.
ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:
- How to create a comfortable living environment in the Arctic?
- Formation of revenue sources of the budget of municipalities and improvement of inter-budget relations
- The role of city-forming enterprises in the development of the Arctic
- Development of infrastructure of Arctic settlements

The Arctic as a unique testing ground for fundamental and applied research

PANEL SESSION
The Arctic region is an important platform for unique research. The far north can provide answers to many mysteries of the history of the Earth and life. Along with basic research, for the development of the Arctic, innovative scientific developments are needed to adapt materials, equipment and technologies to special climatic conditions.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:
- Priority areas of basic research of the Russian Arctic
- Money question: how to optimize funding for Arctic research?
- Applied scientific developments for the development of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation
- Cooperation of researchers: exchange of experience in the field of Arctic science

Key issues of international cooperation in the polar region

PANEL SESSION
In recent years the Arctic region has become one of the most important centers of concentration of various international interests: economic, geopolitical, research, environmental and many others. The expected climate changes and the prospects for developing the rich resource potential of the Arctic attract the attention of not only the Arctic states, but also a number of countries of the European Union and Pacific region.

The main task of developing mechanisms of cooperation between states is to join efforts to form a system of global interaction that would make it possible to rationally use the natural resources of the Arctic and preserve its fragile ecosystem.
ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- International projects in the Arctic region
- Russia’s participation in international partnership institutions
- Cross-border cooperation between Russian regions included in the Russian Arctic, and the Arctic countries
- Arctic agenda of «third countries»
- International business-projects in the Arctic region
- Provision of security of Arctic exploration
- Cooperation in the field of sustainable development of the Arctic
- Prospects for international cooperation in the development of Arctic mineral fields, the implementation of major infrastructure projects, the development of energy

In search of partners. Public-private partnership in the Russian Arctic

PANEL SESSION

The development of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation is impossible without the consolidation of the resources of state and business structures. The combination of the experience and resources of private partners with the capabilities of concessors is necessary for the creation and modernization of macro-region infrastructure. Within the section, participants will consider initiatives to amend legislative acts, exchange successful experiences in attracting investors to Arctic projects and discuss difficulties in implementing public-private partnerships in the Arctic.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- Improving state policy in the field of PPP
- What forms of PPP are most appropriate for the development of infrastructure in the Arctic zone?
- Risk protection: necessary financial mechanisms to support a private partner
- How does the state control a private partner?
- Successful regional projects for the implementation of public-private partnerships

Digital Arctic: Economics and Technology

WORKING SESSION

The digital transformation of the economy is an obligatory stage of its development, which has already begun. The complexity of the introduction of digital technologies in the Arctic is caused by the poor
development of telecommunications infrastructure, an imbalance in the economic situation of the territories, and difficult climatic conditions for the operation of equipment. Nevertheless, the opportunities that it brings with it for improving the quality of life, optimization of the production and work of government authorities, oblige us to pay special attention to the need for digitalization of the Arctic regions.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- Legal regulation and state support for the development of the digital economy
- What opportunities can the digital economy provide for Arctic residents?
- How to synchronize the work of government and business in the digitalization of the Arctic?
- The introduction of digital technology in the activities of industrial enterprises in the Arctic
- Infocommunication support for the development of the digital economy in the Russian Arctic

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Improving legislation and technology for construction in the Arctic conditions

WORKING SESSION

The Arctic regions have a number of features that make it difficult or impossible to design and build buildings using standard technologies; in addition, climate changes have a negative impact on both construction and operation of facilities.

The solution of strategic tasks in the Arctic region is impossible without comfortable housing and a stable infrastructure, and that is why the search for new approaches and construction technologies in permafrost, ways to minimize all types of pressure on the environment both during construction and during the operation of facilities, plays a key role.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- Improving the regulatory framework related to the construction and operation of buildings and structures in the polar macroregion
- Ensuring the safe operation of residential buildings and structures in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation
- The influence of permafrost on the technology of construction of roads, buildings and structures in the Arctic
- Modern technologies and materials for construction in harsh climate
- Features of the construction and operation of buildings and structures, as well as transport infrastructure in the Arctic
- Global warming and permafrost thaw: risk assessment for construction projects
- Technical regulation of construction technologies in the Arctic
Preservation of Arctic biodiversity

WORKING SESSION
In the process of developing the Arctic, it is necessary to take into account the impact of economic activity on the ecosystem of the macroregion. The preservation of the biological diversity of the Arctic flora and fauna is a priority for the Russian state. Companies and non-governmental organizations are implementing projects to minimize damage and prevent subsequent negative impact on flora and fauna.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:
- State initiatives in the field of biodiversity preservation in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation
- Activities of systematic companies to preserve the nature of the Russian Arctic
- Studies of the current state of flora and fauna and the forecast of possible changes under the influence of anthropogenic load
- Measures to protect rare ecosystems and rare species of plants and animals of the Arctic
- The use of new technologies in the study of wildlife in the Arctic

Ways to attract and retain qualified personnel in the Arctic

WORKING SESSION
In the Development Strategy of the Arctic Zone of the Russian Federation, a personnel training is one of the key conditions for the effective development of the polar region. According to the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation, the need for personnel for the Arctic annually is about 25 thousands people. Most of all they need specialists from the mining and oil and gas industries, electric and heat engineering, construction technologies, shipbuilding and water transport. The leading companies in the Arctic are actively working on the formation of an effective training system in the presence regions, starting from school education and ending with advanced training. In this regard, the primary task is to synchronize this activity with government programs, interact with universities and create comfortable living conditions to maintain qualified personnel.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:
- State training programs for the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation: needs, key areas
- Establishment of targeted training for the effective distribution of graduates in priority areas of work in the Arctic
- Mechanisms to increase the attractiveness of the Arctic for highly qualified specialists
- Personnel programs of key enterprises in the Arctic zone: enterprises, universities and authorities
Creating a favorable investment environment and tax incentives for key Arctic projects

**WORKING SESSION**

Sustainable social and economic development, as well as the realization of the resource and logistic potential of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation, is impossible without increasing investment attractiveness and creating effective mechanisms to support investors. This factor should become a factor of removing infrastructural restrictions, attracting qualified personnel and improving the quality of life.

At present, the key proposals of the Ministry for the development of the Far East and the Arctic are aimed at creating a system of tax preferences for key fields in the Arctic. However, the question of the effectiveness of the proposed measures, the need to expand the list of territories of their application, taking into account the position of the territorial subjects of the Russian Federation remains open.

**ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:**

- Mechanisms for attracting investment in key projects of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation
- Creating the conditions for doing business and implementing investment projects in the Arctic zone
- About the draft law «On state support of investment activity in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation»
- Promising Arctic investment projects

New technologies and solutions for developing the resource potential of the northern latitudes

**WORKING SESSION**

Significant hydrocarbon reserves are concentrated in the Arctic zone of Russia, while most oil and gas projects in the northern territories require exclusive technologies to eliminate dependence on imported equipment and reduce the cost of production and construction of infrastructure in severe Arctic conditions.

For the active development of Arctic deposits, it is necessary to develop a set of modern technologies for the geological exploration, production and transportation of hydrocarbons. They should be economically justified and fully ensure the preservation of nature of the region.

**ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:**

- The production potential of Russian enterprises and the implementation of import substitution policies
- Innovative developments for exploration, production and processing of mineral resources in the Arctic
- Creation of testing ranges for testing new types of equipment and technologies for work in the Arctic
Development of a communication system in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation

PANEL SESSION

One of the conditions for the successful functioning of Arctic projects is the creation of a modern telecommunication infrastructure.

At the moment, communication services are presented only in a number of settlements, and in the rest of the region access to them is fragmented, and a unified approach to creating a communication system in the Arctic zone has not yet been formed.

Safe navigation along the Northern Sea Route is also possible only if the information and telecommunication structure is formed, while the operation of most modern satellite systems is limited to 70 degrees of north latitude.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- What should be the information and telecommunication infrastructure of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation and how to create it?
- How to provide access to modern, reliable and inexpensive communication services throughout the Arctic?
- What are the prospects for creating a space group to provide communications in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation?
- The development of fiber optic lines in the Arctic
- What should be telecommunication equipment to work in extreme conditions?

Development of a system of specially protected natural territories in the Russian Arctic

WORKING SESSION

The development of a system of specially protected natural territories is one of the key priorities of the Ecology National Project and the most important aspect of preserving the unique natural environment of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation. Currently, within the borders of the Russian part of the Arctic there are 21 specially protected natural territories of federal significance with a total area of more than 27 million hectares. It includes the marine area of about 10 million hectares. As part of the federal project «Biodiversity Preservation and Ecotourism Development», it is planned to create 24 new protected areas of federal significance, including 5 protected areas within the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation.

The key issues of the development of the system of protected areas are not only the expansion of the area of nature protection territories, but also the development of ecological tourism, the growth of financing of nature protection enterprises, the improvement of the legislative regulation of economic activity, including the indigenous peoples of the North.
ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- Improving legislative regulation in the field of economic activity in the territory of protected areas
- Regulation of economic activities, works of indigenous peoples of the North
- Development and support of ecological tourism in the territory of protected areas
- Opportunities for increasing state support and financing of the system of Specially Protected Natural Areas
- International cooperation in the field of preservation of the unique nature of the Arctic
- Activities of the largest Arctic companies to support protected areas in the regions of presence

Unified Networking: Key Arctic Education Centers  
December 5, 2019  
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

PANEL SESSION

Sustainable social and economic development of the Arctic requires the training of a wide range of highly qualified and motivated specialists. Given the importance of the tasks, the effective development of the scientific and educational environment requires a comprehensive approach, including the consolidation of resources in the field of human and scientific support for the development of the Arctic, the creation of a common scientific and educational space that provides high-quality information and analytical support for development projects in the Russian Arctic, including coordination of scientific and educational activities.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- Enhancing the attractiveness of Arctic universities
- Digital Education Development
- Coordination of directions of education and priority projects for the development of the Arctic
- The role of universities in the formation of support zones for the development of the Arctic
- Combining the potential of the entire network of Russian universities to solve the problems of social and economic development of the Arctic

Women in the Arctic  
December 5, 2019  
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

PANEL SESSION

Despite the fact that the harsh northern region has traditionally been associated with a male type of character, many women have connected their lives with the Arctic, starting from the moment of its active development. Women always took an active part in scientific expeditions and industrial projects, wintered at
polar stations and conquered the North Pole, overcoming social stereotypes about gender roles. In addition, more than a million women live in the Arctic, and they have a burden of raising children and housekeeping, and therefore they especially need social protection and support for their rights.

**ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:**
- Social support for Arctic women
- Reducing the pay gap between men and women and ensuring women's access to leadership positions
- The role of women in the modern development of the Arctic
- Women-researchers in the Arctic as an example for the younger generation

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**Indigenous peoples of the Arctic**  
**December 5, 2019**  
**4:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

**WORKING SESSION**

The situation of the small peoples of the North in recent decades is complicated by the inappropriateness of their traditional way of life to modern economic conditions. In conditions of vigorous industrial activity, the original habitat of the indigenous peoples of the North is exposed to negative influences, which leads to a crisis in traditional industries and an aggravation of social problems.

The vulnerability of the traditional way of life and the small number of each of the peoples of the North led to the need for the formation of a special state policy related to their sustainable development, which provided for systemic measures to preserve the original culture, language, crafts and native habitat.

**ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:**
- Improving the legislation of the Russian Federation on the rights of indigenous peoples of the North
- Preservation and development of a traditional lifestyle
- Preservation of the original habitat of the indigenous peoples of the Arctic in the conditions of industrial development of territories
- Stimulating traditional economic sectors and increasing their economic efficiency
- Creating the conditions for the participation of indigenous peoples in resolving issues affecting their rights and interests
- Approaches to improving the education system of indigenous peoples of the North
SECOND DAY
DECEMBER 6, 2019

Plenary session 2 «Regions as key participants in the development of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation»

PLENARY SESSION

The Arctic regions are particularly important in the spatial and territorial development of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation, as centers of decision-making and practical implementation of state policy.

Key projects for the northern latitudes are being implemented in all the Arctic regions of the Russian Federation, each of which has its own territorial characteristics. It is at the regional level that there is an interaction between the authorities, social segments, business communities and participants in inter-regional cooperation.

In the context of the regional development of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation, one of the most important roles belongs to municipalities, which should become points of regional growth, increase the effectiveness of social policy, development of small business, centers of social and economic activity of the population.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- The Arctic regions: resources and opportunities, strategic potential, perspectives and development goals
- International non-governmental interaction in the northern regions: agenda, formats, participants
- Digital transformation characteristics of the economy and social sphere in the Arctic regions
- The role of municipalities in the development of the Arctic zone of Russia
- Creation and development of social infrastructure in the Arctic territories

Oil and gas projects: catalyst for development of the Arctic zone and Northern Sea Route

PANEL SESSION

Oil and gas projects now act as «growth points» for the development of the Arctic and form new energy consumption centers, including those producing export-oriented products, while being the most ambitious and capital intensive. Of particular importance are projects on the development of the Arctic shelf that require an increase in the geological exploration of the shelf and formation of conditions for attracting private capital to its development.
The costs of creating infrastructure for the development of the Arctic oil and gas fields and the development of domestic technologies require serious incentives from the state to ensure favorable tax conditions and create new sources of financing.

**ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:**
- Priority hydrocarbon development projects in the Arctic
- Expansion of hydrocarbon production on the Arctic shelf and ways to reduce the cost of oil and gas production in the Arctic
- Prospects for Russian cooperation with foreign partners in the production and processing of oil and gas in the Arctic
- Promising Arctic hydrocarbon markets
- Formation of attractive tax and infrastructure conditions to stimulate the development of new fields by oil and gas companies

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Arctic for life: state social policy and social responsibility of business in the Arctic

December 6, 2019
12:30 PM – 2:00 PM

**PANEL SESSION**

Improving the quality of life of the population that is living and working in the Arctic is one of the key objectives of the Development Strategy of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation. Given the trend of population decline, as well as the increasing need for skilled labor, the development of unique mechanisms to support the population and socially disadvantaged is becoming a key factor in improving the situation in the Russian Arctic.

An important role in ensuring the quality of life in the Arctic regions is also played by the social programmes of key companies: the development of social infrastructure, social benefits, etc.

**ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:**
- Implementation of state social programs in the Arctic
- Mechanisms for the development of social infrastructure
- Support and development of social programs
- Support and improving the quality of life of socially disadvantaged groups
- Social responsibility of business: opportunities for developing cooperation with federal and regional authorities
Transport mobility in the Arctic: development of land and inland water transport in the Arctic

WORKING SESSION

The development of the transport and logistics potential of the Arctic is one of the key tasks for ensuring the economic growth of territories, therefore, ensuring the free movement of population and goods is the most important task of the state. Only modern roads and railways, developed inland waterways will allow us not to depend on the Northern Sea Route and, at the same time, will provide the opportunity to deliver manufactured goods and minerals to the Arctic ports or to the «Mainland». These tasks are reflected in the Comprehensive Plan for the Modernization and Expansion of the Backbone Infrastructure. But without attracting private investment and applying public-private partnerships, they cannot be resolved.

In addition, arctic conditions impose special conditions on equipment that must be able to operate at extremely low temperatures.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- How to connect the Arctic territories with seaports?
- How to synchronize the development of infrastructure with the directions of freight flows?
- What railway infrastructure is needed for the Russian Arctic?
- What are the challenges for the modernization of roads in the Arctic regions?
- How to increase the efficiency of inland waterways?
- What equipment is needed for the Arctic?
- How to attract investment in transport projects?

Key areas for international scientific cooperation in the Arctic

WORKING SESSION

Due to the great importance of the Arctic macro-region, ensuring regional sustainability and effective development of the Arctic should be based primarily on a comprehensive scientific understanding of the processes occurring under the influence of anthropogenic impact. Currently, scientific cooperation and ensuring an intellectual presence is an essential element of the state policy of the circumpolar countries, and also arouses great interest among other states.

Given that the organization of scientific research must meet the complexity of the tasks set for the development of the polar regions, international cooperation and the pooling of expertise are key elements in the scientific study of the Arctic, increasing the efficiency of industrial development projects and preserving its ecosystem.
ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- International scientific and educational projects aimed at exploring the Arctic
- Simplification of mechanisms for joint international research in the Arctic
- Expeditionary activity development
- Expanded Circumpolar Mobility
- Creation of a single database on the ecosystem of the region
- Collaboration on climate change and its consequences recommendations
- Consolidation of the resources of the Arctic research communities

On the way to the Clean Arctic: elimination of accumulated environmental damage in the Russian Arctic

December 6, 2019
12:30 PM – 4:00 PM

PANEL SESSION

The elimination of accumulated environmental damage is one of the key tasks of the Strategy for the socio-economic development of the Arctic zone and the most important part of the Ecology national project. On the territory of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation, 102 objects of accumulated damage to the environment, which not only have a negative impact on nature, but also interfere with the life of the population and the development of the Arctic, were identified. The solution of the issue of accumulated damage is possible only in the conditions of cooperation of state corporations with the Arctic regions and large industrial companies, where the state should play not only the role of a source of funds, but, first of all, create conditions for business to participate in cleaning up the Arctic.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- State policy on the elimination of accumulated environmental damage
- Prospects for the implementation of the priority project «Clean Country»
- Improving legislation in the field of strengthening liability for abandoned objects that damage the environment, and determining the owner of such objects
- Responsibility of subsoil users for the reclamation of territories for the placement of mining waste
- Elimination of accumulated damage from industrial and military activities
- Formation of an effective waste management and recycling system in the Arctic: specifics and solutions
Building an integrated security system in the Arctic

PANEL SESSION

Building of effective security architecture in the Arctic is an indisputable condition for protecting Russia's national interests. In the current situation, taking into account the military-political and economic situation in the Arctic, the state should be prepared to anticipate and also respond to any threats in the region. To achieve these goals, a unified state system for the prevention and elimination of emergencies is being developed. The Arctic infrastructure development plan in the interests of ensuring the military security of the Russian Federation is being implemented. New equipment that is suitable for working in extreme climatic conditions is being developed and delivered. Special attention is paid to the professional and official training of personnel of law enforcement agencies.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- What challenges and threats exist in the Polar region?
- What should be the architecture for integrated security in the Arctic?
- What technologies are needed to ensure security in the Russian Arctic?

Flight connection in the Arctic: fleet renewal and development of transport infrastructure

WORKING SESSION

In conditions of low population density and insufficient development of the transport system, only an increase in aviation accessibility for the population will make it possible to overcome the natural infrastructural restrictions in the Arctic and provide communication between remote settlements. About 30-40% of all local air transportation in Russia is carried out precisely in the Russian Arctic.

To ensure aviation mobility in the Arctic, significant work needs to be done and a number of tasks should be solved with the participation of the state - to create and reconstruct airfield infrastructure, update the fleet of aerotechnics, and actively develop the route network.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- When and how will the airport infrastructure be upgraded?
- How to set up fair subsidies for air travel in the Arctic?
- How to update the fleet?
- What aerotechnics is needed for the Arctic?
Solid minerals mining: Government support opportunities and development of transport infrastructure

December 6, 2019
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

PANEL SESSION

Russia occupies one of the leading places in the world among minerals producers. Significant fields of solid minerals are located on the territory of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation. However, the remoteness from the main industrial centers and the high resource intensity of economic activity require additional costs from companies that develop solid mineral deposits. A discussion of the most important industry issues will take place within this section.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- Improving the regulatory framework for subsoil use in the Arctic zone
- Investment attractiveness of Russian subsoil in the Arctic: a system of incentive measures and support for business entities
- Geological exploration: the search for previously undeveloped fields of solid minerals and the identification of fields of unconventional geological and industrial types
- Efficient development of solid minerals fields: modern technologies for the extraction, processing and enrichment of the mineral and raw material base
- Destination: solid mineral transportation issues

From icebreakers and tankers to updating the fishing fleet: how will the development of the Arctic zone be ensured?

December 6, 2019
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

WORKING SESSION

The development of the mineral resource potential and ensuring uninterrupted year-round navigation on the NSR is possible only if the Arctic fleet is updated with modern ships.

By order of the State Atomic Energy Corporation ROSATOM, universal powerful atomic icebreakers are being built, two of them have already been launched, and a new shipbuilding center is being created in the Far East. Understanding the need for state support of shipbuilding is represented in the state program «Shipbuilding Development for 2013-2030.» Therefore, currently, it is fundamentally correct to determine which fleet is necessary for the implementation of Arctic projects with the participation of representatives of authorities and the industry. In addition to the creation of icebreakers and tankers, there is a need to update the fishing fleet and to build technical and rescue vessels.
ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- What measures is the government taking to support shipbuilding?
- What icebreakers and tankers are needed to support Arctic projects?
- Development of shipbuilding and ship repair in the Arctic regions
- Building of the fishing fleet
- Prospects for the use of LNG for shipping in the Arctic

Sources of Efficiency: Integrated Arctic energy system development

December 6, 2019
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

PANEL SESSION

The energy system plays a special role in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation. Sufficient and uninterrupted energy supplies are necessary for the integrated socio-economic development of the macro-region in extreme climatic conditions. The focal nature of the development of the Arctic territories requires different, distributed energy system architecture. The high cost of delivering fuel to the Arctic zone forces us to switch to alternative energy sources. New technologies and digitalization make it possible to ensure efficient operation of the power system.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- State policy in the field of providing energy to the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation
- Distributed energy: how to provide energy to isolated territories?
- Alternative methods of energy supply to the subjects of the Arctic zone
- Decarbonization: the possibility of using renewable energies in the Russian Arctic
- Reliability of Arctic energy supply: equipment monitoring and control systems
- New ways of generating and storing energy in the Arctic

In extreme conditions: adaptation of equipment and technologies to Arctic conditions

December 6, 2019
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

WORKING SESSION

The development of small and medium-sized enterprises is one of the most important conditions for increasing the attractiveness of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation for life, diversifying the economy of the macroregion, creating new jobs, introducing new technologies. However, currently, business in the Arctic is facing with issues of high cost of resources, low level of development of business support infrastructure, lack of qualified personnel, and lack of sales markets for products.
ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- State programs to support equipment and technologies for the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation
- The main vectors of scientific and technological development in the Arctic
- Mechanisms for supporting projects aimed at import substitution
- Needs and problems of business in the implementation of projects aimed at import substitution
- Industry standards of development of technologies
- Development of new technologies for the modernization of industry in the Arctic
- Creation of testing grounds to test new types of equipment and technologies for work in the Arctic

Building an ecosystem of small and medium enterprises in the Arctic

WORKING SESSION

The success of the development of Arctic projects is largely dependent on technological progress. The cornerstones of technological development are scientific and technological developments and product quality standards. In the framework of the state policy in the field of science and technology, projects, thematically related to the development of materials and technologies for the Arctic, are actively financed.

While developing projects in the Arctic, the unification of technologies and ensuring the accuracy of measurements requires attention, because special characteristics are needed for durability, low temperatures, and equipment safety.

The first step in this work will be the development and implementation of unique “Arctic GOSTs”, as well as creation in the Arctic regions of polygons for testing new types of equipment and technologies for working in the Arctic.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- Creation of small business support infrastructure in the Arctic regions
- Problems and needs of small and medium enterprises in the Arctic regions
- Tax incentives and mechanisms for stimulating investment activity in the Arctic
- Supporting entrepreneurship of indigenous peoples
- The development of social entrepreneurship in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation
- Far-reaching measures to support SMEs in the Arctic
Agriculture and food industry in the Arctic: fisheries, livestock, crop production

WORKING SESSION

The Arctic region has not only the potential to provide environmentally friendly and qualitative products to the local population, but high potential for the export of unique food products.

For the development of the agro-industrial complex of the polar regions, state support measures and new approaches and opportunities are needed, primarily through innovation, creation of territorial clusters for the development of Arctic rural territories and support of traditional industries and small businesses.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- The state and capabilities of the agricultural sector of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation
- Innovative projects and technologies for the development of the agro-industrial complex of the macroregion
- Prospects for Arctic fisheries
- New technologies, projects and solutions for the development of agribusiness in the Arctic regions
- Arctic fisheries: problems and growth points
- Hunting and traditional livelihoods of the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation

Preserving languages of the Indigenous minorities of the North

WORKING SESSION

2019 is declared by the UN as the International Year of Indigenous Languages. The main objective of the events held this year is to raise public awareness about the status of autochthonous languages that are threatened with extinction throughout the world, as well as to establish a connection between language, social development, peaceful existence and conflict resolution.

Each language is a unique repository of information about the ethnic group speaking it and its culture, about its own evolution, as well as about the nature of man as a biological species. Throughout the history of mankind, the birth of some languages and the death of others took place. Recently, however, the process of the languages endangerment is reaching alarming proportions. According to pessimistic scenario, by the end of the 21st century only about 10% of the languages existing today can remain. Therefore, active measures are being taken in order to preserve the linguistic diversity in our country and on the entire planet, as well as diversity of cultures.
ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

State support for preserving linguistic diversity
Documentation and learning of minority languages
The introduction of autochthonous languages in the education system
Best practices for the preservation of the languages of the peoples from North, Siberia and the Far East
Using modern technology to preserve languages

Actual issues of Arctic medicine and human ecology  December 6, 2019
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

PANEL SESSION
A meeting of the public commission of the Association of Polar Explorers in the area of Arctic Medicine will be held within the Section

The socio-economic development of the Arctic and the pace of its development largely depend on the quality of life of both the indigenous population and the visitor who needs acclimatization and adaptation. Northerners, in particular indigenous peoples, have lower life expectancy, higher incidence rates, including common non-communicable diseases.

The specifics of healthcare in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation are determined by the harsh climate, complicated transport accessibility and low population density - in such circumstances, traditional models of medical assistance organization are not effective enough, it is necessary to develop and implement new approaches that fully take into account the specifics of the northern regions.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

State programs of members of the Russian Federation on the development of Arctic medicine
Modernization of existing healthcare institutions and optimization of their network
Actual problems of health care for children and adolescents living in the Russian Arctic
The development of telemedicine and mobile healthcare in the Arctic
New approaches and medical technologies to improve the quality of life of residents of the Russian Arctic
Disease prevention and implementation of healthy lifestyle programmes
Medical support for the activities of sailors, specialists in the oil and gas industry and other persons working in harmful conditions
The development of air ambulance
Medical staffing