

## Unofficial translation

Brief outline of the speech at the Energy  
Charter Conference Meeting  
(Rome, 9 December 2009)

Recent changes on the world energy arena, the emergence of new threats to the stability of energy markets and energy security have put on the agenda the need to significantly improve current regulatory framework of the energy cooperation.

Russia has been consistently advocating creation of a new architecture of energy cooperation that would correspond to the interests of all the parties involved. In 2006, during its presidency in the G8, Russia initiated the adoption of the St-Petersburg Declaration and the Action Plan on global energy security.

In furtherance of these approaches in April 2009 in Helsinki, the Russian President Dmitry Medvedev proposed a conceptual framework for a new international legal instrument, which would cover all aspects of global energy cooperation and would reflect the interests of all stakeholders in a balanced manner.

Russia believes that the system of legal acts in the energy sector should be universal, equal and non-discriminating to all participants of energy cooperation, have an effective mechanism for their implementation, and to provide a procedure to deal with emergency situations in this field. That requires: a clear mechanism for dispute resolution with a preferable possibility of its pre-trial settlement through diplomatic channels, as well as liability of parties responsible for damages caused by their failure to comply with the agreements and transit treaties.

At present the Russian party is finalizing the ‘inventory’ of legal instruments existing in the energy field. Considered is a possibility to update them taking into account current international realities, as well as elaboration of new comprehensive mechanisms taking into full account the whole range of issues related to energy transit and ensuring rights of exporting countries.

We are preparing proposals for giving substance to the new legal framework, on the format of international consultations and negotiations, on the ways and modalities of the development of broad international discussion on the Conceptual Approach. In a rough draft we have prepared a document tentatively entitled “Convention on international energy security” and a treaty on dealing with emergencies in transit of energy materials and products.

At the same time we study the options of platforms for multilateral substantive work on elaborating new international legal tools. Among them there are the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UN-ECE), the International Energy Forum (IEF), and, possibly, the International Energy Agency (IEA).

In Russia’s view, one of those platforms for discussion on improving the international legal framework in the field of energy could be the Energy Charter Conference and its working bodies.

Despite the termination of provisional application of the Energy Charter Treaty (ECT), Russia considers the ECT to be an important multilateral treaty in the energy field.

We are open for proposals and ideas aimed at solving the problem of increasing international energy security, and in the near future we will be ready to start a discussion of these matters. We are grateful to our partners for the readiness they expressed to discuss the substance of our initiatives.