

Summary

The full version of the UN in Russia bulletin in Russian can be found at the UN Internet portal in Russia www.unrussia.ru (Publications and Documents)

UN / Secretary-General's message on the 2015 World Telecommunication and Information Society Day

In his message, Ban Ki-moon emphasizes that, at its 150th anniversary, the International Telecommunication Union has earned its global reputation for resilience and relevance and he applauds the ITU's many contributions as the oldest member in the UN system. The digital revolution has transformed our world. But as we communicate more easily than ever before, we need to be more than connected – we need to be united, Ban Ki-moon says, calling on Member States to work together to harness the power of technology for our common future.

Editorial / Green economy as the planet's future

In late April, Moscow hosted the first official meeting of the BRICS environment ministers. As a meeting participant, Achim Steiner, Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), in his statement, emphasized the effects of the Russian nature on the planet's ecological balance and Russia's contribution to the global efforts aimed at mitigating the adverse impact of climate change. The bulletin contains a brief summary of his statement.

UNDP / Preserving biodiversity in Russia

The Nizhny Bureysk hydro power station in the Amur region is being built as part of the project "Biodiversity Conservation in Russia's Energy Sector Policies and Operations" – a joint endeavor of the UNDP/Global Environment Fund and the Russian Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. The project's implementation has triggered a string of activities aimed at preserving various flora and fauna species which could otherwise be negatively affected by the grid's construction and by the filling of the reservoir with water.

UNDP / Success of UNDP/GEF project in the Komi Republic

The Komi Republic is a unique repository of 14 million hectares of pristine boreal ecosystems, which are part of UNESCO's World Heritage List. To protect its biodiversity, Russia has launched a large-scale UNDP/GEF project "Strengthening Protected Area System of the Komi Republic to Conserve Virgin Forest Biodiversity in the Pechora River Headwaters Region," whose major outcome is the establishment of the Center for Protected Areas.

UN Secretary-General in Moscow for Victory Day

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon paid an official visit to Moscow from 8 to 10 May 2015. He attended official ceremonies marking the 70th anniversary of the Allied victory over Nazi Germany in World War II. Ban's talks with President Vladimir Putin focused, in particular, on the situation in Ukraine and the conflicts in Syria, Iraq and other "hot spots."

ILO / Building the culture of prevention in occupational safety and health – a common responsibility of governments, workers and employers

ILO Deputy Director-General Sandra Polaski attended the First All-Russia Occupational Safety Week, where she highlighted the need to ensure safe and healthy workplaces worldwide. The ILO estimates that occupational accidents and work-related diseases are responsible for 6,300 human deaths every day.

WHO / Experts discuss child safety on the eve of the Third UN Global Road Safety Week

A roundtable to promote the Third United Nations Global Road Safety Week (4–10 May 2015) was organized by the WHO in Moscow on 29 April 2015. On the eve of the Week, the WHO developed "Ten strategies for keeping children safe on the road" to counteract child road safety risk factors.

UNIC / Keeping the memory alive

The student poster competition "Keeping the memory alive" for the European students majoring in arts and design has been held annually since 2012. Through the language of art, young people have reflected their own perception of the tragedy of Holocaust, the Nazis' extermination campaign. In Russia, the students submitted more than 80 entries, and their works were among the five winners.

UNAIDS / «Every Woman, Every Child»

On 10 March 2015, a high-level event "Every Woman, Every Child" was held in New York under the chairmanship of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. The participants discussed progress made by the international community in improving the health situation of women and children. In 2013, nearly 240,000 children were HIV-infected, and more than three out of every 10 women living with HIV did not receive the essential anti-retroviral treatment which prevents transmission of the virus to children.

UNHCR / Integration of Refugees in Russia – what is to be done?

In 2014, Dmitry Poletayev, the chief researcher at the Institute of Economic Forecasting of the Russian Academy of Sciences, conducted a UNHCR-commissioned study on "Opportunities for Integration of Refugees in the Russian Federation". Commenting on the study's findings and recommendations, he stressed the need to develop and amend the bylaws of various departments dealing with refugees, with a view to bringing those instruments in harmony with Russia's federal law on refugees.