

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

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PRESS RELEASE

Russian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Alexander Yakovenko Meets with Peter Smith, UNESCO Assistant Director General for Education

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Talks were held at the Foreign Ministry on March 21 between Alexander Yakovenko, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, and Peter Smith, the Assistant Director General for Education of UNESCO. Also taking part in the meeting were Vladimir Fridlyanov, Deputy Minister of Education and Science of the Russian Federation, and Viktor Shudegov, Chairman of the Science, Culture, Education, Public Health and Ecology Committee of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation.

The conversation's focus was mainly on topical questions of Russian cooperation with UNESCO in the field of education with special emphasis laid on the Organization's global action plan to achieve the goals of Education for All and on an upcoming discussion of education problems as one of the main themes at the G8 summit in St. Petersburg.

The sides spoke for building up active engagement in promoting the education initiative within the G8 framework.

March 21, 2006