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**Remarks by Russian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Alexander Yakovenko at the
Presentation of the Outcome of the First Phase of the Joint Project of the Russian
Federation and UNESCO, 'Support for Rehabilitation and Improvement of Education
System of the Chechen Republic'**

476-28-03-2006

Esteemed ladies and gentlemen,

I am glad to welcome you to the presentation of the outcome of the first phase of the joint project of the Russian Federation and UNESCO, 'Support for Rehabilitation and Improvement of Education System of the Chechen Republic.'

Of particular significance is the presence here of Mr. Yoshiro Mori, Japanese Ambassador Mr. Issei Nomura, and officials from the embassies of Norway and South Korea, the countries that have rendered invaluable support to the project. Let me express gratitude to the governments of these countries for their significant contribution to improving the education system of the Chechen Republic.

I want to stress that this program has been a successful impulse for new positive changes of the educational potential of the republic in several areas at once. Under the project, big work has been carried out to upgrade the Ministry of Education of the Chechen Republic staff and education methods specialists, provide support for the Chechen Institute for Teacher Retraining and supply educational establishments with information and computer technologies. All this together with the great efforts being made by the government of Russia and by the people of our country, beyond any doubt, will help rehabilitate the republic.

In our opinion, the accumulated rich experience in effective training of the teaching staff of the Chechen Republic could be actively used in personnel training under the Education for All program.

In the light of the Japanese government's provision of new financial assistance to create a potential in the psychological, pedagogical and medico-social rehabilitation of schoolchildren and education workers, I would like to call upon the countries which have shown interest in the successful development of the project to share the experience of their similar rehabilitation centers. This would serve as the basis for successful formation of such a center in Chechnya. Moreover, in the future it could be possible to consider the possibility

of creating in our country a network of rehabilitation centers with the use of the work experience of the Chechen center.

Closing by this presentation the first stage of the project, we approach the commencement of its second stage. It will be directed at creating a new modern Chechen State University campus.

Undoubtedly, the soonest re-establishment of Chechen State University on a contemporary basis in accordance with the requirements of scientific and technological progress, oriented on new technologies both in education and in production, will make it possible, on the one hand, in a short space of time to supply the economy of the republic with qualified personnel, and on the other - will solve a most urgent social task for the republic: to ensure the employment of youth.

I hope that today's presentation of the outcome will constitute a striking demonstration of the effectiveness of the assistance for rehabilitating education in the Chechen Republic and will serve as the beginning of a new stage in the project's development.

March 28, 2006