

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION



INFORMATION AND PRESS DEPARTMENT

32/34 Smolenskaya-Sennaya pl., 119200, Moscow G-200; tel.: (495) 244 4119, fax: 244 4112
e-mail: dip@mid.ru_ web-address: www.mid.ru

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PRESS RELEASE

Intergovernmental Meeting in Jakarta on Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network

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On April 11, as part of the sixty-second session of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asian and the Pacific, a special meeting on an Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network took place in Jakarta, Indonesia, at which UNESCAP Executive Secretary Kim Hak-Su officially presented this Agreement.

Russia had from the outset participated in the preparation of this Agreement and submitted for consideration by the session a resolution on this question, which was unanimously approved by the Commission.

UNESCAP attaches special importance to this project spanning 28 countries. The Intergovernmental Agreement is called upon to play the role of a powerful catalyst in the comprehensive development of railway transport in Asia. The regional network already consists of 81,000 kilometers of railway routes of international importance.

The official ceremony for signing the agreement is planned to be held at the APR Ministerial Conference on Transport in the Republic of Korea (Busan, November 6-11, 2006).

April 12, 2006