

Dmitry Medvedev congratulated Miguel Diaz-Canel on his election as President of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers of Cuba

The congratulatory message reads, in part:

“Russia and Cuba are traditionally linked by friendly and partnership relations. I am confident that the further expansion of the entire range of bilateral cooperation and the promotion of joint prospective projects in various fields fully meet the long-term interests of our states. I hope that in your new office you will continue to give priority to the development of Russian-Cuban cooperation as well as coordinated effective work on the government line.”

Russia approves International Telecommunications Union regulations

Radio Regulations are part of the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU). They establish common parameters for using the international radio frequency spectrum and orbital frequency resources for satellites in geostationary orbit and for clutter suppression between radio services. The new version of the Radio Regulations was adopted following the ITU world conferences in Geneva in 2012 and 2015. Submitted by the Ministry of Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation.

Reference

The Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunications Union (hereinafter referred to as the ITU) were adopted by the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 1992 and ratified by Russia in 1995 (Federal Law No. 37 of March 30, 1995). Radio communication regulations are part of the ITU Charter.

Radio Regulations establish common parameters for using the international radio frequency spectrum and orbital frequency resources for satellites in geostationary orbit and for clutter suppression between radio services.

With consideration for the development of modern radio technology, the Regulations were updated at the ITU world conferences in Geneva in 2012 and 2015.

The new version of the regulations corresponds to Russian law and does not require ratification. Russia has endorsed it by written instruction.

This adopted decision meets Russia's interests in the distribution and control of a limited natural resource – the radio frequency spectrum – and will facilitate settlement of issues related to its use in border areas with adjacent states, and will support and protect the national orbital frequency resource.

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Greetings to participants of the 6th Eastern Europe and Central Asia AIDS Conference

Friends,

Welcome to the 6th International Eastern Europe and Central Asia AIDS Conference in Moscow.

This unique discussion platform has brought together over 3,000 delegates from dozens of countries today to discuss important issues related to fighting the HIV infection.

The human immunodeficiency virus is a serious global problem that all countries face. Tens of millions of people live with this disease all over the world. Thanks to the efforts of scientists, the tireless work of doctors, and civil initiatives, there is hope that we can defeat this disease.

Russia consistently addresses this problem and actively works to counter HIV/AIDS. The funding of specialized programmes grows each year, and significant assistance is provided to Eastern European and Central Asian states for fighting this disease.

We have already done a lot, but we must incorporate advanced technology into prevention programmes, upgrade epidemic control, monitor the spread of the HIV virus, improve treatment quality, expand medical and social support for people living with HIV, and, of course, invest in research and development.

I am sure that the conference will give participants an opportunity to share their expertise and skills, and will help them find new solutions for effectively countering the HIV virus.

I wish you success and productive work, as the lives and health of millions of people depend on its results.

Government report on its performance in 2012-2017

“The Government of the Russian Federation < ...> shall submit to the State Duma annual reports on the Government’s performance, including on issues formulated by the State Duma.” (Constitution of the Russian Federation, Article 114, Clause 1, Subclause “a”).

Construction of the North Pole ice-resistant self-propelled platform

The state programme Socioeconomic Development of the Russian Arctic Zone envisions the design and construction of the North Pole ice-resistant self-propelled platform, a floating observatory for environmental research and monitoring, to ensure continuous, comprehensive research in the high latitudes of the Arctic Ocean. The platform is to be put into operation in 2020. The signed documents approve the decision on 2018-2020 budget allocations for design and construction of the platform in the amount of 6,966.6 million roubles. Admiralty Shipyards has been designated as the contractor that will design and build the platform.

Reference

Submitted by the Russian Ministry of Natural Resources.

The Foundations of the State Policy of the Russian Federation in the Arctic to 2020 and Beyond, the Maritime Doctrine of the Russian Federation and the Strategy for the Development of the Arctic Zone of the Russian Federation outline the areas of focus and priorities of Arctic development, including information support to address economic, defence and geopolitical tasks in the Arctic, which requires an increased volume of operational and monitoring data on the condition of the Arctic Ocean.

To support and expand comprehensive scientific research in the high latitudes of the Arctic Ocean, the state programme Socioeconomic *Development* of the Russian Arctic Zone (approved by the Government Resolution No. 1064 of 31 August 2017, hereinafter referred to as the state programme) envisions the design and construction of the North Pole ice-resistant self-propelled

platform (hereinafter – platform), a floating observatory for environmental research and monitoring in the high latitudes of the Arctic Ocean which will accommodate modern laboratory complexes. The launch date for the platform is 2020.

Resolution No. 355 provides for 2018-2020 budget investments in the design and construction of the platform. In accordance with the state programme, budget funds for the design and construction of the platform will total 6,966.6 million roubles (363 million roubles in 2018, 4,325.6 million roubles in 2019, 2,278 million roubles in 2020 год).

Resolution No. 545-r designates Admiralty Shipyards as the contractor to design and build the platform.

Admiralty Shipyards is a key enterprise of the Russian shipbuilding industry. A member of the northwestern shipbuilding cluster, Admiralty has built over 3,000 ships and vessels, including research vessels, icebreakers, tankers, ocean rescue vessels, and submersibles. Its facilities comprise five building berths and a floating dry dock, allowing it to build modern vessels with a deadweight up to 80,000 tonnes.

The purpose of the North Pole Platform is to enhance Russia's presence in the Arctic and its position as the global leader of polar science, as well as to expand the scope of Arctic research.