

**Постоянное
Представительство
Российской Федерации при
Организации
Объединенных
Наций**



**Permanent Mission
of the Russian Federation
to the United Nations**

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STATEMENT
by Mrs. Irina E. OSOKINA,
Deputy Minister of Natural Resources of the Russian Federation,
Head of the Delegation of the Russian Federation
to the Twelfth Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development

April 29, 2004

Mr. Chairman,

The Russian side believes that in the review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the overview of the national efforts is of particular importance because it is at the national level that practical achievements and obstacles encountered are the most evident, and their study could be used by other countries.

In the framework of the implementation of the Johannesburg decisions in the field of water, the Russian Government has developed the National Programme of Action "Development of the water complex of Russia" ("Water of Russia – XXI Century").

The main objective of the Programme is the practical realisation of the concept of integrated water resource management through the co-ordination and integration of all the programmes of development of the Russian Federation in the field of rational use and protection of water resources, restoration of water bodies, and prevention and management of adverse effects of water.

The Programme covers three levels – territorial, basin, and federal. Its implementation will enable the achievement of the WSSD and Millennium Assembly goals on time.

The necessary condition for an effective and environmentally safe functioning and development of the water complex is the development of the required legislative and regulatory framework. It is precisely with this purpose that the Government of Russia has prepared a new version of the Water Code. This document provides for federal ownership of water bodies, the basin principle of management of the use and protection of water resources, and the economic mechanism of the financing of the water sector on the basis of targeted use of the charges for the use of water bodies.

But, Mr. Chairman, based on the basin approach, it is not possible to solve all the problems at the national level only. This is why Russia is interested in the overall development of international co-operation in the use of transboundary waters. As a positive step in this direction we see the adoption of the amendment to the Convention of the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes that enables all countries to accede to it and use its mechanisms for both multilateral and bilateral purposes.

We also support the initiative of Tajikistan on the organisation of an international meeting in Dushanbe on transboundary water co-operation.

Mr. Chairman,

We are confident that the results of our work at CSD-12 will be a good basis for political decisions at the next session of the Commission.

Thank you.