



ISTANBUL TO TAKE THE BATON

Last September Moscow hosted the Third International Conference of mayors cities` diplomacy (the first constituent Conference took place in Paris in 2000, the second was held in 2002 in Athens). At its closing ceremony Istanbul was named as the city to host the fourth Conference



Mayor of Moscow Mr. Luzhkov (to the right) delivers to Mayor of Istanbul Mr. Topbas a Certificate of delegating his authority as the Chairman of the IV Conference of mayors of the world

At the end of February, 2005 a delegation of Istanbul, led by Kadir Topbas, Mayor of Istanbul, visited Moscow at the invitation from Yury Luzhkov, Mayor of Moscow. The aim of the Mayor of Istanbul was two-fold: to get from the Moscow Mayor a Certificate of delegating his authority as the Chairman of the IV Conference of mayors of the world and to get acquainted with the success of Moscow in solving communal problems, especially in winter. Mr. Luzhkov was eager to share with his Turkish counterpart his experience of holding the International mayor conference.

The delegation had a series of talks and meetings on developing all-round cooperation between Moscow and Istanbul. Special attention was paid to street cleaning and snow removal. Istanbul has to struggle with heavy snowfalls that complicate the life of the Turkish megapolis. Moscow traditionally faces it every winter. As Moscow was covered with snow during their visit, the Turkish guests had a chance to examine in detail our technologies of snow cleaning and removal and types of snow cleaning mechanisms. Besides, the delegates showed interest in the technologies of

ozone water treatment and water purifying.

Mr. Luzhkov explained the principles of Moscow municipal management, perspectives of city development and possibilities of investing into it. He named tourism, municipal service and facilities, civil engineering, culture and arts as main directions for cooperation. Mr. Topbas stated that beach recreation is highly developed in Istanbul and its suburbs. In particular, the city government plans to make about 150 km of beaches and to construct new hotels of different class. The Mayor of Istanbul presented the project of building new metro lines. Highly appreciative of unique experience of Moscow specialists, he invited them to visit Istanbul to assist Turkish companies in constructing metro stations.

The delegation visited the Turkish trade center "Arcadia". At the office of a public organization "Russian-Turkish businessmen" the Mayor of Istanbul had a talk with the representatives of Turkish business circles that work in Moscow.

The guests were impressed by the Town Planning Exhibition where Mr. Kuzmin, chairman of Moscow Committee on Architecture, Chief Moscow Architect delivered a speech on the General Plan of Moscow developments, problems of building and transport for the citizens and guests of the capital. The Mayor of Istanbul was highly interested, as he is a professional architect, doctor of science and is well informed as far as history of arts and modern town planning is concerned.

Anna Poteryakhina

MOSCOW – BAVARIA



Partner ties with German towns and regions, in particular, with Bavaria, play a very important role in the system of international relations of the Moscow Government

A Joint Work Committee "Moscow – Bavaria" was set up to solve specific questions of commercial, economic, scientific and technical and investment cooperation, and other questions of mutual interest. Its work has been quite successful. On February, 8th-10th, its fourth session took place in Moscow. Moscow section of the Committee was headed by Mr. Roslyak, first Deputy Mayor of Moscow in Moscow Government. The Germans were led by Mr. Sinner, Bavarian minister for Europe and regional relations of State Office of Bavaria.

It was stressed on the plenary session that partner ties between Moscow and Bavaria continue to develop. They can set a good example of mutually beneficial cooperation between regions of two European countries, one of which belongs to the European Union. In this connection Mr. Sinner reaffirmed his former commitment to present in collaboration with Moscow projects of cooperation between Moscow and Bavaria. This presentation will take place in April, 2005 in the Representation of Bavaria in Brussels and possibly in the Committee of the Regions of European Union. Mr. Roslyak declared his approval of this suggestion.

The Committee paid major attention to the following questions: investments, information technologies and telecommunications, medical equipment, nanotechnologies, traffic management systems, architecture, cultural exchange and exhibitions, scholastic exchanges, public security and law enforcement. During its session the Committee approved the agreement on cooperation in the sphere of bilateral educational projects between Moscow Business School of Moscow Industrial Business and Trade Association (Moscow IBTA) and Academy of Munich Industrial Business and Trade Association, signed on February, 4th, 2005. At present Industrial Business and Trade Association in collaboration with



Munich panorama

Academy of Munich IBTA is preparing a series of drafts of educational and business missions in different spheres of economy in the framework of international project of the Ministry of Finance, Infrastructure, Transport and Technologies of Bavaria.

Both parts have stressed the importance and efficiency of such events as the Days of the Bavarian Economy in Moscow, and the Days of the Moscow Economy in Bavaria. The Committee suggested that the latter should be held every year. Besides, the Bavarian delegation on behalf of the burgomaster of Denkendorf passed to the Mayor of Moscow a proposition to celebrate the 25th anniversary of partnership between Denkendorf and the Presnensky district authority in the first decade of September, 2005, so that it coincides with Moscow Day.

The work of the Committee has proved once more mutual interest of the parties in the constructive cooperation in different spheres, especially in the sphere of newest technologies. Following the results of the IV session of the Joint working committee "Moscow-Bavaria" a Communique was signed. It stresses the importance of further elaboration of the following projects: Atlas of the technologies, following the realization of joint Moscow-Bavarian projects in the sphere of higher technologies; reconstruction of the Vnukovo Airport; the "Lefortovo" competition for the architects; Electronic Moscow; establishing contacts between schools; law enforcement and security assurance while staging public events; environ-

mental protection; cooperation in the field of agriculture.

During its stay in Moscow the Bavarian delegation held a series of important meetings in the Moscow Government and the city administration bodies. The negotiations were conducted with the Food Resources Department, Nature Management and Environmental protection Department; Support and Development of Small-scale businesses, and GUVD (City Department of Internal Affairs) of Moscow.

The German guests visited the building complex of Moscow. They went to the Moscow City Planning Exhibition, inspected a number of newly constructed sites and sites under construction; the Cathedral of Christ the Savior, the Gostiny Dvor shopping center, the large Sports Arena in Luzhniki, pedestrian bridges on the Frunzenskaya quay, and "Bagration", and they also visited the construction site of "Moscow-City".

The delegation met with Mr. Shantsev, Vice-mayor of Moscow. An objective and informative discussion was held on the status and the perspectives of partner ties between Moscow and Bavaria. The Vice-mayor told Sinner and his colleagues about Moscow's bid for the right to host 2012 Olympic Games, the "Olympic River" Concept, construction of new hotels, sport complexes and other Olympic sites. He also stressed that Moscow has unique possibilities for hosting Olympic games at the highest level.

The next session of the Joint Working Committee "Moscow-Bavaria" will take place in Munich in 2006.

Evguenij Gryaznov

DAYS OF MOSCOW IN VIENTIANE

V. Diachkov



Vice-mayor V. P. Shantsev

For the first time in the history of Russian-Lao relations, the Days of Moscow are celebrated in Vientiane, the capital of the Lao People's Republic. The delegation of the Moscow Government, led by Mr Shantsev, Vice-mayor of Moscow, consisted not only of the officials, but of businessmen and artists

As a rule the Days of Moscow in capitals of other countries include an official, business part and a diverse culture program. This time the event was structured in the same way.

The delegation of the Moscow Government conducted talks with Mr. Thammavong, Mayor of Vientiane, and met Mr. Lengsavat, deputy Prime Minister of the republic of Mirindel, and Mr. Sisulith, Chairman of the State Planning Department. During the negotiations Mr. Shantsev informed his Lao partners that Moscow intends to host the 2012 summer Olympic Games and introduced to them the "Olympic River" concept.

The round-table discussion between Russian specialists and businessmen and their Lao counterparts was very important in terms of developing trade and economy ties between Moscow and Vientiane. The Russian part was represented by 22 companies and organizations from Moscow, Kaliningrad and Kostroma regions. Our Lao partners got acquainted with the newest projects of Russian enterprises. Special attention was paid to the chemical sources of electric power for autonomous power supply systems (presented by Moscow Aviation Institute), new technologies in pisciculture (presented by Fisheries and Oceanography Research Institute) and the production of flour.

Moscow businessmen were received with deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Industry and crafts, director of Lao Power company, vice-president of Lao National Tourism and Travel Administration. In the course of these meetings the Vice-mayor of Moscow reiterated his readiness to work on the projects of building a waste recycling factory. The parties also agreed on establishing tourism ties. Mr. Shantsev suggested that Moscow-Vientiane flights are organized from



Vientiane market to expect Russian goods

the reconstructed airport of Vnukovo. The program of The Days of Moscow included a gala performance of artists, a photo-exhibition "Moscow. A portrait of the capital" and screenings of Russian feature and animation films. Mr. Shantsev met with the graduates of Soviet and Russian institutes in the National University. More than 300 persons were present. He also donated new books of Russian publishers to the libraries of Vientiane. The Days of Moscow were largely covered by Lao mass media and were highly appreciated by the public. They became a remarkable event in strengthening and developing Russian-Lao relations that transgress the limits of inter-municipal ties.

Aleksey Meshkov

CHRONICLE

- February 20 - February 24, Mr Silaev, deputy head of the department of International relations of Moscow, was on a visit in South Ossetia (Georgia). In the course of this trip group of Russian peace-keeping forces received presents from the Moscow Government.
- February 22 - February 24, a delegation of the Moscow Government, headed by Mr. Shantsev, Vice-mayor of Moscow, visited Bangkok to hold negotiations on cooperation with the Administration of Bangkok. During their meeting with A. Kosayodhin, governor of Bangkok, questions of broadening bilateral relations were discussed.
- February 22 - February 24, Aristide Kalogeropoulos-Stratis, head of the the Hellenic Association of Tourist and Travel Agencies (HATT), was on a trip to Moscow to hold negotiations on developing relations in the sphere of tourism between Moscow and Greece. An accord on cooperation between the Moscow Government and the HATT was signed.
- February 24 - February 27, a delegation of the Moscow Government visited the Republic of Tajikistan to render humanitarian aid to Russian military servants and their families. During the trip a program of cooperation 2005-2007 between the Moscow Government and the Russian military base in the Republic of Tajikistan was signed.

HOLIDAY INN OPENED ON LESNAYA STREET



V. Vlassov

The hotel Holiday Inn is opened in the heart of Moscow on Lesnaya street near the Belorusskaja metro station in the beginning of March.

"The construction was carried out in close contact with the Government of Moscow," said Vasily Moroz, General director of joint-stock company "Mospromstroj" on the opening ceremony.

He also stressed the fact that the city administration speeds up the construction of a series of hotels, which are strategically important to Moscow. Mr. Ordzhonikidze, Deputy Mayor of Moscow in Moscow Government, highly appreciated the work of Mospromstroj. "Mospromstroj has kept his promise, and proved it can build," he also said. "I believe, this hotel has great future open to him: it is situated in a good place, it is open with a perfect timing, while middle hotels construction is booming in Moscow," said Peter Wermeer, Vice-president on development of business in Europe of the company Intercontinental that owns the Holiday Inn brand.

In the new twelve-store hotel there are 301 rooms, a conference hall, restaurant, bar, mini-sports hall. A standard number is about 250 dollars a day, a luxury suite is about 300. At present Moscow hotels can host over 60 thousand guests. By 2006, this number is planned to rise up to 110-130 thousand places, and by 2010, up to 180-200 thousands.

Government of Moscow,
International Relations Department
Address: 13, Tverskaya str., Moscow, 125032
Tel.: 725-0482, 299-7951
Fax: 200-1365
<http://www.moskvaimir.mos.ru/dms>
e-mail: dms@mos.ru

MOSCOW 2012 FLAG TO BE PUT UP IN THE ANTARCTIC

Celestial Odyssey youth expedition has set up for the Antarctic to support Moscow bid of hosting the 2012 Olympic Games. Its final destination is the Antarctic where the participants of the expedition will plant a flag of the Moscow Olympic Bid Committee "Moscow 2012". Thus they will support Moscow in its competition as a candidature for the right to host XXX Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012. Besides, the participants have taken twenty rolls of red ribbons to form the words Mir (Peace) and Moscow-2012 on Antarctic snow in huge letters. The South Pole will also stage a 2012-meter race, a mini-Marathon in the Antarctic. The expedition consists of young peo-

ple aged between 13 and 20 and coming from different towns of Russia:

Moscow, Grozny, Mineralnye Vody, Pyatigorsk, Murmansk. The children have undergone difficult elimination tests in the Cosmonaut Training Center and even climbed the Elbrus, to take part in the expedition. Six of them who showed the best results during the training period, won the right to participate in Celestial Odyssey.



BATTLEFIELD CARS TO PARADE THROUGH THE RED SQUARE



I. Prokoshchev

During the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic war from April 14 to June 24, Moscow will host more than five thousand events. The preparation works for this large-scale celebration are almost finished.

The Moscow Government has promised to make the solemn program especially entertaining, taking into

consideration that the Victory jubilee coincides with the 40th anniversary of Moscow's honorary status as a city-hero. Taking into account that 80 foreign delegations are supposed to come, the congratulations to the vanquishers on the festive placates will be made in Russian and English.

The Poklonnaya Gora, the Luzhniki stadium, the square of the Belorusski Station and all the central parks of the city will host the majority of the actions. The culmination point of the jubilee celebration will be the parade on the Red Square, in which more than two thousand veterans will take place. All of them will receive commemorative souvenirs and personal certificates of the participants of the parade. Meanwhile the ZIL factory is re-equipping 140 cars in the style of war-time "ZIS-5" trucks. The veterans will pass in them through the Red Square.

Moscow will also host the second, final parade. Thousands of veterans from all the corners of CIS side by side with young cadets will march through the Red Square. Mr. Luzhkov, Mayor of Moscow, invited them to the capital. He believes that on this memorable year not a single veteran of the Great Patriotic war should be forgotten. In this connection it was decided to stage a series of commemorative events, devoted to the days of war fame. The main event is the "Train of Memory" program. From Moscow to Saint-Petersburg, Kaliningrad and Volgograd several trains will travel, carrying veterans and representatives of youth organizations. This action will end up in Berlin where the train of memory will bring 70 veterans, those who conquered Berlin in May, 1945.

