Protocol of the Meeting of the Co-Chairmen of the Working Group on Innovation of the Joint Economic Commission (JEC) between the Russian Federation and the Netherlands 18 June 2015, Saint Petersburg

On behalf of the Russian side, Mr Artem Shadrin welcomed all participants and opened the plenary meeting.

ITMO University welcomed the Dutch and Russian parties at its premises and presented the University in brief. With a strong industrial basis and a focus in optical systems and telecommunications, ITMO is one of twenty-six National Research Universities in The Russian Federation. It strives to be in the international top league (5Top100). ITMO collaborates intensively with TU Delft (optical systems) and University of Amsterdam (computational science). Its labs for optical systems and nanotechnology are well-developed. One of the key directions in research is IT (smart nets, quantum computing, cloud computing, signal processing).

Rusnano FIEP (Fund for Infrastructure and Educational Programs) presented a brief overview of the nanotechnology sector in the Russian Federation, with 12 'nanocentres' active since 2011. Its investment strategy is targeted at niches, a commercial perspective is always required, early stage start-up is included. Collaboration with the Netherlands started 5 years ago, with ASML, and nowadays Rusnano is active in Eindhoven, Amsterdam/Petten and Arnhem/Apeldoorn. Solartek, consortium of six Russian nanocentres, recently became an industrial partner of Solliance. The aim is to contribute to the disruptive platform of new photovoltaics, followed by the transfer of new technologies to the Russian market before 2020. To this end a 'Russian Hub' is foreseen to be established at Eindhoven High-Tech Campus.

Parties agreed that the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs will connect with Solliance partners VDL and DSM, addressing the effective introduction of technologies to the Russian market.

Association of Innovative Regions of Russia (AIRR) introduced an overview of the collaboration between the Republic of Tatarstan and the Netherlands. The co-operation evolves around health care, ever since the representatives of the Dutch and the Republic of Tatarstan Ministries of Healthcare met in 2013. The Dutch Task Force Health Care, consisting of leading research institutions and companies in many fields of life science related technologies, is working closely with the Republic of Tatarstan Ministry of Health, R&D institutions and companies. A recent mission to the Netherlands, headed by the Republic of Tatarstan Minister of Health, will be followed up in Kazan in 2015 during the Health Industry Forum (14-16 Oct 2015). New cooperations are that of EIDOS (Kazan) and Epona (Rotterdam) regarding simulated training solutions in medicine, and a pilot project by Philips on the monitoring of students' health in Innopolis.

Parties stated an explicit interest in the best practices examples of the new projects. AIRR will provide detailed information.

A tripartite presentation was given on the Mapper business case, by Rusnano FIEP, Mapper Moscow and the Netherlands Ministry of Economic Affairs. The Mapper business case is situated in a transition phase, where a traditional managerial economy transitions into an entrepreneurial economy, implying many financial risks and constraints. In this complex environment, the Mapper company seems to successfully develop from a start-up into a medium sized company. In Russia, Mapper Moscow will play a significant role as a future competence center for the Russian nanotech-ecosystem. Lastly, attention was drawn to the project's HR and facilities management, resulting in exclusively high-tech research and manufacturing facilities in Moscow and a team of excellent young Russian scientists running these facilities.

Parties concluded that the Mapper project is interesting and agreed parties follow and support the project in stages to come.

Concluding remarks

Parties proposed that the following initiatives, activities and events will be further developed into concrete ideas and projects for continued collaboration:

- The Russian side proposed that the initiative 'Get in The Ring', aimed to connect Russian startup companies to a worldwide startup competition, will be elaborated by Skolkovo Foundation and Dutch startup Get In The Ring (Erasmus University Rotterdam). If feasible a project will be proposed.
- RVC expressed interest to continue working on technology transfer, i.e. joint venture projects, investment in startups and other startup support, with a focus on IT and biotechnology. Together with the Dutch side a proposition for concrete possibilities will be elaborated.
- 3. Both sides will together actively investigate the opportunities for collaboration in the IT-sector, using (Smart Cities) events in The Netherlands as a platform. A business mission to the Netherlands will be considered in the second half of 2015.
- 4. With reference to the direction for agriculture being built up by Skolkovo Innovation Center and the Ministry of Agriculture, both sides will together actively investigate the opportunities for collaboration in the field of innovative agriculture/biotechnology. Netherlands expertise from specialised technoparks is much welcomed. A project will likely be proposed.
- 5. The Dutch side proposed to elaborate an approach for collaboration in regions with RVC and AIRR, following priorities of the Russian Federation in the development of high-tech industrial clusters. The existing projects in healthcare between the Republic of Tatarstan and the Netherlands will be used as an example.
- 6. The Dutch side will inform and invite the Russian side to the events in the field of innovation, science and technology during the Dutch EU-presidency during the first half of 2016, invite for and propose joint activities.
- 7. Other ideas to be further developed by both parties: the Netherlands serving as a hub for the European/International expansion of Russian SME's; Dutch SME's in "the missing middle" interesting for Russian Venture Capital; Dutch Torrefaction technology used for the transfer of Russian biomass into black pellets.

Lastly, both parties invited interested parties from Russia and The Netherlands to forthcoming events, namely,

- Open Innovations Forum and Technology Show 'Humanity in the Center of the Technological Revolution', held in Moscow, 28 October 1 November 2015, opportunity for business matchmaking
- The Innovation Estafette, held in the Netherlands on April 14, 2016, Dutch nation-wide triple helix event showcasing the Dutch view on and experiences with 'Cities of the Future'

For the Russian party

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