

Northwest Russia: Facts and Events

Newsletter by the Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg

Issue 97 2008, week 18

XII St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, 6-8 June



On 6-8 June 2008 the XII St. Petersburg International Economic Forum will take place. Conducted under the auspices and with participation of the President of the Russian Federation, the Forum annually gathers world leaders to discuss issues of current importance faced by Russia and the world community. Traditional participants of the Forum are presidents, prime ministers, heads of parliaments, and ministers of a number of countries, as well as the international business elite, editors-in-chief of the biggest world mass media and other newsmakers.

The Forum will be opened on 6 June by a concert at the Palace Square. The second day of the Forum is called the *International Day* and will include plenary sessions, conferences and round-table discussions on the issues of global economy. The third day is the *Russian Day*, and it will be dedicated to the matters of the Russian economic development. The programme also includes two events organized under the auspices of the XII St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, namely the

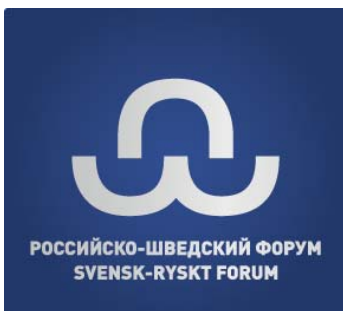
Session of the Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs of the Russian Federation and the European Union; and the Russian-American round table "Strategic partnership between Russia and the USA in the economic area".



Source: XII St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, www.forumspb.com/eng

Photos: www.interpress.ru

Russian-Swedish Forum, 10-11 June



On 10-11 June 2008 the the Russian-Swedish Forum will take place in St. Petersburg

By the end of 2008, the Swedish national financial support of Russian-Swedish projects, provided by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency SIDA, is to be phased out. The Russian-Swedish Forum will be therefore devoted to discussion of the fifteen-year cooperation between Sweden and Russia, prospects for the future, as well as experience exchange in such areas of collaboration as environmental protection, social and health care, democracy and human rights.

High representatives of the Russian and Swedish Governments, EU representatives and other international actors, as well as hundreds of Russian and Swedish cooperation partners will participate in the event. The Forum will be inaugurated by the Minister for International Development Cooperation of Sweden, Gunilla Carlsson.

The Russian-Swedish Forum is an opportunity for hundreds of project owners and other stakeholders to meet with the purpose of sharing experiences and discussing formats and orientation of future mutual cooperation.

The Russian-Swedish Forum is organized by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency SIDA and the Consulate General of Sweden in St. Petersburg with the support of the Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg and Swedish Institute of Public Administration, in collaboration with regional governments of the Northwest Russia.

Source: Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg, e-mail: stockholm.office@stockholm.spb.ru

Conference “Professional Cleaning in Medical Institutions: Problems, Trends and Prospects”

On 28 March a practical conference “Professional Cleaning in Medical Institutions: Problems, Trends and Prospects” took place in St. Petersburg at the premises of Children’s Hospital № 5. The purpose of the conference was to demonstrate available experience of professional cleaning of medical establishments, to involve the experience of Finnish colleagues and to work out a plan of activities aiming at application of new cleaning methods in medical and prophylactic institutions. The Conference was organized by the Regional Association of Managers in Medical Service.

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Sunday Salon at the Danish Cultural Institute



On April 27, the connoisseurs and lovers of classical music gathered at the Danish Cultural Institute to hear the romances and piano works of Otto Dütsch (1823-1863), Danish-born composer, conductor, organist, and professor of the St. Petersburg Conservatory.

Otto Dütsch came to St. Petersburg in 1848. He gained fame as an orchestra conductor of promenade concerts in Pavlovsk and Polustrovo. His opera “The Croatian Girl” was staged in the Mariinsky Theater in 1860, while his romances and piano pieces were often performed at music salons of that time.

Lately, Otto Dütsch’s heritage was largely forgotten, and the Danish-Russian cultural salon presented the opportunity for the audience to become reacquainted with the composer’s works. They were performed by Dmitry Darov, soloist of the Mikhailovsky Theater, Vyacheslav Ignatovich and Natalya Soboleva, soloist and concert accompanist of the Mariinsky Academy of Young Singers respectively.

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Photo: Danish Cultural Institute

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