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SPIEF 2015 Programme Architecture

## SPIEF 2015 Forum Theme: 'Time to Act: Shared Paths to Stability and Growth'

The 19<sup>th</sup> St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF) will once again bring together heads of states and governments, political leaders, CEOs and senior executives of major Russian and international companies, leading experts, representatives of Russian federal and regional authorities, media representatives as well as government delegations from key economies on June 18–20, 2015. The theme of this year's Forum will be **Time to Act: Shared Paths to Stability and Growth.** 

The business programme will be marked by a variety of international events and formats. St. Petersburg has been chosen as the platform for key international events of this year's business agenda: the SCO and BRICS Business Forums and the G20 Advisory Forum. The Forum will include an Energy Summit with the heads of energy companies, a Media Summit, and a Young Leaders Forum. There will also be a session of the Valdai Club Session, the first of its kind to ever take place at SPIEF. New formats such as SPIEF DEBATE will be coupled with traditional panel discussions, briefings, TV debates, arena debates, seminars, country-specific round tables, business breakfasts, 'Conversations with the Extraordinary', and the Global Energy and Development Prize awards ceremonies – which taken together promise to create a rich and engaging platform for the exchange of ideas and insights on some of the most pressing issues confronting global economics and business.

The discussions will cover four main topics of the programme:

# • GLOBAL ECONOMY: NEW CHALLENGES AND SHIFTING HORIZONS

Sessions on this topic include: the challenges facing the global economy and financial system; current integration processes and collaboration between integration associations and the oil, gas and energy industries; international trade; global infrastructural projects, geopolitics and others.

### RUSSIA: SEIZING THE OPPORTUNITIES

This group of sessions features discussions and presentations dedicated to Russian industrial policy, structural reforms, crisis management measures, the shift to domestic sources of capital, monetary policy, regional development and continued steps to improve the Russian investment environment. The programme also includes a presentation of the National Investment Climate Rating of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, as well as deep-dive sessions on key growth sectors for the Russian economy.

#### • HUMAN CAPITAL AND TALENT DEVELOPMENT

These sessions are dedicated to examining how talent can best be nurtured to meet the needs of changing societies, reforms undertaken in education systems and how such changes can better correspond to the needs of business; balancing human resources, effective immigration policy, the impact of aging global populations on economies, the modernization of healthcare, social responsibility and philanthropy.

## • DISRUPTORS: TRENDS AND TECHNOLOGIES

These sessions cover issues ranging from technology transfer, intellectual property and personal data protection to the development of efficient cyber security systems, and what spurs transformative innovations.

The SPIEF agenda is developed with the input from leading business, economics and finance figures; Russian and international media leaders; representatives of professional business associations and think tanks; and prominent government figures, scientists and experts the world over.

Detailed information about the Forum is available at the official website www.forumspb.com.

#### For reference:

The St. Petersburg International Economic Forum annually brings together CEOs and top managers of major Russian and international companies, heads of state and governments, political leaders, global experts, representatives of federal and regional authorities, and official delegations from the world's key regions. In the last five years, the following world leaders have participated in SPIEF events and activities: Hu Jintao, former President of China; Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany; Mark Rutte, Prime Minister of the Netherlands; José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, Prime Minister of Spain; Finnish Presidents Tarja Halonen and Sauli Niinistö; Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of Kazakhstan; Serzh Sargsyan, President of Armenia; Gjorge Ivanov, President of Macedonia; Nicolas Sarkozy, former President of France; Mahinda Rajapaksa, President of Sri Lanka; Yves Leterme, former Prime Minister of Belgium; Borut Pahor, former Prime Minister of Slovenia; and Raila Amolo Odinga, former Prime Minister of Kenya. Key news-makers and world experts such as Henry Kissinger, Lloyd Blankfein, Eric Schmidt, Daniel Yergin, Jim O'Neill, George Magnus, Maria van der Hoeven, Yu Yongding, Gérard Lopez, Daniel Akerson, and many others have presented at the Forum.