



**THE EMBASSY OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
IN THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA**

PRESS RELEASE

December 19, 2023

ON THE MEETING OF THE CO-CHAIRS OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL RUSSIAN-ETHIOPIAN COMMISSION ON ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TRADE COOPERATION

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On December 19, 2023, a meeting was held between the Co-Chairs of the Intergovernmental Russian-Ethiopian Commission on Economic, Scientific, Technical and Trade Cooperation – H.E. Mr. Evgeny Petrov, Head of the Federal Agency for Mineral Resources of the Russian Federation, and H.E. Dr. Belete Molla, Minister of Innovation and Technology of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

The agenda of the meeting included issues related to bilateral trade, the development of the legal framework of Russian-Ethiopian cooperation in the spheres of energy, finance, banking, science, education, geology, industry, technology and others.

During their opening remarks, the Co-Chairs commended the current level of interaction between Russia and Ethiopia, highlighting the long-lasting friendship and solid spiritual and cultural bonds between the two countries. The Co-Chairs emphasized the need to realize the full potential of economic and investment bilateral cooperation. The parties expressed unwavering commitment to working together in areas of mutual interest, noting that the countries' shared vision and mutual trust constitute a strong foundation for the multifaceted enhancement of Russian-Ethiopian relations.

H.E. Mr. Evgeny Petrov and H.E. Dr. Belete Molla also chaired a discussion on Russian-Ethiopian cooperation with participation of experts and senior officials of the states' ministries and agencies, as well as private businesses. Different aspects of the countries' interaction, including in the spheres of nuclear energy, transport, ICT, education and science, were discussed.

As a result of the meeting, the parties signed the Joint Statement, stating the crucial role of the Commission as an instrument for the strengthening of bilateral relations and setting out steps to be taken to sign documents under consideration and implement the agreements reached at the meeting. The Joint Statement emphasizes the importance to expand cooperation in a wide range of areas – energy, banking, finance, geology and subsoil use, industry, technology, healthcare, education and science.