

APEC: HISTORY, CONSTRUCTION PROBLEMS AND DECISIONS

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Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) is a forum for 21 Pacific Rim countries to cooperate on regional trade and investment liberalization and facilitation. APEC's objective is to enhance economic growth and prosperity in the region and to strengthen the Asia-Pacific community.

In January 1989, Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke called for more effective economic cooperation across the Pacific region. This led to the first meeting of APEC in the Australian capital Canberra in November. Attended by political ministers from twelve countries, the meeting concluded with commitments for future annual meetings in Singapore and South Korea. Members account for approximately 40% of the world's population, approximately 54% of world GDP and about 44% of world trade. According to the organization it is "the premier forum for facilitating economic growth, cooperation, trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific region".

During the meeting in 1994 in Bogor, Indonesia, APEC Leaders adopted the Bogor Goals that aim for free and open trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific by 2010 for industrialized economies and by 2020 for developing economies.

In January 2007, former president Putin visited Vladivostok to participate in a meeting regarding Russia's upcoming annual presidency of APEC.

In February 2009, Governor Darkin announced that the general plan of the city development would incorporate summit preparation activities, and that hosting the summit is not a goal itself but rather a tool to strengthen Russia's positions in the Asia-Pacific region.

The construction projects were to include the building of bridges across the Golden Horn Bay and to Russky Island. Construction of these two bridges will provide reliable transport connection between the city districts and with regional highway system as well as will allow to modernize the transport scheme. The construction project also includes new roads, modern hotels, a Theater of Opera and Ballet, and overall improvements of the city's infrastructure.

The APEC Russia 2012 summit will be the twenty-fourth annual gathering of APEC leaders. Leaders from the member countries will meet on Rusky Island, off the coast of Vladivostok in new international conference-center with the capacity of up to 7 thousand seats. The summit on Russky Island will see the building of resorts, dinner and entertainment facilities, in addition to the renovation and upgrading of Vladivostok International Airport.

The first problem is: for lack of money for APEC construction the budget means for social services are limited.

We consider that the decision of the problem is to ask the Russian government to give additional financing for building important strategic objects from the federal budget.

There is another problem. Because of the lack of highly qualified specialists in the sphere of building and bridge construction the whole process may be delayed. We consider that the employers should pay attention to the hiring necessary employees from the other regions of Russian Federation having experience and skills in the field of building objects of this kind.

So we would say that the main benefit of APEC is free and open trade and investment that helps economy to grow.