

International Economic Alliance

9th Annual US-Russian Investment Symposium
November 1, 2nd Boston, MA. 2005
Russia and the US: Partners in the World Economy



12 Francis Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138
Phone: 617-359-5711
Fax: 617-812-0499

www.IEAlliance.org

To take advantage of the expertise and unique perspectives of leaders who participate in the Symposium, the IEA organized a special interactive lunch on Day One of the multi-session program. This discussion framework was designed in collaboration with professors from Harvard Business School to leverage the insights of top business, government, and finance executives at the Symposium and develop a working paper on innovative methods for increasing trade and investment between Russia and the U.S. We are opening up the results of this discussion to the public in a consolidated 16 Point Proposal. Please note: these points are in no particular order and do not necessarily constitute the views of companies or institutions that may have been represented in the discussion.

16 recommendations for improving bilateral trade and investment:

1. Graduate Russia from the Jackson-Vanik system of trade restrictions
2. Induce corporate involvement in “Judicial Exchanges”
3. Reduce bureaucratic “red tape” for SME’s
4. Accelerate Russia’s accession to the WTO
5. Connect Russia better to international financial community (IPO’s, ADR)
6. Simplify travel and work parameters bilaterally (visas/work permits etc.)
7. Devote “technical assistance” to the area of banking/finance
8. Energy- Arrange longer-term supply contracts to increase FDI; pursue technical cooperation on alternative energy sources such as *hydrogen*
9. IT - Commercialize high tech advancements by creating a fund with cooperation of the private sector
10. Set up a bilateral fund for government-to-government exchanges focusing on improving policy development and implementation
11. Promote Russian success stories duly in the U.S. media
12. Reduce business-related taxes
13. Organize more trade missions with participation at the senior political level
14. Support exchange scholarships for professionals including the creation of a soft-loan window
15. Provide support for the diversification of trade and investment interests to include services and technology
16. Increase tourism between both countries to foster more cultural understanding