

The Urals is a powerful industrial region with a richest industrial and cultural heritage, a large experience of survival in the extreme conditions of radiation and technogenic pollution.

It became clear that further development of the Region must be based on the strategy, providing for a balanced solution of social and economic tasks, preservation of a favourable state of environment and natural resources potential in the interest of the present and future generations.

Assuming that without its heritage the people is doomed to a physical and mental degradation, and mankind as a whole — to a loss of a biological and ethnic diversity, and in the long run, to extinction, — participants consider that it is necessary:

- to revive and assimilate natural and cultural heritage of the Urals as one whole and a world property (implementation of the Convention on Preservation of World Cultural and Natural Heritage), including it into the list of World heritage;

- with the aim of generalizing world experience of helping territories with an extreme ecological situation out of crisis and rendering such a help to industrial centres of the Urals, — to establish in the Urals a World Ecological Centre;

- to carry out scientific, educational, cultural work which contributes to turning of mass technocratic consciousness into a systematic ecological thinking;

- to accumulate and use a psychological experience of survival in the extreme ecological conditions of the Urals, to use the experience of the Ural UNESCO clubs.

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ECOLOGY: SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE AND PUBLIC MENTALITY

The word «ecology» is very popular now, with its meaning being different for different audience. For scientists, ecology is clearly defined as the branch of biological sciences, whereas for unprofessional public it usually means just the level of environmental pollution, or studying only hygienic aspects of the state of environment at the best. Thus, dangerous discrepancy between common perception of ecology and the results obtained by ecological sciences have appeared. The cause for this discrepancy is underestimation of the core

component of ecological sciences, i.e. studying living systems as the most important part of any natural complex.

For instance, the most important idea of the constant, and accelerating development of the biosphere (i.e. evolution) follows the biological kernel of ecology. That is why orientation to some steady state (that is masked by the euphemism «sustainable development») seems to be quite Utopian. Knowledge obtained by ecology during the past decades still has very few common points with impressions, predominating in the society (including the level of political decisions), but it really gives the ground for speaking about serious problems, arising before the mankind.

In spite of tremendous activity of different public (green) movements, these often being headed by cultural figures, their imagination of ecological problems is still restricted by quite naive notices, with predominantly emotional perception. On the other hand, ethical and esthetic aspects of inter-relations between humans and other components of the biosphere («nature») are extremely important for the most profound perception of the problems of biospheric interactions by the public mentality. This would require changes of the anthropocentric outlook (including ethical and esthetic standards) onto the biospheric one, that does not oppose humanity to other nature. To form this new outlook, scientists should work side by side with figures of culture, active members of green movements, and educationalists. An example of such cooperation is the INTAS project (94-4377), where scientist from the Urals work together with representatives of academic science, education, and public movements from Russia, Great Britain, Belgium, and Spain

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LAW AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ISSUES IN INDUSTRY

Further industrial development should be based on the strategy of stable development which can secure best-balanced tackling of social and economic issues, and preserving of favorable state of environment and of natural and mineral resources potential in the interests of the current and coming generations.