



June 8, 2015

To the Mid-Atlantic –Russia Business Council

On behalf of the Office of International Business Development of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I would like to express our support for the 20th Annual Eurasian/Russian-American Innovation Technology Weeks (RANIT) being hosted by the Mid-Atlantic Business Council. The 20th RANIT event will be held from June 11-26, 2015.

RANIT is the premier event in the Mid-Atlantic region dedicated to Eurasian/Russia-American technology cooperation, playing a vital role in fostering trade relations between Commonwealth and Eurasian/Russia businesses since its inception in 2003. RANIT represents the culmination of 19 years of effort and events hosted by the Council to encourage Eurasian/Russian-American technology cooperation. I am pleased to report a number of Pennsylvania companies that participated in earlier RANIT events are now developing relationships with Eurasian/Russian firms and organizations. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania strongly supports the ultimate goal of RANIT: to enable companies based in the U.S. Mid-Atlantic region to enhance their positions in Eurasia/ Russia and to attract Eurasian/Russian businesses to the U.S. Mid-Atlantic region.

As has traditionally been the pivotal focal point during each Spring RANIT, the focus of the 20th RANIT week will be biotechnology, pharmaceutical industry, medical equipment, and life sciences with many sessions devoted to innovations. The 20th RANIT will also include discussions on policy changes that have come as a result of the “Comprehensive Program of Biotechnology Development in Russia to 2020” as well as Russia’s entry into the WTO in August 2012 and its effect on the Russian-American Partnership in the life sciences industry.

Our office is also proud to support Days of Eurasian-American Innovation Entrepreneurship Cooperation (RAVC 2015) which will be held in Philadelphia on October 28-November 4, 2015. RAVC events will include a roundtable at the International Incubator at the Science Center, featuring presentations by company residents, including the first Russian company with an office at the University City Science Center.

The goal of the Office of International Business Development is to foster international trade and investment in Pennsylvania. Enhancing Pennsylvania-Eurasian/Russian bilateral trade and investment is a priority for us. We are proud to support RANIT and we applaud the efforts of Mid-Atlantic Eurasia Business Council to foster commercial and technological relations between the Commonwealth and Eurasia.

Sincerely,

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