

Committee: UNCSTD

Agenda Item: The Role Of Technology In Combating The Climate Crisis

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Country: Russia

Technology is crucial for Russia to combat the climate crisis because the country faces unique climate risks that cannot be solved without modern technological tools. Russia is warming 2.5 times faster than the global average. It causes wildfires, floods and extreme weather, forest die-offs etc. Human effort alone is impossible to manage the problems. Only technology like satellites, AI mapping, and automated sensors can manage the problems the climate change causes. At the same time, Russia is such a huge country that trying to track all these changes without advanced tools is nearly impossible. Technology helps the government see what's happening in real time, protecting both people and the environment. As climate impacts get stronger each year, these tools aren't just helpful, they have become important for keeping the country safe.

In the early 1900s the idea that human activity could change the climate was planted, but it wasn't a political issue yet. There were more important issues than climate change. After 50 years, recognition of the problem started slowly. Climate change started becoming an international concern. In the 2000s, the world began shifting toward technological and policy solutions. In 2015 nearly every country signed the Paris Agreement, which was a global deal to limit warming to 1.5-2°C, and with that agreement, Paris became the most important global climate framework. In recent years, the climate crisis is now one of the most important global political, economic, and scientific issues. Russia is one of the world's most climate-vulnerable countries because its territory contains huge amounts of forests, frozen land and long coast lines. As geographic impacts, warming 2.5 times faster in Russia causes rapid environmental changes. As economic impacts, new costs appear, repairing damaged infrastructure, disaster response and adapting industries. Global energy transition means demand for fuels may decrease Russia's income. So, the climate crisis puts pressure on Russia's long-term stability. As social impacts there are health risks. The risks increase because of heat waves, smoke from wildfires and polluted air. Also food prices and infrastructure problems affect households across the country. As political, climate impacts force the government to rethink military bases and energy strategies. And also, politically, climate change pushes Russia to balance economic interests with global climate responsibilities. As environmental impacts, forests in Russia are burning and drying. Rivers and lakes change water levels, harming fishes and wildlife. These environmental changes affect both nature and the people who depend on it.

Russia prefers a gradual, balanced transition. It counts heavily on natural sinks to achieve net-zero rather than just reducing fossil fuel emissions. Also, Russia's climate policy focuses on reaching carbon neutrality by 2060. Intermediate targets include reducing emissions by around 60% of 2019 levels by 2050, and by ~80% below 1990 levels by 2050 under the "target" scenario. Russia has created an official registry for carbon units. By 2024 it had already approved its first set of domestic climate projects. The country has the legal framework and basic structures needed for climate action, and the registered projects continue increasing. However, many initiatives are still stuck in long-term planning, and there has been no major international push to deeply reduce emissions in the fossil-fuel sector. While Russia accepts some global climate frameworks and has domestic climate policy structures, its economic dependence on fossil fuels, strategic interest in energy exports and

geopolitical conflicts put it at odds with many of the regional blocs that are pushing for rapid decarbonization, strict climate regulation and energy transition.

The UN has taken actions on climate change. For example, in 1997 it launched the Kyoto Protocol, the first treaty that legally required developed countries to reduce emissions. In 2015, almost every country agreed to the Paris Agreement, which became the central framework for global climate cooperation. For Russia, Kyoto was mostly a political win, while the Paris Agreement achieved limited success in driving real climate action within the country. Russia usually believes that the committee should focus on balanced, gradual measures that do not harm economies. It defends that every country should be allowed to choose its own pace, according to its conditions. Russia wants the committee to support technologies like forest management, and carbon-removal projects rather than demanding rapid fossil-fuel cuts. Another point is adaptation: Russia thinks the UN should help countries prepare for extreme weather, fires, and other climate impacts.

Finally, Russia believes that climate action must be effective but also realistic. The country supports international cooperation, technological development, and adaptation. Russia argues that a balanced approach is the best way for the international community to address the climate crisis.

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