

St. Petersburg experience in water supply and environmental policy was presented at the 5th ASEM Seminar on Urban Water Management

On November 17-18, the 5th Seminar on Urban Water Management under the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) took place online. It was organized by the Department of Science and Technology of Hunan Province of China with the support of the PRC Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Science and Technology.

The conference brought together participants from 30 countries. The Russian side was represented by Chairman of the St. Petersburg Committee on Nature Management, Environmental Protection and Environmental Safety Alexander German who made a report on “Water resources management in St. Petersburg: interregional and international cooperation”, and Head of the Chief Technologist Service of State Unitary Enterprise “Vodokanal of St. Petersburg” Tatiana Portnova who presented the automated intelligent control system for drinking water production technology.

Alexander German described St. Petersburg as one of the most waterlogged cities in the world, outlined the main areas of work in water resources management and the most promising vectors of international and interregional cooperation in the environmental sphere. He noted the importance of synchronizing water management activities carried out on transboundary and transregional water bodies, and exchanging environmental technologies. “Nature has no borders, the preservation of a favorable environment for the current generation and descendants is our common task, which can be successfully solved only through interaction and constructive cooperation,” Alexander German said.

His report reflected the achievements of St. Petersburg in water use and protection measures, effective introduction and operation of a system for the prevention and elimination of oil spills, as well as its leading positions in the training of eco-volunteers and conducting environmental campaigns to clean up the shores of water bodies from litter.

Tatiana Portnova presented the development and implementation of automated control system for water treatment technology in “Vodokanal of St. Petersburg” based on the measuring and computing systems using information about the quality of the measured medium received in real time. She pointed out that this work is being carried out in the context of creating a new paradigm of reliability and safety of drinking water supply in the Russian Federation.

The participants of the seminar highly appreciated the competencies of St. Petersburg in the field of water resources management and noted the potential for cooperation in the environmental field.