

aspects of its life. Not only are we experiencing a severe shortage of computers. The same is true of the paper used for their print-outs. This is special paper, the demand for which will soon amount to millions of tonnes.

In an attempt to achieve a break-through in what for us is a new area but for the rest of the world is now commonplace, an inter-sector governmental association known as "Prominform" was created.

To start with, certain of the existing papermaking capacities were called upon to adapt to the new kind of production. Thus, the collectives of two enterprises were "liberated" from the USSR Ministry of the Timber Industry: the Perm' Pulp and Paper Combine and the Vishera Pulp and Paper Mill.

The latter, as we know, is an old mill. To adapt it to the needs of the day, a radical reconstruction is needed and better still, complete replacement of the worn out production technology by attracting for this purpose, western firms operating on shareholder principles. But such firms are unwilling to enter into long-term cooperation in the absence of a guarantee that the renovated pulp and paper mill will have a stable supply of raw material. Such a guarantee can only be given by leasing the living Krasnovisheran forest.

What happened is that on 28 June 1990 an agreement was concluded between the Krasnovishera Executive Committee of the Council of People's Deputies and "Prominform". I consider this to be extremely important. For the area (raion), which had previously had no prospects for expanded reproduction and normal socioeconomic development, is now enjoying both of these. The point is that hundreds of other forested areas of Russia are currently being denied the opportunity of "expanded reproduction and normal socioeconomic development".