

includes the Ministry of the Timber Industry - in most respects they will have to rely solely on their own resources, since they will soon be making the transition to self-financing through earnings of currency.

From the outset of the next Five-Year Plan the wood-chemistry complex must introduce only ecologically clean technologies, and by 1995 none of the production processes must be causing damage to the environment. Not an easy task, to be sure, but judging from the mood of the participants in this unusual conference, it is one that is fully achievable.

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Page 2 (Full text)

Non-Governmental Ecological Fund Established in Moscow

Restoring harmony between man and the environment and striving to ensure that industry and power engineering projects, the extraction of mineral deposits and the burying of wastes will not destroy the biosphere -- these and many other goals are confronting a new non-governmental, voluntary organization: The Ecological Fund of the USSR. It has been founded in Moscow on the initiative of voluntary organizations concerned with problems relating to ecology, and will accomplish its activities in close concert with the USSR State Committee for the Environment (Goskompriroda).

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"The urgency attaching to the establishment of such a Fund is obvious," said its Chairman, Professor Eduard Girusov. "The ecological situation across the country is far from satisfactory. For example, disputes over problems affecting the Aral Sea, the Baltic coast and Baikal continue to be unresolved. In the summer of 1988 we had to close down a number of traditional recreational centres. There has been a sharp deterioration in