

operations that can repay loans with incremental foreign exchange earnings or savings. A group of such projects is to be designated under the Technical Assistance component of **the Project**. Therefore, if appointed, Mr. Averchenkov will play an important role in project selection and implementation.

Mr. Voronin noted that the Bank would like to see Mr. Averchenko appointed to this position, or to another senior position under **the Project**.

- Contact: Evgenii A. Konygin
- Position: Deputy Director, Department of International Cooperation, MEPNR
- Remarks: Mr. Voronin expects Mr. Konygin to head the Central Project Implementation Unit (PIU) for the entire **Project**. The Central Moscow PIU, and regional PIUs in Western Siberia, Volgograd, the Moscow-Oka River Basis, St. Petersburg and Lake Baikal, will act as independently functioning project implementation agencies outside ministerial or regional structures, and will be granted special powers to maintain foreign exchange accounts free of government taxes. The Moscow PIU will be the lead Russian governmental agency responsible for overall implementation of the project and will be modeled on World Bank experience with a similar PIU in Poland.