

I am certain that your congress will serve the development and strengthening of national distinctiveness and the renewal of cultural traditions, and will contribute to preserving the environment for northern native peoples and improving their living and working conditions.

My wish is for fruitful work and successful endeavors for your newly created Association of Northern Peoples.

Sovetskaya Rossiya

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Open Microphone: Health of Northern People

I'm a physician, and what concerns me most, of course, is people's health. For minority peoples of the North this is still a question of survival, of preserving themselves as a nation. For example, according to 1989 data, the population of northern peoples increased by 17%. This is due to a drop in the mortality rate and a rise in the birth rate. Nevertheless, the demographic situation on the whole remains unfavorable. Overall mortality and infant mortality remain high: overall mortality is 1.7 times the general RSFSR level and infant mortality is double, while the average life span of northern peoples is 18-20 years less. The high mortality rate among working-aged people has led to a distortion of the family, resulting in more single mothers. What is particularly