

Practically all of the forest of the Mezen taiga has been cut down, there is no water left in the Mezen River, and all of the streams in the taiga have dried up.

compliments are being replaced with concrete suggestions. Judge for yourself: two firms, a Norwegian and a Finnish, are proposing to Murmansk to modernize the "Pechenganikel" Combine. This will make it possible to almost completely eliminate the harmful emissions from its operation. And realizing that the costs - one billion Norwegian kroner - are today beyond our means, they are prepared to search for ways to meet them. This is one of the points in the "Northern Plan", the creation of which was reported by A. Melkildu, a representative of the Arctic Development Fund from the Norwegian city of Tromso.

The condition of the Barents Sea today is arousing particular concern in everyone. The population of cod, capelin and other species of fish has already declined by a factor of 5 - 10; the sea animals are dying.

Scientists who spoke at the current kalott meeting have distinguished among the many causes of this situation those that are primary. These are the operations of the fishing fleets of the USSR and Norway; the activities of merchant and naval fleets from the Soviet Union and NATO countries; geophysical surveys of the continental shelf in support of oil prospecting; acid rain; and the discharge of domestic and industrial wastes. There is a good reason why, during the meeting, people referred to the Gulf Stream as the "sewer" of the planet. If we do not heal the sea, the gene pool of marine life may also be lost.

In the course of the discussions a joint formula was worked out for saving the sea. For example, it has been proposed that seismic sounding be prohibited during the period of fish spawning, to create sanctuaries at fish spawning sites and sea animal nurseries, to organize a system of ecological stations to monitor the water of the Gulf Stream, and to reduce the size of the nuclear fleet.

opened by the... and we are moving
toward business... discussion and cooperation in the
fields of economic... ecology and... And so now
Page 3 (slightly
abridged)