

**Joint Declaration regarding the Development of Cooperation between Nizhny Novgorod
Region, the Russian Federation and Miyagi Prefecture, Japan**

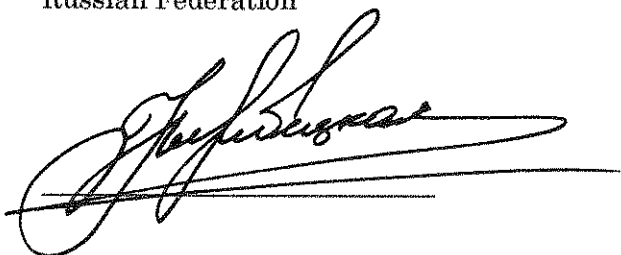
Nizhny Novgorod Region, the Russian Federation and Miyagi Prefecture, Japan (hereafter referred to as "both parties") confirmed the following at the discussion between Irina Negrebetskaya, Director of Department of International, Foreign Economic and Interregional Relations of Nizhny Novgorod Region and Akiyoshi Kawabata, Director-General of the Commerce, Industry and Tourism Department of Miyagi Prefecture:

1. Nizhny Novgorod Region Government expressed its condolences to those that lost their lives on 11th March 2011, on the one year anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster. Miyagi Prefecture expressed its appreciation.
2. Both parties confirmed the development of their mutual cooperation based on the "Agreement on trade-economic, scientific-technical and cultural cooperation between the Government of Nizhny Novgorod Region, the Russian Federation and the Government of Miyagi Prefecture, Japan" signed by the governors of each region in Nizhny Novgorod City, the Russian Federation, on the 17th May 2010.
3. Both parties confirmed the details of implementation plans based on the agreement and will make preparations for both regions' governors to sign the plans.
4. Both parties will cooperate with projects implemented by the Japan Center, an organisation which promotes exchange between the Russian Federation and Japan on a national level. The projects will include training in the field of tourism and personnel exchange in the field of traditional craft products.
5. Both parties were witness to the signing of the "Agreement related to Cooperation between the Nizhny Novgorod Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Miyagi Tohoku Trade Promotion Consortium" and confirmed their cooperation in its promotion.

Six copies of this Joint Declaration were produced, two in Japanese, Russian and English respectively, at the Miyagi Prefectural Office, Sendai, Japan on the 12th March 2012. They are all equally valid.

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