Angarsk Project Timeline

10 July 2009
July 10 - G-8 Statement on the Non-proliferation. Official site of the President of the Russian Federation. "We appreciate the ongoing work at the Russian-led International Uranium Enrichment Centre at Angarsk and welcome progress made towards establishing a Nuclear Fuel Bank administrated by the IAEA, Russia's proposal to guarantee supply of low enriched uranium and the further development of Germany's Multilateral Enrichment Sanctuary Project. We also take note of other initiatives, including Japan's proposal for an IAEA Standby Arrangement System for the Assurance of Nuclear Fuel Supply, the UK's proposal for a political assurance of non-proliferation in the delivery of commercial nuclear contracts and the U.S. nuclear fuel reserve generated from material from its national security stocks".

8 July 2009
the open Joint-Stock Company Atomenergoprom approved the report on the work of the open Joint-Stock Company AECP and the open Joint-Stock Company AECP 2008 annual account report, appointed an auditor for the year 2009, elected new members to the Board of Directors and to the Auditing Commission. The amount of dividends to be distributed at the end of 2008 to the only shareholder – the open Joint-Stock Company Atomenergoprom is 103 million 138 thousand roubles. The first annual general meeting of the open Joint-Stock Company AECP shareholders was held within the timeframe specified by the legislation.

17 June 2009
At the invitation of Sergey Kirienko, Director General of the State Corporation on the Atomic Energy Rosatom, John Carlson, the Director of the Australian Safeguards and Non-proliferation Bureau and President of the AECP Board of Directors Alexey Lebedev payed a familiarization visit to the Angarsk Electrolysis Chemical Plant on 15-17 June. John Carlson is familiar with the gas centrifuge technologies of other countries and the highly estimated the Russian technology of uranium enrichment, and noted its exclusive reliability. In the opinion of the Australian guest, an open and fiduciary dialogue with the public is a necessary condition for the development of atomic energy.

9 June 2009
A traditional meeting of representatives of the open Joint-Stock Company TENEX , French company EDF, Russian uranium enrichment and nuclear materials transportation enterprises took place in Angarsk of the Irkutsk Region on 9-11 June. The purpose of the visit is familiarization with the work of the Joint-Stock Company AECP , which is one of the Russian uranium enrichment enterprises as well as experience sharing and discussion of the implementation of the current projects.

4 June 2009
It is planned to start construction of a separation facility of the Joint Russian-Kazakhstan uranium enrichment enterprise in Angarsk until the end of the year. This has been announced at the public hearings on the facility project. The first unit with 1 million isotopes separative work units is planned to be introduced in 2011, it is planned to reach full capacity of 5 million SWU in 2017. The natural source material will be supplied by Kazakhstan. The establishment of the Joint venture as a closed Joint-Stock Company is stipulated by the Memorandum signed by Russian and Kazakhstan on 25 July 2006. The founding documents were approved on 12 October 2006, and then the enterprise where both sides have 50% of shared were registered in Angarsk.

9 April 2009
A delegation led by the Secretary of the Atomic Energy Department of the Government of India
A. Kakodkar visited the Angarsk Electrolysis-Chemical Plant. Chairman and Executive Director of the Indian Atomic Energy Corporation S.K. Jane, Chairman and Executive Director of the Indian Uranium Corporation R. Hoopta as well as other members of executive establishment were among members of this delegation. The delegation was attended by the representatives of the State Atomic Energy Corporation “Rosatom” led by the Deputy Director General of the Corporation Nikolay Spassky. During the meeting held at the Angarsk Plant's Information Center Director of the Plant Alexander Belousov made a presentation for the Indian colleagues concerning specifics of the Plant and prospects of its development. He also answered questions. The Indian side stressed the high industrial level of the Angarsk Plant and expressed its intent to broaden cooperation with Russia. Summing up the results of the visit Nikolay Spassky noted that cooperation between Russia and India in the area of peaceful uses of nuclear energy has broad prospects.

4 March 2009
Uranium enrichment services for Ukrainian nuclear fuel production are to be purchased in the world market on the tender basis as well as from the Fuel Enrichment Center in the Russian Angarsk. This idea is contained in the draft concept of the Ukrainian National Economic Programme “Nuclear Fuel of Ukraine” adopted by the Government's decree. The draft programme should be submitted to the Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers by the Ministry of Energy within three months.

26 January 2009
After a working meeting between the Russian and Mongolian governmental delegations on increasing economic cooperation the Head of the corporation Rosatom Sergey Kirienko stated that Mongolia could be the participant of the IUEC in exchange for the Mongolian uranium ore and a tender on building a nuclear power station in Mongolia.

24 January 2009
The delegation of South African nuclear power corporation NECSA accompanied by the representatives of the company TENEX visited the AEC to work out issues related to the cooperation of the parties at stages of the production of the uranium hexafluoride and as well as to discuss opportunities to receive the services from the AEC.

12 December 2008
The anti-monopoly committee of Ukraine allowed the Ukrainian company Ukraine Nuclear Fuel to be a part of the IUEC. Russia and Kazakhstan approved the membership of Ukraine.

5 December 2008
The Director of the AEC Alexander Belousov held a working meeting with the staff. Belousov informed about the current situation on the AEC and the future plans. In his mind, the main problem of this year is the transition of ownership from Federal State Unitary Enterprise to Joint Stock Company.

2 December 2008
The French delegation headed by the ambassador of France in Russia Stanislas de Labule visited the AEC. S. de Labule stated that the French companies such as AREVA and EdF cooperated with the AEC.

27 November 2008
The Ukrainian Government approved the draft agreement between Russia and Kazakhstan about the joint participation in the International Uranium Enrichment Center in Angarsk. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Vladimir Ogryzko signed this agreement.
12 November 2008
November 10-12 – The representatives of the Foreign Correspondents Association at the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russia visited the AEC. The delegation was interested in questions of the implementation the IUEC and the cooperation with the IAEA, social policy and foreign economic relations, the technological level of uranium enrichment, safety and ecology. The journalists noted that the IUEC is a Russian contribution to the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons.

9 September 2008
CJSC “Armenian-Russian Mining Company” was established in Yerevan. The head of Rosatom Sergey Kirienko said that the opportunity of building the nuclear power plant in Armenia was being discussed with the Armenian administration.

17 August 2008
August 15 – 17 – The international seminar “Safety and Security of Nuclear Materials and the International Uranium Enrichment Center” was held in the Baikal region. The representatives of 14 countries took part in this seminar. The main topics were the functions and system of strategic development of the IUEC; control, accounting and physical protection of nuclear materials; implementation of the IAEA safeguards. The special attention has been given to the Russian legal system of nuclear materials safety, its accordance with the international standard and its implementation in relation to the IUEC.

21 July 2008
The Director General of TENEX Aleksei Grigoriev stated that TENEX takes part in the preparation of the amendments to the RF Presidential Decree No. 556 (April 27, 2007) about the re-engineering of the Russian nuclear power complex in order to include the IUEC in the list of the enterprises allowed to own nuclear materials.

23 June 2008
Alexander Belousov appointed as the Director General of the AEC. The Head of corporation Rosatom Sergey Kirienko signed the order about his appointment to the post.

7 May 2008
The representatives of the Japanese newspaper Mainichi visited the Angarsk Electrolysis Chemical Complex. The main purposes were the development of the Russian-Japanese cooperation and learning about the process of the making of the IUEC establishment. The guests met the mayor of Angarsk Leonid Mikhailov and the Director General of the AEC Victor Chopin. The Japanese journalists noted the high level of technologies and system of security deployed at the AEC.

11 April 2008
April 7 – 11 – The Delegation from Bulgaria headed by the Director of the Energy Delivery Department of the Ministry of Economy and Energy Vasil Hadzhiev visited the AEC. During the visit the guests held consultations concerning the participation of Bulgaria in the IUEC. The delegation got the information about the operation of the IUEC, the new participants as well as about the cooperation between Rosatom and the IAEA.

19 February 2008
The Ukrainian mass-media reported with reference to the Ukrainian Minister of Fuel and Energy that Ukraine would take part in the IUEC upon condition getting the 10 % share in the IUEC.

12 February 2008
The Russian-Ukrainian Action Plan, which was signed by the Presidents of both countries, includes an agreement, that Moscow and Kiev will consider the participation of Ukraine in the International
uranium enrichment center activity.

**9 February 2008**
The first deputy of the Prime Minister Sergey Ivanov had a meeting with the head of the IAEA Mohammed al-Baradei during the Munich conference on Security Policy. Along with other questions the issue of the International uranium enrichment center in Angarsk was discussed during the meeting.

**7 February 2008**
The member of Atomic power subcommittee of the Natural Monopoly Commission of the Council of Federation of RF Vladimir Zhidkikh stated: “We can expect other countries, our closest neighbors and CIS partners (for instance, Ukraine), after the Armenia's joining the IUEC will step up their activity in this direction and will also become the members of the center.”

**6 February 2008**
Following the results of the Russian-Armenian intergovernmental negotiates, that went under the chairmanship of prime ministers of two countries, the exchange of notes about the intergovernmental treaty of Armenia's participation in the International uranium enrichment center activity. As the Prime Minister Victor Zubkov stated summarizing the results of the negotiates, this decision “is especially important” for a development of the collaboration between two countries. In turn the head of corporation Rosatom Sergey Kirienko mentioned, “this important document creates favorable conditions for the non-proliferation regime implementation”. In addition, Mr. Kirienko emphasized, that in accordance with forecasts the uranium reserves in Armenia are about 60 thousand tons. It is supposed, that the mined in Armenia uranium will be being enriched in the International uranium enrichment center in Angarsk.

**5 February 2008**
The deputy minister of foreign affairs of the RF Sergey Kislyak stated, that the fact the International uranium enrichment center “will be situated on the territory of the nuclear country, but under the regular IAEA supervision, is one of the positive features of such project, as far as there are all the guarantees, that the center is safe and will never be used for undeclared goals”.

**14 December 2007**
Deputy Head of Rosatom Nikolay Spassky announced, that an agreement with IAEA concerning the International uranium enrichment center is practically finalized and will be signed before long. “This center is a reality now, - He underlined during the conference, dedicated to the 50-years anniversary of International Atomic Energy Agency. – At this stage we are working on a form of participation of IAEA in the center's activity”. “Our center in Angarsk has to become the first one in the train of such centers, that are being created all over the world, where not only the issues of uranium enrichment, but also the other massive issues of the atomic energy development in the world will be being solved”, - noted Nikolay Spassky.

**7 December 2007**
The Director General of the International uranium enrichment center Alexey Grigoryev announced, that the center will start rendering its services to the project participating countries in the years 2008-2009. As the Director General stated, on this stage “a whole range of measures, as a creation of the legal base, permitting the IUEC to start providing the nuclear cycle services in the years 2008-2009, is being implemented, that requires a lot of adjustments and approvals”

**29 November 2007**
The Government of Armenia approved the proposition on signing a treaty concerning the joining of Armenia to the agreement between Russia and Kazakhstan on the creation of the International
uranium enrichment center. The head of Rosatom Sergey Kirienko stated, Armenia has uranium reserves, a functioning atomic power station, and joining the International center Armenia will become a country, that has a complete cycle of uranium peaceful application.

9 November 2007
The head of Rosatom Sergey Kirienko announced, that more and more countries are planning to command the services of the International uranium enrichment center in Angarsk. In Mr. Kirienko's opinion, taking the practical steps on the creation of this sort of center “Russia demonstrates the sample of approach to the massive problems solving and nuclear safety”. The head of Rosatom favours a proposal of EU high representative for foreign and security policy Javier Solana to create a network of such centers. “I totally agree with mister Solana's proposal, which fully repeats the idea, that was expressed by the President of Russia,” – noted Kirienko.

25 October 2007
The open joint-stock company “International uranium enrichment center” was established. The director of the company “Techsnabexport” Alexey Grigoryev was appointed as the Director General of the “International uranium enrichment center”. Also the board of management was formed, the head of International department of the company “Atomenergoprom” Veniamin Posilayev was elected to be the chairman. The shareholders of IUEC are Russia (90%) and Kazakhstan (10%). On the territory of Angarsk electrolytic chemical plant there is a place allocated for the storage facility, where all the enriched uranium reserves will be kept. The first deputy of the Prime Minister Sergey Ivanov stated, that any foreign state can join the International uranium enrichment center in Angarsk. “For now we are cooperating in this field with our Kazakh partners only,” – reminded Ivanov during the meeting on the perspectives of International uranium enrichment center's creation. Ivanov noted, that the Russian-Kazakh agreement and the statutory documents of the center “provide the possibility of joining the project by any foreign state, interested in assured uranium procurement for atomic power stations”.

23 October 2007
The Regulation of Energy Commissioner of France Jacques-Andre Troesch made a reconnaissance visit to the federal state unitary enterprise “Angarsk electrolytic chemical plant” at the invitation of the head of Rosatom Sergey Kirienko. Commenting the goals of the visit, the Commissioner Troesch noted, that nowadays not only the atomic power stations construction is very important, but also ensuring the stability of fuel supplies. As the Nuclear Counselor of Embassy of France Mr. Florie mentioned, the spheres of interest of the visitors included also a connection between the plant and the International uranium enrichment center, perspectives of Russian-French cooperation.

20 October 2007
The US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice stated on the press-conference, that Bush's Administration is continuing supporting the RF initiative, consisting in creation on the Russian territory of a joint Russian-Iranian company with the object of uranium enrichment for the Iran's nuclear energy needs.

21 September 2007
Angarsk electrolytic chemical plant (AECP), the base for the new International uranium enrichment center, celebrates its 50 years anniversary. “Although the formal date of the plant startup is 21st of October 1957, it was decided by the front office and public organizations to celebrate this event during the whole month,” – the public relations department of AECP informed.

18 September 2007
Russia plans to create a guaranteed reserve of low-enriched uranium at the International Center in Angarsk, stated Head of the Federal Atomic Energy Agency Sergey Kirienko during the 51st IAEA
General: “Russia plans at its own expense to create a guaranteed reserve of nuclear fuel (low-enriched uranium) sufficient to load a 1000 MW reactors twice”. According to the statement, the International Center will be in charge of fuel storage and will provide it at the IAEA request.

21 August 2007
Russian initiative to create on its territory International uranium enrichment center, particularly but not exclusively for the needs of Iranian nuclear energy, is remaining in the focus of IAEA, stated IAEA Director General Mohamed Elbaradei. He noted that the establishment of an international consortium on Russian territory will allow meeting Iranian demand for nuclear fuel for a number of years. “It is a good initiative. It encourages strengthening of confidence-building measures,” – emphasized Elbaradei.

3 August 2007
The first meeting of EurAzEC member-states Council on cooperation in the field of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes was held in Angarsk. Council members form Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan took part in the meeting. Deputy Head of Rosatom Nikolai Spassky was elected chairman of the Council, Head of the Nuclear energy committee of Kazakhstan Ministry of natural resources Timur Zhantikin was elected vice-chairman. Council's procedures and its plan for 2007-2008 were approved. Proposals for mutually beneficial cooperation in different fields including personnel training for nuclear enterprises were discussed. Information about the operation of the IUEC was presented.

19 July 2007
Working group of Rosatom and IAEA experts held a meeting in Vienna to discuss implementation of IAEA safeguards at the IUEC. The issue of creation of nuclear fuel reserve at IUEC was also discussed. Next meeting is scheduled for the beginning of fall 2007.

22 June 2007
Head of the Federal Atomic Energy Agency Sergey Kirienko signed a cooperation agreement with the Irkutsk region governor Alexander Tishanin. Kirienko noted that Rosatom plans to invest 2.5 billion dollars in Angarsk and create additional two thousand jobs. During the visit, the Head of Rosatom got acquainted with the operations of Angarsk electrochemical combine where the IUEC is created.

11 June 2007
Deputy Secretary of State John Rood in Astana stated that the United Stets support the initiative of the Russian Federation on establishment of the International uranium enrichment center in Angarsk. According to Rood, “the suggested object in Angarsk is a very practical way offered by Russia and Kazakhstan” to find a balance between finding solution for assured fuel supply on the one hand and prevention of nuclear proliferation on the other.

4 June 2007
During a meeting between the Head of Federal Atomic Energy Agency Sergey Kirienko and prime-minister of Ukraine Victor Yanukovich an agreement on joint uranium mining was reached. Ukrainian state enterprise Energoatom Andrei Derkach and Sergey Kirienko signed an agreement of intent to expand cooperation between nuclear energy companies of two countries. In addition, Ukraine will consider its participation in the IUEC. According to the Head of Rosatom, a holding of shares in the IUEC is guaranteed to Ukraine and Russia is ready to sign a required intergovernmental agreement.

30 May 2007
During the meeting of the Nuclear Energy Security Council under the President of the Republic of
Armenia, Armenian President Robert Kocheryan emphasized the intentions of the country to join the IUEC. Armenia jointly with Rosatom is to conduct research activity in the southern parts of the country to support anticipated resources of uranium. In this respect Robert Kocheryan noted that “Armenia does not intend to enrich uranium on its territory. “We are in favor of joining the establishment of international nuclear fuel centers under the IAEA safeguards. We already have such an agreement with the Russian Federation,” – stated Armenian President.

10 May 2007
Head of the Federal Atomic Energy Agency Sergey Kirienko stated that 5-7 countries are expressing their interest in joining the International Uranium Enrichment Center. He described Armenia and Ukraine as the most plausible candidates.

10 May 2007
Russia and Kazakhstan signed an Intergovernmental agreement to set up an International Uranium Enrichment Center in Angarsk. It was endorsed by Sergei Kirienko, head of Russia's Federal Atomic Energy Agency (Rosatom), and Baktykozha Ezmukhambetov, Kazakhstan's minister of natural resources. Other countries can join the Center by signing similar agreement with Russia.

27 April 2007
Russian president Vladimir Putin signed decree №556 “On restructuring nuclear energy industry complex of the Russian Federation”. The decree suggests establishment of the vertically-integrated joint stock company “Nuclear energy industry complex” (“Atomenergопrom”) which will include Tenex, TVEL, Rosenergoatom etc. 100% of its share will be state-owned.

23 April 2007
Head of the Federal Atomic Energy Agency Sergey Kirienko announced that the joint Russian-Armenian uranium enrichment enterprise will be founded in May 2007. It is assumed that the given enterprise will become part of the International Uranium Enrichment Center.

12 April 2007
Following the results of the meeting between the Japanese Economic and Trade Minister Akiri Amari and the Head of Rosatom Sergey Kirienko, Russia and Japan agreed to conduct the first round of intergovernmental negotiations on the preparation of a bilateral agreement on cooperation in the area of atomic energy. Conclusion of the agreement is intended to become the legal basis for Japanese participation in the International Uranium Enrichment Center.

22 March 2007
Rosatom and the IAEA agreed to establish a bilateral working group for the coordination of approaches to implementation Agency safeguards on the International Uranium Enrichment Center. The presence of IAEA safeguards at the enterprise is required conditions for many countries' participation in the Center's work. In particular, Australian and Canadian legislation for delivering their nuclear materials to a third country requires the presence of IAEA safeguards at the enterprise to which materials are delivered. The presence of IAEA safeguards at the International Uranium Enrichment Center is also a prerequisite for Japanese participation.

22 March 2007
Statement of the Rosatom deputy Head Nikolai Spassky that the International Uranium Enrichment Center will start operate by the end of 2007. Nikolai Spassky emphasized that “in the future the experience of cooperating with the IAEA will allow to open such centers in other places, not only on the Russian soil”.
22 March 2007
Delegations of the IAEA headed by the deputy Director General Yuri Sokolov and Rosatom headed by the deputy Head of Rosatom Nikolai Spassky visited Angarsk to discuss practical steps for the creation of the International Uranium Enrichment Center.

20 March 2007
Rosatom Information Center for the International Uranium Enrichment Center started to operate in Angarsk.

6 February 2007
Signing of the federal law “About the special management of property and shares of the organizations operating in the field of using nuclear energy” by the Russian President Vladimir Putin (The law was adopted by the Russian State Duma on January 19, 2007 and approved by the Council of Federation on January 24, 2007). The federal law establishes legal framework for the creation of the International Center; provides corporalization (privatization) of the Angarsk Combine among others.

5 February 2007
The Federal Atomic Energy Agency and the Foreign Ministry of the Russian Federation sent the IAEA a note expressing readiness to welcome its experts on the territory of the Angarsk Electrochemical Combine. By the time of the note preparation the form of the IAEA involvement – video monitoring, document processing or monitoring in person - was being discussed. It was planned that within 2-3 months the IAEA had to decide on the form of safeguards.

19 December 2006
Statement of the Head of the Federal Atomic Energy Agency Sergey Kirienko announcing that the International Uranium Enrichment Center will be launched on the basis of the Russian-Kazakhstan cooperation by the anniversary of the Russian initiative (i.e. by January 25, 2007).

28 November 2006
Head of Rosatom Sergey Kirienko stated that the Government of the Russian Federation decided to cancel the status of the Angarsk Electrochemical combine as “special regime facility” in order to create on its basis the International Uranium Enrichment Center and to put it under the IAEA's safeguards (the plant has been left on the list of strategic ones yet).

10 November 2006
During his visit in Moscow the secretary of the Supreme National Security Council Ali Larijani stated that the Russian initiative to create a joint uranium enrichment company on its territory is still feasible for Iran.

27 October 2006
During the 17th Interstate Council of the Eurasian economic community Prime-minister of Belarus Sergei Sidorsky stated that Belarus is ready to participate in the creation of the International Uranium Enrichment Center.

19 October 2006
Acting president of TVEL Anton Badenkov named Ukraine as a country, which can participate in the operations of the International Uranium Enrichment Center.

19 October 2006
Representatives of Russia and Kazakhstan signed in Moscow the founding documents of the three joint Russian-Kazakhstan companies in the field of peaceful use of nuclear energy, including a joint
company “Uranium Enrichment Center” registered in Angarsk. The signed documents declare the participation of the Russian and Kazakhstan companies on the parity basis, with equal shares in the charter capital.

3 October 2006
Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbaev agreed for Kazakhstan to participate in the creation of the International Uranium Enrichment Center.

29 September 2006
A Federal Atomic Energy Agency delegation headed by the State Secretary, Deputy Head of the agency Nikolai Spassky visited Angarsk to work out issues related to the creation of the International Uranium Enrichment Center. During the visit the Deputy Head of Rosatom met with the citizens of Angarsk and Irkutsk region.

28 September 2006
Head of Federal Atomic Energy Agency Sergey Kirienko refuted speculations that the International Uranium Enrichment Center in Angarsk will do anything else in addition to uranium enrichment.

22 September 2006
Vienna hosted the 50th session of the IAEA General Conference. Russia officially informed the IAEA about the start of the creation of the International Uranium Enrichment Center on the basis of Angarsk Electrochemical Combine.

1 September 2006
Representatives of the Japanese Kensai Electric Company visited Angarsk Electrochemical Combine. It was interested in the details of the creation of the International Uranium Enrichment Center on the basis of Angarsk plant among other issues.

25 July 2006
Tenex, Atomstroyexport and Kazatomprom signed a memorandum on the establishment of three joint companies, including uranium isotopic enrichment company.

24 July 2006
Nikolai Spassky was appointed as a state secretary, deputy Head of the Federal Atomic Energy Agency by the order N 1059-p of Prime-minister Mikhail Fradkov. Among other issues the Head of Rosatom Sergey Kirienko put Nikolai Spassky in charge of coordination of International Uranium Enrichment Center creation. Nikolai Spassky is appointed as the Head of the Implementation Commission.

20 July 2006
Following the negotiations with the Head of the Federal Atomic Energy Agency Sergey Kirienko and acting Head of the Irkutsk region Yuri Paranichev stated that the decision to create the International Uranium Enrichment Center in Angarsk is preliminary. A total of four sites are being considered for the placement of such center.

16 July 2006
The G8 Nonproliferation Statement during the St. Petersburg summit noted: “We appreciate the recent potentially complementary Initiative of the President of the Russian Federation on multinational centers to provide nuclear fuel cycle services.”

15 July 2006
Russian and American Presidents Vladimir Putin and George Bush agreed to begin negotiations on
a nuclear energy cooperation agreement (the 123 Agreement). The decision was included in the Joint Statement following the results of the Russian-US summit in Strelna (Russia). Absence of such agreement prevents the US participation in the operations of an international center as well as limits the participation of the countries possessing uranium obtained using American materials and technologies.

1 March 2006
Moscow hosted Russian-Iranian negotiations on the creation of a joint uranium enrichment company, which could become the basis for the future International Uranium Enrichment Center.

25 January 2006
During the meeting of the Eurasian economic community in St. Petersburg Russian President Vladimir Putin announced an initiative to create International Centers to provide nuclear fuel cycle services.