

## Notes

1 The Constitution of the Russian Federation (adopted after a national vote on 12 December 1993), "The Collection of Russian Federation Legislation" (CL-RF), 2009, No. 4, Article 445.

2 The Forest Code of the Russian Federation, 4 December 2006, No. 200-FZ, CL-RF, 2006, No. 50, at 5278. In the event that the official publishing source of statutory acts is not listed within the present article, they have been taken from the Russian reference search system "Consultant Plus".

3 According to the Constitution, the Government of the RF consists of the Chairman of the Government of the RF, the Deputy Chairmen and federal ministries. On the basis of, and for the sake of, the implementation of the Constitution, the federal laws and the statutory decrees of the President of the RF, the Government of the RF issues decisions and orders and ensures their implementation. The decisions and orders of the Government are obligatory for the RF. The given acts, if they are inconsistent with the Constitution, federal laws and decrees of the President, may be cancelled by the President.

4 According to the Constitution, the President of the Russian Federation is the head of State, and has the right to issue decrees and orders. The decrees and orders of the President are obligatory for the whole territory of the Russian Federation and may not be counter to the Constitution of the Russian Federation and the federal laws.

5 The Regional Law of Leningrad Region of 28 June 2007, No. 108-OZ "On the Establishment of the Procedure and Rates of Wood Procurement by Citizens for Their Own Needs in Leningrad Region", The Bulletin of the Government of Leningrad Region, 2007, No. 48. See also The Law of the Republic of Karelia of 12 November 2007, No. 1134-ZRK "On the Procedure and Rates of Wood Procurement by Citizens for Their Own Needs", The Collected Legislation of the Republic of Karelia, 2007, No. 11; and The Order of Rosleshoz of 1 August 2011, No. 337 "On the Establishment of the Rules for Wood Procurement", *Rossiyskaya Gazeta*, No. 11, 20.01.2012.

6 CL-RF, 2006, No. 50, Article 5279.

7 See, for instance, the decisions of the Government of the RF of 14 December 2009, No. 1007 "On the Approval of the Regulation on the Delimitation of Functional Zones in Recreational Forest Zones, the Territory and Boundaries of Recreational Forest Zones and Green Zones"; and of 3 February 2010, No. 47 "On the Approval of the Code for the Keeping, Carrying and Use of Specific Tools by Officials Executing State Forest Control and Supervision".

8 The Bulletin of statutory acts of the federal executive bodies, 2011, No. 42.

9 See The Decision of the Government of the Russian Federation of 23 September 2010, No. 736 "On the Federal Forestry Agency", CL-RF, 2010, No. 40, Article 5068.

10 See The Decision of the Government of the Russian Federation of 29 May 2008, No. 404 "On the Ministry of Natural Resources and Ecology of the Russian Federation", CL-RF, 2008, No. 22, Article 2581.

11 CL-RF, 1999, No. 42, Article 5005.

12 CL-RF, 2003, No. 40, Article 3822.

13 See e.g., The Decision of the Government of Leningrad Region of 25 April 2007, No. 93 "On the Establishment of the Payment Rates for Citizens under Sale and Purchase Contracts for Plantations for The Needs of Citizens in the Leningrad Region", The Government Reports of Leningrad Region, 2007, No. 34.

14 The Land Code of the Russian Federation of 25 October 2001, No. 136-FZ, CL-RF, 2001, No. 44, Article 4147.

15 Forest use for religious purposes, for scientific and research activities, and for educational activities is not included on the list. Forest use by citizens for their own needs on publicly accessible wildlife reserves without the granting of forest-estate plots is allowed, in accordance with the FC, Article 11. Forest use by citizens for farming purposes (including bee-keeping) for their own needs is allowed – such citizens must obtain a grant of a forest plot for temporary use or, in the situations determined by the RF Land Code and the Civil Code, establish a land servitude.

16 Approved by the Order of Rosleshoz of 5 December 2011, No. 512 "On the Adoption of the Rules for the Procurement and Collection of Secondary Forest Resources".

17 Approved by the Order of Rosleshoz of 5 December 2011, No. 511 "On the Adoption of the Rules for Edible Forest Resource Procurement and the Collection of Medicinal Plants".

18 English Oak. See [http://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/Дуб\\_черешчатый](http://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/Дуб_черешчатый).

19 The Federal Law of 12 April 2010, No. 61-FZ "On the Circulation of Medical Supplies", *Rossiyskaya Gazeta*, No. 78, 14 April 2010.

20 The Procurement of Raw Medicinal Products from Individuals by Pharmacies: The Peculiarities of Personal Income Tax Calculation, The Pharmacy: Accounting and Taxation, 2008, No. 12.

21 The Civil Code of the Russian Federation (Part One) of 30 November 1994, No. 51-FZ, CL-RF, 1994, No. 32, Article 3301.

22 Federal Law of 8 August 2001, No. 129-FZ "On the State Registration of Legal Entities and Businessmen", *Rossiyskaya Gazeta*, No. 153-154, 10 August 2001.

23 Defined in FC, Part 1, Article 54.

24 The Forest Code of the Russian Federation of 29 January 1997, No. 22-FZ, CL-RF, 1997, No. 5, Article 610.

25 The Arguments and Facts, 31 July 2008.

26 Nature conservation measures are being implemented in Russia, for instance, through the Federal targeted programme "Baikal Lake Protection and the Socio-Economic Development of the Baikal Natural Territory for the Years 2012–2020" with a 97 million rouble budget for the year 2013.



## REFERENCES TO OTHER TOPICS

### Equator Prize Winners Announced

The biennial awarding of the Equator Prizes has been announced by the "UN-led partnership" (consisting of UN organs and programmes, international convention secretariats, NGOs and national aid agencies) that created and grants the Prizes. This group has announced that awards of US\$ 5,000–20,000 will be given to 35 initiatives, each of which "represents outstanding local achievement in advancing sustainable development solutions for people, nature and resilient communities". The winners were selected from over 1,000 nominations, and were chosen for their "community-based, grassroots action to address environment, poverty and climate change challenges head-on". Most of the winners will be present at the formal awards ceremony, to be held in New York on Monday, 22 September 2014. The full list of winners and brief descriptions of their initiatives is available at [http://equatorinitiative.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=818&Itemid=1032&lang=en](http://equatorinitiative.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=818&Itemid=1032&lang=en).

### ILC First Report on the Protection of the Atmosphere

Shinya Murase, Special Rapporteur for the Sixty-sixth Session of the International Law Commission, spearheaded the production of a paper analysing the legal route to the protection of the

atmosphere for the ILC, which explains why he believes that the legal route is the best route. This report argues that the ILC can make a significant contribution by identifying the legal principles and rules applicable to the whole range of atmospheric problems on the basis of State practice and jurisprudence. Available at <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N14/237/23/PDF/N1423723.pdf?OpenElement>.

### ICJ to Hear Argentina Case Against US

The government of Argentina has begun the process to institute proceedings against the US before the International Court of Justice (ICJ), alleging that the US's actions regarding the restructuring of the Argentine sovereign debt, inter alia, violated Argentina's sovereignty and immunities. The case can only go forward if the US consents to the ICJ's jurisdiction. See Press Release at <http://www.icj-cij.org/presscom/files/4/18354.pdf>.

### Record Funding for the Global Environment

On 16 April 2014, 30 donor countries pledged US\$ 4.43 billion for the Global Environment Facility (GEF). This money is to support developing countries' efforts to combat degradation of the global environment over the next four years, including

deforestation, toxic chemicals, extinction of species, climate change, etc. One of the main driving forces for the pledge of the large sum is the general consensus that the GEF has gained the confidence of development partners with its strong track record of protecting the environment and its sound management of development funds. See release at <http://www.thegef.org/gef/Record-Funding-for-Global-Environment>.

### **CITES Standing Committee**

The 65th meeting of the Standing Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) convened from 7–11 July 2014 in Geneva, Switzerland. Approximately 400 participants from national governments, intergovernmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations attended the meeting. The Committee tackled a long agenda, including: livelihoods, cooperation with other organizations and species trade and conservation, with discussions focusing on elephants, rhinos, Asian big cats, illegal trade in cheetahs, great apes, pangolins, ebony and rosewoods, among others. A full report of the meeting is available at <http://www.iisd.ca/vol21/enb2184e.html>.

### **HLPF Holds Second Meeting**

The second meeting of the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) took place from 30 June–9 July 2014, at UN Headquarters in New York, under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Council. The forum's theme was "Achieving the Millennium Development Goals (and charting the way for an ambitious post-2015 development agenda including the Sustainable Development Goals". It was attended by the representatives of 193 Member States, intergovernmental organisations and other entities and representatives of the UN system, as well as representatives of Major Groups and other stakeholders. A detailed report of the meeting is available at <http://www.iisd.ca/vol33/enb3309e.html>.

### **UN to hold "Treaty Event" on Minamata Convention**

The UNEP Executive Director (ED) reports that UN Secretary General Ban will host a Treaty Event in New York from 30 September–1 October 2014, to encourage signature and ratification of the various UN "chemicals" conventions (including the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal; the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants; and the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade), with a particular focus on the Minamata Convention on Mercury, which was adopted last October. The ED's report notes that 99 countries have signed the Convention (the signature period remains open until 9 October) and one has ratified.

### **Officials from Seven States Commit to Reduce Deforestation**

At a high-level convening in Rio Branco, Brazil, representatives from 13 states and provinces in the federated States of Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Spain and the US pledged an 80 percent reduction in deforestation by 2020. The move came about as part of the Governors' Climate & Forests Task Force, an initiative that involves 22 states and provinces from these countries. Its 19 tropical members account for about a quarter of the world's remaining tropical forests. Reported at <http://news.mongabay.com/2014/0812-gcf-rio-branco-declaration.html#l1xdArMrEZOGSY1.99>.

### **Australia – Great Barrier Reef Faces a Bleak Future**

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, in its five-yearly report, has indicated that the prospects for continued conservation of the reef ecosystem are rather grim. "Even with the recent management initiatives to reduce threats and improve resilience, the overall outlook for the Great Barrier Reef is poor,

has worsened since 2009 and is expected to further deteriorate". In general, the report highlighted climate change as "the biggest threat to the site", but also identified poor water quality from land-based run-off, coastal development and fishing as additional challenges. The report is available at <http://asp-au.secure-zone.net/v2/index.jsp?id=1342/1518/5784&lng=en>.

### **Tanzania – Protection of Bawe and Changuu Islands Under Consideration**

AllAfrica reports that the Zanzibari government in Tanzania is considering declaring Bawe and Changuu (Prison) Islands as protected reserves. These would be the third and fourth islands to be given such status by Zanzibar. The move is reportedly related to (and requested by) a multi-million-dollar tourism project run by a Tanzanian company. See AllAfrica, 10 August 2014. "Tanzania: Zanzibar Islands to Get Protection". Available at <http://allafrica.com/stories/201408113238.html>.

### **United States – Shark Protection**

US President Barack Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry have announced a plan to expand the boundaries of the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument – possibly out to the 200 nm boundary of US jurisdiction. With such an action, the Pacific Remote Islands monument would become the largest network of marine protected areas anywhere on the planet. The designation would prevent all industrial activity within an area larger than the states of Texas, California, Montana, and Arizona combined. The plan would add over 1.7 million km<sup>2</sup> to the existing protected area.

