**Abstracts from the Report on the activity**

**of the Eurasian section of the World Organization**

**“United Cities and Local Governments”, 2012-2015yy**

Three years ago, we determined the main activities for our section, and we have worked according to that document.

1) As for **Advocating and promoting the interests of Eurasia local governments,** we actively cooperated with the UN organization in the framework of the UN Advisory Council. We participated in the meetings during the World Urban Forum.

We also try to promote UCLG-Eurasia on the National level. In this field, we actively cooperate with Rossotrudnichestvo. Our main achievement is the Decision of the Council of Heads of Subjects of the Russian Federation at the MFA from June 20 2014 with the recommendation of the active cooperation with UCLG-Eurasia.

As for the cooperation with OWCH, it has always been a priority for us. During these years, we have prepared the project “The World Heritage of Eurasia”, where we offered to exchange the pictures of the OWCH objects and put them into the facades of the buildings. We also participated in the OWCH Conferences in Aktau and Oahaca.

2) Considering **Development and strengthening of the cooperation with the World Organization "United Cities and Local Governments",** I can say that we fully support the initiatives of the World Organization and participate in all the Statute events. The UCLG-Eurasia Delegation took part in IV Congress of UCLG in Rabat, 2013, where the Mayor of Kazan, Ilsur Metshin, was elected Co-President of UCLG. The initiative of the sister-cities Volgograd and Coventry addressed to UN was supported during the World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders in Rabat.

We also participated in the UCLG Secretariats Retreat and Kamping in Barcelona, 2015.

Mr Kadir Topbas`s visit to Kazan and Yakutsk also became a remarkable event for promotion of UCLG in this part of the World.

Here I would like to dwell on the initiatives offered to our section by the President of UCLG-Eurasia Ilsur Metshin. One of them is Cities International Activity Rating. Many UCLG-Eurasia member-cities took part in the rating, and shortly we will know the results.

Another initiative is a series of the publications about outstanding personalities, which we start with a legendary person, Mr Peter Woods.

**3) Eurasian integration processes supporting and promoting of decentralization and local governments**

This Congress and its subject is a vivid evidence to our work in the field of Eurasian Integration Processes. All our activity is aimed to unite cities and strengthening international connections. In our Statute, we consider Eurasia to be an individual geopolitical region, and we have a tribune for explaining the goals of the integration to the global community.

**4) Strengthening of the cooperation and partnership between the members of the UCLG-Eurasia and implementation of joint projects and programs**

During these years we had been to many events organized by our member cities, dedicated to different celebrations as well as the projects on the sharing of best practices.

In the April of 2013 we organized the visit of Eurasia cities leaders to Ankara. 14 Mayors got acquainted with the best practices of the city. We plan that the leaders of the innovational center cities will go to Guangzhou next October.

14-15 May 2014 in Tbilisi (Georgia) together with the Platform (Voice of European Local and Regional Governments for development) we carried out the Eurasian regional seminar on the subject of the "Dialogue and capacity building of local and regional governments of the Eurasian region”

**5) Increasing of the influence and achieving of worldwide recognition of the Eurasian section of UCLG**

We did a lot to promote our section in the Internet and media. There are articles in the Wikipedia and other reference web-cites about our organization and its members, most of our city-members has the information about UCLG and the links to our web-site. We also cooperate with the UCLG World Secretariat and other sections in the field of informational exchange.

Our two-language bulletin, “Eurasia Local Governments” is issued and sent to our member cities on a regular basis.

During these years, following cities have become our members: Aktau, Tiraspol, Khanty-Mansiysk, Nadym Region of Yugra, Kovrov, Magnitogorsk, Spassky Region of Tatarstan.

The candidates to become members today are Astana, Penza, Sevastopol, Kyzyl, Yugorsk, Novokuybyshevsk.

These were for our achievements. As for our **problems**, I can say that despite our efforts, we cannot achieve much success in promoting our work in such countries as Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Belarus. The President of the Republic of Tatarstan visited these countries, but despite of the promises of the national leaders, we still see little actions in joining our organization, even if we notice the interest from the mayors.

Another week point is payment of annual contributions. Even if we pay much effort to keep the costs low, many cities they consider it possible not to fulfill their obligations to the organization. We need to find a way out and try to organize our work so that those cities are interested in UCLG membership.

Substantial financial support from Kazan allows us to stay afloat. Even today, many cities feel this support, which is a significant contribution to the integration process.

Thanks for your attention!