



**MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND ECOLOGY OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**



WELCOME ADDRESS TO MINEX 2008 PARTICIPANTS
Minister Of Natural Resources and Ecology of the Russian Federation Yuriy Trutnev

Dear Colleagues, Delegates, Guests!

On behalf of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Ecology of the Russian Federation, I welcome you to the 4th Mining and Exploration Forum MINEX.

By the size of its mineral reserves and resources Russian Federation is one of the world's leaders and is currently one of the largest exporters of minerals.

The State's goals are currently focused on the renewal of Russia's mineral resources base, implementation of rational practices in reserves development, implementation of efficient saving technologies. Therefore events such as MINEX are extremely important for the country.

For the 4th year running the forum gathers leading specialists in the wide range of fields - geology, exploration, mining, fiscal regulations, legal and technological support. MINEX introduces newest technologies and equipment allowing participants to exchange best business practices.

I am certain that the forum will greatly assist in developing new contacts, strengthening business partnerships and further advancement of the Russian mining industry and science.

I wish all Minex participants to have productive and informative work at the forum.

Minister of Natural Resources
and Ecology of Russian Federation

Yuriy Trutnev