



Dear Ladies and Gentlemen! Dear Colleagues!

I am very happy to be here and greet you at the Second Eurasian Conference "Innovations in the Minimization of Natural and Technological Risks" and Symposium "Minimization of the Most Prevalent Project Risks in the Oil and Gas Industry" (RISK-2020).

The important issues raised at the conference concern the entire international community. The earth's ecological situation deteriorates further with each passing year, which is largely contributed by human activities. The question as to how we can go on with the industrial technology development without harming the world around us – should be a priority objective that scientists will have to solve based on cumulative efforts in the 21st century. We all have a responsibility to future generations and we have to take such actions today that we can pass on them a green, healthy planet.

It feels good to know that such global challenges as natural disasters and chemical pollution, radiation hazards and emergencies of technological character that we are facing today have become mutual concerns that unite all the nations in searches for their solution.

That is also evidenced by the geography of the representatives of science at this conference RISK-2020. This is the second time that leading scientists from Russia, the United States, Italy, Georgia, and many other countries have come together to discuss their area of expertise in the light of the most serious problems and share ideas and experience.

It is critical that among other acute problems we pay special attention to accidents occurring in the oil and gas industry. I think that at the Eurasian Symposium "Minimization of the Most Prevalent Project Risks in the Oil and Gas Industry", in a joint effort we will find new ways for improving

safety of oil and gas production operations – both for people and the environment.

A final point that I would like to highlight is that it is not only experienced professionals but also young specialists – our scientific successors - will make presentations. In this vein, I am very happy that the conference is being held at the Georgian Technical University, Tbilisi which has been training the intellectual elite for many decades.

I am sure that together we will be able to find the shortest path to the "golden mean", an ideal balance between technology, industry and ecology.

It is symbolic that we meet in Georgia, the land famous for its ancient traditions of hospitality, a beautiful old country at the junction of Europe and Asia, that always leaves unforgettable impressions and touches the heart of everyone who has ever visited it. I wish the Conference success and fruitful work and new scientific achievements to all participants!

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The Chairman of the Symposium RISK-2020

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