



Nornickel and the SME Corporation will enhance cooperation to support small and medium-sized businesses. Today, on 14 February, the cooperation agreement was signed by Vladislav Gasumyanov, State Secretary, Vice President and Head of GR at Nornickel, and Alexander Braverman, CEO of the SME Corporation, during the Russian Investment Forum in Sochi.

“For Nornickel, the agreement is a milestone in implementing the Company’s policy of supporting small and medium-sized businesses. Nornickel is an established and reliable partner of the state, and the joint effort with the SME Corporation is yet another major step in addressing the nationwide agenda,” said Vladislav Gasumyanov.

“I would like to emphasise that Nornickel is the first major Russian private company to partner with the SME Corporation. It proves that the big business is interested in developing the SME sector,” said Alexander Braverman, CEO of the SME Corporation. “Today’s agreement lays grounds for tighter cooperation between Nornickel and small and medium-sized enterprises, for technological and other development of these companies, and will provide feedback on the Corporation’s priority initiatives to streamline the SME support initiatives.”

The strategic cooperation under the agreement will facilitate targeted support to SME businesses that are current or potential vendors of Nornickel, and implement joint initiatives to support entrepreneurship in the regions of operations, including one-company towns.

In particular, Nornickel and the SME Corporation plan to assist SME businesses in engaging in high-tech innovative production. One of the priorities is to develop the stimulation measures to grow the small and medium-sized businesses as potential vendors, including for engineering projects set to create technological solutions in line with the needs of Nornickel Group.

Among other priorities of the partnership is improving the SME regulatory framework, putting forth proposals to stimulate SME in education, culture, healthcare, and healthy lifestyle, as well as setting up joint initiatives to promote the use of digital platforms and technologies in production and socio-economic activities.

Under the agreement, the parties will also work together to provide information support. For instance, the SME Corporation will inform the small and medium-sized businesses about competitive procurement of goods and services by Nornickel Group. The planned cooperation also includes initiatives to promote entrepreneurship in Russia.

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