Unofficial translation

Submission by the Russian Federation on matters relating to holding global dialogues in 2025 under the Sharm el-Sheikh Mitigation Ambition and Implementation Work Programme referred to decision 4/CMA.4

September 2025

1. Introduction

The Russian Federation pursuant to paragraph 14 of decision 4/CMA.4, paragraph 9 of decision 4/CMA.5, paragraph 10 of decision 2/CMA.6 of the Conference of the Parties to the Paris Agreement welcomes the opportunity to present views on opportunities, best practices, practical solutions, challenges and barriers related to the Sixth Global Dialogue and Investment-focused Event under the Sharm el-Sheikh mitigation ambition and implementation Work Programme, focused on enabling mitigation solutions in the waste sector, including through circular economy approaches.

2. Relevance and significance of the topic

The transportation, processing and disposal of waste leads to an increase in greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) emissions, particularly methane. According to the IPCC AR5, the waste sector is responsible for approximately 3% of GHG emissions. In accordance with the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) Global Methane Assessment for 2021, the waste management sector accounts for 20% of methane emissions, which corresponds to approximately 5,4 Gt CO2-eq annually.

Effective waste management plays an important role in mitigating the impacts of climate change. It includes reusing, recycling and reducing waste. The introduction of circular economy approaches significantly contributes to the decarbonization of the economy. It helps to reduce GHG throughout all economic sectors by minimizing the production of new goods and reducing the demand for raw materials. The International Solid Waste Association emphasizes the need to include this sector in NDCs, which could help mitigate 15–25% of global GHG emissions (UNEP Global Waste Management Outlook, 2024)

3. National Policy and Measures

Key low-carbon practices in the waste sector of the Russian Federation include a shift towards a circular economy, the use of organic waste in production, the integration of industrial waste into production cycles, the enhancement of systems for separated collection of waste and the implementation of climate projects. These measures are implemented under the Strategy of socio-economic development of the Russian Federation with low greenhouse gas emissions until 2050 through the federal projects such as «Circular Economy» and

«Integrated Municipal Solid Waste Management System» as well as federal programmes that focus on effective waste management.

The Russian Federation has introduced a comprehensive programme to develop a circular economy. At the sectoral level initiatives are being implemented to promote the utilization of waste, secondary resources and recycled materials in various sectors, including housing and utilities, construction, industry and agriculture. At the regional level targets have been set for 2030 to achieve the sorting of 100% of municipal solid waste (MSW), reduce the volume of disposed waste by 50% and reintegrate at least 25% of waste. Furthermore, an extended producer and importer responsibility has been instituted. The scheme obliges producers and importers to ensure the recycling of 10–45% of packaging and goods or to pay an environmental fee.

There has been an extensive reform of waste management and MSW sorting that includes the recovery of secondary resource in the Russian Federation. It has resulted in a decrease in the emission intensity in the municipal solid waste sector since 2019. Furthermore, the index under the Federal Project «Circular Economy» showing the use of secondary resources and raw materials derived from waste across economic sectors has increased from 6% to over 10% between 2022 and 2023.

4. Best National Practices in the Waste Sector

The Russian Federation shares best practices, focused on mitigation solutions in the waste sector, including through circular economy approaches in the following sectors:

• Agriculture

The Russian Federation is actively developing the recycling of organic waste as a key part of its strategy for the agricultural sector, with the aim of using it as secondary resources. Increasing the share of waste, including livestock and crop production waste, reintegrated into the agricultural cycle, results in the reduction of GHG emissions. As of 2024, the recycling rate for agricultural waste has reached up to 85%.

Measures include the processing of organic waste to produce vermicompost, high-protein feed additives, organic fertilizers and biogas. They involve methods such as insect-based processing, installing biogas plants for livestock waste and composting organic raw materials. Moreover, there are currently eight biogas power plants in Russia. The facilities enable to treat livestock waste, reduce methane emissions as well as generate electricity and organic fertilizers.

• Industry

The key objective of Russian climate policy, aimed at reducing GHG emissions from waste sector, is the integration of industrial waste back into production cycles.

Companies are implementing various practices in the waste sector, including recycling petroleum products, developing new alloys using secondary aluminum for road construction as well as treating drilling waste to recover oil for reuse. Technology for

chemical recycling of plastics is also being deployed, resulting in a reduction of GHG emissions by approximately 80% across the entire production chain.

• Housing and Utilities, and Construction

The use of secondary resources in the housing and utilities, and construction sectors plays a pivotal role in the national climate policy, as it contributes to the reduction of GHG emissions.

In the housing and utilities sector, the key areas for establishing a circular economy include developing separate waste collection systems for municipal solid waste (MSW), constructing advanced MSW treatment (sorting) facilities and reintroducing secondary resources into the economy.

By the end of 2024, 61.7% of the Russian population had access to separate MSW collection. Most regions have a two-container waste collection system in place, supported by a network of 18,000 dedicated collection points for secondary materials, including eco-points, eco-houses, eco-stations, eco-centers as well as reverse vending machines.

The eco-technoparks for waste processing are being developed. In 2024, new waste processing facilities with a total capacity of over 4 million tonnes per year were launched. For instance, there is a closed-loop eco-technopark in the Kirov Region engaged in treatment, recycling and disposal of hazardous waste. The «Volkhonka» and «Kingisepp» waste processing facilities are one of the new high-tech complexes in the Leningrad Region. They process hundreds of thousands of tonnes of waste annually for composting and the production of alternative fuel.

Furthermore, various types of soil amendments are produced from processed MSW for use in construction, land reclamation and landscaping.

In the construction sector, measures are being implemented to incorporate secondary raw materials into the manufacture of construction materials, with the aim of diverting waste from landfills. Several regions have adopted specific regulations for construction and demolition waste management, including recycling, reuse, treatment and disposal. Construction materials made from recycled content are being used in residential building projects.

Voluntary national «green» standards have been developed, including criteria for responsible waste management and the utilisation of environmentally friendly materials comprising recycled components. The recycling rate for construction and demolition waste increased by 25% between 2022 and 2024.

5. Climate Projects in the Waste Sector

Climate projects in the waste management sector contribute not only to the achievement of national climate goals and the advancement of circular economy principles but also to the generation of economic benefits for companies.

The Russian Federation is developing a regulatory and methodological framework to engage the private sector in climate projects aimed at reducing GHG emissions in the waste sector. Carbon market instruments are available for companies engaged in landfill gas recovery, waste composting, industrial waste recycling, and waste-to-energy conversion. Methodologies have been developed for various forest climate projects that take into account the national context and include the high requirements for environmental integrity of projects.

As of September 2025 there is a project for the treatment and recycling of hazardous waste registered in the National Carbon Units Registry of the Russian Federation. Measures include the construction of a plant for recycling used lubricating oils, which were previously incinerated in specialized units.

In order to effectively disseminate best practices in the waste sector, the Russian Federation advocates for open and non-discriminatory exchange and transfer of best available technologies for all interested countries. We believe that this exchange will contribute to achieving a balance between anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases and their absorption in accordance with Articles 2 and 4 of the Paris Agreement.