**Tentative Programme**

The Forum is one of the tools to support and develop business partnerships between Russian and European SMEs. Participation is free of charge. The six B2B fora already held brought together 685 Russian and 372 European SMEs which had 2,688 bilateral negotiations. An unlimited number of informal meetings were also held.

On 24 June plenary session and three round-tables will discuss current investment and business climate in Russia, doing business in Russia and the progress of the EU-Russia initiative “Partnership for Modernization”.

On 25 June face-to-face bilateral meetings between Russian and European companies, likewise Russian potential investors and European Investment Promotion Agencies will be organized.

**Tuesday, 24 June 2014**

Plenary session (free discussion format):

Topics to be addressed:

* *Russia – European Union: Partnership for Modernisation*
* *potential of Moscow city as an attractive environment for doing business, a locomotive for internationalising Russian regions SMEs*
* *possibilities for doing business in Russia*
* *facilitating the development, interaction and internationalisation of Russian and European SMEs*

Round-Table: «Doing business in Russia» (free discussion format)

Topics to be addressed:

Moderator: **Mr. Dmitry Knyazev**, Deputy Head, Department of Science, Industrial Policy and

Entrepreneurship of Moscow Government

* *reduction of SME administrative burden, improving the business environment, promoting entrepreneurship and help SMEs grow*
* *main obstacles in the regulatory and administrative environment for SMEs appropriate solutions to overcome them*
* *standardisation and removing technical barriers to trade (improving economic, scientific and technical relations, ensuring the compatibility and interoperability of supplied products)*
* *intellectual property rights protection*
* *measures against counterfeit*
* *potential for commercial relations between Russia and the EU.*

Round-Table: «EU experience in helping SMEs to be dynamic, sustainable and innovative» (free discussion)

Topics to be addressed:

Moderator: **Mr. Thomas Palmgren**, Head of International Affairs, Federation of Finnish Enterprises

* *role of state business fostering infrastructure (regional development agencies, trade and FDI promotion agencies) and the EU best practices in supporting SMEs*
* *internationalization of European SMEs*
* *role of FDI in SMEs development*
* *SMEs networking in the EU*
* *promoting commercial and technological relations between SMEs at European level*

Round-Table: «Access to finance for SMEs in Russia» (free discussion format)

Topics to be addressed:

* *state programmes to finance SMEs*
* *SMEs support networks of state institutions and entrepreneurs public organizations*
* *SMEs access to financing sources*
* *perspective of SMEs entrepreneurship development in Russia*

**Wednesday, 25 June 2014**

Full day bilateral matching meetings between Russian and European companies, likewise Russian potential investors and European Investment Promotion Agencies.