

*June 24 / Administration of Barack Obama, 2010*

Minister of Energy Sergey Shmatko, these efforts will promote innovation in the U.S. and Russian economies and assist in reducing national levels of carbon emissions through implementing the most advanced technologies, mobilizing financial resources, and facilitating creative energy management solutions.

The centerpiece of this collaboration will be the development of a pilot smart grid project based on the most innovative technologies to cut losses in electric power systems and reduce emissions. The project will match U.S. and Russian cities implementing similar projects and will facilitate the sharing of best prac-

tices and technical information. The Action Plan also provides for implementing energy management and technical programs to improve energy efficiency in U.S. and Russian public sector buildings. In recognition of the crucial role of the private sector, including small and medium sized companies, in driving innovation, the sides agreed to develop financial mechanisms to help create investment incentives to promote energy efficiency and clean technologies.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

## Joint Statement by President Barack Obama and President Dmitry A. Medvedev of Russia on Intercountry Adoption

*June 24, 2010*

We are convinced that all children have the right to grow up in a family environment, in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding. Many children throughout the world are deprived of this natural right.

Every year, tens of thousands of children find loving parents through adoptions, including international adoptions. We honor those who have the generosity to welcome adopted children, in particular from other countries, into their families.

However, tragic incidents involving children adopted between our countries caused by the adoptive parents underscore the importance of ensuring reliable protections for the rights, safety, and well-being of adopted children. We are committed to doing everything in our power to achieve this.

In this regard, we have come to the conclusion that it is necessary to conclude a legally binding bilateral agreement on cooperation in the field of intercountry adoption. At our direction, experts from the United States and Russia have already been actively working on a draft, and they have informed us that they have made considerable progress in fulfilling this difficult task.

We will work together so that entry into force of this agreement as soon as possible would create an even stronger legal basis for adoption in the interests of children and families of both our countries.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

## Joint Statement by President Barack Obama and President Dmitry A. Medvedev of Russia on People-to-People Connections

*June 24, 2010*

The renewed relationship between the United States and Russia depends not just on the actions of our governments, but on the energy, creativity, and commitment of our two peoples. Each year, thousands of Americans

and Russians now travel freely between our countries, from athletes to artists, from scientists to students. Thanks in part to the work of the U.S.-Russia Presidential Commission, Americans and Russians have more possibili-