

3 December 2021, Luxembourg



Eurasian Resources Group

9, rue Sainte Zithe  
L-2763 Luxembourg  
Grand-Duché de Luxembourg  
T: +352 24 84 53 1  
F: +352 26 84 58 99

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Eurasian Resources Group signs an agreement to create the ESG Alliance with Sber and other major companies

On 1 December 2021, Eurasian Resources Group (“ERG” or “the Group”), a leading diversified natural resources group headquartered in Luxembourg, joined the first conference by Sberbank (Sber), Russia’s largest bank and a leading global financial institution, to establish the ESG Alliance. The Alliance will aim to facilitate the transition to sustainable economic development by strengthening environmental protection, supporting social development, and enabling business growth while reducing the consumption of natural resources.

At the ceremony of signing the agreement to create the Alliance **Benedikt Sobotka, CEO of ERG**, said: “We are pleased that our long-term partnership with Sber has led to fruitful cooperation in a number of new areas. The Alliance’s mission of promoting a sustainable economic development model and cross-sector collaboration in the field of ESG is closely aligned with Eurasian Resources Group’s ESG goals. We look forward to working together and exchanging experience with Sber and other leading Russian and international peers in the ESG Alliance. This collaboration will be very useful for the development of individual industries and sectors, including mining and metals, and we support Sber’s initiative to form such an Alliance.”

**Herman Gref, Sber CEO and Chairman of the Sberbank Executive Board**, said: “As we discussed the issues of corporate social responsibility, transparent and impactful corporate governance and environmental protection, we came to understanding that leading companies needed to combine their efforts to drive this agenda in the country. We realized that we had to work on shaping regulatory frameworks, standards, and implementation control procedures, forming a new legislation that will stimulate all market participants to comply with ESG standards, and promoting the interests of Russia and Russian companies internationally. These are the key objectives that form the core of the ESG Alliance’s charter. The founding members of the Alliance currently include 28 companies, which are responsible for 10% of the Russian GDP and represent 18 sectors of the Russian economy. Membership in the Alliance is voluntary, and we encourage other companies to join it. I believe this initiative may lead to a useful and effective solution to promoting ESG agenda in Russia.”

“Signing this agreement to cooperate on the ESG Alliance is the latest development in the Group’s ESG-focused activities. Earlier this year, Eurasian Resources Group established a dedicated ESG Committee to better incorporate sustainability practices into the Group’s strategy and decision-making processes. In October, ERG became one of 57 global organisations to release a joint open letter calling on the European Union to act on ESG disclosure standards. The Group became the only representative of the metals and mining sector to sign that letter, as well as the only organisation from the CIS region,” **added Mr Sobotka**.

*Alongside Sber and Eurasian Resources Group, top managers of the following companies joined the conference: Avtoban, AFK Sistema, Gazprom Neft, EuroChem, Kolmar Group, Metalloinvest, Uralchem, Polyus, Prosveshcheniye, RUSAL, R-Pharm, SIBUR Holding, Solar Systems, SUEK, T Plus, TechnoNICOL, Transmashholding, Delo holding company, Uralkali, Pharmstandard, Unilever Rus, En+ Group, Mercury Retail Holding, PLC O1 Properties, Vos’hod Development, X5 Group.*

The ESG Alliance will act as a platform for stakeholders from across industry, government and civil society to exchange dialogue, share knowledge and expertise, and develop and promote new standards in the field of ESG. This includes setting out improved industry guidelines, forming a common framework for assessment and reporting in this area, and rolling out joint programmes to achieve sustainable development goals and investment in innovative projects focused on ESG transformation.

**For additional information please contact:**

Eurasian Resources Group, Luxembourg  
[press@erg.net](mailto:press@erg.net), [andrey.belov@erg.net](mailto:andrey.belov@erg.net)  
[www.eurasianresources.lu](http://www.eurasianresources.lu)

\*\*\*

**About Eurasian Resources Group:**

Eurasian Resources Group (ERG) is a leading diversified natural resources group with integrated mining, processing, energy, logistics, and marketing operations. The Group operates in 15 countries and is a major employer in the industry.

ERG is the world's largest high-carbon ferrochrome producer by chrome content and among the principal copper and cobalt suppliers. It is also one of the largest suppliers of alumina and iron ore in Eurasia and the only producer of high-grade aluminium in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

In Kazakhstan, ERG represents one third of the metals and mining industry. It is also a key power supplier and a large railway operator in Central Asia. ERG manages production entities in Kazakhstan that are among the nation's foremost enterprises, including Kazchrome, SSGPO, Kazakhstan Aluminium Smelter (KAS), Aluminium of Kazakhstan, Eurasian Energy Corporation, Shubarkol Komir, Transportation Group TransCom, 3-Energootalyk and ERG Service.

In Africa, ERG mines and processes copper and cobalt ore and produces copper and cobalt hydroxide. It has recently launched Metalkol Roan Tailings Reclamation (RTR), a major tailings reprocessing operation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Metalkol RTR has become the world's second largest standalone cobalt producer and is also a large producer of copper.

The Group has further development projects in thermal coal, manganese, platinum, bauxite and fluorspar in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Mali and Mozambique. ERG controls its own supply chain on the continent through its company Sabot, a North-South Corridor logistics specialist.

In the State of Bahia in Brazil, ERG is pioneering an integrated mining and logistics project comprising the Pedra de Ferro iron ore mine, the Porto Sul deep-water port and the associated new FIOL broad-gauge railway.

ERG is a founding member of the Global Battery Alliance launched on the platform of the World Economic Forum and dedicated to ensuring that there is an ethical and sustainable global supply chain for the lithium-ion batteries that help power the Fourth Industrial Revolution and a low carbon economy, through electric vehicles, renewable energy technologies and smartphones.

[www.eurasianresources.lu](http://www.eurasianresources.lu)

\*\*\*

**PJSC Sberbank** is Russia's largest bank and a leading global financial institution. Holding almost one-third of aggregate Russian banking sector assets, Sberbank is the key lender to the national economy and one of the biggest deposit takers in Russia. The Government of the Russian Federation represented by the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation is the principal shareholder of PJSC Sberbank owning 50% plus one voting share of the bank's authorized capital, with the remaining 50% minus one voting share held by domestic and international investors. Sberbank has customers in 18 countries.

The bank has a major distribution network in Russia with about 14,000 branches, while its international operations – subsidiary banks, branches, and chapters – include the UK, US, CIS, Central and Eastern Europe, India, China, and other countries. It holds general banking license No. 1481 dd. August 11, 2015, from the Bank of Russia. Official websites of the bank: [www.sberbank.com](http://www.sberbank.com) (Sberbank Group website), [www.sberbank.ru](http://www.sberbank.ru).

In 2020 Sberbank underwent a rebranding, offering financial and non-financial services of the bank and Sberbank Group to individual and corporate customers. Today, the Sber ecosystem is a raft of services for life and daily assistance in handling pressing everyday issues for individual customers and businesses. The Sber ecosystem website: [www.sber.ru](http://www.sber.ru).