



Martin O'Malley Governor  
Anthony G. Brown Lt. Governor  
Dominick E. Murray Secretary  
Robert L. Walker Deputy Secretary

March 6, 2013

Mr. Val Kogan, President  
Mid-Atlantic Russia Business Council  
1760 Market Street, Suite 1100  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear Mr. Kogan:

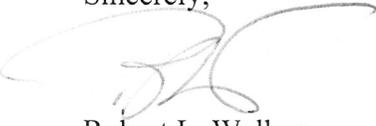
On behalf of the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development, we look forward to welcoming the Russian participants to the Russian- American Innovation Technology Week in September 2013, and the Days of Russian-American Innovation Entrepreneurship Cooperation in November 2013, both hosted by the Mid-Atlantic Russia Business Council.

As the state ranked Number One in Innovation and Entrepreneurship by the US Chamber of Commerce, Maryland has had a long relationship with Russia. We have regional partnerships with the Leningrad and Nizhny Novgorod Regions, and Maryland is the only state with an official representative in Russia.

In addition, our University of Maryland at College Park has been collaborating with the Lobachevsky University in Nizhny Novgorod to develop an America-Russia Innovation Corridor as part of the EURECA project. Also, in the field of life sciences, the Maryland Biotechnology Center has signed an agreement with the Puschino Biotechnology Cluster to further develop cooperation in bio-sciences.

The Mid-Atlantic region can be a strong partner for Russian technology companies looking to invest or establish trade relations with companies in the United States. We look forward to working with the Mid-Atlantic Russia Business Council to support these events in furtherance of those twin goals.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Walker  
Deputy Secretary