



REMTECH EXPO 2020
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REMTECH 2020, THE NEWS OF NEXT EDITION
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The agenda of the 14th edition of RemTech Expo is enriched by new and focal themes related to legislation, simplifications, environmental remediation, requalification, economical relaunch, technologies, innovation, research, circular economy, sustainability. The experts talked about that at the meeting of the Technical Scientific Committee of REMTECH.

On April 6th, by videoconference, the Technical Scientific Committee of RemTech met with the coordination of **Igor Villani**, Arpae (Emilia-Romagna Environmental Protection Agency), supported by Prof. **Vito Felice Uricchio**, CNR, and **Silvia Paparella**, RemTech Expo General Manager.

The extremely high-profile meeting was totally animated by seventy leading experts, representatives of the Ministries, Institutions, Administrations, Environmental Agencies, Universities, Associations, Companies, Industry, Professionals, but also by the new players involved, **Albo Nazionale Gestori Ambientali, Asvis, Fondazione per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile, Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, Sigea.**

Main innovations, introduced in the agenda of the 2020 edition of RemTech, are connected to topics as, legislation, simplifications, environmental remediation, requalification, and moreover, economical relaunch, technologies, innovation, research, circular economy, sustainability starting by Green New Deal.

The Secretary of the Environment, **Roberto Morassut**, intervened at the opening of the work, sharing crucial ideas and updates and highlighted how the regulatory initiatives that the Ministry is carrying out at the moment can only give a new impetus to environmental remediation, a sector which has become more strategic than ever for the Country and how, in this regard, the Prime Ministerial Decree of 22 March 2020, ad adiuvandum, could also provide for a specific code for remediation as an activity in derogation from the blockade envisaged due to the ongoing epidemic. *"Reclamations must be an economic flywheel capable of conveying investments within our Country but also from abroad, with the conversion of brownfields and an increase in the market values of the restored territories"* continued the Undersecretary who then underlined *"Simplification is desirable and possible, but collaboration between all the Bodies and Forces concerned and the competence and professionalism at all levels, also obtained through the training of the staff of the Bodies concerned, is fundamental"*. *"Innovation is a strategic tool for optimizing remediation processes"* he also added. *"Any regulatory provision may give impetus and safety to operators, but now, according to current legislation, there is the possibility of inserting innovation processes, such as for example phytoremediation"*. *"For high ethical and environmental purposes, the aspects of legality must always be ensured in order to allow the market to be free and competition prevails,"* concluded the Undersecretary.

General **Giuseppe Vadalà** underlined that *"Three years after the commissariat's and the Carabinieri's mission began for the 81 police stations and under the European infringement, 41 sites have been recovered or guaranteed, saving another € 14,800,000.00 per year, which brought the current half-yearly penalty to € 9,800,000.00 compared to the initial € 42 million in 2014. This result was achieved not alone, but with the strength of this Country "* and continued *"I am convinced that this strategy of union and collaboration is the real driving force behind remediation, even more now, in times of extraordinary pandemic emergency. Of course, the regulatory initiatives that the Ministry is carrying out at the moment and that Undersecretary Morassut has communicated to us can only give a new impetus to environmental remediation which is the country's strategic sector "*.

During the meeting, **Alfredo Pini** of Ispra, also scientific coordinator of ChemTech, recalled how research and technological innovation are the basis of a new development model, consistent with the guidelines of sustainability and circularity, and how, for the creation of this favorable context, it is necessary to remove regulatory obstacles and promote the social acceptability of choices. *"But in the last days"* he added, *"the health emergency has completely changed the picture, resulting in a new centrality in the governance of investment and modernization processes in the Country, hopefully faster and making environmentally friendly choices the real guiding criterion. for economic recovery "*.

"The high value of today's relationships" said **Vito Uricchio** of the CNR-IRSA *"lays the foundations for building together and consolidating over time a synergy between the industrial system, the institutional world and social partners that can activate a shared pro-active commitment and responsible, which gives life to a virtuous circle of enhancing scientific innovation and mutual emulation based on principles of environmental, economic, temporal, health and ethical sustainability"*.

Guido Bonfedi of Eni Rewind declared *"For Eni Rewind, remediation measures are central objectives for the development of the circular economy applied to sustainability. Objectives that are achievable only on condition that environmentally sustainable remediation processes, such as MISP or in-situ technologies, are privileged and encouraged, and not unattainable investments. In addition, regulatory instruments must be defined to give certainty in times of administrative procedures and to not slow down the industrial development of these areas: a narrative for the purpose of mainly effective characterization tools (flow chamber / passive samplers). Finally, we promote, also through technical-administrative evaluations with the relevant bodies, the maximum reuse of the groundwater treated in industrial processes"*.

The meeting was closed by **Silvia Paparella** *"RemTech acts as the platform of the future for the issues of environmental remediation and not only, we are already studying new scenarios for this" and added "It will increasingly need new and innovative tools for improving the dialogue between the technical, technological, scientific and political system. In this regard, today we have certainly put another important stone.. together!"*

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