



Joint Statement
11th STCU Governing Board Meeting
December 7-8, 2000

The Governing Board of the Science and Technology Center in Ukraine (STCU) convened on December 7 in Kyiv, Ukraine, approving USD \$4.88 million and 2 million Euro on new scientific projects. This year, the STCU, an intergovernmental organization established by Canada, Sweden, Ukraine, and the United States, and joined in 1998 by the European Union, celebrates 5 years of operation. The main objective of the STCU is to prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction by providing scientists and engineers from the former Soviet Union opportunities for employment on peaceful scientific projects. In addition to carrying out its work in the scientific community of Ukraine, the Center's membership includes the republics of Uzbekistan and Georgia, where STCU project work has been underway since 1998.

The 62 new projects approved at this meeting bring the total value of projects funded by the STCU to over USD \$44.49 million. This total also includes new projects valued at over \$1.5 million funded by STCU Partner organizations.

Projects funded at this meeting cover a wide range of research: development of a new coating that could eliminate the need to replace hip joint prostheses; identification of regions of occurrences of dangerous viruses in Ukraine; a database to support the decommissioning of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant; tracking the spread of radionuclides after forest fires in contaminated areas; a technology for early recognition, precise diagnosis and monitoring of heart disease; a novel carpet-weaving technology; remote sensing for marine ecology systems, and a new type of rechargeable lithium battery. They will employ 1026 scientists, 665 of whom are from former weapons of mass destruction or delivery system programs. This is in addition to 6200 scientists supported by the STCU since 1995. The projects will be carried out at institutes in Dnepropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Kyiv, Lviv, Sevastopol and Uzhgorod, in Ukraine, and in Tbilisi, Georgia and Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

The Board recognized ten new STCU Partner organizations introduced since its previous meeting: AECL Chalk River Laboratories (Canada) and Vansco Electronics, Ltd. (Canada), A. STUCKI Co. (USA), K+S Services Inc. (USA) and United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA); Warwick University, UK (EU); Institute for Nuclear Protection and Safety (ISPN), France (EU). HBS Bolzenschweiss-Systeme GmbH & Co. KG, Germany (EU), GRS: Gesellschaft für Anlagen-und Reaktorsicherheit mbH, Germany (EU), and IMG (Institut für Maschinen, Antriebe und elektronische Gerätetechnik gGmbH, Germany (EU). These entities join the growing number of organizations funding research and development activities in Ukraine as STCU Partners. The Board also noted with satisfaction that that \$40,000 from the STCU patent support fund supported 32 Ukrainian and 3 foreign patent applications during 2000. In addition, STCU project participants were recently awarded a U.S. patent and several Ukrainian patents for their inventions.

The Board also noted with satisfaction the STCU's support of 17 technical conferences this year, including at the Institute for Problems of Material Science, Kyiv; Institute of Hydromechanics, Kyiv; Institute for Magnetism, Kyiv; Kharkiv Institute of Physics and Technology, Kharkiv; State Scientific and Research Institute of Information Infrastructure, Lviv; and the Heat Physics Department of Uzbek Academy of Sciences in Tashkent.

On December 8, the STCU hosted an event to commemorate 5 years of STCU success. Ukrainian government and political officials, STCU project scientists and other Ukrainian scientific leaders, representatives from STCU Party embassies in Kyiv, and representatives of the STCU Governing Board gathered at Teacher's House in Kyiv for presentations and discussions of STCU's accomplishments and future activities.