# Activity 03 - Communications Support Terms of Reference

## 1. Background and Goals

The "Communications Support" activity was approved by the 11<sup>th</sup> Governing Board on December 7, 2000. The main objective of the activity is to assist scientists and institutes from Newly Independent States party to the STCU agreement in establishing and enhancing information access and exchange with their colleagues in the U.S., Canada, and European Union.

## 2. Funding

These funds are allocated by the Funding Parties as part of Supplemental Budgets. The expenditures are charged against the Budget item "Communications Support".

### 3. Legal Framework

In those cases, when the work to be done by a contractor and its costs are determined, the Chief Administrative Officer shall prepare contracts for all services and equipment required.

The procedure of internal concurrence is similar to the procedure for Project Agreement Execution.

### 4. Activity Management and Procedures

The Communications Support activity is implemented in accordance with an annual plan approved by the Governing Board.

#### 5. Financial Management

The management of the accounts is performed according to the STCU Standard Operating Procedure - Supplemental Budgets (STCU Document SOP-XIV, 15/09/2000).

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