



International Workshop - Exhibition

Strategy for Development of Large- Scale Research Infrastructure of the Russian Federation & Cooperation with the European Union

Date: **October 20-21, 2008**

Place: Russian Center of Science and Culture 7, Tzavela street, 15231 Chalandri, Athens - Greece



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HELLENIC REPUBLIC



Minutes of the International Workshop

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On 20th and 21st October 2008 took place in Athens an International Workshop entitled:
*"Strategy for Development of Large-scale Research Infrastructures of the Russian
Federation & Cooperation with the European Union"*.

The event organised by the Russian Ministry of Education and Science, Russian Center of Science and Culture in Athens, Embassy of the Russian Federation in Greece, NCP for RIs in Russia and the General Secretariat of Research and Technology (GSRT), Ministry of Development. The event is supported by: the European Commission (DG RTD & DG INFOSO), the federal Agency for Science and Innovations of Russia, the European RIs NCPs Network and the NCPs Network of Greece.

The event was attended by 78 persons. People. High-level representatives from the Research and Academic sector, as well as many key players of RIs, Researchers, and the members of the RIs NCPs Network, participated, among others, in the audience.

The event was hosted by the Russian Center of Science and Culture, which is located in 7 Tzavella str, in Athens- GR.

In the opening ceremony the first welcoming/opening speech was addressed to the audience by Dr. A. Lunkov, Director of the Russian Center of Science and Culture. Dr. Lunkov opening the event on behalf of the Ambassaor of Russia Federation in Greeece. In the following on behalf of Professor Ph. Tsalidis, Secretary General for R&D, Dr. C. Vasilakos (member of ESFRI and Counsellor for R&D to the EU), addressed a welcoming speech. He mentioned the importance of Research Infrastructure for EU, he referred the interest of Greece to participate in several European Research Infrastructures (within the framework of the ESFRI Roadmap). In addition he mentioned the impact of RIs for the society, for Regions as well for the motivation of Researchers and the EU itself. Finally he added that Greece expresses strong interest to host one of the Pan-European RIs, which is the Cubic Kilometer.

Ms. Fr. Lasnier was the second speaker and she was the representative of the French Embassy. The presentation of Ms. Lasnier was very important as France has the Presidency of the EU, and its participation in the International event regarding the cooperation between EU and East European countries considers as highly important. Ms Lasnier mentioned the support of his Excellency the Ambassador of France in Greece to the International Workshop and also referred to the importance of Research Infrastructures to the EU.

The welcoming/opening session closed by Dr. Maria Douka, representative of DG Research, EC (unit Research Infrastructures). Ms. Douka gave the key note speech of the event. She mentioned the vision of the EC regarding Research Infrastructures, and in parallel she referred to: the definition of the Research Infrastructures, the ESFRI Roadmap, the survey for RIs which took place across Europe on 2006 under the supervision of EC, the Infrastructures actions/financial tools (eg. Design Studies; Integrated Infrastructure Initiative; Support policy development, etc). Finally Ms. Douka mentioned the importance of RIs, their impact for the EU and the European added value of Research Infrastructures.

The event divided in three sessions, and took place eleven presentations by Russian Senior Representatives/Professors and Academicians.

The first session chaired by Dr. C. Vasilakos, Greek delegate to ESFRI. In this specific session lectures/presentations gave by:

- Dr. E. Levashov, Prof, Academician of RANS, and Head of the Russian NCP for Research Infrastructures. Dr. Levashov mentioned the RIs NCPs Network and its project EuroRIs-Net.
- Dr. Pavel Kashkarov: Deputy Director for R&D of "Kurchatov Institute". Dr. Kashkarov referred to the Nanotechnology Research Infrastructure and the role of the "Kurchatov Institute" which considers as a Russian Research Infr. In the area of Nanotechnology.
- Dr. VI. Babeshko, Prof. Academician of RAS. Dr. Babeshko referred to the "Joint Use Center for Vibroesmic Sources".

The first session closed by Dr. Mikhail Filonov, Prof. and Head of Scient.-Educational Center namely "Nanomaterials and Nanotechnologies", State Technological University. Dr. Filonov gave a speech on the "Joint Use Center for, Material Science and

Metallurgy”, of Moscow Institute of Steel and Alloys. He referred to the current status, to the state of the Art and to the way forward regarding the plans of the Center.

The second session took place after the interval and chaired by Dr.E. Levashov. Presentations gave by:

- Dr. Val. Pindyurin, Senior Researcher. Dr. Pindyurin gave a presentation on “Sibarian Center of Synchrotron and Terahertz Radiation”. The Center of Synchrotron is part of the Budker Institute of Nuclear Physics, Siberian Branch of Russian Academy of Science.

Professor Valery Bukhtiyarov was the second speaker of the session and his presentation focused on BIC Infrastructure Complex for Development and Commercialization of New Catalysts and Technologies.

Professor Igor Chashey was the third speaker of the 2nd session and his presentation focused on the “Puschino Radio Astronomy Observatory and Science, Facilities and International collaboration”.

The 2nd session closed by the presentation of Prof. Pavel Todua which gave a presentation on the “Metrology and Standardization for Nanotechnologies. Prof. Todua is the Dean of the SATE Technical University “Moscow Physical – Technical Institute”.

The third session took place after a short interval and three presentations took place as follow:

Professor Al. Korneev gave a presentation on the “Joint Use Center Analytics and Strength”

In the following Prof. Ivan Ermolov gave a presentation on the “Challenges of Russian-Greek Collaboration in Hi-Tech Area Robotics and IT”. Professor Ermolov refereed also to the fruitful collaboration which has been established between “STANKIN” Moscow State Technological University and the Technology Park of Patras. Dr. Ermolov mentioned that this cooperation could be enhanced and there

are opportunities for collaboration between STANKIN and other Research Institutes in Greece and in EU itself.

The third session closed by a presentation given by Dr. Evgeny Ugrinovich, Deputy Director for International S&T Cooperation of the Russian Research Center "Kurchatov Institute" .

The presentation of DR. Ugrinovich entitled: "System of Organisation of Research & Development in the field of Nanotechnologies in Russia".

Dr Ugrinovich mentioned, among others, that as soon as the RI of Kurshatov will be upgraded then will give/permit access to the above mentioned RI for the Scientists from EU and other countries. Moreover Dr Ugrinovich referred to the role of Nanotechnologies as an interdisciplinary sector for many other scientific areas and he mentioned also to the role of "*Nano*" in the economy of the postindustrial society.

In addition, Dr. Ugrinovich mentioned that there is a National Programme in Russia Federation and the structure of this specific R&D National Programme is similar to the FP7 of EU. The Russian National R&D Programme has five (5) main sub-Programmes, including NN (Nanotechnologies) among others. It is expected that within the framework of the above mentioned National R&D Programme the National Funding for the NNN sector will be around 318 billion RUR for the period from 2008 – 2013.

Finally he mentioned that there is a mapping exercise for Nano RIs in Russia Federation. Dr. Ugrinovich added that there is "an open door" for the cooperation with the EU and the fruitful S&T bilateral cooperation with Greece could play an important role as a "bridge" in order to support and enhance the S&T Cooperation between EU and Russia.

The third session chaired by Ms. Maria Koutrokoi (Greek NCP for RIs, GSRT, Directorate of S&T cooperation, European Division)

Professor Groumpos, Director of the Technology Park of Patras made a short comment and he mentioned that we could strengthen the cooperation between Greece and Russia Federation especially on the scientific fields of Robotics, earthquakes and fires (Environmental issues/catastrophes) as well as on the areas of Biotechnology and Food.

Finally Dr. Maria Douka (EC) closure the 1st day of the event with conclusions and comments. Dr. Maria Douka mentioned, among others, that she is going to transfer to the EC her impression regarding the big potentiality for the enhancement of the S&T cooperation between Russia and EU. Moreover she mentioned that currently the EU and Russia Federation have “frozen relations” but independently of the current situation the Scientists across EU and Russia try to establish Cooperation and Networks.

According to this the “doors” will be opened and a fruitful collaboration among different scientists could be established in order to be achieved economy of scale. Within this framework and based on the above mentioned “spirit” the EC (RIs unit of DG RTD) required by GSRT (Co-organiser of the event) addressing invitations to the RIs NCPs Network as the most appropriate Network to support initiatives and Networks of Scientists as above described.

It is expected that 3-4 countries of EU (including Greece) would like to sign, or already signed, an S&T cooperation agreement, and then other countries it is expected to follow.

In addition, Ms. Maria Douka mentioned that Russia Federation expressed its interest to participate in few projects under ESFRI (eg. X-FEL, ELI etc).

The 1st day of the event closed around 17.30 and then took place a dinner for all participants given by his Excellency the Ambassador of Russia Federation in Greece.

In the second day of the event, on 21st October, took place bilateral meetings between representatives of Greek RIs and the Russian participants in order to investigate possibilities for further collaboration on specific scientific fields/topics.

Moreover the Russian Scientists realized visits in the following important Greek RIs: In the Hellenic Pasteur Institute; in the NCSR Demokritos and to the National and Capodestrian University of Athens.

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