

PRESS RELEASE

STCU GBM 22 Joint Statement

May 18th, 2006

Kyiv, Ukraine

The Twenty Second Meeting of the Governing Board of the Science and Technology Center in Ukraine (STCU) convened on May 18th, 2006 in Kyiv, Ukraine; approving over \$9.6 million and €2.2 million in science research projects. These include twenty-four (24) new regular, government funded scientific projects for a total of \$1,953,497 and €2,124,820; twenty-two (22) new Partner Projects valued at \$5,804,742 and €108,520; and thirteen (13) Partner Project contract extensions valued at \$1,855,399 and €11,243.

The STCU is an intergovernmental, non-profit organization created with the goal of aiding unemployed or underemployed scientists in Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, and Uzbekistan who previously worked on the development of weapons of mass destruction for the Soviet Union...

The STCU was created and is governed by the 'Agreement to Establish a Science and Technology Center in Ukraine', originally signed by Canada, Sweden, Ukraine and the United States.

Subsequently, Sweden was replaced by the European Union; Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, and Uzbekistan have also acceded to the agreement. The STCU finances projects that redirect the know how of the scientists, who were formerly involved in military programs, into peaceful sustainable civilian applications. Other than government funded projects, the STCU also works in a number of other spheres of activity: Matchmaking; Promotional Missions; Seminars and Workshops; Partnership Projects; Travel Grants; and Patent Support.

The STCU and the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU) also continued their successful co-funding arrangement of jointly selected science projects. This unique arrangement, called Targeted Initiatives, demonstrates the equal partnership and mutual benefits of the STCU and Ukrainian cooperation, and STCU and NASU plan to continue this current effort while STCU develops other co-funding possibilities in the future

The STCU Governing Board meets on a semi-annual basis in order to determine the Center's policies and funding for scientific projects. The STCU Secretariat, located in Kyiv, Ukraine, is the main body responsible for fulfilling STCU decisions and policies on a daily basis.

The total funding to date including all twenty-two (22) STCU Governing Boards stands at approximately **\$142.6 million**, with the donor countries contributing the following amounts: Canada - \$3.3m, U.S.A.- \$73.0m, European Union - \$25.4m (€1.5m), Non-Government Partners Sector - \$14.0m, Government Partners Sector - \$25.9m and Other (Japan, CERN) - \$1.0m.

For more information on the Center's activities please visit our website at <http://www.stcu.int>