



The Joint Memorandum of the 2nd International Scientific Conference «Science of Future» and the 2nd All-Russian Scientific Forum «Science of Future – Science of Youth»

The 2nd International Scientific Conference «Science of Future» and the 2nd National Forum «Science of Future – Science of Youth» took place in Kazan on September 20-23, 2016. Both events have been organised and supported by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation.

The Forum and the Conference are among the most important and memorable scientific events of the year 2016 in Russia. They demonstrated impressive achievements of the Russian research laboratories, helped to transfer knowledge between multiple research centers, to share skills and good practices, served as a playground for brainstorming sessions and a discussion club for intellectuals busy with analyzing the major trends in the international science, development of science in Russia and setting up the international research and training networks.

A great number of well-known and distinguished Russian and international scientists took part in the events. Among the conference participants were the winners of the prestigious «mega-grant» competitions carried out in the framework of the Decree 220 of the Government of Russian Federation as well as the young scientists who joined the «mega-grant» labs, leading Russian scientists, postdocs, PhD and Master students selected to take part in the competition for prestigious awards.

The Forum and the Conference have demonstrated a high level of research being realized in the «mega-grant» laboratories. The leading scientists who are heading the «mega-grant» labs have shared their experience in setting up new laboratories and their integration into the research environment of the host universities and research institutes.

The Grant Council of Russian Federation has deliberated in Kazan during the Forum, and the winners of the 5th «mega-grant» competition have been announced. The further extension of the «mega-grant» program and the support of the best «mega-grant» laboratories by the State beyond the end of the grants will help modernizing the Russian science and promote its integration into the international scientific work-space. Moreover, the



«mega-grant» program is important for improving and promoting the image of Russian science internationally.

During the discussions at the Forum in Kazan, the representatives of the «mega-grant» community have underlined the importance of long-standing support of the most successful laboratories created within the «mega-grant» program and other funding programs by the State. Such support may be realised in a form of establishment of a set of permanent research positions with competitive funding to be hosted by these laboratories.

An important factor of attractiveness of Russian universities and research centers for young scientists working both in Russia and abroad would be designing a number of grants offered to young researchers at different stages of their scientific career: from PhD students to middle-career researchers. Awarding these grants to the most talented representatives of the new generation of scientists would improve the scientific mobility within Russia and help to train young scholars in the best national universities and research centers.

The Forum has demonstrated the crucial importance of international cooperation and involvement of high level international scientists into the research projects being realised in Russia. A Russian-French symposium has been organised during the Forum and the Conference in Kazan under supervision of the Embassy of France in Moscow. This event brought together both experienced and young researchers from France and Russia including the members of «mega-grant» laboratories set up by French researchers in Russia.

The high impact of joint research on the Russian and French scientific programs has been emphasized by the participants of the symposium. An international component has a key importance for the mega-science projects realised in Russia, such as NICA, EXFEL, NEESPI. Establishment of the new International Research Center for Theoretical and Mathematical Physics would play a very positive role in creating a stimulating research environment in Russia.

A great number of representatives of the Russian scientific diaspora took part in the Forum and the Conference. The Russian scientific diaspora is



unique in many aspects. It is one of the largest in the world and one of the most diverse in terms of subject areas and research disciplines where its representatives play key roles internationally. Russian scientists working abroad have accumulated remarkable knowledge and research skills. They have kept their mother tongue and their love to their Motherland and are now offering precious and much needed help in strengthening the Russian science and its international integration. The diaspora is a valuable national asset that may be and must be involved in the forthcoming research programs in Russia.

At the meeting of the Work group for cooperation with the Russian scientific diaspora which took place during the Forum in Kazan it has been underlined that the diaspora should be more strongly involved in the research life of the Russian scientific community, in particular in what concerns the expertise of research projects and direct cooperation with universities, academic research institutes and other research centers in Russia. The more active involvement of the diaspora may be achieved by strengthening cooperation of Russian universities and the Academy of Sciences with associations of the Russian-speaking scientific diaspora, such as RASA and RusSciTech supported by the Ministry of Education and Science and other institutions of the Russian Federation.

An important role in the formation of the new generation of Russian scientists may be played by training of Russian undergraduate and postgraduate students in the world leading research laboratories. Such training visits would also strengthen the institutional links, offer the young scientists a unique international experience and improve their language skills. Setting up such a training program may be assisted by the RASA program ICAS («International Center for Advanced Studies»). The financial support of such training visits should be significantly strengthened.

The competition of best student research works conducted during the Forum has demonstrated a high level of scientific and technical projects realised by the students. A timely support of the winners of this competition and their involvement in the research activity of the best Russian laboratories could bring a new generation of research leaders so much needed for the development of science in Russia. We advise admitting postgraduate



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students to this competition in the future.

To summarize, the Forum «Science of Future – Science of Youth» and the International Conference «Science of Future» are the most important scientific events of the year 2016 in Russia. They helped improving the international visibility of the Russian science, bringing together scientists and representatives of the State, training young scientists. It is very important to carry on with regular organisation of such large scale scientific events in Russia in the coming years.

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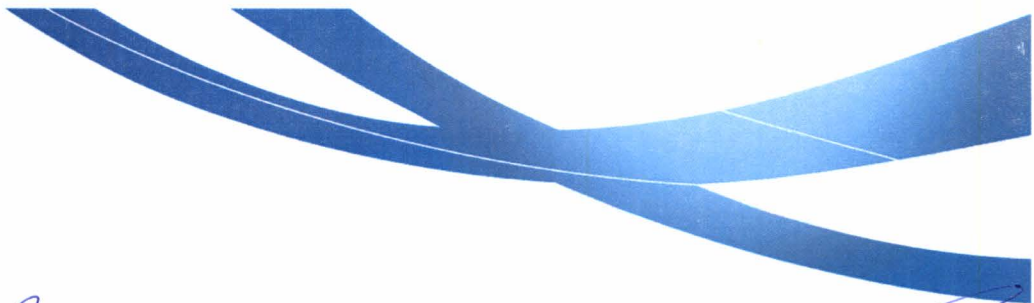
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