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**Remarks**  
**at the occasion of the launch**  
**of the ISTC Annual Report 2010**

**at the**

**Business Center**  
**of the Russian Academy of Sciences**  
**Chernogolovka, Moscow Region**

**by**

**Adriaan van der Meer**  
**Executive Director ISTC**

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## **Introduction**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Distinguished Colleagues,

Dear Friends,

I would like to thank you for coming to today's event.

We have two points on our agenda:

- The presentation of the Orchemed project results and
- The launch of the ISTC Annual Report 2010.

I would like to thank the Russian Academy of Sciences in Chernogolovka for hosting the events. I also especially would like to thank Mr. Valeriy Usov from the US BioIndustry Initiative for coming all the way to the Moscow region for today's meeting.

## **Orchemed**

Let me now turn to the Orchemed project.

Through this project a lot has been achieved:

- The establishment of a non profit partnership Orchemed. This partnership of Russian research institutes is addressing issues of Intellectual Property rights transfer to the private sector in order to develop novel compounds and drugs. It also supports Russian member institutes to attract investment to carry out further research. Furthermore, it provides preclinical testing facilities in order to bring research results closer to the market place;

- The upgrading of the preclinical testing facilities at the Scientific Center to Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) standards. Out of the \$2.2 Million invested in the project, a more than 1 million USD went directly to the upgrade of the preclinical testing facility. It is now one of the few facilities in Russia that can offer this high level quality of preclinical testing. I expect that this will benefit Orchemed member institutes as well as private companies which can also outsource preclinical testing to this place.

To date, Orchemed has 13 institute-members from recognized scientific centers of the Russian Academy of Sciences - Moscow, Chernogolovka, Novosibirsk, Ekaterinburg, Kazan, Ufa, Syktyvkar, Ivanovo and Irkutsk. All of them are now working together to reach greater self sustainability. It is the largest cooperative research group in Russia. Representatives of Orchemed will present more detailed information on their work.

At this occasion, I would like to underline that the Orchemed project is a good example of what ISTC can achieve i.e. bringing scientists together and providing tools for further development to the benefit of science, business and technology developers to ultimately develop new medicines. The ISTC is a multilateral mechanism created in 1992 to fund research and commercialization initiatives in the CIS and in Georgia.

## **Annual Report**

This brings me to the second point on our agenda i.e. the launch of our Annual Report 2010.

This Annual Report provides an overview of the main results of our work so far.

The theme of the report this year is “Developing International Scientific Cooperation”. By choosing this theme, I wanted to emphasize that ISTC is one of the few mechanisms operating in the former Soviet Union that promotes real international collaborative research and development. This view is supported by our project collaborators. Their opinions are put in our new Annual Report.

In 2010, more than 580 ISTC projects covering various scientific fields were under execution. Their total value is more than 246 million USD. ISTC paid grants to 11,000 scientists (25,5 million USD).

The Annual Report provides an overview of our success stories in areas such as agriculture, environment, health, nuclear safety and space.

In 2010, ISTC organized for the first time a Summer School on Nuclear Physics. This event is reported in our Annual Report. Some participants at this event were interviewed.

ISTC has organized numerous workshops and seminars addressing actual subjects such as the fight against tuberculosis, the impact of volcanic ashes on the aviation sector as well as possibilities of space debris mitigation.

Last year, ISTC has started an important discussion on the future transformation of the organization in order to adequately address changed needs. At the end of the year there was a convergence of views on the way forward i.e. the need to set up a new organization dealing with global scientific challenges, scientists' engagement and activities aimed at further modernization of various economies. This discussion is continuing.

Finally, I trust you find the Annual Report interesting. The Report can be downloaded from our website: <http://www.istc.ru>

I thank you for your attention.