

## IAC2008 RESOLUTION

We, participants of the International conference «Ukraine in Antarctic Region: National Priorities and Global Integration» (Kyiv, May 23-25, 2008), state:

- scientific researches in the Antarctic region are among **main priorities of world science**;
- polar regions are a unique natural laboratory, where processes of planetary scale prove oneself before they appear in other parts of Earth, above all things climate change and sequential alteration of ecosystem;
- Antarctic Region is a that ground, where the Ukrainian scientists **have the acknowledged achievements and can be in future on the cutting edge of modern world science** and to take part on even in integration of potential and programs of researches of international scientific community;
- the unique location of the Ukrainian Antarctic Station «Academician Vernadsky» (UAS) allows to conduct **international research to solve the special problems** which can not be studied in other places of the world;
- the legal and organizational providing of Antarctic researches must become **the important task of domestic and external policy of Ukraine**.

Recognizing important progress of Antarctic researches for times of existence of UAS «Vernadsky», and acknowledging the necessity of improvement of mechanism of development of the new **National Program of Antarctic Research for 2010-2020** we propose:

- to form priorities of scientific researches of Ukraine in Antarctic Region by taking into account both those directions which are **priority in modern world science** and those, which are directed on the **effective use of potential and development of domestic science, assist in solving of economic and humanitarian problems of the state, defend national interests of Ukraine in this region of the world**;
- to pay special attention for the projects, in development and realization of which **international co-operation is possible at participation of the Ukrainian scientists**;
- to introduce development of the **National Program of Antarctic Research for 2010-2020** with bringing in of all **specialists on a polar subject**, which work in Ukraine, regardless of their department belonging, and if necessary – **specialists from other countries**; in particular by the conducting of opened “round tables” and scientific seminars which will offer the **criteria of selection of priority projects and mechanisms of their realization**. Only then this program will correspond to a modern level of researches of the Antarctic Area, and its implementation will lead to increase in competitiveness of the Ukrainian science;
- MES of Ukraine, NAS of Ukraine, leading universities and research department establishments to begin without delay the process of consultations in relation to forming of the **National Program of Antarctic Research for 2010-2020** and to carry it out transparently and in public;

We suggest including the following priority tasks into the new Program:

- **to create the system of the permanent long term monitoring** of the state of physical, chemical, geological, biological and ecological components of the Antarctic system; to develop and **co-ordinate the system of monitoring and set of indicators for it with the existent global systems of monitoring**;
- for implementation of the Ukraine's obligations within the limits of Antarctic Treaty and Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources to create a **protective marine district near UAS «Academician Vernadsky»**. A conducting of researches, necessary for creation of protective area, is priority for the nearest two years;
- **training of young polar researchers**;
- **informative accompaniment of projects of the program and dissemination of their results**.

For the improvement of situation in relation to organization of works on UAS and co-ordination of scientific researches we propose:

- to **reorganize** functions of NASC of Ukraine in obedience to modern concept of effective management processes for prevention of situation when **the same state institution determines priorities of its activity and controls implementation of the program of researches**;
- alternatively to create new effective National Polar Agency, or new Institute of Polar Research;
- to inculcate **transparent system of scientific projects competition** with bringing in of leading domestic and foreign specialists as independent experts;
- projects to hold competition through **Independent Expert Panel** with the use of objective criteria of evaluation of authors previous scientific achievements (publications in leading scientific journal, citation indexes etc.)

With the purpose of creation of professional environment, opened to the contacts with world science, for introduction of democratic principles of co-ordination, accounting and control in the processes of making decision, we propose:

- to create **Ukrainian Polar Society** as independent from the state professional association, opened for all Ukrainian polar scientists, explorers, and their foreign partners, and call to the collaboration of all interested.

The scientific potential of the Ukrainian researchers as Conference has shown, and directions of the international cooperation offered by participants from the various countries, allows to look with optimism at prospect of participation of Ukraine in the future polar researches.

May 25, 2008, Kyiv, Ukraine