

Two-Year Review of STCU Agreement

The "Agreement to Establish a Science and Technology Center in Ukraine" ("STCU Agreement" or "Agreement") provides for a review by the Parties, as set forth in Article XV(A), which says:

"This Agreement shall be subject to review by the Parties two years after entry into force. This review shall take into account the financial commitments and payments of the parties."

The STCU Agreement entered into force on July 16, 1994. After that date, the Parties commenced work in earnest to bring the STCU into operation. Despite the considerable challenges of establishing an unique intergovernmental organization in Kiev, by the end of 1995, the Center had occupied its current permanent facilities, and had hosted the first STCU Governing Board meeting, at which the first grant awards to Ukrainian scientists and engineers were announced. In the first few months of 1996, the STCU and recipient Ukrainian institutes completed project agreements for the first grant awards, and the Center made strides in bringing on board a staff of experts to run STCU operations.

The Governing Board notes with great satisfaction the accomplishments of the Parties in bringing the STCU into full operation. Substantial financial commitments and payments have been made by each of the Parties to establish the Center. Additional commitments and payments will be forthcoming in the future as projects are approved and grant payments are made to Ukrainian scientists and engineers. The Center will be extremely active in the coming months and years, as it provides support, technical advice, monitoring and auditing of the current projects, and those that will be approved in the future.

Therefore, the Parties to the STCU Agreement should establish a Working Group to begin the Two-Year Review by July 16, 1996. The Working Group's first action should be to establish a timetable and workplan for the conduct of the review, which would be submitted to the members of the Governing Board at the earliest opportunity. The Working Group's review will take into account actions by the Parties to implement the Agreement. The STCU Secretariat will provide all necessary support to carry out the Review, and the Governing Board will make every effort to ensure the Review is completed as expeditiously as possible.

The Governing Board, as representative of the Parties, reaffirms the commitment to the STCU Agreement. The Governing Board looks forward to the Two-Year Review, which will provide the opportunity to reflect on the first two years of STCU operations and will furnish guidance on further enhancing the STCU's capability to meet the objectives of the Agreement in future years.