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#### For Immediate Release

### PRESS NOTICE

**17 February 2009** 

### International Scientific Partnerships in the Novosibirsk Region

Today in Novosibirsk, the International Science and Technology Center (ISTC) met representatives of the region's research institutes to review results of cooperation on international R&D projects. Since 1994, ISTC has funded more than 200 projects at 38 institutes in the Novosibirsk region to a total value of \$45 million USD.

ISTC Executive Director, Adriaan van der Meer, leading the ISTC visit to Novosibirsk said: "I am impressed by the quality of scientific research undertaken by the institutes and I am very pleased that ISTC has been able to work with institutes in the region to further improve the research facilities that are based here."

Mr van der Meer added: "This visit takes place at an important time for ISTC as the organization seeks a new operational structure that will better contribute to the worldwide scientific challenges that all of us face, such as global warming, the development of new medicines and finding new forms of energy. I look forward to further cooperation with all of the prestigious institutes that we work with in the Novosibirsk region"

During his visit, Mr van der Meer met with directors from a number of research institutes, in particular from Boroskov, Budker Institute of the Nuclear Physics, and the Khristianovich Institute of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics. Information was given on the latest developments for cooperation and on the transformation of ISTC toward meeting today's global scientific challenges.

A number of ISTC projects currently underway in Novosibirsk were reviewed including: collaboration with the CERN Hadron Collider, the testing of space vehicles during earth re-entry, research to reduce gas emissions from diesel engines and new therapies to cure cancer.

Further details on the above-named projects and on ISTC's work in the Novosibirsk region is available from the ISTC.

# **Notes to Editors**

## 1. The International Science and Technology Center (ISTC)

ISTC, based in Moscow, is an intergovernmental and non-profit organization that finds practical ways to redirect the creativity and intellectual capabilities of former weapons scientists in Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) towards meeting the technological and R&D demands of international business and industry. ISTC seeks to create long-term, sustainable employment opportunities for scientists and technical researchers within Russia and the CIS.

ISTC has played major role in the nonproliferation of weapon of mass destruction in Russia and the CIS since its establishment by International Agreement in 1992.

ISTC offers a wide range of programs including training in business development and the protection of the intellectual property of the institutes.

Since starting operation in 1994, a total 2600 projects have been funded representing around \$800 million USD. Research is being carried out on the basis of international and national priorities. An independent Scientific Advisory Committee provides international advice on each of the research proposals submitted to ISTC by research institutes before funding decisions are taken.

In 2009, ISTC celebrates 15 years of operation in Russia, Georgia and other countries of the CIS. ISTC will hold a number of anniversary events throughout 2009 across all of the countries that support the work of the organization, ending the year with an international science cooperation conference to take place in Moscow on 10 December 2009.

### 2. Media Contact:

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