

Note of Resolution of RVC Steering Committee Meeting¹

8th November 2006, Budapest, Hungary

Considering:

1. The critical importance of science, technology and innovation (STI) for economic and industrial competitiveness and sustainable development;
2. The usefulness of Technology Foresight (TF) for setting strategic priorities and for strengthening innovation systems; and
3. The need to strengthen regional and international cooperation to integrate TF in decision-making processes in the CEE/NIS countries

Agree:

1. To launch dynamic cooperation arrangements through the creation of a “regional virtual centre” (RVC) for supporting TF in the CEE/NIS region;
2. *To mobilise support from national governments and other stakeholders in the participating countries for the implementation of the RVC - to specify mechanism of money transfer, i.e. “operational costs are the main source of the RVC baseline funding”.*

CZ: National governments should support national focal points in the implementation of the RVC in an appropriate way.

RU: Very early, need mechanism or concrete projects for finance, not to finance RVC directly for the sake of RVC. I.e. To formulate the main principles and tasks of RVC.

3. To support current proposals for the Regional Programme on TF for CEE/NIS countries put forward by UNIDO;
4. To use the regular TF Summits as an opportunity to further strengthen and consolidate TF cooperation in the CEE/NIS region; and

¹ version 2: prepared on the basis of comments from 9 out of 12 member countries (excl. Hungary, Ukraine and Turkey)

Recommendations:

1. For UNIDO and ICS to further elaborate current proposals for the Regional Programme on TF for CEE/NIS countries and the constitution of the RVC, including the distribution of work among the participating Focal Points;
2. For the RVC Steering Committee to revise and adopt *after special meeting (consultations) the main principles, tasks and future projects (RU) the Regional Programme for implementation in 2007-09 before the end of January 2007 (realistic date? Slo)*;
3. For Steering Committee members to promote the TF Summit to be held in Budapest in 2007 and to identify appropriate stakeholders for participation;
4. For all participants in the RVC to identify and exploit funding opportunities, including possible contributions from the participating country governments for envisaged baseline activities; and

RU: Could be included only after clarifications on the main principles and tasks.

5. For all participants in the RVC to identify and exploit opportunities for conducting TF exercises in areas of common interest to the CEE/NIS region

Approved, on behalf of the RVC Steering Committee constituted by national representatives of Albania, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Turkey and Ukraine, gathered on 8th November 2006 in Budapest, Hungary.

RU: Proposal – Bilingual training programme on TF (English and Russian).