



providing them the badly needed pride in their own scientific abilities. (An important point to note: Each Ukrainian scientist involved in an STCU project is paid directly by the STCU, and not through his or her institute. This is a critical "conversion" point, since it changes old-style behavior patterns and minimizes the chances of misusing funds.

Another 72 projects have again been sent out for impartial Western peer reviews and final review by the STCU Board at its next meeting in Kyiv in mid-November 1996. With any luck, Ukrainian scientists can expect another successful series of approvals!

In many ways, the STCU is now considered as a model, show-piece, international project/organization that effectively and efficiently delivers its mission task. This is true for its organization, its degree of independence, its influence, its recognition factor, the physical office facilities it has developed, its very effective professional staff and, most importantly, for the actual work and results it has achieved towards the support and conversion of Ukrainian scientists and science in this very difficult time of transition for Ukraine. From the point of view of the Western donors, the STCU has made an invaluable contribution to the reduction of the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, while keeping the scientists in Ukraine.

The success of the STCU and the value of its contributions, can be pointed out by some very interesting, if intangible, measures. One is the fact that the Ukrainian government, after a review of the 2-year existence of the STCU Agreement, agreed to extend it without any time limitation, offering full cooperation and understanding. The STCU also receives many invitations to participate in conferences and symposia to tell about its work, about Ukrainian scientific potentials, and technology transfer opportunities and cooperation with interested Western organizations. Dr. E. Paton, President of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, recently praised the SCTU "for its invaluable work and contribution to the maintenance, support and conversion of Ukrainian scientists at this very difficult time in Ukraine's transition from a totalitarian to a market-oriented economy."

Major steps forward were the recent

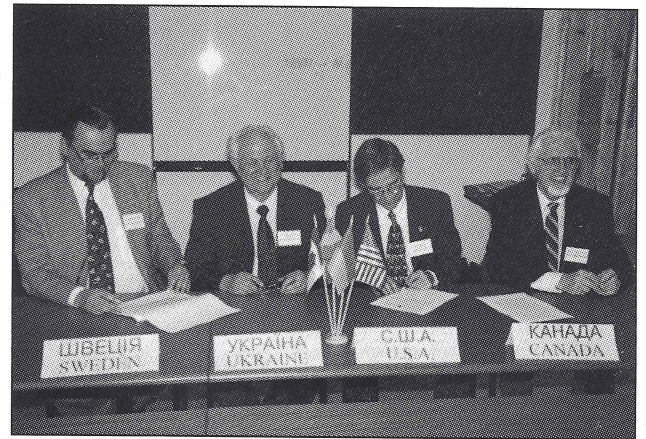
announcement by the European Union of its intention to request accession to membership of the STCU with a very significant contribution of R&D funds, and the presence of a Japanese delegation as observers at the STCU's second Board Meeting in May, as well as Japan's announcement of its intention to seek membership in the STCU with an appropriate funding contribution.

An interesting and important point is that the projects that the STCU is funding come from all regions of Ukraine: from Kharkiv, Sumy, Dnipropetrovsk, Lviv, Chernivtsi and Kyiv. Thus, no region is neglected - an important consideration in the political environment of present-day Ukraine.

From a Canadian perspective, Canadian participation in the STCU is a very visible and very worthwhile contribution. The entire range of the STCU's influence on the conversion of Ukrainians (scientists, government officials, citizens) in terms of not only "weapons-to-ploughshares" but in terms of their thinking processes, behaviors and attitudes as well as their understanding and acceptance of competitive "Western" methods fall directly in line with present thinking that underlines Canadian aid and participation in international organizations by Canada. In line with that thinking, a special effort was made at the STCU to contribute to the training and increase in professional status of its female staff which, in fact, forms the majority of the STCU's complement.

It is time to get Ukraine's real and important contributions to science and technology recognized internationally.

Ukrainian science and technology deserves international recognition, and so the STCU has commissioned a Canadian-Ukrainian co-production of a one hour video program highlighting its achievements and capabilities. This video will be produced in English and Ukrainian, in European



Four founding parties now meet as STCU Board of Governors.

and North American TV formats and with several 10-minute shorts on specific subjects. It will provide an informative and elegant vehicle for getting the message out around the world, and western organizations interested in working with Ukraine for their common benefit.

For example: How many know that the world's largest rocket factory is in Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine? That over half of the FSU's rocket and space potential came out of Ukraine? That the FSU's premier Computer (Cybernetics) Centre was in Kyiv? That continental Europe's first digital computer was developed there? That the marvellous automatic docking mechanism used in all missions to the Mir space station was designed and produced in Ukraine? That the world's largest aircraft - the Antonov Mria - is designed and built in Kyiv? That Europe's largest vinyl chemical complex is in Kalush, Western Ukraine? That the Former Soviet Union's largest shipyards are all in Ukraine? That enormous potential exists in cooperating with Ukrainian scientists in the area of exotic new materials such as titanium?

Through its various program and activities, the STCU will continue to increase its excellent contribution to supporting Ukrainian science and the conversion of its weapons scientists -- all as part of the international effort to help Ukraine along its difficult path to democracy -- a real and prosperous market-oriented and competitive economy. ●

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Український Науково-Технологічний Центр**

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