JOINT DECLARATION

of participants of the international conference

"JINR: 25 years of a new era"

We, the participants of the international conference, dedicated to the 25th anniversary of a new stage in the history of the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (JINR), marked by finalization of accession to JINR as fully fledged Member States of a group of independent states, namely, Republic of Armenia, Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Belarus, Czech Republic, Georgia, Republic of Kazakhstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Republic of Slovakia, Ukraine and Republic of Uzbekistan, acknowledge the importance of the above event for establishment and expansion of mutually beneficial science and technology cooperation within JINR framework in a new geo-political environment. At the same time, it is appropriate to emphasize that, following the fundamental operating principles, laid down by the founding Member States, the Institute successfully withstood the challenges brought forward by political and socio-economic changes in some of its Member States in early 1990-ies, and continued consistent development under the motto: "Science brings nations together".

The experience of interaction with national research centres, accumulated during 25 years, testifies to the efficiency of applied cooperation forms, as well as confirms the interest of the Member States and partner countries in pooling together financial and scientific potentials to carry out joint research in fundamental physics. Agreements signed with Hungary, Federal Republic of Germany, Arab Republic of Egypt, Republic of Italy, Republic of Serbia and Republic of South Africa extended the geography of JINR partner network and created favourable conditions for joint work in implementation of a whole series of research projects.

Through its successful international cooperation JINR has become one of the leading research centres in the world, enjoying leading positions in several scientific areas. The discovery of new super-heavy elements of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements proved to be an outstanding achievement in recent years. The synthesis of these elements confirmed relevance of the hypothesis made by JINR scientists about the existence of the "Island of Stability" in the field of heavy nuclei. The decision of the UN General Assembly to proclaim 2019 The International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements is another acknowledgement of JINR substantial contribution to world fundamental science.

At present JINR is implementing the NICA project: Nuclotron Based Ion Collider Facility – the largest international project on the territory of the Russian Federation for

study of critical states of nuclear matter under extreme conditions and for research in spin-physics. The building of the unique factory of super-heavy elements and the spectrometer facility of the recently updated IBR-2 nuclear reactor, one of the world's most intensive pulse neutron sources, are approaching the completion stage. The Russian segment of GRID Tier-1 level centre has been commissioned, two initial clusters of the Baikal Neutrino Observatory have been put into operation. Special credit should be given to JINR training programmes. National research schools have been developed in JINR Member States, which today contribute researchers to JINR staff.

The Committee of Plenipotentiary Representatives of JINR Member States and JINR Directorate play an important role in JINR development, utilizing JINR diversified international partnership network and the international expertise of the Scientific Council and the Programme Advisory Committees. They find optimal solutions to the emerging challenges and suggest effective mechanisms for attraction of new partners. The diplomatic missions of JINR Member States provide significant assistance in this process as well.

JINR has accumulated a great potential for large-scale breakthrough projects. It shall remain committed to comprehensive development of collaboration in science and technology and shall expand its interaction with national and international organizations, since substantial results in modern fundamental science can be achieved exclusively within close international cooperation in the name of peace and for the benefit of human mankind.

26th March 2018

Joint Institute for Nuclear Research

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