EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL (STC) OF THE VEKSLER AND BALDIN LABORATORY OF HIGH ENERGY PHYSICS (VBLHEP)

16 July 2019 (electronic voting by secret ballot)

Numerical composition of the STC — 40 members; 30 members took part in the voting.

The Science and Technology Council of VBLHEP has considered the petition of the initiative group of VBLHEP STC members and members of the Coordination Committee of the megaproject "NICA Complex", which consists of:

- A. Butenko Responsible person for the launch of the 1st stage of the NICA accelerator complex,
- I. Meshkov Coordinator of work on the development and design of the accelerator complex of the project "NICA Complex",
 - N. Kapishin Leader of the BM@N project,
 - R. Tsenov Leader of the SPD project,
 - V. Golovatyuk Technical coordinator of the MPD project;
- A. Kovalenko Responsible person for the beam polarization system, coordinator of work on the construction of the sanitary protection zone of the NICA accelerator complex and issues of radiation safety of the complex,
 - N. Agapov Responsible person for the engineering infrastructure of the NICA complex,

to the JINR Directorate and Scientific Council on the exceptional issue of postponing the election of the Director of VBLHEP to 2023, to one of the sessions of the Scientific Council of that year.

The Science and Technology Council of VBLHEP has resolved as follows:

"Based on the real state of affairs in implementing the extremely sophisticated multifunctional megaproject "NICA Complex" and on the existing international practice of developing such large science-intensive complexes, the Science and Technology Council of VBLHEP believes that at the final stage of development of the complex only under the leadership of the current Director of VBLHEP the approved Leader of the megaproject "Complex NICA", who has experience in implementing international research projects, together with members of the VBLHEP Directorate, who are currently directly involved in this project, the Laboratory will be able to ensure the necessary balance and consolidation of financial and human resources for the timely and high-quality completion of all work and the commissioning of the basic configuration of the NICA complex in accordance with the tight schedule of its commissioning until the end of 2022 as approved by the Committee of Plenipotentiaries of the JINR Member States.

In this regard, the VBLHEP STC applies to the JINR Directorate and Scientific Council with the request to postpone, on the basis of an exception, the election of the Director of VBLHEP to one of the sessions of the Scientific Council of the year 2023. In the opinion of the VBLHEP STC, such a decision will guarantee implementation of the Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and JINR on the construction and exploitation of the NICA complex in accordance with the National project "Science" and the timely start of priority research at this facility by the three recently established international collaborations under the signed agreements of intent with the participating organizations".

The results of electronic voting by secret ballot of VBLHEP STC: For – 30, Against – 0.

E. Strokovsky

Chairman of VBLHEP STC

Scientific Secretary of VBLHEP STC