

Science Policy of Kyrgyzstan in the Transition Period

*T.Ormonbekov, head of the Department of social policy, President Administration,
Kyrgyz Republic, corresponding member of National Academy of Sciences of Kyrgyz
Republic*

Based on the role of science in the development of civilization, aims and objectives it should solve at the modern stage of human development problems of scientific and technological policy of the developing countries with transition economy and Kyrgyzstan in particular are being analyzed.

Examples of concrete measures are given that the Government of Kyrgyz Republic takes to adapt science to new market relations, to increase the involvement of scientific and technological spheres to the process of economic and social development of the Republic.

A number of documents of conceptual and programme character of state scale were adopted in Kyrgyzstan with concrete measures of their realization, determining the state science and technology policy and reflecting the strategy of science and technology sphere development for the medium-term period.

A number of main legislative acts is mentioned that realize concrete points of conceptions, programmes and laws in the sphere of science, technique and technology.

The model of science and technology policy in Kyrgyzstan gives the leading role to the target principle of formation and realization of state research and technical programmes, directed towards the development of the perspective branches of republic production, put innovation and commercial constituent of science, technology and innovation development to the prior position.

The report reflects the principals of state financing of research, innovation and business activity in the sphere of science, problems of training managers of international level for this sphere of activity.

The reasons of Kyrgyzstan interest in widening the international bilateral and multilateral scientific cooperation, creation on the Kyrgyz territory joint companies with foreign representatives, scientific and technological structures both with state and private financing are grounded.

Speech Text

Dear chairman, ladies and gentlemen,

Please let me first express my thanks to the chairman of Iranian National Committee of UNESCO for organizing this forum.

Today, the role of science in life of world community is redefined. Recently acquired knowledge facilitates the change of the whole technological background in different fields of economic activities. Intellectualization of work caused by scientific inventions brought radical changes in its nature and development of productive workforce. During 1930-40s science broke into the daily life of people in Kyrgyzstan as well, thereby changing their way of life and world outlook. It was generalized facilities for solving the actual problems of the nation.

In 1980-90s the development of science in the republic and its scientific background were about to determine the country's social and economic level, its role and place in Soviet Union and the world. Science turns to be the main national patrimony and a guarantee of common weal.

Science has particular importance for social, economic and cultural development of Kyrgyzstan. Studies of the past and present of science in Kyrgyzstan, and its role in the world, indicate the complicated current situation and help us identify the ways for handling and eliminating crisis situation.

Science as a subject of research has some specific features and characteristics. At first, it is because of science's nature itself. Unlike other human aspects and economic fields, scientific product (i.e. new ideas) cannot be quantitatively and qualitatively evaluated and its direct relationship with economic and social factors cannot be easily revealed. Spatial study of science is possible only at the level of numerical characteristics reflecting the field of science as specific type of human activities, but not as a body of knowledge. Second, the difference between and understanding of terms "science" and "scientific activity" and as a result, the difference in evaluation of resources and research efficiency in different states make it complicated to develop objective outlook of modern world.

Science has *vertical* and *horizontal* structure. *Vertical structure* includes management system and scientific research organizations. *Horizontal structure* of science includes its territorial distribution and organization. Our objective is to make these two structures work cooperatively.

Science of Kyrgyzstan was one of the components of the "big science" of Soviet Union which was one of the privileged fields of activity in Soviet society. Science had two important objectives: research and development in the field of civil and public technology as well as the efficient military technology, which would guarantee the existence of nation. The second aspect was more emphasized.

Now, at the beginning of XXI century, humanity can clearly see and evaluate the realities and deadlocks of world dynamics. The great difference in the level of life and countries development is the main source of contradictions of globe. Some nations reached such a level of technological development and demand such a huge consumption of resources that already exceeds the real capabilities of nature. At the same time, yet a lot of nations practically deprived of elementary education suffering hunger and other hardships.

Fixing this historical injustice is up to the will of time. Today, vector of development of world community must turn to providing a high quality of life for all of its members.

In the XXI century, science is expected to implement the special mission. It will determine stable trajectory of civilization development and evaluate the risks and possible threads for humanity. In other words, it will provide means for human beings to effectively manage the course of historical process on the globe.

In the context of objectives of world science, the aim of the scientific and technological policy in Kyrgyzstan must become development of domestic scientific and technological background and its integration to world's science as well as its application for providing stable economic and social development of the republic.

We could say that up to now Kyrgyzstan preserved its scientific and technological background. However, there is an explicit trend indicating decrease in scientific and technological potential of the republic. In this aspect, the issue of security of Kyrgyzstan in the field of science and technology seems to be relevant.

Scientific and innovational policy of the country such as improvement of state systems of certification and standardization is worth to be mentioned. On the one hand, these mechanisms stimulate the innovational development and, on the other hand, they will protect consumers and environment from negative externalities.

Providing the national scientific and technological security, should be based on the legal basis formed by state. Laws and acts regulating various fields of scientific and technological security might be divided by convention into three groups: The ones which regulate the development of science and innovational activities; the ones which regulate the scientific and technological support of different aspects of security; and the ones which regulate scientific research and development activities and distribution of technology involving threads for human beings and environment.

Strategic model of integration of Kyrgyzstan into the world's innovation and technology is built on the basis of selected priorities. Government policy in this regard is directed towards the attraction of investors for commercialization of technology and services of Kyrgyzstan.

For the purpose of the acceleration of scientific and technological development in Kyrgyzstan, Coordination Committee for science and innovational technology was established by the president of Kyrgyzstan. Its objective is to keep the head of state

informed about the conditions in the field of scientific and technological policy of the state, cooperation with the scientific organizations and scientists as well as cooperation in drawing recommendations on priority aspects of development of science and innovational technology in Kyrgyz Republic.

The law on science and principles of state policy in the field of science and technology is in effect. On the basis of law on “National Academy of Science”, Kyrgyzstan National Academy of Science operates as a high governmental scientific institution.

In 2005, the Ministry of Science and Education and Youth Politics which unifies the science at universities, basically sectoral science, was reorganized.

Also, there is Government Agency on Intellectual Property, which regulates all related fields of protection of intellectual properties.

In the case of Kyrgyzstan, we understand that supporting the scientific and technological development of country, real success in scientific and technological policy will not just result in higher level of life, but also in growth of social function of science, and expansion of its role.

This will be made possible in the future only when we can change the situation within scientific field, and also when the scientific and technological policy of government will be conducted cooperatively by Parliament and Government of Kyrgyzstan.