BULGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

To the Participants and Guests of the Second Scientific Conference "SPACE, ECOLOGY, NANOTECHNOLOGIES, SAFETY" SENS'2006

with International Participation, Recreation Center of the BAS, Varna, 14-16 June 2006

Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear colleagues,

I have the honour and the pleasure, on behalf of the Leadership of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, to welcome you to the Second Scientific Conference with International Participation «Space, Ecology, Nanotechnologies, Safety» SENS'2006.

The Leadership of the BAS appreciates highly the scientific and technological contributions of the Space Research Institute. For more than 35 years already, Bulgarian space science has been contributing not only to the self-respect and prestige of our nation, but it has also given us the chance to rank among the people, who traced mankind's route to Space. During these years, Bulgaria witnessed the establishment and development of highly qualified research potential, which designed over 100 scientific devices and equipment operating on satellites and stations under various international projects and programs. The missions of the two Bulgarian astronauts and the programs and experiments related with them are among the most significant achievements of Bulgarian space science.

This forum is important not only for scientists and science as a whole, but it is also an important step for our cohesion with European standards and thinking.

In 2007, when we shall become an integral part of the European Union, we shall face new challenges and I have no doubt that Bulgarian space science will be one of the factors for their overcoming.

The Leadership of the BAS welcomes the initiative of the Space Research Institute to organize this Conference, which has turned into a traditional annual forum.

I wish you successful work!

14 June 2006 CHAIRMAN Academician IVAN YUHNOVSKI