

Professor Dr. Vladislav Panchenko
Board Chairman
Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR)
32a, Leninskiy prospect Street
Moscow, 119991
Russia

May 2, 2017

## Dear Professor Panchenko,

I am delighted to offer my warmest greetings and congratulations to the Russian Foundation for Basic Research on your silver 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

NSFC deeply appreciates RFBR's commitment to China-Russia scientific cooperation and continuous efforts to promote it. Since 1996, NSFC and RFBR have been funding joint projects between Chinese and Russian scientists and numerous researchers have benefited from this program. Now the program has become a model for the scientific cooperation between our two countries. Our collaboration has been further upgraded through the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on joint research program. The five projects approved for the first joint call are in progress and a new joint call on biomedical research is already under preparation. I am very glad to see the program proceed smoothly after a good beginning.

I still vividly remember the moment we signed the MoU in the summer of 2014. Looking back on the milestone event gives me a new perspective on our bilateral cooperation. In the letter dated March 16, my colleague Professor Liu Congqiang, NSFC Vice President, has introduced NSFC's Science, Talents and Future Action Plan for the Belt and Road Initiative. It is my great pleasure to learn that you will personally attend the symposium in July. I believe the NSFC-RFBR cooperation will have a more active role to play under the Belt and Road framework, and our bilateral coopeartion will absolutely add significance to this Plan.



Please accept my best wishes for your continued success on this special anniversary occasion and in the years to come.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Yang Wei

President

National Natural Science Foundation of China