NHAN DAN DETAILS USSR SCIENCE, TECH COOPERATION

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[Article by Deng Huu, chairman of the State Science and Technology Commission: "The Soviet Union's Wholehearted Cooperation and Assistance in Vietnam's Scientific and Technological Revolution"]

[Text] After the total liberation of the south that allowed for the entire country to advance toward socialism, and especially since our country and the Soviet Union signed the treaty of friendship and cooperation, scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries has vigorously developed in an unprecedented manner. It can be said that this was the beginning of the second phase -- that of all-round cooperation in natural and technological sciences between Vietnam and the Soviet Union. The salient point of this phase is that we have bypassed the period of cooperation in small projects and the two countries have worked out long-term scientific programs and subjects requiring several years of joint research efforts. This is a qualitative change in Vietnamese-Soviet scientific and technological cooperation.

In the 1981-85 plan, the Vietnam Institute of Science and the Vietnam Social Science Committee have reached an agreement with the USSR Academy of Science on a program of cooperation involving 27 issues and 73 subjects of scientific research. Many scientific and practical subjects related to capital construction are being worked on by scientists of both countries such as the following: conducting an investigation to compile a botanical encyclopedia for Vietnam; conducting an investigation on the forest ecology and fauna of the Central Highlands; studying fundamental geological issues and biomineral laws in Vietnam; surveying natural maritime resources; and so forth.

With Soviet assistance various branches of modern sciences are being given attention in our country. With Soviet technological aid, we are restoring and expanding the nuclear research center in Dalat for scientific research purposes. Upon completion of this project, with the reactor being put into operation, our scientific cadres will have conditions for conducting health, biological, agricultural, and other research activities in support of economic development in Vietnam.

One of the successes typical of Vietnamese-Soviet scientific and technological cooperation was the joint spaceflight manned by Hero Cosmonauts V.V. Garbatko and Pham
Tuan on 24 July 1980. A great deal of scientific data was collected during and after
this flight. In May 1982, a conference to review the scientific program of the flight
successfully concluded in Hanoi with 26 scientific reports being presented by scientists from the Soviet Union, the GDR, Bulgaria, and Vietnam to the three subcommittees:
the subcommittee for investigation of each resources from space, the space biology
subcommittee, and the space physics subcommittee. All the reports noted that studying
the application of distant exploration techniques is a highly effective tool for surveying mineral resources and for investigating lands, waters, and forests for the
purpose of economic development.

The program for bilateral scientific and technological cooperation in 1981-85 has been approved and reviewed by the Vietnamese-Soviet Subcommittees for Scientific and Technological Cooperation. This program, which was formulated at the request of the various ministries, sectors, organs, and localities on the Vietnamese side, encompasses 87 important topics belonging to 22 areas of the national economy such as agriculture, heavy industry, consumer goods, export goods, and so forth, of which more than 10 priority areas have been singled out by the two sides for concentrating all-out efforts of both countries to rapidly achieve economic results at an early date.