

Summary Report on the Activities of the RA Science Committee in 2019

- The draft decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia “On defining the priorities of science and technology development in the Republic of Armenia for 2020-2024”, the draft decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia "On approving the program of involvement of young personnel in the field of science and the program implementation schedule" were elaborated and submitted to the Office of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia.
- 2 calls for proposals for financing scientific programs were organized, namely, the Call for proposals for bonus allocations to high performance young researchers under 35 years of age involved in scientific and technical activity programs and/or topics implemented in the frameworks of the RA state budget (220 applications were submitted in hard copy) and the Call for proposals for bonus allocations to high performance young researchers under 35 years of age (69 applications were submitted in hard copy).
- The results of the scientific expertise of the applications submitted to the Call for Proposals for Scientific Topics Aimed at Obtaining Applied Results within the framework of contractual (thematic) funding of scientific and technical activities were summed up and Contracts with the beneficiary research group leaders were signed. The financing of the applied projects that have been approved, started in March 2019.
- In May 2019, a joint roundtable discussion was organized with the UN Economic Commission for Europe concerning the issues of scientific, technical and innovation activities in Armenia, and the report on the UNECE Subregional Innovation Policy Outlook.
- The basic principles and criteria for the evaluation of efficiency, classification and basic funding of scientific and technical activities of state scientific or technical organizations were elaborated and approved.
- A joint system for the presentation of research findings obtained during scientific and technical activities has been created and currently is in the implementation phase. The deadline for online data submission in the mentioned system is July 22.
- To ensure the online profiling of the RA scientific organizations, the data-sheet of "The Profile of RA Scientific Organizations" was amended.
- Hearings of the annual reports of 170 scientific programs implemented in 2018 took place in 69 organizations. The results were included in the relevant database; acceptance reports were prepared and delivered.
- The review of completeness and the conformity with the standard, verification and delivery of the contracts of basic funding of scientific and technical activities of 168 scientific programs envisaged for 2019, submitted by the presidency of the RA National Academy of Sciences and 42 organizations.
- The following procedures were elaborated:
“Procedure for the Call for Proposals for providing financial support for the modernization of infrastructure and material-technical base in the field of science”;

“Procedure for the Call for Proposals for providing financial support for the purchase of facilities and equipment”;

“Procedure for the Call for Proposals for providing financial support for scientific visits”;

“Procedure for the Call for Proposals for providing financial support for the organization of scientific events”;

“Procedure for the Call for Proposals for providing financial support for the organization of schools for young scientists”;

“Procedure for the Call for Proposals for providing financial support for the scientific publications and the procedure for providing financial support for the promotion of science”.

- In order to document the additional VAT allocations, relevant agreements on changing the value of the contracts were signed with the leaders of 234 projects implemented within the framework of contractual (thematic) financing. The process of substitution of group members of 83 topics implemented by 28 organizations, as well as the budget redistribution of 23 topics implemented by 13 organizations was organized in accordance with the established procedure.
- Scientific expertise of the applications submitted to the following Calls for Proposals by the RA Science Committee was organized:
 - "Young Researchers Support Program - 2019" (79 applications);
 - "Call for Proposals for thematic scientific topics on "Economics and Business" within the field of "Social Sciences" (18 applications);
 - "Call for Proposals for Support of Armenian-Italian Joint Research Projects “RA MES SCS-CNR-2019” Organized by the RA Science Committee and the National Research Council of Italy” (18 applications);
 - "Call for Proposals for Support of Joint Research Projects “RA MES SCS-BRFFR-2019” Organized by the RA Science Committee and the Belarusian Republican Foundation for Fundamental Research” (42 applications);
 - “Call for Proposals for Bonus Allocations to High Performance Researchers” (233 applications);
 - “Call for Proposals for Bonus Allocations to High Performance Young Researchers under 35 Years of Age” (75 applications).
- Elaboration and preparation for the signing of the “Memorandum of understanding between the RA ESCS Science Committee and China Earthquake Administration of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the People's Republic of China on the Cooperation in the field of Earthquake Research”. Internal alignment of the Agreement “On coordination of the interstate relations with the CIS member states in the field of fundamental research”.
- Development of relevant reports for the fulfillment of financial obligations for the membership of the Republic of Armenia to the EU Horizon-2020 program and the subscription to the WEB OF SCIENCE database.
- The “Roadmap for the Integration of the R&D Field of the Republic of Armenia in the European Research Area” was elaborated and submitted for approval.