

providing a firm basis for planning large-scale economic and social development of Siberian regions, and for inadequate use of accumulated scientific potential in terms of its practical implementation. The broad exchange of opinions that took place emphasised the need and mapped out the guidelines for a new cycle of development for the Siberian Branch. The elaboration of these guidelines by the USSR Academy of Sciences, in cooperation with the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, the USSR State Committee for Public Education, the USSR State Planning Commission and the RSFSR Council of Ministers, made it possible to formulate a general concept and detailed plans for development of the Siberian Branch up to the year 2005.

To improve the operational effectiveness of all of the Branch's components in terms of the final result, that is in terms of the pace and scope of implementation of scientific achievements, together with further development of diverse existing forms of interaction with the national economy, a decision was taken in favor of rapid growth in our own design and experimental production base. This will make it possible not only to bring [scientific] developments to a level accessible to industry but also to provide small-series production of goods so as to determine the potential market both within the country and outside its borders.

Today, there are nine technological design organizations operating within the Branch. These organizations are fairly strong in the area of personnel, but, unfortunately, they lack adequate production facilities. Experimental plants are in operation in Novosibirsk, Berdsk and Irkutsk, and a number of engineering and technical centres have been created. Production cooperation with foreign