

on the potential for scientific and technological progress. Systematic research into problems associated with comprehensive development of natural resources, with power and resource conservation, with ecology, and with balanced development of productive forces in Siberia should serve as a foundation for formulating and implementing an integrated scientific, technical and social policy for this most important region of the country. This will require more efficient integration of academic, sectoral and higher school science within the framework of the comprehensive regional scientific research program "Sibir", and could be achieved by giving its sub-programs a stronger target orientation and by simultaneously resolving the issue of financing the program from the RSFSR Council of Ministers' Central Fund, which is being created through contributions from ministries and agencies whose enterprises operate within Siberia.

The rapid development of productive forces in Siberia has shown that the Branch lacks the adequate potential in certain spheres for providing advanced scientific support for developing a number of important national economic complexes. The need has arisen to develop scientific centres in Tyumen (with a mandate to develop a petrochemical and natural gas complex and to solve problems of the North), in Kemerovo (a coal and coal-chemical orientation) and in Omsk (machine building orientation).

Simultaneously, existing scientific centres should expand research into problems associated with ecology, wood chemistry and the processing of raw materials, materials science, and with a number of other areas important to the region which have not received adequate development in previous years.