

Proposals available to each other

Belarusian and Chinese academies develop co-operation in training managerial staff

An agreement on co-operation between the Academy of Public Administration (under the aegis of the President of the Republic of Belarus) and the China Executive Leadership Academy of Pudong (CELAP) has been signed in Minsk by rectors Anatoly Morozovich and Xia Quanming.

The agreement envisages development of co-operation on traditional issues: joint research, and educational and scientific events (seminars, conferences and symposiums). The two universities will also exchange teachers and professors — to give lectures, conduct practical lessons, and give consultations on the continuous education of managerial personnel (for state and local authorities). The document enshrines joint consultative activity for Belarusian and Chinese state organisations.

"There is no doubt that co-operation with China is of great significance for Belarus," noted Mr. Morozovich on signing the document. He believes that Chinese experience in training managerial staff combines recent developments at educational establishments in the USA, Europe, South-Eastern Asia and Australia (with which China actively co-operates).

The Belarusian Academy of Public Administration liaises with universities in over 20 countries.

Not a single year without Antarctic

By Irina Velyaminova

Belarusian polar researchers plan to go to sixth continent once more

The head of the Belarusian Antarctic expedition, Alexey Gaidashov, has returned from St. Petersburg, where preliminary negotiations were held with Russian colleagues regarding Belarus' participation in the 57th Russian Antarctic expedition. It will take place from late 2011 to February-early March 2012.

"This year, one or two Belarusian specialists may join the Russian Antarctic expedition," notes Mr. Gaidashov. Belarusian polar researchers will be involved in studying the physical characteristics of the atmosphere at the Russian Novolazarevskaya station, located in the eastern part of the Schirmacher Oasis, Queen Maud Land, about 80km from the Lazarev Sea.

"We should send our scientists on this expedition. Being a fully-fledged participant of the Antarctic Treaty, Belarus should strengthen its presence on the continent," Mr. Gaidashov asserts. Recently, the Belarusian Government approved its state programme for 2011-2015 entitled *Monitoring of the Earth's Polar Regions and Maintenance of Arctic and Antarctic Expeditions*.



ALEXANDER STADUB

In its ten years of existence, *MILEX-2011* Exhibition of Arms and Military Machinery has gained a reputation as a serious international forum

High level of protection

Latest military developments and achievements on show at International *MILEX-2011* Exhibition of Arms and Military Machinery

By Grigory Nikonov

Contemporary military technologies enable us to make a tank invisible or commit sabotage with a single, small pilotless aircraft. These and other achievements by Belarusian designers, scientists and engineers have been on display at the 6th International *MILEX-2011* Exhibition of Arms and Military Machinery.

This year, the scale of the military forum has been impressive, with 1,800sq.m occupied by military exhibits in the roofed pavilion, in addition to an even larger open-air site. 150 enterprises from Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Armenia presented their developments, while military specialists from 16 states — including China, Qatar, the UAE, Oman, Azerbaijan

and Kazakhstan — took interest.

What were the surprises of *MILEX-2011*? One of the latest achievements is the 'Caracal' anti-tank missile system. This armoured vehicle, with a missile unit on the roof, can attack a tank, motor boat or low flying helicopter. The innovation boasts a maximum firing range of 5,500m, in addition to anti-radar armour and cross-country capacity. It has plenty of advantages, the biggest being that it is a domestic development, presented by Beltech Holding.

Foreign delegations closely examined pilotless aircraft created by the 558th Aircraft Repair Plant JSC. The device can remain up to eight hours in the air while patrolling enemy territory, with no need to refuel and remaining invisible to ordinary radar.

"Similar aircraft are manufactured in other countries, but ours is cheaper. We currently have only a trial model, but serial production will be established by the end of the year," note representatives of the plant. "Our guaranteed sales markets cover Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Middle East and Africa."

Belspetsvneshtekhnika presented a wide range of military equipment, compatible with weaponry made in the Soviet Union and Russia, as well as that meeting NATO standards.

An armoured notebook was presented by the Scientific Research Institute of Electronic Machines (NIIEM). Although vulnerable to a direct strike, it is resistant to other blows and can endure extreme climatic conditions. In the hands of

an enemy, it is resistant to hacking, having a special chip, as its developers assert. It costs \$6,000-8,000, with four already dispatched to customers.

"*MILEX* is one of the most significant exhibitions held in Belarus. Over the past decade, it has gained a reputation as a serious international forum," notes Sergei Rumas, Belarus' Deputy Prime Minister. "*MILEX* is a vital marketing instrument, promoting the establishment and development of business relations while stimulating the manufacture of goods and the creation of a favourable investment climate. Organisation of such a major specialised event is guided by our desire to present potential customers with a wide range of defence goods able to worthily compete against those of foreign rivals."

Industry must act intelligently

More innovatively active enterprises expected in industry

By Alexander Trofimov

To become applied, innovative products must pass certain stages of scientific testing and development, with prototypes produced before full industrial manufacturing is launched. Naturally, without talented individuals, new inventions would never come to light and, without skilled professionals, production would be impossible. Belarus has no lack of scientists or technicians but investment is a different matter.

The 2011-2015 State Innovative Development Programme aims to drive forward this process. It was recently studied at a session of the Council of Ministers, targeting foreign investments to cover at least half of all financing for innovative projects. Over the coming five years, about Br58 trillion is to be spent on fulfilling the programme.

The National Statistical Committee notes that, last year, the share of enterprises producing innovative goods (among large and medium-sized firms) rose to 15 percent (against 12 percent in 2009). As a result, 324 Belarusian companies were called 'innovatively active'; a



Integral is among innovatively active enterprises

year before, their number was 234. Among those using high technologies, the greatest share was involved in the manufacture of machines and equipment: 22 percent. These were followed by firms producing electrical, electronic and optical equipment, food and chemicals.

According to the National Statistical Committee, domestic enter-

Various terms possible

By Olga Vetrova

Russia ready to allocate \$7bn to Belarus for construction of nuclear power station

The Russian Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, Alexei Kudrin, has informed Minsk of a 'commodity credit', saying, "The incremental nature of the loan per annum is not yet defined but its total will reflect the cost of goods and services required, reaching over \$7bn," he stresses, adding that the final figure will be defined during the station's construction — depending on tenders and prices. "Some parameters will be specified," he explains.

Mr. Kudrin notes that Belarus had also asked for a loan to create infrastructure for the future nuclear power station; Belarusian builders will undertake the work, using Belarusian materials and equipment. "This is a financial loan and we have made no decision so far," he asserts.