Invitation

We are pleased to invite you to attend an International Conference for the Central and Eastern Europe, Balkans, Caucasus and Baltic States on SCIENCE AND EDUCATION POLICIES to be held on September 18-21, 2008 in Chisinau, Moldova.

The conference will bring together key decision makers in national science and education policies from thirty Central and Eastern European countries: Presidents of the Academies of Sciences, Ministers of Science and Education, and representatives of international funding agencies and professional organizations.

The event will provide an opportunity for top policy makers to develop and enhance collaborations with their counterparts from across the region.

The Science and Education Policies conference will be a forum for exchanging ideas, experience and achievements with the goal of developing better science and higher education policies.

The conference will focus on:

- Strengthening research in higher education;
- Strengthening international impact of national research and education programs;
- Developing a knowledge-based economy;
- Stemming and reversing brain drain.

Independent experts from the European Commission and the United States of America will provide keynote speeches addressing each focus area. In addition to the speeches, discussion sessions related to each focus area will be held.

Please acknowledge your interest in participating in the Conference by **May 15, 2008** by e-mail to: <u>intcol@asm.md</u> or/and <u>mrda@mrda.md</u>.

To complete the Conference Programme, we kindly ask you to indicate the topics of greatest interest to you.