

POSITION

of Assoc. Prof. Georgi Gadzhev – member of a scientific jury in competition for the academic position of Associate Professor in professional field 4.4 Earth Sciences, scientific subject „Meteorology“ (Development and adoption of numerical models for prediction of sea waves and storm surges and early warning systems for dangerous marine events), in the scientific section „Marine Forecasts“ of the department “Forecasts and Information Services“, announced in the State Newsletter issue 64/03.08.2021r.

This position was prepared based on the Order of the Director-General of NIMH № НД-04-32 from 08.10.2021 and the decision of the meeting of the scientific jury from 14.10.2021. It follows the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for implementing LDASRB (RILDASRB), and the Regulations of NIMH for implementing LDASRB

I. Requirements to the candidate

According to art. 24 (1) and art. 26 (1), (2) of ZSRASRB, art. 53 (1) and art. 54 (1) of RILDASRB and art. 53 (1) and art. 54 (1) of the regulations of NIMH for the implementation of LDASRB

Chief Assistant PhD. Vasko Nikolaev Galabov graduated in physics with a specialization in meteorology at the Faculty of Physics of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" in 1997 with a master's degree. Successfully defended a dissertation on "Establishment of a system for forecasting dangerous hydrodynamic phenomena in the Black Sea coastal zone" for the scientific and educational degree of PhD at the National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in 2017. Since 1999 he has been working at NIMH, during which time he has held various positions: - since 1999, and until 2002 he worked at NIMH - Pleven branch as a weather forecaster, and then until now at NIMH Sofia. In the period 2002 - 2005, he implemented the regional atmospheric model HRM in NIMH, and after 2005 he worked in the field of marine forecasts, developing operating systems and conducting research. From 2020, the candidate is the interim head of the marine forecasting section. During the period when he worked at NIMH, the candidate has completed many specializations - first in the German Meteorological Service, and then many business trips in the French Meteorological Service Meteo France.

From the inspection of the candidate documents, I have not found any lack of documents or violations in the procedure. The candidate has presented in detail his publications and citations, and reference for implementing the national minimum requirements for scientific degrees and academic positions. The reference shows that he meets the national minimum requirements, and the publications for participation in this competition do not repeat the submitted for obtaining a PhD degree. The specific NIMH

requirement for managing at least one externally funded project is fulfilled and described in the contribution report.

Requirements for research and development activities

According to art. 24 (1), p.1, p. 3, p. 4, p. 5 and art. 26 (1) of LDASRB, art. 53 (1), p.1, p. 3, p. 4, p. 5 and art. 54 of RILDASRB, art. 53, p.1, p. 4, p. 5, p. 6, p.7 of the requirements of NIMH for the implementation of LDASRB

The candidate for participation in this competition by a group of indicators B has submitted 10 publications indexed in the most popular world scientific databases (Scopus / Web of Science), and the total number of points is 177 with a required minimum of 100 points, as well as 19 other publications covering the requirements of 212, 85 points for a group of indicators G, of which 2 indexed in the most popular world scientific databases and another 17 in peer-reviewed scientific journals. In the list of publications, the publications are clearly distinguished from those presented for obtaining a PhD degree. In 7 of the publications, the candidate is the first author, and in 5 of them, he is the only one.

The candidate has grouped his publications into four groups:

- The construction and development of the system of operational models for the needs of the operational forecast;
- Study of storms with a large amount of climate modeling of waves, storms, and storm surges in the Black Sea;
- Study with the help of the forecast of the numerical modeling for the movement of floating objects and pollutants;
- Reconstructions by modeling significant historical storms.

From the reference made for the contribution, it can be seen that the author has taken into account scientific and applied research, observing the climate, storms, and storms in the Black Sea, as well as working on applied issues relevant to the operational activities of NIMH - marine operational models, forecasting the spread of pollutants. The candidate has chosen to indicate 10 citations that formally meet the national minimum requirements but has also provided a reference for all other citations - 71 citations. The reference in Scopus shows that the candidate has 38 citations, without auto-citation and Hirsch's index - 5. The larger citation from foreign authors, as a predominant citation from authors from the Black Sea countries, is naturally related to his research.

The candidate indicated 6 of the most significant participation in international projects from the presented reference, some of them financed by EU IncREO, UPGRADE Black Sea Scene, ECOPORT8, TEN ECOPORT, MISBS. He is also the leader of two projects in the Young Scientists and Postdoctoral Fellows program in 2020 and 2021.

The candidate has a significant contribution to the development of maritime forecasts in NIMH in the last 15 years by many implementations of new operational models and expertise for state institutions.

III. Opinions, Recommendations and notes.

I have not found any omissions or violations in the documents submitted by the candidate.

Conclusion

As a result of the check of the presented materials for the competition, I found no violations of the procedure. The requirements of art. 24 (1), p.1, p. 3, p. 4, p. 5 and art. 26 (1) of LDASRB, art. 53 (1), p.1, p. 3, p. 4, p. 5 and art. 54 of RILDASRB, art. 53, p.1, p. 4, p. 5, p. 6, p.7 and art. 54 of the requirements of NIMH for the implementation of LDASRB are fulfilled.

From the performed activity and after consideration with the documents for the competition and the scientific results in the publications of the candidate, it can be stated that he grows as a successful researcher with ideas and potential that can be characterized as important for society and to continue his career development. I evaluate the candidate positively, and I believe that Chief Assistant PhD. Vasko Nikolaev Galabov meets all the requirements for holding the academic position of Associate Professor. Therefore, I propose to the scientific jury to recommend to the Scientific counsel of NIMH to elect Chief Assistant PhD. Vasko Nikolaev Galabov as Associate Professor.

Date:

Member of The Scientific Jury: