

## POSITION

of Prof., D. Sc. Nikolay Miloshev, corresponding member of BAS – 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 64/03.08.2021г.

This position was prepared on the basis of 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 is in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZSRASRB), The regulations for the implementation of ZSRASRB (PPZRASRB) and the regulations of NIMH for the implementation of ZSRASRB.

### 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 PPZRASRB and art. 53 (1) and art. 54 (1) of the regulations of NIMH for the implementation of ZSRASRB

The only candidate in the present competition is the head assistant Vasko Galabov, PhD. Vasko Galabov has graduated in Sofia University “Saint Kliment Ohridski” with a degree Master of Science in Physics with specialization Meteorology in 1997. He received the educational and scientific degree Doctor (PhD) in 2007 from the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. The topic of his PhD thesis is „Development of a system for prediction of dangerous hydrodynamic events in the coastal zone of the Black Sea“ with scientific supervisor assoc. prof. Anna Kortcheva. The candidate works at NIMH since 1999. From 1999 to 2002 he was working at NIMH- regional branch Pleven as a weather forecaster and later at NIMH Sofia. During the period 2002- 2005 he was working on the regional atmospheric modelling, implementing the operational atmospheric model HRM. After 2005 he works in the field of marine forecasts, developing operational systems and doing scientific research. From 2020 he is a temporary head of the Marine Forecasts division. As it was mentioned by the candidate, during the years he was involved in to many specializations- travels first to the German weather service and then many travels to the French National Weather Service Meteo France.

I checked the materials of the candidate and I did not found missing documents or violations of the procedure. The candidate has presented in detail his publications and citations of his publications and provided information about the satisfaction of the national minimal requirements for academic positions and scientific degrees. It is visible that

candidate fulfils the national minimal requirements and the presented in the competition publications are different from those presented as a part of his PhD thesis. There is a specific requirement of NIMH that the candidate should be the leader of at least one project with external funding or one implementation of a new technology at NIMH. In the documents the candidate mentions leadership of projects and implementations without clarifying which project is formally used to fulfill the specific requirement. After a contact with the candidate it was clarified that the candidate was leading a successfully finished project in the frame of the National Program "Young Scientists and PostDocs" in 2020, funded by the Ministry of Education and Science. The project is "Study of the frequency and intensity of the Black Sea storms affecting the Bulgarian coast". The project contract is 4P-04-6/28.02.2020r. With this project the requirements of NIMH are fulfilled.

### **Requirements for research and development activities**

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

For the participation in the present competition the candidate has presented 12 publications indexed in renowned scientific data bases (Scopus/ Web of Science), as well as 17 additional publications in peer reviewed journals and collective monographs. These publications are clearly separated from those presented during the defense of the PhD thesis of the candidate. In many of the presented publications the candidate is the first (corresponding) author, and he is the only author of some of the publications.

The candidate has classified his publications in four groups: development of operational marine models, study of the climatology of the waves and Black sea storms by numerical modelling, study of the drift of floating objects and pollutants, reconstructions of significant historical storms by numerical modelling. It is evident that the candidate balanced well the scientific research and the applied studies. He studied the climate of the waves, storm surges and storms in the Black Sea, but continued to work also on applied problems related to the operational duties of NIMH- operational marine models and predictions of pollutants drift. The candidate has mentioned 10 citations that formally fulfill the national minimal requirements, but also provides information about the other citations to his works- he found 71 citations. According to Scopus the candidate has 36 citations to his papers indexed there, without self-citations. The h-index of the candidate is 5. Most of the citations are from foreign researches and the researchers from the Black Sea countries dominate in the list of the researchers citing the candidate's works, which is natural if taking to the account of the area of the research of these publications.

The candidate has many participations in national and international projects, such as the EU funded projects IncREO, UPGRADE Black Sea Scene, ECOPORT8, TEN ECOPORT, and MISBS. I know the candidate since 2002 when he was a participant of the EU funded project.

The candidate has a significant contribution during the last 15 years to the development of the marine forecasts at NIMH by many implementations of new operational models and expert opinions prepared for different state institutions.

### **III. Opinions, Recommendations and notes.**

There are no significant inaccuracies and mistakes in the documents presented by the candidate. The only missing information was that it is not clearly enough specified which specific project is used to fulfill the specific requirement of NIMH for leadership of at least one externally funded project. I know the candidate since 2002, when he was working in the area of the regional atmospheric models and my opinion about the candidate is positive.

### **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 ZSRASRB, art. 53 (1), p.1, p. 3, p. 4, p. 5 and art. 54 of PPZRASRB, art. 53, p.1, p. 4, p. 5, p. 6, p.7 and art. 54 of the requirements of NIMH for the implementation of ZSRASRB are fulfilled. After the consideration of the documents presented for the competition and my personal opinion about the candidate, I evaluate positively the candidate and My opinion is that head assistant Vasko Galabov, PhD fulfils all requirements for the academic position Associate Professor. Therefore I propose the scientific jury to recommend the Scientific counsel of NIMH to elect Vasko Galabov as Associate Professor.

**Date:**

**Member of The Scientific Jury:**