

## **Joint Press Release – Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Institute of Physics Belgrade and IBM**

Belgrade, 9 June 2009

The official signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Institute of Physics Belgrade (IPB) and IBM Serbia was held at IPB on 9 June 2009. The MoU was signed by Prof. Dr Dragan S. Popović, director of IPB and Mr. Miloš Đurković, director IBM Serbia, in the presence of representatives of the Ministry of science and technological development of the Republic of Serbia.

Cooperation with the network of global partners within IBM's Academic Initiative is of strategic importance both for the IPB, as well as for the country's wider R&D sector. For IBM, on the other hand, this collaboration significantly enhances the company's presence in Serbia, paving the way for future cooperation with research institutions and clients throughout the country.

The partnership between the Institute of Physics Belgrade, the coordinating institution of the "Blue Danube" National Supercomputing Initiative, and IBM Serbia has resulted from the identified need for joint collaboration towards the realization of key research, developmental and educational aspects of that national initiative.

### **Institute of Physics Belgrade**

The IPB was founded with a mission to conduct a quality R&D program in the wider field of physical sciences and related technologies. For half a century IPB has successfully realized this mission. IPB's 170 tenured researchers and technicians, and the growing number of PhD students are responsible for 10% of Serbia's total scientific production.

The Institute of Physics Belgrade is recognized as one of the leading R&D institutions in South East Europe, and its campus on the Danube River is host to the region's greatest concentration of research groups and laboratories that have been designated as EU Centers of Excellence. IPB's strategic developmental plan is built on three basic pillars: international cooperation, advanced education and training of young researchers, and reintegration of key experts from abroad. IPB has marked expertise at both European and regional levels in the fields of High Performance Computing and the development and use of e-Infrastructures.

### **IBM**

IBM is a global leader in the field of development and production of advanced information technologies. The company offers complete IT business solutions starting from strategic analysis, system integration, networking with its academic and business partners. IBM's global services enable its clients to employ cutting-edge solutions that are based on the exchange of know-how and expertise in fields such as: global and national economies, telecommunication, banking, industry, government, the public sector.

IBM is present in Serbia through IBM d.o.o. which currently employs 80 young experts trained at IBM education centers in throughout the world for work in the field of emerging technologies employing modern business practices. The key point of IBM's strategy in Serbia is cooperation with business partners that will result in the procuring of access to leading conditions and IT standards.