## 1. INTRODUCTION

You have in your hands the brochure called the "State-supported R&D in the Czech Republic – Short Guidebook – 2006".

The publication provides for basic information about the system of state support in research and development.

The "Guidebook 2006" has been put together with materials from publicly accessible data and documents, with materials provided by the Research and Development Council, and by the individual administrators of budgetary chapters.

The main objective of the "Guidebook 2006" is to provide public with information about possibilities and ways of gaining the state support of participation in public tenders. For this reason, a substantial part relates to the target-oriented funding of research and development. Selected programmes, announced by individual administrators of budgetary chapters in the state budget, are progressively characterised.

The administrators are as follows: The Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic (AS CR), the Grant Agency of the Czech Republic (GA CR), the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MIT), the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS), the Ministry of Health (MH), the Ministry of Agriculture (MA) and the Ministry of Environment (ME).

A special chapter deals again with the international co-operation of the Czech Republic in the area of research and development at the intergovernmental level.

This publication describes the situation as it existed in December 2005, when the state budget for 2006 had been already approved.

The publication should provide foreign scientific and research workers and institutions with basic information about the state support of research and development in the Czech Republic.