



CENTRO DE BIOLOGIA MOLECULAR  
"SEVERO OCHOA"

December 13, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I would like to express my full support for Professor Igor. F. Zhimulev as director of the new National Research Institute.

I know Professor Zhimulev personally and I have followed all his publications since his work is closely related to mine. Recently, I have collaborated with him in the analysis of the heterochromatin of the Release 6 of the *Drosophila melanogaster* genome sequence. Due to the high impact of his research on the field of molecular cytogenetics I consider Professor Zhimulev as one of the most competent researchers in the Cellular and Molecular Biology field.

On the grounds of his outstanding skills and expertise as a Cellular and Molecular Biologist together with his acknowledged leadership capabilities, I strongly endorse Professor Igor. F. Zhimulev as director of the National Research Institute in Russian Federation.

Sincerely,

Alfredo Villasante, Ph.D.  
Senior Staff Scientist  
Centro de Biología Molecular "Severo Ochoa"