



**Представительство
Ямало-Ненецкого автономного округа
в Санкт-Петербурге**

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На № _____ от _____

To THAW project team
C/o Professor Oleg Anisimov,
State Hydrological Institute
23, Second Line V.O.
199053 St.Petersburg

Letter of support

We are happy to know about the initiative targeted at better understanding of the environmental impacts of climate change in the Northern lands undertaken by the scientific consortium under the EU FP7 program. Sustainable development of the Far North under multiple stressing factors, including increased industrialization, climate change, and shifts in the people's lifestyles is a challenging task. This task is addressed by the project THAW - Trends and Hazard in the Arctic Warming. The project focuses on the environmental research in the circumpolar area spanning Yamal region. It assists and compliments our efforts to better understand the current and future of our land. Improved understanding of the driving mechanisms behind permafrost change is essential for our approach towards maintaining our vast land areas.

Furthermore, we would like to underline the importance of educating next generation scientist and strongly support the THAW approach for conducting courses on modeling and remote sensing of permafrost. It is our hope that at least one of such courses may be organized in Yamal region. This will provide new unique opportunities for the local students and young specialists to meet their western colleagues and to establish direct and long lasting professional contacts. We will be happy to assist with logistics for such type of educational activities in our region.

As a Chief representative of Yamal district in St.Petersburg herewith I would like to acknowledge the importance of the ongoing research for the people living in the Northern lands, and to wish good luck to the THAW project team in the competition.

Ambassador of Yamal District
in St.Petersburg

Mrs. E.Zaharova