Dear Prof. Zachariasse,

I would like to inform you on the work of the Russian Neogene Commission in 2002.
1. In April an ordinary meeting on Neogene stratigraphy of Russia was held to discuss the Neogene correlation schemes of the Ponto-Caspian region of new generation (edited by Prof. L.A. Nevesskaya). The meeting was attended by 60 persons.
2. In summer field works were carried out in the Cis-Caucasus, southern Russian platform, Siberia, Kamchatka, and the Arctic.
3. New Neogene stratigraphic schemes of Siberia have been published. A book on Neogene geological events of different scale in Siberia is being prepared for press.
4. A number of articles on Neogene stratigraphy of different regions of Russia (Sakhalin, Kamchatka, Cis-Caucasus and others), which are based on studies of the key sections and different paleontological groups, has been published.
5. A large monograph on the Sakhalin Cenozoic (first of all, Neogene) characterizing key sections, paleontological content, lithological features, paleogeographic and paleoclimatic settings, oil and gas occurrences, and a timescale of geological events, was issued in 2002. ("The Cenozoic Geology and the Oil and Gas Presence in Sakhalin", ed. Yu. Gladenkov, Moscow: GEOS, 225 p.). It represents the latest summarization of the data obtained for the last decades.
6. In 2002, an international project on the Pacific Cenozoic (first of all, Neogene) has been started (co-leaders Profs. Ogasawara and Gladenkov). In summer Russian and Japanese specialists had field works in West Kamchatka. A special attention is planned to be paid to refined Neogene correlations between the Kamchatka-Sakhalin region and Japan and North America. Problems of paleogeography, paleoclimatology, gateways, and biotic migrations will be also studied.
7. Under the NSF project, the joint American-Russian group (leader L. Marincovich) worked in Kamchatka to study Neogene climatic changes in the North Pacific.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Yu. Gladenkov