

Information for Participants of BNM-2007

Bashkortostan and Ufa – brief reference:

The city of Ufa is the capital of the Republic of Bashkortostan, a region that lies in the “heart” of Russia (in the Urals). Geographically, Ufa is situated about 100 km from the Ural mountains. Ufa is a large industrial, scientific and cultural center. Ufa lies on a high-set plateau between three rivers that surround it from three sides. Ufa has a continental climate, with cold snowy winters (average temperature in January is -15°C) and hot summers (average temperature in June is +20°C and +30°C in July). Ufa and its suburbs can boast splendid nature, thanks to Ufa’s location in the forest-steppe zone and proximity of large rivers. People lived here in remote antiquity – archaeologists have discovered the remains of settlements of primitive man on the territory of modern Ufa. The nomadic tribes of Bashkirs (hence the name – Bashkortostan) came to the Urals around the X century. By the IX – early XIII century the Bashkirs formed their nationhood – a unity of Bashkir tribes. In the middle of the XVI century the Bashkirs voluntarily joined the Russian state. A corresponding agreement was signed in 1557. Therefore this year the **450th anniversary** of the voluntary entry of Bashkortostan into Russia is celebrated. And in 1574 a settlement was founded which later became Ufa city. From 4,1 million people living in Bashkortostan today, 1,094 mil. people live in Ufa. Bashkortostan is a multinational republic. People of over 70 nationalities live here (the largest groups are Russians (39%), Bashkirs (22%) and Tatars (28%). The official languages of the republic are Russian and Bashkir. Bashkortostan is one of the leading industrial and agricultural regions of the Russian Federation. Ufa is one of the largest petroleum-refining centers in Russia. The leading branches of industry here are fuel industry, chemistry and petrochemicals, machine building and metal working, forest and wood-processing industry, light industry, food industry and medical industry. Bashkortostan is famous for its **honey** which is considered the best in the world. You will have a chance to try Bashkir national food – dishes from mutton, beef and even horsemeat, various sweets. The national Bashkir drink is **koumiss** (a drink made from fermented mare’s milk).

Flights:

Foreign participants flying to Ufa via Moscow and arriving at the **Sheremetyevo (SVO)** airport in Moscow, please be informed that international flights arrive at **Terminal 2** of SVO airport and local flights to Ufa depart from **Terminal 1** of the SVO airport. The distance between the terminals is several kilometers. Important information for transfer passengers (i.e. those arrive in SVO2 and then take the flight to Ufa from SVO1): you can use a special free shuttle bus for transfer passengers. Please refer to the dispatcher in the arrival hall (“transit” desk of Aeroflot). You can also use this shuttle bus on the return way. An alternative way to get from Terminal 2 to Terminal 1 is to take bus #817 (ticket cost – around 25-30 RUR, the ticket can be purchased directly in the bus) or a fixed-route taxi #48, 49, 200k. The bus stop is located outside the airport building. Please ask the driver about the transfer to Sheremetyevo (Terminal 2) because some buses under those numbers can go to the Moscow city instead of the Terminal 2. On your return way, you can take bus #851 or the same fixed-route taxi #48, 49, 200k to get from Terminal 1 to Terminal 2. Please be advised that it is not recommended to use the services of taxi drivers offering a transfer at the arrival lounge or near the airport, for security reasons. Transfer passengers of the Aeroflot company (except those flying from and to China and Turkey) if transfer time does not exceed 4 hours, go through passport and customs check-points without leaving the terminal (please follow the sign “Transfer desk” after leaving the plane).

Foreign participants flying to Ufa via Moscow and arriving at the **Domodedovo (DMD)** airport in Moscow can fly to Ufa from the same airport.

Foreign participants flying to Ufa via Moscow and arriving at the **Vnukovo** airport in Moscow can fly to Ufa from the same airport.

The symposium organizers will be meeting all the participants at the Ufa airport upon their arrival in Ufa (look for signs “BNM-2007”). Transfer of all participants to their hotel will be organized. In this connection please notify the organizers in case you change your travel plans (arrival time/date).

Currency exchange:

Foreign participants flying to Ufa via Moscow are recommended to exchange their currency into rubles immediately upon arrival at Moscow airports. In each of the international airports (Sheremetyevo, Domodedovo, Vnukovo) there are currency exchange offices, bank departments and automated teller machines for your convenience. Please be informed that the exchange rates in Moscow airports and in Ufa vary

significantly (it is more economically advantageous to exchange money in Ufa). Therefore we advise you to exchange only a small amount of your currency in Moscow, and exchange the rest in Ufa.

Upon arrival in Ufa you can exchange your money at the currency exchange office at the Ufa International airport (international terminal). Also, there is a currency exchange office at the Bashkortostan hotel (please note that there are no currency exchange offices in Agidel and Azimut hotels), but they charge a banking fee for each exchange operation (30 RUR). There is also a currency exchange office within walking distance from the symposium site where they do not charge any banking fee (please refer to the map on the final page of this document), located inside the building of a tourist agency. Please note that all the banks in Ufa only accept new, fresh-looking bank-notes.



Tourist agency – currency exchange office

It is strongly advised not to use the services of any private persons offering to exchange currency, for security reasons.

The exchange rate for 26 July 2007 is as follows: USD, sell at 25,52 RUR, buy at 25,40 RUS; EUR, sell at 35,11 RUR, buy at 35,00 RUR.

Weather:

According to the current weather forecast, the air temperature in the daytime in Ufa on 14-18 Aug. will range from +17° to +26°C, with possible rain. We recommend you bring warm clothes for the field session (river tour) on 14 Aug. – it may be windy on the river (see also the section “Field session, including welcome-party”).

Hotels:

Here are the addresses and tel. numbers of hotels in Ufa for your information:

- Bashkortostan hotel, 25/29 Lenin str., Tel. 2790000, 2700001
- Azimut hotel, 81 Oktaybrya prospect, Tel. 2359000
- Agidel hotel, 16 Lenin str., Tel. 2725680
- University guesthouse, 162 Mingazheva str., Tel. 2881457.



Bashkortostan Hotel



Agidel Hotel



Azimut Hotel

Please be informed that the hotels in Ufa charge the **total cost** of your stay **in advance during check-in**. You can either pay in cash (in rubles!), or by credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express). The Agidel hotel and the University guesthouse **only accept cash** payment!!!

Early arrival: Those participants who will be arriving early in the morning and have notified the organizers (by filling the “Travel and accommodation” form or in a separate communication), will be able to check-in at the hotel and get into their room immediately upon arrival, no matter how early they arrive (the hotels will be notified). In the case of the Azimut hotel, reservations starting from the previous day (prior to the arrival date) will be made in order to guarantee an early check-in (before 12:00) (following the specific requirement of this hotel).

Registration:

For convenience of the participants, registration for the symposium will be organized at the Agidel, Azimut and Bashkortostan hotels. You can register for the symposium at the same hotel where you are staying, upon arrival and check-in. Registration in hotels will be open only on August 14, from 14:00 until 15:30. If for some reason you are unable to register on August 14 (that concerns also participants staying at the University guesthouse), registration will also be open on August 15 at the symposium site (House of Trade Unions), from 8:00 until the ending of sessions.

We will be organizing a BNM-2007 special banquet on the evening of August 16, and we hope most of you will be able to attend. To attend the banquet, and in order to give us the correct numbers, please pay 50 USD in cash during the registration.

Field session, including Welcome-party

All the registered participants are invited to attend the BNM-2007 field session (including Welcome-Party) that will take place on a steamship (river tour) on August 14 at 17:00 (you will be provided with a ticket, necessary for the entrance during registration). Special shuttle buses will take the participants to the welcome-party site from the hotels. The time of departure of the shuttle buses: 16:00 from Azimut hotel, 16:15 from Bashkortostan hotel, 16:15 from Agidel hotel, 16:15 from the University guesthouse.

Access to symposium venue:

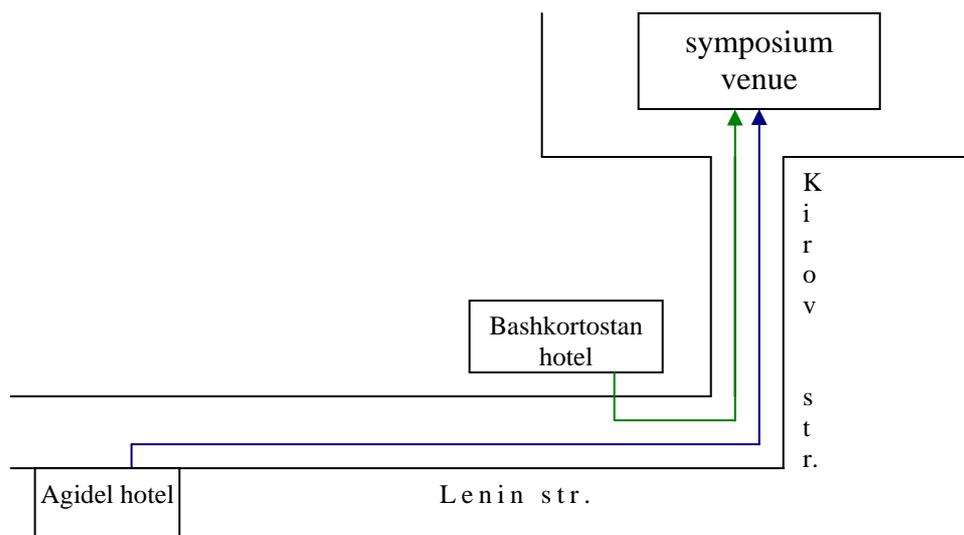
The symposium venue will be the House of Trade Unions (1 Kirov str.).



Transfer of participants staying at Azimut hotel and from the University guesthouse to the symposium site and back will be organized via special shuttle buses. Departure times from Azimut hotel will be daily from August

15 to August 18 at 8:00. Departure times from the University guesthouse will be daily from August 15 to August 18 at 8:15.

Bashkortostan and Agidel hotels are within walking distance from the symposium site (10 minutes walk from Agidel hotel, 2 minutes walk from Bashkortostan hotel). Please refer to the scheme below:



Symposium infrastructure:

Several computers with access to the Internet, a printer and a copier will be available at the symposium site for the symposium participants (please refer to the registration desk). In the symposium hall, a computer will be provided for running the participants' presentations. Therefore the participants do not need to bring their own computers to the symposium site. Please bring your PowerPoint presentations on a memory stick (USB Flash Drive) or CD and submit them to the responsible person at the registration desk on Aug. 15 (preferable) or at the day of your report, at least 20 minutes prior to the start of the morning sessions.

Oral reports:

The participants are kindly asked to observe the following time limit for oral reports, **including** time for answering questions: introductory key-note presentations – 30 min, key-note – 25 min, invited – 20 min, oral – 15 min, oral (in the young scientists session) – 10 min.

Posters:

The participants with poster reports are kindly asked to hang their posters on the day of their session, from 8:00 until 9:00. The items for fixing the posters to the boards will be provided by the organizers. After the ending of your poster session, please remove your poster from the board.

Meals:

Breakfast is included in the cost of your hotel accommodation (except for the University guesthouse). Please be informed that lunches and dinners are not included in the registration fee and therefore are at the expense of the participants. During symposium working days (August 15-18), participants can have lunch at the House of Trade Unions dining-hall (recommended), or at one of the restaurants or bistros located near the symposium venue. Please refer to the map on the final page to see the location of the restaurants/bistro. There is also a supermarket located inside the Bashkortostan hotel (near the conference venue) where you can buy food and drinks, including ready meals (open 8:00-23:00).



“Del Mare” restaurant



“Ashkhana Guzel” bistro



pizzeria “Presto”

Electricity:

Russia operates on 220 Volts, 50 Hertz. Therefore, for those people bringing a computer or hair-dryer, it may be necessary to obtain an adaptor in order to plug into the wall. The plugs used in Russia are illustrated on the following website: <http://www.kropla.com/electric2.htm>

Water:

The water in all hotels is safe for cleaning teeth, but it is not recommended for drinking, since it is cleared using the method of chlorization. You are advised to use boiled or bottled water for drinking.

Contact:

You may contact the organizers in case of emergency or difficulty:

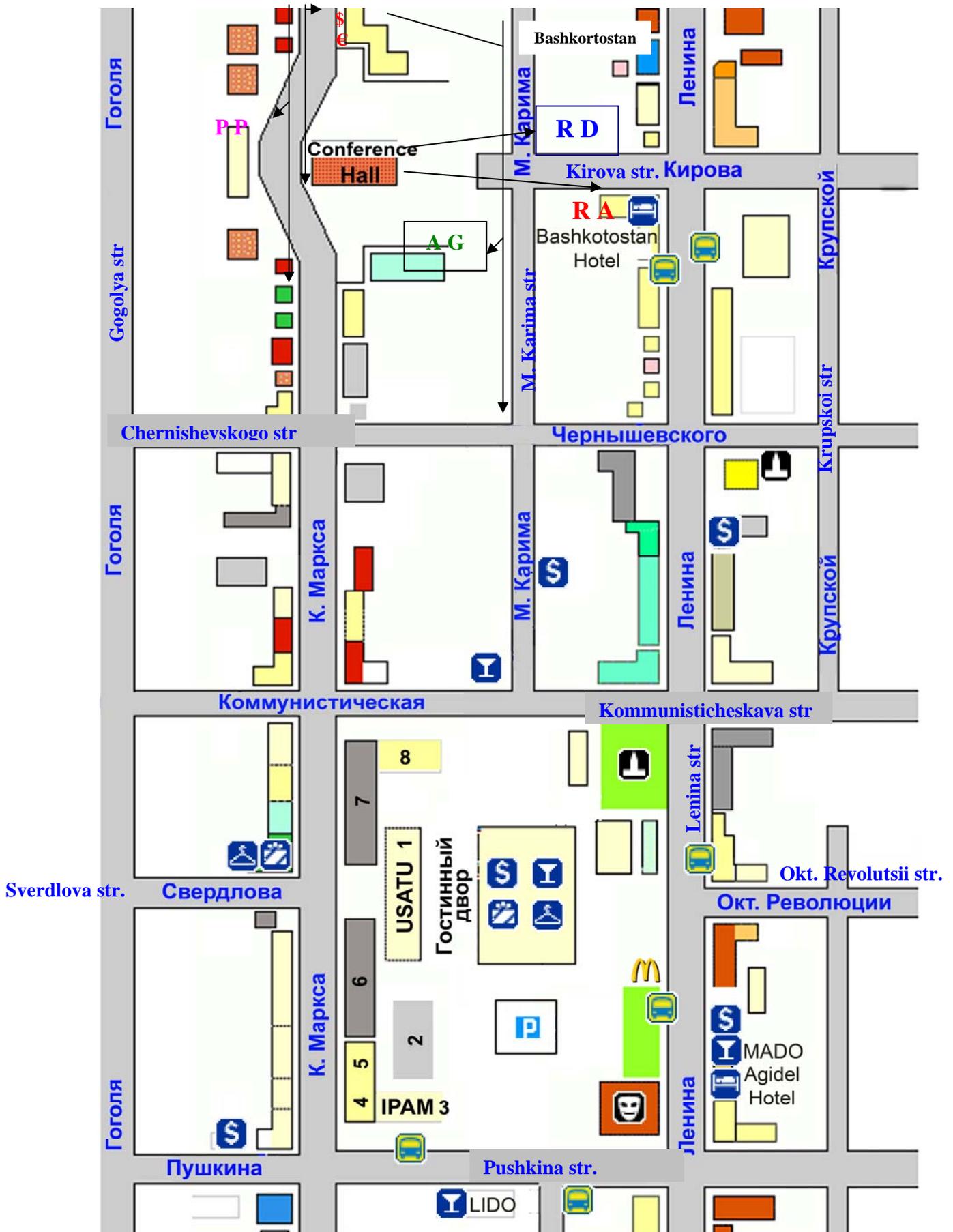
Ms. Natasha Reshetnikova, symposium coordinator: +7-906-3723857 (mobile phone)

Prof. Igor Alexandrov, Chairman of the Local Committee: +7-917-75-22-768 (mobile phone)

Prof. Ruslan Valiev, Chairman of the Organizing Committee: +7-927-2346602 (mobile phone)

We shall make every effort to make your visit to Ufa pleasant and fruitful.

Welcome to BNM-2007!!!



RD – Restaurant “Del Mare” (fish restaurant, Mediterranean cuisine) (11:00-00:00). Average check for dinner per person – 2500-3000 RUR.

RA – restaurant “Aiton” (inside the Bashkortostan hotel), Bashkir and European cuisine (12:00-01:00). Business lunch (12:00-15:00) – 250 RUR.

AG – “Ashkhana Guzel” bistro, Bashkir cuisine (9:00-23:00). Nutritious and moderately-priced food. Average check – from 150 RUR.

PP – pizzeria “Presto” (11:00-23:00).