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Dear relatives of Academician Boris E. Paton,

I was shocked and saddened to learn that Academician Boris E. Paton passed away on the 19th August. On behalf of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and in my own name, I wish to express my deepest condolences on his leaving and to extend my heartfelt sympathy to his family, relatives, friends and colleagues.

The passing of Academician Paton is a great loss for world science. He is a world-famous Ukrainian scientist in the field of metallurgy and metal technology, the author of many discoveries in the field of electric welding, and the inventor of special electrometallurgy, a new field of high-quality metallurgy. Under his leadership, for the first time in the world, metal welding was performed under water, in open space, and welding of living tissues, which is actively used in medicine.

In addition, Academician Paton has also been a legendary leader of scientific institution. He was the oldest and longest-serving President of a national academy of sciences in the world, and also the only head of a national academy of sciences that had the same age as him. Under his leadership, the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU) has made many remarkable achievements in basic and applied research, and has produced a number of prestigious scientific schools, which have worldwide influence.

As the president of NASU, Academician Paton has made great contributions to promoting the cooperation with CAS. I can still vividly recall the moment we were with him at the Centennial Celebration of NASU in Kyiv on December 6th, 2018. He expressed the deep feelings and good memories of his trip to China in 1994. He reviewed the visit to the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the sound and smooth collaboration between our two academies. He also mentioned that the Chinese people are fighting against the clock to make the country stronger and stronger, and the Ukrainian people appreciate and admire the great achievements made by the Chinese people. I was deeply impressed by his amazing memory and humorous temperament, as well as his profound sentiments of friendship for the Chinese people.

Academician Boris E. Paton is such an inspiration to us all, in seeking truth, in dedicating to research and in being a charming person. Academician Paton will forever live in our hearts as a great scientist and a wonderful human being!

Yours sincerely,

C. Bai

Professor Chunli Bai
President
Chinese Academy of Sciences