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**Statement from the director of the institute on the final report of the Commission
No. 8**

We were really encouraged by the way the commission assessed the Institute of Physiology as a whole, because the outcome was highly positive in most of the aspects considered.

The commission emphasized that *“The research topics are well chosen and also appropriate in the future. Fundamental research is done with a high potential for application in medical diagnostics and therapy in the mid term.”* Additionally, it was noticed that there is good collaboration among the teams at the Institute and the age distribution is favorable as it shows a peak between 25 and 30 years. In fact, we have performed a detailed analysis regarding the number of researchers in different age categories. In spite of the positive view of the commission, we are aware of the fact that it will be necessary to replace several group leaders who will be retiring in the near future. We already have a well-defined strategy of procedures for replacing team leaders after they reach retirement age, which is based on an internationally open competition processes. It was also stressed by the commission that the Institute is strongly involved in AV21 strategy with the emphasis on prevention and treatment of lifestyle related diseases. We are very pleased by the statement that *“The overall figures characterizing the performance of the institute are excellent”* (see section 4. RECOMMENDATION).

The commission evaluated just one team out of 22 research teams of the Institute, the department of **Biomathematics**. We acknowledge and accept this evaluation.

We would like to thank the commission for the excellent work. We have found the report to be very well elaborated, very detailed and objective.

Prague, 26 January 2016

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