Dear Editor!

We are sending you new version of manuscript entitled «**Optimization of vanadium-oxide catalyst for oxidation of 3-methylpyridine into nicotinic acid**» by P. Vorobyev, T. Mikhailovskaya,O. Yugay, L. Saurambaeva, A. Serebryanskaya, N. Chukhno and R. Kurmakizy.

We would like to have the manuscript considered for publication in **Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society.**

Nicotinic acid and its derivatives are important biologically active agents and are used for receiving medicines, such as RR vitamin, etc. By the vapor-phase ammoxidation of 3-methylpyridine on vanadia catalysts it is possible to receive a nitrile of nicotinic acid which is hydrolyzed into nicotinic acid (this method is developed in our laboratory under the leadership of the academician of National Academy of Science of RK Suvorov B. V.). We have developed the catalyst for ammoxidation of 3-methylpyridine into nicotinonitrile which has been patented in 38 countries. This catalyst operates at Lonza plant in Guangzhou (China). However, this method is two-stage and has a number of disadvantages. The most rational and simple method of producing of nicotinic acid is the direct catalytic vapor-phase oxidation of 3-methylpyridine. It has caused interest of researchers in studying this process and search for the effective catalysts.

This article is devoted to a study of a number of the modified vanadium oxide catalysts in oxidation of 3-methylpyridine into nicotinic acid and quantum-chemical interpretation of the received results. According to calculations, influence of the studied oxides- modifiers is caused by their ability to increase a nucleophylity of vanadyl oxygen and to decrease the enthalpy of deprotonation of the methyl group of chemosorbed 3-methylpyridine.

The received regularities have formed a basis for development of the new effective catalyst of direct vapor-phase oxidation of 3-methylpyridine into nicotinic acid. This method of producing the vital medical preparations is ecology friendly and safe.

We confirm that this manuscript has not been published elsewhere and is not under consideration by another journal. All authors have approved the manuscript and agree with submission to **Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society.**

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We have read and have abided by the statement of ethical standards for manuscripts submitted to **Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society.**

The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.