PROTOCOL

For Scientific and Technological Cooperation

Between

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK)

And

The Supreme Council of the Higher Commission for Scientific Research (SCHCSR) In the Syrian Arab Republic

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) and The Supreme Council of the Higher Commission for Scientific Research (SCHCSR) in the Syrian Arab Republic hereinafter referred to as the "Parties",

Desirous to develop cooperation for promoting science and technology and furthering friendship between their countries.

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE I

The two parties shall collaborate and support cooperation in the fields of science and technology through the signing of separate executive bilateral cooperation protocols/programs between the research entities affiliated to TÜBİTAK and the Syrian research entities, according to the provisions of this Protocol and the existing legislations and regulations of each country.

ARTICLE II

Cooperation activities within the framework of this protocol may be undertaken in the following forms:

1) Formulation and implementation of joint research programs and exchange of scientific and technical experiences.

2) Setting up of joint laboratories and pilot stations for research activities.

3) Exchange of scientists, specialists and researchers for the purpose of joint research, training, consultation and exchange of experience in the fields of science and technology.

4) Exchange of information about ongoing research activities, adoption of new scientific methods, establishing new scientific contacts for developing joint projects, attending scientific events.

5) Exchange of scientific and technical research results, information and documentations arising from the bilateral scientific and technological cooperation.

6) Organization of scientific and technical seminars and courses on problems of high interest to the two countries.

7) Other forms of scientific and technological cooperation as may be mutually agreed upon.

ARTICLE III

Scientific and technological results and any other information derived from the cooperation activities under this protocol, will be announced, published or commercially exploited with the consent of both cooperation partners and according to the international agreements concerning intellectual property rights to which both parties are signatories.

ARTICLE IV

For the purpose of implementing this protocol, a Joint Committee, composed of equal number of representatives designated by the two Parties, shall be established. The Committee will meet periodically and when needed alternatively in both countries.

The tasks of the Joint Committee shall be as follows:

a) Identifying the fields of cooperation on the basis of information delivered by institutions of each country and the national policies in science and technology.

b) Creating favourable conditions for the implementation of this protocol.

c) Facilitating the implementation of joint programmes and projects.

d) Encouraging exchange of experience arising from the bilateral scientific and technological co-cooperation and evaluating proposals for its further development.

The Joint Committee may elaborate its own rules of procedure.

ARTICLE V

The costs of exchange of experts, scientists and other specialists, resulting from this protocol, unless mutually agreed upon otherwise, will be covered on the following basis:

a) The sending Party shall cover the international travel expenses and health insurance.

b) The receiving Party shall cover the cost of local hospitality (daily allowance, accommodation and domestic travel according to the approved program of the visit).

Other than the above, the details of financial terms and conditions will be mutually agreed upon between the two Parties, and within the executive cooperation protocols between the research entities (as referred to in article I).

ARTICLE VI

Either of the Parties or the research entities bound by executive cooperation protocols shall not transmit any information concerning the results obtained from the cooperative program for scientific and technical development covered under this protocol to any third party without a written approval of the other Party.

ARTICLE VII

1) This protocol is concluded with a view to enhancing and developing cooperation between the parties and does not constitute an agreement binding upon the States of the Parties under international law. No provision of this protocol shall be interpreted and implemented as creating legal rights or commitments for the States of the Parties.

2) Any disputes related to the interpretation or implementation of this protocol shall be settled through consultations within the Joint Committee or between the Parties.

ARTICLE VIII

1) This protocol shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

2) This protocol shall remain in force for a period of five years and shall automatically be renewed for further periods of five years , unless either Party notifies the other in writing and through diplomatic channels, of its intentions to terminate this protocol.

3) The termination will come into effect after six months from the date of receiving the said notification by the other party. The termination of the protocol shall not affect the projects or programs undertaken under it and not fully executed at the time of the termination of this protocol.

This protocol may be amended by mutual consent of the Parties in writing and such amendment will be effective in accordance with Article VIII paragraph 1.

Signed in Damascus on 23.12.2009 in two original copies in Turkish, Arabic and English, both being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

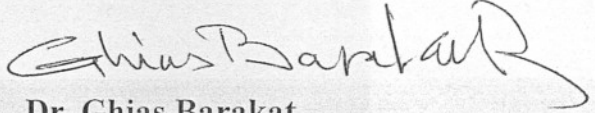| For	For
The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey	**The Supreme Council of the Higher Commission for Scientific Research**
(TÜBİTAK)	**(SCHCSR)**
Prof. Nüket YETİŞ	**Dr. Ghias Barakat**
President	**Vice president of the Supreme Council of Scientific Research**
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