

**PROTOCOL  
FOR  
PROGRAMME OF INTEGRATED ACTIONS  
BETWEEN  
THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF TURKEY  
AND  
THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF FRANCE**

Within the framework of "Turkish-French Cultural, Educational, Audiovisual, Academic, Scientific, Technical and Institutional Cooperation Programme for the Years 2003-2006" signed in Paris on 16 May 2003, the Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of France (hereinafter referred to as "Parties"), recognising the importance of science and technology in the development of their national economies and wishing to strengthen and develop scientific and technological cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, have agreed as follows:

**Article 1  
Objective**

The objective of this Protocol is to implement a Program of Integrated Actions (hereinafter referred to as "PIA") which will develop high quality scientific and technological cooperation between research entities of the two countries. The Parties have decided to give the name of "Bosphorus" to this Programme.

**Article 2  
Responsible Bodies**

The Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of France are the responsible bodies for the implementation of the PIA.

**Article 3  
Forms of Cooperation**

The cooperation may have in particular the following forms:

- a. joint research and development projects, including the exchange of their results, as well as exchange of scientists, specialists and researchers;
- b. organisation and participation in joint scientific meetings, conferences, symposia, courses, workshops, exhibitions, etc.;
- c. exchange of scientific and technological information and documentation;
- d. joint use of research and development facilities;
- e. other forms of scientific and technological co-operation which may be mutually agreed upon.

## **Article 4**

### **Areas of Cooperation**

The Parties will give priority to develop scientific and technological cooperation in the areas listed below:

- Information and communication technologies,
- Biotechnology, with special emphasis to health and agricultural applications.
- Advanced materials
- Environmental Sciences
- Seismic studies
- Social sciences

Other areas of interest may also be included by the Joint Committee.

## **Article 5**

### **Joint Committee**

1. For the purpose of implementing the PIA, a Joint Committee (JC) composed of the representatives designated by the two Parties shall be established. The tasks of the JC 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 Programme;
  - c. Facilitating the implementation of joint programmes and projects;
  - d. Encouraging exchange of experience arising from the bilateral scientific and technological cooperation and evaluating proposals for its further development.
  - e. Preparing executive programmes
2. The JC will meet at least once every two years, unless otherwise agreed, alternately in Turkey and in France on mutually convenient dates. However, JC may also operate by correspondence.
3. Travel and accommodation costs of the participants will be covered by the Sending Party.
4. The JC may elaborate its own rules of procedure.
5. The executive details concerning the other forms of cooperation listed in Article 3 will be elaborated by the JC.

## **Article 6**

### **Joint Projects**

1. In accordance with the Article 3, the Parties will publish simultaneously a call for proposals every two years, which will be open to all universities, research centres, institutes and companies, for submission of joint research projects. The related schedule will be determined by the Parties.
2. The joint projects will be implemented as follows:
  - a. Project proposals have to provide detailed information on the objectives and justification of the planned joint research work, the methodology to be followed, the composition of each research team and the intended time schedule.
  - b. Identical project proposals prepared in English using the special French PIA forms should be submitted for evaluation and approval simultaneously to TÜBİTAK and the French Party. Proposals will be separately and independently evaluated and approved by each of the two Parties, following their own procedures, and only those proposals which are approved by both Parties will be supported. The evaluation criteria to be considered by both Parties are listed below:
    - Scientific quality of the project
    - Competence of the teams to complete the project successfully
    - Quality of the infrastructure
    - Mutual transfer of competence
    - Foreseeable scientific and industrial impacts
    - Participation of PhD students or young researchers
  - c. The execution period of a joint research project will be two years. The total duration of visits in one direction of a specific project should not be more than two months a year.
  - d. Each scientific visit has to be reported by the Turkish scientists to TÜBİTAK and by the French scientists to the French Party one month in advance. The application must include a brief description of the work to be performed during the planned visit.
  - e. Within two months after completion of a scientific visit, a progress report outlining the work performed during the visit will be submitted to TÜBİTAK by the Turkish team and to the French Party by the French team. The second year visits will not be permitted, unless the progress report for the first year visits has been evaluated and approved.
  - f. Within two months after completion of the execution period, a final report, presenting the work carried out and the results obtained, will be prepared in English jointly by the two research teams and submitted to TÜBİTAK and the French Party for evaluation and approval.
  - g. Extension of the projects may be considered for one year at the maximum.




**Article 10**  
**Validity**

1. This Protocol shall enter into force on the date when it is signed by both Parties.
2. This Protocol shall remain in force for a period of four years and shall automatically be renewed for further periods of four years, unless either party notifies in writing its intention to terminate this Protocol. The termination will come into effect in six months from the date of the said notification.
3. The termination of this Protocol shall not affect the projects or programmes undertaken under this Protocol and not fully executed at the time of the termination of this Protocol.

Done in Ankara on 16 July 2003 in two original copies in English, both being equally authentic.

For the Scientific and Technical  
Research Council of Turkey  
(TÜBİTAK)

  
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