

AGREEMENT
ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA

The Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Government of the Republic of Tunisia (hereinafter referred to as the "Contracting Parties"), recognizing 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

The Contracting Parties shall encourage and support cooperation in the field of science and technology between their affiliated research entities on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, according to the provisions of this Agreement and the existing legislation and regulations of each country.

Article 2

Considering priority objectives for their respective countries, the Parties will develop cooperation in the following fields of common interest:

- a. agriculture,
- b. environmental issues,
- c. marine sciences,
- d. information technology and communications,
- e. biotechnology,
- f. health sciences,
- g. all other fields of common interest.

Article 3

The cooperation will 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. organization 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 and scientific equipment;
- e. other forms of scientific and technological co-operation which may be mutually agreed upon.

Article 4

- a. For the purpose of implementing this Agreement, a Joint Committee, composed of the representatives designated by the two Parties, shall be established.
- b. The tasks of the Joint Committee shall be as follows:
 - i. identifying the fields of cooperation on the basis of the information delivered by institutions of each country and the national policies in science and technology;
 - ii. creating favourable conditions for the implementation of this Agreement;
 - iii. facilitating implementation of joint programmes and projects;
 - iv. exchange of experience arising from the bilateral scientific and technological cooperation and examination of proposals for its further development.
 - v. Preparing the executive protocols.
- c. The Joint Committee will meet at least once every two years, unless otherwise agreed, alternately in the Republic of Turkey and in the Republic of Tunisia on mutually convenient dates. Joint Committee may also operate by correspondence.
- d. The Joint Committee may elaborate its own rules of procedure.

Article 5

- a. The Executive Programs mentioned in Article 4 shall be elaborated on the basis of project proposals submitted by the Turkish and the Tunisian institutions concerned.
- b. With a view to facilitating scientific and technological cooperation, the Joint Committee will prepare periodical Executive Programmes pertaining to:
 - i. fields of cooperation;
 - ii. specific topics;
 - iii. affiliated research bodies responsible for the realization and implementation of joint work;

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- iv. the use of joint research and development project results;
- v. financial resources.

Article 6

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

The sending Party will cover the international travel costs.

The receiving Party will cover the cost of trips within its territory, boarding and lodging, according to the regulations of each country.

Article 7

a. Scientific and technological results and any other information derived from the cooperation activities under this Agreement, will be announced, published or commercially exploited with the consent of both cooperating partners and according to the international provisions concerning intellectual property rights.

b. Scientists, technical experts and institutions of the third countries or international organizations may be invited, upon consent of the both cooperating partners, to participate in projects and programmes being carried out under this Agreement. The cost of such participation shall normally be borne by third countries, unless both sides agree otherwise in writing, and subject to available funds.

Article 8

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

Article 9

With respect to the co-operation activities established under this Agreement, each Party shall take, in accordance with its laws and regulations, all necessary measures to ensure the best possible conditions for their implementation.

Article 10

This Agreement shall not affect the validity or execution of any obligation arising from other international treaties or agreements concluded by either Party.

Article 11

a. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of written notifications between the Parties informing each other of the completion of their relevant internal procedures. The date of the last notification is deemed to be the date of the coming into force of the Agreement.

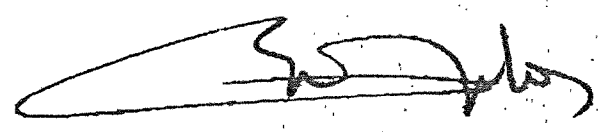
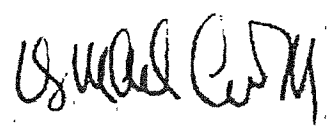
b. This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of five years and shall automatically be renewed for further periods of five years, unless either Party notifies in writing its intention to terminate this Agreement. The termination will come into effect in six months from the date of the said notification.

c. The termination of this Agreement shall not affect the projects or programmes undertaken under this Agreement and not fully executed at the time of the termination of this Agreement.

Done in Ankara on 22 March 2001 in two originals in the Turkish, Arabic and English languages, both texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence in the interpretation of this Agreement, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA



H.E. ismail CEM
Minister of Foreign Affairs

H.E. Habib Ben YAHIA
Minister of Foreign Affairs