

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**THE FEDERAL MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA**

AND THE

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SCIENCE
OF MONGOLIA**

CONCERNING

**COOPERATION IN THE AREAS OF
SCIENCE, RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND CULTURE**

The Federal Minister for Education, Science, and Culture of the Republic of Austria and the Minister for Education, Culture and Science of Mongolia, hereinafter referred to as "Sides"

- based on the long-standing friendly relations between their two countries
- endeavoring to support and enrich continuing cooperation for the mutual benefit of both countries
- recognizing the possibilities to do so in the areas of education, science, research and culture

hereby announce their intention to engage in future cooperation as follows:

Article 1

Both Sides welcome the cooperative activities agreed upon by the Austrian Academy of Sciences and the Mongolian Academy of Sciences and encourage their continuation. This cooperation is based on the "Protocol on Scientific/Scholarly Collaboration" which entered into force on 1 December 2000.

Article 2

- 2.1. Both Sides encourage cooperation in the areas of science and research between their universities, universities of the arts, scholarly and scientific libraries, and other scholarly and scientific institutions in both countries.

- 2.2. Both Sides welcome direct invitations to teachers at institutions of higher education as well as to scholars and scientists to engage in teaching activities and to perform scholarly and scientific research and, acting within the limits of national laws and regulations and financial possibilities, they will undertake all possible measures to legally and in actual fact permit temporary stays in their countries.
- 2.3. Both Sides encourage the activities of the Eurasia-Pacific UNINET. In this regard they welcome the following activities in which the Eurasia-Pacific UNINET is involved and which have already been planned:
- The MHPM Medical Health Project Mongolia of the academic cultural association FABULA at the Ulaanbaatar University Hospital
 - The establishment of an Austrian Reading Room at the Mongolian National University in Ulaanbaatar
 - Awarding on-place and postdoctoral scholarships within the scope of the project funded by the "Rat für Forschung und Technologieentwicklung" [Austrian Council for Research and Technology Development]
 - Cooperation projects involving various Austrian member institutions of the Eurasia-Pacific UNINET.
- 2.4. Both Sides encourage intensified cooperation within the framework of the European education program TEMPUS/TACIS.
- 2.5. Both Sides encourage study in the territories of their respective countries. They grant students studying in their territory – provided said students are enrolled in degree programs at institutions of higher education – the same treatment as their own citizens with regard to academic fees and tuition.
- 2.6. Both Sides welcome applications of students, graduate scholars and scientists of the other country for scholarships for further education and professional development as well as for research work at institutions of higher education. Information on the Austria Scholarships, Ernst Mach Scholarships, Bertha von Suttner Scholarships, Franz Werfel Scholarships and Lise Meitner Scholarships can be downloaded from the Internet at www.grants.at.

Article 3

- 3.1. Both Sides will review the conditions under which the mutual recognition of school-leaving certificates as well as grades from academic studies and examinations and the recognition of academic degrees can take place. For this purpose, both Sides will exchange documents concerning requirements pertaining thereto and, in a committee of experts established on this behalf, will formulate recommendations on said recognitions.

- 3.2. Within the "Asiatic Region" recognition network (UNESCO/CEPES), Austria is interested in establishing contacts between the Austrian ENIC and NARIC organization, NARIC AUSTRIA, and a Mongolian partner organization. Likewise, Austria encourages Mongolia to sign the "Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region" (BGBl. III No. 71/1999).

Article 4

Both Sides welcome the strategy and the already specified activities of the "Bundesinstitut für internationalen Bildungstransfer" (BIB) [Federal Institute for International Transfer of Education and Training] in Mongolia. The BIB is a publicly - funded institution of the Republic of Austria whose purpose is to support and professionalize the transfer of education, training, and know-how on a commercial basis. In particular, this shall be accomplished as part of economically relevant projects that are currently under way or have been planned for the future, particular importance being given to the implementation of projects serving to improve and expand Mongolian facilities in the area of infrastructure.

Upon the occasion of the most recent state visit of the Mongolian head of state, H.E. Natsagiin BAGABANDI in Austria in early July 2003, an agreement was reached with the Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, to create, with the support of the Federal Institute for International Transfer of Education and Training (BIB) an organization for training and further training in Mongolia similar to the Austrian "Wirtschaftsförderungsinstitut (WIFI)" [Institute for Economic Promotion]. The activities in the area of reforestation being engaged in by parties in Mongolia and the Austrian University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (Universität für Bodenkultur Vienna) are being supported by both Sides, also as regards multilateral financing institutions.

Article 5

Within the limits of its budgetary possibilities, the Austrian Side offers cooperation in the area of German as a foreign language: participation by Mongolian German teachers and German studies scholars at in-service education seminars for Austrian cross-country studies and literature, the providing of teaching materials on Austrian cross-country studies and literature to institutions focusing on German as a foreign language, and organization of short term Austria-related seminars ("Austria Days") in Mongolia.

Article 6

Both Sides encourage contacts between teacher-training academies.

Article 7

Both Sides encourage bilateral visits of experts to deepen the knowledge of the general and vocational education and training systems of the other country.

Upon request and to the extent feasible, both Sides will share information on their respective educational systems.

Article 8

Both Sides encourage cooperation in the area of public libraries. They encourage the exchange of experts in this area.

Article 9

Both Sides encourage cooperation in the area of museology and in the area of preserving cultural heritage. They encourage the exchange of experts in this area.

Article 10

Both Sides encourage cooperation in the area of architectural and cultural heritage (protection of monuments). In this regard the Austrian side offers a transfer of know-how in the area of new technologies and encourages the exchange of experts.

Article 11

The present memorandum will take effect upon the date of signing.

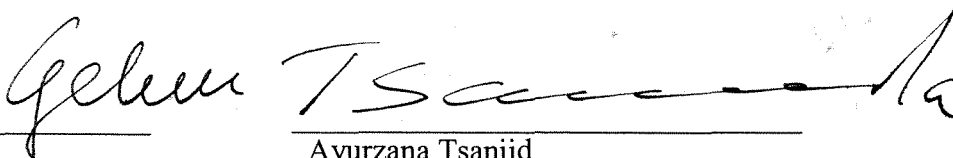
It will remain in effect for a period of 5 years and will be extended for an additional 3 years unless its validity is terminated in writing by one of the two parties at least 12 months prior to the expiration of its validity.

Article 12

The present memorandum does not result in the creation of any new obligations regarding international law nor shall it have any effect on existing legislation.

Signed on _____ in Ulaanbaatar


Elisabeth Gellner
Federal Minister of Education,
Science and Culture
of the Republic of Austria


Ayurzana Tsanjid
Minister for Education,
Culture and Science
of Mongolia