

First Meeting of the Joint Committee for Science and Technology implementing the Agreement between the Republic of Austria and the Republic of India on Scientific and Technological Cooperation of November 30, 2007,
held in Vienna, December 15, 2009

In implementation of the above mentioned Agreement between the Republic of Austria and the Republic of India, the first meeting of the Joint Committee for Science and Technology took place in Vienna on 15 December, 2009.

The delegation of the Republic of Austria was headed by Mr. Hans-Martin WINDISCH-GRÄTZ, Minister, Federal Ministry of European and International Affairs. The delegation of the Republic of India was headed by Dr. A. K. SOOD. The list of the two delegations is contained in Annex 1.

The Joint Committee for Science and Technology adopted the following agenda:

1. Exchange of information on science and technology
2. Discussion and adoption of the Work Programme
- 3: First call for proposals for the period of 2010-2012
4. Cooperation between S&T funding organisations
5. 2nd Meeting of the Joint Committee for Science and Technology
6. Joint Workshops

1. Exchange of Information on science and technology:

Both sides welcomed the constantly increasing cooperation in science and technology between India and Austria. Concerning the exchange of information, both sides informed each other about the latest developments in the R&D sector in their respective countries. Experience stemming from bilateral and international cooperation (including participation in international R&D programmes) of both the Republic of India and the Republic of Austria was exchanged.

The EU-funded project “New Indigo” in which both Indian and Austrian scientists will cooperate in joint research projects as of 2010 was presented to the Joint Committee.

Both sides expressed their confidence that the implementation of the joint call for the years 2010-2012 will contribute significantly to the development of beneficial links between S&T institutions, universities and scientists of both countries. Both sides reached an understanding to encourage their researchers to participate jointly in EU projects within the framework of FP7.

2. Discussion and adoption of the Work Programme

The Joint Committee discussed and adopted the “Work Programme for the Years 2010 – 2012”. The Work Programme includes regulations about the forms and aspects of cooperation, general administrative regulations, the administration of the exchange of scientists and experts as well as financial regulations.

A copy of the "Work Programme for the Years 2010 – 2012" is attached in Annex 2.

3. First call for proposals for the period 2010-2012:

The first call for proposals will be thematically open to all fields of science and research, scientific excellence being the main selection criterion. The call will be published no later than 1 March 2010 with the deadline for submission of project proposals on 3 May 2010. The implementing agency on the Austrian side will be the Austrian Exchange Service (OeAD); the implementing agency on the Indian side will be the Department of Science and Technology.

4. Cooperation between S&T funding organisations:

Both sides encourage S&T funding agencies of the Republic of Austria to enhance and formalise bilateral cooperation with the Department of Science and Technology in the near future. In this regard the Indian side agreed to work towards signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Austrian Science Fund.

The Austrian side informs that the Austrian Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology is interested in establishing a Working Group with the objective of deepening cooperation in technology oriented, applied research, exploring possibilities for broader, technology related cooperation and identifying projects of common interest. Both sides will proceed accordingly.

5. Second Meeting of the Joint Committee for Science and Technology:

The Joint Committee for Science and Technology will meet the second time in India by invitation of the Department of Science and Technology of the Republic of India in the second half of 2010 at the occasion of the selection of joint projects following the joint call under the Indian-Austrian S&T Agreement.

6. Joint Workshops

Both sides agreed to organize at least two workshops in Austria and India per year in areas of mutual interest. Areas, dates and venues will be mutually decided through exchange of communications between the two sides. Travel and insurance cost will be made by the sending side while the local hospitality and other workshop cost will be made by the hosts.

Signed in Vienna, 15 December 2009, in two copies in English

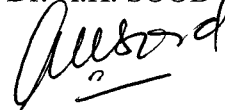
On behalf of the Delegation of the Republic
of Austria

Dr. Hans- Martin WINDISCH-GRÄTZ



On behalf of the Delegation of the Republic
of India

Dr. A.K. SOOD



List of Delegations**Austrian Delegation:**

Hans- Martin WINDISCH-GRÄTZ Head of Delegation	Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs
Christine BUZECZKI	Vice Director of the Department for International Research Co-operation, Federal Ministry of Science and Research
Stephan NEUHÄUSER	Department for International Research Co-operation, Federal Ministry of Science and Research
Florian GRUBER	Centre for Social Innovation
Reinhard BELOCKY	Austrian Science Fund

Indian Delegation:

Dr A.K. SOOD Head of Delegation	Head, International Cooperation, DST
Mr Dinesh PATNAIK	Deputy Chief of Mission, Indian Embassy, Vienna
Prof G. D. YADAV	Director, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai
Dr Rajiv SHARMA	Advisor, International Cooperation, DST
Mr Puneet AGRAWAL	First Secretary, Indian Embassy, Vienna

Work Programme for the Years 2010 – 2012

Adopted at the occasion of the First Meeting of the Joint Committee for Science and Technology implementing the Agreement between the Republic of Austria and the Republic of India on Scientific and Technological Cooperation of November 30, 2007

Vienna, 15 December 2009

1. Forms of Cooperation
2. Responsible institutions
3. Administration of the call for proposals for joint research projects
4. Administration of the exchange of scientists and experts
5. Financial regulations

1. Forms of cooperation

1.1. For the preparation and realisation of joint research projects, financial support will be given for:

1.1.1. one short-term stay not exceeding two weeks each year and project for each side.

1.1.2. two long-term stay of up to a maximum of two months each per year and project for each side.

1.1.3. the exchange of information on S&T issues, information and documentation in conformity with the respective national laws.

2. Responsible institutions

2.1. In the Republic of Austria:

The implementation of the Work Programme lies within the responsibility of:

Centre for International Cooperation and Mobility (ICM) at the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD GmbH)

Alserstrasse 4/1/14/1

A-1090 Vienna

Austria

WWW: <http://www.oead.at/wtz>

The Austrian Exchange Service is commissioned by the Federal Ministry of Science and Research:

Federal Ministry of Science and Research (BMWF),

Department for International Research Cooperation

Rosengasse 2-6

A-1014 Vienna

Austria

WWW: <http://www.bmwf.gv.at>

2.2. In the Republic of India:

The implementation of the Work Programme lies within the responsibility of:

International Cooperation Division

Department of Science & Technology

Ministry of Science & Technology

Government of India

Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road

New Delhi-110016

WWW: <http://www.stic-dst.org>

3. Administration of the call for proposals for joint research projects

- 3.1. The joint call will be published by the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD GmbH) and Indian Department of Science & Technology (DST) on Monday, 1 March 2010 and will be open for a period of two months until Monday, 3 May 2010. Two months will be foreseen for the evaluation phase. The selection meeting will take place in early September 2010 (cf. article 3.5). Projects will start on 15th October 2010 and have a maximum duration of 2 years.
- 3.2. Project applications will be prepared jointly by the Austrian and Indian researchers to be submitted to the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD GmbH) and to the Indian Department of Science & Technology (DST).
- 3.3. Submitted project applications have to include:
 - 3.3.1. A description of the proposed research subject and objective as per agreed project submission format.
 - 3.3.2. The names and addresses of the cooperating Austrian and Indian institutions and partners.
 - 3.3.3. An annual calculation of costs for travels necessary for the project
- 3.4. Project applications registered with the responsible institutions (cf. 3.2.) will be entered into a joint list after national evaluation
- 3.5. The final list of joint projects to be funded will be adopted by the Joint Committee that will meet after the evaluation phase in early September 2010 in India. In well-founded exceptional cases, additional joint research projects may be added to the final project list after adoption.
- 3.6. The dates for the second call of the proposals will be decided at the second meeting of the Joint Committee.
- 3.7. At the end of the second year of the project, the project coordinators will submit a jointly prepared final report on the progress and the results of their research activities to the Austrian and Indian institutions mentioned under articles 3.2.
- 3.8. The exploitation, possible patent registration and publication of project results are subject to the national laws in force in the Republic of Austria and in the Republic of India.

4. Administration of the Exchange of Scientists and Experts

- 4.1. The cooperating partners shall agree on the date and the duration of the respective stay at the host institution at least eight weeks prior to the starting date of the stay.
- 4.2. The Austrian project leader shall notify the Centre for International Cooperation and Mobility (ICM) at the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD GmbH) of the coordinates of the Indian partner scientist.

- 4.3. The Indian project leader would inform the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India about 4 weeks prior to each visit from the Indian and Austrian side for required approvals.
- 4.4. Each side will facilitate the access to its scientific institutions, libraries, archives and museum collections for partner researchers as per the mutually approved technical plan of projects and other collaborative activities covered by the Agreement between the Republic of Austria and the Republic of India on Scientific and Technological Cooperation.

5. Financial Regulations

- 5.1. Each side will cover the travel costs of persons sent and the accommodation costs of persons hosted.
- 5.2. The sending side will assure that the scientists and experts have an adequate health insurance.

5.3. Regulations in Austria:

- 5.3.1. For short-term stays of up to 2 weeks within the framework of approved projects, the following rate in Euro (€), including guesthouse accommodation will be granted:

€ 73,- per diem (the Austrian side will try to ensure that the accommodation costs will not exceed € 40,- per night)

- 5.3.2. For stays of up to a maximum of 2 months within the framework of approved projects, the following rate in Euro (€), including overnight costs, will be granted:

€ 1.200,- per month

- 5.3.3. Indian researchers will receive the payments personally at the local offices of the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD GmbH), or directly at the host institution.

- 5.3.4. Up to 15% of the total project costs may be added for supplementing accommodation costs and other eventualities.

5.4. Regulations in India:

The Austrian scientists visiting India within the framework of approved projects would be provided accommodation in a guest house or a hotel with reasonable facilities and transport for airport transfers. In addition they would be provided a per diem towards meals and out of pocket expenses as per the following rates:

- 5.4.1. For short-term stays of up to 2 weeks, per diem @ Rs. 1,000/- per day will be granted.
- 5.4.2. For stays of up to a maximum of 2 months per diem @ Rs. 20,000/- per month will be granted.
- 5.4.3. Austrian researchers will receive the payments directly at the host institution.