

In the name of God

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN



***THE DIVISION OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OF THE
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND
CULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA***

AND



***THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
PRESIDENCY
TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION OFFICE***

IN THE FIELDS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

A new phase of scientific cooperation between the Republic of Austria and the Islamic Republic of Iran started in the year of 1999 when the Chairman of the Presidency Office of Technology Cooperation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Eng. Reza Sajjadi, accepted the invitation on behalf of the Federal Minister for Science and Transport of the Republic of Austria, Dr. Caspar Einem, to visit Austria.

In conjunction with the official working visit of the Austrian Federal President, Dr. Thomas Klestil, in the Islamic Republic of Iran in September 1999, key scientists of Austria met with their Iranian counterparts. The visit was followed by an exchange of information in the fields of software and information technology, advanced materials, biotechnology, biopolymers and Aids/medicine. Several individual meetings took place, and various research projects were generated.

In Vienna, a separate memorandum of understanding was signed between the Engineering Department of the Presidency Technology Cooperation Office and the Institute of Software Technology at the Vienna University of Technology to start a joint project "*Development of a Scientific Workplace*". This project will initiate a cooperation between scientists of the Vienna University of Technology and the Shahid Bahonar University in Kerman (Computer Science Department), Sharif University of Technology and the Iran Telecommunication Centre. The collaboration is already financed. In the field of Life Sciences, a special meeting took place in March 2000 in Vienna, the results of which are summarized in the annexed report agreed by both sides.

This exceptionally successful development legitimises new official steps and a first governmental agreement.

**The Deputy Minister of Scientific Research and International Affairs of the
Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture of the Republic of
Austria and
the Chairman of the Islamic Republic of Iran Presidency
Technology Cooperation Office**

- ◆ wishing to promote and to deepen scientific cooperation for the mutual benefit of both countries by drawing on the new opportunities offered in the fields of science and technology,
- ◆ recognizing the ambitious modernization in many fields of science and technology in the Republic of Austria and in the Islamic Republic of Iran,
- ◆ attaching priority to the scientific cooperation between the two countries, based on their respective national legislations and that contractual obligations,

have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

I. Priority areas for scientific cooperation between the Division of Scientific Research and International Affairs of the Federal Ministry of Education Science and Culture of the Republic of Austria and the Islamic Republic of Iran Presidency Technology Cooperation Office will be:

- **Software and Information Technology**
- **Advanced Materials**
- **Biotechnology**
- **Biopolymers**
- **Medicine/AIDS**

- II. The common goal is to use research with a view to sustainable development in science and industry.
- III. Both sides will encourage the bilateral research groups to engage in multilateral projects and programmes.

ARTICLE 2

The instruments of scientific cooperation will be the following:

- I. Exchange of ideas, information and knowledge, including on research and technology policies,
- II. To facilitate access and use of scientific institutions, data bases, libraries, collections, archives et cetera,
- III. To establish research networks through bilateral exchange of advanced students, young researchers or established university personnel,
- IV. To organise science weeks and,
- V. Joint projects

ARTICLE 3

- I. Any project to be realized on the basis of this Memorandum of Understanding will be subject to a separate individual contract containing the respective obligations and conditions, and if applicable the proportional contributions.
- II. Both parties will be responsible for guaranteeing the internationally accepted property rights for each project in written form.
- III. The parties to this Memorandum of Understanding are determined to secure, within the scope of their legal and contractive responsibilities, the due implementation of the above-mentioned forms of scientific cooperation.

ARTICLE 4

- I. This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force immediately after signature.
- II. Both parties will annually exchange evaluation reports on the progress achieved.
- III. This Memorandum of Understanding is concluded for a period of five years. It can be renewed if six months prior to the expiry date the parties to the present Memorandum of Understanding so agree in written form.

Done in Teheran on 22nd May 2000 in two original copies in English.

The Deputy Minister of
Scientific Research and International
Affairs of the Federal Ministry of
Education, Science and Culture
of the Republic of Austria

The Chairman of the Islamic
Republic of Iran
Presidency
Technology Cooperation Office

Dr. Raoul Kneucker



Eng. Reza Sajjadi

