

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL COOPERATION**

**THE FEDERAL MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND
CULTURE**

OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA

AND

**THE VICE-MINISTER FOR EDUCATION OF THE
FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA**

(hereinafter referred to as "both Sides")

Based on the longstanding friendly relations between the two countries and aware of the advantages of strengthening the bilateral cooperation in the areas of science and culture,

Considering that exchanging experiences and working together in the areas of science and culture is consistent with their interests,

Declare their intention to co-operate by appropriate means as follows:

Article 1

Both Sides shall make efforts to:

- further expand the understanding for the history and culture of the respective country by joint research projects;
- initiate discussion between experts of both Sides on the website of the Institute for Anthropology of the University of Vienna (<http://www.Image-Ethiopia.org>);

- establish an expert panel destined to exchange experiences in the areas of international and national laws with special emphasis on the protection of cultural heritage;
- design, based on the recommendation of the panel of experts, proposals for projects which are aimed to preserve cultural monuments;
- promote the existing Ethio-Austrian scientific projects such as: "The Institute for Palaeo-Environment, Human Evolution, and Cultural Anthropology" of the Mekelle University; the consultancy activities regarding the restoration of the Imperial Palaces in Addis Ababa and Mekelle; the Ethio-Austrian Research in Palaeoanthropology and Excavations in Ethiopia and the planned "Information-Center-Image Ethiopia" that shall be established in Addis Ababa in the near future in collaboration with the Ministry of Information and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia;
- plan museums and organize joint exhibitions in both countries;
- establish a discussion forum via an already existing virtual communication platform (<http://www.Image-Ethiopia.org>) between Austrian and Ethiopian institutions thus enabling to develop scientific programs in teaching and research;
- cooperate to curb illicit trafficking of heritages within the territories of both countries;
- exchange experts and experiences in the fields of Archaeology, Anthropology, Palaeoanthropology and related areas.

Article 2

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force upon signature by both Sides.

Article 3

This Memorandum of Understanding shall be valid for a period of five years as of the date of signature unless one of the Sides declares to the other Side, in writing, of its intention to terminate it at least three months prior to the date of expiration. The termination does not affect projects that are under way.

Article 4

The present Memorandum does not preclude the possibility of further activities not foreseen herein.

Article 6

This Memorandum does not create any new obligations nor does it have any effect on existing obligations under national legislation or international law.

Done at Vienna on 17. 11. 04 in two originals in English.



Elisabeth Gehr

Federal Minister for Education,
Science and Culture
of the Republic of Austria



Wondossen Kiflu

Vice-Minister for Education
of the Federal Democratic Republic
of Ethiopia