

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF SCIENCE,
RESEARCH AND ECONOMY
OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA**

AND

**THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

ON

**SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL
COOPERATION**

INTRODUCTION

The Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy of the Republic of Austria and the Department of Science and Technology of the Republic of South Africa (hereinafter jointly referred to as the “Participants” and separately as a “Participant”);

RECOGNISING that scientific and technological cooperation on the basis of mutual benefit and equality is an important basis of the relationship between the Participants;

ACKNOWLEDGING the positive experience gained through excellent bilateral relationships in the fields of science and technology and the necessity to improve these relationships for increased mutual benefit;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the rapid growth of scientific and technological knowledge as well as the increasing relevance of internationalisation of science and technology, including the collaboration opportunities within Horizon 2020 (EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation) and the European research initiative EUREKA (focus on transnational cooperation in business-driven applied research);

ENCOURAGING the cooperation between relevant funding bodies of both Participants in the fields of basic, economy oriented, applied research and innovation; and

SEEKING to foster cooperation between the Participants for the establishment of a framework for cooperation in scientific and technological research and innovation, which will strengthen and extend the quality of cooperative activities in areas of common interest and encourage the application of the results of such cooperation to their economic and social benefit;

have reached the following **UNDERSTANDING**:

PARAGRAPH 1
CO-ORDINATING AGENCIES

The Co-ordinating Agencies responsible for the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding are –

- (a) the Department of Science and Technology of the Republic of South Africa;
and
- (b) the Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy of the Republic of Austria.

PARAGRAPH 2
OBJECTIVE

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding is to promote cooperative activities in the fields of science and technology on the basis of mutual benefit and in accordance with the applicable domestic laws of the respective Participants.

PARAGRAPH 3
INSTITUTIONS, ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS

- (1) The Participants will encourage the development of direct scientific and technological contacts between their governmental institutions, national funding bodies, institutions of higher education, the Science Academies and their national centres for scientific and technological research.
- (2) The Participants will encourage the participation of scientists and experts in joint projects in the framework of relevant national, European and international programmes in conformity with their respective national laws.

PARAGRAPH 4

FIELDS OF COOPERATION

The Participants will encourage co-operation in the following fields -

- (a) the exchange of scientists, researchers and experts within bilateral scientific and technological projects approved by the Participants;
- (b) the exchange of information on scientific and technological activities and of documentation, publications and policy papers pertaining to science and technology;
- (c) the convening of bilateral scientific events; and
- (d) additional forms of cooperative activities which may be mutually agreed upon by the Participants.

PARAGRAPH 5

IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

- (1) The Participants will endeavour to establish an Implementation Committee for this Memorandum of Understanding.
- (2) The Implementation Committee will comprise representatives from both Participants nominated by the respective Co-ordinating Agencies.
- (3) The Implementation Committee will endeavour to –
 - (a) consultation on basic questions of scientific and technological cooperation;
 - (b) discuss and decide on the fields and forms of cooperative activities under this Memorandum of Understanding with particular attention to calls for proposals for bilateral scientific and technological cooperation projects, evaluation, selection and approval of project proposals; and
 - (c) monitor and evaluate the progress of scientific and technological cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding;
- (4) The Implementation Committee will endeavour to meet once every two years alternately in South Africa and in Austria.
- (5) The language of communication of the members of the Implementation Committee will be English.

PARAGRAPH 6

FINANCE

- (1) Each Participant will be responsible for its own costs relating to the implementation of this memorandum; provided that a Participant hosting a meeting of the Implementation Committee will provide the venue and secretarial services for the meeting.
- (2) For joint projects under Paragraph 4(a), each Participant will cover travel and accommodation costs for outgoing personnel.
- (3) The sending Participant will assure that its personnel are sufficiently medically insured.
- (4) Financial support for bilateral scientific events under Paragraph 4(c) as well as other possible forms of cooperation under Paragraph 4(d) will be dealt with by the Implementation Committee.

PARAGRAPH 7

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Issues pertaining to intellectual property rights arising from cooperative activities under this Memorandum of Understanding will be subject to the domestic laws of the respective Participants as well as international agreements on intellectual property rights which are applicable to both the Republic of South Africa and the Republic of Austria.

PARAGRAPH 8

CHANGES

This Memorandum of Understanding may be changed by mutual consent of the Participants in writing.


PARAGRAPH 9
SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTE

Any dispute between the Participants arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding will be settled amicably through consultation or negotiation.


PARAGRAPH 10
ENTRY INTO EFFECT AND CANCELLATION

- (1) This Memorandum of Understanding will become effective on the date of signature and will continue to have effect for three years; after which it will be renewed automatically unless cancelled by either Participant in terms of sub-paragraph (2).
- (2) This Memorandum of Understanding may be cancelled by either Participant at any time by giving written notice to the other Participant. The cancellation will become effective six months after the date of the notice of the cancellation by the other Participant.
- (3) Joint activities in terms of this Memorandum of Understanding that commenced before the cancellation will not be affected by the cancellation of this Memorandum of Understanding.
- (4) This Memorandum of Understanding does not create any legal obligations under international law.

DONE aton this.....day of20.....
Vienna, 27 August 2015 *Pretoria, 31 July 2015*



THE FEDERAL MINISTER OF SCIENCE,
RESEARCH AND ECONOMY OF
THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA



THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE
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