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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, EDUCATION AND SPORTS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**

AND

**THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE OF THE PORTUGUESE
REPUBLIC**

**ON CO-OPERATION
IN THE FIELDS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

The Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Portuguese Republic, both collectively hereafter referred to as “the Signatories”,

Recognising the importance of science, technology, and innovation for the growth of their national economies and the improvement of their socio-economic standards of living,

Pursuant to the Agreement between the Republic of Croatia and the Portuguese Republic on cooperation in the domains of Culture, Education and Science signed in Lisbon, on April 14, 1998,

Wishing to strengthen and develop scientific and technological co-operation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit,

Have decided as follows:

ARTICLE 1

Object of the Memorandum

1. This Memorandum of Understanding will promote research exchange in the scientific fields both sides consider important in order to achieve sustainable growth namely, but not restricted to, ITC, Energy, Climate, Agriculture, and Health.
2. The research fields will be selected every four years, by mutual consent of the Signatories.

ARTICLE 2

Working Group

1. For the purpose of implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding, a Working Group, composed of representatives designated by the two Signatories, is established.

2. The tasks of the Working Group are as follows:

- a) Identifying priority fields and modalities of co-operation on the basis of information received from relevant institutions in each country and the respective national policies in science, technology and innovation;
- b) Facilitating and supporting the implementation of joint programmes, initiatives and projects;
- c) Promoting the cooperation of Croatian and Portuguese entities in the scope of wider research and innovation programmes, such as international and European financing opportunities;
- d) Organising bilateral meetings and brokerage events for the exchange of experiences and prospection of further opportunities for cooperation development between national entities from both countries;
- e) Examining the progress of activities undertaken for the implementation of the present Memorandum of Understanding.

3. The Working Group will meet at least once every 2 (two) years, unless otherwise decided, alternately in Croatia and in Portugal, on mutually convenient dates.

4. The Working Group will decide upon the list of mutually accepted projects of co-operation after the evaluation of the joint proposals submitted to each joint call for proposals.

ARTICLE 3

Launching of a Joint Scientific Cooperation Programme

1. The Signatories will launch a Joint Scientific Cooperation Programme, in order to allow research and technology development organisations, universities and other public and private organisations from the two countries to submit joint research proposals falling into one of the thematic priorities therein specified.

2. The Programme's main aim will be the implementation of joint research and development projects, including the sharing of results and the exchange of scientists and researchers.

3. The Programme could also include the organisation and participation in meetings, conferences, symposia and workshops.

ARTICLE 4

Exploitation of Results and third Parties participation

1. The use and exploitation of all results arising from the implementation of the present Memorandum of Understanding for bilateral co-operation will be subject to the applicable laws and regulations in force in their respective countries.

2. Scientists, researchers, technical experts and institutions of third countries or international organisations may be invited, upon consent of both co-operating partners, to participate in projects and programmes being carried out under the present Memorandum of Understanding.

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3. The costs of such participation will normally be borne by the third Party, unless the Signatories decide otherwise in writing.

ARTICLE 5

Cooperation in European Research Programmes

The Signatories will promote the cooperation of scientists, researchers and technical experts in European Research Programmes.

ARTICLE 6

Responsible bodies

The responsible bodies for the implementation of the provisions of the present Memorandum of Understanding are the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Portuguese Republic, represented by the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT).

ARTICLE 7

Consultation

Any disputes related to the interpretation or implementation of the present Memorandum of Understanding will be submitted to consultations within the Working Group or between the Signatories.

ARTICLE 8

Financial responsibilities

The costs of the exchange of scientists, researchers and technical experts, resulting from the present Memorandum of Understanding, unless agreed upon otherwise, will be covered on the following basis:

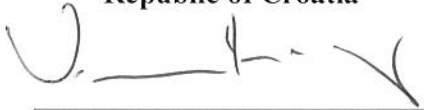
- a) The sending Party will cover the round/trip transportation costs between the capitals of the two countries;
- b) The receiving Party will cover the full accommodation, i.e. lodgings and daily allowances, according to the regulations of each country;
- c) The cooperating Party or entity sending visiting personnel to the other country shall ensure that the personnel has taken out medical insurance in their country for the duration of their stay in the other country.

ARTICLE 9
Entry into effect

1. The present Memorandum of Understanding shall come into effect on the date of its signature.
2. The present Memorandum shall cease to have effect on the date on which either Signatory gives written notice to the other Signatory of its intention to terminate it.
3. The termination of the present Memorandum of Understanding will not affect the projects or programmes undertaken under its implementation.

Signed in Zagreb, on May 26 , 2015, in two originals in the English language, both being equally authentic.

**For the Ministry of Science,
Education and Sports of the
Republic of Croatia**



**For the Ministry of Education
and Science of the Portuguese
Republic**