MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN

THE SCIENCE COMMITTEE OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

AND

THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC

The Science Committee of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia and the National Research Council of the Italian Republic (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties)",

Highly acknowledging the current level of the Armenian-Italian cooperation in the fields of science and technology, and

Wishing to promote the implementation of cooperation programmes in the areas of mutual interest,

have agreed upon the following:

Article I Purpose

- 1. Within the framework of the present Memorandum of Understanding the Parties shall foster the cooperation between the scientific communities of their respective Countries.
- 2. The present Memorandum of Understanding is aimed at developing and strengthening scientific cooperation between scientists and research groups, enabling the mutual use of equipments.
- 3. The Parties shall encourage the exchange of scientific data and information and shall mutually foster basic and applied research.
- 4. The Parties shall encourage the exchange of scientific personnel giving priority to young scientists.

Article II Forms of Cooperation

- 1. The cooperation between the Parties will be conducted by the following means:
- . a) Joint research projects,
 - b) Joint workshops, seminars, conferences.
 - 2. Further activities of cooperation may be included upon approval by the Parties.
- 3. The Parties shall coordinate the bilateral funding of joint scientific projects of mutual interest on a case-to-case basis building on their respective funding schemes.
- 4. The details and the Cooperation Programme for each form of cooperation shall be decided by the Parties. The Parties will revise each Cooperation Programme at least every two years.

Article III Financial Aspects

- 1. The activities foreseen under this Memorandum of Understanding will be implemented by the Parties according to their budget availability without any additional cost for the State budgets of the Republic of Armenia and the Italian Republic.
- 2. Each Party will cover the costs of the participating researchers from its own country. The number of projects, workshops and any other cooperative activity will be established every two years in the renewed Cooperation Programme which will be contingent upon each Party's budget availability.

Article IV Observance of Regulations

Participating scientists will abide by the laws of the receiving Country and the regulations of the host institutions.

Article V Intellectual Properties

- 1. According to the national legislations of their respective States, the Parties shall make the scientific and technical information, obtained during the cooperation period, available to the worldwide scientific community by using the accepted dissemination ways.
- 2. The treatment of intellectual property created or furnished in the course of cooperation activities under this Memorandum of Understanding shall be provided for in the Cooperation Programme, unless decided otherwise by the Parties in writing.

Article VI Other Matters

- 1. Administrative procedures and implementation details not covered by this Memorandum of Understanding will be provided separately in the Cooperation Programmes or established via correspondence between the Parties.
- 2. This Memorandum of Understanding will be implemented in accordance with the Armenian and Italian legislations, as well as in conformity with applicable international law, with the obligations in the framework of international organizations of which the Parties are members and, as for the Italian Party, with those ensuing from its membership of the European Union.

Article VII Entry into Force, Amendments, Termination

1. This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of its signature and remain valid for a period of four years. Either Party may notify in writing

the other of its intention to terminate it at least six months before the expiration date, in which case any ongoing Cooperation Programme shall continue until its proper conclusion. This Memorandum of Understanding will be automatically renewed for further four-year periods in the absence of a termination notice by either Party.

- 2. The provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding may be amended in writing by mutual consent of the Parties. Such amendments shall enter into force in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article.
- 3. Any dispute arising out of the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding will be amicably settled by means of direct consultations and negotiations between the Parties.

Done at Yerevan on 31st of July, 2018, in two originals, each in the Armenian, Italian and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in interpretation, the English text will prevail.

FOR THE SCIENCE COMMITTEE OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF

ARMENIA

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FOR THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF THE ITALIAN

REPUBLIC