

**Cooperative Programme
of the Agreement on Scientific Cooperation
between
the National Research Council of Italy (CNR)
and
the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research of Republic of
Tunisia (MHESR)**

In accordance with the provision of Article VI of the Agreement between the National Research Council of Italy and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research of Republic of Tunisia (hereinafter referred to as CNR and MHESR respectively), both Parties have agreed on the following cooperative programme.

Article 1. Forms of Cooperation

The Parties will promote the cooperation between Tunisian and Italian researchers and research centres through preparation and implementation of joint research projects.

Every joint call will have priority research areas chosen among this list:

- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Cultural Heritage
- Water
- Energy
- Agrifood
- Climate change
- Biodiversity
- Medical Sciences
- Smart cities and Artificial Intelligence

Article 2. Joint Projects

This mode of cooperation will be conducted as follows:

- 2.1 Both parties will support up to 4 joint research projects every two years implemented on specific subjects with the participation of scientists from each country and will be mutually agreed in advance by both sides. The duration of a joint research project will normally be two years.
- 2.2 The call for proposals of joint research projects will be announced by each party in July every two years. The first call for proposals will be announced in March 02, 2020 with a deadline of May 29, 2020.
- 2.3 Both parties, CNR and MHESR, will a) gather all the applications from their respective sides, b) review them separately, and c) exchange prioritized lists in mid-October every two years.
- 2.4 The list of joint research projects mutually approved (those best evaluated by each party) shall be annexed to this Cooperation Programme.
- 2.5 The joint research projects will be expected to start on January 2021.

Article 3. Financial Support

The financial conditions for the approved joint research projects shall be as follows:

- 3.1 The Parties agree to contribute on an equal basis to the financing of the program, subject to the availability of the Parties' funds.
- 3.2 For each project, MHESR will provide annually up to 6.000 € to the Tunisian team, and CNR will provide up to 6.000 € to the Italian team.
- 3.3 Travel (international and domestic) and accommodation expenses for participants shall be borne by the sending party.
- 3.4 The support given by the Parties to the research teams shall complement the proper resources of each team, and is intended to subsidize the general costs linked to the international nature of the projects, the costs of international travel (mainly transportation and per-diem expenses). Each research team may apply for complementary support from other institutions.

3.5 Both Parties shall re-evaluate the amount of the allowances in relation to inflation and in accordance with the provisions existing in each country.

Article 4. Medical insurance

The visitor should have insurance entitling the holder to free emergency medical treatment in the host country.

The receiving Party will provide the visitor with all indispensable organisational assistance in situations requiring such steps.

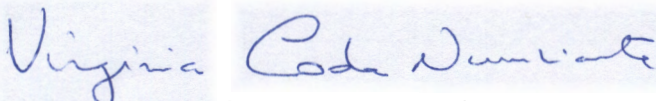
Article 5. Duration and Termination

Amendments to this CNR- MHESR Cooperation Programme may be proposed by either CNR or MHESR. Such amendments will become effective when the two parties have mutually agreed upon them.

The present CNR- MHESR Cooperation Programme remains valid during the effective duration of the Agreement on Scientific Cooperation signed by and between CNR and MHESR.

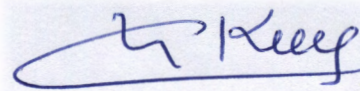
Signed in Rome on August 29, 2019 in two copies in English.

For
The National Research Council
of Italy (CNR)



Dr. Virginia Coda Nunziante
Head of International Relations

For
The Ministry of Higher Education
and Scientific Research of Republic
of Tunisia



Dr. Samia Charfi Kaddour
Director General of Scientific
Research