# Agreement on Scientific Cooperation between

## the National Research Council of Italy

and

## the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research of Tunisia

The National Research Council of Italy (CNR) and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research of Tunisia (MESRS) (hereinafter referred to as the Parties), have agreed upon the following provisions:

### Article I - Purpose

The purpose of this Agreement is to further strengthen cooperation in research and development and innovation between Italy and Tunisia. The Parties will, on a basis of equality and mutual benefit, promote and support cooperation between their researchers in the areas of main interest for both Parties.

## Article II - Forms of Cooperation and Implementation

Cooperation within this Agreement may include the following activities:

- a) Joint research and development projects;
- b) joint laboratories in priority areas;
- c) Exchange of scientists, researchers and experts necessary for carrying out research and development, sharing good practices and building capacity;
- d) Joint workshops;
- e) Other cooperative activities as may be mutually agreed upon.

The projects undertaken under this Agreement shall be targeted for further participation in the Horizon 2020 program and other European programs and initiatives such as Prima and Blue Med.

The Parties shall decide details for each form of cooperation in the Cooperative Agreement. The Parties shall revise this Cooperative Programme at least every two years. It shall contain, among other provisions, what follows:

- Joint use of research and development facilities and scientific equipment

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- Title, description, duration and financial arrangements of the joint research and development projects, joint laboratories, workshops or any other initiatives selected by the Parties.

#### Article III - Practice

Unless otherwise agreed upon by the parties, each Party will cover the costs of the researchers participant from its own country. The number of projects, workshops and any other cooperative activity to be supported each year will be contingent upon funding availability in each Party's budget, which will be established every 2 years on the renewed Cooperative Programme.

Monitoring and follow up on the implementation of this Agreement. may be discuss every year or when agreed upon by the parties

## Article IV - Observance of Regulations

Participating researchers abide by the laws of the receiving country and regulations of the host institutions.

## Article V - Intellectual Properties

Intellectual property rights shall belong to the researcher's and/or the researcher's employing Research and Development organizations. Due acknowledgement of support received from the Parties should be made in any publication resulting from the research.

#### Article VI – Other Matters

Administrative procedures and implementation details not stipulated in this Agreement will be provided in the Cooperative Programme or agreed upon via correspondence.

## Article VII - Validity, Amendment, Termination

This Agreement will come into force on the date of its signing and continue thereafter for four years.

Either Party may notify the other of its intention to terminate it, prior a six months notification, in which case any existing program will be brought to an orderly conclusion. The Agreement will be extended for the same period of validity in absence of a termination notice by either Party.

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The termination of the present Agreement shall not affect the implementation of the joint projects, programs other arrangements which would have been launched under the present Agreement not yet completed at the time of its termination, unless the Parties agree otherwise.

Disputes arising out of interpretation or implementation of the present Agreement will be settled amicably through consultations or negotiations between the Parties through diplomatic channels.

Any modification of this Agreement requires the written agreement signed by the Parties hereto.

This Agreement is done in two originals in English language.

Signed in Rome on June 11th 2019.

For the

National Research Council

President

Prof. Massimo Inguscio

For the

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific

Research of Tunisia

Minister

H. E. Slim Khalbous