



Consiglio Nazionale
delle Ricerche



National Council for Scientific Research

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, LEBANON (CNRS-L)

AND

THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL, ITALY (CNR)

In accordance with the provision of Article II of the Agreement on Scientific Cooperation, signed on July 13, 2011, between the CNR and the CNRS-L,

the NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, LEBANON (CNRS-L) and the NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL, ITALY (CNR), hereinafter referred to as “The Parties”,

WISHING TO establish scientific, academic and technical cooperation programmes through the following Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), with the specific objective of increasing opportunities to carry out common high-level research activities in the fields of Marine Sciences,

CONSIDERING THAT

1. the CANA-CNRS Project on “*Establishing, Monitoring and Sustainable Development of the Lebanese Sea*” - co-financed by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs/General Directorate for Development Cooperation and the CNRS-L - has the objective of establishing institutional linkages between Lebanese and Italian Institutions towards enhancing cooperative opportunities for Lebanese researchers;
2. in the framework of the CANA-CNRS Project, the CNRS-L manages the activities of the oceanographic R/V CANA-CNRS, including its crew, staff and research programmes;
3. CNR manages the activities of the multipurpose research vessel URANIA, including its crew, staff and research programmes;
4. CNR and CNRS-L share the common interest of jointly maintaining, exploring and developing scientific academic and technical activities also by means of afore mentioned oceanographic research vessels;

5. CNR and CNRS-L aim at promoting actions of interchange of staff students, professors and researchers that assist to the scientific advancement and the strengthening of its specialised human resources;
6. CNR and CNRS-L believe that research projects yield an effective complementation for the advancement and development of both Institutions;

HEREWITH AGREE as follows:

**Article I.
Forms of cooperation**

The Parties establish a **Twinning Programme between the R/V URANIA and the R/V CANA-CNRS.**

The Parties commit themselves to realize this programme and other cooperation activities that may arise, in order to:

- strengthen networking and cooperation between IAMC-CNR and CNRS-L;
- provide technical support and assistance to ensure sustainability to research activities implemented in the framework of CANA-CNRS Project in particular those performed with the R/V CANA-CNRS;
- build capacities of Lebanese managers, researchers and ship's crew, with regards to management, research activities and running of a scientific vessel;
- to carry out shared research activities in the fields of:
 - o Geophysics
 - o Oceanography
 - o Fisheries.

**Article II.
Terms and conditions**

The Parties should assess the progress of this MoU through annual/bi-annual meetings.

Each Party has the obligation to execute the activities foreseen in this MoU and the additional terms within the defined stated periods; inform, by writing in advance, any impediment that may cause the non accomplishment of the established in this MoU and in the additional terms and, check the financial resources, material, reports of accounts rendering, within the periods stated in the additional terms.

Dr. Salvatore Mazzola (Director of the Institute for Coastal Marine Environment, IAMC-CNR) for CNR and Dr. Gaby Khalaf (Director of the National Centre for Marine Sciences NCMS-CNRS) for CNRS-L are appointed as Coordinators of actions originating from this MoU.

The CNR and the CNRS-L personnel assigned to actions originating from this MoU shall work in close consultation with the aforementioned Coordinators.

In all communications and publications pertinent to programs originating from this MoU, both signing Institutions will be mentioned and Authors will be defined through accordance between the Coordinators.

Article III.

Financial Resources

Either Party commits to assume the whole responsibility for the remuneration and payment of the fiscal, health and social welfare, insurance and other similar duties, referred to its staff, not generating this instrument any employment or associate bounds.

For the realisation of staff students interchange programs, and the development of investigation and technical cooperation projects the parties will seek through national and international entities, in a joint or independent way, the necessary financial resources.

Article IV.

Dispute settlement

With regards to the interpretation and the execution of this MoU, or any document or arrangement relating thereto; any dispute between the Parties shall be settled by negotiation. If the dispute is not settled by negotiation between the Parties, it shall be - at the request of either Party - submitted to one conciliator. If the Parties fail to reach agreement on the name of a sole conciliator, each Party shall appoint one conciliator. The conciliation shall be carried out in accordance with the Conciliation Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, as at present in force.

Article V.

Validity, amendment, termination

This MoU:

- shall be effective on the date of its signature;
- will remain in force for five (5) years and will automatically be prolonged for the next five years unless one of the Parties sends a written notification to the other Party, at least three months before the expiry of this MoU, of its intention to amend or terminate it.

All correspondences regarding the implementation of this MoU between the National Council for Scientific Research of Lebanon and the Institute for Marine and Coastal Environment of the National Research Council in Italy should be addressed to:

At the National Council for Scientific Research of Lebanon:

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Title: Secretary General

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At the Institute National Research Council, Italy:

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This MoU is made and signed in two originals in the English language.

Place and date

27 MAR. 2014

CNRS-L



The Secretary General
& CANA PMU Chairman
Mouïin Hamzé

CNR



The President
Luigi Nicolais