

**Memorandum of Understanding on Scientific Collaboration
between
the European Molecular Biology Laboratory
and
Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR)**

The Parties

European Molecular Biology Laboratory (hereinafter EMBL), is one of the world's leading research institutions and Europe's flagship laboratory for the life sciences. EMBL is an intergovernmental organisation conducting research in the field of molecular biology, established on the basis of the EMBL Agreement and comprised of more than twenty-seven member states, with its headquarters located on Meyerhofstr. 1, 69117 Heidelberg, Germany, and sites in Hamburg, Rome, Grenoble, Barcelona and Hinxton, represented by Director General Prof. Edith Heard;

And

Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (hereinafter CNR) is a public research organization with general scientific competences, acting under the supervision of the Ministry of Universities and Research (MUR) and having public-law status. Within the framework of European cooperation and integration, the CNR's mission is to carry out, promote, transfer, encourage and enhance research in the main sectors of knowledge in order to apply the results for the scientific, cultural, technological, economic and social development of the country, to promote the internationalization of the national research system, to provide technologies and solutions to emerging public and private needs, to advise Government and other public bodies, and to contribute to the qualification of human resources.

EMBL and CNR hereinafter solely referred to as "Party" and jointly referred to as "Parties"

- *Considering the importance of European cooperation in science and research;*
- *Noting that some of the most pressing challenges life science research is facing today are global, and that effective solutions to improve human and planetary health require scientists working together across countries and disciplines;*

- *Recognizing the long-standing collaboration between EMBL and Italy, and expressing interest to further strengthen scientific and science related cooperation between EMBL and the Italian research community represented by CNR;*
- *Considering the existing strong collaborative ties between EMBL and CNR;*
- *Noting the shared institutional goals of the Parties to further stimulate the scientific development of European research;*

Have agreed as follows:

I. Principles

This Memorandum aims to stimulate mutually beneficial scientific and academic exchange and collaboration in various areas of life science research between the Parties in order to ensure greater connectivity, availability of scientific data, use of shared key technologies and circulation of talent.

Specific topics of research interest between the Parties have been identified based on already existing ties and may be jointly developed in the future, in particular in the context of EMBL's Programme for 2022-2026 "*Molecules to Ecosystems*".

II. Collaboration areas and related activities

The collaboration between the Parties may include, but is not limited to, the following areas:

- Developing research and service collaboration in fields of mutual interest, such as Human Ecosystems, Planetary Biology and Data Sciences.
- Strengthening scientific cooperation between the Parties through joint scientific meetings, conferences, symposiums and training courses;
- Enabling joint development of technologies such as imaging and genomics as appropriate;
- Encouraging and supporting researchers' mobility with particular focus on young researchers;
- Jointly applying to third party funding as appropriate;
- Any other mutually beneficial activity.

Both institutions shall work to obtain reciprocity in the activities covered by this MoU.

III. Financial responsibilities

Each Party will, in principle, bear the expenses of the participants from its own community unless specified otherwise.

IV. Intellectual Property Rights and Confidentiality

Should any intellectual property arise from any of the collaboration described in Article II, this will be dealt with in a separate agreement.

Both Parties will treat as confidential all information that will be received during the collaboration and that is labelled confidential. Transmission of confidential information and objects to third parties is subject to the prior approval of the other Party in writing.

V. Promotional material and use of logos

Neither Party will use the name and logo of the other in any form of publicity or promotional material without the previous written consent of the Party concerned.

VI. Questions and Consultation

In the event that questions arise concerning the interpretation of the provisions of the Memorandum, both Parties will consult with each other and agree on a mutually acceptable solution.

VII. Amendments

Each Party may at any time propose to negotiate amendments or modifications to this Memorandum, expected to be placed into effect upon approval from the other Party.

VIII. Entry into Force and Duration

This Memorandum will commence from the date of its signing and will be valid thereafter for five (5) years. Its prolongation is subject to both Parties review and mutual agreement.

This Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by either Party by giving six (6) months advance notice to the other Party. Such termination shall take effect as of the date specified in the termination notice, provided that the provisions herein contained will remain in effect to the extent necessary to permit an orderly settlement of all arrangements made with respect to on-going cooperation activities.

IX. Signature

Each Party will sign two identical copies of this Memorandum and will each retain one copy. All copies have equal validity.

X. General Provisions

This MoU does not create any legally binding obligations, confer any rights, or supersede any applicable laws or regulatory requirements in force in the Parties' respective jurisdictions.

Any dispute over the interpretation or application of any provision herein contained will be settled amicably through consultations or by such other means, as the Parties will mutually agree.

For EMBL

For CNR



Prof. Edith Heard, FRS
Director General

Place: [Heidelberg](#)

Date: [21 January 2021](#)

Prof. Massimo Inguscio
President

Place:

Date: