# PROGRAMME OF COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BETWEEN

# THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

AND

# THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE

# FOR THE PERIOD 2012-2015

IN PURSUANCE of the Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Chile concluded in 2008, the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Ministry of Science & Technology of the Government of the Republic of India and the National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT) of the Republic of Chile have agreed upon the following Programme of Cooperation (POC) in the field of Science and Technology for the period 2012-2015.

#### 1. Establishment of Joint Committee.

The two sides agreed to set up an India – Chile Joint Working Group on Science and Technology Cooperation (JWG) for creating favourable conditions for implementation of the above mentioned Agreement. The JWG shall meet once in every two years, or as and when required, by mutual consent, alternately in India and in Chile. In case of necessity, the representatives of the Coordinating Agencies may organise a short meeting between two consecutive sessions of the Joint Science and Technology Committee.

#### 2. Areas of Cooperation.

The subject areas of cooperation under the current Programme of Cooperation shall be:

Astronomy
Biotechnology including Food Science and Technology
Large data processing and management
Ocean and Atmosphere Sciences
Polar Research
Earth Sciences and Seismology

Cooperation could, however, be undertaken in other Science and Technology areas as and when required, with the mutual consultation between the Coordinating Agencies.

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### 3. Coordinating Agencies.

The Department of Science and Technology (Ministry of Science and Technology) of the Government of the Republic of India and the National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT) of the Republic of Chile, (hereinafter referred to as "the sides") shall be the "Coordinating Agencies", and would be responsible for the supervision, coordination and implementation of the present Programme of Cooperation in Science and Technology for India and Chile, respectively.

### 4. Undertaking of Joint Projects.

The two sides shall launch an open call to support joint scientific projects based on mutual interest, which shall be developed jointly by the Chilean and the Indian institutions according to mutually acceptable common procedure. The joint project proposals shall be submitted for approval to the respective Coordinating Agencies in India and Chile. The utilization of the jointly obtained results shall be decided by the researchers and the respective institutions involved The annual as well as the final reports shall be prepared by the Project Coordinators and shall be submitted to the India-Chile Joint Science and Technology Committee through the Coordinating Agencies. Mobility of students and post doc would be encouraged. The two sides agreed to make the first joint call for project proposals in 2013.

#### 5. Joint Collaborative Activities.

The two sides agreed to hold 4 Workshops in identified areas of cooperation (2 in India and 2 in Chile) during 2012-2014 in which specialists from each other country would participate to develop work plan for joint collaborative activities.

#### 6. Exchange Visits.

In order to realize the cooperation mentioned in article 4 above, both sides shall encourage the exchange of scientists/technologists and students (postgraduate and doctoral) from each side. The visit of experts may be of up to 3 week duration and up to 3-4 months in case of postdoctoral fellows and doctoral students.

#### 7. Procedure of visit nomination.

The scientists/technologists/researchers/experts travelling under the present Programme shall be selected by the Coordinating Agency of the sending side, according to its own procedure. The nomination shall be communicated to the Coordinating Agency of the receiving side in a mutually agreed formula at least two months prior to the beginning of the planned visit.

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- 7.1 The receiving side shall communicate its readiness to receive the proposed specialists generally within one month of receiving their particulars.
- 7.2 As far as possible, the visit of individual scientists will be confined to one or two institutions indicated and will be undertaken with reference to a definite plan of work.
- 7.3 The sending side shall communicate the exact date of travel of the visiting scientists and the flight number at least two weeks before the planned date of the arrival of the visiting scientists.

#### 8. Financial Provisions.

- 8.1 The Department of Science and Technology (Ministry of Science and Technology) in case of India and the National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research in case of Chile would meet the respective expenses.
- 8.2 The salaries of the scientific personnel participating in a research project shall be borne by home institution of the participants.
- 8.3 Following are the financial terms for the visits of the scientists between India and Chile under the approved Programme:
- 8.3.1 The sending Party shall cover entire international travel expenses to the state of the receiving Party and back for persons sent pursuant to this Programme of Cooperation, including local travel and stay arrangements (hotel expenses and perdiem etc.) in the country to be visited.
- 8.3.2 The receiving Party shall not be responsible for any expenses to cover costs related to medical insurance for the visiting person sent pursuant to this Programme of Cooperation for the period of stay in the state of the receiving Party, including costs related to the repatriation of ill persons and health care.
- 8.4 If necessary, the financial terms may be revised after mutual consultations between the two sides.
- 8.5 For each other of the action initiatives that are to be implemented within the framework of this Programme of Cooperation, the Parties shall establish in advance and in common accord, their funding formula on equal base.

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#### 9. Others.

- 9.1 This Programme of Cooperation may be amended by mutual consent of the two sides formalized through written communication in which the effective date of the amendment must be clearly specified.
- 9.2 All matters related to the object of this POC and not expressly provided in its clauses will be solved by joint agreement of the Parties and all decisions taken will be presented in written form.
- 9.3 If there is a difference in the interpretation or execution of this Instrument, both sides agree that they will look for an amicable solution through the India Chile Joint Committee on Science and Technology or through diplomatic channels.

# 10. Entry into Force.

This Programme of Cooperation shall enter into force from the date of its signature by both the sides and shall remain in force up to December 2015 or till the new POC is signed. However, in the event of termination/modification, the clauses of the POC shall continue to be valid for the activities already started before the termination/modification, until their end.

Done at New Delhi on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2012 in two originals in the English language, both texts being equally authentic.

Dr. Arabinda Mitra

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