



**PROTOCOL ON UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, EDUCATION AND SPORTS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
AND
THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL
RESEARCH OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE
ON CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

The Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia and the National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research of the Republic of Chile (hereinafter referred to as the "Participants")

- in accordance with the Agreement on scientific, technical and technological cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Croatia and the Government of the Republic of Chile, signed on November 28, 1994 in Santiago,
- aware of the role of science in the development of modern and advanced social communities and guided by the wish for a successful implementation of the agreed cooperation in the field of science and technology,

Have agreed as follows:

Project Co-operation

Article 1

In accordance with the available financial means and mutual basis, the Participants are prepared to establish new and deepen existing forms of cooperation between scientific and research institutions of both countries by initiating joint scientific and technological research projects.

The Participants declare that the cooperation activities under this Protocol shall be subject to the availability of funds. This Protocol does not constitute any obligation of funds by either Participant.

Article 2

The Participants agree that after the signing of the present Protocol a tender for the application of scientific and technological projects will be published for the duration of validity of the present Protocol.

Joint Commission

Article 3

In order to plan and follow the implementation of project co-operation in the field of science and technology as well as to settle current issues which could arise in this connection, the Participants have agreed to establish a Joint Croatian-Chilean Commission, made up of representatives of each Participant (hereinafter referred to as the "Joint Commission").

Article 4

The Joint Commission will define priority fields of cooperation, select joint scientific and technological research projects and establish the form, the procedure, financial and administrative conditions under which the accepted project will be implemented.

Article 5

The Joint Commission will be made up of three representatives from the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports on the Croatian side and three representatives from the National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research on the Chilean side.

Each Participant may, when necessary, appoint up to three experts from the academic community as members of the Joint Commission.

Each Participant will forward to the other Participant at least a month prior to the meeting of the Joint Commission a working programme with proposals and a list of all registered projects as well as a list of its representatives who will participate in the proceedings of the Joint Commission.

Article 6

The Joint Commission will meet once every year, alternatively in the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Chile.

Each Participant will bear the costs of travel and stay of representatives who will participate in the activities of the Joint Commission.

Grants and Exchange of Students and Scientists

Article 7

During the validity of the present Protocol the Participants will exchange grants for:

- a) Short-term visits
No more than 4 students/scientists per year for a period of 15 to 30 days
- b) Long-term visits
No more than 2 students/scientists per year for a period of 2 to 3 months.

In this case, the Joint Commission will determine the specific procedural and financial arrangements and other matters concerning its implementation.

The cost of round-trip transportation between the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Chile for Croatian scientists travelling to the Republic of Chile will be borne by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia. A maintenance allowance for these participants, while in Chilean territory, will be paid by the National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research of the Republic of Chile.

The cost of round-trip transportation between the Republic of Chile and the Republic of Croatia for Chilean scientists travelling to the Republic of Croatia will be borne by the National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research of the Republic of Chile. A maintenance allowance for these participants, while in Croatian territory, will be paid by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia.

Article 8

The sending Participant will forward to the receiving Participant a list of candidates proposed in accordance with Article 7 of the present Protocol, together with the requested documentation, not later than May 15 each year.

The receiving Participant will inform the sending Participant not later than July 15 of the same year if the proposed candidates were accepted and shall also give the name of the institution at which their specialization will take place.

The sending Participant will inform the receiving Participant of the exact date of the beginning of the grant-holder's study stay not later than a month in advance.

Article 9

Each year the Participants will confirm to each other the number of allocated grants including detailed provisions regarding the stay of candidates. The grant will be awarded by the receiving Participant, which will decide on the conditions for a grant award in accordance with its national legislation.

Final Provisions

Article 10

Disputes regarding the interpretation or the implementation of the present Protocol will be settled by direct consultations between the Participants, if the dispute can not be settled, the Participants will appoint a three member Committee made up of one representative from each Participant and one member to be appointed by mutual agreement who will warrant impartiality. The decision of the Committee will not be binding upon the Participants.

Article 11

This Protocol will come into effect on the date of signature. This Protocol will remain in force for a period of three years and will be tacitly renewed for further periods of three years, unless either Participant, at least six months before the termination of the initial or any further three-year period, notifies in writing the other side of its intention to terminate it.

In case of termination of this Protocol, projects and grants in progress will not be affected by the termination, and will continue until their completion, unless agreed otherwise.

Article 12

Signed in Santiago on 20th October 2005, in two originals, each in the Croatian, Spanish and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in interpretation the English text will prevail.

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