



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Between

**The National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research of the Republic of Chile
And**

The Chinese Academy of Sciences of the People's Republic of China

Considering the agreement on scientific and technological cooperation between the Republic of Chile and the People's Republic of China, signed in the city of Beijing on October 14, 1980;

Considering the agreements of the VIII Joint Commission meeting on government cooperation in science and technology, held in the city of Beijing on November 16, 2010;

Considering the 2011-2013 action plan between the National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research of the Republic of Chile and the Ministry of Science and Technology of China, signed in the city of Santiago on December 22, 2010;

With the desire to further strengthen and deepen scientific and technological cooperation between Chile and China;

Recognizing the importance of forging links between the scientific communities of both countries;

The National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT) of Chile and the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), hereinafter referred to as "the Parties", have agreed upon the following Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the field of Science and Technology for the period 2012-2014.

OBJECTIVE

Promote and implement the development of joint activities for the interaction between research and higher education institutions and industry, with the aim of promoting basic and applied research, innovation and capacity building, between CONICYT and CAS.

MAIN AREAS OF COOPERATION

The main area of cooperation under the current MoU shall be astronomy and astrophysics but Cooperation could, however, be undertaken in other areas of Science and Technology as and when required, with the mutual consultation between both Parties.

INSTRUMENTS

The Parties wish to promote and further develop their cooperation and will consider the possible initiatives in order to achieve this.

Examples of some of the specific cooperative initiatives are as follows:

a) Collaboration between Centers of Excellence and other High-level Research Groups

The Parties intend to fund and coordinate collaboration between Centers of Excellence and other internationally high-level research groups. The objective of this is to expand and strengthen research networks that will with a long-term perspective sustain and advance cooperative relations between Centers of Excellence and internationally renowned high-level research groups in China and Chile. The various measures concerning this cooperation will be taken by both Parties.

b) Joint Research Projects

Projects based on a joint research plan from both Chinese and Chilean researchers designed to support basic and applied research to generate critical mass and the development and transference of technology in areas of mutual interest and benefit. It is desirable that these projects involve research organizations, private or public and industries.

c) International Associate Laboratory

The Parties will promote and support the creation of an International Associate Laboratory in Astronomy between the National Astronomical Observatories of Chinese Academy of Sciences and Chilean Universities to promote extensive cooperation between Chilean and Chinese astronomers on astronomy and astrophysics, including observational, theoretical and numerical (simulations) astronomy, and astronomical instrumentation.

d) Other

The Parties will evaluate any other possible form of cooperation that might arise during the implementation of this MoU.

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

a) Call for collaboration between centers of Excellence:

In 2012 the Parties will implement a call for proposals in cooperation between centers of Excellence in the field of Astronomy. The parties will jointly fund 2 to 4 projects and will support the following instruments: short stays of young scientists and postdoctoral fellows; doctoral internships and workshops and/or seminars. These projects should be implemented during 2013.

b) Call for Joint Research Projects:

The Parties will work together in order to implement a call for proposals for Joint Projects. Some of these Joint Projects will be in Astronomy and Astrophysics; however, other areas may also be included.

c) Workshop for the creation of an International Associate Laboratory:

In the last trimester of 2013 or the beginning of 2014, the Parties will organize a workshop based on the projects selected for cooperation in the call of 2012. The Principal Investigator of these projects will present their results and the possibility of implementing an International Associate Laboratory will be discussed.

FUNDING

For each of the action initiatives that are to be implemented within the framework of this MoU, the Parties shall establish in advance and in common accord, their funding formula.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

This MoU will respect all policies relative to the negotiation of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) established by each researcher's respective institution. This MoU is based on equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit, and implies no financial commitment from either side.

ASSESSMENT OF THE MoU

The present MoU, upon finishing the first year and prior to the start of the third year of implementation, shall be subject to assessment. After assessment, the Parties may add new areas or redirect the areas of priority, modify the implementation period and agree new rules not included in this Memorandum.

OTHER

1. This MoU may be amended by mutual consent of both Parties formalized through written communication in which the date upon which the amendment shall come into effect must be clearly specified.
2. All matters related to the objective of this MoU that may prove not to be expressly provided in its clauses shall be solved by joint agreement of the Parties and all decisions taken will be presented in written form.

3. If there is a difference in the interpretation or execution of this MoU, both Parties agree that they will search for an amicable solution.

4. At the request of either Party, the present MoU may be given anticipated termination, provided that written notice of its intention to discontinue be given to the other Party at least six months in advance.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

This MoU shall enter into force from the date of its signing by both Parties and shall remain in force until 31 December 2014 or alternatively until a new MoU is signed. However, in the event of anticipated termination, the clauses of the MoU shall continue to be valid for the activities already started before the termination, until their end.

Done at Beijing on August 24th in six original copies: two in Chinese, two in English and two in the Spanish language, all texts being of equal authenticity.

For and on behalf of
the National Commission for
Scientific and Technological Research,
the Republic of Chile



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Prof. José Miguel Aguilera Radic
President

Dated: August 24, 2012

For and on behalf of
the Chinese Academy of Sciences,
the People's Republic of China:



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Dr. Ding Zhongli
Vice President

Dated: 08/24, 2012