

**LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH  
(CONICYT), OF CHILE  
AND  
THE ACADEMY OF FINLAND (AKA), OF FINLAND**

Wishing to develop the scientific and technological cooperation between Chile and Finland, in areas of mutual interest; recognising the importance of supporting scientific exchanges based on a continuous search of excellence and pursue of common goals, the National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT) of Chile and the Academy of Finland (AKA), of Finland have agreed to:

- exchange information on specific funding opportunities;
- collaborate to increase the participation of researchers from both countries in the European Union Framework Programs;
- provide support to researchers to allow exploratory missions, in areas of knowledge, relevant for both institutions and countries, with a view to develop future joint research projects; and
- organize workshops, either in Chile or in Finland, in areas of high interest to both countries, with the objective of strengthening the links between the research communities of the two countries.

More specifically, the Parties agree to:

1. During the second semester of 2007, the AKA will send to Chile at least one exploratory mission in order to visit institutions linked to Chilean System of Science, Technology & Innovation, with the main goal of identifying specific activities within the areas for cooperation;
2. During the first semester of 2008, the CONICYT will send to Finland at least one exploratory mission in order to visit institutions linked to Finnish System of Science, Technology & Innovation, with the aim of preparing specific activities for feasible areas for cooperation;
3. Both Parties agree to organize workshops during the year 2008, the first of which could be held in Chile and the second one in Finland, in themes jointly selected;

4. Both Parties agree that each country will support the mobility costs of its own missions (travel costs, daily allowances, health insurance and internal transportation in the host country);

5. Both parties agree to evaluate the possibility of organizing a bi-regional meeting with the participation, for one side of Andean countries and MERCOSUR, and on the other side, Scandinavian and Baltic countries, with the aim of fostering the co-operation in science, technology and innovation between both sub-regions.

6. After having selected the areas and subjects for implementing the bilateral cooperation, both Parties agree to elaborate a specific agreement that rules the ways and manners of improving this cooperation and also that states the support mechanisms, property rights and other provisions.

This Letter of Understanding is based on equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit, and implies no financial commitment from each Party.

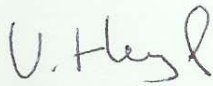
This Letter of Understanding shall become effective on the date of its signature and will remain in force until the date of the signature of the bilateral cooperation agreement between the Parties.

This Letter of Understanding has been enacted in two English originals and in two Spanish originals. In case of a discrepancy between the two language versions, the English version shall prevail.

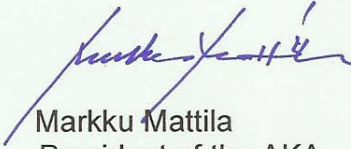
Signed in English and Spanish versions, in four originals.

Date: May, 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

For the National Commission for Scientific and  
Technological Research (Conicyt) – Chile

  
Vivian Heyl  
President of CONICYT

For the Academy of Finland (AKA)  
- Finland

  
Markku Mattila  
President of the AKA