

# EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA AND THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC FOR THE YEARS 2011-2013

Within the framework of the Scientific and Technological Co-operation Agreement between the Government of the Italian Republic and the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, signed in Ljubljana on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 1998, and that came into force on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1999, the 5<sup>th</sup> Session of the Italian-Slovenian Joint Commission was held in Ljubljana on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011 to examine the present state and further development of scientific and technological co-operation between the two Countries and to define the Executive Programme for the years 2011-2013.

The Slovenian delegation was headed by Dr. József Györkös, State Secretary at the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology and the Italian delegation was headed by H.E. Alessandro Pietromarchi, Ambassador of the Italian Republic in Ljubljana.

The members of the two delegations are listed in **Annex I**.

The institutions in charge of the co-ordination of the present Executive Programme, hereinafter referred as to the "Parties", are:

For the Slovenian Party: Office of International Relations and European Affairs, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology

For the Italian Party: Directorate General for the Country Promotion (Economy, Culture and Science), Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The following agenda items of the 5<sup>th</sup> Joint Commission were adopted by the Parties:

1. Review of Scientific and Technological Co-operation between the two Countries
2. New Executive Programme
  - 2.1 Projects for the Exchange of Researchers and Financial Provisions
  - 2.2 Joint Research Projects of Particular Relevance
- 3 Final provisions

## **1. Review of the Scientific and Technological Co-operation between the two Countries**

The Parties have agreed to recognize the growing importance of science and technology with respect to the economic, social and cultural relations of the two Countries.

The Parties, considering the good relationships between the two Countries, stressed the need to develop and to promote bilateral co-operation in the fields of science and technology.

## **2. New Executive Programme**

In the period between April 8<sup>th</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 a joint call for proposals was launched to collect project proposals in the following priority areas:

- Basic Sciences (Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics) (BS)
- Earth Sciences, Energy and Environment (ESEE)

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- Information and Communication Technology (ICT)
- Life Sciences and Medicine (LSM)
- Technologies Applied to Cultural Heritage (TACH)

The criteria adopted in selecting the joint research projects were:

1. qualification and experience of the research teams
2. methodology, approach, strategy, structure and documentation
3. level of originality and innovation
4. social and developmental added value for Italy and Slovenia
5. purpose of co-operation among the groups
6. exploitation and dissemination of results.

## **2.1 Projects for the Exchange of Researchers and Financial Provisions**

Based upon the above mentioned criteria, 10 projects for the exchange of researchers have been selected to be granted financial support.

The list of the selected projects is given in **Annex II**.

The general administrative and financial provisions for the implementation of the Programme are given in **Annex III**.

## **2.2 Joint Research Projects of Particular Relevance**

Pursuant to the criteria referred, the Parties selected 3 joint research projects which may receive financial support.

The list of such projects is given in **Annex IV**.

Financial support may be granted on a national basis upon evaluation of applications to be submitted according to the guidelines of the relevant authorities of the two Countries.

## **3. Final provisions**

The Parties agreed to hold the next session of the Joint Commission in Ljubljana in the year 2013.

Details of the next session of the Joint Commission, such as date, agenda, etc. will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

This Executive Programme for the period January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011- December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013 will remain valid until the coming into force of the next Executive Programme, but no longer than one year after its expiration.

Any amendment to the text of this Executive Programme has to be carried out through diplomatic channels.

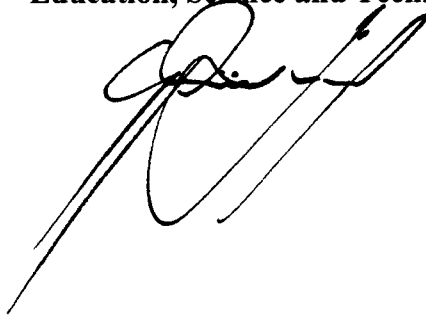
All initiatives foreseen in this Executive Programme will be carried out **within the limits of the budgets** and according to the rules prevailing in each Country.

Annexes I, II, III and IV are attached hereto and are integral parts of the present document.

Signed in Ljubljana, on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011, in two originals in the English language, each text being equally authoritative.

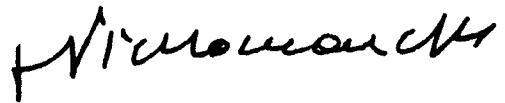
*For the Slovenian Party*

**Dr. József Györkös**  
State Secretary at the Ministry of Higher  
Education, Science and Technology



*For the Italian Party*

**H.E. Alessandro Pietromarchi**  
Ambassador of the Italian Republic



Annex I

Members of the two delegations

<b>SLOVENIAN DELEGATION</b>	<b>ITALIAN DELEGATION</b>
<p><b>Dr. József Györkös</b> State Secretary Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology</p> <p><b>Mag. Tea Glažar</b> Head of Office of International Relations and European Affairs Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology</p>	<p><b>H.E. Alessandro Pietromarchi</b> Ambassador of the Italian Republic</p> <p><b>Dott. Tommaso Coniglio</b> Deputy Head of Mission Italian Embassy in Ljubljana</p>



## Annex II

### Projects for exchange of researchers selected within the framework of the Executive Programme of Scientific and Technological Co-operation between SLOVENIA and ITALY for the years 2011-2013

AREA	TITLE	SLOVENIAN COORDINATOR	ITALIAN COORDINATOR
<b>BS</b>	Electron-phonon coupling in high-temperature superconductors determined from femtosecond electron relaxation rates	<b>KABANOV Viktor</b> Jozef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana	<b>CERULLO Giulio</b> Politecnico di Milano
<b>BS</b>	The RAVE survey and its application to the physics of stars	<b>ZWITTER Tomaž</b> University of Ljubljana	<b>MUNARI Ulisse</b> INAF Osservatorio Astronomico Padova
<b>BS</b>	Advanced methods for interpolation by Pythagorean-hodograph curves and related problems	<b>JAKLIČ Gašper</b> Institute of Mathematics, Physics and Mechanics, Ljubljana	<b>SESTINI Alessandra</b> University of Firenze
<b>ESEE</b>	Liquid lignin for adhesive production. Process development and structural studies.	<b>KUNAVER Matjaž</b> National Institute of Chemistry, Ljubljana	<b>CRESTINI Claudia</b> University "Tor Vergata" - Roma
<b>ESEE</b>	Long-term forest dynamics in Eastern and Dinaric Alps	<b>DIACI Jurij</b> University of Ljubljana	<b>LINGUA Emanuele</b> University of Padova
<b>ESEE</b>	Tuning of vibrational signals emitted by vectors of phytoplasma grapevine diseases with host plants: potential for an alternative approach of pest management.	<b>VIRANT-DOBERLET Meta</b> National Institute of Biology, Ljubljana	<b>MAZZONI Valerio</b> Edmund Mach Foundation San Michele all'Adige - Trento
<b>ICT</b>	Evaluation of the Quality Index using the Software Metrics Repository PROM	<b>HERIČKO Marjan</b> University of Maribor	<b>SUCCI Giancarlo</b> University of Bolzano – Bozen




<b>LSM</b>	Functional cell models of human infant intestinal tract as a novel tool to study and validate the health benefits of probiotic cultures against infections	<b>CENCIČ Avrelija</b> University of Maribor	<b>BIAVATI Bruno</b> University of Bologna
<b>LSM</b>	Human skeletal muscle ontogenesis and regeneration in normal and stress conditions	<b>MARŠ Tomaž</b> University of Ljubljana	<b>LORENZON Paola</b> University of Trieste
<b>TACH</b>	Evaluation of the possible use of antibiofouling formulates as preventive against biodeterioration of monumentals heritage.	<b>TURK Tom</b> University of Ljubljana	<b>TIANO Piero</b> CNR- ICVBC Sesto Fiorentino - FI

**Legend:**

BS = Basic Sciences

ESEE = Earth Sciences, Energy and Environment

ICT = Information Communication Technology

LSM = Life Sciences and Medicine

TACH = Technology Applied to Cultural Heritage

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## Annex III

### General administrative and financial provisions

The projects for the exchange of researchers to be financed within the present Programme are exclusively those mentioned in Annex II.

For each project listed in Annex II, 1 short-term stay (up to 10 days) or 1 long-term stay (one month = 30 days) in Italy and 1 short-term stay (up to 10 days) or 1 long-term stay (one month = 30 days) in Slovenia may be financed yearly.

The researchers will be entitled to the exchange only if they hold the Italian nationality (or another EU nationality and resident in Italy) for those who travel to Slovenia, and the Slovenian nationality (or another EU nationality and resident in Slovenia) for those who travel to Italy.

The international travel expenses between the cooperating partner institutions shall be borne by the sending Party, while the receiving Party shall bear the expenses of lodging and boarding by means of an all inclusive or partial cash allowance, according to the valid regulations in place.

Scientists, specialists, researchers and experts participating in exchanges under the Executive Programme shall have, prior to entering the host Country, appropriate health insurance coverage for the period of their stay in the host Country.

The researchers have to submit to the Italian side, within 15 days after finishing their visit, a report on the activities carried out. The report must be signed by both the Italian and Slovenian researchers involved in the joint project.

At the end of the project, the Slovenian researcher has to submit to the Slovenian side a final report on the activities carried out.

### STAY OF SLOVENIAN RESEARCHERS IN ITALY

The application for both long- and short-term research stays shall be submitted exclusively through diplomatic channels (i.e. to the *Italian Embassy in Slovenia, Snežniška Ulica 8, 1000 Ljubljana*). These applications must reach, no less than two months prior to the beginning of the research visit, the General Directorate for the Country Promotion (Economy, Culture and Science), Unit for Scientific and Technological Cooperation.

The application form is available on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs web site: [http://www.esteri.it/MAE/EN/Politica\\_Estera/Cultura/CooperScientificaTecnologica/ProgrammiEsecutivi/MobilitaRicercatori/MobilitRicercatoriStranieri.htm](http://www.esteri.it/MAE/EN/Politica_Estera/Cultura/CooperScientificaTecnologica/ProgrammiEsecutivi/MobilitaRicercatori/MobilitRicercatoriStranieri.htm)

Any cancellation by the researcher, unless due to serious and valid reasons, might prevent the hosting Party from accepting further applications for related missions.

The Italian Party shall provide 1300,00 Euro per month for long-term stays (30 days) and 93,00 Euro per day for short-term stays (up to 10 days). The above-mentioned amounts shall be paid to the Slovenian researchers entirely in one instalment at their arrival in Italy.

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Slovenian researchers can receive their grants at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs or at the nearest Provincial Treasury (local branch of the Banca d'Italia). The preferred place of payment must be indicated in the Application Form.

## **STAY OF ITALIAN RESEARCHERS IN SLOVENIA**

The Slovenian research organizations that host the visiting Italian researcher have to

- provide the visitor with per diems (21,39 Euro per day) for the complete duration of the visit
- announce the visit at the Slovenian research agency (ARRS) two months in advance so that lodging at the House of Postgraduates can be reserved; ARRS will cover the costs of lodging at the House of Postgraduates (valid only for visits in Ljubljana)
- contribute to lodging cost for the visitor with up to 660 Euro per month for long-term stays (30 days) and 72 Euro per day for short-term stays (up to 10 days) (valid for visits outside of Ljubljana, or in Ljubljana in case ARRS was not able to reserve a room at the House of Postgraduates)

ARRS will reimburse the Slovenian research organizations for the per diems and contributions to lodging costs after the completed visit.

## **JOURNEY OF ITALIAN RESEARCHERS TRAVELLING TO SLOVENIA**

Italian researchers travelling to Slovenia for a research stay are required to submit an official application to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, General Directorate for the Country Promotion (Economy, Culture and Science), Unit for Scientific and Technological Cooperation. The application must reach the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs no later than two months prior to the foreseen date of departure at the following address:

Ministero degli Affari Esteri  
DGSP, Unità Cooperazione Scientifica e tecnologica, Settore Viaggi  
Piazzale della Farnesina 1 – 00135 ROMA

The application form to be filled is available on the web site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs:  
[http://www.esteri.it/MAE/EN/Politica\\_Estera/Cultura/CooperScientificaTecnologica/ProgrammiEsecutivi/MobilitaRicercatori/MobilitaRicercatoriItaliani.htm](http://www.esteri.it/MAE/EN/Politica_Estera/Cultura/CooperScientificaTecnologica/ProgrammiEsecutivi/MobilitaRicercatori/MobilitaRicercatoriItaliani.htm)

The supplied tickets will be the most economical ones available for the trip. Any additional cost shall be borne by the researcher.

## **JOURNEY OF SLOVENIAN RESEARCHERS TRAVELLING TO ITALY**

Slovenian researchers travelling to Italy have to submit to ARRS an application for reimbursements of costs of travel (door-to-door) immediately following the visit that contains proofs of costs and, additionally, proof that the most economical travel ticket available has been used. Any additional costs shall be borne by the sending Slovenian research organization.

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**Annex IV**

**Particular Relevance projects selected in the framework of the Executive Programme of Scientific and Technological Co-operation between SLOVENIA and ITALY for the years 2011-2013**

<b>AREA</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>SLOVENIAN COORDINATOR</b>	<b>ITALIAN COORDINATOR</b>
BS	Dynamics at nanoscale	<b>ŽITNIK Matjaž</b> Jozef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana	<b>AVALDI Lorenzo</b> CNR - Rome
BS	Crosslinked organic-inorganic hybrid materials embedding polyoxometalates for environmental applications	<b>LAVRENČIČ ŠTANGAR Urška</b> University of Nova Gorica	<b>GROSS Silvia</b> ISTM-CNR Padova
TACH	Protection of cultural heritage buildings against earthquakes	<b>DOLŠEK Matjaž</b> University of Ljubljana	<b>MAGENES Guido</b> University of Pavia

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