



Prof. Salvatore Cuzzocrea
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OBJECT: Letter of Intent for the activation in Convention of the PhD course ACCESS ("Advanced Catalytic Processes for using Renewable Energy Sources"), in the frame of the activities of the ERC Synergy project SCOPE, for the Doctorate Cycles XXXVI-XXXVIII¹ pursuant to art. 2 (paragraph 2a) and to art. 10 of DM 45/2013.²

Hereby, pending the signing of the framework agreement on the basis of the scheme approved by the participating Universities to the ACCESS PhD course and in order to allow the correct definition of the accreditation procedure for the PhD course, it communicates the availability to activate in agreement with the University of Messina, the ACCESS PhD course for cycles XXXVI-XXXVIII, pursuant to art. 2, paragraph 2a and art. 10 of DM 45/2013, and at the same time, undertakes to **finance directly**, *in addition to the three PhD scholarships from the University of Messina*, **an additional scholarship** for the entire duration of each of the three Doctorate cycles, starting from the cycle XXXVI. The PhD student will be selected by this University and will pay taxes at this University, even if also enrolling at the University of Messina.

To this purpose, this University **declares** to be in possession of high cultural and scientific qualification requirements and of suitable personnel, structures and equipment, as well as the availability of financial resources and operational and scientific structures that guarantee the sustainability of the course and **undertakes** to directly finance the amount relating to the aforementioned additional scholarship for each PhD scholarship including expenses relating to mobility and allowance, in reference to the ERC Synergy SCOPE project.

¹ A Doctorate Cycle indicates the time necessary to complete the PhD degree. The Doctorate Cycle nr. **XXXVI starts on 1st October 2020** and those XXXVII and XXXVIII one or two years later, respectively.

² The Italian Ministerial Decree of 8 February 2013 n. 45 (DM 45/2013) indicates at **art.2, point 2a**, that "point 2. The following Institutions may apply for accreditation of the PhD courses: a) Italian universities, also in agreement with Italian or foreign universities and public or private research institutions, in possession of high cultural and scientific qualification requirements and suitable personnel, structures and equipment, it being understood that in such cases the administrative headquarters of the doctorate is the university, which is awarding the academic title;" and at **art. 10** " (Doctorate in agreement with foreign institutions) point 1. In order to effectively carry out the coordination of high-level international research activities, universities can activate doctoral courses, subjected to accreditation, with universities and research institutions of high qualification and recognized international level, in compliance with the principle of reciprocity, on the basis of agreements that provide for an effective sharing of training and research activities, the fair sharing of the burdens, the methods of regulating the forms of financial support, the methods of exchange and mobility of teachers and PhD students and the issue of the joint degree or a double or multiple doctoral degree."

We wait to receive the original of the framework agreement for the digital signature.

Yours sincerely.

**On behalf of the Executive Board
Technische Universiteit Eindhoven**

Eindhoven – The Netherlands, 06 May 2020

Legal representative

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'L. Nelissen', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Dr. Laurent N.I.H. Nelissen
managing director
Dept. Chemical Engineering & Chemistry
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UNIVERSITY DATA:

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REPRESENTED BY **Dr. Laurent Nelissen**

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