AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

BETWEEN

PEOPLES' FRIENDSHIP UNIVERSITY OF RUSSIA (PFUR)

AND

UNIVERSITY OF MESSINA (UNIME)

Preamble

The Peoples' Friendship University of Russia (6 Miklukho-Maklaya Str., Moscow, 117198, Russian Federation) represented by Rector Vladimir M. Filippov in accordance to the Charter of PFUR and the University of Messina (Piazza Pugliatti, 1 - 98122, Messina, Italy) represented by Rector Pietro Navarra in accordance with UNIME Statute

HEREINAFTER referred to as Parties,

DECLARING the mutual interests in the fields of research, development, education, training, transfer of technology and dissemination of knowledge on long term non-commercial basis;

RECOGNIZING the importance of the universities' role in the promotion of international collaboration, equality and increased contribution to the development of society;

HEREBY the Parties agree to enter into an Agreement of Cooperation in Science and Education between the two institutions which shall encompass and enhance the resource base at both Universities according to the terms and conditions set out in the Articles following hereunder.

Article 1 FORMAT OF COOPERATION

The cooperation will take form of:

- exchange of undergraduate and postgraduate students;
- exchange of faculty and staff;
- joint research projects carried out by researchers from both universities;
- mutual assistance in the establishment of new programmes;
- exchange of information and publications;
- organizing conferences and workshops.

Article 2 FIELD OF COOPERATION

- 1. Collaboration between the Parties shall be established within any field of common interests.
- 2. Depending on financial means and practical feasibility, the Parties shall establish joint research and educational projects and programmes. For each programme, both cooperating universities shall appoint a coordinator to be responsible for the implementation of the programme. The programme coordinators shall be responsible to the relevant University authorities for reporting on the project status at least once a year.
- 3. The different faculties, institutes, colleges, departments and scientific centers in both universities are authorized to sign mutual work programmes to achieve the aims of this Agreement.
- 4. The mode of ownership of research materials and research findings shall correspond to the prevalent regulations of the Parties.

Article 3 EXCHANGE OF STUDENTS

- 1. The Parties accept, upon mutual agreement, exchange students on a reciprocal basis. The details of student exchanges shall be mutually determined by each Party in the work programmes signed in the framework of this Agreement.
- 2. The Parties will facilitate the securing of residence and academic activities for students, if applicable and necessary during the period of stay in the host University.

Article 4 EXCHANGE OF STAFF

- 1. The purpose of normal exchange of staff shall be teaching and research.
- 2. Following receipt of written credentials and proposed activities, either Party may submit a letter of invitation to the other Party thereto outlining the proposed terms and conditions under which the visit is to take place.
- 3. Negotiations between the Parties concerning such proposed visits shall include consideration of the methods and source of funding for the expenses of the visiting faculty and staff members.

Article 5 VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND EXCHANGE OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL STAFF

- 1. The Parties shall, upon mutual agreement, offer training opportunities to faculty and administrative and technical staff on a reciprocal basis.
- 2. Where such training opportunities are offered, the provisions of clause 3 of Article 4 shall apply.

Article 6 FUNDING AND FINANCE

- 1. Exchange or visits under this Agreement shall be organized reciprocally on an honorary basis.
- 2. Both institutions shall also endeavor to secure financial support for implementation of the Agreement from national and international institutions.
- 3. Financial matters will have to be negotiated for each specific project or programme and regulate them in the form of work programmes.

Article 7 MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTARATION

- 1. The Parties subscribe to the policy of equal opportunity and do not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, age, ethnicity, religion, national origin or disability.
- 2. Negotiation, implementation and reporting on the progress concerning the collaboration shall be coordinated by:

For the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia Dr. Ruslan Grebnev Head of International Scientific and Educational Cooperation Department

For the University of Messina: Dr. Giuseppe Lucchese Head of International Relations Organizational Unit

- 3. Issues about ongoing activities, including rights and obligations of each party, shall be notified or communicated to the offices mentioned in clause 2 above.
- 4. This Agreement shall have duration of five years and be renewable for a further five years unless either Party gives notice of termination not later than six months prior to the expiry date of the existing Agreement.
- 5. Renewal of the Agreement shall be agreed upon jointly by the Parties.

- 6. Any alterations of the Agreement shall be agreed upon jointly by the Parties and submitted in accordance with the same procedure as the original Agreement and shall be expressed in writing.
- 7. This Agreement is made in 4 (four) hard copies, 2 (two) of which in Russian and 2 (two) in English, each of them being equally authentic. In case of disputes on the interpretation of the Protocol, the Parties shall use the text in the English language.

FOR UNIVERISTY OF MESSINA ITALY

Rector Professor PIETRO NAVARRA



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