

Framework Collaboration Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

between

Addis Ababa University, having its headquarters in Addis Ababa, hereinafter AAU

And

University of Ferrara, having its headquarters in Ferrara, hereinafter UNIFE

PREAMBLE

Considering that the Parties:

- share the common interest and commitment in the field of international co-operation for development, according to the principles expressed in “*The Charter of Principles of the Centre for the International Development Cooperation of the University of Ferrara*”;
- taking into account the relevant institutional mandates, intend to launch an active collaboration based on the mutual utilization of intellectual resources and technical instruments with the purpose of promoting, coordinating and carrying out development co-operation projects, research, didactical, training and updating activities and providing services inherent to topics relevant to developing countries.
- share the common interest of establishing integrated forms of collaboration at scientific, didactical, cultural, technological innovation and assistance level;
- intend to share and join scientific competence and direct experience on the field with the aim of improving the effectiveness as well as the overall quality of the training and scientific research on issues related to cooperation to development, both at national and international level.
- profitable co-operation relationships between the parts already exist.

the parties agree upon the following:

Art. 1

The preamble forms an integral part of the present *Agreement/MoU*.

Art. 2

AAU and UNIFE commit themselves for the entire duration of the *Agreement/MoU* to develop the following activities subject to specific mutual agreements:

- I. the elaboration, design and organization of programmes and courses aiming at cultural and scientific capacity building, particularly encouraging the integration of AAU scientists in international scientific networks;
- II. the promotion of information, awareness and capacity building initiatives for Ethiopian local communities, supporting the organization of meetings and seminars as well as the publication of the results of the research carried out;

- III. field research and planning programmes related to topics relevant to human and industrial development and to international co-operation projects;
- IV. transfer and exchange of knowledge among the parties;
- V. joint cultural initiatives and programmes for international integration.

Art. 3

In particular the parts undertake to promote and support the institution of a “Center for Research and services”, placed in Ethiopia, with the following aims:

- I. to realize integrated projects which promote the conservation and the sustainable exploitation of the natural resources and improve the socio-economic development and the population quality of life;
- II. to set up an institution where researchers at international level can meet, exchange their ideas, work together and co-operate in order to understand the typical problems of the African continent;
- III. to make up the capacity building for the preservation of the territory and its peculiarities, safeguarding and empowering the traditional knowledge in the management of the natural resources as fundamental for the development for the local populations;
- IV. to provide services of specific social interest through a strong interaction with local communities in need of a support technologically adequate to increase their benefits to the population and the internal and international markets.

Art. 4

Other institutions, agencies and universities interested in the aims of this Agreement can formally submit a written request to join the Center, indicating their operative structure and the reference person in charge of carrying out the collaboration activities.

Within 30 days from the receiving of the request, the parties will jointly commit themselves to notify, through specific written communication, the request acceptance or, in the negative case, its denial with motivations.

Art. 5

The activities indicated in Art. 2, are to be carried out by the staff of the two Parties within the Parties institutions, in the field or in other developing countries. The cost associated with these activities will be subjected to the rules and regulations in place by the two Parties.

Art. 6

AAU and UNIFE respectively identify the International Centre for Science and High Technology and the University Centre for the international development cooperation as operational institutions for the implementation of the collaboration activities.

Reference persons for the present *Agreement/MoU* are:

- For AAU: the assistant director of the International Centre for Science and High Technology;
- For UNIFE: the Director of the University of Ferrara Centre for International Co-operation Development.

Art. 7

The thematic areas of joint activities, the modality for the utilization of the results achieved and the agreement on specific visits, exchanges or other forms of collaboration will be negotiated on a case by case basis.

Art. 8

In addition to the above mentioned forms of collaboration, the Parties may also identify and implement different modalities to co-operate in order to achieve the goal of the present *Agreement/MoU*.

Art. 9

The *Agreement/MoU* may be modified or amended following the clearance by the decision making organs of the contracting parties.

Art. 10

The present *Agreement/MoU* will enter into force on the date that it is signed by the Legal Representatives of UNIFE and AAU, and will remain in force, for a period of five years from such date.

For the University of Ferrara:

For AAU:

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Prof. Patrizio Bianchi
Rector
University of Ferrara

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Prof. Andreas Estheté
Rector
Addis Ababa University

Date: 26-09-2007.....
Place: Ferrara.....

Date: 10 October '07.....
Place: Addis Ababa.....