

AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS
ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGIES

The Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the Republic of Belarus (hereinafter referred to as the "Parties"),

bearing in mind the fact that international cooperation in the field of science and technologies will strengthen amicable relations and further mutual understanding between the nations of the States of both Parties, as well as improve the level of scientific and technological knowledge in both States;

believing that the cooperation in the field of science and technologies is an important condition for the development of the national economy of the States of the Parties;

desiring to start a dynamic and efficient international cooperation between scientific organisations and individual researchers of both States;

have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Parties shall promote the cooperation in the field of science and technologies on the basis of equality and mutual benefit and in accordance with the international obligations undertaken by the Parties and their national laws.

Article 2

The Parties shall encourage the development of the long-term direct cooperation between research and other organisations of both States in the field of science and technologies.

Article 3

The Parties shall support and promote the development of cooperation in the field of fundamental research, applied research and intelligent technologies.

Article 4

Considering priority sciences of the States of both Parties, the Parties shall define fields of bilateral cooperation in the sphere of science and technologies.

Article 5

Based on this Agreement, the Parties shall cooperate:

- in exchanging information on science and technologies;
- in carrying out joint research;
- in exchanging scientists and researchers for carrying out research;
- by participating in scientific conferences, symposia, traineeships, seminars by invitation of one of the Parties;
- by arranging and presenting joint exhibitions in the field of science and technologies;
- by other means agreed between both Parties.

Article 6

Intellectual property rights obtained during cooperation on the basis of this Agreement shall be protected and exercised in accordance with national legislation and international agreements of the States of both Parties.

Scientific and scientific-technical information received during cooperation under this Agreement which does not constitute intellectual property and which may be made public under the national legislation of both Parties, may be made available to the scientific community of the world by the agreement of the Parties through usual means of its dissemination.

Article 7

The following competent authorities of the Parties shall be responsible for the implementation of this Agreement:

in the Republic of Lithuania: the Ministry of Education and Science,

in the Republic of Belarus: the State Committee on Science and Technology.

Both Parties shall give a written notification to each other through diplomatic channels on any changes in competence or designation of another competent authority.

Article 8

The competent authorities of the Parties shall prepare a Programme of bilateral cooperation in the field of science and technologies, form a bilateral Commission for cooperation in the field of research and development (hereinafter – the Commission) which shall convene on an annual basis in turn in the State of one of the Parties.

The Commission shall approve the following:

- directions of cooperation in the field of science and technologies;
- criteria for selection and evaluation of bilateral projects in the field of science and technologies;
- dates of the announced tenders;
- procedure for financing projects;
- list of projects to be financed.

Article 9

In case of disagreement between the Parties as to the interpretation or application of the provisions of this Agreement the Parties shall resolve such disputes by negotiations and consultations.

Article 10

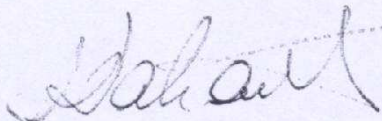
The Parties shall notify each other in writing, through diplomatic channels, of the completion of their relevant internal legal procedures required for this Agreement to come into force. The date of the last notification shall be the date of coming into force of this Agreement.

This Agreement may be supplemented and amended by mutual agreement of the Parties. Such amendments and supplements shall be done in writing and, after coming into force in accordance with the procedure set out in the first paragraph of this Article, shall form an integral and inseparable part of this Agreement.

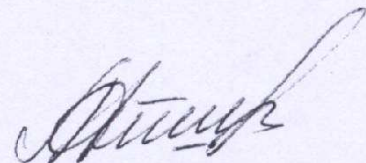
This Agreement shall be concluded for an unlimited period. Each Party may at any time terminate this Agreement by notifying the other Party about that in writing, through diplomatic channels. The Agreement shall be devoid of all force three months after the date of receipt of the above-mentioned notification. The termination of this Agreement shall not affect the implementation of joint programmes, projects and other measures started after coming into force of this Agreement, unless the Parties agree otherwise.

DONE at Minsk on 24 January 2008 in two copies (both) in the Lithuanian, Russian and English languages. All texts are equally authentic.

In case of any divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.



**FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**



**FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS**