

AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION

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

recognizing the importance of science and technology in the development of prosperous national economies of both states;

being convinced that international cooperation in the field of science and technology will strengthen the friendship and mutual understanding between both countries and will advance the development of science and technology to the benefit of both states;

being convinced of the need for further the development of mutually beneficial scientific and technological cooperation,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

1. The Contracting Parties shall develop and support the cooperation in the field of science and technology according to the provisions of this Agreement as well as the national laws and regulations in force in the Slovak Republic and the Republic of Lithuania.
2. The Contracting Parties shall encourage and support direct co-operation and exchange of information in science and technology between research and higher education institutions and scientific associations of both states in conformity with their respective national laws and regulations.
3. The bodies responsible for the implementation of the provisions of this Agreement shall be the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter referred to as "Executive Bodies").

Article 2

1. Under this Agreement, co-operation in the field of science and technology shall comprise:
 - a) joint scientific and technological projects in mutually agreed areas;
 - b) exchange of scientists and other researchers, university professors and experts;

- c) exchange of scientific and technological information, documentation, as well as laboratory samples and equipment in the context of co-operative activities;
 - d) joint scientific conferences, symposia, workshops, other meetings and science exhibitions;
 - e) other forms of co-operation which can be mutually agreed upon by the Contracting Parties.
2. The Contracting Parties shall encourage cooperation in research and technological development between entrepreneurial entities.

Article 3

1. For the purpose of implementation of this Agreement a Joint Committee for Cooperation in Science and Technology (hereinafter referred to as "Joint Committee") shall be established, consisting of equal number of representatives of the Executive Bodies.
2. The Joint Committee shall meet every two years or at the request of either of the Executive Bodies, alternately in the Slovak Republic and in the Republic of Lithuania on mutually convenient dates.
3. The Joint Committee shall formulate its regulations for the implementation of this Agreement.

Article 4

The Joint Committee shall:

- a) decide on the fields of co-operation,
- b) create favourable conditions for the implementation of this Agreement,
- c) propose and endorse programmes of bilateral co-operation,
- d) approve the list of activities and projects to be financed.

Article 5

The expenses incurred due to exchange of personnel under Article 2 (b) of this Agreement, resulting from the implementation of programmes and projects, unless the Contracting Parties agree otherwise, shall be covered as follows:

- a) the Sending Party shall cover all costs of international travel and insurance costs of accidents and medical emergencies,
- b) the Receiving Party shall cover within the territory of its state the costs of accommodation, meals and local transportation necessary to carry out the programmes and projects.

Article 6

1. The intellectual property rights arising from the co-operative activities under this Agreement shall be regulated by implementing arrangements between the co-operating research and higher education institutions. Intellectual property protection shall be subject to

the international agreements on intellectual property law, to which both the Slovak Republic and the Republic of Lithuania are parties, as well as subject to their national laws and regulations in force.

2. Scientific and technological information of non-proprietary nature deriving from the co-operation under this Agreement shall be managed and used by the Contracting Parties and/or their co-operating research and higher education institutions in accordance with their national laws and regulations. Such information shall not be disclosed to a third party, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Contracting Parties and/or their co-operating research and higher education institutions, if required under their respective national laws and regulations.

Article 7

Scientists and other researchers, experts and research and higher education institutions of third countries or international organisations may be invited, upon consent of co-operating research and higher education institutions, to participate in projects and programmes carried out under this Agreement. The costs of such participation shall be covered by the research and higher education institution of a third party concerned, unless the Executive Bodies agree otherwise in writing.

Article 8

1. The provisions of this Agreement may be amended only upon consent of both Contracting Parties. All amendments shall be done in writing.
2. Any disputes concerning the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled by common agreement within the Joint Committee or by the Executive Bodies.


Article 9

Nothing in this Agreement shall affect the rights and obligations of the Contracting Parties arising from their other bilateral and multilateral agreements.

Article 10

1. This Agreement comes into force on the 90th day following the day of receipt of the last notification sent through diplomatic channels through which the Contracting Parties inform each other that the internal requirements necessary for its entry into force have been fulfilled.
2. This Agreement shall remain in force for an indefinite period of time, unless either Contracting Party notifies the other Contracting Party in writing of its intention to terminate this Agreement. The termination of this Agreement shall be effective in six months from the date of said notification.
3. The termination of this Agreement shall not affect the projects or programmes undertaken under this Agreement and not fully executed at the time of the termination of this Agreement, unless the Contracting Parties agree otherwise.

Done in Vilnius on 24th of February 2011 in two original copies, each in Slovak, Lithuanian and English languages. If any disputes arise concerning the interpretation of the texts, the English text shall prevail.



For the Government
of the Slovak Republic



For the Government
of the Republic of Lithuania