

Addendum

to

the Swiss-Indo Executive POC (2006-2010)

(Swiss-Indo Cooperation 2008-2011 in the Field of Science and Technology)

In accordance with the Inter-governmental agreement signed on 10 November 2003 between the Swiss Federal Council and the Government of the Republic of India on cooperation in the fields of science and technology; and Indo-Swiss Executive Programme of Cooperation (POC) for the period 2006-2010 signed on 16th Nov 2006; and

Recalling the Joint Statements issued in Berne on 16th Nov 2007 and in New Delhi on 27th April 2007 to enhance the scope of the Executive POC (2006-2010) to stimulate Public-Private partnership projects; the Ministry for Science and Technology India and the Swiss State Secretariat for Education and Research, agree to the following addendum to the on-going Executive POC (2006-2010)-

- i) The validity of the on-going Indo-Swiss Executive Programme (2006-2010) will now be up to 2011.
- ii) The Indo-Swiss Cooperation (2008-2011) in the field of Science & Technology would be implemented through operational structure mutually agreed by both sides in the Executive POC (2008-2010) with a Joint Committee and Working Groups steering the Indo-Swiss Cooperation Strategy Programme.

A. Steering Bodies

i) Joint Committee (JC)

- The Joint Committee will be the supreme body and the highest authority in the field of science and technology of the Indo-Swiss cooperation which will define the strategic goals and orientations of the cooperation programme; establish a short list of priority measures; provide continuity; approve joint project funding among other responsibilities mentioned in the Executive POC signed in Nov 2006.
- The Joint Committee shall comprise representatives from Switzerland and India. The Joint Committee shall be chaired at the level of State Secretaries or their nominees from both sides and shall include representatives from Government, Academia, and other appropriate public agencies engaged in research, technology development and innovation.
- The Joint Committee shall be convened by the Swiss and Indian Chairpersons as often as necessary and at least once a year. All decisions shall be taken by mutual consent.
- The exact composition from each side shall be communicated through exchange of letters by first quarter of 2008.

ii) Working Groups (WG)

Each party constitutes its WG according as per its own rules. The WG shall have responsibilities to-

- Determine the eligible projects and forwards the funding requests to the Joint Committee, in agreement with its counterpart
- To oversee the planning, implementation and the cooperation programme in each country
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- To provide guidance, advices and assistance in the implementation and the coordination of the national programme
- To ensure equal access to the programme and fair treatment of all interested research groups and institutes from all scientific fields, including the social sciences and the humanities
- To organize the evaluation of the various projects on national level
- To request the advice of scientific experts
- To report to the Joint Committee on action implementation at national level
- Other responsibilities listed in Executive POC (2008-2010)

B. Funding Instruments

- Joint Research Projects: involve at least one research group, i.e. two scientists on each side working together on the same project on either side. The joint projects to be supported in basic and applied research with special emphasis on Industrial R&D projects are intended to stimulate public private partnerships and solution driven projects. To give competitive advantage, the public-private partnership projects should be evaluated separately.
- Joint Labs / Joint Centers: refers to proposals that go beyond simple individual projects and involve institutional elements and commitments. A joint lab is an institutional partnership, with permanent staff of both countries and joint overhead funding. Joint centers go a step further, are more comprehensive and involve substantially more money. The grants for joint labs and joint centers will be in the form of a lump sum, allowing for a considerable amount of autonomy and flexibility in the use of the money. Both joint labs and joint centers can expect substantial additional funding from the two partner institutes involved.
- Fellowships: Project based exchange of faculty; research staff and young researchers.

C. Funding mechanism and conditions

- Each Working Group makes funding proposals to the Joint Committee, according to its own rules. The project/ proposal must be approved by the Joint Committee. The final decision is taken by the government representatives of each country in the Joint Committee.
- Every approved project must benefit from the funding of the supportive institution.
- The contribution of each country would be overall balanced within the four-year period 2008-2011.
- The Swiss government is planning to invest approximately eight million Swiss francs for bilateral cooperation activities over the period of 2008-2011. The sum invested by the Swiss government for bilateral cooperation activities with scientific partners may also be accompanied by contributions of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) and the Commission for Technology and Innovation (CTI) and contributions from other cooperating institutions, all decided upon criteria of the respective funding institutions. The Indian side is to provide matching funding on reciprocal basis for the said programme.

D. Intellectual property rights

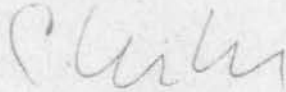
As for intellectual property rights, each country shall apply its own rules as well as applicable international standards and as per the provisions of the IPR agreement signed by two sides as Annex-3 of the Executive POC (2006-2011). Identified problems or possibilities of co-operation in the field of intellectual property rights may be communicated to the bilateral Working Group co-chaired by the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Design and Trade Marks, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of India and the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property.

The other terms and conditions for implementing Indo-Swiss Cooperation (2008-2011) will remain the same as enunciated in Executive POC signed on 16th Nov 2007. Both sides now agree to invite new proposals with 31st March 2008 as last date for submission of the proposals.

This Addendum will enter into force upon signature and remain in force until 31 December 2011.

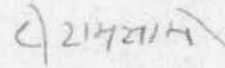
Done in New Delhi on 13th November 2007

For the State Secretariat
for Education and Research



(Dr Charles Kleiber, State Secretary)

For the Department of Science
& Technology (Govt of India)



(Dr T Ramasami, Secretary)