

**EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME  
FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION  
BETWEEN  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY  
AND  
THE AZERBAIJAN NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES  
FOR THE YEARS 2021-2023**

Within the framework of the Agreement on Cultural, Educational, Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Republic of Italy and the Republic of Azerbaijan, signed in Baku on 1<sup>st</sup> of June, 2002 and entered into force on 6<sup>th</sup> of September 2006, the First Session of the Joint Italy-Azerbaijan Commission was held on 9<sup>th</sup> of December 2020 in Baku to examine the development of scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries and to define the Executive Programme for the years 2021-2023.

The Italian delegation was headed by the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Mr Manlio Di Stefano and the Azerbaijani delegation was headed by the President of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, Mr. Ramiz Mehdiyev.

The institutions in charge of the co-ordination of the present Executive Programme, hereinafter referred as to the "Parties", are:

**For the Italian Party:** the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Directorate General for Cultural and Economic Promotion and Innovation

**For the Azerbaijani Party:** Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, Department of International Relations

The Parties adopted the following Agenda of Joint Commission:

1. Review of Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the two Countries
2. First Executive Programme
3. Projects for the Exchange of Researchers
4. Final provisions

### **1. Review of the Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the two Countries**

The Parties have agreed to recognize the growing importance of science and technology with respect to the economic, social and cultural relations of the two Countries. The Parties, considering the good relationships, place particular emphasis on the role of international cooperation and stressed the need to further develop and promote bilateral cooperation in the field of science and technology. They also agreed to favour and extend the cooperation in international and European multilateral R&D programmes, with particular regard to the Horizon Europe Programme.

### **2. First Executive Programme**

In the period between 10<sup>th</sup> of May–31<sup>th</sup> of July 2019 a joint call for proposals was open to collect project proposals for Exchange of Researchers in the following priority areas:

- Earth Sciences
- Medicine and bio-medicine
- Physics and Astrophysics

- Technology and Research applied to Cultural Heritage

The criteria adopted in selecting the joint research projects were:

- Scientific relevance
- Methodology and documentation
- Competence and expertise of the research teams
- Added value of the bilateral cooperation
- Involvement of early career researchers.

### **3. Projects for the Exchange of Researchers**

Based upon the above-mentioned criteria, 4 (four) projects for the exchange of researchers have been selected. The list of the selected projects is given in **Annex I**.

The general administrative and financial provisions for the implementation of the Programme are given in **Annex II**.

### **4. Final provisions**

The Parties agreed to hold the next session of the Joint Commission in Rome in 2023. Details of the next session of the Joint Commission, such as, date, agenda, etc. will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

This Executive Programme for the period 2021-2023 will remain valid until the coming into force of the next Executive Programme, but no longer than one year after its expiration. Any amendment to the text of this Executive Programme has to be authorised by the competent institutions in both Countries and has to be carried out through diplomatic channels.

**All initiatives foreseen in this Executive Programme will be carried out within the limits of the budgets and according to the rules prevailing in each Country.**

Annexes I and II are attached hereto and are integral parts of the present document.

Signed in Baku, on the 09 December 2020, in two originals in the English language, each text being equally authoritative.

<p><b>For the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Italy</b></p> <p><b>MR. MANLIO DI STEFANO</b> Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation</p>	<p><b>For the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences</b></p> <p><b>MR. RAMIZ MEHDIYEV</b> President</p>
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**ANNEX I**

**PROJECTS FOR EXCHANGE OF RESEARCHERS SELECTED WITHIN THE FRAME OF THE EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY AND THE AZERBAIJAN NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES FOR THE YEARS 2021-2023**

<b>RESEARCH AREA</b>	<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	<b>ITALIAN PARTNER</b>	<b>AZERBAIJANI PARTNER</b>
BIOMED	Organization of a center of excellence for Precision Oncology in Azerbaijan	Nicola NORMANNO, INT "Fondazione G. Pascale"- IRCCS	Ahliman AMIRASLANOV, Department of Biological and Medical Sciences of ANAS
BIOMED	Adaptive Radiotherapy (IMRT, VMAT and 3D-conformal planning methods) for head and neck cancer	Luigi CORTI, IOV-IRCCS Padova	Isa ISAYEV, Institute National Center of Oncology
GEO	Geochemistry and geological-structural controls on CH <sub>4</sub> - to CO <sub>2</sub> -rich fluid emissions in the Greater Caucasus (Azerbaijan) and the Apennines (Italy): Geodynamic implications	Marco BONINI, CNR	Akber FEYZULLAYEV, Institute of Geology and Geophysics of ANAS
CH	Development of new products and protocols for the consolidation of earthen building materials	Francesco LA RUSSA M., Università della Calabria	Gafar JABIYEV, Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography of ANAS

## ANNEX II

### GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

The bilateral projects to be financed for the exchange of researchers within the present Programme are exclusively those mentioned in **Annex I**.

For each project listed in Annex I, 1 short-term stay (up to 10 days) and 1 long-term stay (up to 30 days) may be financed yearly within the limits of the available annual resources of each Party.

The researchers will be entitled to the exchange only if they hold the Italian nationality (or any EU nationality and resident in Italy) for those who travel to Azerbaijan and the Azerbaijani nationality (or resident in Azerbaijan) for those who travel to Italy.

The receiving Party shall cover the costs of accommodation and living, while the sending Party shall cover the costs of international travel up to the host institution.

The receiving Party shall provide medical insurance coverage, based on the rules in force in each Country, against work accidents and illnesses, excluding already existing and chronic diseases.

At the end of each year, the Italian researchers and the Azerbaijani researchers have to submit a report on the activities carried out during their visits to both the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences. Both Italian and Azerbaijani project coordinators involved in the joint research project must sign the reports. Funding for the next year will not be granted if the coordinators fail to submit their progress reports.

#### VISIT OF AZERBAIJANI RESEARCHERS TRAVELLING TO ITALY

The Azerbaijani Party will pay the international travel expenses to researchers holding Azerbaijani nationality (or resident in Azerbaijan). The supplied tickets will be the most economical ones available for the trip, economy class (2<sup>nd</sup> class) flight/train/ride. Any additional cost shall be borne by the researchers.

#### STAY OF AZERBAIJANI RESEARCHERS IN ITALY

Azerbaijani researchers travelling to Italy for a research stay are required to submit the application to the Department of International Relations of Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

Applications must be submitted to the Department of International Relations of Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences **no later than 45 days prior to the foreseen date of departure**. Details of the above mentioned rules and the application are available on the web site of the Department of International Relations of Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences at:

<http://bei.science.gov.az/en/content/8>.

The date of the visit should be agreed between the visiting researchers and the host Italian coordinator. Azerbaijani researchers may obtain the authorization for the visit from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation only by submitting application form online at the following link: <http://web.esteri.it/ricercatori/default.asp>. The application must be submitted **at least two months before the scheduled visit**.

An invitation letter from the host Italian Institution, signed by the Italian coordinator, must be uploaded to the online application. The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, after checking the application for accuracy, if necessary funds are available, will authorize the visit and pay for the visit allowance. The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation will timely inform the Italian Embassy in Baku, the Azerbaijani researcher and the Italian project coordinator.

Any cancellation of the visit by the researcher, unless due to serious and valid reasons, might prevent the hosting Party from accepting further applications for subsequent missions.

The Italian Party shall provide a contribution of 93 Euro per day for short-term stays (up to 10 days) up to a maximum of 930 Euro and 18,50 Euro/day, from day 11 to day 30, up to a maximum amount of 1.300 Euro for long-term stay. The above-mentioned amounts shall be paid to the Azerbaijani researchers entirely in one instalment at their arrival in Italy. Azerbaijani researchers will receive their grants at the nearest Provincial Treasury (local branch of the Banca d'Italia).

#### **VISIT OF ITALIAN RESEARCHERS TRAVELLING TO AZERBAIJAN**

Italian researchers travelling to Azerbaijan for a research stay are required to submit the online application to the Office IX – Directorate General for Cultural and Economic Promotion and Innovation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation at:

<http://web.esteri.it/ricercatori/ricercatoritaliani/Start.asp>.

Applications must be submitted to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation **no later than 45 days prior to the foreseen date of departure**. Details of the above mentioned rules and the online application are available on the web site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation at:

[http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/politica\\_estera/cooperscientificatecnologica/programmiesecuti/mobilitaricercatori/mobilitaricercatoriitaliani.html](http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/politica_estera/cooperscientificatecnologica/programmiesecuti/mobilitaricercatori/mobilitaricercatoriitaliani.html).

The date of the visit should be agreed between the visiting researchers and the host Azerbaijani coordinator. Italian researchers may obtain the authorization for the visit from the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences only by submitting application form. The application must be submitted **at least two months before the scheduled visit**.

An invitation letter from the host Azerbaijani institution, signed by the Azerbaijani coordinator, must be sent to [esmira.alirzayeva@science.az](mailto:esmira.alirzayeva@science.az). The Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, after checking the application for accuracy, if necessary funds are available, will authorize the visit and pay for the visit allowance. The Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences will timely inform the Azerbaijani Embassy in Rome, the Italian researcher and the Azerbaijani project coordinator.

The Italian Party will pay the international travel expenses to researchers holding Italian nationality (or any EU nationality and resident in Italy). The supplied tickets will be the most economical ones (2<sup>nd</sup> class) flight available for the trip. Any additional cost shall be borne by the researcher.

#### **STAY OF ITALIAN RESEARCHERS IN AZERBAIJAN**

The Azerbaijann Party shall provide a contribution of 93,00 Euro per day for short-term stays (up to 10 days), up to maximum of 930 Euro. For long-term stay (up to 30 days), from 11 to day 30, the Azerbaijani Party shall provide a contribution of 18,5 Euro/day, up to maximum amount of 1300 Euro. The above-mentioned amounts shall be paid to the Italian researchers entirely in one instalment at their arrival in Azerbaijan. Italian researchers will receive their grants from the host institution in Azerbaijan.

#### **REPORTS ON THE PROJECT**

At the end of each year the Azerbaijani and the Italian coordinators will jointly report on the progress of their project. Funding for the next year will not be granted if the coordinators fail to submit the progress reports.

The Italian coordinators have to submit the reports, in .pdf to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International cooperation: [ricercatori.italiani@esteri.it](mailto:ricercatori.italiani@esteri.it).

The Azerbaijani coordinators have to submit the reports in .pdf (adequate template) to the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences to the following e-mail address: [esmira.alirzayeva@science.az](mailto:esmira.alirzayeva@science.az).