



PROTOCOL

for Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation

Between
The National Centre for Scientific and Technical Research of
Morocco (CNRST)
(Angle avenues des FAR et Allal El Fassi, Hay Ryad, B.P. 8027 N.U., Rabat 10102,
Maroc.)
Represented by Director: Prof. Jamila EL ALAMI

and
The National Center for Research and Development
Jordan (NCRD)
(Jubeiha, POBox 902, Amman 11941, Jordan)
Represented by Acting President: Prof. Abdullah M. Al-Musa

The National Centre for Scientific and Technical Research (CNRST) of Morocco and the National Center for Research and Development (NCRD) of Jordan, (hereinafter referred to as "**Parties**");

Considering the missions of the CNRST, mentioned in third article of the Dahir N°"1-01 -170" of 11 jomada 1422 (August 1st, 2001) promulgating the law N° "80-00 related to the National Centre for Scientific and Technical Research, which consist in promoting, developing and enhancing scientific research, according to the cultural, economic and social needs of the country;

Considering that NCRD is a public entity established in 2010 the Regulation No (72) of 2010, in accordance with articles (7) and (11) of the Higher Council for Science and Technology Law No. (30) of 1987, and aims at developing scientific capacity and capabilities in the field of energy, biotechnology, Badia research, and other research of interest to Jordan;

Considering the excellent relationship between the two countries, which binds the contracting parties together, and their willingness to enhance cooperation and partnership links in higher education and scientific research areas;

Recognizing the advantages of scientific and technological cooperation and its importance in the development of national economies as well as the prosperity of both countries; and the willingness of the parties to establish cooperation in areas of common interest;

Considering the agreement of cultural and scientific cooperation signed between the Kingdom of Jordan and the Kingdom of Morocco in Rabat on August 5, 1976;

Considering the economic and technical cooperation agreement signed between the two kingdoms in Rabat on May 11, 1978;

Referring to the executive program of cooperation in higher education and scientific research, signed in Rabat on October 13, 2015;

Considering the Fifth Session's minutes of Moroccan-Jordanian High Joint Committee, held in Rabat on 21 and 22 April 2016;

Taking into account the different exchanges between the **parties, both parties agreed to the following:**

Article 1 Purpose

The purpose of this Protocol is to create a framework for cooperation in various fields related to scientific and technical research between Morocco and Jordan; the parties will promote and support cooperation between qualified researchers from each country according to the provisions of this Protocol and the existing legislation and regulations of each country.

Article 2 Forms of Cooperation and Implementation

Within this Protocol, cooperation may include the following activities:

- 2.1 Joint research, development and Innovation projects, including exchanges of research results and exchange of scientists, specialists and researchers;
- 2.2 Exchange of scientific and technological information and documentation;
- 2.3 Joint scientific conferences, symposia, workshops and other meetings;
- 2.4 Joint use of research and development facilities and scientific equipment;
- 2.5 Applying for joint grants and projects in the framework of international research programs, and participation in European Union Framework Programmes (EU FPs) for research, development and innovation.
- 2.6 Other forms of scientific and technological cooperation following mutual consultation,

The parties shall encourage to the maximum possible extent, the exchange of technologies between respective national enterprises and institutions through technical collaboration agreements.

Article 3

Joint Research, Development, and Innovation Projects

In accordance with the provisions of Article 2.1., the joint research, development and innovation projects will be implemented as follows:

3.1. The parties will publish simultaneously a Call for Proposals every two years, unless both sides agree otherwise in writing.

3.2. Application and evaluation provisions, number of projects to be supported and financial details as well as the other rules about the call will be determined by mutual consent of the parties in line with their own national legislations. All of the mentioned details will be included in the Joint Call Agreement.

Article 4

Funding

In accordance with the provisions of Article 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3, each party will cover the costs of activities from its own budget.

The number of projects, workshops and any other cooperative activity to be supported each year will be set in a separate Agreement and will be contingent upon funding availability in each party's budget.

Article 5

Areas and Mutual Interest

Considering the priority objectives of their respective countries, the parties will develop cooperation in the fields of common interest:

- a. Natural Sciences and Environment;
- b. Engineering and Technology;
- c. Medical and Health Sciences;
- d. Agricultural Sciences;
- e. Social Sciences and Humanities.

According to this Protocol, Parties will agree on details of the research projects that will be fixed before launching each call for proposals, and specified in the **"Agreement"**.

Article 6

Joint Committee

6.1. For the purpose of implementing this protocol, the Parties agree to form a Joint Committee, composed of equal number of representatives designated by the two parties, shall be established. The tasks of the joint committee shall be as follow:

- Identifying the fields of cooperation on the basis of information delivered by institutions of each country and the national policies in science and technology;
- Creating favorable conditions for the implementation of this protocol;
- Facilitating the implementation of joint programs and projects;
- Encouraging exchange of experience arising from the bilateral scientific and technological cooperation and evaluating proposals for its further development.

6.2 The Joint Committee meeting is arranged by mutual agreement when matters requiring detailed discussion arise. However, the Joint Committee may also operate by correspondence or online Video-conference.

6.3 The Joint Committee may elaborate its own rules of procedures provided that these rules of procedure do not contradict any written agreement or document signed by the Parties regarding the joint committee and/or its work and/or others.

Article 7 Dissemination of Resulting Information

7.1 Scientific and technological results and any other information derived from the cooperation activities under this Protocol will be shared, announced, published or commercially exploited with the written consent of both project partners and according to the international agreements concerning intellectual property rights to which states of both parties are members and each party shall not withhold its consent unless for legal and legitimate reasons.

7.2 An agreement about ownership of intellectual property rights has to be signed between project partners before execution of a joint research and development project. The agreement on intellectual property rights must include the competent court and applicable law for solution of any disputes and the Parties right to use these rights jointly. The said agreement will be concluded in compliance with regulations of the parties.

Article 8 Implementation and Legal Aspects

8.1 This Protocol is concluded with a view to enhancing and developing cooperation between the parties and does not constitute an agreement binding upon the States of the parties under international law. No provision of this Protocol will be interpreted and implemented as creating legal rights or commitments for the States of the parties.

8.2 Any dispute related to the interpretation or implementation of this Protocol will be settled through consultations within the Joint Committee or between the parties.

8.3 This Protocol will not affect the validity or execution of any obligation arising from other international treaties or agreements concluded by the States of the parties.

8.4 This Protocol may be amended at any time through mutual written consent of the parties.

8.5 This Protocol does not affect the right of any of the parties to work with any other organisation and to sign similar protocols, to the extent that does not contradict with the rules herein.

Article 9 Initiation and Termination

9.1 This Protocol will come into effect upon signature and remain valid for a period of five years. Unless one of the parties notifies the other in writing its intention to terminate this Protocol six months prior to the expiration of its validity, this Protocol will automatically be extended for successive periods of five years.

9.2. Each party may terminate this Protocol at any time by giving to the other party a written notification to that effect. In this case, the Protocol will be terminated in six months after the date of the receipt of the notification.

9.3. The termination of this Protocol will not affect the projects or programmes undertaken under this Protocol and not fully executed at the time of the termination of this Protocol.

Article 10: Communication

The Parties may inform the public of the provisions of this Protocol and provide information related to the actions taken within its framework in accordance with the communication and media policies of each party.

Article 11: Languages of the Protocol

The Protocol is drawn up in English and Arabic, both versions being equally authentic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Parties hereto have signed this protocol on 29/5/2024, in two copies in English, both being equally authentic.

For
**The National Centre for Scientific
and Technical Research of Morocco
(CNRST)**
Prof. Jamila EL ALAMI



CNRST Director

For
**The National Center for Research
and Development of Jordan
(NCRD)**
Prof. Abdullah Al-Musa



NCRD Acting President

