

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Armenia and the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Italy on the Co-operation in the Field of Health and Medical Science

The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Armenia and the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Italy, hereinafter referred to as "Parties", desirous to promote bilateral relationships in the field of health and medical science and recognizing that this co-operation will contribute to the improvement of the health status of their populations,

Have reached the following:

Article 1

The Parties, will develop and extend co-operation in the field of health and medical sciences by promoting mutual exchanges of experience on such themes identified as priorities for both Parties.

Article 2

The Parties will organize study visits of delegations of experts on such themes as judged as priorities and proposed by the sending Party aiming at a better mutual knowledge of the health care delivery system in the two countries and better training of own health care and research staff.

Each Parties will inform the other Party on the name, title, speciality and the themes proposed for the exchange of experience of their experts, 30 days before the date agreed upon by mutual consent. The date of arrival and the route will be communicated at least 15 days before, by the sending Party to the hosting Party.

Article 3

The two Parties shall encourage collaboration between the medical institutions from their countries. The medical institutions will, for this purpose, provide the schedule of the scientific meetings by the 5th of December of each year. They will equally provide the organizational details of those meetings and will mutually apply reduced fees and preferential tariffs, subject to availability of funds, for the participants of the other Party.

Article 4

4.1 The two Parties will support direct co-operation between the institutes of medical research, based on direct agreement between the institutes.

Direct co-operation between the institutes will be achieved, exchanges of scientific materials and technical documentation as well as by joint research programmes on themes of mutual interest, based on joint plans of work and methodologies.

The plans, signed by the heads of the institutes, will become effective after approval by the competent bodies of each country, in accordance with domestic legislation.

4.2 The Parties will support direct co-operation between hospitals, based upon direct understandings.

Article 5

5.1 The Parties will promote the exchange of medical journals, health education materials and posters, on a basis of reciprocity.

5.2 The Parties will send each other health statistics and epidemiological reports on communicable diseases.

5.3 The Parties will exchange, on request, information on health legislation and will send the official documents.

5.4 The Parties will promote co-operation between the medical publishing houses.

Article 6

For the experts travelling under the provisions of Article 2 of this Memorandum of understanding, the sending Party will cover round-trip fare between the two capitals.

The hosting Party will cover domestic transport for the duration of the visit, hotel accommodation and daily subsistence allowance.

Article 7

The Parties will create a co-ordinating group that will be in charge with implementing the co-operation and with keeping the two ministries periodically (every 6 months) informed on the progress of co-operation under the present memorandum of understanding.

The group will take the necessary steps to facilitate implementation of the present memorandum of understanding.

The group will include 3 persons for each Party and will be headed by a higher senior representative of the Ministry of Health.

Article 8

Any other previous understanding or arrangements regarding co-operation between the two Ministers of Health will be terminated on the date this present memorandum of understanding comes into force.

Article 9

This present memorandum of understanding will come into force at the date of reception of the second of the two notifications by which the Parties will mutually and officially communicate the ending of all internal procedures of ratification.

Article 10

This memorandum of understanding will remain valid for a period of 5 years, after which it can be automatically extended for further periods of 5 years, unless either Party denounce it by

written notice through diplomatic channels. In such case, the denunciation will become effective 6 months after the date of notification. In case of denunciation of the present memorandum of understanding according to the provisions of this article, any programme of exchanges or co-operation undertaken under it and not yet completed, will remain valid until completion.

In witness whereof the undersigned Representatives being duly authorized thereto by their respective Government, have signed the memorandum of understanding.

Done in Rome on the 2nd of April 1997, in duplicate, in the Armenian, Italian and English languages, all text being equally authoritative. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

The Memorandum of Understanding has entered into force on April 25, 2000.