AGREEMENT ON SCIENTIFIC CO-OPERATION
BETWEEN
THE DEUTSCHE FORSCHUNGSGEMEINSCHAFT
AND THE
NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT OF VIETNAM

The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft and the National Foundation for Science and Technology Development of Vietnam, subsequently referred to as DFG and NAFOSTED or the "Parties", have agreed on the following Programme for Scientific Co-operation, hereinafter referred to as the "Programme".

Article I

The Programme covers all recognised branches of research, including natural sciences, humanities, social sciences, medicine and engineering.

Article II

The Programme aims at enhancing the scientific relations by supporting specifically:
1. joint research projects conducted by scientists, scholars and research groups of both countries;
2. "catalytic" activities that help to prepare the ground for individual research co-operation, e.g. preparatory or consultative visits for the planning of specific joint projects as well as for bilateral seminars in either country that can be expected to contribute to explore and verify potentials for collaboration;
3. the mobility of young scientists, both on a postdoctoral and postgraduate level, by facilitating the use of existing funding opportunities such as the ones offered by the University Research Training Groups ("Graduiertenkollegs") supported by the DFG;
4. the exchange of any information that is relevant to the aims of this Agreement;
5. other co-operative activities as may be mutually agreed upon.

Article III

The collaborative activities to be carried out under the Programme must be of high scientific standard, beneficial to the advancement of science and should as a project of bilateral co-operation be performed on the basis of mutuality and equality. In appropriate cases joint peer review should be envisaged.

Article IV

Generally the initiative for and the planning of collaborative activities shall be taken by scientists who are interested in such co-operation. DFG and NAFOSTED may offer their assistance in identifying relevant partners and in establishing contacts. Proposals for collaborative activities shall be submitted by eligible scientists to their respective national agency, DFG or NAFOSTED, for scientific review. Such applications are expected to comply with the formal requirements set forth by each Party and will be evaluated according to criteria guaranteeing the requirements of Article III.
Collaborative activities that are approved by DFG and NAFOSTED shall be funded in a complementary way, each Party bearing the costs of the national project part.

Article V

The Programme shall be implemented in conformity with the Joint Guidelines, which are attached to this Agreement.

Article VI

The Programme is subject to the budgetary appropriations available to each Party and the applicable laws and regulations of each side.

Article VII

This Agreement shall remain valid for a period of three years and, based on joint evaluation of the Programme, shall subsequently be extended annually unless a written notice of termination has been given by either side six months in advance. Such a termination will, however, not affect activities already approved jointly or in progress.

Article VIII

This Agreement shall come into force when signed by the representatives of the two organisations and after official approval by their respective bodies.

Article IX

Both Parties agree upon utilizing the results of the cooperation jointly to the benefit of both countries. Regulations in order to protect the intellectual property will be agreed upon between the respective project partners directly.

Article X

This Agreement was signed in Hanoi on 5 May 2010 in two originals both in English.

On behalf of the
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft

Dorothee Dzwonneck
Secretary General

On behalf of the
National Foundation for Science and Technology Development

Dr. Le Dinh Tien
Chairman