

Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft



科学技術振興機構  
Japan Science and Technology Agency

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON JOINT RESEARCH PROGRAM  
BETWEEN  
GERMAN RESEARCH FOUNDATION  
AND  
JAPAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY**

German Research Foundation (hereinafter referred to as “DFG”) and Japan Science and Technology Agency (hereinafter referred to as “JST”), (hereinafter referred to collectively as the “Parties”, and individually as a “Party”), recognizing the desire of the scientists and other concerned people in the two countries to further strengthen scientific cooperation, have agreed to commence a new program for joint funding of German-Japanese cooperative research (hereinafter referred to as the “Program”).

DFG shall apply its rules concerning international cooperation within the framework of its portfolio of funding instruments and JST shall apply its “Strategic International Cooperative Program (SICP)-Joint Research Type” which is being operated by its Department of International Affairs.

**Article I**

The Program shall promote joint research project in the scientific fields which both countries consider important in order to address challenges the international community is facing for sustainability and strengthen science and technology abilities in both countries.

The field shall be selected by mutual agreement of DFG and JST.

## **Article II**

The Program may include the following collaborative activities:

- 1) supporting of joint research projects conducted by scientists of both countries;
- 2) supporting of joint seminars, symposia and other scientific meetings;
- 3) supporting of personnel exchanges, i.e., invitations and dispatches;
- 4) supporting of preparatory visits for planning and formulating joint research projects and seminars in the final stage;
- 5) other cooperative activities as may be mutually agreed upon.

## **Article III**

The collaborative activities to be carried out under the Program should meet the following requirements:

- All collaborative activities must be of high scientific standard and beneficial to the advancement of science and technology.
- Each collaborative activity should be significant, from a scientific point of view, and as a project for bilateral cooperation.
- All cooperation under the Program should be performed on a basis of mutuality and equality.
- Scientists of each country should take part in their capacities as individuals.

## **Article IV**

The Program shall be implemented in conformity with the Joint Guidelines that are to be established by the Department of Scientific Affairs of DFG and the Department of International Affairs of JST.

## **Article V**

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

#### **Article VI**

All procedural and administrative information including those on reviewers and budget held by each funding Party prior to the commencement of, or outside the scope of the Program and provided to the other Party in the course of the Joint Research, shall remain the property of the providing Party, shall be kept confidential by the receiving Party, and shall not be disclosed to any third party other than DFG and JST or used for any purpose other than the Program hereunder without prior written approval from the providing Party.

#### **Article VII**

Any issues that are not addressed or stipulated in this Agreement shall be agreed and resolved through negotiation in good faith. The Parties further agree that any dispute between the Parties will be settled as amicably as possible.

#### **Article VIII**

This Memorandum shall be valid for a period of five years and shall subsequently extend thereafter annually, unless a written notice of termination has been given by either Party six months in advance.

Termination of this agreement will not affect activities already approved jointly or in progress under the terms of this Memorandum.

#### **Article IX**

This Memorandum shall come into force when signed by the representatives of the two Parties.

#### **Article X**

This Memorandum may be amended by mutual agreement of the two Parties.

This Memorandum is documented in two originals in English, both texts being equally valid.

Tokyo, April 15<sup>th</sup> 2009

On behalf of  
German Research Foundation

Handwritten signature of Matthias Kleiner in black ink, written over a horizontal dotted line.

**Professor Dr. Matthias Kleiner**  
**President**

Tokyo, April 15<sup>th</sup> 2009

On behalf of  
Japan Science and Technology Agency

Handwritten signature of Koichi Kitazawa in black ink, written over a horizontal dotted line.

**Professor Dr. Koichi Kitazawa**  
**President**