

Agreement
on Scientific and Technical Cooperation between the Governments of the
Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization

The Governments of the Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (hereinafter - referred to as the Parties),

Seeking to expand cooperation based on the principles of equality and mutual respect, develop and strengthen friendly relations between the Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (hereinafter – the SCO),

Guided by the Charter of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization of June 7, 2002, and other SCO documents,

Recognizing the importance of the need to improve co-operation in science and technology between the SCO Member States,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

In accordance with the national legislation of the SCO Member States, the Parties shall develop cooperation in the following areas:

- environmental protection and rational use of natural resources;
- life sciences;
- agricultural sciences;
- nanosystems and materials;
- information and communication technologies;
- energy and energy efficiency;
- Earth sciences, including geology and seismology;
- other mutually agreed areas of cooperation.

Article 2

Cooperation in the areas mentioned in Article 1 of this Agreement shall be carried out in accordance with the national legislation of the SCO Member States both on a bilateral and multilateral basis in the following forms:

- organizing scientific and technical research;
- developing and implementing joint research programs and projects;

- organizing and participating in scientific conferences, seminars and other events convened in the SCO framework;
- developing and introducing innovative technologies in various science fields;
- exchanging scientific and technical information;
- exchanging experts and scientists;
- other potential forms determined by the mutual agreement of the Parties.

Section 3

The Parties shall ensure protection of the intellectual property rights obtained in the course of implementing this Agreement in accordance with national legislation and international treaties which the SCO Member States are parties to.

Article 4

Conditions for implementing and funding of joint research programs and projects, as well as activities in the framework of multilateral cooperation referred to in Article 2 of this Agreement, shall be agreed in each specific case by the interested organizations of the Parties.

Article 5

Cooperation in support of the implementation of the provisions of this Agreement shall be coordinated by a standing working group on scientific and technical cooperation of the SCO Member States established by the decision of the Meeting of the heads of ministries and agencies of science and technology of the SCO Member States and operating in accordance with its rules of procedure.

Article 6

In order to implement certain provisions of this Agreement, the Parties shall sign appropriate protocols.

Article 7

By mutual consent of the Parties this Agreement may be changed and amended by separate protocols that form an integral part thereof.

Article 8

This Agreement shall not affect the rights and obligations of the Parties under other international treaties which their States are parties to.

Article 9

In case of disputes and disagreements related to the interpretation and application of the provisions of this Agreement they shall be settled through consultations and negotiations between the Parties.

Article 10

The working languages of cooperation under this Agreement shall be Russian and Chinese.

Article 11

This Agreement shall be valid for five years and it shall enter into force on the date of receipt by the Depositary of the last written notification of each of the signatory Parties on completion of internal procedures necessary for its entry into force.

This Agreement shall be automatically extended for successive periods of five years, unless the Parties decide otherwise.

Article 12

After its entry into force, this Agreement shall be open for accession by any State that has become a member of the SCO.

For the acceding state, the present Agreement shall enter into force 30 days from the date of receipt by the Depositary of an instrument of accession.

The Depositary shall notify the Parties of the date of entry into force of this Agreement for the acceding State.

Article 13

Any Party may denounce this Agreement by forwarding through diplomatic channels a written notice to the Depositary within 90 days prior to the date of denunciation from this Agreement. The Depositary shall notify the other Parties of this intention within 30 days from the date of the receipt of the respective notice.

Termination of this Agreement shall not affect ongoing thereunder activities initiated but not completed before its termination, unless the Parties agree otherwise.

Article 14

The Secretariat of the SCO shall be the Depositary of this Agreement that shall send a certified copy thereof to the Parties within 7 working days after the receipt by the Secretariat of the original Agreement.

Done at the city of Bishkek, on September 13, 2013, in a single original, in the Russian and Chinese languages, both texts being equally authentic.

signatures