PROGRAM

OF BELARUSIAN-IRANIAN COOPERATION

in the field of science, technology, and higher education

for the period 2006-2008

In order to implement the Memorandum of Understanding on Higher Education, Science and Technology Co-operation between the Government of the Republic of Belarus and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran signed on March 9th, 1998 in Tehran, the Belarusian and Iranian parts of the Joint Belarusian-Iranian Committee on Science and Technology Co-operation (hereinafter referred to as the "Parties") have signed the Program of Belarusian-Iranian co-operation in the field of science, technology, and higher education for the period 2006-2008 (hereinafter referred to as the "Program").

ARTICLE 1

1.1. The Parties have agreed upon the following priority trends for the period of carrying out the Program:

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- Information technology,
- New materials and their receiving technologies,
- Nanotechnologies,
- Optical technologies,
- Laser technologies,
- Electronics: components, equipment, systems,
- Mechanical and agricultural machinery,
- Environment protection,
- ♦ Biotechnology,
- Medicine and pharmacology,
- Higher education,
- Standardization, metrology, and certification,
 - And other areas determined by the Parties.

ARTICLE 2

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2.1. With a view to intensify the cooperation under the priority trends mentioned in the Article 1 of the Program, the Parties shall encourage and promote direct cooperation between the universities, scientific research institutes and other organizations of both countries including small- and medium-scale enterprises. The specific activities to be carried out are determined by the institutions undertaking such cooperation within the provisions set out in agreements between them.

2.2. The Parties shall encourage the execution of joint projects within apr_ved budgets by the universities, scientific research institutes and other scientific organizations of both countries.

• A joint project will have clearly defined aims to be agreed upon by participating researchers from both countries, approved by the heads of institutions and by both Parties, and accomplished within a predetermined period of time.

• The duration of the joint projects within the framework of the Program will not exceed two years; in cases where an additional year is required, the Parties will negotiate additionally.

• Cooperating researchers and their institutions will ensure fair sharin and effective protection and use of intellectual property rights used and created in the course of fulfillment of a joint project.

2.3. The Parties shall circulate preliminary project proposals for science and technology cooperation among their appropriate institutions with the purpose to establish contacts and contribute to joint project development and commercial contract conclusion.

2.4. In case when the institutions of the two countries have agreed to conduct joint research activities or implement a commercial contract, the Parties shall support the exchange of researchers/experts/technicians within a total of 5 manweeks per year from each side for exploratory visits, execution of joint projects and for pre-contract work. The exploratory visits are short-term visits for

scientific extending contacts well as as for participation in international/bilateral scientific conferences, seminars, workshops and exhibitions relating to the priority trends of cooperation mentioned in the Article 1 of the Program. The responsible organization of the sending Party shall send a visit proposal in an agreed form at least 1 (one) month prior to the date of arrival to the host country.

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2.5. The Parties shall encourage the cooperation in the field of higher education (exchange of faculty members, scholars, postgraduate and undergraduate students).

2.6. The Parties shall contribute to holding joint international events (scientific and technological exhibitions, scientific seminars, workshops, confere_es, etc.).

2.7. The Parties shall inform each other on scientific tenders and calls to be held in their countries.

2.8. The Parties shall discuss the results of cooperation at the annual meetings of the Joint Belarusian-Iranian Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation.

ARTICLE 3

Joint project proposals (hereinafter referred to as the "Proposals") will be jointly developed by the researchers of the two countries in accordance with the form, given in the Annex of the Program, and submitted to the appropriate authorities responsible for coordination and supervision over international scientific and technical cooperation. The authorities shall negotiate the Proposals in due course by exchange of letters. The Proposals, agreed upon by the Parties and following the established procedure, are subject to approval by the Joint Belarusian-Iranian Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation.

ARTICLE 4

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For the visits mentioned in the Item 2.4. of the Program the Parties have agreed upon the following conditions:

4.1. The sending Party shall cover the travel expenses including return trip between the capitals of the two countries.

4.2. The host Party shall meet the following expenses in connection with the visits of researchers/experts/technical personnel:

• cost of transportation of the visitors and their baggage from the airport to the place of stay and back,

• domestic inter-city travel expenses in the country of destination connected with the agreed program of the visit,

- airport dues, wherever necessary,
- accommodation in a suitable hotel,
- boarding or appropriate daily allowance to cover boarding,

• free medical service including hospitalization in a government recognized hospital in the event of sudden illness or accident.

- ARTICLE 5

5.1. The Program shall come into force from the date of its signing.

5.2. Either of the Parties may terminate the Program by giving a written notice of its intention to the other Party.

5.3. The Program can be amended or altered by the decision of the Joint Belarusian-Iranian Committee on Science and Technology Co-operation.

5.4. The amendments, termination or expiration of the Program shall not affect the fulfillment of any project or program already being undertaken under the Program and not fully executed at the time of termination or expiration of the Program. Signed on 30.9.2005, 2005 in Minsk, Republic of Belarus in duplicate in Russian and English. All texts being equally authentic, but in case of doubt the English text shall prevail.

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Chairman of the Iranian part of the Joint Belarusian-Iranian Committee on Science and Technology Co-operation

Prof. A. Riazi// Scientific Counselor of Iran in Russia and CIS Ministry of Science, Research and Technology

Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran Chairman of the Belarusian part of the Joint Belarusian-Iranian Committee on Science and Technology Co-operation

Prof. I. Voitau Deputy Chairman State Committee on Science and Technology of the Republic of Belarus