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**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON  
SCIENTIFIC AND INNOVATION COOPERATION BETWEEN  
THE DEPARTMENT OF JOBS, ENTERPRISE AND INNOVATION OF IRELAND  
AND  
THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF CHINA**

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The Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation of Ireland and the Ministry of Science and Technology of China, hereinafter referred to as the Signatories,

Taking into consideration:

- The principles of *the Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Ireland and the Government of the People's Republic of China* signed on 8 September 2000;
- The strategic importance of bilateral scientific cooperation for the science and economic advancement of both countries;
- The wish to promote effective collaboration between the two countries and further strengthen scientific, technological and innovation cooperation;

In accordance with the principle of equality and mutual benefit;

Have come to the following understanding:

**1. OBJECTIVES**

The Signatories, within their spheres of competence, have agreed on the following objectives:

- To promote economic growth through strategic innovation cooperation among Chinese and Irish industrial, academic and government parties;
- To intensify bilateral scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries;
- To initiate and support joint projects of mutual interest and strategic importance;
- To support and promote cooperation between agencies and institutions including universities, science and technology parks, research institutes in charge of implementing joint projects as well as between enterprises of both countries;
- To promote the exchange of experiences and knowledge regarding the creation, development and internationalization of the priorities concerned;

## **2. IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES**

The Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation of Ireland and the Ministry of Science and Technology of China are responsible for the operation of this Memorandum of Understanding. To achieve its objectives, the Signatories may use their own agencies and bodies.

## **3. PRIORITIES**

The Signatories will from time to time discuss and agree on the areas to be selected as the priorities for the purposes of cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding on the basis of the strategic value for economic and social development in both countries, such as life sciences and ICT.

## **4. MODES OF COOPERATION**

The Signatories will support cooperation under this memorandum in the form of joint projects as defined in 4.1. Initiation, selection and execution of the projects will be coordinated by a Working Group as defined in 4.2, and facilitated by Workshops as defined in 4.3.

### **4.1 Joint Projects**

- Joint projects will be identified and supported by the Signatories to promote bilateral collaboration and innovation cooperation in the priority area agreed under 3.
- The Parties will support joint projects on a co-funding basis, in accordance with the internal procedures and budget competences of both sides.
- Available resources, rights and duties, including intellectual property rights (IPR), shall be agreed by the Signatories upon mutual consent and with regards to national laws and international commitments. Rights and duties, including IPR, at the project level, shall be agreed by the project PIs upon mutual consent, in accordance with the intellectual property policies of the respective Signatories.

### **4.2 Working Group**

- A working group will be set up by the Signatories in order to coordinate the operation of this Memorandum.
- In particular, the Working Group shall coordinate initiation, identification, selection and execution of joint project proposals in the priority areas agreed under 3.
- The Working Group shall be composed of representatives of the Signatories, and additional parties could be invited to join when needed.

- The Signatories shall decide to convene the Working Group regularly.

#### **4.3 Workshops**

- Workshops may be organised or supported by the Signatories to explore and identify priorities for joint implementation by means of joint projects.

#### **4.4 Joint Labs/Centres**

- Following successful implementation of the joint projects, establishment of joint labs or centres in priority areas identified in 3 shall be examined by the Signatories in order to foster closer, stronger and more stable collaboration between the two countries.

### **5. DISPUTE SETTLEMENT**

This Memorandum of Understanding does not create any rights or obligations under international law. Any dispute arising out of the interpretation and implementation of this Memorandum will be settled amicably through diplomatic consultations and/or negotiations between the Signatories.

The Memorandum may be amended by mutual written consent by the Signatories negotiated through diplomatic channels.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall take effect on the day of signature by the Signatories.

Signed in [Beijing] in two copies each in the English and Chinese language, both versions having equal validity.

For the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and  
Innovation of Ireland

For the Ministry of Science and Technology of  
China

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