

**Memorandum of Understanding
between the Ministry of Health of the Italian Republic and the Ministry of
Health of the Arab Republic of Egypt on Cooperation in Health**

Building on the Declaration of the Second Egyptian – Italian Strategic Summit held in May 2009 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt,

Desiring to promote bilateral health cooperation, especially against Thalassemia blood diseases with a view to alleviate its burden on the public,

Taking into account the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Health of the Italian Republic and the Ministry of Health of the Arab Republic of Egypt on cooperation in the field of health and medical specialist sciences, signed in Cairo, on 26 September 2004;

Referring to the Plan of Action for 2008/2009, in particular priority (3): Thalassemia & Blood Banking, which was agreed upon during the Second Meeting of the Joint Commission held in Cairo on 14 July 2007;

both parties agree to the following:

Article (1):

Objective of the Cooperation

The objective of the proposed cooperation is to exchange experiences, lessons learnt and best practices to combat Thalassemia blood diseases while guided by the Italian experience and successes in tackling blood diseases.

This cooperation aims to support exerted efforts and national plans towards establishment of a National Registry of Thalassemia patients and blood donors in Egypt and periodically updating it.

In addition, the bilateral cooperation aims to design national prevention programs in Egypt and increasing the awareness of the Egyptian public against Thalassemia blood diseases.

Article (2):

Training and Capacity Building for Human Resources.

Training of Egyptian health work force, including physicians, biologists and nurses working in field of Thalassemia shall be an integral part of the health cooperation. To this effect, both parties will collaborate towards designing and implementing training programs that include diagnosis, bone marrow transplantation as well as other areas determined by prior mutual consent. The training programs shall be predominantly provided in Italian Thalassemia centers of excellence.

Article (3):

Implementation Mechanism

1. In order to implement the objectives of cooperation stated in Articles 1 and 2, both parties agree to establish a Joint Committee at the level of senior officials from both ministries. The Joint Committee will be entrusted with supervising the mutual work and overseeing the implementation of the agreed activities.
2. The committee shall work as a follow-up mechanism to oversee the implementation of Article 1 and 2 and to resolve any obstacles that may arise during the implementation of this MoU. The committee shall meet on regular basis every six months or when the need arises.
3. The implementing bodies of both parties will take part in the meetings of the Joint Committee. The implementing bodies on behalf of the Egyptian and the Italian Parties will be determined later and notified through official correspondence.

Article (4)

Duration and Amendment Provisions

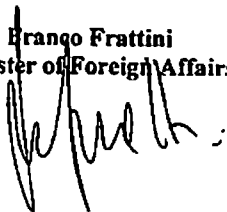
- 1- This MoU shall enter into force on the date of its signature and shall remain valid for a period of three years automatically extended for similar periods. Each party can notify the other of its will to terminate this MoU before or after the expiry of the three year period. In such a case, the termination shall be effective after six months starting from the date of receiving the notification.

2- Amendments to this MoU can be made by mutual consent between the parties. All differences regarding the interpretation or the application of the MoU shall be resolved through dialogue and consultation.

Done in Rome, Italy on 19th May 2010, in two original copies in the English language.

**For the Government of the Italian
Republic**

**Franco Frattini
Minister of Foreign Affairs**



**For the Government of the Arab
Republic of Egypt**

**Ahmed Aboul Gheit
Minister of Foreign Affairs**

