

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

The Ministry of Health of the Italian Republic

And

The Ministry of Health of Palestine <sup>1</sup>

In the Field of Health and Medical Sciences

<sup>1</sup> This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine by the Italian Government and is without prejudice to the position of the Italian Government on this issue.



## **Parties**

**First Party:** The Italian Ministry of Health,

**Second Party:** The Palestinian Ministry of Health

## **Preamble**

The Italian Ministry of Health hereinafter referred to as IMOH and the Palestinian Ministry of Health hereinafter referred to as PMOH;

IMOH and PMOH hereinafter referred to as the Parties, and in the singular as a Party;

Considering the long history of collaboration between them;

Understanding the benefit of unified efforts to address public health problems of mutual concern;

Realizing the importance of international cooperation in the area of public health;

Desiring to foster greater understanding and strengthen relationships in health between the two Participants in the future;

Intending to strengthen the existing linkages between the medical and scientific research institutions of both countries in the area of public health and medical Science;

The Parties agree on the following:

## **Article 1**

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to develop and strengthen cooperation between the Participants in the fields of public health, medicine and biomedical science and health legislation in accordance with the following general principles:



- Cooperation will be conducted on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefits;
- Cooperation under this MOU is intended to support and strengthen relationships currently established in the fields of public health, medicine and biomedical science between organizations and institutions in Palestine and Italy.

## **Article 2**

The Parties to this agreement intend to cooperate in the following areas:

- Infectious Diseases, including tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, including measures of pandemic preparedness and response;
- Non-communicable diseases, including prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancer;
- Promoting Healthy Lifestyles, including reducing tobacco and alcohol consumption, reducing deaths resulting from road accidents and other traumas;
- Maternal and Child Healthcare Protection;
- Improving Global Health, also including the facilitation of international cooperation on the surveillance and monitoring of infectious diseases (including zoonoses), promoting implementation of the International Health Regulations, supporting the Millennium Development Goals, and strengthening health systems in developing countries, including the response to man-made and natural disasters;
- Genetic disorders;
- Drugs Analysis.

Other avenues of cooperation in the areas of public health and medical science, upon mutual consent of the Participants.

Both Parties agree on exchange of experience, information publication, and periodical in Primary Health Care (PHC).

## **Article 3**

Joint activities within the Memorandum of Understanding will be conducted in the following forms:



Exchange of information;  
Exchange of delegations and specialists;  
Coordination of programs and research projects;  
Establishment of joint working groups;  
Training activities; and  
Organization of meetings, scientific conferences, workshops and symposia.

The Parties will collaborate by a reciprocal exchange of experts, visits by delegations and by promoting the attendance of specialists to scientific meetings and conferences organized by both Parties.

#### **Article 4**

The Parties will set up a joint coordination and monitoring committee, whose aim is to evaluate the priorities under the framework of collaboration of the present Memorandum, also by preparing Activity Plans for the collaboration in the field of health and medical sciences, and periodically update the two Ministries on the development of the collaboration. The committee will meet as agreed by the Parties, but in any case, no more than once a year, and may be assisted by experts in different fields appointed by both Parties.

In order to evaluate cooperation under this MOU, the Parties will hold annual meetings of joint monitoring and coordination committee members, participating in such cooperative activities, alternately, in Italy and in Palestine.

Participants may consider other opportunities for more frequent consultations and other ways of cooperation within their respective authorities in forms and directions not specified in this MOU.



## **Article 5**

All activities undertaken pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding will be carried out compatibly with current financial resources available in the budgets of both Parties, in full compliance with the laws and legislation in force in both countries and respecting international obligations mutually endorsed and those arising from Italy's membership of the European Union.

As for purposes referred to in article 3, travelling and accommodation expenses concerning the exchange of experts, the official visits of delegations and the attendance of experts to scientific meetings and conferences shall be charged to the Parties.

Without prejudice to the provisions of the present Article, any exceptions shall be evaluated each time depending on the availability of the Parties.

## **Article 6**

Cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding will be funded on the basis of separate arrangements between the Parties, utilizing financial resources available to them.

## **Article 7**

The Parties intend to resolve any differences of opinion arising in the course of implementation of this Memorandum by mutual consent through consultations and negotiations.

## **Article 8**

This Memorandum of Understanding shall become effective one month after the date of signature and shall be effective for five (5) years, and shall automatically be extended for additional periods of five years each, unless terminated by either Party giving at least six months prior written notice to the other Party of its intention to terminate the Memorandum of Understanding.

The termination of the Memorandum does not imply the interruption of any ongoing activities. This MOU may be modified at any time by mutual written consent of the Parties.



This Memorandum of Understanding is signed in Milan, on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2015, in the English language, in two originals.

**The Minister of Health of the Italian Republic**

**Beatrice Lorenzin**



**The Minister of Health of Palestine**

**Jawad Awwad**

