

**IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME
OF THE PLAN OF ACTION ON HEALTH COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC
AND
THE NATIONAL HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING
COMMISSION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

PREAMBLE

The Ministry of Health of the Italian Republic and The National Health and Family Planning Commission of the People's Republic of China and (hereinafter referred to as "the PARTIES"), holding the principle of mutual benefit and considering the respective needs and assets, have agreed to implement the following activities, within the framework of the Plan of Action 2016-2018 signed in Beijing on 28th January 2016.

ARTICLE I

(COOPERATIVE AIMS and IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS)

This *Implementation Programme* aims at regulating the activities foreseen in the Plan of Action for years 2016-2018, signed in Beijing on 28th January 2016.

The PARTIES will strengthen their cooperation in the health sector focusing on two technical and clinical areas(1 and 2 below) and one strategic area with a system perspective (3 below) mobilizing respective IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS (hereinafter referred to as “the IPs”) for follow-up and operations. The IPs will work in close collaboration and under the constant supervision of the PARTIES in the following areas:

1. Cancer prevention, treatment and rehabilitation:
 - a. The Chinese side indicates the National Cancer Centre, Beijing, as the implementing partner
 - b. The Italian side indicates the network Alleanza contro il Cancro and its associated Cancer Institutes as the implementing partner
2. Cardiovascular diseases prevention, treatment and rehabilitation:
 - a. The Chinese side indicates the National Centre for Cardiovascular Diseases, as the implementing partner
 - b. The Italian side indicates GISE, the Italian National Society for Interventional Cardiology as the implementing partner

3. Primary Health Care and general practice:

- a. The Chinese side indicates the China National Health Development Research Center as the implementing partner
- b. The Italian side indicates the Agenzia Nazionale per i Servizi Sanitari Regionali (AGENAS), with collaborating national scientific societies Società Italiana di Medicina Generale (SIMG) and Federazione Italiana di Medicina Generale (FIMG) as the implementing partners. The Italian IPs will also liaise with FNOM (the Italian federation of medical boards) and IPASVI (the National Nursing College).

ARTICLE II

(COOPERATION AREAS and CONTENTS)

1. In Area 1 (cancer) the IPs will:

- a. Develop joint laboratories and joint clinical activities aiming at precision medicine and surgery based on current scientific evidence and at drafting and implementing relevant specific guidelines
- b. Develop and support prevention campaigns, policies and actions aiming at mitigating major risk factors such as smoking, environmental pollution, alcohol abuse, hepatitis viruses circulation in the general population and in high risk groups
- c. Develop and support cancer registries and screening campaigns aiming at developing a shared full epidemiologic and economics capacity, driving priority design, specific interventions and related resources allocation, and monitoring and evaluation procedures
- d. Conduct basic research, clinical trials, pathway and related pilot studies as required and agreed within a yearly specific collaborative plan. A specific focus will be on innovative drugs and their implications and foreseen impact on health systems as well as study on technology and strategy of early prevention and control.
- e. Conduct joint training and capacity building activities for GPs, specialists and other relevant stakeholders from the health and other key sectors

2. In Area 2 (cardiovascular diseases) the IPs will:

- a. Develop joint laboratories and joint clinical activities aiming at precision medicine and surgery based on current scientific evidence and at drafting and implementing relevant specific guidelines
- b. Develop and support prevention campaigns, policies and actions aiming at mitigating major risk factors such as smoking, environmental pollution, alcohol abuse, unhealthy diets and obesity, and sedentary lifestyle in the general population and in high risk groups, particularly children and adolescents
- c. Develop and support screening campaigns aiming at developing a shared full epidemiologic and economics capacity, driving priority design, specific interventions and related resources allocation, and monitoring and evaluation procedures
- d. Conduct trials, experiments and pilot studies as required and agreed within a yearly specific collaborative plan
- e. Conduct joint training and capacity building activities for GPs, specialists and other relevant stakeholders from the health and other key sectors

3. In Area 3 (primary health care) the IPs will

- a. Establish a joint Sino-Italian PHC Institute, developing a comprehensive plan detailing its structure, governance and main lines of action
- b. Identify and implement a comprehensive information system, with stand-alone and web-based applications aiming at ensuring and strengthening technology transfer between Italy

- and China and the full implementation of a country wide PHC system, with a related referral system, with the agreement of the IPs
- c. Draft a research agenda on PHC development in China and implement PHC prototypes in selected Provinces and urban areas in due course confirmed by the PARTIES
 - d. Draft policy papers, research papers, policy briefs, reports and conference proceedings according to priorities jointly set forth.
 - e. Develop a training agenda for GPs' recruitment, capacity building, deployment, supervision, support
 - f. Elaborate a possible plan on task shifting and redistribution of patient management responsibilities involving the nursing sector
 - g. Organize academic conferences, workshops, seminars on PHC
 - h. The PARTIES will ensure high level joint participation in the Institute governance bodies and provide financial support according to resources available as specified in Art. IV.

ARTICLE III

(EXPERIENCE EXCHANGE)

The IPs in each above area will develop a joint plan, aiming at identifying priority areas of work, modalities, resources, possible intellectual property implications (that will be regulated under local laws) and expected results. The IPs will promote visits by stakeholders, professionals, delegations from administrations and institutes to learn and exchange experience in China or in Italy. The PARTIES will provide assistance in related procedures and local study and logistics for the delegations. The delegations will cover the international travel expenses and charges incurred.

ARTICLE IV

(FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS)

The activities will be implemented according to funds available in the two PARTIES' respective budgets. The invited non-business organizations can participate in the activities as agreed upon by the IPs and foreseen in the detailed joint plan set forth per Art. III. Business organizations may support programme activities, by making complementary funding available to the IPs and mobilizing their own resources and assets, provide they comply with ethical requirements and have no current and future conflict of interest. Their participation is subject to specific MoU signed by all the interested parties and cleared by the present agreement focal points.

ARTICLE V

(COME INTO EFFECT, AMENDMENT AND SUPPLEMENT)

This Programme shall produce its effects from the date of the last signature and shall remain

effective for a period of three years, subject to renewal by mutual agreement and exchange of letters between the PARTIES.

This Programme may be amended and supplemented by mutual written consent of the PARTIES, according to the IPs' proposal and requests. This Programme may be integrated or may be followed by specific operational protocols as agreed upon by the PARTIES.

The PARTIES indicate as the focal point for reporting the Department of International Cooperation for the NHFPC of PRC and the Chief Medical Officer's office of the Ministry of Health of the Italian Republic. The designated focal points will draft a joint annual report addressing achievements, challenges, and constraints and updating priority areas.

The PARTIES will assess the programme implementation every year by convening a joint stakeholders' conference to be held in the form agreed by the PARTIES in China or in Italy.

The provisions of this programme shall be implemented in accordance with the respective national legislations and in conformity with international obligations and, as regards Italy, the obligations arising from its membership of the European Union.

Signed in Beijing on 22nd February 2017, this programme is drafted in duplicate in the Italian, Chinese, and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence on the interpretation of this plan, the English text shall prevail.

MINISTER
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION ON BEHALF OF
MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF THE
ITALIAN REPUBLIC

Angelino Alfano

MINISTER
THE NATIONAL HEALTH AND
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CHINA

Li Bin

FOR

THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC
