

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC
AND
THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL INDUSTRY
OF TURKMENISTAN
ON THE COLLABORATION IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SCIENCES**

The Ministry of Health of the Italian Republic and the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry of Turkmenistan, hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”;

guided by the willingness to develop, within the areas of their own competence, a fruitful collaboration in the field of health and medical sciences,

AGREE as follows:

Article 1

The Parties, within the limits of their own competence, will develop the collaboration in the field of health and medical sciences based on the principles of reciprocity and equality.

Article 2

The Parties will collaborate in the following areas:

- protection of maternal and child health, including reproductive health;
- prevention, diagnosis and treatment of non-communicable diseases with special regard to cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, chronic diseases of the respiratory and digestive tract;
- primary prevention and health promotion, with special regard to lifestyles, including correct nutritional choices;
- substance addiction: tobacco, drugs, alcohol;
- exchange of best practices and guidelines for food safety with particular reference to the areas of collective and hospital catering and the containment of food waste;
- exchange of information about basic health care and epidemiological surveillance against infectious diseases (in particular: tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, hepatitis), including preparatory and response measures to pandemic outbreaks;
- assistance and collaboration in the field of pharmaceuticals and medical devices;
- other areas and forms of collaboration may be developed by mutual agreement between the Parties.

Article 3

The collaboration between the Parties will be implemented in the following ways:

- exchange of experiences on activities considered as priorities by the Parties, including exchange of views and experts;
- exchange of information and documentation;
- promotion of contacts between Italian and Turkmen institutions, hospitals and organizations operating in the health sector;
- exchange of delegations and health personnel;
- meetings, seminars, conferences and other activities on issues previously agreed upon by the Parties;
- exchange of experiences in the elaboration of guidelines for hospital and collective catering;
- any other methods of collaboration agreed upon by the Parties.

Article 4

To implement this Memorandum of Understanding, the Parties may adopt Action Plans on health and nutrition aimed at detailing the activities to be undertaken.

Article 5

The Parties will set up a monitoring and coordination Joint Committee directed both to consider priorities in the collaboration framework, also through the elaboration of Action Plans, and to keep the Parties periodically informed on the progress of the collaboration itself.

The Commission will be composed of at least three members for each Party and will be chaired by two high-level officials, one for each Party.

The Commission will meet no more than once a year, unless otherwise decided, and may be supported by experts in the different disciplines appointed by the Parties.

Article 6

The activities under this Memorandum of Understanding will be implemented by the Parties within the limits of the respective financial resources without additional charges for the ordinary budgets of the Italian Republic and Turkmenistan. Travel and subsistence expenses will be borne by the Parties within their respective jurisdiction.

Article 7

This Memorandum is applied in full compliance with the laws and regulations in force in the respective countries, as well as in compliance with international obligations and with those deriving from Italy's membership of the European Union.

The possible health activities related to the activities undertaken will be carried out in compliance with the laws and regulations governing the practice of medical profession and non-medical health professions in the host Country.

The Parties will collaborate on a basis of equality, mutual benefit, sharing of results.

Article 8

The Parties may amend this Memorandum in writing by mutual agreement.

Any divergence in the interpretation and / or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding will be resolved through friendly consultations and direct negotiations between the Parties.

Article 9

This Memorandum of Understanding shall become effective on the date of signature.

This Memorandum shall remain effective for a period of five (5) years and will be automatically extended for further periods of equal duration, unless one of the Parties notifies the other of its intention to terminate it with a minimum of six (6) months notice. The waiver of this Memorandum of Understanding does not affect ongoing projects.

Done in Rome on November 7th 2019, in two originals in Italian, Turkmen and English languages, each text being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

The Minister of Health
of the Italian Republic

Roberto Speranza

The Minister of Health and Medical
Industry of Turkmenistan

Nurmuhammet Amannepesov