PROGRAMME

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE FOR THE PERIOD 2018-2022

The Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria (hereinafter referred as 'The Parties')

- -based on the provisions of the Agreement signed on April 25, 1994 on Cooperation in the field of Education, Culture and Science between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria;
- -guided by the desire for further development and strengthening of existing traditional friendly relations between the people of both countries;
- -willing to develop and deepen the cooperation in the fields of Education and Science have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Parties agree upon this Programme to cooperate in the fields of education and science in compliance with their national legislation and norms of International Law.

Article 2

The institutions responsible for the Programme are:

On behalf of Bulgarian side: Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria.

On behalf of Armenian side: Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 3

The Parties shall ensure the exchange of the necessary information on the structure, content and organization of educational systems, as well as educational and scientific organizations with the aim of increasing the efficiency of the cooperation in the field of education.

Article 4

The parties shall implement exchange of educational programmes on all levels of education, as well as shall support the development and implementation of joint educational programmes.

Articles 5

With the aim of reinforcing interschool relations the Parties shall encourage the implementation of pupil exchange programmes, as well as will initiate experience share in the field of secondary and preschool educations. To this end for the period of up to 10 days the Parties shall exchange 2 teachers from preschool education and 2 teachers from the secondary education system. The details shall be specified through diplomatic channels.

Article 6

The Parties shall support the establishment and development of direct links between the universities and research organizations of both countries in accordance with bilateral agreements signed between these organizations.

Article 7

Both Parties each year shall exchange on a reciprocal basis:

- Up to 4 student scholarships for a full term of education for a bachelor or master degree;
- Fellowships with total quota of 12 months for postgraduate education, specialization or research work of postgraduate students, lecturers and researchers with duration no less than one month.

All details shall be specified through diplomatic channels.

Article 8

The Parties shall test the language knowledge of the students, postgraduates and the researchers sent to study in the respective country. It is mandatory that postgraduates and researchers participating in this Programme be fluent at least in one foreign language (Russian or English). The proposed applicants for student scholarships, who have no proficiency in the language of the respective countries, shall be provided a specialized language teaching at no cost at the Departments for language teaching of the respective universities before the beginning of his/her professional education.

Article 9

Students of both Parties, who have received scholarship, shall not be allowed to change their specialty without the permission of the authorized body from his/her country.

Article 10

The receiving Party shall provide to the persons who have received scholarships on the ground of Article 7 the following:

- exemption of tuition fee;
- scholarship in accordance with the national legislation of the Receiving Party;
- accommodation in student hostel in accordance with the national legislation of the Receiving Party;
- food in student hostel under subsidies by the state conditions in accordance with the national legislation of the Receiving Party;
- medical care in accordance with the national legislation of the Receiving Party:
- access to libraries, archives, laboratories, etc.

The travel expenses to and from the capital city of the Receiving Party as well as the medical insurance shall be covered by the sending country or the candidate. The internal travel expenses related to the execution of the working programme shall be covered by the Receiving Party.

The documents of the candidates proposed for the education under Article 7 should be received by the relevant institutions of both countries not later than month of May every year and the details shall be specified through diplomatic channels.

Article 11

The Parties shall support the teaching of subjects, related to Bulgarian and Armenian languages and literatures in their universities and shall cooperate on sending lecturers in Bulgarian language and literature and Armenian language and literature in the universities of both Parties, in case the exchange in question is required and possible.

Article 12

In case of exchange of lecturers the Receiving Party through the universities shall provide:

- monthly salary in accordance with the effective legal provisions of the receiving country;
- accommodation in furnished lodging;
- medical care in accordance with the national legislation of the Receiving Party.

The travel expenses to and from the capital city of the Receiving Party as well as the medical insurance shall be covered by the sending country or the lecturer. The internal

Article 22

Any disputes arising between the Parties in connection with interpretation or application of the current Programme shall be settled through negotiations and consultations.

Article 23

This Programme shall enter into force upon the date of signing and shall be valid until signing of a new Programme which shall repeal this Programme.

This Programme revokes the Programme between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria on cooperation in the field of Education and Science for the period 2009 - 2012, but the implementation of the joint initiatives and education activities in process shall continue until their completion.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA