



APISA

CLACSO

CODESRIA

South-South Collaboration in Research, Training, Publishing and Dissemination

Memorandum of Understanding

Preamble:

With the objective of reviving cooperation and collaboration among scholars of the global South working in the broad field of the social sciences, and in order to sustain this cooperation and collaboration as a long-term initiative that would be capable not only of deepening intra-South networking but also contributing to the transformation of the Social Sciences on a global scale, APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA, acting as lead institutions on behalf of a group of other institutions drawn from across Africa, Asia, and Latin America hereby establish this Memorandum of Understanding to govern their relations as the three lead institutions responsible for the advancement of the South-South cooperation and collaboration over the period 2005 – 2007.

Articles:

- i) As the lead institutions responsible for managing the portfolio of programmes defined by a group of institutions drawn from across the South that have a declared interest in advancing the frontiers of South-South scientific cooperation and collaboration, APISA, CLACSO, and CODESRIA undertake to carry out the mandate that has been entrusted to them with diligence and a shared sense of purpose. To this end, in addition to the heads of their secretariats, they will also designate a support staff at an appropriate level of seniority who will serve as an additional institutional focal point for all matters connected to their collaboration;

- ii) As necessary, APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA will ensure that the multi-faceted programme of South-South collaboration which they are leading jointly is fully and unambiguously endorsed by their governing organs, including their Executive/Scientific Committees, as a further strategy for institutionalising and anchoring the programme;
- iii) The three coordinating institutions commit themselves to the development and integration of South-South components into the flagship activities which they carry out in their institutions, doing so with a view to consolidating a practice which they have already started of reaching out to researchers from other regions of the global South. They also commit themselves to mutually assisting one another in identifying relevant resource persons who could help animate such South-South components at the highest possible level of quality;
- iv) APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA also commit themselves to publicising the South-South collaborative programme using all institutional means available to them, including their respective websites which they will also link to one another;
- v) Proposals for the funding of the South-South collaboration will be developed by APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA on behalf of the network of cooperating institutions that are stakeholders in the programme and in the spirit of promoting deeper South-South relations. All proposals will be the object of an explicit exchange of views and agreement among the three lead institutions prior to their submission to potential funders. When submitted, proposals will also be presented in the name of the three lead institutions and the network of other cooperating institutions that they represent;
- vi) APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA commit themselves to managing relations among themselves, and on behalf of the network of institutions in whose name they are exercising a lead role in developing and implementing various South-South collaborative initiatives at the highest standards of transparency, mutual accountability, and shared responsibility;
- vii) APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA, as lead institutions for the South-South collaborative programme will meet in a formal session at least once a year to review the state of their collaboration. They commit themselves to ensuring that their institutions are represented at the highest level of management in the annual review meetings that are organised. They also commit to share the results of their meeting with all of the other institutions that are part of the South-South initiative, doing so as part of the regular briefing on progress made and challenges encountered that they have undertaken to offer to the institutions;

- viii) APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA will jointly issue publications and proceedings arising from the South-South research, training, publications and dissemination projects and programmes that link them together, doing so in ways that underscore the unique nature of the cooperation and collaboration which they are privileged to lead;
- ix) For the purpose of activities that will be undertaken over the period 2005 – 2007, APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA agree that CLACSO shall exercise overall coordinating responsibilities on their behalf, in addition to the lead role it will exercise in Latin America and the Caribbean; APISA, for its part, will play the lead role in Asia while CODESRIA will have lead responsibility in Africa. As lead institutions, APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA will do their utmost to ensure that other institutions in their regions are both carried along in the development and implementation of programmes of South-South collaboration for which they are responsible. They will also ensure that the international advisory team for the South-South collaborative programme is regularly briefed on the progress of the initiative;
- x) APISA, CLACSO, and CODESRIA commit themselves to ensuring that all researchers wishing to participate in the programme of South-South cooperation and collaboration which they are leading are given a fair chance to do so. For this purpose, all activities to be carried out will be the objects of an open call for applications which will also be widely disseminated;
- xi) In the implementation of projects supported by specific funders, APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA agree to designate one from among themselves to be the signatory on the contract on their behalf, it being understood that this administrative exigency adopted for the purpose of ensuring the progress of the South-South collaborative project does not obviate the importance of joint leadership in the development of projects and programmes;
- xii) For the purpose of funding that has been requested from Sida/SAREC of Sweden, APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA agree that:
 - a) CLACSO shall act on their behalf as the signatory to the funding contract issued by Sida/SAREC;
 - b) CLACSO will share a copy of the signed contract with them for their own institutional records;
 - c) CLACSO will issue sub-contracts to them on the basis of which funds will be transferred for the implementation of the activities for which they would be exercising lead responsibility;
 - d) APISA and CODESRIA will render full account, including originals of all relevant documentation, for the funds which they receive for the implementation of the activities for which they exercise lead responsibility;

- e) CLACSO will discuss all narrative and financial reports which it is required to present under the contract with Sida/SAREC prior to finalising them for submission;
 - f) APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA will share primary responsibility and credit for the scientific products emanating from projects and activities undertaken with Sida/SAREC funding in line with Article 8 of this Memorandum.
- xiii) This Memorandum shall come into force on 01 January, 2005 and remain valid until 30 June 2008;
- xiv) APISA, CLACSO and CODESRIA agree to settle any disagreements arising among themselves in the implementation of the South-South programme of cooperation and collaboration through discussions and negotiations. Where these fail, they agree jointly to designate an arbitrator whose conclusions will be binding on all of them.



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