MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between
the UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education
(hereinafter referred to as "UNESCO IITE")
and
the   UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs, operating in the field of ICTs in education
(hereinafter referred to as UNESCO Chairs)
and
the Universities, with a plan to establish new UNESCO chairs, operating in the field of ICTs in education (hereinafter referred to as the Universities),

hereinafter referred to as the Parties,

Seeking to promote accessibility and quality of education, to conduct the research in major domains of education, to produce and disseminate knowledge and actively contribute to the development of their respective fields at national, regional and international levels and to act in close cooperation and coordination on matters of mutual interest within the scope of the joint activities in the field of ICTs in education

Considering that the mission of the UNESCO IITE is to serve as a centre of excellence and provider of technical support and expertise in the field of ICTs in education for member-states of UNESCO;

Considering that UNESCO, through its position as an observer and in its role as a catalyst, encourage to become poles of excellence and innovation that are actively involved in teacher education, the training of educational researchers and administrators;

Bearing in mind that UNESCO IITE's and UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs' as well as Universities' field of competence and responsibilities conferred upon them in those fields;

With a view to establishing of a network of the UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs working in the field of ICTs in education,

have agreed to the following:

1. The parties stand on the basis that the establishing of a network of the UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs, operating in the field of ICTs in education corresponds with their interests.

2. The main objectives of cooperation are the following:

2.1. to promote an integrated system of research, training, information and documentation activities in the field of ICTs application in education and innovative educational technologies addressing issues of academic capacity, quality of education and competency;

2.2. to establish a database of educational data and resources for sharing within and outside the network, facilitating North-South, South-South and intra-regional cooperation;

2.3. to enhance mechanisms of interaction with the UNESCO associated schools, taking into consideration the corresponding decisions approved by the International Conference of UNESCO IITE and UNESCO Associated Schools held in Kazan, Russian Federation, on April 26-27, 2011 ;

2.4. to develop cooperation with international, regional and national committees of UNESCO programmes, in particular those set up for implementation of such programmes as "Information for All" and "Memory of the World";

2.5. to establish a forum for discussion and debate on trends and developments, facilitated by the network partners, including IT companies and training centers, NGOs, public bodies and professional agencies;

2.6. to set-up a mechanism for the exchange of ideas, skills, resources, and good practice, including staff exchange for skills and capacity-building outcomes. These activities will also seek to promote gender equality and empower women academics and scientists in collaborative research and policy development;

2.7. to foster international collaborative research, policy synthesis and strategic development with a particular focus on international development issues and sustainable development policies; and,

2.8. to exchange regularly by information on all matters, referred to in Article 2 and to inform each other on relevant programmes and activities.

3. The network under creation represents a structure open for participation the concerned educational establishments which voiced their agreement with goals and tasks laid down in the Memorandum.

4. Realization of mutual projects and joint activities will be regulated by detached agreements or contracts. The parties may agree upon such complementary arrangements as they may find suitable in the light of experience in order to improve or develop a particular aspect of their cooperation. They may also introduce any such modification or amendment as they deem necessary to the provisions of this *Memorandum of Understanding.*

5. This *Memorandum of Understanding* shall remain in force unless terminated by any party by sixty days' written notice to the other Party. In case of termination of this Memorandum, the Parties will ensure that implementation of ongoing projects and programmes shall not be affected by the termination and shall be brought to completion.

6. This *Memorandum of Understanding* shall take effects as of the date of its signature.

This *Memorandum of Understanding* doesn't endorse any juridical obligations. It has been signed in Saint-Petersburg, Russian Federation in 22 original copies in English, all of them being equally authentic.

For the UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education
Mr. Alexander KHOROSHILOV

For the UNESCO Chair on Distance Education in Engineering, State University of Aerospace Instrumentation, Russian Federation
Mr. Anatoly OVODENKO

For the UNESCO Chair of Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia, Russian Federation
Mr. Gennady BORDOVSKY

For the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, Russian Federation
Mr. Oleg IGNATIEV

For the Belarussian Maksim Tank State Pedagogical University, Belarus
Mr. Peter KUKHARCHIK

For the UNESCO Chair in Automated Information Technologies, Samarkand Institute of Economic and Service, Uzbekistan
Mr. Nodir ZAYNALOV

For the UNESCO Chair in Informatics for the Humanities, Institute of Mathematics and Informatics Vilnus University, Lithuania
Ms. Nerute KLIGIENE

For the Ukraine Institute for Information Technologies in Education, National Technical University of Ukraine «Kiev Polytechnic Institute», Ukraine
Ms. Inna MALIUKOVA

For the UNESCO Chair on Cooperation between Higher Engineering Education and Industries, Tsinghua University, China
Mr. Hsueh-Yung KOO

For the State University of Library Studies and Information Technologies, **Bulgaria**
Mr. Roumen NIKOLOV

For the State Engineering University of Armenia, Armenia
Mr. Beniamin JANPOLADYAN

For the UNESCO Chair on Educational Science and Teacher Training of KazNPU n.a. Abai, Kazakhstan
Mr. Gennady SELYUTIN

For the UNESCO Chair in Training and Retraining of Specialists under Market Economy Conditions of TISBI University, Russian Federation
Mr. Dmitry POLYAKOV

For the Moscow State University of Psychology and Education, Russian Federation
Ms. Galina GABUNIA

For the Computers Center, Azerbaijan State Pedagogical University, Azerbaijan
Mr. Ilham AHMEDOV

For the UNESCO Chair in Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) in Education for Sustainable Development, University of Crete, Greece
Mr. Vassilios MAKRAKIS

For the Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova (AESM), Moldova
Mr. Sergey OHRIMENCO

For the UNESCO Chair "Public service and management of social and economic processes", Russian Academy of Civil Service under the President of the Russian Federation, Russian Federation
Mr. Vladimir SILKIN

For the Bauman Moscow State Technical University (BMSTU) and Multivendor and Academic ICT Consortium, Russian Federation
Mr. Victor TIMOFEEV

For the Taiwan Group on Earth Observations, Taiwan
Mr. Yuei-An LIOU

For the Togliatty State University, Russian Federation
Mr. Pyotr ZIBROV

In witness of
the UNESCO Office in Moscow
Mr. Alisher UMAROV

and

the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO
Mr. Vladimir CHEREPANOV

Signed in Saint-Petersburg, Russian Federation on June 2, 2011