

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND  
AND  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY  
CONCERNING  
THE REALIZATION OF A VACCINE DEVELOPMENT CENTRE  
AT MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY, BANGKOK

The Government of the Kingdom of Thailand and the  
Government of the Republic of Italy ;

Within the framework of the Basic Agreement on  
Cooperation of February 10, 1983 ;

Desirous of strengthening existing bonds of friendship  
and mutual understanding and aware of the importance of the health  
sector for social and economic development ;

Convene to stipulate the present Memorandum of Under-  
standing for the realization of a modern Vaccine Development Center  
at Mahidol University, Bangkok hereinafter referred to as " the  
Centre " .

ARTICLE I

Disease prevention through Vaccination is considered a  
key activity for the promotion of health in the population of Thai-  
land where infectious diseases continue to exist. The current sta-  
tus of vaccination is considered unsatisfactory in Thailand because  
of an insufficient quantity of available products and the pressing

need for new vaccines to combat infectious diseases for which no effective control presently exists.

Vaccines are also required to combat recurrent veterinary diseases which are responsible for serious agricultural damage and consequent economic problems.

Antitoxins and antivenins for curative uses, especially in rural areas, are also considered urgently needed.

## ARTICLE II

The overall objective of the project is to realize a programme of research and production of vaccines and antitoxins to serve the needs of the Thai population in particular and those of other countries in Southeast Asia generally.

The specific objectives are, consequently :

2.1 To establish a centre for vaccine development at Mahidol University, Bangkok to carry out the aforementioned research and to implement a pilot plant for the production technology of new biological products. The Centre would have as its specific goals :

2.1.1 To conduct research into the perfection of existing vaccines against pertussis, rabies, diphtheria, tetanus, and antitoxins against snakebite poisoning, as well as the technology for their production on a large scale ;

2.1.2 To conduct research into and develop production of urgently required new vaccines against dengue fever, hepatitis and infant diarrhea caused by rotaviruses ;

2.1.3 To conduct research into and develop new veterinary vaccines against Marek disease, Camboro disease and duck plague ;

2.1.4 To conduct research into monoclonal antibodies, gene-engineering technology and new fields of immunology with a

view toward future development of biological products ;

2.1.5 To establish a pilot plant for the development of the production technology for the aforementioned vaccines and serums ;

2.2 To provide for the training of specialized personnel to meet the needs of both the research and production sides of the project, and

2.3 To establish a joint research programme, of interest to both the Thai and Italian counterparts, in the field of epidemiology of communicable disease with special reference to seroepidemiology of EPI diseases ( such as measles, tetanus and polio) and viral hepatitis.

#### ARTICLE III

The Government of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Government of the Republic of Italy agree that, for the realization of the project, it will be necessary to provide for :

3.1 The construction and maintenance of a compound on a suitable site in Mahidol University to hold both the research facilities and the pilot production plant as well as an administrative section ;

3.2 The equipment necessary to permit the Centre to reach its objectives as mentioned under ARTICLE II and

3.3 The upgrading of both the medical and technical personnel who will be involved in the running of the Centre's activities.

#### ARTICLE IV

4.1 The Government of the Kingdom of Thailand designates Mahidol University as the agency responsible for the implementation

of its obligations under this Memorandum of Understanding.

4.2 The Government of the Republic of Italy acknowledges its acceptance of the Sclavo as the organization responsible for the implementation under this Memorandum of Understanding.

#### ARTICLE V

The Government of the Republic of Italy will undertake to :

5.1 Provide for the purchase, shipment, installation, trial, maintenance assistance for 1 year of the equipment, detailed in the attached ANNEX 1,

5.2 Provide fellowships ( covering the cost of travel, accommodation and training) for 4 Thai technical personnel for 3 months each in specialized centres or universities in Italy ;

5.3 Send 4 experts to Bangkok, for 12 months each, to participate in the joint research programme (study design, data analysis, etc.) and provide appropriate resources for local needs of the joint research programme.

5.4 The total amount of the grant will be specified through Exchange of Notes after the contract between the Thai implementing agency and the appointed Italian company has been signed.

#### ARTICLE VI

The Government of the Kingdom of Thailand will undertake to :

6.1 Provide an adequate compound for the housing of the Centre at the Salaya Campus of Mahidol University, Bangkok. The compound will include laboratories, administrative facilities, deve-

lopment sections, a power building and an animal holding building and will cover an area of approximately 22.000 sq.m. ;

6.2 Cover the costs of running and maintaining the Centre (apart from equipment maintenance assistance as agreed under ARTICLE 5.1) and of the employment of specialized and non-specialized Thai personnel as necessary for the effective achievement of the afore-mentioned objectives of the Centre ;

6.3 Select technical personnel to be trained in Italian universities or specialized centres as mentioned under ARTICLE 5.2

6.4 Put at the disposition of Italian medical and technical experts access to non formal published data collected by Thai or international institutions and considered relevant by the said experts to the joint research project mentioned under ARTICLE 2.3 and to facilitate operations relative to the identification and investigation of population samples relevant to the research programme ;

6.5 Assure to the Italian experts working in Thailand for the execution of the project by ;

6.5.1 exempting the Italian experts from income taxes derived from their activities under the project.

6.5.2 exempting the Italian experts from customs duties on personal effects imported within six months after the first arrival of the experts in Thailand.

6.5.3 assisting the Italian experts and their dependents with respect to any necessary entry and exit visas, stay permits, and other documents required for their stay and services in Thailand.

6.6 Facilitate prompt clearance of any equipment, materials or supplies required for the services and of the personal effects of the Italian experts, except those banned for import.

6.7 Exempt from customs duties and taxes on the importation of the equipment, materials and supplies required for the implementation of the project.

6.8 Assist the Italian experts in accommodations arrangement at a reasonable cost to be borne by the Italian experts for the length of their stay in Thailand.

#### ARTICLE VII

The two Governments and their designated implementing organization (Mahidol University and Sclavo) shall ensure that this Memorandum of Understanding is carried out with due diligence and efficiency and each shall furnish the other with all information that may be considered necessary for the realization of the Centre.

#### ARTICLE VIII

8.1 The present Memorandum of Understanding will take effect at the moment of its signature, will remain valid until the completion of the activities therein described and will be considered protractable upon future agreement of both parties.

8.2 This Memorandum of Understanding which is stipulated in accordance with ARTICLE III of the Basic Agreement on Cooperation between the Kingdom of Thailand and the Republic of Italy is of a technical nature and is intended only to set out the administrative responsibility of the two Governments in relation to the carrying out of the work of the Centre within the framework of the above-mentioned Basic Agreement on Cooperation between the two countries.

8.3 This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended at any time with the mutual consent of both Governments by Exchange of letters.

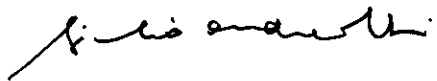
8.4 Any dispute arising out of the interpretation or imple

mentation of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably by consultation or negotiation between the two Governments.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, have signed this Memorandum of Understanding.

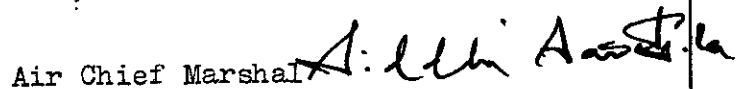
SIGNED in Bangkok on May 8th, 1986 in duplicate in the English language.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF ITALY



(Giulio Andreotti)  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
KINGDOM OF THAILAND



Air Chief Marshal  
(Siddhi Savetsila)  
Acting Deputy Prime Minister  
and  
Minister of Foreign Affairs