

27.

20 gennaio 1989, Bangkok

Memorandum d'intesa tra Italia e Thailandia
relativo al progetto «Centri regionali di scienze mediche», con allegati (1)

MEMORANDUM

The Government of the Republic of Italy and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand, hereforth indicated as the Italian Government and the Thai Government, 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 Understanding for the enhancement of the six regional laboratories of the Department of Medical Sciences of the Ministry of Public Health.

Article 1 Background

The Department of Medical Sciences was established in 1942 as a Department of the Ministry of Public Health. It is composed of ten divisions and six regional medical science laboratories located in Songkla, Chon Buri, Nakorn Ratchasima, Khon Kaen, Chiang Mai and Phitsanulok.

The Department plays a central role in disease prevention and health and environmental protection in Thailand.

The following are amongst the most important activities carried out by the six regional centres :

- 1) quality control of food, water and pharmaceutical preparations;
- 2) toxicological analysis of chemical products, cosmetics, toys, biological fluids and human tissue; and
- 3) supporting analysis, diagnosis and disease surveillance of provincial hospital laboratories.

Article 2 Objective of the project

The overall objective of the project is to reduce the morbidity and mortality caused by infectious diseases and environmental pollution in Thailand by the upgrading of the regional centres of medical sciences both in terms of staff qualifications and laboratory equipment.

(1) Entrata in vigore: 20 gennaio 1989.

Article 3 Means for achieving the objectives

The Thai Government and the Italian Government agree that, for the realization of the project, it will be necessary to provide for:

- 3.1 the training of laboratory management in advanced techniques of sampling and data evaluation;
- 3.2 the further specialization of Thai scientists in the following areas:
 - clinical microbiology
 - immunology
 - environmental toxicology and hygiene
 - analysis of pesticide residues of heavy metals in drugs, foods and environmental samples
 - analysis of veterinarian drugs in meat
 - food microbiology
 - biological and chemical analysis of drugs
 - data processing and statistical analysis
 - clinical toxicology and antipoison centre management
 - food additives and biotoxins;
- 3.3 The equipment and laboratory material necessary to permit the regional centres to reach their objective as mentioned under Article 2;
- 3.4 The training of Thai technical personnel in the use and maintenance of the laboratory equipment.

Article 4 Commitments of the Italian Government

The Italian Government will undertake to:

- 4.1 Provide for the purchase, shipment, installation and maintenance assistance for one year of the equipment, detailed in the attached Annex 1, necessary for the efficient operation of the 6 Regional Centres;
- 4.2 Provide laboratory material preparations, chemical substances, reagents and manuals of principal analytic methods necessary for the efficient operation of the regional Centres for the duration of the programme;

- 4.3 Host 10 administrative staff of Department of Medical Sciences in Italy (covering the cost of travel and accommodation) for two weeks each at the "Istituto Superiore della Sanita'" in Rome and peripheral structures of the national health service including 4 administrators from the Central Office of the Department of Medical Sciences and one Director of Regional Medical Sciences Centre from each of the 6 Regional Centres;
- 4.4 Provide fellowships (covering the cost of travel, accommodation and training) for 12 Thai scientists for 1 year each in specialized laboratories in major Italian Health Institutions;
- 4.5 Send 10 non-Thai experts (one for each sector mentioned in Article 3.2); the experts will stay 2 months/year for the period of 4 years and will also send 3 more persons for the total of 15 man/months for the period of 5 years; those experts will be :
- the Scientific Manager of Superior Institute of Health;
 - an expert for implementation and overhaul of equipment;
 - an expert in administrative aspects of planning and management of the programme.

Article 5 Commitments of the Thai Government

The Thai Government will undertake to:

- 5.1 Cover the cost of running and adequately maintaining the upgraded laboratories of the Regional Centres;
- 5.2 Install adequate systems of electrical stabilisers in all the Regional Centres necessary for the efficient functioning of the laboratory equipment;
- 5.3 Select scientists to be trained in Italian specialized laboratories and management personnel of the Department of Medical Sciences to be hosted at the "Istituto Superiore della Sanita'" for a two-weeks visit;
- 5.4 Assist the experts in accommodation arrangement at a reasonable cost to be borne by the experts for the length of their stay in Thailand;

- 5.5 Provide necessary assistance to the non-Thai experts and their dependents with respect to documents required for their stay and services in Thailand;
- 5.6 Exempt the non-Thai experts from income taxes derived from their activities under the programme; and
- 5.7 Exempt from customs duties and taxes on the importation of the equipment, materials and supplies required for the implementation of the project.

Article 6 : The Thai Government will indemnify the non-Thai experts against any civil claim arising from act or omission under this Memorandum of Understanding except where it is legally established under the Thai laws that such claims arise from gross negligence or wilful misconduct of agents of the Italian Government and of non-Thai experts.

Article 7 Effectiveness

- 7.1 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.
- 7.2 This Memorandum of Understanding which is stipulated in accordance with Article 3 of the Basic Agreement of Cooperation between the Kingdom of Thailand and the Republic of Italy of 10 February 1983 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 present programme within the framework of the above-mentioned Basic Agreement on cooperation between the two Countries.
- 7.3 This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended at any time with the mutual consent of both Governments by an exchange of letters.
- 7.4 Any difference arising out of the interpretation or implementation 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 January, Twenty, 1989, in duplicate in English language.

For the Government of
The Republic of Italy



Giorgio Vecchi
Ambassador of Italy

For the Government of
The Kingdom of Thailand



Wanchai Sirirattna
Director General
Department of Technical
and Economic Cooperation