AGREED MINUTES OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE SPANISH-JORDANIAN JOINT COMMISSION FOR CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Amman, April 24th, 2006

Pursuant to the Cultural, Scientific and Technical Cooperation Agreement between the Kingdom of Spain and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, signed in Amman on 21 January 1993, the fourth meeting of the Jordanian-Spanish Joint Commission for Technical, Scientific, Educational and Cultural Cooperation was held in Amman on April 24th, 2006, with the aim of developing and strengthening the excellent political, economic and cultural relations between both Parties.

The delegations of both Parties, whose list is enclosed as Annex I, were chaired as follows:

For the Spanish side, by H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos Cuyaubé, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

For the Jordanian side, by H.E. Mr. Sharif Al-Zoubi, Acting Minister of Planning and International Cooperation.

Both Parties have reviewed the state of affairs of bilateral technical, educational, scientific, and cultural cooperation and have assessed what has been carried out since the signing of the agreements reached by the Third Joint Commission. During this period, the total volume of Spanish non-reimbursable ODA has amounted to around 1,300,000 euros per year, and significant projects for health infrastructure, agricultural development and restoration of historical heritage have been implemented. The presence of an AECI expert at the Spanish Embassy in Amman since early 2004 has contributed toward the better management of these resources.
Both Parties have declared the need to avoid excessive spreading out of activities and to concentrate cooperation in projects likely to have a greater tangible effect on people’s development. Moreover, in view of the deficiencies observed in the formulation of some previous projects, and with the aim of monitoring them properly, both Parties commit to formulate them adequately, using as a reference a widely-accepted methodology such as the Logical Framework Approach.

Having verified the scant participation of Spanish Non Government Organizations for Development (DNGO) in the execution of basic social needs projects in Jordan, the Spanish Party highlights the importance of the role played by the non-governmental sector in the whole of Spanish Cooperation, and requests the Jordanian Party to facilitate conditions to carry out their work properly in Jordan.

Both Parties express their firm will to continue to contribute to the common effort of building a Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, within the framework of the Barcelona Process and the European Union’s Neighbourhood Policy.

Both Parties also acknowledge as a common reference framework the United Nations Millennium Declaration and they commit to direct their development policy resolutely towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Therefore, both Parties consider the fight against poverty a priority objective for action; understanding poverty as the lack of opportunities and capacity to sustain a dignified lifestyle. This vision of poverty, which includes many aspects of human capacity (economic, human, political and socio-cultural aspects), is also embodied in the idea of sustainable human development promoted by the United Nations Development Programme.

Both Parties acknowledge the need to include gender mainstreaming in order to reduce poverty in all its dimensions and to maintain the balance of natural resources so as not to endanger future development.

The Spanish Party reports that the Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation (2005-2008), in line with Goal 8, sets out a quantitative and qualitative increase in Spanish ODA, which by the end of this period will reach 0.5% of its National Income.

The Master Plan includes Jordan in the category of “preferential country” within a region of priority interest for Spain, owing to its will to contribute to international peace-building efforts. For these countries, a Special Action Plan will be drawn up to identify the sectors and areas in which to concentrate aid, and to define the objectives and expected results of activities. This Plan, the drafting of which will begin in 2006, will outline a medium-term strategy that will take into account the agreements reached within the framework of this Joint Commission.
The Spanish Party declares its will to open, during 2006, an AECI Technical Cooperation Office in Amman, as proof of the commitment to strengthen cooperation relations between both countries.

In addition to its commitment to the MDGs, the Master Plan attaches particular importance to the principle of association to development strategies designed by national governments with their civil societies. In accordance with this principle, the negotiation of the contents of the present Joint Commission, as far as technical cooperation is concerned, has been carried out on the grounds of the identification of priority sectors and strategic objectives presented by the Jordanian Party (Annex III).

The proposals agreed by both Parties fall within the framework of this Joint Commission, which shall be applied to the 2006-2008 period, and the minutes of which are divided into three parts: first, Technical Cooperation, second, Education and Research, and third, Cultural Cooperation.

In addition to the projects and sectors identified in this document, both Parties reserve the possibility of examining any specific project presented by either Party through diplomatic channels which may be integrated within the common development strategy agreed upon between both countries.

PART ONE. TECHNICAL COOPERATION

1. Democratic Governance, Citizen Participation and Institutional Development

1.1. Support for Civil Society

Both Parties, following the objectives established in the National Agenda presented by H.M. King Abdullah, emphasize the need to promote an organized civil society that shall actively participate in the country's political and social life. Spanish Cooperation shall work, preferably through DNGOs, towards strengthening self-organization processes and empowerment, especially of the most vulnerable social sectors.

Specifically, and at the request of the Jordanian Party, support shall be given to projects that encourage the civil and political participation of young people, through education in democratic values towards a better understanding of concepts such as democracy, civil participation, rights and responsibilities, the role of the local community in politics, etc.

In the sphere of youth, both Parties shall promote the sharing of information and documentation, and cooperation between youth organizations from both countries. Proposals shall be made through diplomatic channels, and the general and financial conditions that may affect this cooperation will be agreed on a case-by-case basis,
between the Instituto de la Juventud (INJUVE) (Youth Institute) for the Spanish Party and the Higher Council for Youth and Sports for the Jordanian Party.

1.2. Development of an Administration at the Service of the Citizens and Good Management of Public Affairs

Both Parties, aware of the importance of strengthening local administrations as basic institutions for implementing local development policies, shall promote technical assistance actions to generate political and technical capacity in local institutions. The Spanish Party shall make available to the Jordanian party its proven experience in this field.

With the aim of assisting the development of a modern and efficient public administration, at the citizens’ service and transparent in its management, the Spanish Party offers technical training to civil servants from Arab countries in the sphere of public administration.

2. Covering Social Needs

2.1. Comprehensive Local Development

Within the framework of its Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Jordanian Government has identified regions with pockets of poverty, which require comprehensive public action at a local level in order to cover the population’s basic needs, from work to access to education and health services, including the improvement of their housing conditions.

The Spanish Party declares its will to collaborate, together with other donor countries, towards achieving this national goal of reducing poverty, by funding some of these local development projects, mainly through Spanish NGOs and their Jordanian counterparts.

The Jordanian side emphasizes the importance to collaborate in terms of experience sharing with regard to social research and studies, juveniles, regional development and encouraging cooperation between Spanish and Jordanian institutions working in the social sector.

2.2. Health

Among all the basic needs, health is a fundamental human right and a key factor for a dignified life. Spanish Cooperation has as a priority the reinforcement of public health care systems with the basic goal of reducing the morbidity and mortality of mothers and children and to reverse the incidence of preventable and neglected diseases.

At the request of the Jordanian Party, the Foundation for Cooperation and International Health Carlos III (FCSAI) of the Spanish Ministry of Health, in close
coordination with its Jordanian counterparts, will carry out a technical mission in order to identify needs and formulate a cooperation project with the objective of strengthening the Jordanian public health sector, through specialised management courses for hospital nurses, managers and directors.

2.3. Protection of the Most Vulnerable Groups

Both Parties stress the particular attention that must be given to those sectors of the population in the most vulnerable situations and who are undergoing the most severe processes of social exclusion and marginalization. These groups include disabled persons.

Spanish Cooperation shall support the action of Spanish DNGOs working with their local counterparts to achieve the family, educational, social and labour integration of disabled people. Support will be given to actions aimed at providing educational opportunities in the broadest sense to people in these groups, by developing infrastructure, community services and educational programmes. Due attention will also be paid to reinforcing the capacities of the competent public bodies.

3. Economic Growth

3.1 Promotion of the Economic and Business Fabric

Sustainable economic development depends on the existence of a dynamic private sector. Spanish Cooperation shall support public policies aimed at improving the regulatory framework and obtaining a strong and adequate economic fabric, where micro and small businesses and social economy businesses play a significant role.

At the request of the Jordanian Party, consideration will be given to the possibility of contributing towards the reform and restructuring of the cooperative sector in Jordan. Moreover, both Parties shall seek a means to unblock the productive capability of the Al Andalus dairy, which belongs to the Irbid farmers’ cooperative. This project, whose support was established in the 2nd Joint Commission, has not produced until now the expected results.

Special attention will be paid to sustainable tourism, because of the high economic potential of this sector and because its development must be sustainable and compatible with the conservation of natural resources. This development will be tackled, in particular, through the preservation and enhancement of Jordanian historical heritage aimed at cultural tourism (paragraph 3 of the third part of these Minutes) and through specific training in the framework of the Azahar Programme (paragraph 4 of the first part of these Minutes).
3.2 Support for Micro and Small Business and for Social Economy Business

The Spanish Agency for International Cooperation has carried out a preliminary study to analyze possibilities for action in Jordan in the field of microfinance, through the Microcredit Fund (Fondo para la Concesión de Micrecréditos, FCM).

This study has revealed that the sector is at an interesting development stage, especially as regards the creation of an adequate context to carry out microfinancial activities.

Microfinancing is fairly new in Jordan and it is still at an early stage of development, which is reflected in a moderate level of activity as compared with other countries in the region. Nevertheless, the sector is evolving favourably and industry is growing at a reasonable rate.

The possibility of a future action by the FCM in the country cannot be ruled out, and will be decided when appropriate. Such action would stem from the Fund’s usual procedure, which implies carrying out a diagnostic mission in microfinance in the country, leading to a Proposal for Action and the identification of potential counterparts in financial (via loans) and/or technical cooperation. In the former case, interest and institutional capacity to incur debts in foreign currency will be especially important.

4. Sustainable Development

Both Parties give great importance to the protection of the environment as a key factor towards achieving sustainable development, and have expressed their satisfaction at the implementation of the Azahar Programme.

The Azahar Programme is a development cooperation programme in the Mediterranean for matters related to sustainable development, protection of the environment and conservation of natural resources. Its aim is to coordinate the efforts of all Spanish public and private cooperation agents in these matters in the Mediterranean area. In addition to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, through the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECI), five Ministries (Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; Environment; Economy and Finance; Education and Science; and Industry, Tourism and Trade), ten Regions (Andalucía, Asturias, Canarias, Castilla-La Mancha, Cataluña, Baleares, Madrid, Murcia, Navarra y Valencia), and the Confederation of Cooperation and Solidarity Funds (local Administration), belong to the Azahar Programme. They will work with Jordanian Ministries such as Agriculture, Water, Energy, Environment and Rural Affairs, as well as with the Greater Amman Municipality to support the aforementioned fields.
4.1. Institutional Building in Environmental Management Issues

Spanish Cooperation shall support the designing of Strategies or Plans for the sustainable management of natural resources, especially of water. At the request of the Jordanian Party, it shall provide technical assistance in the drawing up of an Environmental Management Plan for the Zarqa River Basin, with the aim of alleviating the pressures it is undergoing.

4.2. Sustainable Management of Natural Resources (Water and Soil)

Both parties shall continue working in water conservation and in the improvement of the water use efficiency, as well as in soil erosion control, in order to prevent desertification in vulnerable areas.

4.3. Environmental Training and Education

The Spanish Party shall study the Jordanian proposal of a Centre for Environmental Education and Awareness in Zarqa, whose aim is raising the awareness of the population regarding the importance of respectful behaviour towards the environment, and regarding the worth of Jordanian natural resources.

4.4 Advanced Seminars

The Jordanian Party expresses its satisfaction at the organisation of the Advanced Seminars taking place within the framework of the Azahar Programme with the participation of a growing number of Jordanian experts. The Spanish Party provides information on the programme prepared for future seminars.

The Spanish Party reports that, within the framework of the Azahar Programme, the AECI has organized an Advanced Seminar on “Comprehensive education for the tourism management of natural and cultural resources”, applied to the site of Petra (Jordan), co-funded with the Region of Valencia, which will be carried out during the present year. The Hashemite and Yarmouk Universities in Jordan participate in this activity.

5. Gender and Development

The commitment to increase women’s capacity and empowerment, set out in the Spanish Cooperation Master Plan, pays particular attention to defending women’s and girls’ rights and safety, especially concerning gender violence at all levels.

In this field, work will be carried out to strengthen the institutional capacity of the government and of civil institutions to prevent and deal with gender violence, understanding this as any act of violence based on gender differences and resulting in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering for women.
The Spanish Party reports that, with the aim of contributing to Arab women’s empowerment, the AECI has decided to provide financial support to the project for the promotion of women’s and children’s rights through access to information and the use of communication technologies, known as ICTDAR (Information and Communication Technology for Development in the Arab Region), formulated by UNDP.

The administrative provisions for origin of equipment and technical services are listed in Annex II.

PART TWO. EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

1. Cooperation in the Fields of Education and Research, and Relations between Institutions

Both Parties recognise the importance of education as one of the pillars of social and economic development.

With the aim of fostering mutual knowledge and strengthening their respective educational systems, both Parties declare their will to explore collaboration in educational projects of shared interest.

Both Parties shall continue to promote meetings between their respective educational authorities and institutions. They shall also foster relations between their respective Schools, Universities, specialized Institutes and teaching Institutions, and Research Centres.

2. Dissemination of Spanish Language and Culture

The Spanish Party, specifically the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science, wishing to promote the dissemination of the Spanish language and culture and to strengthen educational and cultural links with Jordan, offers its collaboration by supporting the creation of curricular projects and programmes designed to teach Spanish in Jordan.

3. Sharing Experience and Information on their Respective Education Systems

On request, both Parties shall exchange information, programmes, publications and textbooks, as well as audiovisual material, in order to facilitate mutual knowledge of their school systems, programmes and teaching methods, through diplomatic channels.

4. Exchange of Teachers, Researchers and Experts on Education Systems

Both Parties resolve to exchange annually two teachers, researchers and/or experts from the education administration, to establish contacts in order to further knowledge
of their respective educational systems and to share experience in these fields, as well as
to define educational research sectors of common interest and launch collaborations
between institutions for higher education and universities of both countries. The
duration of these visits shall not exceed fifteen days.

These visits shall be governed by the domestic regulations of Spain and Jordan
concerning exchanges of experts, which the Parties shall be informed of through
diplomatic channels.

The administrative and economic provisions for all these exchanges are specified in
Annex II.

5. Recognition and Validation of Degrees

Both Parties commit to work together to recognise degrees issued by each State by
setting up a joint working group made up of experts appointed by both Parties.

6. Cooperation in the field of University Education

Both Parties stress the fundamental role played by the training of highly-qualified
human resources in the economic, technological and educational development of our
societies, and state the need to enhance and strengthen relations in the field of tertiary
education.

In this respect, both Parties declare their will to develop, through bilateral relations,
cooperation and the sharing of experience in the fields of higher education, of the
evaluation of higher education, and of the accreditation of Universities as a priority
objective to guarantee the quality of each country’s Higher Education systems.

Both Parties shall also encourage the implementation of agreements between
Universities. Contacts between Universities shall be conducted through diplomatic
channels.

7. Scholarships

7.1. Scholarships of the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation

The Spanish Party informs the Jordanian Party that the Spanish Agency for
International Cooperation (AECI) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
(MAEC) annually makes a unilateral, single and open offer of study scholarships in
Spain for foreigners, and abroad for Spaniards, called MAEC-AECI scholarships. This
offer includes summer scholarships and academic year scholarships. All the scholarship
programmes from summer 2002 and the 2002-2003 academic year are already included
in this yearly offer, which can be accessed at the websites www.becasmec.com,
The offer for summer 2006 and the 2006-2007 academic year was published in the Spanish Official State Gazette (BOE) on 4 November 2005. For information purposes, the Spanish Party presents the Jordanian Party with a photocopy of this offer.

The Spanish Party informs the Jordanian Party that, within the framework of this MAEC-AECI scholarship offer for summer 2005 and the 2005-2006 academic year, Jordanian citizens were awarded a total of six (6) scholarships for post-graduate studies and research at Spanish universities and research centres.

In addition, for that period six (6) scholarships were awarded to Spaniards to attend summer courses in foreign languages, specialized and doctoral courses at Jordanian universities and centres.

7.2. Spanish Ministry of Education and Science scholarships for Mobility, Doctoral Studies and University Teacher Training

The Spanish Party informs the Jordanian Party on the existence of scholarship and funding programmes, run by the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science Directorate General for Universities, in which Jordanian citizens can take part. These programmes are:

- “Programa Nacional de Formación del Profesorado Universitario” (National Training Programme for University Teaching Staff), under which Jordanian students resident in Spain who have finished their graduate studies and wish to direct their career towards teaching and research may apply for post-graduate scholarships.

- “Programa Nacional de ayudas para la movilidad de profesores de universidad e investigadores españoles y extranjeros” (National Funding Programme for the Mobility of Spanish and Foreign University Teachers and Researchers), which allows stays of a minimum of 3 months and a maximum of 12 months for teachers and researchers of accredited experience, in the form of a sabbatical. It also allows uninterrupted stays of a minimum of 9 months and a maximum of 18 months to young foreign PhDs in Spain.

- “Ayudas para Programas de Doctorado que han obtenido la mención de calidad” (Funding for Doctoral Programmes that have been awarded the Quality Distinction), with the aim of promoting the mobility of teachers and the inclusion of students in the mentioned doctoral programmes.

For information purposes, the Spanish Party informs that the photocopies of the latest offers of the mentioned scholarships and funding, published in the Spanish Official State Gazette (BOE), are available at the Embassy of Spain in Jordan, and points out that more detailed information can be found at www.mec.es
7.3. Jordanian scholarships

The Jordanian Party shall continue to offer annually two (2) post-graduate scholarships for a year, for research in humanities and Arabic language studies.

The Spanish Party requests the Jordanian Party to inform the MAEC-AECI Directorate General for Cultural and Scientific Relations annually on its offer for summer and academic year scholarships that Spanish citizens can apply for, with the purpose of including this information on the AECI website.

The Spanish Party requests the Jordanian Party to provide all possible facilities for the Spanish scholarship recipients who have passed level 6 of the Jordan University’s Language Centre Arabic language courses to enrol as unofficial students in university subjects at the mentioned University, thus enabling them to increase and perfect their knowledge of the Arabic language.

8. Spanish Lectureships in Jordanian Centres for Higher Education

The Spanish Party states that the MAEC-AECI Directorate General for Cultural and Scientific Relations currently awards funding to four Spanish lectures in Jordan: two at Jordan University, one at Yarmouk University and one at Al al-Bayt University.

The Spanish Party requests the collaboration of the Jordanian Party so that the assistants, as promoters and disseminators of Spanish language and culture abroad, may obtain their residence permits in Jordan as quickly as possible, and suggests studying the possibility of granting these assistants status as technical staff attached to the Spanish Embassy, for residence permit purposes.

The Spanish Party, on the grounds of its policy of academic cooperation and the MAEC-AECI Assistantship Programme in Spanish language and culture, governed by a “Memorandum of Understanding” accorded between the beneficiary universities and the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and concluded by the Spanish Ambassador and the Vice-Chancellor of the university concerned, restates to the Jordanian Party its will to contribute to the development of Spanish departments in other Jordanian universities and centres for higher education. Any interested Jordanian universities or centres for higher education may submit their proposal to the Spanish Party, through diplomatic channels, for its study by the AECI.

The Memorandum, whose aim is to contribute towards the academic and institutional development and consolidation of Spanish studies and to facilitate their medium- or long-term self-sustainability, shall be in force for a minimum initial cycle of three academic years up to a maximum of nine, unless the AECI, through the Embassy, or the University, informs in writing at any time of the termination of the commitments given.
9. Inter-University Cooperation Programme (ICP) between Spain and Jordan

The Spanish Party, with the goal of promoting cooperation between Jordanian and Spanish universities and centres for research and technology, and of facilitating the training and the exchange of researchers and joint collaboration in scientific research projects and in technology transfer in areas of shared interest, suggests to the Jordanian Party setting a Regional Inter-University Cooperation Programme (ICP) for the Mediterranean area, which would be the framework for developing cooperation in areas of interest agreed on by both Parties.

This Inter-University Cooperation Programme would be governed by a “Memorandum of Understanding” between the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Kingdom of Spain and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the details of which would be specified through diplomatic channels.

PART THREE CULTURE

1. Exhibitions

The Directorate General for Fine Arts and Cultural Assets of the Spanish Ministry of Culture produces exhibitions of great cultural interest, prepared so that they can be easily lent to other institutions in Spain and abroad. Their availability is subject only to programming constraints and the technical conditions of the premises where the exhibitions will be held. In any case, the specific conditions governing the loan would be set out in a “Temporary Loan Agreement”.

Notable among these exhibitions are those of a wide range of contemporary Spanish photographers.

2. Museums

Both Parties shall promote relations between the Museo Arqueológico Nacional (National Archaeological Museum) of Madrid and the future Jordanian Archaeological Museum, within the framework, on the Spanish part, of the current regulations of the Directorate General for Fine Arts and Cultural Assets of the Spanish Ministry of Culture, especially those regarding the exchange of temporary exhibitions.

In addition, both Parties shall cooperate in this area by:

- Exchanging museum staff from both countries
- Collaborating in training programmes for museum staff, informing on and facilitating access to courses organized by each country
- Promoting meetings between museum staff from both countries with the aim of studying and suggesting areas of common interest in Museology
- Fostering the sharing of information and documentation on museums and Museology in both countries, provided by Official Museum Management bodies and by any Professional Association related to Museology.

The Spanish Party reports that the Museo del Prado (Prado Museum) of Spain declares its willingness to provide technical advice to cultural institutions in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan concerning the preservation and restoration of cultural assets; the implementation and development of educational programmes in Museums, and the application of new technologies and development of databases for documentary information systems in Museums, within the Prado's programmes for improving and perfecting the management of its collections.

3. Preservation, Restoration and Enhancement of Historical Heritage

Given the historical and cultural importance of the Umayyad period for the Kingdom of Jordan, the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation has supported the preservation and enhancement of important monuments and assets from that period, such as the Qusair Amra frescoes, the Amman Citadel or the Al Hallabat complex.

For its part, the Spanish Ministry of Culture, through the Instituto del Patrimonio Histórico Español (Institute for Spanish Historical Heritage), has funded in Jordan, within the framework of aid to archaeological excavations abroad, the following campaigns: excavation at Jebel al-Mutuwwaq (Zarqa, Kenyah) during 2003 and 2004, and a project on documenting and recording building techniques and typologies during the Byzantine-Umayyad transition period in Jordan (Qasr Hallabat) during the 2004-2005 period.

In this respect, the Spanish Party has informed of the renewed dynamism the AECI has given the heritage programme, which, under the name "Heritage for Development" is entering a new phase with an even clearer orientation towards making the most of the enhancement and sustainable management of heritage as a means of fighting against poverty and of defending cultural identity and diversity.

Both Parties agree to continue working in the field of heritage while at the same time promoting cultural tourism that is respectful towards the environment and historical legacy, through the support to the following projects (in priority order):

a) Completing the implementation of ongoing restoration and enhancement projects (Amman Citadel Museum and Visitors Centre, al-Hallabat complex restoration and its Visitors Centre). In addition to the already programmed activities, this completion should include:
- The evaluation of the social and economic impact of the executed work.

- The identification of new activities aimed at fostering employment creation and economic growth stemming from the management of these cultural assets, in order to benefit low income local populations; other sectors and programmes of Spanish cooperation may be applied in this field.

b) Inventory, documenting and information about heritage. Spanish cooperation will mainly consist of technical assistance from Spanish and/or Jordanian experts.

c) New interventions on monuments of the Umayyad period that are in need of preservation work. In these new conservation and restoration activities, Spanish cooperation will mainly consist of specific training for archaeologists and restorers, as well as of dissemination and application of methodologies and technical procedures used in previous projects (Amman Citadel and al-Hallabat complex). Enhancement activities of new restoration projects may be financially supported, within the Spanish cooperation budgetary limits, providing a project of the social and economic use of the monument to be restored is available.

4. Archives and Libraries

Both Parties shall promote the exchange of individual visits by expert librarians and information specialists, in order to learn about the functioning and management of public and university libraries.

Furthermore, both Parties shall facilitate the appropriate contacts with a view to sharing information, experience and technical advice on library programmes.

For its part, the Biblioteca Nacional (National Library) of Spain, which systematically exchanges publications with the University of Jordan Library and with the Jordanian Archaeological Museum, expresses its interest in encouraging cooperation with Jordanian institutions that deal with books and in providing whatever support may be necessary to the Jordanian National Library, by:

a) Exchanging experts to share experience, especially in the field of national bibliographic control and to promote knowledge of each country's legislation concerning libraries, which is essential with a view to setting up the Jordanian National Library.

Priority areas proposed for this exchange of experts are: legislation on Legal Deposit given the new publication mediums; producing a national bibliography; bibliographic information; document preservation techniques and the application of formats, international regulations and new technologies.
b) Increasing the exchange of publications. Both countries could reinforce the exchange of publications in the Latin alphabet. It would be desirable to include new institutions in this programme, especially those which also publish, such as research centres or universities.

The Jordanian Party requests from the Spanish Party to provide support to the Jordanian National Library Department in the fields of collecting, restoring, reserving, and sustaining archives and codex documentary. Furthermore, both parties agree to exchange experiences in the fields of author’s rights and other rights related to publishing purposes.

5. Cinema

The Spanish Party reports that the MAEC-AECI Directorate General for Cultural and Scientific Relations “Cine español para el exterior” (Spanish Cinema Abroad) programme makes available to the Jordanian Party Spanish films for their non-commercial screening.

6. Cultural Cooperation

The Spanish Party states its will to support the implementation of cultural projects aimed at development, with particular emphasis on the following lines of action:

- Training professionals in the sector of culture aimed at development;
- Supporting cultural industries, fostering the production, distribution and marketing of cultural products and promoting autonomous creators, within a framework of copyright protection and respect for identity;
- Offering its collaboration towards reinforcing the Jordanian Party’s cultural institutions and organizations.

The Jordanian Party suggests the exchange of experiences with regard to translating Jordanian literature and poetry into Spanish and vice versa, in an attempt to deepen cultural understanding between the two countries.

The Spanish Party expresses its interest in organizing activities in Jordan to contribute to the education and development of Jordanian children and young adults, in matters such as visits to museums, sports activities, film seasons, and other areas of interest for children and young adults. The Cultural Services of the Embassy of Spain in Amman would be in charge of organizing these activities, in accordance with their yearly budget for cultural activities.

7. Intellectual Property and Copyright

Both Parties shall collaborate in safeguarding intellectual property in all its aspects through their respective competent bodies, and particularly, as regards new technologies
(multimedia, digital broadcasting, etc.), to strengthen copyright protection, as well as that of other related rights, and of the collective management systems of intellectual property rights.

8. Instituto Cervantes (Cervantes Institute)

Both Parties are pleased with the activities carried out by the Instituto Cervantes centre in Amman. The Spanish Party thanks the Jordanian Party for its support and collaboration in maintaining and operating this centre.

The Spanish Party asks the Jordanian Party to continue and even enhance the facilities that it provides, so that the work done by the Instituto Cervantes centre in Amman will be ever more fruitful. The Jordanian Party states its will to promote the operation of the centre, especially with regard to the status of the Spanish staff who works at the Instituto Cervantes centre.

a) Diplomas in Spanish as a Foreign Language (DELE)

The Spanish Party reports that the Instituto Cervantes, a Spanish public body, founded under Act 7/1991, of 21 March, attached to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, is entrusted with the universal promotion of the Spanish language and culture in Spanish abroad.

In accordance with the provisions of Royal Decree 1137/2002, of 31 October, whereby the Diplomas de Español como Lengua Extranjera (Diplomas in Spanish as a Foreign Language) (DELE) are regulated, the Instituto Cervantes is the Public Body responsible for their academic, administrative and economic management, as well as for the processing of these official diplomas. Degrees are issued by the Spanish Minister of Education and Science and, on his/her behalf, the Director of the Instituto Cervantes.

The Instituto Cervantes, by virtue of these responsibilities, shall give publicity to the exams for Diplomas in Spanish as a Foreign Language (DELE) in Jordan.

The Spanish Party requests of the Jordanian educational authorities and Public Administration the full recognition for all purposes of these diplomas as official certificates that vouch for the holder’s linguistic competence in Spanish, in accordance with the corresponding levels as established by the Council of Europe within the 2001 “European Common Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment”.

The Instituto Cervantes may sign agreements with universities, institutions and collaborating bodies with a view to holding the DELE exams. Therefore, the Spanish Party requests the Jordanian Party to promote the collaboration of Jordanian universities, institutions and educational establishments with the Instituto Cervantes so that they may be recognised as examining bodies.
The Spanish Party informs the Jordanian Party about the present names of the DELE Diplomas: Diploma in Spanish (initial level), Diploma in Spanish (intermediate level) and Diploma in Spanish (advanced level).

The Spanish Party requests the Jordanian Party to provide logistical support by making available to the Instituto Cervantes, the institution that administers the DELE examinations, premises where exams can be held.

b) *Aula Virtual Cervantes* (Cervantes Virtual Classroom) and *Centro Virtual Cervantes* (Cervantes Virtual Centre)

The Spanish Party requests the Jordanian Party to inform its universities, institutions and educational and cultural bodies about the existence on the Internet, accessible at [www.cervantes.es](http://www.cervantes.es), of the *Aula Virtual Cervantes* [www.ave.cervantes.es](http://www.ave.cervantes.es), offering courses for learning Spanish, and the *Centro Virtual Cervantes* [www.cvc.cervantes.es](http://www.cvc.cervantes.es), offering materials and services for Hispanists, Spanish teachers, students, translators, journalists and in general, for any person interested in the Spanish language and culture in Spanish.

c) **The Instituto Cervantes Network of Associate Centres**

The Spanish Party reports that the Instituto Cervantes has an accreditation system, created to favour quality teaching of Spanish in schools which include the teaching of Spanish as a foreign language among their activities, whether alone, as a priority or as a complement.

Within the above system, the Instituto Cervantes may grant a teaching centre status as an "Instituto Cervantes Associate Centre" and, among other aspects, provide methodological advice to Jordanian teaching centres granted this status.

The Spanish Party hereby asks the Jordanian Party to publicize, especially in cities in which the Instituto Cervantes is not present, the existence of this system of accreditation, so that universities, institutions and teaching centres may avail themselves of it.

d) **Instituto Cervantes cultural activity**

The Spanish Party and the Jordanian Party are pleased with the success of the collaboration in the cultural field between the Instituto Cervantes and Jordanian institutions such as the Greater Amman City Council, the University of Jordan, the Royal Film Commission and the Royal Culture Centre, among others. Both Parties express their wish for these collaborations to continue and increase during the next three years.

e) **The Instituto Cervantes Library**

The Spanish Party informs the Jordanian Party that there is a library, attached to the Spanish State Network of Public Libraries, at the Instituto Cervantes in Amman, with
approximately 13,500 volumes, which, in turn, constitutes a centre for the dissemination of Spanish language and culture in Spanish. It makes more than 4,600 loans annually and replies free of charge to more than 350 requests for information annually.

FINAL PROVISIONS

Both Parties have agreed that the monitoring committee should meet at least once during the implementation period of the present Joint Commission, with the aim of evaluating the countries’ cooperation, of learning about the progress of the approved projects and of adopting the new projects selected by mutual agreement between the Parties.

Both Parties have agreed that the agreements reached by this Joint Commission shall be applicable to the 2006-2008 period, and that the 5th Meeting of the Joint Commission for Cultural, Educational, Scientific and Technical Cooperation shall be held in Madrid in 2008. Without detriment to the above, the agreements reached by the present Joint Commission shall be in force until the Minutes of the mentioned 5th Meeting are signed. Any disputes shall be resolved through diplomatic channels.

Signed in Amman, on April 24th, 2006, in English, as the official and reference language.

[Signature]
H.E. Mr. Miguel Angel Moratinos
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
The Kingdom of Spain

[Signature]
H.E. Mr. Sharif Al-Zoubi
Acting Minister of Planning and International Cooperation
The Hashemite Kingdom Of Jordan
ANNEX I

Spanish Delegation:

H.E. Mr. Miguel Angel Moratinos Cuyaubé
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

H.E. Mr. Antonio López Martínez
Ambassador of Spain
Embassy of Spain

Mr. Ricardo Martínez Vázquez.
Director General
Directorate General for cooperation with Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe.
Spanish Agency for International Cooperation

Mr. Juan José Escobar Stenmann
Deputy Head of Mission.
Embassy of Spain

Mr. Carlos Varona Narvión
Director of the Cervantes Institute
Instituto Cervantes, Amman

Mr. Gregorio Marañón Garrido
Spanish Agency for International Cooperation

Jordanian Delegation:

H.E. Mr. Sharif Al-Zoubi
Acting Minister of Planning and International Cooperation

Mr. Nasser Shraideh
Director of International Cooperation Directorate
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation

Ms. Zeina Toukan
Deputy Director of International Cooperation Directorate
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation

Mr. Ahmad Al Hawyan
Head of European Relations Division
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
ANNEX II
ADMINISTRATIVE AND ECONOMIC PROVISIONS

Exhibitions.

The organizational and financial provisions shall be agreed upon on a case-by-case basis between the entity or museum that is sending the exhibition and the entity or museum that receives it.

Exchange of visits.

The exchange of professors and experts foreseen in this programme shall be regulated as follows:

The sending side shall inform the receiving side through diplomatic channels, at least three months in advance, with regard to the following:

a) Proposed candidates shall be in accordance with the provisions of the present programme. The nationality shall be Jordanian for the candidates to be sent to Spain and Spanish for the candidates to be sent to Jordan.

b) General data of proposed candidates. A photocopy of the national identity document of the visitor and the curriculum vitae, with indication of the working language.

c) Duration of the visit and the initial foreseen date of arrival should be confirmed at least one month prior to the visit.

d) Proposed programme of the visit, name of the hosting professor, and of the university department as well as an indication of the foreseen programme of the conferences, if the case is as such.

The sending side shall cover the expenses of the international trip, i.e. until the capital of the receiving country, or to the international airport nearest to the point of destination.

The Jordanian receiving side will determine with the sending Spanish side, on a case-by-case basis, the amount of staying, lodging and maintenance expenses.

Upon concluding the visit, the visitor will submit to the host side a report about the fulfilment of the programme agreed upon for the visit.

The exchange of artistic groups will be regulated on a case-by-case basis.

Origin of Equipment and technical services.

When the implementation of a project (particularly, technical cooperation projects) will need the import to Jordan of equipment, materials or technical services, they will be of Spanish origin, as long as they are competitive.
## ANNEX III

**INDICATIVE LIST OF PROJECTS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR FINANCING UNDER THE FOURTH JORDANIAN-Spanish Joint Commission 2006-2008**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Strategic Objective of the Targeted Intervention Area</th>
<th>Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Poverty Alleviation</td>
<td>Poverty alleviation and income distribution strategies aim at improving the quality of life and to achieve a secure and sustainable livelihood. These strategies aim at reducing income gap and addressing the root causes of poverty; promoting sustainable growth; generating job opportunities; improving the socioeconomic conditions of targeted poverty pockets; and increasing access to social services, particularly basic health and primary education.</td>
<td>1) Integrated Local Development Project in Poverty Pockets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2) Andalus Dairy Factory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| II. Regional and Local Development | a) Develop the organizational self-reliance, self-financing, independent effectiveness, and enhance the development role of local communities.  
                                          b) Assist the local community in creating income generation activity with a development perspective through covering cost of the obstacles and equipment shortages impeding the production capabilities and operation capacity of the factory. | 1) Reform and Restructuring the Cooperative Sector in Jordan                               |
| III. Health               | Improve the quality of health care services in order to provide citizens with access to quality health services in an efficient and effective manner in all governorates.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1) Nursing Human-Power Development Project/Pince Hanza Hospital                            |
| IV. Environment           | a) To systemize and strategize the environmental management in the Zarqa basin and reduce/reverse the environmental pressures and challenges affecting the population and natural resources.  
                                          b) To create public awareness about environmental thinking and behaviour of the locals and promoting understanding as well as appreciation of the local and national natural resources. | 1) Environmental Management Plan for Amman-Zarqa Basin                                      |
|                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 2) Establishing an Environmental Awareness and Educational Centre in Zarqa                |
| V. Political Development  | Equip the youth segment of society with the needed skills to effectively participate in the political life and help them to gain better understanding of concept such as democracy, civic participation, rights and responsibilities, local communities' role in political life, etc.                                                                                                  | 1) Enhancing Youth Civic Participation                                                     |
|                          | Strengthen the institutional capacity of the government and civil institutions to combat violence against women                                                                                                           | 2) Prevention of Violence against Women                                                    |