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**Georgia
and
United States of America**

Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Georgia and the Government of the United States of America on educational cooperation. Tbilisi, 15 April 2013

Entry into force: *15 April 2013 by signature, in accordance with article 15*

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**Géorgie
et
États-Unis d'Amérique**

Mémorandum d'accord entre le Gouvernement de la Géorgie et le Gouvernement des États-Unis d'Amérique sur la coopération éducative. Tbilissi, 15 avril 2013

Entrée en vigueur : *15 avril 2013 par signature, conformément à l'article 15*

Textes authentiques : *anglais et géorgien*

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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

Memorandum of Understanding
between
the Government of Georgia
and
the Government of the United States of America
on
Educational Cooperation

The Government of Georgia and the Government of the United States of America (hereafter individually referred to as “the Georgian Participant” or “the U.S. Participant” or jointly referred to as “the Participants”), recognizing the value to both peoples of enhanced mutual understanding and respect, and desiring to continue and strengthen existing ties of friendship and mutual understanding and to develop cooperation in the field of education on the basis of mutual interests, have reached the following understanding:

Article 1

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereafter “MOU”) is to strengthen and enhance existing ties between the Participants in connection with the implementation of the Fulbright Academic Exchange Program for students and scholars (hereafter “Fulbright Program”) in education, science, and research based on circumstances that are mutually beneficial. This MOU is also designed to recognize anticipated financial support from the Participants towards the Fulbright Program for the inclusion of scholarships for Georgian graduate students.

Article 2

The Participants expect their participation in the Fulbright Program to encourage contacts and exchanges at all educational levels, and in all fields of study and research, through the establishment of close ties between the citizens of Georgia and the United

States of America (hereafter "United States"), and between the public and private educational, teaching and research institutions and universities in the two countries.

Article 3

The Participants intend to encourage and facilitate educational activities that would strengthen good relations between the two countries, including through support for academic scholarships and grants to promote student and scholar exchange programs.

Article 4

Each Participant intends to assist in the provision of information about its respective educational systems and practices, facilities, courses of instruction, and opportunities for study and exchange which may be of interest to the other.

Article 5

The Participants plan to facilitate direct contacts with the relevant ministries, secretariats and other public bodies, local authorities, non-governmental organizations, professional associations, and private organizations, individuals and groups within their respective countries.

Article 6

Each Participant intends to process any applications for travel, entry, residence, and exit for the students and scholars of the other Participant's country in accordance with existing laws, regulations and procedures.

Article 7

In carrying out this MOU, the U.S. Participant intends to coordinate the funding, management and implementation of the Fulbright Program in Georgia. The U.S. Participant further intends to organize the establishment of a bi-national Fulbright

Program Selection Committee (hereafter "Selection Committee") , to be convened as necessary to conduct interviews of all Georgian candidates and to select and submit nominations to the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board of the United States. The U.S. Participant plans to include on the Selection Committee representatives from the U.S. Participant and, at its discretion, U.S. and Georgian Fulbright Program participants and/or alumni. The Georgian Participant plans to identify one representative to participate in the Selection Committee. Grantee selection criteria are expected to be based on the "Policies of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board", which may be found at <http://eca.state.gov/fulbright/about-fulbright/j-william-fulbright-foreign-scholarship-board-ffsb/ffsb-policies>.

Article 8

The Participants plan to explore expanding the Fulbright Program through joint funding to promote a greater exchange of graduate students between the Participants' countries in various fields of study.

Article 9

The U.S. Participant plans to fund stipends, living allowances, travel costs, and accident and sickness benefits for up to three Georgian graduate students for study in the United States.

Article 10

Georgia plans to explore supporting Fulbright graduate student scholarships through its Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia for Georgian graduate students to study at universities in the United States. In coordination with the U.S. Participant, the Georgian Participant intends to provide \$50,000 annually toward the Fulbright Program with the goal of supporting a fourth Georgian graduate student for study at a university in the United States.

Article 11

The U.S. Participant intends to continue providing financial support for the exchange of both U.S. and Georgian scholars and for U.S. students.

Article 12

The Georgian Participant intends to cooperate with the U.S. Participant by seeking the allocation of additional resources for Fulbright scholarships for Georgian students and scholars in fields of special interest to Georgia. It is anticipated that arrangements for such opportunities would be worked out separately.

Article 13

The Participants intend that the arrangements for cooperation, activities, and exchanges foreseen in this MOU be implemented consistent with the laws and regulations of each Participant's country, including those concerning the availability of funds.

Article 14

The Participants intend to exchange information about the implementation of this MOU and to resolve any disputes or ambiguities amicably through consultation between the Participants.

Article 15

1. This MOU is intended to commence upon signature by both Participants and is intended to cease after a period of three (3) years. The Participants intend to review and decide whether to continue their cooperation under this MOU prior to the end of that three-year period.