Topics of interest for the Ministry of Education and Research from Romania, related to special support measures for associate candidate countries in FP 6 (with a special emphasis to priority 3)

Apart from a few Centres of Excellence co-financed by UE, Romania has a number of infrastructures funded by national programmes (2001-2005), including scientific **networks and centres of excellence in the NMP field**. Just one of them is the network of centres acting as **a virtual research centre in nanobiotechnology**, financed from the national R&D programme "New materials, micro and nanobiotechnologies"

Romania is particularly interested to develop innovative SMEs, including supporting SMEs in using NMP technologies. There are underway-national efforts to set-up technological and scientific parks, as well as centres of technological transfer. How it will be possible to sustain from the Commission these efforts in our country or in our geographical region?

Romania would like to benefit from such a support in priority areas such as NMP, in order to deal with the present fragmentation of resources, focusing to a limited number of directions, where the Romanian research could prove competitive.

Apart from the above, Romania is interested in:

- a) Participating, along with other candidate countries, in the "Mapping of excellence" action.
- b) Developing and maintaining of human potential for research (as part of a "European career"). Support for establishing the basic lines of a national plan, as part of the ERA philosophy and practice will be extremely useful.
- c) Co-operation in brokerage activities, in order to promote partnership in research and industry with EU member states and also with countries in the south-east region of Europe.

In our view, in some cases, associate candidate candidates may prove a convinced partner for correlation and integration policies from ERA, since the "European Research Area" provides concepts and tools useful in restructuring the national systems.

Ministry of Education and Research

General Directorate for International Co-operation General Directorate for Research Policy and Strategies

Bucharest, Romania

10th of February, 2003

Joint laboratory of Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology (Korea) at IMT - Bucharest

On 3rd February 2003, in Bucharest, **Samsung Electronics Co.Ltd.** (Korea) and the National Institute for Research and Development in Microtehnologies (IMT - Bucharest) inaugurated a Joint Laboratory, in which Romanian researchers will perform for three years contract research financed by Samsung.

This is one of the ten Joint labs founded by Samsung in the world. Samsung is one of leading electronics companies in the world, with a particular interest in microelectronics and microsystem technologies.

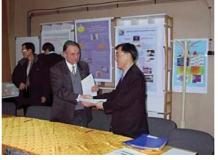
The agreement between the two parties was signed in Bucharest by Dr. Byeongcheon Koh, Vice President, *Samsung Advanced*

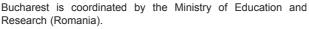


Institute of Technology (SAIT), and Prof. Dan Dascalu, General Manager of IMT - Bucharest.

The document states the fact the valuable skills, knowledge, expertise and resources of National Institute of Microtehnology in the field of Micro Electro Mechanical Systems (MEMS) will be used by to perform research and development work financed by SAIT (Samsung).

IMT





This institute has experience in European research projects in microtehnology. One of them, financed by the European Commission and headed by IMT - Bucharest was nominated recently (2002) for the Descartes Prize, awarded by the European Union for the best co-operative research project performed in Europe.

It is worthwhile to note in this context that Korea it is one of the most representative non-European countries that are participating in European projects.

Information released by SAIT (Samsung) and IMT - Bucharest On 3rd of February 2003.



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