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7-6-01

## Inter-institutional Scientific Cooperation Agreement between the Universidad Mayor de San Simón (UMSS), Bolivia, and Ghent University (RUG), Belgium

Considering the Memorandum of Understanding between 'Universiteit Gent' and 'Universidad Mayor de San Simón, Cochabamba' signed on 28 November 1996,

the Universidad Mayor de San Simón, with offices located in Campus Universitario, Edificio Multiacadémico Casilla 992 in Cochabamba, Bolivia, represented by Rector BSc. Augusto Argandoña Yañez and the Dean of the Faculty Dr. Lucio Gonzales C., through the Centre of Biodiversity and Genetics,

and

Ghent University, Belgium, with offices located in Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 25, 9000 Gent, represented by Rector Prof. Dr. Jacques Willems and the Dean of the Faculty Prof. Dr. Ir. Oswald Van Cleemput, through the Laboratory of Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture and Ethnobotany and the Laboratory of Organic Chemistry

enter in an inter-institutional scientific co-operation agreement with the objective to cooperate in the augmentation of ethnobotanical knowledge in Bolivia under the following terms of agreement:

### FIRST: The objective

The objectives of the present agreement are:

- establishing cooperation between scientists in order to develop and carry out joint research projects related to the floristic diversity, ethnobotany, (human) ecology and cultivation of plants with ethnobotanical importance in Bolivian ecosystems;
- the formation of Bolivian experts in order to carry out and follow up projects related to plant resources in Bolivia.

### SECOND: Modalities

- in case the RUG is interested in sending a representative to Cochabamba and requests his incorporation into the UMSS as Associated Scientist, then his designation and the description of his areas of interest have to be communicated in advance to the UMSS-Centre of Biodiversity and Genetics;
- when scientists of the RUG come at the UMSS for a short term stay then the name of the scientist, his field of specialisation and an abstract of the current project he is working in



has to be communicated to the UMSS-Centre of Biodiversity and Genetics in advance to his stay, in order to coordinate activities;

- when a project formulated by the RUG for carrying out research in Cochabamba exists, then this has to be communicated to the UMSS-Centre of Biodiversity and Genetics with the aim to maintain communication and coordination between the two partners. In the same way each project that involves the participation of the RUG-Laboratory of Tropical and Subtropical Agronomy and Ethnobotany and the RUG-Laboratory of Organic Chemistry and the UMSS-Centre of Biodiversity and Genetics will have to be discussed and approved by both partners;
- joint projects will have a Belgian and a Bolivian coordinator that represents each of both institutions. Each institution will name a coordinator and his functions will be defined in consultation with the other partner.

### THIRD: Collective activities

The activities of the participating institutions will be developed within the lines and politics of the national institutions, respecting the current legal norms existing in Bolivia;

The activities will be orientated towards scientific investigation and the capacitating of the Bolivian scientific and technical staff members;

Duplicates of plant species, products of joint research of the two signing institutes and realised within the modalities mentioned in this agreement, will be deposited in the UMSS-Centre of Biodiversity and Genetics and the RUG-Laboratory of Tropical and Subtropical Agronomy and Ethnobotany and the RUG-Laboratory of Organic Chemistry, and distributed to herbaria chosen together by both partners. Unique and type specimens have to stay at the UMSS-Centre of Biodiversity and Genetics. The UMSS-Centre of Biodiversity and Genetics will receive specimens 1 and 4, specimen 2 belongs to the RUG-Laboratory of Tropical and Subtropical Agronomy and Ethnobotany and the RUG-Laboratory of Organic Chemistry and specimen 3 will be send to specialists; the rest will be distributed in agreement to the place from which the plants were derived and according to the interests of both parties.

Both parties may request more duplicates of plants of their interest to the other party. They will be sent in agreement with the possibilities.

The results of joint research or that of visiting scientists will be published in national or foreign journals recognising the corresponding institutional participations. Short-term visiting scientists shall provide a general report of their work realised in Bolivia for UMSS. In the same way, visitings have to give a presentation of their specialisation during their stay at UMSS.

### FOURTH: Institutional obligations

#### 4.1. Obligations of the UMSS- Centre of Biodiversity and Genetics

The UMSS-Centre of Biodiversity and Genetics declares to:

- provide a working space to scientists and facilitate installation and the use of equipment and others;



- collaborate with the procedure for obtaining access to genetic resources and credentials and collecting permits for activities marked within the framework of this Agreement.

#### 4.2. Obligations of RUG-Laboratory of Tropical and Subtropical Agronomy and Ethnobotany and the RUG-Laboratory of Organic Chemistry

By the ways considered convenient by the RUG-Laboratory of Tropical and Subtropical Agronomy and Ethnobotany and the RUG-Laboratory of Organic Chemistry and according its possibilities, the RUG-Laboratory of Tropical and Subtropical Agronomy and Ethnobotany declares to:

- Proportionate funds that cover travel and working expenses (stay, use of scientific material in Bolivia) of its visiting scientists;
- Provide aid with the following activities, especially with the search of finances:
  - publications;
  - participation of Bolivian students or scientists of the UMSS-Centre of Biodiversity and Genetics in capacitating courses and grants in the RUG;
  - participation of Bolivian students or scientists of the UMSS-Centre of Biodiversity and Genetics in conferences and (ethnobotanical) congresses organised by the RUG;
  - specialised training for Bolivian scientists designated in common agreement
  - equipping of the UMSS-Centre of Biodiversity and Genetics with field and collecting equipment, preservation material for species and others.

#### 4.3. Joint Obligations

- Give continuity and follow-up to the most important or relevant research projects initiated within the present Agreement. Define at the end of each research project whether both parties or only one of the parties will be in charge of a second phase;
- Guarantee that in each publication, report and document resulting from the investigations carried out under the present Agreement the participation of each of the scientific entities in the corresponding projects is recognised.

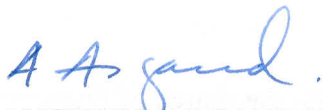
#### FIFTH: Duration

The present Agreement will become valid from the date of undersigning and for a time period of three years. It can be renewed for similar periods in conformity with annual evaluations of the status of the Agreement. In the same way, it can be modified or annulated following written and justified request 6 months in advance by one of the partners and after acceptance by the other partner.

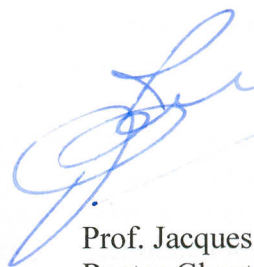


SIXTH: Approval

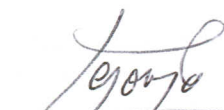
Both partners acknowledge plain conformity with the content of all and each one of the terms of the present Agreement and, in sign of approval, are signing three copies of the same Agreement at the .....7.....day of the month .....JUNE.....of the year 2001.



BSc. AUGUSTO ARGANDOÑA YAÑEZ  
Rector Universidad Mayor de San Simón,  
Bolivia



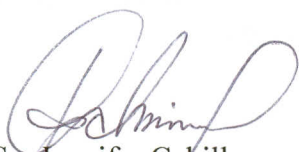
Prof. Jacques Willems  
Rector Ghent University,  
Belgium



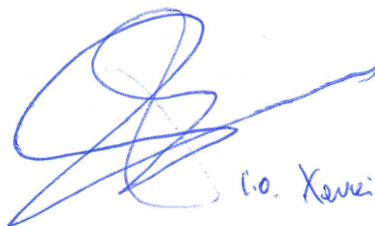
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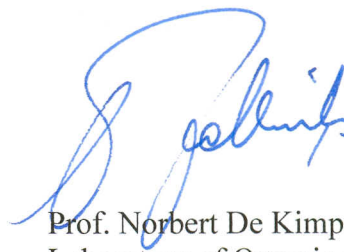


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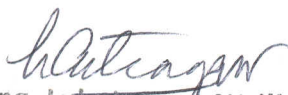


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UNIVERSIDAD MAYOR DE SAN SIMÓN