MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The National Council of Science, Technology and Technological Innovation (CONCYTEC) of Peru, represented by its President, Fabiola María León Velarde Servetto, and euroCRIS, represented by its President, Ed Simons, hereafter collectively referred as "the Parties",

Have reached the following understanding:

Section 1: The Parties

euroCRIS is a not-for-profit, statutory association (http://www.eurocris.org), governed by Dutch law, devoted to (i) providing support and promoting the collaboration within the research information systems community on an institutional, national and international level and (ii) to promote system interoperability, based on the CERIF standard (Common European Research Information Format). One of euroCRIS's main objectives is fostering the collaboration and knowledge exchange among stakeholders in the research information management domain, in particular by setting up Strategic Partnerships with international organisations in the field of Research Information Management.

CONCYTEC is a specialized public technical body attached to the Presidency of the Council of Ministries of the Republic of Peru and it acts as the governing entity of the National System of Science, Technology and Technological Innovation (SINACYT), which is composed by all the institutions and individuals of the country dedicated to Research, Development and Technological Innovation in science and technology, and to its promotion.

The purpose of CONCYTEC is to regulate, direct, guide, encourage, coordinate, supervise and evaluate the actions of the Peruvian State in the field of science, technology and technological innovation and to promote its development through concerted action and complementarity between programs and projects of public, academic and business institutions, including social organizations and members of SINACYT.

Section 2: Objective

The objective of the collaboration under this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is to establish and promote a strategic and cooperative partnership between CONCYTEC and euroCRIS. The motivation for this MoU is to share knowledge and experience and to support each other's endeavours in the fields defined in the agreement.

Section 3: Background

The Peruvian National Network for Information on Science, Technology and Innovation is defined by the Regulation of the Law No. 28303 as a technical instrument of the National System of Science, Technology and Technological Innovation (SINACYT) dedicated to promote, for the whole society, the systematic diffusion of academic, technical and industrial knowledge and human capabilities in

STI, as well as the intercommunication and interaction between the different members of the System, facilitating their access to national and foreign information sources.

The aforementioned Regulation of the Law No. 28303 entrusts CONCYTEC with the establishment, development and operation of the Network, which explicitly requires the interoperability between SINACYT institutions and public agencies in order to allow the development of scientific and technological statistics and the obtaining, systematization and dissemination of the necessary information for the planning, promotion, execution and evaluation of STI activities.

Both euroCRIS and CONCYTEC share a vision for promoting the realisation of optimal research information management infrastructures through the setup and support of Current Research Information Systems (CRIS), enabling the management and sharing of information on research projects, researchers, research organisations, and research outputs. In this framework a CRIS is regarded as the major tool for creating an aggregation of all data related to science, technology, and innovation both on a national and on a regional level. Both organisations acknowledge the importance of international standardisation in the setup of CRIS and research information exchange between systems and more specifically the key role for the Common European Research Information Format (CERIF) in this respect. Moreover, CONCYTEC considers that the implementation of a CRIS infrastructure is crucial for the further development and improvement of the quality of information systems in the National Network for STI Information in Peru, because it allows a better generation, collection, management, dissemination and use of knowledge.

Section 4: Commitments

The Parties will work together:

(a) To promote the setup of an optimal CRIS-infrastructure in Peru, including the following aspects:

- Formulation of an appropriate Research Information Policy and Management Framework, both on a national and a regional level.
- Choice and implementation of appropriate CRIS software (CRIS systems).
- Realisation of interoperability between CRIS and related information systems based on international standards.
- Setup of an adequate support framework for the (use of the) CRIS infrastructure.
- Development of services based on the CRIS infrastructure for the various stakeholder groups.
- Organisation of training activities for the various user and stakeholder groups (researchers, research managers, policy makers, funders, etc...).

(b) To promote the realisation of optimal research information policies and practices, and in this respect to influence policies and policy makers on both a national (governmental) and international level (e.g. the EU and Latin America) on:

- The importance of CRIS and e-infrastructures based on CRIS as primary resource for research information management.
- The importance of the use of international standards in research information and more specifically the implementation of CERIF, the Common European Research Information Format.
- The formulation of optimal policies promoting the understanding and implementation of CRIS systems (through case studies and good practices).
- The need to establish interoperability between information systems at various levels

(c) To share and communicate each other's activities and accomplishments to stakeholders and at each other's events.

Mechanisms

In order to achieve the above mentioned objectives, the Parties agree on the following specific actions for collaboration:

1. Upon request by CONCYTEC euroCRIS may provide support and assistance to CONCYTEC concerning:
    a. policy formulation promoting the understanding and implementation of CRIS systems (e.g., by providing case studies and examples of good practices);
    b. providing arguments to decisions makers;
    c. the evaluation of new software options that could be used to implement CRIS systems in Peru;
    d. training in CERIF and in the creation of CRIS services based on CERIF;
    e. the realisation of compatibility and interoperability between research information systems; and
    f. organizing general training to raise awareness about the relevance and implications of CRIS systems.

    The concrete details of the support activities will be worked out in separate agreements between the Parties.
2. Representatives of euroCRIS shall be invited to conferences and seminars organised by CONCYTEC
3. Representatives of CONCYTEC shall be invited to the euroCRIS annual Strategic Membership Meeting and to the CRIS biennial conferences. The person(s) attending such events will be designated by CONCYTEC.
4. Both organisations will periodically inform the other partner on relevant activities through their respective communication channels.
5. For reasons of efficiency in time and costs, communications will be held through teleconference or webinar when appropriate.

Section 5: Validity and Termination

This MoU will come into effect on the date of its signature by the Parties and will continue to have effect for a period of 3 years. It may be terminated earlier by one Party giving the other Party a written notice at least 90 days before the date of termination.

The termination of the MoU will not affect unfinished cooperation activities unless otherwise decided by the Parties.

This MoU may be amended with the mutual written consent of the Parties.

Section 6: Financing

Cooperation activities under this MoU are subject to and dependent upon the availability of funding and personnel available to the Parties. Financial arrangements shall be negotiated on a case-by-case basis and the Parties shall agree in writing, before the commencement of any activity.

Section 7: Responsibilities and Confidentiality

If the Parties determine that a particular activity may lead to the creation of intellectual property or the exchange of business-confidential information, they will consult with each other and make appropriate written arrangements for the protection and allocation of such intellectual property and business confidential information.

Section 8: Inter-Institutional Coordination

Each Party appoints a coordinator for the collaboration activities who will be in charge of following-up and evaluating the MoU, informing the Parties of the results of her/his efforts.

The coordinators appointed by the Parties are:

For **euroCRIS**   **:**   Executive for External Relations
For **CONCYTEC**   **:**   Director of Evaluation and Knowledge Management

Section 9: Publicity

The logo of both Parties will be displayed on each other's website under the respective heading with a hyperlink to the homepage of the other Party. Both Parties shall approve any public announcement regarding this MoU. Each Party may suggest that its logo be used in accordance with provided guidelines.

Section 10: Settlement of Disputes

Should any doubts arise in the interpretation of the provisions of this MoU or any problems about matters not described therein, both Parties shall consult with each other and settle them amicably in the spirit of this MoU.

This MoU is a statement of political intent, but is not intended as a legally binding document and does not create legal obligations under international law.

The foregoing represents the understanding reached between the Parties on the matters referred to in this MoU.

Signed in four copies, two in English and two in Spanish, in Lima on _____, both texts having equal validity.

For CONCYTEC   **For euroCRIS**

Fabiola León-Velarde Servetto   Ed Simons
President   President