



Activity 11 – Targeted Research and Development (R&D) Initiatives Terms of Reference

1. Background and Goals

The Targeted R&D Initiatives activity was approved by the 18th Governing Board on 2 December 2004.

The goal of this activity is to create STCU-managed opportunities for STCU recipient scientists and institutes that involve large research activities focused on a recognized S&T priority or a high-interest S&T problem. The activity will bring to bear the expertise of the STCU recipient scientists and institutes and will seek to attract financial and technical assistance from regional and international grant organizations (e.g., UN agencies, science foundations, cooperative S&T programs in Europe, the United States, and elsewhere) as well as from the government and private agencies of the STCU Recipient Parties.

The main objective of the activity is to provide a central organizing and financial resource authority to coordinate and support selected R&D initiatives identified by the STCU, its Parties, or other organizations. These R&D initiatives will be broader than the usual ad hoc STCU projects and related activities, involving multiple institutes across the STCU membership, multiple donor organizations, and multiple types of STCU activities (research projects, conferences/workshops, travel support, internet upgrades, etc.).

2. Funding

These funds are allocated by the Funding Parties as part of Supplemental Budgets. The expenditures are charged against the Budget item "Targeted R&D Initiatives". Funding for all STCU activities established under a specified Targeted R&D Initiative will be drawn from the Supplemental Budget item.

3. Legal Framework

The Targeted R&D Initiatives activity is implemented in accordance with an annual plan approved by the Governing Board.

All STCU activities under the Targeted R&D Initiatives activity will be subject to the standard STCU policies and procedures, including the financial and procurement regulations.

Any non-project STCU activity (e.g., workshops, travel support, etc.) created, developed, and implemented under a specific Targeted R&D Initiative will follow the standard STCU procedures for internal concurrence, approval, execution, and monitoring of such activities.

Any STCU project developed under the Targeted R&D Initiatives will receive the required Host Government Concurrence and internal STCU concurrence (including the verification of foreign collaborator participation). Project proposals will be submitted to the Parties for review and approval using the standard partner project approval procedure, and funding for approved projects will be drawn from the Targeted R&D Initiatives Supplemental Budget account. Project Agreement preparation will follow the STCU Model



Project Agreement and project execution will follow the standard project monitoring processes established for regular STCU projects.

4. Activity Management and Procedures

The Deputy Executive Director in charge of the Technology Advancement department shall be the implementing authority for the activity; the Executive Director shall be the approval authority for all sub-activities implemented under this activity.

The DED – Technology Advancement shall be responsible for the management oversight of the Targeted R&D Initiatives activities and shall be responsible for (1) presenting the annual activity plan and budget to the Board, (2) clearly identifying all Targeted R&D Initiatives and all the projects and related activities to be conducted under each specific Initiative, and (3) providing regular updates on each Targeted R&D Initiative activity to the Governing Board and Advisory Committee.

5. Financial Management

The management of the accounts is performed according to the STCU Standard Operating Procedure - Supplemental Budgets (STCU Document SOP-XIV, 15/09/2000).