



## Memorandum of Understanding

between

## The University of CUENCA (Ecuador)

and

## **Ghent University**

In accordance with a mutual desire to promote international academic, cultural and scientific exchange, Ghent University (Belgium) and the University of Cuenca (Ecuador) enter into this Memorandum of Understanding.

The two institutions deem it mutually beneficial to strengthen the bonds between the two academic communities and to contribute to a greater understanding and communication between two cultures.

The areas of cooperation include any programme offered with mutual consent at either party and having potential to contribute to the objectives of this Memorandum. Moreover, both parties will encourage direct contact and cooperation between their faculty members, departments, institutes and centres in appropriate academic and scientific programmes.

The themes of joint activities, the conditions for utilizing the results of research, the arrangements of specific visits, exchanges and other forms of activities will be discussed and developed mutually by both partners.

At the moment active collaboration is already taking place in the frame of the VLIR-UOS programme, coordinated by Leuven University. This includes collaboration in the field of "Food, nutrition and health" with the Professors Van Camp, De Meulenaer, Kolsteren en De Maeseneer from UGent, as well as in the field of "integrated water management" with the Professors Goethals en Nopens from UGent. Individual contacts exist with Prof. Gabriels, Prof. Steurbaut and Prof. Temmerman.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall be effective after approval of the terms of the agreement by the appropriate authorities of the universities. It will remain in effect for a period of three years. Thereafter, it will be reviewed and can be amended or renewed as agreed by both parties.

For Ghent University

Prof. dr. Paul Van Cauwenberge

Rector

Date: JUNE 22, 2010

For Universidad de Cuenca

Prof. Jaime Astudillo Romero

Rector

Date: JUNE 22, 2010