MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)

between

the University of Córdoba (UCO), Spain

and

the University of Messina (UNIME), Italy

on

Information and Communication Technology (ITC) Research and Academic Collaboration

PREAMBLE

To promote the advancement of international understanding, academic excellence, dissemination of learning and strengthening cultural ties, the *University of Messina*, in particular the Department *Mathematics and Informatics*, managing *Maths with Informatics curriculum PhD*, and the *University of Córdoba*, in particular the Doctorate *Engineering And Technology* manage by UCO Doctorate School (EDUCO)

Agree

To Pursue Collaboration On Academic and Research Related Activities Based On The Principle Of Reciprocity.

The University of Córdoba (UCO) and the University of Messina (UNIME) agree as follow:

§1

Both institutions are interested in collaborate in High Education offer, Research and PhD activities in all areas of Information and Communication Technologies (ITC).

§2

The parties focus their cooperation on the following objectives:

- collaboration within the framework of the Center for Integrative Mediterranean Studies (CIMS) partners activities: submission of regional, national and international call for proposals, to get extra mural fund, both for Integrated High Education offer and research programs based on UNIME/UCO faculty, student and staff mobility with credit transfer and recognition, dual/double Degree programs (Bachelor, Master and PhD levels), training/internship/stage activities, co-tutelle thesis, international summer schools, conference, seminar, webinar, workshops and best practice sharing. Strengthening external partner network involving local institutions, small and medium enterprises (SME) and private institutions for the development of Information and Communication Technology.

- Exchange of academic staff and students for research and PhD activities for limited periods of time in compliance with the clauses in force in the two Countries and with the Universities internal regulations in a joint effort to overcome possible administrative and procedural differences.

- Mutually transfer and recognition of academic achievements and credits

- Joint supervision of PhD thesis.

- Joint organization of research and training activities.

- Exchange of academic information and materials.

- Development and implementation of joint research programs in the areas mentioned in Annex I.

- Development of common research proposals in European Union and international calls.

- Joint organization of conferences, workshops and summer schools.

- Establishment of a network of partners involving institutions and private sectors companies related to *Information and Communication Technology.*

§3

The development and implementation of each exchange/activity, based on this MoU, shall be separately discussed and signed by both universities and will form appendices to this MoU. Both universities will use their best efforts to find financial sources for carrying out the activities.

§4

Nothing in this Memorandum shall diminish the full autonomy of either institution, or impose constraints on either party in carrying out the agreement.

§5

In the first instance, *Prof. Dr. Alessandro Provetti* shall be the representative of UNIME Department *Mathematics and Informatics* and *Prof. Dr. Sebastian Ventura* shall be the representative for UCO Doctorate School (EDUCO) for *Engineering And Technology PhD* to realize this agreement.

For the University of Córdoba, Spain

For the University of Messina, Italy

Prof. José Manuel Roldán
Rector

Prof. Francesco Tomasello
Rector

Date: ....

Date: ....

1 6 NOV. 2012

ANNEX I

Scientific Areas for the Development and implementation of joint research programs:

1. Information and Communication Technologies
2. Data Mining
3. Machine learning
4. Artificial Intelligence and Intelligent Systems
5. Online Social Networks analysis
6. Web data extraction and Web technologies in general
7. Numerical Methods in Security and Privacy
8. New Strategic Topic