AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF CULTURE, EDUCATION,

TOURISM AND SPORT

The Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the Republic of Argentina (hereinafter referred to as the "Parties");

with a view to strengthening friendly relations, mutual understanding and trust between the two countries and their peoples,

seeking to develop relations of both Parties in the fields of culture, art, education, cinema, mass media, sport, youth exchange and tourism,

have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Complying with the international obligations and national legislation, the Parties shall strengthen and promote cooperation of governmental and non-governmental institutions and organisations of the countries of both Parties in the fields of culture, education, tourism, sport, mass media and youth affairs.

Article 2

The Parties shall develop cultural cooperation of both Parties on the basis of mutual benefit. Both Parties shall endeavour to disseminate information on their artistic and cultural values making available those values to the nationals of the Republic of Lithuania and the nationals of the Republic of Argentina, at all levels promoting appropriate public, non-public and private initiatives.

Article 3

The Parties shall promote the establishment of direct cultural relations, and support arrangement of commercial and non-commercial tours of groups of performers of opera, theatre, music, other artistic companies, and professional soloists.

Article 4

The Parties shall give to each other advance and timely notification on conferences, competitions, festivals and other international events in the fields of culture and art arranged in their respective countries.

Article 5

The Parties shall support cooperation of museums, libraries and state archives. In cases when cultural values are to be exported, the Parties shall through diplomatic channels agree on storage of those values. The Parties shall also support direct cooperation between national libraries, especially when exchanging materials on Lithuania and Argentina.

Article 6

The Parties shall promote direct relations and direct cooperation between culture institutions, unions, associations, funds and other culture organisations of creative nature of both Parties, and invite them to sign agreements on cooperation between institutions.

Article 7

The Parties shall support mutual investigation of culture and art, especially of experience gained in the field of literature, by arranging conferences, symposia and

other forums, exchange of specialists and by conducting joint investigations.

Article 8

Taking international and national legislation into consideration, the Parties shall undertake to arrange prevention of illicit import and export of cultural values from one country to another, or their transfer from one location to another, and to ensure cooperation of competent authorities of their countries through adoption of measures related to the title to cultural values and to their return to the country of origin in case of their illicit export or import to any territory of the Parties.

Article 9

The Parties shall promote cooperation in the field of cinematography and, through exchange of films, contribute to the dissemination of their national cinematography art. The Parties shall promote participation of film authors in cinema festivals arranged in the country of the other Party. The Parties shall also promote meetings of cinematography specialists and other professionals of this field.

Article 10

The Parties shall promote cooperation of mass media, especially through signing cooperation agreements between appropriate institutions and professional organisations, joint preparation of printed, video and audio materials, exchange of specialists and arranging exhibitions and fairs.

The Parties shall support cooperation between national radio and television companies of the Republic of Lithuania and the Republic of Argentina, and shall invite them to sign cooperation agreements.

The Parties shall also invite their competent authorities of radio and television to create and present broadcasting on national culture of both Parties.

Article 11

The Parties shall promote the cooperation in the field of the protection of copyright and related rights. Ways and conditions of such cooperation shall be defined by an agreement of both Parties.

Article 12

On the basis of applicable laws, the Parties shall ensure proper conditions for the implementation of this Agreement, as well as for the dissemination of achievements of the other Party in the fields of culture, art, education and sport in mass media.

Article 13

The Parties shall promote direct cooperation between education, sport and studies institutions and training centres, and the exchange of experience:

- a) through the exchange of specialists, investigators, lecturers and students;
- b) through cooperation in the field of professional training.

Specific cooperation and exchange shall proceed by signing cooperation agreements in specific fields between authorities of both Parties and by concluding triennial cooperation programmes.

Article 14

Recognising that knowledge of the other Party's language is an essential factor for the cooperation, the Parties shall support teaching of national languages (Lithuanian and Spanish) of both countries and dissemination of the languages in the framework of general education and professional training, and other training institutions, including training centres for adults, especially through the following activities:

- a) promoting the development of the Lithuanian language teaching in the Republic of Argentina, and the development of the Spanish language teaching in the Republic of Lithuania;
- b) sending lectures and students to the courses for the improvement of training and language skills;
- c) exchange of experience related to modern methods for foreign language teaching.

Cooperation in this field shall be regulated by separate agreements concluded between appropriate organisations and institutions.

Article 15

The Parties shall consider the possibility to sign agreements concerning mutual recognition of certificates, degrees and diplomas.

Article 16

The Parties shall contribute to the cooperation between youth organisations and unions, and to youth education of both Parties.

Article 17

The Parties shall make favourable conditions for the cooperation in the field of physical training and sport, and encourage relations between sportsmen, trainers, sport heads and sportsmen teams of both Parties.

Article 18

The Parties shall contribute to the increase in tourism flows between the Republic of Lithuania and the Republic of Argentina aiming at broadening their knowledge on the lifestyle, history and culture of both nations. The Parties shall encourage cooperation in the field of tourism through:

- a) the exchange of specialists and students;
- b) the exchange of information on tourism possibilities;
- c) participation in tourism exhibitions.

Article 19

For the implementation of the present Agreement the Parties, paying regard to the priorities of both countries, as well as the prospects for and a strategy for the educational, cultural and social development, shall regularly sign biannual or triennial cooperation programmes in the fields of culture, education, tourism and sport.

These programmes shall contain arrangements concerning project implementation fields, specific measures, conditions for financing, and other terms and conditions related to their implementation.

To this end, a Joint Commission of Cooperation between the Republic of Lithuania and the Republic of Argentina in the Fields of Culture, Education, Tourism and Sport (hereinafter – the Commission) shall be constituted, and its functions shall be regulated by Article 20 hereof.

Article 20

The Commission shall be constituted for the implementation of the cooperation provided for in the present Agreement and for the coordination of the cooperation actions. The work of the Commission shall be coordinated by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania and the Republic of Argentina; the Commission shall consist of representatives of culture, education, tourism and sport institutions of both Parties; each Party shall have the same number of representatives. The members of the Commission shall meet in rotation in the Republic of Lithuania and the Republic of Argentina. The Parties shall agree upon the time of meetings through diplomatic channels.

The Commission shall perform the following functions:

- a) evaluate and define the priority areas in which it is feasible to realize specific projects of cooperation in the fields of education, culture, tourism and sports, as well as the resources necessary for their execution;
- b) analyse, review, approve, monitor, and evaluate cooperation programmes in the fields of education, culture, tourism and sports;
- c) supervise the implementation of the present Agreement and the agreed projects and ensure that the measures necessary for their implementation are timely adopted;
- d) propose means for resolving administrative and financial problems that arise during the implementation of this Agreement;
 - e) submit to the Parties recommendations that it considers pertinent.

Without prejudice to the provisions of this Agreement, each Party may, at any time, submit to the Commission for due consideration and approval other specific cooperation projects in the fields of culture, education, tourism and sport.

Article 21

Any potential divergences or disagreements concerning the interpretation or application of the provisions of this Agreement shall be solved by negotiation.

Article 22

The present Agreement shall come into force on the date of receipt by the Parties of the latest written notification submitted through diplomatic channels on the fulfilment of the internal legal procedures required for this Agreement to come into force.

The Agreement shall be valid for five years and it shall be automatically extended for the same period, unless either of the Parties notifies the other in writing through diplomatic channels of its intention to terminate it. In that case the Agreement

expires six months after receipt of the notification. Termination of the Agreement shall not affect the implementation of programmes and projects started during the period of validity of this Agreement.

Done at Buenot Little on 18 July 2008, in two copies in the Lithuanian, Spanish and English languages. All the three texts are equally authoritative. In case of divergence in interpretation of the Agreement, the English text shall prevail.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Argentina

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