

## Deputy Minister Di Stefano signs an agreement with the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB)

Date: 06/21/2021


This morning, Deputy Minister Manlio Di Stefano has taken part in the signing ceremony of the Headquarters Agreement between the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) and the Italian Government. The ICGEB has been represented by its Director General, Lawrence Banks.

The ICGEB is an international intergovernmental organisation that plays a key role in the fields of molecular genetics and biotechnology worldwide, with advanced research laboratories in Trieste, New Delhi (India) and Cape Town (South Africa).

"The signing of this agreement," the Deputy Minister has said, "confirms both Italy's and the Centre's desire to provide a concrete contribution to sustainable global development through advanced experimental research. We strongly believe in the solutions with which modern biotechnology can come up to solve the problems of our planet and its inhabitants, and the contribution provided by the ICGEB in the fight against Covid-19 has been tangible proof of this."

"We are very pleased with the presence of such a prestigious scientific institution in our country, in the beautiful city of Trieste, whose scientific-technological hub is proving to be increasingly dynamic and attracting excellence from around the world. We will continue to strive to enhance national scientific research capabilities and to further internationalise this sector, which is fundamental for the future of mankind," the Deputy Minister has concluded.

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